

**Date and Time:** Thursday, May 2, 2024 6:17:00PM EEST

**Job Number:** 223358996

## Documents (100)

1. [\*Palestinian militants warn of new action; Suicide bombing: Attackers say they are inspired by Iraq 's heightened resistance\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

2. [\*New terror threats put Israel on high alert: Spy chief expects unprecedented attacks\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

3. [\*Israel blast called 'gift' to Iraq\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

4. [\*Mideast violence spirals; Raid, bus stop shooting\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

5. [\*ROCKETS FIRED INTO ISRAEL ; PALESTINIAN MILITANTS ALSO SHOOT DEAD 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS, INJURE 4\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

6. [Israeli plane fires missile at car in Gaza City](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

7. [Israeli plane kills 5 in car](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

8. [GUNMAN WOUNDS 20 ISRAELIS; JERUSALEM](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

9. [18 die in Mideast violence; Violence: Bush says 'a few killers' want to prevent peace](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

10. [7 killed, dozens wounded as bomb shatters cafeteria; Hebrew University: Second bombing in as many days rocks Jerusalem](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

11. [\*Israel strikes back\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

12. [\*Arab Slays 2 and Wounds 20 After 4 Die in a Raid by Israel\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

13. [\*Israel tightens restrictions on Palestinian travel; 'Total closure': Israeli helicopters fire missiles on a Gaza City metal shop\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

14. [\*ISRAELI ATTACK RUINS OFFER TO END SUICIDE BOMBINGS\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

15. [\*PALESTINIANS SAY RAID HALTED THEIR TRUCE BID\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

16. [\*MPs shake hands on peace as rockets hit\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

17. [\*Five killed in Israeli missile attack\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

18. [\*Not much going right for Abbas on any side\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

19. [\*THE ENEMY WITHIN; SIX MORE ARRESTS AS SECURITY SERVICES WARN THERE COULD BE MORE\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

20. [\*Israel and Arafat Frustrate the New Palestinian Premier\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

21. [\*In pictures: 'The house is used for target practice':\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

22. [\*Israelis and Palestinians warn of retaliation over latest violence\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

23. [\*Three Palestinians shot during Israeli raids in West Bank\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

24. [\*Mideast conflict spirals\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

25. [\*Suicide bomber strikes in Israel ; Dozens hurt; group vows attacks in Iraq\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**

**Narrowed by**

News

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

26. [Israel faces criticism - Palestinian militants vow 'bloody reprisals'](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

27. [Ugly truth about Israeli terrorism is blurred by bias](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

28. [PALESTINIANS' AD IN PAPER CONDEMNS SUICIDE BOMBINGS; MOVE BY PROMINENT FIGURES SPARKS DEBATE](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

29. [Ceasefire in works before air strike](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

30. [Bomb explodes at Hebrew U.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

31. [\*IRAQ WAR: ASSASSINS WILLING TO DIE FOR THEIR BELIEFS\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

32. [\*Israel shaken by day of violence: Hopes for talks fade as 15 die in bus bombing and shootings\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

33. [\*Israel misfires\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

34. [\*Israelis kill four during Gaza raid\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

35. [\*Israel Retaliates With Stricter Travel Bans\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

36. [\*Screaming children flee Israeli missiles\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

37. [Palestinians vow revenge on Israel](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

38. [Revenge killings end hope of talks](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

39. ['THEY SAY WE ARE TERRORISTS, BUT WHO KILLS YOUNGSTERS COMING HOME FROM SCHOOL?'](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

40. [Israel launches air attack on Gaza City](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

41. [Europeans show selective indignation over Israeli attack](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas



**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

42. [\*Ariel Sharon's fanaticism churns Mideast violence\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

43. [\*MIDEAST HIT BY DAY OF CARNAGE\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

44. [\*Palestinians strike Israel with rockets: Attack highlights new Mideast risk\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

45. [\*NUTS, CREEPY CRAWLIES? IT DOESN'T ADD UP\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

46. [\*Israel bulldozes Gaza homes\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

47. [UN OKS JENIN PROBE Devastation, but Israel denies massacre](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

48. [Israeli missile kills 5, hurts 47](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

49. [Palestinian militants fire advanced rockets; The launches could signal a new phase in warfare. In a separate attack, 2 Israeli soldiers were killed.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

50. [ISRAELIS QUIT JENIN OK int'l observers; bomber hits Gaza](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

51. [Middle East anti-war protests said to be little more subdued](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to

May 31, 2003

52. [\*'I'm no hero. I was just doing my job': Israeli bus driver helps pin bomber to let passengers escape blast\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

53. [\*Israel bans most West Bank travel\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

54. [\*Daughter's dedication was beyond doubt\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

55. [\*'We held him ... just us, him and God, as everyone fled': Israeli bus driver helps pin bomber to let passengers escape blast\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

56. [\*Assad told to cut links with terror: Israeli fury at Syrian leader's visit\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

57. [\*Mideast diplomats fail to halt Israeli - Palestinian violence\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

58. [\*16 hurt as Palestinian gunman opens fire\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

59. [\*Palestinians warned: you cannot win war\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

60. [\*Al-Aqsa Brigades fight for mainstream\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

61. [\*The Most Wanted Palestinian\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

62. [\*Israelis hit back in Nablus; 5 Palestinians killed and 50 arrested in reprisal raid\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

63. [Israeli missiles strike Gaza City; Warplanes: Missile aimed at car reportedly kills 5](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

64. [Eliminate Palestinian threat for sake of Israeli children](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

65. [ISRAEL SPY CHIEF'S WARNING Tells nation worst violence from Palestine ns is yet to come](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

66. [Palestinian Cease-Fire Was in Works Before Israeli Strike](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

67. [Sporadic violence disrupts tentative peace moves: Bloody weekend claims five lives as two-tracked peace efforts made](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

68. [\*Palestinians give up plan to halt suicide bombings\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

69. [\*Clashes kill 5 Palestinians: Israeli troops take over Nablus, 'the main factory of suicide bombings'\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

70. [\*Israeli army takes control of Nablus; West Bank city called 'main factory' of suicide bombings\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

71. [\*Palestinian militants renew peace efforts\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

72. [\*Travel ban enforced as Israel gets tough\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

73. [\*Mideast Terror Brought Home\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

74. [\*Terror trial refugee may come North\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

75. [\*The Battle of Jenin\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

76. [\*Attacks prompt travel ban on Palestinians;\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

77. [\*Special report: The men behind the suicide bombers: Origins and aims of groups targeting Israel\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**

**Narrowed by**

78. [TERROR OF SUICIDE BOMB KIDS AGED 8](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** Hamas**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results**Narrowed by:****Content Type**  
News**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 200379. [THE CYCLE OF TIT-FOR-TAT VIOLENCE CONTINUES; Suicide bomber claims 24 victims](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** Hamas**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results**Narrowed by:****Content Type**  
News**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 200380. [Israel Hits Police Site After Palestinian Rocket Attack](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** Hamas**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results**Narrowed by:****Content Type**  
News**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 200381. [ISRAEL, PALESTINIANS NEAR DEAL ON HOW TO DISARM MILITANTS](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** Hamas**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results**Narrowed by:****Content Type**  
News**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 200382. [BLOODY BOMB ATTACK LEAVES 7 DEAD, 80 HURT; CROWDED CAFETERIA IS HIT AT JERUSALEM UNIVERSITY; THREE AMERICANS KILLED](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** Hamas**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results**Narrowed by:****Content Type**  
News**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003



83. [\*Israeli tanks roll through Gaza City; Three Palestinians killed in fighting\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

84. [\*U.S. DENOUNCES ATTACK ON ISRAELIS; GUNMAN FIRES ON CROWD, WOUNDING 16, HOURS AFTER ISLAMIC MILITANTS ARE KILLED\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

85. [\*Israel Shuts Down Two Palestinian Universities\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

86. [\*Israeli tanks invade Gaza refugee camp\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

87. [\*Briefly\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

88. [IF HE WANTS TO BE A SUICIDE BOMBER, HE COMES TO US](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

89. [Fatah seeks end to attacks against Israeli civilians](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

90. [Fatah says it will end attacks on Israeli civilians: Pressure to be applied to Palestinian militants](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

91. [Gunman kills 3 Israeli students](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

92. [LETTERS: AMERICA SUPPORTS WAR CRIMINAL](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

93. [3 Americans in Israel among 7 killed by bomb](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

94. [Second woman dies for cause](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

95. [Israel Will Pull Back Troops, Release Funds in Goodwill Gestures](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

96. [Born to kill: Raising suicide bombers: Palestinian children receive early training in terror methods](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

97. [A Palestinian leader in waiting?: As Arafat falters, a name emerges as someone many factions could get behind.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

98. [Israelis attack Arafat's HQ with bulldozer](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

99. [\*Israel on the brink after 22 die in the bloodiest day yet\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

100. [\*On a Moonlit Tank Charge Into a Gaza Powder Keg\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

**Palestinian militants warn of new action; Suicide bombing: Attackers say they are inspired by Iraq's heightened resistance**

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

March 31, 2003 Monday

Copyright 2003 Woodward Communications, Inc.

**Section:** Pg. b5

**Length:** 749 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** NETANYA, Israel

## **Body**

---

A Palestinian suicide attacker wounded 30 people outside a packed cafe in northern Israel on Sunday - a blast the Islamic Jihad called "Palestine's gift to the heroic people of Iraq." The violence raised Israeli fears of more bombings as the war in Iraq intensifies.

The militant group said a vanguard of Palestinians has arrived in Baghdad ready to kill American and British soldiers in suicide missions. The claim came a day after a noncommissioned Iraqi army officer driving a taxi detonated explosives at a U.S. checkpoint in Iraq, killing himself and four American soldiers.

The blast in the coastal town of Netanya was the first suicide bombing in Israel in nearly a month and involved five pounds of explosives studded with nails. It occurred during lunchtime outside the popular Cafe London on the downtown pedestrian mall.

Ten of the wounded were Israeli soldiers, including one who stopped the attacker as he tried to enter the cafe, police and the army said. The attacker detonated a nail-studded explosive strapped to his body as panicked customers ran, overturning chairs and tables and shouting, "Terrorist! Terrorist!"

Islamic Jihad identified the attacker as Rami Ghanem, 20, from a West Bank village just across the porous line with Israel. The bombing affirmed "the unity of battle from Palestine to Baghdad in confronting the American-Zionist invasion which targets the entire Arab and Islamic nation," the group said in a statement.

The militants' support for Iraq appeared to be a departure from pledges not to get involved in other conflicts. In the past 30 months of fighting with Israel, Islamic Jihad and its sister group **Hamas** have sent dozens of young men and a few **women** into Israeli cities, where they've killed hundreds with bombs and bullets.

**Hamas** also appeared to link the battle against Israel with the fighting in Iraq. Masked **Hamas** activists at a pro-Iraq march in the West Bank city of Nablus on Sunday posed before a large placard showing bloodied maps of Palestine and Iraq with a black-clad man strapped with explosives standing between them.

Meanwhile, **Hamas** leaders met in Gaza City with the Palestinian prime minister-designate, Mahmoud Abbas. One of Abbas' main challenges will be to rein in the militant groups.

Palestinian militants warn of new action; Suicide bombing: Attackers say they are inspired by Iraq 's heightened resistance

**Hamas**, which opposes peace talks with Israel, had earlier criticized Abbas' appointment and said the militant Islamic group would not take part in his government.

Abbas, in Gaza to form a new Cabinet, also met Sunday with representatives of the militant Popular Front group and the Iraq-backed Arab Liberation Front.

Arriving at the scene of Sunday's attack, police found the attacker's mangled body on the blood-spattered pavement. Detectives wearing plastic gloves fingerprinted his severed hand and sifted through detritus that included broken plates, food, shredded clothing, bits of flesh, and a baby's pacifier.

"There were pieces of bodies," said Alberto Sciunnach, 37, who owns a nearby ice cream parlor. A wounded teenage girl trying to flee collapsed in front of his shop, he said.

Israeli officials have warned that Palestinians could step up attacks during the U.S.-led war in Iraq.

"The motivation to harm Israel and to help the Iraqi struggle is well known to us and it comes across in all the intelligence reports," said the internal security minister, Tzachi Hanegbi.

Tens of thousands of Palestinians have taken to the streets in recent days to show support for Iraq and call on Saddam's forces to fire Scud missiles at Israel, hit by 39 Iraqi rockets in the 1991 Gulf War.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has increased cash handouts to the families of Palestinians - including suicide bombers - who die in fighting with Israel. The Arab Liberation Front has doled out more than \$\$ @35 million in Iraqi money to families over the last 30 months.

Sunday's attack was the first suicide bombing in Israel since March 5, when 17 Israelis were killed in a bus blast in the northern port city of Haifa.

Netanya was the site of a bombing that killed 29 people during the Passover holiday a year ago, the deadliest bombing since the outbreak of fighting.

In other violence, Israeli soldiers killed two armed Palestinians who infiltrated from northern Gaza and headed toward a village, the military said. A local army commander said they were armed with rifles and grenades. Palestinians said Israeli tanks and bulldozers crossed into the same part of Gaza.

Earlier, an army patrol in Gaza shot and killed a Palestinian who was in an off-limits area.

**Load-Date:** March 31, 2003

## **New terror threats put Israel on high alert: Spy chief expects unprecedented attacks**

The Ottawa Citizen

January 24, 2002 Thursday

Final EDITION

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** NEWS,; News

**Length:** 667 words

**Byline:** Christopher Walker

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

Israeli cities were on maximum alert for terrorist reprisals yesterday after the army's intelligence chief warned parliament to expect attacks "the likes of which we have not seen before."

In Jerusalem -- where two women died from their wounds overnight after a Palestinian terrorist opened fire in the main commercial thoroughfare, wounding 14 other people -- hundreds of heavily-armed soldiers and police were on patrol. They often outnumbered ordinary pedestrians on the streets.

One of the women, cut down without warning during the height of the Tuesday afternoon rush hour, was identified as Sarah Hamberger, 78.

The Times of London; with files from Citizen News Services

The other, whose name was not released, was 56. "Security officials are preparing for an all-out escalation by terrorists, and all arms of the security forces have been placed on heightened alert," Israel Radio reported.

Islamic militants again threatened "all-out war" yesterday to avenge the killing of a Hamas commander in the West Bank, and Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority said it can no longer be expected to enforce a truce with Israel.

With tensions and violence rising, Secretary of State Colin Powell telephoned Mr. Arafat yesterday to urge him to curb attacks on Israel.

Palestinian militants and mainstream activists marched together in a funeral procession in Nablus, burying the dead from Israel's raid on a bomb factory a day earlier. Four Hamas activists were killed, including West Bank militant leader Yousef Soragji, 42, mastermind of several suicide bombings. More than 15,000 Palestinians thronged the funeral processions, led by activists from Hamas and the Al Aqsa Brigades, a militia linked to Mr. Arafat's Fatah movement.

"We will not close our eyes until we see your reprisal," the crowd chanted, as gunmen fired in the air. Mr. Arafat's armed police force did not intervene.

New terror threats put Israel on high alert: Spy chief expects unprecedented attacks

**Hamas** pledged an "all-out war" against Israel in retaliation, and Palestinian cabinet secretary Ahmed Abdel Rahman said the Palestinian Authority could not enforce a ceasefire under the circumstances.

"The Israeli guns are being pointed to our heads," he said. "We are not able to implement any of our commitments."

Violence spread to Israel's northern border with Lebanon, where Iranian-backed Hezbollah terrorists fired at Israeli positions in the disputed Shebaa Farms region for the first time since October. Israel retaliated with shellfire and warplane attacks in which at least six air-to-surface missiles were fired on suspected Hezbollah positions.

Ehud Olmert, Jerusalem's right-wing mayor, said: "This is a war. It is a painful war. We are going to win this war, but it will not be easy and it will not be in a short time."

The Israeli prediction of growing violence came from Maj.-Gen. Aharon Zeevi-Farkash, after a **Hamas** declaration of "all-out war" on Tuesday. He told Knesset deputies: "The coming period will see more serious terror attacks than we have been used to up to now in cities throughout Israel."

Gen. Zeevi-Farkash, the new chief of military intelligence, who has been in his role for less than a month, refused to go into detail. He said the Tanzim, a hardline militia linked to Mr. Arafat's Fatah faction of the umbrella Palestine Liberation Organization, had decided to avenge the death of Raed Karmi -- a leading militant killed by the Israelis in the West Bank last week -- for 40 days, until the end of the traditional Muslim mourning period.

Hemi Shalev, a leading middle-of-the-road Israeli commentator, writing in the daily Maariv, said the Israeli public was now ready for a major attack on Mr. Arafat's Palestinian Authority. "The atmosphere is that of the eve of war," he wrote.

Israeli tanks remained parked just metres from Mr. Arafat's West Bank headquarters in the town of Ramallah, the most visible of the measures Israel has taken.

Also yesterday, Israeli bulldozers demolished two Palestinian houses on the outskirts of Jerusalem. Israeli officials said they were built without permits.

**Load-Date:** January 24, 2002



## *Israel blast called 'gift' to Iraq*

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

March 31, 2003, Monday

Copyright 2003 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

**Section:** WIRE;

**Length:** 751 words

**Byline:** By Jason Keyser Associated Press writer

### **Body**

---

NETANYA, Israel -- A Palestinian suicide attacker wounded 30 people outside a packed cafe in northern Israel on Sunday -- a blast the Islamic Jihad called "Palestine's gift to the heroic people of Iraq." The violence raised Israeli fears of more bombings as the war in Iraq intensifies.

The militant group said a vanguard of Palestinians has arrived in Baghdad ready to kill American and British soldiers in suicide missions. The claim came a day after a noncommissioned Iraqi army officer driving a taxi detonated explosives at a U.S. checkpoint in Iraq, killing himself and four American soldiers.

The blast in the coastal town of Netanya was the first suicide bombing in Israel in nearly a month and involved 5 pounds of explosives studded with nails. It occurred during lunchtime outside the popular Cafe London on the downtown pedestrian mall.

Ten of the wounded were Israeli soldiers, including one who stopped the attacker as he tried to enter the cafe, police and the army said. The attacker detonated a nail-studded explosive strapped to his body as panicked customers ran, overturning chairs and tables and shouting, "Terrorist! Terrorist!"

Islamic Jihad identified the attacker as Rami Ghanem, 20, from a West Bank village just across the porous line with Israel. The bombing affirmed "the unity of battle from Palestine to Baghdad in confronting the American-Zionist invasion which targets the entire Arab and Islamic nation," the group said in a statement.

The militants' support for Iraq appeared to be a departure from pledges not to get involved in other conflicts. In the past 30 months of fighting with Israel, Islamic Jihad and its sister group **Hamas** have sent dozens of young men and a few **women** into Israeli cities, where they've killed hundreds with bombs and bullets.

**Hamas** also appeared to link the battle against Israel with the fighting in Iraq. Masked **Hamas** activists at a pro-Iraq march in the West Bank city of Nablus on Sunday posed before a large placard showing bloodied maps of Palestine and Iraq with a black-clad man strapped with explosives standing between them.

Meanwhile, **Hamas** leaders met in Gaza City with the Palestinian prime minister-designate, Mahmoud Abbas. One of Abbas' main challenges will be to rein in the militant groups.

**Hamas**, which opposes peace talks with Israel, had earlier criticized Abbas' appointment and said the militant Islamic group would not take part in his government.

## Israel blast called 'gift' to Iraq

Abbas, in Gaza to form a new Cabinet, also met Sunday with representatives of the militant Popular Front group and the Iraq-backed Arab Liberation Front.

Arriving at the scene of Sunday's attack, police found the attacker's mangled body on the blood-spattered pavement. Detectives wearing plastic gloves fingerprinted his severed hand and sifted through detritus that included broken plates, food, shredded clothing, bits of flesh and a baby's pacifier.

"There were pieces of bodies," said Alberto Sciunnach, 37, who owns a nearby ice cream parlor. A wounded teenage girl trying to flee collapsed in front of his shop, he said.

Israeli officials have warned that Palestinians could step up attacks during the U.S.-led war in Iraq.

"The motivation to harm Israel and to help the Iraqi struggle is well known to us and it comes across in all the intelligence reports," said the internal security minister, Tzachi Hanegbi.

Tens of thousands of Palestinians have taken to the streets in recent days to show support for Iraq and call on Saddam's forces to fire Scud missiles at Israel, hit by 39 Iraqi rockets in the 1991 Gulf War.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has increased cash handouts to the families of Palestinians -- including suicide bombers -- who die in fighting with Israel. The Arab Liberation Front has doled out more than \$35 million in Iraqi money to families over the last 30 months.

Sunday's attack was the first suicide bombing in Israel since March 5, when 17 Israelis were killed in a bus blast in the northern port city of Haifa.

Netanya was the site of a bombing that killed 29 people during the Passover holiday a year ago, the deadliest bombing since the outbreak of fighting.

In other violence, Israeli soldiers killed two armed Palestinians who infiltrated from northern Gaza and headed toward a village, the military said. A local army commander said they were armed with rifles and grenades. Palestinians said Israeli tanks and bulldozers crossed into the same part of Gaza.

Earlier, an army patrol in Gaza shot and killed a Palestinian who was in an off-limits area.

**Load-Date:** March 31, 2003

**Mideast violence spirals;  
Raid, bus stop shooting**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
January 23, 2002 Wednesday,  
Metro Edition

Copyright 2002 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**The Atlanta  
Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** News;

**Length:** 1029 words

**Byline:** LARRY KAPLOW, ROBERT W. GEE

**Body**

---

Jerusalem --- With attacks intensifying on both sides, a Palestinian gunman opened fire at rush hour Tuesday on Israelis at a downtown Jerusalem bus stop, wounding at least 16 people.

The shooting came hours after the Israeli army killed four members of the **Hamas** militant group in the northern West Bank.

The violence was accompanied by escalating rhetoric, with **Hamas** threatening "a crushing war" against Israel and Israeli officials talking about reoccupying large areas of Palestinian-controlled territory.

"We swear by God we will revenge. A series of ugly massacres has been committed by the Jews, the killers, the terrorists," said a **Hamas** leaflet handed out in the Gaza Strip.

Cox Washington Bureau

The Al-Aqsa Brigade, an unofficial armed wing of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah party, claimed responsibility for the attack at the bus stop.

The gunman, Saeed Ramadan, was killed by Israeli police moments after the attack. He was a member of Al-Aqsa, his uncle, Adnan Ramadan, told The Associated Press.

Al-Aqsa said it was retaliating for recent attacks on its leaders, for the morning attack on **Hamas** and because Israel is preventing Arafat from traveling from his headquarters in Ramallah.

"Should we stand cross-armed at the same time they are besieging the president? Who pushed Fatah into this? It is the rulers, the killers in Tel Aviv," said Fatah activist Marwan Barghouti. "Our people have a right to defend ourselves."

Arafat has been under virtual house arrest since Friday, when Israeli tanks surrounded his government compound.

## Mideast violence spirals; Raid, bus stop shooting

On Monday, Israeli troops took over the West Bank town of Tulkarem and arrested at least 11 militants. On Tuesday, the Israelis pulled out of the town after the 30-hour operation, which left one Palestinian dead.

After the Jerusalem shooting, Israeli parliament member Yuval Steinitz said the army should recapture all the areas ceded to the Palestinians in the Oslo peace process.

"Occupy it, not permanently, but for one or two days," Steinitz told Israel radio. "To uproot the terrorist infrastructure."

"You can certainly expect an Israeli reaction," said Israeli government spokesman Avi Pazner. "Israel has done very little until now. Apparently this was not strong enough medicine and maybe a strong reaction is needed."

The day started with an Israeli raid in the West Bank city of Nablus that killed four Palestinians identified by Israeli and Palestinian officials as members of the military wing of Hamas, the Islamic fundamentalist group that has claimed responsibility for dozens of deadly attacks on Israelis.

Commandos stormed a ground-floor apartment in a nine-story residential building. The army said the apartment was stocked with explosives and the occupants set off a bomb, lightly injuring four soldiers. Nine men were arrested.

One of the dead was identified as the Hamas leader in Nablus, Yousef Soragji.

The army said all four of those killed had been involved in planning bombing attacks on Israelis.

A few hours later, up to 2,000 Palestinians rioted outside the city's central jail, demanding that Palestinian authorities release militants arrested at the urging of Israel and the United States. Protesters burned three police cars, overturned a fourth and threw stones at officers who responded with gunfire, tear gas and stun grenades. Several people were injured.

Hamas declared that "the series of massacres, including today's in Nablus, opened the door to an all-out war against the Zionist army and the settlers, by all means and in all places."

Shortly after 4 p.m. local time, a Palestinian man with an M-16 rifle opened fire on Jerusalem's busy Jaffa Street, the main thoroughfare in the city center. The gunman fired about 60 rounds, then was chased down and fatally shot by police, Israeli television reported.

Jerusalem was already on high alert against possible terror attacks Tuesday, so uniformed and undercover police were patrolling the streets. Witnesses said several passers-by drew weapons on the attacker.

The gunman, who may have been dropped off in a parking lot, fired his rifle from his waist toward a bus, a bus stop and pedestrians on the crowded sidewalks.

"He said 'Allahu Akbar' [God is Great ]," said Liat Moshe, 24, a saleswoman at a store for cellphones. "He didn't yell it. He said it and then started shooting like crazy, like a maniac. It was automatic fire, ta-ta-ta."

Witnesses said the man wore an army jacket, perhaps trying to pose as an Israeli soldier.

"I saw him shoot two women and they fell," said witness Akiva Harari, 21. "Police then chased the gunman back into the parking lot, followed by several minutes of sporadic gunfire."

"The terrorist tried to run away, but after a short chase, police succeeded in hitting him and killed him," Jerusalem Police Chief Mickey Levy said.

The shooting highlighted the brutal repetitiveness of nearly 16 months of Israeli-Palestinian fighting. It occurred within a few blocks of at least six previous car bombings and suicide bombings, including a suicide attack in August that killed 15 people at a busy pizzeria.

## Mideast violence spirals; Raid, bus stop shooting

Tuesday's shootings capped a weeklong wave of violence. Palestinians killed six people at a family religious celebration last week in the Israeli city of Hadera and three motorists in the West Bank. Israel has killed at least eight Palestinian militants and reoccupied Palestinian territory.

In Washington, the State Department condemned the attack in Jerusalem and called on Arafat to do more to contain the violence. U.S. mediator Anthony Zinni, who failed in two trips to the region to revive a cease-fire, will remain in Washington, his plans uncertain.

"The United States does intend to remain engaged with the parties, but we look very much to the parties to carry out actions to restrain the violence, to stop the violence, and that, at this juncture, applies primarily to Chairman Arafat," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said.

Palestinians say they are fighting to drive Israeli troops and settlers from land in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip captured by Israel in 1967. Israel says it will continue to take steps to maintain its security and will not negotiate under fire. ME:Metro version longer.

**Load-Date:** January 23, 2002

---

End of Document

**ROCKETS FIRED INTO ISRAEL;  
PALESTINIAN MILITANTS ALSO SHOOT DEAD 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS,  
INJURE 4**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

February 11, 2002 Monday

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2002 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 630 words

**Byline:** TIM JOHNSON, KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

**Dateline:** SAAD, Israel

## **Body**

---

Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired what appeared to be two next-generation rockets into Israel yesterday, marking a strategic shift in warfare that is likely to heighten fears in Israeli border cities.

The rockets, which may have carried up to 22 pounds of explosives, landed harmlessly and were overshadowed by violence in the Negev Desert city of Beersheba, where gunmen linked to the militant **Hamas** organization killed two Israelis and wounded four others.

Israeli F-16 jets responded to the deadly attack by firing missiles at several targets in the Gaza Strip, including a base used by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's private security detail.

But the launches may prove significant in a region where tensions are already the highest in decades. Israeli military sources said Palestinian militants in the West Bank and Gaza Strip now have the Kassam-II rockets in their arsenals, exposing tens of thousands of Israeli civilians to attack.

"If they were to use these rockets to hit a city, that would bring the war to a new phase," said an Israeli Defense Forces spokesman.

The homemade rockets lack a guidance system and are much less powerful than those used by Iraq during the Gulf War, but they travel three times as far as their first-generation cousins and are "precise enough to hit a metropolitan target," according to an army statement.

"Israel has warned the Palestinian Authority on more than one occasion that if the Kassam-II is fired into Israeli territory, into Israeli towns, this will be considered a new game with new rules," Israel Radio's military correspondent, Alan Ben Ami, told listeners last night.

A senior Israeli security official said **Hamas** leaders boast that they can load the rockets "with non-conventional warheads," meaning chemical payloads.

## ROCKETS FIRED INTO ISRAEL ; PALESTINIAN MILITANTS ALSO SHOOT DEAD 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS, INJURE 4

Israeli soldiers captured eight of the rockets at a roadblock between Nablus and Jenin in the West Bank last week, signaling that **Hamas** militants are attempting to distribute them to key border points.

"They can produce a lot. The explosives they need for propulsion are very simple to produce as well," the senior security official said.

One of the rockets landed near a communal village, or kibbutz, four miles from the Gaza border in Saad. Another fell at a nearby cooperative farm, nearly five miles from the border.

Witnesses near the Saad Kibbutz said they heard three launches around 11 a.m. but found only one two-yard-wide crater, where a rocket slammed down near a tractor. Israeli soldiers later found three launchers in the Gaza Strip.

"It was large diameter and fired from a long range," said Uri Ya'ari, security officer at the kibbutz, one of the communal villages that dot Israel. Hours after the launches, Palestinian officials said their security agents had arrested Adnan al-Ghoul, considered **Hamas**' top engineer. They said al-Ghoul helped develop the Kassam rockets.

The senior security official said the government of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon believes Palestinian militants are trying to escalate conflict with Israel, hoping to increase international pressure on the Sharon government to come to the peace table.

In the separate attack in Beersheba, the Palestinian gunmen opened fire with assault rifles near an army base, killing two **female** soldiers and wounding four others. Security forces quickly killed the two gunmen.

"The two men got out of the car and started firing in all directions," said army Capt. Guy Shaham, who hit one of the gunmen.

**Hamas**, an acronym for the Islamic Resistance Movement, took responsibility for the shootings, the latest in a spate of suicide bombings and drive-by shootings. Israel Radio said the F-16s that flew over Gaza destroyed a base of Arafat's security detail. Security sources in Gaza City said 10 people were wounded.

## Graphic

---

PHOTO: Charles Dharapak/Associated Press: Palestinian men look through a hole made by a rocket fired from an Israeli helicopter yesterday in Jebalya, northern Gaza Strip.

**Load-Date:** February 13, 2002

## *Israeli plane fires missile at car in Gaza City*

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)  
April 9, 2003 Wednesday Final Edition

Copyright 2003 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A11; NEWS

**Length:** 374 words

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP

### **Body**

---

An Israeli warplane fired a missile at a car in Gaza City after sundown Tuesday, killing at least five people -- including a Palestinian militant -- in the first Israeli air strike in Palestinian territory since the war in Iraq began.

At least 47 people also were wounded, eight of them critically, by the missile strike, doctors said. The wounded were civilians ranging in age from six to 75, doctors said.

Associated Press

Witnesses reported a huge explosion in the Zeitoun neighbourhood in Gaza City, known as a stronghold of the militant group **Hamas**, which is responsible for dozens of attacks that have killed hundreds of Israelis in 30 months of fighting.

One of the dead was identified as Saed Arabeed, 38, a senior **Hamas** commander.

Those injured by Tuesday's strike were taken to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. The casualties included **women** and children.

The Israeli military refused to comment. Since the war in Iraq began March 20, Israel had scaled back its incursions and military operations in the West Bank and Gaza, but Israeli forces have arrested dozens of suspects in nightly sweeps and raids in the West Bank.

Residents said two Israeli F-16 fighter planes circled low over Gaza City, breaking the sound barrier, in the minutes before attacking a Subaru car on a Gaza street.

Yussef Touth, 24, said the white car was approaching an intersection when he saw the planes, then "a big flame in the sky" followed by the missile hitting the car.

He was wounded in both legs and lay covered with blood in the hospital.

"I saw bodies torn to pieces," he said.

The car was a twisted mass of charred metal after the attack.

Israel has carried out many similar attacks targeting suspected Palestinian militants. Palestinians and human rights groups have condemned the practice.



## Israeli plane fires missile at car in Gaza City

In recent months, Israel frequently has sent forces into Gaza, destroying buildings and arresting suspected militants.

Israeli officials say they are targeting the infrastructure of **Hamas** to try to prevent further attacks, including the firing of homemade rockets at Jewish settlements in Gaza and Israeli villages and towns just outside the fence.

Since violence broke out in September 2000, 2,243 people have been killed on the Palestinian side and 753 on the Israeli side.

**Load-Date:** April 9, 2003

---

End of Document

## *Israeli plane kills 5 in car*

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

April 9, 2003 Wednesday

Final Edition

Copyright 2003 Prince George Citizen All Rights Reserved

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 14

**Length:** 376 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip

### **Body**

---

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) -- An Israeli warplane fired a missile at a car in Gaza City after sundown Tuesday, killing at least five people -- including a Palestinian militant -- in the first Israeli air strike in Palestinian territory since the war in Iraq began.

At least 47 people also were wounded, eight of them critically, by the missile strike, doctors said. The wounded were civilians ranging in age from six to 75, doctors said.

Witnesses reported a huge explosion in the Zeitoun neighbourhood in Gaza City, known as a stronghold of the militant group **Hamas**, which is responsible for dozens of attacks that have killed hundreds of Israelis in 30 months of fighting.

One of the dead was identified as Saed Arabeed, 38, a senior **Hamas** commander.

Those injured by Tuesday's strike were taken to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. The casualties included **women** and children.

The Israeli military refused to comment. Since the war in Iraq began March 20, Israel had scaled back its incursions and military operations in the West Bank and Gaza, but Israeli forces have arrested dozens of suspects in nightly sweeps and raids in the West Bank.

Residents said two Israeli F-16 fighter planes circled low over Gaza City, breaking the sound barrier, in the minutes before attacking a Subaru car on a Gaza street.

Yussef Touth, 24, said the white car was approaching an intersection when he saw the planes, then "a big flame in the sky" followed by the missile hitting the car. He was wounded in both legs and lay covered with blood in the hospital.

"I saw bodies torn to pieces," he said.

The car was a twisted mass of charred metal after the attack.

## Israeli plane kills 5 in car

Israel has carried out many similar attacks targeting suspected Palestinian militants. Palestinians and human rights groups have condemned the practice.

In recent months, Israel frequently has sent forces into Gaza, destroying buildings and arresting suspected militants. Israeli officials say they are targeting the infrastructure of ***Hamas*** to try to prevent further attacks, including the firing of homemade rockets at Jewish settlements in Gaza and Israeli villages and towns just outside the fence.

Since violence broke out in September 2000, 2,243 people have been killed on the Palestinian side and 753 on the Israeli side.

**Load-Date:** February 17, 2006

---

End of Document

## **GUNMAN WOUNDS 20 ISRAELIS; JERUSALEM**

Western Mail

January 24, 2002, Thursday

Copyright 2002 Western Mail and Echo Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 340 words

### **Body**

---

WITHIN hours of a militant group abandoning its truce, a Palestinian gunman opened fire with an assault rifle on an Jerusalem bus queue, wounding at least 20 people before he was shot dead by police.

Saeed Ramadan of the Al Aqsa Brigades, linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah, carried out the shooting spree, said sources in the group and Palestinian security officials.

His uncle Adnan Ramadan, mayor of the West Bank village of Tel, confirmed this and said he was a member of the Palestinian naval police.

Israeli authorities said they held Arafat and the Palestinian Authority ultimately responsible for a shooting that was likely to bring a strong Israeli response.

"We are witnessing a continuous and endless campaign of terror against Israeli civilians, perpetrated by different Palestinian terrorist organisations under the umbrella of the Palestinian Authority, " said Israeli government spokesman Avi Pazner.

A source in the Al Aqsa Brigades said the attack was revenge for the killing - widely attributed to Israel - of Raed Karmi, the group's leader in the West Bank town of Tulkarem. He was blown up last week.

The shooting also came hours after Israeli commandos killed four members of the militant Islamic group **Hamas** in a raid on their hideout and explosives plant in Nablus in the West Bank.

**Hamas** said in a leaflet it would respond with an "all-out war" against Israeli soldiers and settlers. Its leader in Nablus, Teissir Imran, said, "**Hamas** and all the Palestinian people will not be committed to ceasefire after this massacre."

The group had reluctantly agreed to honour Yasser Arafat's ceasefire when it was called in December.

In Jerusalem, the gunman began firing on people at a bus stop near one of the busiest crossroads, sending pedestrians fleeing for cover.

Witness Akiva Harari, 21, said the attacker, wearing a heavy coat, emerged from a car park onto Jaffa Street, Jerusalem's main artery.

"I saw him shoot two **women** and they fell, " he said.

## GUNMAN WOUNDS 20 ISRAELIS; JERUSALEM

Police had chased the gunman back into the car park.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2002

---

End of Document

**18 die in Mideast violence; Violence: Bush says 'a few killers' want to prevent peace**

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

August 5, 2002 Monday

Copyright 2002 Woodward Communications, Inc.

**Section:** Pg. a11

**Length:** 532 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

---

A Palestinian suicide bomber blew up a bus in northern Israel during the morning rush hour Sunday, killing himself and nine passengers on a day punctuated by violence from the rolling hills of the Galilee to Jerusalem's Old City to the Mediterranean beach front.

The militant group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for the bus bombing, which left charred remains - including a child's drawing of two hearts in crayon - across a highway. The attack, near the town of Tsfat, was the militant group's second deadly bombing in five days.

Through the day Sunday and into early this morning, 18 people died and dozens were wounded in two bombings and five shootings.

Israel's military clampdown on the West Bank has kept many Palestinians confined to their homes for most of the past six weeks, but militants continue to elude the troops to carry out attacks.

President Bush said he was "distressed" to learn of the bus bombing. "There are a few killers who want to stop the peace process," Bush said as he began a daybreak golf game with his father in Kennebunkport, Maine.

The Israeli government said Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who turned 73 on Sunday, bore ultimate responsibility for not reining in militants during the 22 months of Mideast fighting.

"This Palestinian terror must be uprooted and Israel will not relent," said David Baker, an official Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office.

The Palestinian leadership condemned the bombing, but also accused Sharon of "war crimes" for the Israeli army's mass detentions, home demolitions and curfews imposed on Palestinians.

Israeli officials had said high-level talks between Sharon and Palestinian Cabinet ministers could be expected later this week, but it was unclear whether the meetings would go ahead as planned.

**Hamas** said the bus bombing was the second retaliatory strike for Israel's July 22 air strike that killed a senior **Hamas** leader, Salah Shehadeh, and 14 others in Gaza City. **Hamas** also carried out a Wednesday bombing at Jerusalem's Hebrew University that killed seven, including five Americans.

18 die in Mideast violence; Violence: Bush says 'a few killers' want to prevent peace

About 1,500 people celebrated the bus bombing in Gaza City late Sunday, passing out sweets and praying near Shehadeh's destroyed house, where militants shouting over loudspeakers vowed to "avenge every drop of his blood."

Israel also blew up nine Palestinian homes Sunday in the West Bank, all of them belonging to militants who carried out or orchestrated previous attacks. Israel is hoping the practice will discourage would-be assailants who want to spare their families from harm.

However, the only tangible result to date is that militant groups have stopped announcing the names of attackers and releasing their homemade videos, making it a bit more difficult for Israel to track down the families.

The nine passengers killed included three Israeli soldiers, two women from the Philippines and four Israeli civilians - including one Arab Israeli woman, authorities said. Thirty-seven people were injured, two critically, rescue workers said.

The bomber apparently warned two Arab students of the impending attack, and they got off the bus shortly before it blew up, a police source said. The two students have been detained, the source added.

**Load-Date:** August 5, 2002

---

End of Document

**7 killed, dozens wounded as bomb shatters cafeteria; Hebrew University:  
Second bombing in as many days rocks Jerusalem**

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

August 1, 2002 Thursday

Copyright 2002 Woodward Communications, Inc.

**Section:** Pg. a8

**Length:** 1090 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

---

A bomb hidden in a bag ripped through a busy cafeteria at Hebrew University, killing seven people and wounding more than 80 Wednesday in an attack that shattered the peace in one of the few places where young Jews and Arabs still mixed freely.

In the second bombing to hit Jerusalem in two days, one American citizen was killed and one was wounded. The U.S. Embassy confirmed an American had died, but did not release the victim's name.

Media reports said two of the dead were Israelis and the others were foreign nationals. The injured included Jews and Arabs, but no overall breakdown was available.

**Hamas** claimed responsibility for the bombing and said it was revenge for Israel's air raid last week on Gaza City that killed the organization's military chief, Salah Shehadeh, and 14 civilians, including nine children.

Israel has tried to end Palestinian attacks by sending troops to impose a curfew in most West Bank cities and towns for the past six weeks. After a lull, there's been an outbreak of shootings and bombings in the past week.

Israel's Security Cabinet, meeting after Wednesday's blast, decided Israel would retaliate within hours, Israel Radio said. The report could not be independently confirmed.

President Bush condemned the bombing "in the strongest possible terms," and said it was perpetrated by "killers who hate the thought of peace."

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan also condemned the attack and again urged Israelis and Palestinians "to end the cycle of violence, revenge and retaliation."

The lunchtime blast in the university's Frank Sinatra International Student Center struck a popular student hangout at a school that's been an island of tolerance throughout the nearly two years of Mideast fighting.

Alastair Goldrein, 19, from Liverpool, England, said the cafeteria was a gathering place for students of all backgrounds.



7 killed, dozens wounded as bomb shatters cafeteria; Hebrew University: Second bombing in as many days  
rocks Jerusalem

"I was on my way to lunch. There was a huge, huge explosion. Everything shook and then there was this deathly silence," said Goldrein, who has been taking courses in Jewish studies for the past year. "I ran in, there were people lying around wailing, covered in blood. Scenes that are indescribable, clothes and flesh torn apart."

The bag with the bomb was placed on a table in the center of the cafeteria, police said. "It was not a suicide bomber," said police spokeswoman Sigal Toledo. The blast brought down part of the ceiling and blew out windows.

The attack marked a departure from the suicide bombings that have rocked Israel throughout 22 months of Mideast fighting. It was not clear, however, whether it marked a change in tactics, or a one-time attack aimed at exploiting a weakness in the university's security.

Spencer Dew, 26, an American student from Owensboro, Ky., who was lightly wounded by flying glass, said he had worried about such attacks in Israel, "but it didn't deter me from coming. I assume I'll come back next year."

The explosion occurred at the university's Mount Scopus campus, a Jewish enclave surrounded by Palestinian neighborhoods in the eastern part of the city. The student center was named for Sinatra, who attended the 1978 dedication of the building.

Money for the student center was raised by members of the Friends of Hebrew University from the west coast of the United States, many of whom had connections in the entertainment industry.

Police maintain heavy security at the university, with student backpacks checked thoroughly by guards at entrances, students said.

However, Benny Vered, deputy editor of the school newspaper, said the perimeter fence was easy to cross. In April, the newspaper paper predicted such an attack, he told Israel Radio.

"I held a sign that said 'terrorist' and crossed back and forth over the fence for 40 minutes," he said, adding that no one stopped him or even appeared to notice.

The university said 23,000 students attend the school, about 5,000 of them Arabs and 1,500 from abroad.

**Hamas**, which has carried out the largest number of Palestinian bombings, claimed responsibility for the bombing during a rally in Gaza City that drew some 10,000 supporters into the streets following evening prayers in the mosques.

"This operation today is a part of a series of operations we will launch from everywhere in Palestine," said a masked **Hamas** militant, dressed in a green military uniform.

At the request of the masked **Hamas** speaker, the entire crowd knelt to pray that future **Hamas** attacks "would succeed against the enemy of God."

Shortly before Wednesday's attack, the Rev. Jesse Jackson met Yasser Arafat at the Palestinian leader's West Bank headquarters in Ramallah. Palestinian authorities were "continuing our efforts, and will continue, from every aspect, to stop the violence," Arafat said at a joint news conference.

Jackson was to go to Gaza to meet **Hamas**' spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, but canceled after the bombing. In a statement, Jackson said he called off the meeting "to show proper respect for the victims" of the attack. He said the bombings are "horribly merciless" and "will not help move toward establishing a Palestinian state."

Even before **Hamas** claimed responsibility, Yassin had linked the bombing to last week's Gaza airstrike and said Israel should have expected a revenge attack.

"When Israel bombs a civilian building full of **women** and children, and kills 15 people this is the response they should expect," he said.

7 killed, dozens wounded as bomb shatters cafeteria; Hebrew University: Second bombing in as many days  
rocks Jerusalem

The Palestinian Authority said in a statement that it "absolutely condemns the attack against Hebrew University." However, the Palestinian leadership also said it "considers Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon responsible for this cycle of terror."

Sharon's government has slightly eased the tough restrictions placed on Palestinian movements, but the latest attacks could lead to even tougher measures.

"Israel is fighting a pitched battle against terror, and for the right to walk down the street, take a bus or sit in a cafeteria without the fear of being decimated by Palestinian terrorism," said David Baker of the prime minister's office.

On Tuesday, a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up at a fast-food stand in Jerusalem, wounding several Israelis.

After withholding tax revenues from the Palestinians for much of the past 22 months, Israel on Wednesday transferred \$15 million to the cash-strapped Palestinian Authority.

Israel had withheld an estimated \$600 million in tax money since shortly after the fighting erupted in September 2000. Aid groups say the number of undernourished Palestinian children has risen sharply. Palestinian unemployment is rampant.

**Load-Date:** August 6, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Israel strikes back*

Herald Sun (Melbourne, Australia)

November 23, 2002, Saturday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 22

**Length:** 392 words

### **Body**

---

JERUSALEM -- The Israeli army moved into the West Bank town of Bethlehem after a suicide attack on a bus in Jerusalem that killed 11 people.

Israeli armour also entered the southern Gaza Strip, killing a Palestinian policeman with tank fire.

"The Israeli army has started various operations within Bethlehem," a military source said.  
AFP

Israeli army radio said troops were heading for the Church of the Nativity to prevent "terrorists" from taking refuge there, recalling an occupation of the church by a dozen Palestinians that ended in early May after 37 days.

Dozens of Israeli tanks rolled into Al Qarada in the south of the Gaza Strip, hours after the Jerusalem attack.

Israeli troops blew up the home of Younes al-Artal, head of the hardline Islamist group **Hamas** for the southern Gaza Strip, and also destroyed the house of another **Hamas** militant, Palestinian security officials said.

Responsibility for the suicide blast was first claimed by **Hamas** and then by its smaller rival, Islamic Jihad.

Israeli security forces named the Jerusalem bomber as Nael Abu Hlayel, 23, of Bethlehem. His relatives said his brother and cousin had already been arrested at the family home in Dura, a village close to Hebron.

Witnesses of the bombing told how victims cried for their mothers after the blast tore apart the bus.

Killed were five **women**, four children and a Romanian tourist. One other victim has not been identified. More than 40 people were injured.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon spokesman Raanan Gissin said Israel would continue dismantling Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority.

But Labour Party leader Amram Mitzna said Israel needed to pursue political negotiations even as it battled terror.

"On this dramatic day, it is very difficult to control our anger, but the elected leader must look over the horizon," said Mr Mitzna, who hopes to become Israel's next PM in January elections.

At a NATO summit in Prague, US President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair condemned the bombing. The Palestinian Authority in a statement also condemned it as "morally reprehensible".

## Israel strikes back

"Resisting against Jewish settlers and soldiers does not mean targeting Israeli civilians who have no link to the occupation, just like Palestinian civilians who are facing an Israeli military escalation," it said.

**Load-Date:** November 22, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Arab Slays 2 and Wounds 20 After 4 Die in a Raid by Israel*

The New York Times

January 23, 2002 Wednesday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2002 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 3; Foreign Desk; Pg. 1

**Length:** 1496 words

**Byline:** By JAMES BENNET

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM, Wednesday, Jan. 23

### **Body**

---

Wearing a blue jacket and carrying an M-16 semiautomatic rifle, the young man looked like just another Israeli soldier, on guard even if off duty, as he strolled through Jerusalem's crowded shopping district late Tuesday afternoon.

But with a cry in Arabic of "God is great!" the man, a member of a Palestinian militant group, turned the rifle on passers-by, killing two women and wounding 20 other people as he sprayed bullets at two bus stops and several stores.

Police officers chased the gunman down and shot him dead in a parking lot. It was the first attack by a Palestinian militant in Jerusalem since Dec. 16, when Yasir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, called for a halt to violence against Israelis. On Dec. 1 two suicide bombers killed themselves and 11 others about a block from the scene of the shooting on Tuesday, on Jaffa Road.

After a week of growing violence, the shooting came on a day already stained by bloodshed. Before dawn on Tuesday, Israeli forces killed four Palestinian militants, members of the Islamic group Hamas, with a raid on what the army called a bomb-making laboratory in the West Bank city of Nablus.

The violence on Tuesday set the stage for reprisals by both sides and left Mr. Arafat in a precarious position. With the cease-fire collapsing, he is a virtual prisoner of the Israeli Army in the West Bank city of Ramallah and is running out of space to maneuver between the demands of Israel and the Bush administration on one hand and, on the other, those of militants opposed to talks and others who have lost faith in them.

More than a thousand demonstrators in Nablus clashed on Tuesday with the Palestinian police, who shot one of them dead. The protesters called on Mr. Arafat's Palestinian Authority to release the men it had jailed at the request of Israel and the United States. The Palestinian Authority could not protect the prisoners from an Israeli attack, the protesters said.

Israel promised a response to the attack here, responsibility for which was claimed by a group linked to Mr. Arafat's own Fatah faction. Leaders of Hamas promised revenge for the killings of its members.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and the Bush administration insist that Mr. Arafat enforce the cease-fire.

## Arab Slays 2 and Wounds 20 After 4 Die in a Raid by Israel

The shooting in Jerusalem sent screaming pedestrians diving to the pavement and shopkeepers tunneling beneath their goods. Along Jaffa Road, where business was already suffering and nerves were already frayed, the attack left shattered glass and scores of bullet holes in shop windows and cars. The police said some civilians had returned fire.

"It was Lebanon in the middle of Jerusalem," said one witness, Yacov Cohen.

Two of the four people who were seriously wounded died early this morning, a spokesman for Haddassah Ein Kerem hospital said. The women, aged 78 and 56, were not further identified. Fourteen of the wounded remain hospitalized.

Staff Sgt. Hanan Ben Naim was one of the police officers who closed in on the gunman, trading shots with him from behind parked cars. "He was calm," the sergeant recalled. "I saw hate in his eyes."

Magdolene Othman, 19, from the Israeli Arab village of Abu Ghosh near Jerusalem, was in tears as she recalled the experience as a bus she was riding came under fire. "Somebody pulled me down and told me to lie on the floor," she said. "I'm an Arab, and I don't understand how people can do these kinds of things."

Al Aksa Martyrs Brigades, a militant group linked to Mr. Arafat's Fatah organization, claimed responsibility for the assault. The assailant was identified as Said Ramadan, 22, a Palestinian policeman on leave. Mr. Ramadan was from the village of Tel near Nablus.

The Aksa group has ignored the notional cease-fire to carry out shootings that have killed at least nine Israeli civilians since Jan. 14, when one of the group's leaders was slain by a hidden bomb. Israeli officials have acknowledged that Israel planted the bomb, saying the man, Raed al-Karmi, was preparing to lead more attacks on Israelis.

Palestinians and Israeli soldiers have clashed daily in Ramallah since Israeli tanks advanced within a hundred yards of Mr. Arafat's compound on Friday. On Tuesday an Israeli soldier was accidentally killed by fire from an Israeli machine gun, the army said. The army is investigating the incident.

Israeli officials say Mr. Arafat has imprisoned few of the most dangerous men and has failed to interrogate the ones he already has behind bars. Mr. Arafat cannot escape his virtual imprisonment in Ramallah without acting against more militants, the Israelis say.

But as he is pressed on one side by the Israelis, who argue that he is not fighting Palestinian terrorism, Mr. Arafat is also facing increasing resistance from his own people. Ismail Abu Shanab, a senior political leader of Hamas, said the Israeli raid had ended the limited cease-fire that Hamas had negotiated with Mr. Arafat.

"What happened in the West Bank is a dangerous military escalation that gives Hamas the right to respond," he said, speaking before the shooting in Jerusalem. "The security coordination between Israel and the Palestinian Authority must stop. There should be no call for a cease-fire." He said the Palestinian Authority should arrest no more militants.

Palestinians in Nablus and elsewhere seem to be in no mood for such arrests. On Tuesday thousands took to the Nablus streets, stoning a police station and a prison, burning three police trucks and overturning another as they called on the Authority to release the men it had put behind bars at the demand of Israel. They said the prisoners were sitting ducks for Israeli fire.

"Nobody's protected here," said a woman who identified herself only as the mother of a prisoner, Ahmed Awad. "Even people who are not in jail are being killed. The Authority cannot protect them in prison."

The rioters tore down sections of the chain-link fence surrounding the prison and left the street outside it strewn with stones. Part of the building, the central security compound in Nablus, is still a pile of rubble from an attack by Israeli F-16 fighter jets last May. The police responded with tear gas and live fire.

## Arab Slays 2 and Wounds 20 After 4 Die in a Raid by Israel

To calm the crowd, the authorities agreed to negotiate with representatives of the prisoners and their families, demonstrators said. They also released a man -- temporarily, his family said -- to attend the funeral of a brother, who was killed in the Israeli raid.

About 4 on Tuesday morning, Israeli soldiers crept up on a hillside apartment building in the western outskirts of Nablus. The army said the Palestinians had struck first, heaving a bomb at the soldiers and then exchanging gunfire with them. Four soldiers were wounded in the fight, the army said.

But as they picked through the ruins of the apartment, members of the Palestinian security forces insisted that the men had not had the chance to fight back.

The security officers said three had died in one bedroom, where the walls were pitted with dozens of bullets holes and the bedclothes were soaked with blood. They said the fourth had died in the bathroom, where two black sandals sat by a bathtub covered in blood. The bathroom door had been forced open.

Mahmoud Bitar, 18, a neighbor, said he had entered the apartment after the soldiers had left and found the body in the bathroom dressed only in underwear.

Mr. Bitar said he was awakened about 4 a.m. by an explosion, followed by heavy gunfire and more blasts. "I heard one of the four men saying: 'They are upstairs. They are upstairs,' " he said. "And afterward, it was very quiet."

The Israeli Army initially reported early Tuesday morning that soldiers had killed five militants in the raid.

Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Eitan called the apartment "perhaps the largest" bomb-making laboratory ever found in the West Bank. The army said its soldiers had discovered explosive belts of the type used by suicide bombers, as well as explosives, ammunition, wires, metal pellets for use as shrapnel and several cellular phones and beepers, which could be used as detonators.

In the ruined bedroom, at least one box for a new cellular phone remained.

Israeli officials said that in a joint security meeting on Thursday night, they requested that Palestinian forces arrest the four Hamas men. But, they said, the Palestinian officers took no action. They said all four men had been involved in lethal attacks on Israelis.

At least two of the men killed were among the top 33 militants wanted by Israel, according to Israeli officials. Over loudspeakers in Nablus on Tuesday, Hamas members identified one of the dead, Yousef Haled Yousef Sukagi, as the underground leader of the military wing of Hamas in the West Bank.

Israel killed the previous West Bank leader, Mahmoud Abu Hanoud, with a missile strike near Nablus on Nov. 23. Hamas described several subsequent attacks, including the suicide bombings here on Dec. 1, as revenge for Mr. Abu Hanoud's death.

Over the loudspeakers in Nablus on Tuesday, Hamas was calling again for revenge.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

---

Photos: An Israeli in Jerusalem's shopping district yesterday after a Palestinian militant turned a rifle on passers-by. (Lefteris Pitarakis/Associated Press)(pg. A1); A police superintendent went to examine the body of the gunman who

## Arab Slays 2 and Wounds 20 After 4 Die in a Raid by Israel

had shot passers-by in Jerusalem. (Rina Castelnovo for The New York Times)(pg. A4) Map of Israel highlighting the site of the shooting and Jerusalem: A shooting in Jerusalem was the latest attack in a violent week. (pg. A4)

**Load-Date:** January 23, 2002

---

End of Document



**Israel tightens restrictions on Palestinian travel; 'Total closure': Israeli helicopters fire missiles on a Gaza City metal shop**

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

August 6, 2002 Tuesday

Copyright 2002 Woodward Communications, Inc.

**Section:** Pg. a10

**Length:** 772 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

---

Declaring "nobody enters and nobody leaves," Israel's defense minister imposed a ban on Palestinian travel in the northern West Bank and sealed off part of the Gaza Strip on Monday after attacks on Israelis killed 13 people in 24 hours.

The measures expand on the already tight restrictions Israel has imposed on seven major West Bank cities and towns in a bid to stop terror attacks, including rolling curfews that keep Palestinians at home for days on end.

Hours after the clampdown was announced, Israeli helicopters fired missiles at a metal shop in Gaza City's Zeitouni neighborhood, which is known as a hub for the militant group **Hamas**. Four people were injured in the strike, which damaged three buildings. Israel Army Radio said the targeted building was a suspected weapons factory.

In an effort to end such violence, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak invited Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to peace talks in Egypt. Officials from both sides said they had received no formal invitation.

Israeli officials have said further meetings were on hold following Sunday's carnage. But Palestinian sources in Arafat's office said Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer met Monday in Jerusalem with the Palestinian interior minister, Abdel Razak Yehiyeh. Calls to Ben-Eliezer's spokesman weren't returned late Monday.

The attacks Sunday in northern Israel, Jerusalem and the West Bank left 13 people dead, including Jews, Arabs and two **women** from the Philippines. In addition, three assailants were killed.

Israeli troops arrested Mazen Foqha, a senior **Hamas** activist in the West Bank, on suspicion he supplied the explosives for Sunday's deadliest attack, the suicide bombing of a bus at the Meron Junction in the Galilee region, in which nine passengers were killed. Palestinians said Foqha headed the **Hamas** military wing in the Jenin district.

In response to Sunday's attacks, Ben-Eliezer announced the travel restrictions.

Under the new travel ban, Palestinians will not be able to drive in the northern half of the West Bank, between the towns of Nablus, Jenin, Qalqiliya, Tulkarem and Ramallah, the army said. Some movement will be permitted in the southern West Bank, including the towns of Hebron, Bethlehem and Jericho.

Israel tightens restrictions on Palestinian travel; 'Total closure': Israeli helicopters fire missiles on a Gaza City metal shop

"We are in a situation of total closure in the area of Samaria," Ben-Eliezer said, using the biblical name for the northern West Bank. "Nobody enters and nobody leaves. There is no movement between the towns and villages."

In Gaza, about 25 tanks took up positions on the main north-south road, cutting off the southern town of Rafah and an adjacent refugee camp from the rest of the strip. The army said it imposed the blockade to prevent attacks on Israelis.

Palestinians trying to get to jobs and schools often use dirt roads to get around military checkpoints. The military said Monday's announcement of a "total ban" on Palestinian traffic meant existing blockades would be strictly enforced, with more checkpoints and more troops stationed at checkpoints. Exemptions would be made in humanitarian cases, the military said.

Israel, meanwhile, maintained tight control over the West Bank city of Nablus, with tanks and troops patrolling what Israel says is the new hub of Palestinian suicide bombers.

In the Balata neighborhood of Nablus, Israeli soldiers shot and killed a 15-year-old Palestinian boy who was outside his home during the curfew, doctors said. The army said it was checking the report.

Palestinian attacks on Israelis have killed 27 people since an Israeli airstrike on July 22 killed leading Hamas militant Salah Shehadeh and 14 Palestinians, many of them children, in Gaza.

In trying to deter attacks, the army demolished nine homes of Palestinian assailants Sunday, reviving a practice abandoned several years ago.

Israel's Supreme Court issued a temporary restraining order on Monday preventing further demolitions, Israel TV reported. The restraining order is in effect until the court makes a final decision, expected Tuesday.

Another proposed deterrent, the deportation of relatives of attackers, is also being challenged in court. Ben-Eliezer said he hoped to go ahead with the deportations.

The Islamic militant group Hamas, which has vowed revenge for the July 22 airstrike in Gaza, claimed responsibility for the bus bombing, as well as Wednesday's bombing at Jerusalem's Hebrew University that killed seven, including five Americans.

About 4,000 people celebrated the bus bombing in Gaza City late Sunday, passing out sweets and praying near Shehadeh's destroyed house, where militants shouting over loudspeakers vowed to "avenge every drop of his blood."

**Load-Date:** August 6, 2002

## **ISRAELI ATTACK RUINS OFFER TO END SUICIDE BOMBINGS**

The Independent (London)

July 25, 2002, Thursday

Copyright 2002 Independent Print Ltd

**Section:** FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 12

**Length:** 706 words

**Byline:** Justin Huggler In Jerusalem And Mary Dejevsky Wounded Palestinian children wait in hospital after the Israeli missile strike Getty Images

### **Body**

---

ISRAEL'S AIR strike on Gaza on Tuesday, which killed nine Palestinian children, may have wrecked an imminent commitment by Palestinian militants to end suicide bombings against Israeli civilians.

Javier Solana, the EU's foreign policy chief, said yesterday that an agreement had been within reach.

British officials were part of the EU and US team that was finalising the terms of an Israeli-Palestinian ceasefire when Israel launched its missile attack on the Gaza strip, diplomatic sources confirmed.

They stopped short of pronouncing the agreement dead, saying that talks could continue. But they indicated that the attack, in which the commander of the **Hamas** organisation and 14 civilians were killed, had in effect scuppered the Palestinian-proposed deal, at least for the time being.

The Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth reported that just an hour and a half before an Israeli bomb ploughed into a packed Gaza residential neighbourhood, leading Palestinians linked to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement had agreed to publish a call for a unilateral end to all attacks on civilians inside Israel.

The newspaper printed what it said was the text of a declaration that was supposed to be published today.

"From this moment on," it reads, "we will cease all attacks on innocent men, **women** and children who are non-combatants. We call on all the political organisations and Palestinian movements to cease these attacks immediately, without hesitation or conditions."

Leading figures inside Fatah and its Tanzim militia were understood to have agreed to the unilateral declaration. Fatah is believed to be linked to the militant Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, which is said to have carried out several suicide bombings and other attacks.

The militant Islamist **Hamas** also agreed to honour the call, reports said. Hours before the air strike, **Hamas**' spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, said the group would consider ending suicide attacks if the Israeli army withdrew from West Bank towns it has reoccupied.

The target of the air strike was the head of **Hamas**' military wing, Sheikh Salah Shahadah, who died in the bombing. **Hamas** said all prospects of an end to attacks were off.

## ISRAELI ATTACK RUINS OFFER TO END SUICIDE BOMBINGS

Israel's Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon, is facing his heaviest criticism for months at home and abroad for authorising the attack. In unusually blunt language, the White House condemned it as "heavy-handed". Quoting a presidential aide, The New York Times said George Bush was "visibly angry" when he heard of the strike.

The criticism of Mr Sharon increased when it emerged that the Israeli air force had used a one-ton bomb. Previous assassination attempts have used guided missiles, which are more accurate and cause less destruction. The Israeli air force decided to use a bomb because previous missile strikes have failed to hit their targets.

It was clear that the Israeli government was unprepared for the deluge of condemnation from around the world. On Tuesday morning, Mr Sharon unapologetically described the raid as "one of our biggest successes." By the evening, however, the government was expressing its regrets in an attempt to limit the damage.

Mr Sharon told Yedioth Ahronoth that if he had known the attack would cause such heavy civilian casualties, he would not have authorised it.

The foreign minister, Shimon Peres, promised a full investigation, telling the BBC: "What happened is really regrettable. It wasn't done intentionally. I think all of us feel sorry for the loss of life of innocent people, particularly children."

As Arab anger intensified, the UN Security Council scheduled an open debate on the raid. On the ground in Gaza, it was clear that an air strike of any nature on that site would have caused civilian casualties, to say nothing of a one-ton bomb.

"Considering the location of the house and the time of the operation, it should have been clear to the decision-makers that children would be among the casualties," an editorial in Ma'ariv newspaper said yesterday.

"Ariel Sharon was, in fact, the only politician who was familiar with the details of the operation and authorised it. He is, therefore, responsible, and even if he says over and over that it was a great success, he is wrong and misleading."

Obituary, page 18

**Load-Date:** July 25, 2002

## **PALESTINIANS SAY RAID HALTED THEIR TRUCE BID**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

July 25, 2002 Thursday

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2002 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 731 words

**Byline:** JAMES BENNET AND JOHN KIFNER, THE NEW YORK TIMES

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

Tanzim, the Palestinian militia connected to Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction, was preparing to announce a unilateral cease-fire with Israel before an Israeli warplane dropped a one-ton bomb early Tuesday on a **Hamas** leader's home in Gaza City, Palestinian officials and Western diplomats said yesterday.

Israeli officials acknowledged that they knew of a possible Palestinian cease-fire proposal before the bomb was dropped, but they dismissed it as a futile attempt by Palestinians without influence over terrorist groups.

Several Palestinian factions, including groups belonging to the Tanzim, have now vowed retaliation for the bombing, which killed the **Hamas** leader, Salah Shehada, and 14 others, including nine children. More than 140 people were injured.

European Union officials had led the effort for a cease-fire, which intensified over the last two weeks, with support from Jordanian and Saudi diplomats, people familiar with the process said. Bush administration officials had been informed of the effort.

During extensive negotiations with Arafat's Palestinian Authority, some **Hamas** leaders had said they would cooperate in a cease-fire if it was connected to an Israeli withdrawal from areas seized in the West Bank, Palestinian officials said. Top **Hamas** officials have publicly imposed conditions on any cease-fire that Israel considers absurd.

Raanan Gissin, spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, acknowledged that there had been talk of a cease-fire, but said it was now being exaggerated. He said several cease-fires had already been negotiated and ignored during the 22-month conflict.

"They had so many opportunities to really issue a cease-fire," Gissin said. "Not in one case did we learn about orders issued down to the field commanders to say, 'You've got to stop.' "

Last night, a senior Israeli military official said of the cease-fire effort: "There was no chance it was going to happen. It was only thoughts or dreams or desires of some people who have no influence on terrorist activities."

A text identified as the planned cease-fire announcement, published yesterday in the Israeli newspaper Yediot Ahronot, promised an end to "all attacks on innocent men, **women** and children who are non-combatants."

## PALESTINIANS SAY RAID HALTED THEIR TRUCE BID

It is unlikely that any unilateral cease-fire would have applied to Israeli soldiers and settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which Israel occupied during the 1967 war. The announcement said that the Tanzim would continue to oppose "the occupation of the Israeli army of the West Bank."

Among Israelis, fierce debate continued yesterday over the timing, preparation and method of the bombing attack. In an interview in Yediot Ahronot, Sharon said he would not have authorized the strike had he known its results in advance. On Tuesday, Sharon had called the bombing "one of our major successes."

The air raid was approved by Sharon and Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, who gave his approval by phone from London, where he was on vacation.

The Israeli army and Israeli Security Agency are investigating what Israeli political officials have called faulty intelligence which indicated that civilians would not be endangered by the bomb, the Israeli government said.

Dropped into a densely populated neighborhood from a U.S.-made F-16 jet, the bomb pulverized Shehada's house and two neighboring houses, leaving a jumble of cinder blocks and steel bars. Several other houses were damaged. The bodies of three children were pulled from the rubble yesterday.

Of the 15 people killed, 11 were not in the house that was the target.

"I think all of us feel sorry for the loss of life of innocent people, particularly children," said Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Palestinians and Israeli critics of Sharon accused him of deliberately scuttling cease-fire talks. The killing fit a pattern, they said, in which Israeli forces have killed popular militants during times of relative quiet.

Yesterday, many Israeli analysts predicted a wave of new Palestinian attacks. But a senior Israeli military official, asked if the bombing would have any effect on militants' capability or motivation to attack Israelis, said, "I don't think this specific event, despite all the circumstances, will create specific change in the situation."

Gissin, Sharon's spokesman, said he did not believe that Shehada would have abided by any cease-fire agreement.

## Graphic

---

PHOTO: Nasser Nasser/Associated Press: A foreign peace activist runs away from splashing red paint on an Israeli army vehicle in the West Bank town of Ramallah yesterday. Peace activists came to Ramallah to protest Israel's attack on a Gaza apartment building, killing a Hamas commander and 14 others.

**Load-Date:** July 26, 2002

## *MPs shake hands on peace as rockets hit*

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia)

January 24, 2002, Thursday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 31

**Length:** 553 words

**Byline:** Imad Saadi

### **Body**

---

TENSIONS rose again in the Middle East today as Hezbollah guerillas fired rockets and mortars on Israeli positions on the Lebanese-Syrian border, triggering a swift Israeli response.

The attacks follow a deadly Palestinian shooting spree in central Jerusalem yesterday in which two women died and 40 were injured.

But in Paris the speakers of the Israeli and Palestinian parliaments shook hands, while Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres put Israel's case before the Council of Europe

in Strasbourg.

MATP

The dovish Israeli parliament speaker Avraham Burg shook hands with his Palestinian counterpart Ahmed Qorei, a firm proponent of

the peace process.

Meanwhile israeli security forces were on top alert across the country after military intelligence chief Major General Aharon Zeevi warned yesterday Israel was facing a new bout of attacks on its cities, worse than any in the past.

But the only strike following yesterday's bloodshed came from Lebanon, where the disputed border which has been quiet for month suddenly exploded with Hezbollah mortar and rocket fire on the Shebaa Farms.

The area was captured by Israel from Syria in 1967 and is now claimed by Lebanon with Syrian consent.

Israel retaliated with missile strikes by warplanes and artillery shelling, Lebanese security services said.

Israeli Defence Minister Binyamin Ben Eliezer branded the assault "very dangerous" and said Iran and Syria had given the Lebanese guerrillas the green light, his spokesman said.

Israel earlier this month seized a ship laden with Iranian weapons which it said was headed for Gaza, although Iran and the Palestinian leadership denied any knowledge of it. A series of attacks and retaliatory strikes have undermined a ceasefire call last month by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, trapped by Israel in the West Bank town of Ramallah since last month.

## MPs shake hands on peace as rockets hit

The shooting followed an Israeli raid into the West Bank city of Nablus to destroy a major bomb-making facility, in which four members of the radical **Hamas** movement were killed.

Some 15,000 people gathered today for the funerals of three of the **Hamas** militants, and heard a speaker call for the group's armed wing to resume its suicide bombings. **Hamas** issued a declaration of "total war" against Israel after the army's Nablus raid, which came just as the Israeli military ended a 30-hour re-occupation of the West Bank town of Tulkarem, itself in retaliation for an earlier shooting in Israel.

A coalition of all Palestinian groups, including **Hamas** and Fatah, also called yesterday for a "general mobilisation" against Israel.

US State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the skyrocketing violence made it incumbent upon Mr Arafat to break up extremist organisations, as he has promised to do.

"The point is that he needs to dismantle the organisations that do these things," he said.

But Washington said no new US missions were in the works, following the departure of envoy Anthony Zinni from the region on January 6.

Mr Arafat says he is unable to act effectively against extremists without freedom of movement for himself and his police.

In Strasbourg, Mr Peres put the blame for the latest violence and the stalled peace process firmly at Mr Arafat's door.

"If Arafat doesn't bring an end to terrorism, terrorism will bring an end to him," Mr Peres warned.

**Load-Date:** January 24, 2002



## **Five killed in Israeli missile attack**

The Star Phoenix (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

April 9, 2003 Wednesday Final Edition

Copyright 2003 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** News; Pg. D8; News

**Length:** 382 words

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip

### **Body**

---

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) -- An Israeli warplane fired a missile at a car in Gaza City after sundown Tuesday, killing at least five people -- including a Palestinian militant -- in the first Israeli air strike in Palestinian territory since the war in Iraq began.

At least 47 people also were wounded, eight of them critically, by the missile strike, doctors said. The wounded were civilians ranging in age from six to 75, doctors said.

Associated Press

Witnesses reported a huge explosion in the Zeitoun neighbourhood in Gaza City, known as a stronghold of the militant group **Hamas**, which is responsible for dozens of attacks that have killed hundreds of Israelis in 30 months of fighting.

One of the dead was identified as Saed Arabeed, 38, a senior **Hamas** commander.

Those injured by Tuesday's strike were taken to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. The casualties included **women** and children.

The Israeli military refused to comment. Since the war in Iraq began March 20, Israel had scaled back its incursions and military operations in the West Bank and Gaza, but Israeli forces have arrested dozens of suspects in nightly sweeps and raids in the West Bank.

Residents said two Israeli F-16 fighter planes circled low over Gaza City, breaking the sound barrier, in the minutes before attacking a Subaru car on a Gaza street.

Yussef Tough, 24, said the white car was approaching an intersection when he saw the planes, then "a big flame in the sky" followed by the missile hitting the car. He was wounded in both legs and lay covered with blood in the hospital.

"I saw bodies torn to pieces," he said.

The car was a twisted mass of charred metal after the attack.

Israel has carried out many similar attacks targeting suspected Palestinian militants. Palestinians and human rights groups have condemned the practice.

## Five killed in Israeli missile attack

In recent months, Israel frequently has sent forces into Gaza, destroying buildings and arresting suspected militants. Israeli officials say they are targeting the infrastructure of ***Hamas*** to try to prevent further attacks, including the firing of homemade rockets at Jewish settlements in Gaza and Israeli villages and towns just outside the fence.

Since violence broke out in September 2000, 2,243 people have been killed on the Palestinian side and 753 on the Israeli side.

## Graphic

---

Colour Photo: Associated Press; Palestinians inspect the wreckage of a burned car Tuesday after a missile hit it in Gaza City

**Load-Date:** April 9, 2003

---

End of Document

## *Not much going right for Abbas on any side*

The International Herald Tribune

May 23, 2003 Friday

Copyright 2003 International Herald Tribune

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 3

**Length:** 799 words

**Byline:** James Bennet

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY:

### **Body**

---

It seemed a perfect way for the first Palestinian prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, to connect with his skeptical public: He planned to visit the Gaza town of Beit Hanoun on Wednesday, just after Israeli forces withdrew, to witness the destruction, show compassion and renew his call to end violence.

But shortly after Palestinian officials said they had coordinated their plan with the Israelis, the armored vehicles moved back in, blocking the roads. The army said its troops were trying to stop Hamas from firing rockets at Israelis.

Israeli officials say they will undermine Abbas if they "hug" him, but Abbas's allies say a bit more warmth would be welcome.

The New York Times

"They could have given the man a chance," said Ziad Abu Amr, a minister in the new Palestinian government.

Abbas, a critic of the armed uprising, has been on the job for three weeks. With opponents and doubters on all sides, he is having a hard time getting heard and a harder time getting popular.

As he met Saturday with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel for the highest-level talks in more than two years, Palestinian suicide bombers embarked on a five-attack spree that undercut Abbas's demand that Israel accept a new peace plan.

Thursday evening, he met here with political leaders of the militant group Hamas to try to work out a truce, a step that Israel calls no substitute for arrests and weapons seizures. The meeting ended after two hours with an agreement to keep talking, while Hamas said it would not stop suicide bombings and other violence.

"Nobody asked us to stop," said Mahmoud Zahar of Hamas.

But a senior Palestinian official said that Abbas had asked just that. This official said that Abbas pointed to the American war in Iraq and the pressure on Syria and Iran, and asked the Hamas members if they believed they could be immune.

Meanwhile, the president of the governing Palestinian Authority, Yasser Arafat, who reluctantly appointed Abbas under international pressure, has not exactly rushed to support him.

## Not much going right for Abbas on any side

Palestinian television, controlled by Arafat, has shown little interest in covering the prime minister. Though its technicians were set up to carry live Abbas's news conference with Colin Powell, the U.S. secretary of state, this month, it chose not to do so.

As Abbas tries to consolidate control, subtle but significant rules keep changing. This week, Arafat ordered the Palestinian governors to begin reporting directly to him, rather than to the Interior Ministry, as they have in the past. Abbas now controls that ministry.

His own ministers have been a bit off-message. He brought his government from the West Bank to Gaza this week to show the isolated Gazans that he also cared about them. But by midweek, some ministers who live in the West Bank had slipped back home.

New government or no, for Gazans, life goes on, although in a way they consider deeply strange. Fenced in by Israel, brooded over by posters of suicide bombers, gunmen and children shot dead in the conflict, they somehow keep this sprawling city alive.

In a striking violation of social taboo here, a few beggars, including women, now ply the sidewalks. But sleek new sedans dodge donkey carts along rutted streets. Enough money seeps in through humanitarian agencies and civil service salaries, and enough commerce takes place with Israel, to keep stores stocked with toothpaste, tricycles and wedding dresses.

In the markets, smells of mint and fresh peaches beat back the stench of sewage.

Mohammed Sharif returned here eight months ago after 12 years in Fresno, California, to take care of his aging parents. At least temporarily trapped by tightened Israeli closures, Sharif has just opened a Web design and development consultancy.

With international assistance, a few businesses are creating electronic catalogues, hoping that calm will come, the closure will ease and they will be able to export wicker furniture and other products. (Gazans could make "almost anything," Sharif said, adding, "They totally lack taste, of course.")

But he had a big laugh when he was asked if the new government of Abbas, known as Abu Mazen, and his security chief, Mohammed Dahlan, had changed anything. "Abu Mazen, Dahlan that's the 'new' government?" he asked. Both men are longtime fixtures in Palestinian affairs.

Sharif argued that Israel was not interested in having the government succeed, because, he said, it did not want to make the concessions that would lead to lasting peace.

"If it doesn't work," he said of his new business, "the first time they open the borders, I'm back to California."

Abbas is plugging away and there are signs of change. Palestinian security forces, carrying guns and wearing new uniforms, have reappeared in the streets. Some policeman ride gleaming white motorcycles, newly donated from abroad.

**Load-Date:** May 23, 2003

**THE ENEMY WITHIN;**  
**SIX MORE ARRESTS AS SECURITY SERVICES WARN THERE COULD BE**  
**MORE**

Independent on Sunday (London)

May 4, 2003, Sunday

Copyright 2003 Independent Print Ltd

**Section:** TITLE PAGE; Pg. 1,2

**Length:** 1204 words

**Byline:** PAUL LASHMAR AND RAYMOND WHITAKER A placard protesting at Iraqi casualties displayed by the radical Islamic group Al-Muhajiroun in Derby yesterday DOUG MARKE/PAGE ONE Police hunting terrorists guard a house yesterday in Nottingham yesterday

## Body

---

British security agencies are facing a nightmarish new threat in the wake of last week's suicide bombing in Israel by two British Muslims.

Sources close to MI5 and Special Branch admit that the pair were unknown to both agencies. Nor do they know how many other disaffected British Muslims might be prepared to stage similar attacks.

Asif Mohammed Hanif, from Hounslow, west London, blew himself up in a Tel Aviv cafe early on Wednesday morning, killing three other people and injuring 35. Omar Khan Sharif, from Derby, is on the run in Israel after his hidden explosives failed to detonate. The fear is that if they had chosen a target in Britain, they would have gone undetected.

Anti-terrorist police were last night questioning six people arrested in connection with the Israel bombing. The three men and three women were being held at the high-security Paddington Green police station in central London, on suspicion of helping to plan terrorist attacks. Unusually, police would not confirm their addresses, or say whether they were related to Hanif or Sharif. Security sources say the investigation is highly sensitive and "extremely important".

"A spate of individual fanatics, each committing an act of horrendous terrorism, is what senior MI5 officers lie in bed sweating about at night," said one former intelligence officer. "These are the most difficult people to spot, especially if they are British-born."

A Whitehall source said: "What we cannot be complacent about is the possibility of previously unknown individuals acting on their own, perhaps inspired by the Iraq war or Osama bin Laden and the events of 11 September."

Last week's attack was unique in several respects. It was the first suicide bombing by a Briton, the first by a foreigner in Israel and the first perpetrated by bombers to come in from Gaza, after 89 previous attacks from the West Bank. All three factors minimised the chances of the attackers being intercepted before they carried out their mission.

## THE ENEMY WITHIN; SIX MORE ARRESTS AS SECURITY SERVICES WARN THERE COULD BE MORE

Before the 2001 attacks on New York and Washington, carried out by terrorists whose activities had passed virtually unnoticed by US intelligence agencies, MI5 was confident that it had rounded up all the active al-Qa'ida terrorists in Britain. Some have been extradited and others are in custody in Belmarsh prison, south-east London.

Since 11 September 2001, MI5 has closely monitored about 30 people - most of North African origin - who they suspect of close links with al- Qa'ida. They are ringed by supporters and active sympathisers, believed to number between 300 and 600.

But Hanif and Sharif carried out their attack on behalf of Hamas, a Palestinian nationalist group which does not share al-Qa'ida's vision of world Islamic dominance. Nor is Hamas known to recruit non-Palestinians, though Israel's success in suppressing local suicide bombers may have led the group to change its policy.

It appears, however, that the two Britons sought out Hamas. This raises the spectre of a generation of young British Muslim men who have become more susceptible to targeting by extremists. The atmosphere, heightened by the September 2001 attacks and America's response in Afghanistan and Iraq, has also been made more tense at home by campaigns against immigration and asylum-seekers, as well as gains by the far-right British National Party in last week's local elections.

"How can the intelligence services monitor these kind of people in a democracy?" asked the Whitehall source. "We don't have mind control. MI5 are reliant on the person telling someone else, and that we are told about that communication. And how do you distinguish between those who talk about doing something and those prepared to act?"

MI5 has spent years seeking to develop strategies for identifying people who have no record of extremist behaviour before they become terrorists. Since September 2001 the agency has nipped a number of planned terrorist attacks in the bud.

Although both Hanif and Sharif were taught by the British-based cleric Omar Bakri Mohammed, the self-styled "emir" of Al-Muhajiroun, an extreme Islamist organisation which preaches global jihad and has refused to condemn suicide bombings, terrorism experts do not believe that they were recruited in Britain.

"It is interesting that both men went to university in Damascus," said Magnus Ranstorp, deputy director of the Institute for the

Study of Terrorism at St Andrews University. "I suspect that was where they were identified by Hamas, which then exploited their idealism."

Dr Ranstorp said the attack reflected "a worrying change of tactics" by Hamas, since it was the first time it had used foreigners, and believed that Hamas has been taking lessons from Lebanese Hizbollah in recruiting from Europe. "Hizbollah have been using foreigners and disguising their own agents as foreigners since at least 1996," he said.

As recently as January 2001 the Israeli police arrested a British citizen, Gerard Shuman. He was accused by the Israeli Security Service of undertaking reconnaissance for a proposed Hizbollah terrorist attack. He denies it. Mr Shuman, who also used the name "Jihad", has not been charged and is the subject of diplomatic exchanges between Britain and Israel. "It is a breach of his human rights", the Foreign Office said yesterday." There have been allegations of physical maltreatment.

Three years earlier a former British public schoolboy was also arrested for assisting Hizbollah. Steven Smyrek, now 31, an Anglo-German from Weymouth, Dorset, was jailed for carrying out reconnaissance against Israeli Defence Force targets. The Israelis suspected he too was going to become a suicide bomber. He has told his interrogators: "I agreed to be taken to Beirut. There I was met by men I now know are members of the Hizbollah high command. They took me to their headquarters in the Bekaa Valley." Smyrek was told he could join the group - but only after he had undergone training. He spent six months in a camp near the Syrian border.

## THE ENEMY WITHIN; SIX MORE ARRESTS AS SECURITY SERVICES WARN THERE COULD BE MORE

British passports have also helped terrorists get through Israeli security. In 1996 the accountant to the Lebanese Hizbollah leader, Sheik Fadallah, was seriously injured when a bomb he was making pre-detonated in his lap. Hussein Mikdad survived to be jailed and later exchanged by the Israeli security services. In his baggage a stolen British passport was found.

"Shin Beth the Israeli internal security service knows the address of just about every Hamas leader and operative in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. After months of suicide attacks against Israeli targets it is almost impossible to smuggle explosives into Israel," said Dr Ranstorp.

The suspects' British passports would have enabled them to travel into Israel from Gaza hours before the bombing. The Gaza Strip is fenced and tightly policed and no previous bombing has been mounted from the territory in the 31 months of the Palestinian uprising.

"Even for foreigners the security in Israel is very tight. But as this attack shows, until last Wednesday at least, it could be done," said Dr Ranstorp. "I think that the intent was to undermine the US-supported road- map' peace plan and also to frighten tourists to Israel, doing more economic damage."

Focus, page, 21

**Load-Date:** May 4, 2003

---

End of Document

## *Israel and Arafat Frustrate the New Palestinian Premier*

The New York Times

May 23, 2003 Friday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2003 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 6

**Length:** 1205 words

**Byline:** By JAMES BENNET

**Dateline:** GAZA, May 22

### **Body**

---

It seemed a perfect way for the first Palestinian prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, to connect with his skeptical public. He planned on Wednesday to visit the Gaza town of Beit Hanun, just after Israeli armored forces withdrew, to witness the destruction, show compassion and renew his call for ending violence.

But shortly after Palestinian officials said they had coordinated their plan with the Israelis, the armored vehicles moved back in, blocking the roads. The army said its troops were trying to stop the militant Islamic group **Hamas** from firing rockets at Israelis.

Israeli officials say that if they "hug" Mr. Abbas his standing with his people would be undermined, but Mr. Abbas's allies say a bit more warmth would be welcome.

"They could have given the man a chance," said Ziad Abu Amr, a minister in the new government.

Mr. Abbas, a critic of the armed uprising, has been on the job for three weeks. With opponents and doubters on all sides, he is having a hard time being heard and a harder time becoming popular.

As he met on Saturday with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel for the highest-level talks in more than two years, Palestinian suicide bombers embarked on a five-attack spree that undercut his demand that Israel accept a new peace plan, known as the road map.

This evening Mr. Abbas met here with political leaders of **Hamas** to try to work out a truce, a step Israel calls no substitute for arrests and weapons seizures. The meeting ended after two hours with an agreement to keep talking, and the **Hamas** members saying they would not stop suicide bombings or other violence.

"Nobody asked us to stop," said Dr. Mahmoud Zahar of **Hamas**. But a senior Palestinian official said Mr. Abbas had asked just that. The official said Mr. Abbas had pointed to the American war in Iraq, and the pressure on Syria and Iran, and asked the **Hamas** men if they believed that they could be immune.

Meanwhile, the head of the governing Palestinian Authority, Yasir Arafat, who reluctantly appointed Mr. Abbas under international pressure, has not rushed to support him.



## Israel and Arafat Frustrate the New Palestinian Premier

Palestinian television, controlled by Mr. Arafat, has shown little interest in covering the prime minister. Though its technicians were set up for a live broadcast of Mr. Abbas's news conference with Secretary of State Colin L. Powell earlier this month, it chose not to do so.

As Mr. Abbas tries to consolidate control, subtle but significant rules keep changing. This week Mr. Arafat ordered the Palestinian governors to begin reporting directly to him, not to the Interior Ministry as they had in the past. Mr. Abbas now controls Interior.

Mr. Abbas' ministers have been a bit off message. He took his government from the West Bank to Gaza this week to show the isolated Gazans that he also cared about them. But by midweek some ministers who live in the West Bank had slipped back home.

New government or no, for Gazans life goes on, though in a way that they consider deeply strange. Fenced in by Israel, brooded over by posters of suicide bombers, gunmen and children shot dead in the conflict, they somehow keep this sprawling city alive. In a striking violation of social taboo here, a few beggars, including women, now ply the sidewalks. But sleek new Audi sedans dodge donkey carts along rutted streets.

Enough money seeps in through relief agencies and civil service salaries, and enough commerce takes place with Israel, to keep stores stocked with toothpaste, tricycles and wedding dresses. In the markets, smells of mint and fresh peaches beat back the stench of sewage.

Muhammad Sharif, 32, returned eight months ago after 12 years in Fresno, Calif., to take care of his aging parents. At least temporarily trapped by tightened Israeli closings of Palestinian-ruled areas, Mr. Sharif has just opened a Web design and development consulting firm.

With international assistance, a few businesses are creating electronic catalogs, hoping that calm will come, the closings will ease and they will be able to export wicker furniture and other products.

But Mr. Sharif had a big laugh when asked if the new government of Mr. Abbas, known as Abu Mazen, and his security chief, Muhammad Dahlan, had changed anything.

"Abu Mazen, Dahlan -- that's the 'new' government?" he asked. Both men are longtime fixtures in Palestinian affairs.

He argued that Israel was not interested in having the government succeed, because, he said, it did not want to make the concessions that would lead to lasting peace. "If it doesn't work," he said of his new business, "the first time they open the borders, I'm back to California."

Mr. Abbas is plugging away, and there are signs of change. Palestinian security forces, carrying guns and wearing new uniforms, have reappeared in the streets. Some policemen ride gleaming white Honda motorcycles, donated from abroad.

American officials in "Matrix" sunglasses and buzz haircuts, driving armored German cars and concealing bulky objects beneath baggy shirts, have been crossing the boundary with Israel for meetings with Palestinian security officials. Two of the Americans declined to talk to a reporter, but Palestinians identified some as members of the Central Intelligence Agency.

"They are very active, moving back and forth," observed Hassan Asfour, a Palestinian official who is close to Mr. Dahlan. He called the C.I.A. a busybody with little effect -- "like the mother of the bride: moving for nothing."

Yet Mr. Asfour, a Marxist with a car and driver and a marked cynical streak, says the new government is bringing about some change. It has acted to bring some corrupt government-run businesses under the control of the reform-minded finance minister, Salam Fayyad.

Mr. Asfour said it would restore law and order. "We need people to respect the police," he said. "If you don't respect the police, you don't respect the Authority. If you don't respect the Authority, it's chaos."

## Israel and Arafat Frustrate the New Palestinian Premier

He said the government would be strong enough to begin halting violence against Israelis once Israel formally accepted the new plan, which Mr. Sharon is trying to amend substantially.

After meeting tonight with Mr. Abbas, Dr. Zahar said, "He absolutely said 100 percent there would be no violence against **Hamas** from the Palestinian side."

Yet some Palestinian officials say there is a mailed fist forming inside the velvet glove with which Mr. Abbas is handling **Hamas**. They worry that Mr. Abbas may not have time to gather his political and security strength before another major terrorist attack forces his hand, or Israel's.

Mr. Asfour predicted that Israel would not accept the peace plan without intense American pressure. "The success of Palestinians is failure for Sharon," he said, an analysis regarded as axiomatic in Gaza. Mr. Sharon has often said he would make "painful concessions" for peace.

Some Gazans say Mr. Abbas should be doing more to reach out to his people. "They need a campaign, this government," said Salah Abdel Shafi, an economist.

Mr. Abbas did speak briefly to reporters on Wednesday as he emerged from a meeting with legislators here. "We wanted to visit our brothers in Beit Hanun, but the bulldozers and tanks closed the door in front of us," he said. As he spoke, Palestinian television was nowhere to be seen.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

---

Map of Gaza Strip highlighting Gaza City: The Palestinian government went to Gaza, but was little noticed.

**Load-Date:** May 23, 2003

**In pictures: 'The house is used for target practice':**

The Guardian (London)

April 17, 2003

Copyright 2003 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Features Pages, Pg. 12

**Length:** 529 words

**Byline:** Tom Hurdall

## Body

---

Last Friday, 21-year-old British peace activist Tom Hurdall was shot in the head by an Israeli sniper in the Palestinian settlement of Rafah as he tried to lead some children to safety. He is now in a coma in hospital - and in a critical state. An aspiring photographer, here are some of the last images he took - with his description of events

Gaza city, Wednesday April 9

I took these this morning in Gaza city (northern end of the Gaza strip). For the people who didn't see the news last night, an F16 fired two rockets into the city in an assassination attempt on three **Hamas** and two Fatah members that Israeli intelligence knew to be in a car together. The first rocket missed, but the second hit, killing everyone in the car, and wounding three dozen civilians in the area, four of whom have now since died.

I spent the morning visiting the site where the car was hit and the wounded in the hospital, and got caught up in the "march for the martyrs", where the family and many others carry the bodies through the street, running and generally making noise by chanting and shooting their guns into the air until they arrive at the victim's home and the family can mourn alone.

It's kind of intimidating when you're the only non-Palestinian out of 850 and they're chanting: "Kill the Americans and Jews, drive them out of Palestine." Anyway, of the images, (bottom, left and right) are of **Hamas** members leading the run/march. Below is a group of Islamic Jihad members with a parallel intention. Below left is a Fatah "gunman" firing into the air, with the dead Fatah member on a stretcher in the background. And above is of the group carrying two of the dead **Hamas** members, wrapped in green **Hamas** flags.

Rafah, Friday April 11

These are all images that I've taken recently from one site "on the front line". There's a family living in a house (top) that is directly in front of a recently constructed IDF (Israeli Defence Forces) tower (above, right). The IDF don't want anyone in the house, so they are using it for target practice (which is common practice, this house being one of hundreds that are so used). I've spent a lot of time there and there are no "militants" or "gunmen", just 35 people (30 of whom are **women**, under 16, or both) who have lived there for years.

They are all extended family, as is common in the Middle East, and are simply the families of the three brothers who own the house. Yesterday morning, two of the "young" brothers were shot by snipers in the tower within two hours of each other. Both were from one of the three families. Mustafa, 19, was hit in the leg outside the front of the house, but should be all right. Rushdie, 15, was shot in the throat while in the bathroom (through a misted glass window) and has been taken to a hospital in Gaza city. Ironically, his best hope for survival is if his family pays Dollars 4,000 (pounds 2,500) and apply to take him to Israel for treatment. They don't have the money, and

In pictures: 'The house is used for target practice':

Rushdie is still in critical condition. The other photos are of the kids still there (above) and notice how (right) the water-tanks on the roof are often shot at, and when people go to fix them, they too are targeted

**Load-Date:** April 17, 2003

---

End of Document

## *Israelis and Palestinians warn of retaliation over latest violence*

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

January 23, 2002, Wednesday

Copyright 2002 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

**Section:** WIRE;

**Length:** 897 words

**Byline:** By Mohammed Daraghmeh Associated Press writer

### **Body**

---

NABLUS, West Bank -- Threatening bloody revenge, Islamic militants and supporters of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat marched side-by-side Wednesday in the funeral procession for **Hamas** members killed in an Israeli commando raid, including one of the group's top terror masterminds.

**Hamas** said it would unleash "all-out war" in retaliation for the killing of four members of its military wing, Izzedine al Qassam. Israel, in turn, said it would respond to a shooting spree by a Palestinian gunman who killed two **women** and wounded 14 bystanders in downtown Jerusalem on Tuesday.

Israel's new military intelligence chief, Maj. Gen. Aharon Zeevi-Farkash, told legislators that Israel must brace for a wave of Palestinian attacks, "worse than what we have experienced so far in Israeli cities," the Yediot Ahronot daily said.

The four **Hamas** members were killed before dawn Tuesday in an Israeli commando raid on their hideout and explosives lab in the West Bank town of Nablus.

When the **Hamas** men realized they were surrounded by Israeli forces, they detonated a bomb that inadvertently blew open the door to the apartment, military sources said. The commandos killed the four with handguns equipped with silencers, according to Yediot. Three men were killed in the sleeping quarters and one in the bathroom.

Among the dead was Yousef Soragji, 42, leader of the **Hamas** military wing in the West Bank and a mastermind of several suicide bombings in Israel.

More than 15,000 people on Wednesday attended the funeral of Soragji and two other men killed in the hideout. "We will not close our eyes until we see your reprisal," the crowd chanted, as gunmen fired in air. The march was led by activists from **Hamas** and the Al Aqsa Brigades, a militia linked to Arafat's Fatah movement.

Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Eitan, a West Bank army commander, said the explosives lab was the biggest ever uncovered by Israeli forces. Eitan said the commandos found bomb belts, chemicals and a large quantity of weapons "intended for terrorist attacks in the near future."

The gunman in Tuesday's shooting attack in Jerusalem was a member of the Al Aqsa Brigades, which said the shooting came as revenge for last week's killing of a militia leader in an operation attributed to Israel. In the past, the Al Aqsa Brigades had mostly limited their attacks to Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza.

## Israelis and Palestinians warn of retaliation over latest violence

At about 4:10 p.m. Tuesday, the assailant pulled out an M-16 assault rifle hidden by a long coat and began shooting at pedestrians and people waiting at a bus stop. Police patrolling nearby were quick to arrive and exchanged fire with the assailant, chasing him into a parking lot where he was shot dead, police said.

Sixteen people were hit by the gunman during the shooting on a cold, rainy afternoon on busy Jaffa Street in west Jerusalem. Two women later died of their wounds, and another four people were seriously wounded in the shootout, police said, which lasted about 10 minutes.

In the aftermath of the shooting, shopkeepers swept up the remains of shattered shopfront windows, and removed mannequins peppered with bullet holes. A puddle of blood stained the floor of a clothes shop, just a short distance from the site of a deadly suicide bombing attack on Dec. 1. Former President Clinton visited the bombing site on Monday.

Amid mutual threats of retaliation, the speaker of Israel's parliament, Avraham Burg, said he had accepted an invitation to speak before the Palestinian legislature in the West Bank, despite opposition from Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

"In spite of everything we should try to talk peace," Burg, a member of the center-left Labor party, told Israeli Army Radio. No date was set for Burg's visit to the legislature, based in Ramallah.

Each side has blamed the other for the latest cycle of attack and retaliation, which came after several weeks of relative calm brought on by Arafat's truce declaration Dec. 16.

On Wednesday, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told the Council of Europe in France that Arafat needed to reestablish his leadership within the Palestinian camp before new moves toward peace could be made.

Peres complained that even if Arafat might want to make an opening toward the Israeli government, his support within the Palestinian movement was too fragmented to be effective.

"It is not because of his positions, but because of his composition" that no progress toward peaceful relations is possible, he said. "Arafat must establish his credibility," he said.

Peres told members of Europe's chief human rights body in Strasbourg that "if Arafat will not stop the terror, the terror will stop him."

The Palestinians said Israel triggered the violence with last week's targeted killing of a local militia leader in the West Bank, which was followed by several Palestinian revenge attacks on Israeli civilians.

Palestinian officials have accused Sharon of intentionally provoking Palestinian attacks.

Israel said Arafat was never serious about enforcing a cease-fire.

In recent days, Israel has been stepping up pressure on Arafat, keeping him confined to the West Bank city of Ramallah and surrounding his compound with Israeli tanks.

Israeli government spokesman Avi Pazner said the Jerusalem attack, carried out by an Arafat supporter, would not go unpunished. "I think we employed only a fraction of our capabilities," Pazner said. "One thing is clear -- we are going to defend ourselves."

**Load-Date:** January 23, 2002

## **Three Palestinians shot during Israeli raids in West Bank**

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

January 16, 2003 Thursday

Final Edition

Copyright 2003 Prince George Citizen All Rights Reserved

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 15

**Length:** 646 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

JERUSALEM (AP) -- Meting out punishment for deadly bombings, Israel on Wednesday closed two Palestinian colleges in the West Bank town of Hebron, and pumped cement into three east Jerusalem homes belonging to convicted militants, rendering them uninhabitable.

In scattered clashes, three Palestinians were shot dead in the West Bank, and more than 20 suspected militants were detained in arrest sweeps, according to Palestinians and the Israeli army.

In Hebron, Israel shut down the Islamic University and the Polytechnic Institute as part of its response to the Palestinian suicide bombing earlier this month that killed 23 people in Tel Aviv.

Israel's cabinet said last week it intended to shut down three Palestinian colleges, and the army said Wednesday that some students at the two shuttered institutions belong to militant groups, such as **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad, and have used the facilities to plan and launch attacks. Several thousand students attend the two colleges.

An iron bar was placed across the front gate to prevent students from entering the Polytechnic Institute, and troops imposed a curfew on the neighbourhood. Students threw stones at soldiers, who fired rubber-coated metal bullets at the demonstrators. Palestinian Education Minister Naim Abu'l Humus accused the Israelis of attempting to "sabotage the education process, which already has been badly affected through sieges, closures and curfews."

In traditionally Arab east Jerusalem, Israeli police, accompanied by cement trucks and Asian workers, systematically filled the three houses with barrels of wet cement.

They also punched holes in opposite sides of the house and placed long steel beams through the house at chest level to further discourage anyone from returning.

Unlike the dozens of house demolitions carried out by the Israeli security forces, the large houses were not torn down because they were divided into multiple apartments and police said they did not want to damage the other units.

The cement-filled apartments belonged to a trio of **Hamas** militants convicted of organizing bombings that killed 35 people last year, including five Americans who died in a July attack at Hebrew University. An east Jerusalem home

## Three Palestinians shot during Israeli raids in West Bank

belonging to a fourth **Hamas** member in the group was partially blown up and then bulldozers demolished the remainder.

At last year's trial, the group's leader was convicted and received 35 life terms. Two other members were also given life in prison, while the fourth received a 60-year sentence.

Israel says it destroys the homes in an attempt to deter other Palestinians from carrying out attacks on Israelis. However, Wednesday's action marked the first time Israel had torn down homes of militants in east Jerusalem during the current Palestinian uprising that began 28 months ago. For the most part, east Jerusalem residents have not been involved in the violence, and all the previous demolitions took place in the West Bank or the Gaza Strip.

Palestinians condemn the measure as collective punishment.

In northern Gaza, Israeli forces destroyed three uninhabited structures and levelled some farmland near Beit Hanoun on Wednesday. Palestinians said. They said militants used the area to fire mortars and rockets at Israeli targets. The military had no comment.

Meanwhile, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said Palestinian factions were attempting to reach a consensus on a possible ceasefire, but so far had failed to do so. **Hamas** and other militant groups have rejected appeals by Arafat to halt attacks against Israel. Arafat also criticized recent Israeli military actions.

The Israelis "are continuing their military escalation against our people, lands, institutions, **women** and children everywhere," Arafat said.

Arafat spoke after three Palestinians, including a pair of 16-year-olds, were killed by Israeli troops in West Bank violence, according to Palestinians.

**Load-Date:** February 17, 2006

---

End of Document



## Mideast conflict spirals

Townsville Bulletin/Townsville Sun (Australia)

January 26, 2002, Saturday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 23

**Length:** 363 words

### **Body**

---

JERUSALEM -- Israel faced the spectre of fresh Palestinian revenge attacks yesterday after its forces hit a **Hamas** militant in a deadly missile strike and killed two men the army accused of trying to attack a Jewish settlement.

The latest violence in the Gaza Strip played out a now-familiar drama of death and retribution that has eclipsed US-led hopes to end the 16-month conflict, which has claimed more than 1000 lives.

In a further sign of Washington's acquiescence to recent Israeli operations, the United States said it "understood" Israel's decision to confine Yasser Arafat to his West Bank headquarters, a move Palestinians say is aimed at toppling him.

AAP

The office of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon announced he had accepted an invitation by US President George W. Bush to meet in Washington on February 7.

It will be the right-wing prime minister's second visit with Mr Bush in just over two months. Mr Arafat has yet to meet Mr Bush since the Republican president took office last year.

Adding to Middle East tensions, a car bomb exploded in Beirut on Thursday, killing Lebanese warlord Elie Hobeika.

Continuing a cycle of tit-for-tat attacks, Israel launched its harshest reprisal since a Palestinian gunman killed two **women** in Jerusalem's shopping district on Tuesday.

Helicopter gunships killed a senior militant from the Islamic group **Hamas** and seriously wounded two other Palestinians in a missile strike on a car in the southern Gaza Strip on Thursday night.

Mahmoud al-Zahar, a **Hamas** leader in Gaza, called it a "drop in the sea of Israeli crimes" and vowed a "painful" response.

"Israel has forgotten that there are retaliations to these attacks," he said. "The message . . . is the Israeli government is fully responsible for what will happen to the Israeli people -- disasters as a consequence of these attacks."

Hundreds of Palestinians shouting "Revenge! Revenge!" gathered outside the hospital where the wounded were taken.

Israeli security sources said the militant targeted in the missile strike, Bakar Hamdan, was hit because of his alleged role in numerous attacks on Israelis, including a raid that killed four soldiers in southern Israel on January 9.

Mideast conflict spirals

**Load-Date:** January 26, 2002

---

End of Document

***Suicide bomber strikes in Israel;  
Dozens hurt; group vows attacks in Iraq***

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

March 31, 2003 Monday

Home Edition

Copyright 2003 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**The Atlanta  
Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** Metro News;

**Length:** 727 words

**Byline:** REBECCA SANTANA

**Body**

---

Netanya, Israel --- Dozens of people in a crowded pedestrian mall were wounded Sunday when a Palestinian blew himself up in the first suicide bombing in Israel since the start of the U.S.-led war on Iraq.

The militant Palestinian group Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack, describing it as a "gift to the Iraqi people." The group also said a vanguard of Palestinian suicide bombers has already arrived in Baghdad, ready to stage more attacks against U.S. and British forces.

Jihad identified the bomber as Rami Ghanem, 20, from a West Bank village just across the porous line with Israel. The bombing affirmed "the unity of battle from Palestine to Baghdad in confronting the American-Zionist invasion which targets the entire Arab and Islamic nation," the group said in a statement.  
For the Journal-Constitution

Sunday's blast came one day after a suicide bomber drove up to a U.S. military checkpoint in Iraq and detonated his explosives-laden vehicle, killing four soldiers.

Israeli security officials had warned that there might be an increase in attacks by Palestinians during the war in Iraq.

The bombing occurred shortly before 1 p.m. outside the popular Cafe London on a busy pedestrian mall in this seaside town. Estimates of the number of wounded ranged from 30 to nearly 50.

"I heard a boom and an explosion, and we were blown away," said 52-year-old Levana Mazal-Tarim, who was taken to a nearby hospital after being injured by the nail-studded bomb. "We became pieces of meat and flesh."

The blue umbrellas shading patrons from the warm midday sun were splattered with blood, and the half-eaten remains of a sandwich and french fries lay on one of the tables inside the cafe.

The restaurant is about 90 yards from the Mediterranean Sea. After an unusually cold winter in Israel, many patrons were sitting outside under the umbrellas to take advantage of the warm weather.

## Suicide bomber strikes in Israel ; Dozens hurt; group vows attacks in Iraq

There were reports that one or more Israeli soldiers who were near the restaurant tried to subdue the attacker before the bomb exploded, but police at the scene could not confirm this.

The attack was condemned by a senior Palestinian Cabinet member, Saeb Erekat, who said the Palestinian leadership does not condone the killing of Israeli or Arab civilians. He also called on the international community to revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom is in the United States to discuss a U.S.-sponsored peace plan for bringing an end to the conflict.

Many in the town of Netanya said they feel sorry for the U.S. soldiers who were killed Saturday. But they noted that they have been dealing for years with suicide attacks.

"I hope Americans now understand what Arabs are, what Muslims are," said 32-year-old David Gozlan, who owns a cafe on the street where the bombing took place. "Now they know what we experience here."

In the past 30 months of fighting with Israel, Islamic Jihad and its sister group **Hamas** have sent dozens of young men and a few **women** into Israeli cities, where they've killed hundreds with bombs and bullets.

**Hamas** also appeared to link the battle against Israel with the fighting in Iraq. Masked **Hamas** activists at a pro-Iraq march in the West Bank city of Nablus on Sunday posed before a large placard showing bloodied maps of Palestine and Iraq with a black-clad man strapped with explosives standing between them.

Meanwhile, **Hamas** leaders met in Gaza City with the Palestinian prime minister-designate, Mahmoud Abbas. One of Abbas' main challenges will be to rein in the militant groups.

**Hamas**, which opposes peace talks with Israel, had earlier criticized Abbas' appointment and said the militant Islamic group would not take part in his government.

Abbas, in Gaza to form a new Cabinet, also met Sunday with representatives of the militant Popular Front group and the Iraq-backed Arab Liberation Front.

Before Sunday's attack, the last suicide bombing in Israel occurred on March 5, killing 17 people on a bus in the northern city of Haifa.

In other violence, Israeli soldiers killed two armed Palestinians who infiltrated from northern Gaza and headed toward a village, the military said. Palestinians said Israeli tanks and bulldozers crossed into the same part of Gaza.

Earlier, an army patrol in Gaza shot and killed a Palestinian who was in an off-limits area.

--- The Associated Press contributed to this article.

## Graphic

---

Photo: An Israeli man comforts his child at the hospital Sunday after a suicide bomber blew himself up outside the popular Cafe London in the coastal Israeli town of Netanya. It was the first suicide bombing in Israel in nearly a month. / BARKAY WOLFSON / Associated Press

**Load-Date:** March 31, 2003

## *Israel faces criticism - Palestinian militants vow 'bloody reprisals'*

Townsville Bulletin/Townsville Sun (Australia)

July 25, 2002, Thursday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 13

**Length:** 211 words

### **Body**

---

GAZA CITY -- Israel came under a barrage of criticism yesterday, after one of its warplanes killed 15 Palestinians earlier this week in a targeted raid that killed a top militant and wounded 176 other people in Gaza City.

As 50,000 angry Palestinians attended a mass funeral in Gaza, Israel was struggling to justify a strike which also killed nine children.

aap

Salah Shehade, the head of the armed wing of the Islamist group **Hamas**, was killed with his bodyguard, wife and daughter.

Palestinian health minister Riad al-Zaanoun said the injured included 36 children and 23 **women**.

**Hamas** has vowed bloody reprisals.

"This massacre will not pass without a final punishment," warned the Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades, the group's armed wing.

As Israel braced for revenge attacks, three homemade Qassem rockets exploded near the village of Sderot on Tuesday night without causing any casualties.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat accused Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of continuing a "policy of massacres" and criticised the world community for failing to speak out.

The killing prompted a reprimand from Israel's staunchest ally.

United States President George W. Bush "believes that this heavy-handed action does not contribute to peace," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said

**Load-Date:** July 24, 2002

## *Ugly truth about Israeli terrorism is blurred by bias*

Chicago Daily Herald

July 26, 2002, Friday All

Copyright 2002 Paddock Publications, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS;; Guest View;

**Length:** 625 words

**Byline:** Ray Hanania

### **Body**

---

Ray Hanania is a Palestinian-American author. Reach him by e- mail at [rayhanania@ aol.com](mailto:rayhanania@aol.com).

Who was the child whose arm dangled lifelessly from the side of the gurney carried from the rubble of several apartment buildings destroyed in the terrorist attack Tuesday?

She was among at least eight children and five women killed, and 140 civilians injured during the devastating early-morning attack.

I expected to learn the next day more about these victims. Not just a name, but their ages. Their lives. The personal side of their tragedy.

But then I realized the victims are Palestinian, not Israeli, so their personal details don't get reported in this country. Instead, these eight children disappear into a cold chart of statistics.

The numbers are available on the Web site of the Palestine Red Crescent Society ([www.PalestineRCS.org](http://www.PalestineRCS.org)), which, like the Red Cross, struggles against great restrictions to provide medical services to Christians and Muslims victimized by Israeli terrorism.

Among the statistics in this attack from an Israeli-flown, American-made F-16 fighter jet firing an American-made missile: 240 families left homeless, three apartment buildings destroyed and 20 buildings around the complex heavily damaged.

With only a few exceptions, Palestinian victims are portrayed to Americans as nameless, faceless non-human statistics. In sharp contrast, Israeli victims of Palestinian terrorism or those killed in clashes with Palestinians resisting Israeli attacks are portrayed in the most human terms possible.

To me, they are all human. They are all victims. I grieve for all of them, Palestinian and Israeli. And unlike many of my Israeli and pro-Israeli friends, when the tables are turned, I have often publicly denounced Hamas terrorist attacks that have resulted in innocent civilian deaths.

Palestinians like me don't fit into Israel's PR strategy, which prefers the American media focus on extremist images and rhetoric.

More offensive to me, though, are the comments of Israeli government officials who are always the first to denounce every incidence of violence involving an Israeli - including those they provoke through extremism.

Ugly truth about Israeli terrorism is blurred by bias

The morality they throw tugs at our hearts as images of Israeli victims are splashed across American news reports and front-page headlines. Israel's "spin" is often picked up by commentators.

When Israelis "assert" they sought to assassinate an "alleged" **Hamas** "terrorist leader," and brush aside the Palestinian **women** and children as "unavoidable collateral damage," everyone just accepts the excuse because it is politically correct.

Salah Shehada has been walking around the Gaza Strip for years. It's not like he was hiding. The Israelis could easily have apprehended him, if the charges are really true. Killing him means allegations will go unchallenged.

Worse, the "spiritual leader" of **Hamas** had announced days before that **Hamas** was weighing a halt to suicide bombings.

Truth doesn't seem to be a priority in how Palestinian victims of Israeli terrorism are targeted for "extra-judicial" assassination, or how they are portrayed to the American public.

I understand why some Americans disagree with my views. They don't know the truth and often only get half the picture.

Israel's government is headed by Ariel Sharon, who sparked the current violence 22 months ago when he went to the Al-Aqsa Mosque to spout anti-Arab hatred. Sharon plagiarizes from President Bush's speeches and openly exploits post-Sept. 11 American anguish.

It's shameful.

Sharon wants to provoke Palestinian violence because it plays into his long-term agenda to take more Christian and Muslim Palestinian lands.

Sharon doesn't want peace with the Palestinians. He wants peace without them.

**Load-Date:** July 26, 2002

**PALESTINIANS' AD IN PAPER CONDEMNS SUICIDE BOMBINGS;  
MOVE BY PROMINENT FIGURES SPARKS DEBATE**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

June 20, 2002 Thursday Three Star Edition

Copyright 2002 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A2

**Length:** 628 words

**Byline:** The Associated Press

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP

## **Body**

---

More than 50 prominent Palestinians took out a full-page newspaper ad Wednesday condemning suicide bombings, a move that sparked debate at a time when most Palestinians support the attacks as an effective way to hit Israel.

The ad in Al Quds, a leading Palestinian daily, appeared Wednesday morning - a day after a suicide bombing killed 19 people on a Jerusalem bus and hours before another suicide attack killed six more Israelis at a bus stop in the evening.

In the ad, the Palestinians urged the militant groups behind deadly assaults on Israeli civilians to "stop sending our young people to carry out such attacks."

"We see no results in such attacks, but a deepening of the hatred between both peoples and a deepening of the gap between us," the ad said.

The signers included Hanan Ashrawi, a leading Palestinian spokeswoman and a legislator, and the Palestinians' senior Jerusalem official, Sari Nusseibeh, along with other prominent figures regarded as moderates.

The ad urged other Palestinians to join them in their opposition to the bombings.

"We felt we had to chart a course, not just break the silence," Ashrawi said. "We wanted to create a momentum to get people to think with their minds and to reason, instead of always reacting emotionally and out of revenge and pain and trauma."

With the latest attacks, Palestinians have carried out 71 suicide bombings in the past 21 months of Mideast fighting, killing about 250 Israelis.

Palestinians have held virtually no public debate on the issue. Polls regularly show strong support for the suicide bombings, although it has declined slightly in recent months, after the strong Israeli military response.

**Hamas**, the militant group that has carried out more attacks than any other, dismissed the ad as the work of a small number of Palestinians who lack broad support.

"Let's see how much support they will have among the people," said Abu Shanab, a **Hamas** spokesman.



PALESTINIANS' AD IN PAPER CONDEMNS SUICIDE BOMBINGS; MOVE BY PROMINENT FIGURES  
SPARKS DEBATE

The bombings "really hurt Israel. It really affects the Israelis, and if we have an effective weapon in our hands and the whole world is trying to take it off us, this kind of reaction shows it to be the most effective way," Abu Shanab said.

The Palestinian leadership routinely condemns the bombings, but the Palestinian security forces have not carried out large-scale roundups of suspects in **Hamas** or other groups behind the attacks.

Ahmed Abdel Rahman, a longtime aide to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, acknowledged that Palestinian public opinion was at odds with the stance of the Palestinian leadership. He said the best way to end the bombings was for a resumption of peace talks, which broke down 18 months ago amid the violence.

"You can say that (Palestinian) public opinion is with these operations," Abdel Rahman said. "But the Palestinians still consider Arafat their leader. The solution is to stop these suicide operations with a political solution."

But Jibril Rajoub, the Palestinians' West Bank security chief, said the Palestinians could not cooperate with Israel now to arrest those behind suicide attacks.

"As long as the Israelis are continuing their invasion - using their tanks, F-16s and Apaches (attack helicopters) - there will be no arrests of any Palestinian," Rajoub said from Egypt, where he was meeting with officials about Palestinian security matters.

A number of prominent Islamic figures have endorsed suicide bombings.

Hamed Baitawi, chief of the Islamic Clergy Committee in Palestine, has close ties to **Hamas** and said suicide attacks were legitimate.

"Islam demands that we avoid killing **women**, children and civilians, but God ordered us to fight our enemy in the same way that he fights us," Baitawi said. "As long as the Israeli occupation is killing our people, we have the right from the sky to kill its civilians."

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2002

## Ceasefire in works before air strike

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

July 25, 2002 Thursday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. B05; News

**Length:** 629 words

**Byline:** James Bennet and John Kifner

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

Both Palestinian officials and Western diplomats say Tanzim -- a Palestinian militia connected to Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction -- was preparing to announce a unilateral ceasefire with Israel before an Israeli warplane dropped a one-ton bomb early Tuesday on a **Hamas** leader's home in Gaza City.

Israeli officials acknowledged that they knew of a possible Palestinian ceasefire proposal before the bomb was dropped, but dismissed it as a futile attempt by Palestinians without influence over terrorist groups.

Several Palestinian factions, including those connected to Tanzim, have vowed retaliation for the bombing, which killed the **Hamas** leader, Salah Shehadeh, and 14 others, including nine children. More than 140 people were injured.

The New York Times News Service

European Union officials had led the effort for a ceasefire, which intensified over the last two weeks, with support from Jordanian and Saudi diplomats. Bush administration officials had been informed of the effort.

During extensive negotiations with Arafat's Palestinian Authority, some **Hamas** leaders had said they would co-operate in a ceasefire if it was connected to an Israeli withdrawal from areas seized in the West Bank. Top **Hamas** officials have publicly imposed conditions on any ceasefire that Israel considers absurd.

Raanan Gissin, a spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, acknowledged that there had been talk of a ceasefire, but said it was now being exaggerated. He said several cease-fires had already been negotiated and ignored during the 22-month conflict.

A text identified as the planned ceasefire announcement, published yesterday in the Israeli newspaper Yediot Ahronot, promised an end to "all attacks on innocent men, **women** and children who are non-combatants."

It is unlikely that any unilateral ceasefire would have applied to Israeli soldiers and settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which Israel occupied during the 1967 war. The announcement said that the Tanzim would continue to oppose "the occupation of the Israeli army of the West Bank."

Among Israelis, fierce debate continued over the timing, preparation and method of the bombing attack. In an interview in Yediot Ahronot, Sharon said he would not have authorized the strike had he known its results in advance.

## Ceasefire in works before air strike

On Tuesday, Sharon had called the bombing "one of our major successes."

The air raid was approved by Sharon and Defence Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, who gave his approval by telephone from London, where he was on vacation.

The Israeli army and Israeli Security Agency are investigating what Israeli political officials have called faulty intelligence that indicated civilians would not be endangered by the bomb, the Israeli government said.

Dropped into a densely populated neighbourhood from a U.S.-made F-16 jet, the bomb pulverized Shehadeh's house and two neighbouring houses, leaving a jumble of cinder blocks and steel bars. Several other houses were damaged. The bodies of three children were pulled from the rubble yesterday.

Of the 15 people killed, 11 were not in the house that was targeted.

"I think all of us feel sorry for the loss of life of innocent people, particularly children," Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday.

Palestinians and Israeli critics of Sharon accused him of deliberately scuttling ceasefire talks. The killing fit a pattern, they said, in which Israeli forces have killed popular militants during times of relative quiet.

Many Israeli analysts predicted a wave of new Palestinian attacks. But a senior Israeli military official, asked if the bombing would have any effect on militants' capability or motivation to attack Israelis, replied: "I don't think this specific event, despite all the circumstances, will create specific change in the situation."

## Graphic

---

Photo: Ahmed Jadallah, Reuters; Khames al Hewet, 10, survived Israeli air strike but lost three family members.

**Load-Date:** July 25, 2002

## **Bomb explodes at Hebrew U.**

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

July 31, 2002, Wednesday

Copyright 2002 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

**Section:** WIRE;

**Length:** 826 words

**Byline:** By Steve Weizman Associated Press writer

### **Body**

---

JERUSALEM -- A bomb exploded in a crowded cafeteria at Hebrew University during lunchtime Wednesday, killing at least seven people and wounding more than 70.

The blast in the university's Frank Sinatra International Student Center struck a place where Israeli Jews, Arabs and foreign students mix freely, and the school is considered a rare enclave of tolerance after almost two years of Mideast fighting. There was no immediate word on nationalities of the casualties.

Witnesses initially said they believed a suicide bomber was responsible, but Israeli police said preliminary evidence suggested someone planted the bomb.

"We're talking about an explosive device, apparently not a suicide bomber. It is being checked," said Jerusalem's Deputy Police Chief Ilan Franco.

Alastair Goldrein, 19, from Liverpool, England, said students of all backgrounds ate in the cafeteria.

"I was on my way to lunch. There was a huge, huge explosion. Everything shook, and then there was this deathly silence," said Goldrein, who has been taking Jewish studies at the university for the past year. "I ran in, there were people lying around wailing, covered in blood. Scenes that are indescribable, clothes and flesh torn apart."

Many foreign students currently at the university are from Britain and France, he said.

The windows of the cafeteria were blown out, and the floor was covered with pools of blood. Chairs, tables and plates were overturned, wires dangled from the ceiling.

Sirens wailed as rescue vehicles converged to remove the bloodied victims. Sniffer dogs checked for more bombs.

The blast was at the university's Mount Scopus campus, a Jewish enclave surrounded by Palestinian neighborhoods in the eastern part of the city. The university has extremely heavy security.

Seven people were killed and more than 70 wounded, several of them critically, Israeli officials said.

The militant ***Hamas*** movement, which has carried out dozens of bombings, claimed responsibility, according to al-Jazeera, the Arab satellite television broadcaster.

## Bomb explodes at Hebrew U.

**Hamas** leaders praised the attack, but several told The Associated Press that the group had not issued any official claim of responsibility. "Now (the Israelis) are paying the price of killing our children, **women** and leaders," said Abdel Aziz Rantisi, a leading **Hamas** figure.

The bombing comes eight days after an Israeli air strike killed a senior **Hamas** militant in the Gaza Strip, along with 14 other people, including nine children. **Hamas** had said it would seek revenge.

The Palestinian Authority, led by Yasser Arafat, said in a statement that it "absolutely condemns the attack against Hebrew University." However, the Palestinian leadership also said it "considers Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon responsible for this cycle of terror."

Arafat, speaking shortly before the attack took place, said Palestinian authorities were "continuing our efforts, and will continue, from every aspect, to stop the violence."

David Baker, an official in Sharon's office, said "Israel is fighting a pitched battle against terror and for the right to walk down the street, take a bus or sit in a cafeteria without the fear of being decimated by Palestinian terrorism."

Wednesday's blast came a day after a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up at a fast-food stand in Jerusalem, wounding several Israelis. That explosion was also near the dividing line between east and west Jerusalem. In another development Wednesday, Israel transferred \$15 million in tax revenues to the cash-strapped Palestinian Authority in a move intended to ease economic conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinian Finance Minister Salam Fayed said he had received the money and denied Israeli claims that it had set conditions on the transfer of the funds.

"The Palestinian Authority refuses any conditions to get any of our frozen money from Israel. This money is the Palestinian right, which is not subject to any concessions or conditions, or any kind of external control," he said in a statement.

Raanan Gissin, an adviser to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, said Fayad had initially refused to accept the money because of Israel's insistence that it be used only for humanitarian purposes.

"We don't want the money to go to any of the Palestinian institutions where the money either goes into their pockets ... or to finance organizations that carry out terrorist attacks against us," Gissin said.

Israel has withheld an estimated \$600 million in tax money over the past 22 months of fighting, debilitating the Palestinian economy and plunging many Palestinians into poverty. Human rights groups say many Palestinian children are suffering from malnutrition and that unemployment is widespread because of Israel's ongoing siege.

Under international pressure, Israel recently agreed to release some of the funds. Israel says its blockades aren't meant to harm ordinary Palestinians, but to prevent suicide bombers from reaching Israeli population centers.

**Load-Date:** July 31, 2002

## IRAQ WAR: ASSASSINS WILLING TO DIE FOR THEIR BELIEFS

Birmingham Post

March 31, 2003, Monday

Copyright 2003 Midland Independent Newspapers plc

**Section:** ROP; Pg. 5

**Length:** 444 words

### **Body**

---

Although suicide terrorism dates back to at least as long ago as the 11th century and the Assassins of Persia, the modern history of such attacks began in Lebanon in 1983.

An operative of Islamic extremist group Hizbullah drove a truck-bomb into the US Embassy in Beirut in April 1983, killing 63 people and injuring 120.

Six months later the group carried out simultaneous suicide truck-bomb attacks on the US Marines headquarters and the French paratroopers' compound in the city, killing 242 Americans and 58 French soldiers.

Suicide attacks organised by the group dropped off when Israel pulled out of central Lebanon - although a suicide car-bomb attack on the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires in 1992 killed 29 people and wounded 250.

The lone suicide bomber, wearing a 'bodysuit' packed with explosives, became a chosen method of the Tamil Tigers in Sri Lanka and Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad in Israel.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, or Tamil Tigers, have carried out more than 160 suicide attacks over the past 15 years as they fight for an independent Tamil state in north eastern Sri Lanka.

Using suicide attackers, they have managed to kill two heads of state - Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991, and Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa in 1993.

Jane's Intelligence Review estimates 30 per cent of the Tamil Tigers' suicide operations have been carried out by women.

Women are often used because they appear less suspicious and in conservative societies in the Middle East and South Asia there is a hesitation to body search women.

Women can also wear explosives beneath their clothes and appear pregnant.

Suicide terrorism arrived in Israel in 1993 and since then Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad have carried out numerous attacks.

Hamas and PIJ focused initial suicide attacks on military targets but soon shifted their attacks to civilians in central cities and crowded areas, realising the fear caused by the attacks has a great impact.

The second Palestinian intifada, which began in 2000, has featured numerous suicide attacks, many on busy markets, buses and bars packed with young people.

## IRAQ WAR: ASSASSINS WILLING TO DIE FOR THEIR BELIEFS

Al Qaida used truck-bombs in simultaneous suicide attacks against the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in August 1998. The attacks killed 224 people.

A suicide attack on the USS Cole in Yemen in October 2000 blasted a 40 sq ft hole in the ship's hull, killing 17 sailors and injuring 39.

In the September 11 2001 terror attacks, Osama bin Laden's organisation again used operatives willing to die - hijacking passenger jets and flying them into the World Trade Centre in New York. The attack claimed nearly 3,000 lives.

**Load-Date:** March 31, 2003

---

End of Document

**Israel shaken by day of violence: Hopes for talks fade as 15 die in bus bombing and shootings**

The Guardian (London)

August 5, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Home Pages, Pg. 2

**Length:** 627 words

**Byline:** Jonathan Steele in Jerusalem

## **Body**

---

A wave of violent attacks in which at least 15 people were killed left Israel reeling yesterday, making nonsense of its three-day-old offensive into the West Bank city of Nablus to capture the organisers of the suicide bombers and destroying hopes for a resumption of dialogue between Israeli and Palestinian leaders.

While Israeli bulldozers demolished nine more homes of suicide bombers' families yesterday, its strategy of using collective punishment as a deterrent seemed to be backfiring.

Late last night an Israeli married couple were killed and their two children were wounded in an ambush on the road between Ramallah and Nablus. It was only the latest ambush in a day of attacks.

In the worst of the incidents yesterday, nine people were killed and more than 50 were wounded by a suicide bomber, who attacked a bus crowded with soldiers at Mount Meron in northern Israel.

The dead included three soldiers, two women from the Philippines and one Arab Israeli woman, according to authorities.

The bomber apparently warned two Arab students of the impending attack, and they got off the bus shortly before it blew up, a police source said. The two were detained.

The militant group Hamas took responsibility for the attack and said it was in further revenge for an Israeli air raid on July 22 that killed its military commander Salah Shehada, his deputy and 13 others. It did not release the name of the suicide bomber in order to protect the family from Israeli retaliation.

Last week Hamas claimed the bombing at Jerusalem's Hebrew University which killed seven.

Less than three hours later, just outside the Damascus Gate into Jerusalem's walled city, a 19-year-old gunman killed a security guard and wounded the driver of a van belonging to Israel's main phone company. He was then shot dead by police. A Palestinian bystander also died in the crossfire. Six of the 14 injured were Palestinian.

The Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, the military group linked to Arafat's Fatah faction, claimed responsibility for the attack, according to the al-Manar television station in Beirut.

The Israeli cabinet was holding its weekly session as news of the biggest attacks broke. The prime minister Ariel Sharon is almost certain to abandon his plans to meet two ministers from the Palestinian Authority later this week.



## Israel shaken by day of violence: Hopes for talks fade as 15 die in bus bombing and shootings

Raanan Gissin, his spokesman, said: "What have you got to talk (about) with a Palestinian leadership that continues to harbour and support terrorist activity?"

Mr Sharon has not met top Palestinian officials for months, although the foreign minister, Shimon Peres, has held several meetings recently with P2A ministers.

The timing of the bus bomb may have been intended as a sign that Israel's offensive into Nablus, said to be a key centre for Hamas bombing trainers, is failing.

Soldiers claimed to have cornered six key Hamas militants in the city yesterday.

The Palestinian Authority condemned the bus bomb, but said Israel's policy of "mass detentions, repressive measures and home demolition3s" was responsible for the ongoing cycle of violence.

But David Baker, an official in Mr Sharon's office said "Israel will not relent in its pursuit of, and war against, Palestinian terror". The UN secretary general Kofi Annan, in a statement released last night, made an impassioned plea for the violence to end. He said: "Does it need saying, yet again, that these attacks on civilians are immoral and illegal, as well as politically counter-productive?"

In other incidents yesterday, four Israeli soldiers were wounded, three seriously, when a roadside bomb damaged their jeep near a military base outside Ramallah and three Israelis were wounded in an ambush in the northern West Bank.

Latest news on the Middle East crisis at [guardian.co.uk/israel](http://guardian.co.uk/israel)

**Load-Date:** August 5, 2002

## Israel misfires

The Times (London)

July 25, 2002, Thursday

Copyright 2002 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Features; 19

**Length:** 618 words

### **Body**

---

The Israeli military attack on Gaza City which led to the death of 15 Palestinians, including seven children under the age of 13, is an occasion to mourn. It was a tragedy, for the innocent civilians who died, their grieving families and for Israel. Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Prime Minister, was wrong to say the attack had been "one of our greatest successes". The expressions of sorrow and condolence towards the grieving from the Israeli President, Moshe Katzav, was a more appropriate response.

Israel has a proud record of seeking to minimise the risk to civilians during the defensive operations it undertakes in its war against terror. Even during the difficult fighting against terrorist gunmen in Jenin, where citizen soldiers had to tread warily in booby-trapped buildings, the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) took great pains to prevent civilian injury. The nature of the Gaza attack, with a one-tonne bomb dropped in a built-up area, provides Israel's critics with an opportunity to overlook past restraint. In these circumstances, the voice of Mr Katzav is truer to Israel's moral traditions, and strategic interests, than Mr Sharon.

The criticism which Israel deserves to face for the clumsily irresponsible and heavy-handed nature of its attack should not, however, obscure the reason why Salah Shehade was targeted in the first place. The motives for the IDF attack have become a separate source of controversy. For example, it has been alleged that it was driven by a desire to nip in the bud a nascent Palestinian ceasefire offer.

If those Palestinian terror groups under Yassir Arafat's leadership were ready to end suicide bombings then such an initiative would be hugely welcomed in Israel. But the proposal floated would not have ended attacks on Israeli soldiers, did not bear the signatures of any Palestinian leaders and comes after all too many protestations of peace more honoured in the breach than the observance.

Above all, the ceasefire offer did not have the backing of Hamas, the organisation led by the intended target of Monday night's attack, Salah Shehade. Given his record, and that of his organisation, the likelihood of any cessation of hostilities from Hamas seems wildly improbable.

Hamas is a fundamentalist Islamic group which has never recognised Israel's right to exist. It has prosecuted its war without any moral restraint. Its terrorists have not been merely careless but have deliberately targeted civilians, exploding bombs in circumstances designed to maximise the number of innocent men, women and children killed, whether sitting down to dinner at a religious festival or queueing for pizza during a busy lunch hour.

Animated by the eliminationist anti-Semitism of its parent organisation, the Muslim Brotherhood, Hamas is not interested in negotiation or accommodation with the Jewish state, simply its extermination. It inducts pre-school children into its ideology of hate in kindergartens where young girls are taught to "celebrate" the lynching of Israelis by dipping their hands into red paint which symbolises Jewish blood.

## Israel misfires

Given his bloodstained record, and continuing role in directing indiscriminate terror, the Israeli targeting of Salah Shehade is as justified as the West's pursuit of any al-Qaeda leader. It is, however, a grave pity that the undeniably irresponsible way in which the attack was conducted has allowed Israel's critics to focus on the tragically mistaken manner of its actions and ignore the underlying realities. But until those realities change, Israel must continue to fight its war of self-defence, a war in which its hand will be strengthened if it shows the fortitude to eschew excessive force and acknowledge its mistakes.

**Load-Date:** July 25, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Israelis kill four during Gaza raid*

The Philadelphia Inquirer

APRIL 3, 2003 Thursday CITY-D-EAST EDITION

Copyright 2003 Philadelphia Newspapers, LLC All Rights Reserved

**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A06

**Length:** 427 words

**Byline:** Ibrahim Barzak ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip

### **Body**

---

Israeli tanks backed by attack helicopters invaded a refugee camp near the Gaza-Egypt border late yesterday, clashing with gunmen and killing four Palestinians, doctors said.

Earlier, Israeli troops rounded up hundreds of men in a sweep of the West Bank town of Tulkarm and demolished the home of a jailed Palestinian accused in a string of attacks.

In Gaza, residents said about 25 tanks and several bulldozers entered the refugee camp next to the town of Rafah. Palestinian gunmen shot at the soldiers, and an Apache helicopter fired back, killing a Palestinian. Three others died in exchanges of fire, and seven were wounded in the violence, the doctors said.

The Israeli military would say only that an operation was in progress. Israel Radio reported that four Israeli soldiers were wounded when a bomb went off under a tank.

The area is the scene of daily clashes between armed Palestinians and Israeli soldiers, and Israel often sends in bulldozers to destroy buildings used by gunmen for cover.

The arrested men in Tulkarm were held in a barbed wire enclosure for several hours and then all but seven were released. Four other suspects, including a **Hamas** member accused of planning shooting attacks, were arrested elsewhere in the West Bank.

The military said that during the Tulkarm operation, troops caught a suspect trying to slip out of the town's refugee camp disguised in **women**'s clothing.

The military's operations came as Mahmoud Abbas, the recently named Palestinian prime minister, met with political leaders in the Gaza Strip to discuss the formation of his new cabinet, expected this month.

Abbas also met in recent days with leaders of the **Hamas** militant group, based in Gaza. Abbas has been trying to persuade **Hamas** and the smaller Islamic Jihad to end, at least for a period, attacks against Israelis.

## Israelis kill four during Gaza raid

Israel has said a U.S.-backed "road map" for Palestinian statehood cannot move forward as long as attacks persist. President Bush has said the road map will be formally presented as soon as Abbas and his cabinet are officially confirmed.

Meanwhile, there were other signals of a possible thaw in Israeli-Palestinian relations, which have been devastated by 30 months of deadly violence and bitter recrimination.

Israeli security officials met for the first time in months with Palestinian security officials, according to Ribhi Arafat, a Palestinian commander. Two meetings took place last week in Israel near the Gaza border, he said.

A spokeswoman from the Israeli Defense Ministry would neither confirm nor deny that the security meetings took place.

**Load-Date:** July 19, 2005

---

End of Document

## *Israel Retaliates With Stricter Travel Bans*

New York Sun (Archive)

August 6, 2002 Tuesday

Copyright 2002 The New York Sun, Two SL, LLC

**Section:** INTERNATIONAL; Pg. 5

**Length:** 649 words

**Byline:** By NICOLE WINFIELD

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

Declaring "nobody enters and nobody leaves," Israel's defense minister imposed a ban on Palestinian travel in the northern West Bank and sealed off part of the Gaza Strip yesterday after attacks on Israelis killed 13 people in 24 hours.

The measures expand on the already tight restrictions Israel has imposed on seven major West Bank cities and towns in a bid to stop terror attacks, including rolling curfews that keep Palestinians at home for days on end.

Hours after the clampdown was announced, Israeli helicopters fired missiles at a metal shop in Gaza City's Zeitouni neighborhood, which is known as a hub for the terrorist group *Hamas*. Four people were injured in the strike, which damaged three buildings. Israel Army Radio said the targeted building was a suspected weapons factory.

Earlier, a car exploded in northern Israel, killing one person and wounding another. Police and rescue officials said it appeared the slain passenger was a Palestinian militant en route to carry out an attack.

Israeli press said the driver was an Israeli Arab from Nazareth, who picked up a hitchhiker not knowing he was a militant. The Palestinian apparently detonated his explosives belt prematurely, killing himself and wounding the driver.

The blast occurred near the Arab Israeli town of Umm el-Fahm, southeast of Haifa. The location is not far from the site of a deadly bus bombing Sunday and several other recent attacks.

The explosion came as President Mubarak invited Prime Minister Sharon and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to peace talks in Egypt. Officials from both sides said they had received no formal invitation.

Israeli officials have said further meetings were on hold following Sunday's carnage. But Palestinian sources in Mr. Arafat's office said Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer met yesterday in Jerusalem with the Palestinian interior minister, Abdel Razak Yehiyeh. Calls to Mr. Ben-Eliezer's spokesman weren't returned late yesterday.

The attacks Sunday in northern Israel, Jerusalem, and the West Bank left 13 people dead, including Jews, Arabs, and two *women* from the Philippines. In addition, three assailants were killed.

## Israel Retaliates With Stricter Travel Bans

Israeli troops arrested Mazen Foqha, a senior **Hamas** activist in the West Bank, on suspicion he supplied the explosives for Sunday's deadliest attack, the suicide bombing of a bus at the Meron Junction in the Galilee region, in which nine passengers were killed. Palestinians said Foqha headed the **Hamas** military wing in the Jenin district.

In response to Sunday's attacks, Mr. Ben-Eliezer announced the travel restrictions.

Under the new travel ban, Palestinians will not be able to drive in the northern half of the West Bank, between the towns of Nablus, Jenin, Qalqiliya, Tulkarem, and Ramallah, the army said. Some movement will be permitted in the southern West Bank, including the towns of Hebron, Bethlehem, and Jericho.

"We are in a situation of total closure in the area of Samaria," Mr. Ben-Eliezer said, using the biblical name for the northern West Bank. "Nobody enters and nobody leaves. There is no movement between the towns and villages."

In Gaza, about 25 tanks took up positions on the main north-south road, cutting off the southern town of Rafah and an adjacent refugee camp from the rest of the strip. The army said it imposed the blockade to prevent attacks on Israelis.

Palestinians trying to get to jobs and schools often use dirt roads to get around military checkpoints. The military said yesterday's announcement of a "total ban" on Palestinian traffic meant existing blockades would be strictly enforced, with more checkpoints and more troops stationed at checkpoints. Exemptions would be made in humanitarian cases, the military said.

Palestinian attacks on Israelis have killed 27 people since an Israeli air-strike on July 22 killed leading **Hamas** militant Salah Shehadeh and 14 Palestinians, many of them children, in Gaza.

**Load-Date:** December 3, 2003

## *Screaming children flee Israeli missiles*

DAILY MAIL (London)

February 12, 2002

Copyright 2002 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 19

**Length:** 203 words

**Byline:** Mathew Kalman

### **Body**

---

CHILDREN fled in panic as Israeli fighter jets and helicopter gunships launched a missile attack yesterday on a Palestinian security compound in Gaza City.

It happened as dozens of youngsters were leaving school at the end of the morning session while others were arriving for the afternoon.

Buildings were set ablaze and black smoke billowed into the sky after six missiles were fired into the Saraya compound in central Gaza City.

The pupils screamed as the F-16 fighter jets and helicopter gunships unleashed their weapons. One hit its target as firefighters tried to douse the flames.

Among 37 hurt were three journalists and a U.S. news photographer, but it appeared most of the children escaped injury. Israeli military officials said the revenge strikes were intended to send a 'clear sign' to the Palestinians that Sunday's firing of two rockets into Israel by **Hamas** terrorists the first such attack could mark a dangerous turning point after more than 16 months of violence.

They were also in response to a shooting attack in Beersheba, southern Israel, which killed two off-duty **women** soldiers and wounded seven others.

**Hamas** said it was not intimidated and would fight on for 'final liberation of our holy land'.

**Load-Date:** February 13, 2002



## *Palestinians vow revenge on Israel*

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

January 24, 2002 Thursday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** FRONT; Pg. A5; NEWS

**Length:** 399 words

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

Islamic rebels threatened "allout war" yesterday to avenge the killing of a **Hamas** commander in the West Bank, and Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority said it can no longer be expected to enforce a truce with Israel.

With tensions and violence rising, the U.S. ambassador to Israel called on Israelis and Palestinians to urge their governments to work for peace.

Palestinian rebels and mainstream activists marched together in a funeral procession in Nablus, burying the dead from Israel's raid on a bomb factory a day earlier. Four **Hamas** activists were killed, including West Bank rebel leader Yousef Soragji, 42, mastermind of several suicide bombings.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Israeli army commander in the West Bank said it was the biggest bomb factory ever uncovered, and the military displayed the range of explosives and timing devices found in the Nablus apartment.

**Hamas** pledged an "all-out war" against Israel in retaliation, and Palestinian cabinet secretary Ahmed Abdel Rahman said the Palestinian Authority could not enforce a ceasefire under the circumstances.

On Tuesday, a Palestinian linked to Arafat's Fatah movement opened fire in downtown Jerusalem, killing two **women** and wounding 14 other people. Abdel Rahman said the Palestinian Authority opposes attacks on civilians, but charged that Israel was responsible for the deterioration.

A lull of several weeks in the 16 months of violence ended after last week's killing -- widely attributed to Israel -- of militia leader Raed Karmi in the West Bank town of Tulkarem. Palestinians have carried out a string of retaliatory attacks against Israeli civilians, bringing on more countermeasures.

In a public appeal, U.S. Ambassador Daniel Kurtzer called on Israelis and Palestinians to press their governments to work for peace.

"They need to hear from you that you want peace, that you want reconciliation, that you want reasonable compromise," Kurtzer said at Givat Haviva, an Israeli institution that sponsors Jewish-Arab programs.

The resumption of violence appears to have caused the cancellation of a third trip to the region by U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni, who had been expected last week.

## Palestinians vow revenge on Israel

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has cut off political contacts with Palestinian officials because of the violence, and his government torpedoed an initiative in which Israeli President Moshe Katsav would have addressed the Palestinian legislature.

## Graphic

---

Colour Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; A Palestinian woman carries a rifle and walks on American and Israeli flags during a demonstration at the Burj al-Shamali refugee camp near the southern port city of Tyre yesterday.

**Load-Date:** January 24, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Revenge killings end hope of talks*

MX (Melbourne, Australia)

August 5, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 10

**Length:** 234 words

### **Body**

---

#### MID-EAST VIOLENCE

Palestinian militants launched a wave of attacks today, leaving 14 people dead and more than 70 injured.

Nine passengers have been confirmed killed when a suicide bomber from the Islamist movement **Hamas** blew apart a bus.

Later, three people were killed in a Jerusalem shooting spree, and an armed Palestinian frogman was shot dead in a failed raid on the north coast near Dugit in the Gaza Strip.

The violence appeared to be the bloody vengeance threatened by all Palestinian factions after an Israeli air strike killed the military chief of the main Islamist group **Hamas** and 14 other people, nine of them children, on July 22.

It also blighted hopes that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon might hold talks with two new Palestinian ministers seen by Israel as moderate alternatives to leader Yasser Arafat.

Police said two **women** from the Philippines working in Israel were among the victims of the bus blast, near a Jewish shrine close to the town of Safad, north of Lake Galilee.

Another 50 people were injured, several seriously.

Government spokesman Avi Pazner said Israel would fight "without mercy" against the perpetrators of the latest attack in the 22-month-old Palestinian intifada, or uprising.

Palestinian officials denounced the attack, but insisted Israel was to blame because of its hardline policies in reoccupying almost the entire West Bank and sealing off the Gaza Strip.

**Load-Date:** August 5, 2002

## **'THEY SAY WE ARE TERRORISTS, BUT WHO KILLS YOUNGSTERS COMING HOME FROM SCHOOL?'**

The Scotsman

March 5, 2002, Tuesday

Copyright 2002 The Scotsman Publications Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 3

**Length:** 598 words

**Byline:** Ben Lynfield In Amari Refugee Camp, West Bank

### **Body**

---

A FEW hours after the attack, standing in front of his house in an alley in Amari refugee camp, six-year-old Hafez repeated what his relatives had told him: "Mum is in heaven. Mohammed is in heaven. Azizeh is in heaven. Barraa is in heaven."

The boy smiled as he said it. He did not realise that neither his mother nor his brother and sisters were ever coming back.

Sometimes only a fine line exists between a war on terror and an act of terror. That line may have been crossed yesterday when Israel's forces, smarting from devastating Palestinian attacks against civilians and soldiers and vowing to allow no place for terrorists to hide, struck a car.

It was carrying Bushra Abu Kweik, 35, and her children Azizeh, 15, Barraa, 13, and Mohammed, 10, who were on their way home from school.

Hafez's father, Hussein Abu Kweik, a **Hamas** leader who Palestinians believe was the intended target of the attack, told reporters: "Despite the catastrophe, I say to Sharon and his filthy gang that our determination will not be weakened and we will keep steadfast in our land."

**Hamas** seeks Israel's eradication and Mr Kweik was long considered a dangerous figure by Israeli authorities, who imprisoned him for 18 years and deported him to Lebanon in 1992. **Hamas** leaders in the camp have been calling in recent weeks for more suicide attacks against Israeli targets.

Shreds of the children's schoolbooks and blood stains were found amid the wreckage of the Kweiks' Mitsubishi van, which Bushra had used to pick the children up from school. Two brothers, aged four and 16, in a separate car, were also killed by shrapnel from the impact of the helicopter rockets, or tank's shell, depending on the account.

A witness, Nidama Shal, said she saw four people "all burned to death and blown up." She said: "One child looked as though he had been sliced in half." They were among the 17 Palestinians mostly civilians killed by the Israeli army yesterday, a day after a lone Palestinian sniper killed seven soldiers and three civilians north of Ramallah.

The neighbours and relatives gathered in front of Mr Abu Kweik's house were convinced Israel had tried to kill him based on the assumption that he was in the car. The Israeli army, however, said that it was aiming its tank shells at another car it said was carrying "armed Palestinian policemen." It voiced "deep regret" for the fatalities.

'THEY SAY WE ARE TERRORISTS, BUT WHO KILLS YOUNGSTERS COMING HOME FROM SCHOOL?'

But all the indications were that civilian deaths were made highly likely by the army's behaviour.

Taking the army's account at face value, the troops had fired a tank shell from considerable distance on to a residential street. The chances of killing women and children were high. And the killing of more civilians - this time Israelis by suicide bombers - is exactly what will now ensue, said Sameh Abu Kweik, the sister of the Hamas leader: "Certainly, there will be a reaction. The Israelis think they can scare the people but so many people young and old are ready to carry out suicide operations.

"Have you ever seen a Jew blow himself up?" she asked. "They shoot us from afar but we are not afraid of death."

A neighbour said: "If the Jews kill one of us we will kill 40."

Another man said he did not favour killing Israeli children in bombings, but said suicide attacks would be "a natural response" to what happened her yesterday. The Palestinians are irate at constantly being labelled terrorists, he said.

He added: "Today a small child was hit here. I saw his flesh coming out. What would you call that? Always they say the Palestinians are terrorists. But who kills youngsters coming home from school?"

**Load-Date:** June 3, 2002

## *Israel launches air attack on Gaza City*

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

February 11, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

**Section:** WIRE;

**Length:** 832 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

### **Body**

---

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip -- Israeli warplanes and helicopter gunships attacked the Palestinian security headquarters in Gaza City today, in retaliation for unprecedented Palestinian rocket fire and a shooting attack on Israeli civilians.

More than 30 people were injured by shrapnel in the second air strike in Gaza City in two days. The Israeli military warned that it "will not tolerate the continued firing of rockets" at Israel and at Jewish settlements.

The Islamic militant group Hamas claimed responsibility for firing a homemade Qassam-2 rocket toward an Israeli communal farm on Sunday -- a first in 16 months of fighting. The Qassam-2 has a range of three to five miles, enough to hit Israeli towns from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In the past, Hamas has fired several shorter-range Qassam-1 rockets that caused no damage.

In today's airstrike, six missiles hit the large walled Saraya compound in downtown Gaza City, setting buildings ablaze and sending black smoke into the sky.

Doctors said the injured included three Palestinian journalists and news photographer George Kochaniec, a photographer for Denver's Rocky Mountain News. Kochaniec was treated for a hand injury.

In an attack Sunday in the southern Israeli town of Beersheva, two Palestinians sprayed automatic fire at Israelis sitting in a cafe and a nearby restaurant outside a military base, killing two women soldiers and seriously wounding five people before being shot dead by troops.

"Suddenly someone from outside opened the blinds and began to spray the restaurant with gunfire," Liza Cohen, 65, one of the diners at the "End of the Road" restaurant, told the Yediot Ahronot daily.

The attack came at a time of changeover between morning and afternoon shifts at nearby schools, and streets were crowded with youngsters who ran away from the explosions, some screaming in panic.

Electricity in Gaza City was cut after the air strike.

The missiles were fired several minutes apart, and one hit the compound while firefighters were in the area trying to douse the flames.

Hundreds of Palestinians ran to the compound demanding that suspected Islamic militants held there be released immediately. Some threw stones at officers who fired in the air to keep back the crowd. Palestinian police said all prisoners were moved from the compound shortly after the Israeli attack.

## Israel launches air attack on Gaza City

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon convened senior Cabinet ministers and security officials late Sunday at his farm in southern Israeli to decide on a response to the firing of the Qassam-2 rockets, which fell in an open field and caused no damage. "This constitutes a very serious escalation," government spokesman Avi Pazner said of the rocket fire.

Israeli media reports said Sharon and his advisers decided on a new type of retaliation, but did not specify. Commentators suggested Israel might reoccupy Palestinian areas close to Israel for an extended period to push rockets out of range.

"Sharon must take into consideration the clear American interest in preventing a total conflagration between Israel and the Palestinians, at a time when Washington is constructing its campaign against Iraq," wrote Hemi Shalev in the Maariv daily.

**Hamas** said it was not intimidated by Israel's warnings. "**Hamas** will not change its strategy and we will go ahead ... until the final liberation of our Holy Land," a **Hamas** leader, Abdel Aziz Rantisi, said Monday.

Arafat aide Ahmed Abdel Rahman accused Israel of exaggerating the threat posed by the rockets in order to escalate strikes against the Palestinians.

"We all panicked. People lay on top of each other. It was horrible," said another customer, Morris Levy.

In response, Israeli F-16 warplanes fired bombs and missiles at a Gaza City security compound Sunday night. The explosions shattered windows in a nearby U.N. compound and the Palestinian Planning Ministry, and 37 people were injured, most only slightly.

Israeli military commanders later apologized to Terje Roed-Larsen, the U.N. envoy to the Middle East.

"I fully accept that, but on the other hand, it's totally unacceptable to use that kind of weaponry which puts civilian lives and U.N. personnel at peril," Roed-Larsen told Israel Army Radio. "Several of my colleagues were there (in the building) and some of them were simply knocked over."

Israeli helicopter gunships also fired missiles at a metal workshop in the nearby Jebaliya refugee camp where the military said mortar shells and rockets were being made. Sunday night's attack shattered windows and brought down the roof at a nearby kindergarten.

In Israel, Sharon was coming under pressure from his political camp to topple Arafat and the Palestinian Authority. Former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, seen as a strong challenger to Sharon and a fellow member of the Likud Party, demanded that Arafat be removed.

"There can only be a military solution," Netanyahu said on Israel TV's Channel Two. "If you get rid of this (Arafat's) regime, you are telling the person who comes next, 'watch out.'"

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2002

*Europeans show selective indignation over Israeli attack*

USA TODAY

July 26, 2002, Friday,

FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2002 Gannett Company, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS;; DEBATE

**Length:** 407 words

## Body

---

How can **Hamas** and other militant Islamic radicals murder hundreds of Jewish civilians, including children, through suicide bombings and then condemn Israel when it unintentionally kills civilians in an attack on a leading **Hamas** "commander" ("Revenge on Israel promised," News, Wednesday)?

I don't recall British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw or Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh publicly expressing their disapproval toward the Palestinian community for its suicide bombings in the same way they have condemned Israel's recent attack.

May I ask what Straw and Lindh propose Israel do to put a stop to these suicide bombings? How would the British and Swedish governments respond to such attacks?

While it grieves me to see anyone murdered, I sympathize with the Israelis' efforts to stop these horrible suicide bombings. The killing of Palestinian civilians in this Israeli attack should be blamed on the Palestinian community that initiated this conflict.

Rodney Guyton

Torrance, Calif.

'Crime against humanity'

An F-16 Israeli warplane fired missiles at a heavily populated residential Gaza neighborhood to assassinate one man. Think about it for a moment -- an F-16 to target one man.

The excessive and indiscriminate force of this attack is not only a crime against humanity, it is absurd.

This latest Israeli attack should convince everyone in the media that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon does not want peace.

Karen Russo

Saddle River, N.J.

Palestinian 'hypocrisy'



## Europeans show selective indignation over Israeli attack

I wonder if the Palestinians noticed that, unlike some of them did on Sept. 11, there were no Americans dancing in the streets over their loss of innocent civilians. As far as I know, neither were there Israelis dancing over the Palestinians' loss. And they wonder why the U.S. supports Israel?

I question whether the Palestinians realize how hypocritical they sound when they get outraged that civilians were killed during an operation to remove terrorists while they target not the Israeli military, but women and children.

The Palestinians will never find the peace they claim to want as long as they continue their culture of hate.

The Palestinians have a chance for peace if they turn against those among them, like Hamas, who keep the conflict going. Were that to happen, Israel would have no reason to continue the occupation of Palestinian territories.

I doubt whether the Palestinians have the courage to do that. I hope some day they prove me wrong.

Rick Woolard

Greenville, N.C.

## Graphic

---

PHOTO, B/W, Jamal Aruri, AFP; Reaction: An Israeli soldier fires in the air to disperse protesters as a demonstrator sprays red paint on an Israeli military vehicle near Ramallah.

**Load-Date:** July 26, 2002

---

End of Document

## ***Ariel Sharon's fanaticism churns Mideast violence - Correction Appended***

Chicago Daily Herald

### **Correction Appended**

Copyright 2002 Paddock Publications, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS;; Guest View;

**Length:** 626 words

**Byline:** Ray Hanania

### **Body**

---

The Middle East conflict has been burning so long we are forced to measure it not in totality but by endless milestones seemingly headed in only one destructive direction. This week, one of the most painful milestones passed, overshadowed only by the destruction and loss of life it provoked.

On Sept. 28, 2000, Israeli Likud Party leader Ariel Sharon eagerly stoked the fires of hatred by entering the Haram al-Ash Sharif (Temple Mount to Israelis) and declaring Jerusalem's future exempt from peace negotiations. His choice of dates was not accidental, coinciding with the nine-year anniversary of the White House peace signing when visionary Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin shook hands with Yasser Arafat, the first Palestinian ever to recognize Israel's right to exist.

Inspired by Sharon's Likud, Israeli fanatics murdered Rabin, derailing peace, and have since turned their sights on destroying Arafat, too. Sharon's decision to enter the Haram al-Ash Sharif was like someone entering a crowded movie theater to yell, "Fire!" It guaranteed innocent people would be harmed. By the end of the first day of Sharon's visit, seven Palestinians were killed and 160 were injured. Within a week, five Israelis and 50 Palestinians died. On Feb. 6, 2001, the violence he shaped helped Sharon unseat Ehud Barak, the Rabin protege who shared Rabin's vision but lacked his conviction.

Coveted by Jews and Muslims, the Haram al-Ash Sharif is the site of the al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock. On one side is the Wailing Wall. When the Israelis captured Arab East Jerusalem and the Haram al-Ash Sharif in 1967, the first thing they did was to destroy the homes of thousands of Palestinian families to build the massive Wailing Wall plaza. It symbolizes all that separates extremists on both sides, and is the challenge facing Arabs and Jews who seek peace.

Having set the region's hatred on fire, Sharon was pledged by his legacy of violence and bloodshed to drive a stake through the heart of the peace process. Sharon and the Likud Party trace their beginnings and philosophy to the region's first terrorists, the Irgun and Stern Gang.

With a weak President Bush in office, Sharon moved to assassinate peace with a poisonous barrage of violent provocation. He did not hesitate to use American-made weapons, F-16 jets and helicopter gun ships, to kill militants among scores of innocent men, women and children.

The odds against peace were always on Sharon's side. It's easier to fan the flames of hatred in the Middle East than to take the courageous stance of Rabin, Arafat or even Shimon Peres, whose efforts to bridge the conflict are

## Ariel Sharon's fanaticism churns Mideast violence

continually thwarted by Sharon. Rather than winding down, the conflict continues to worsen. Sharon uses every opportunity to provoke tension. When Hamas suicide bombers strike, instead of hitting Hamas, Sharon retaliates against Arafat and the peace process.

As much as Hamas is dedicated to destroying Israel, it is just as opposed to Arafat and his pursuit of peace. Ironically, it and Likud share at least those goals. Close examination of the rise of Hamas in the 1970s shows it was nurtured by support from Likud leaders, who believed religious fundamentalists could undercut Arafat and the PLO.

Sharon's actions not only have made terrorism more likely, they have undercut the American "war on terrorism," weakened the fight against Middle East fanaticism and jeopardized American lives. His brutal military crackdowns against Palestinian civilians have encouraged, not stopped, suicide bombings.

But, the bloodiest victim is the dream many shared on the White House lawn in 1991. A lasting and just peace is not possible as long as Sharon remains in power.

- E-mail may be sent to [rayhanania@@aol.com](mailto:rayhanania@@aol.com).

## Correction

---

A column on Friday's Opinion page should have said the year of the Spetmeber peace ceremony with Yitzhak Rabin and Yaser Arafat on the White House lawn was 1993.

**Correction-Date:** Oct 5, 2002 Saturday

**Load-Date:** October 22, 2002

## **MIDEAST HIT BY DAY OF CARNAGE**

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

August 5, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 The Columbian Publishing Co.

**Section:** Front Page; Pg. a1

**Length:** 662 words

**Byline:** GREG MYRE, Associated Press writer

### **Body**

---

JERUSALEM -- A Palestinian suicide bomber blew up a bus in northern Israel during the morning rush hour Sunday, killing himself and nine passengers on a day punctuated by violence from the rolling hills of the Galilee to Jerusalem's Old City to the Mediterranean beach front.

The militant group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for the bus bombing, which left charred remains including a child's drawing of two hearts in crayon across a highway.

Through the day Sunday and into today, 18 people died and dozens were wounded in several separate incidents.

Israel's clampdown on the West Bank has kept many Palestinians confined to their homes for most of the past six weeks, but militants continue to elude troops to carry out attacks.

President Bush said he was "distressed" to learn of the bus bombing. "There are a few killers who want to stop the peace process," Bush said.

The Israeli government said Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who turned 73 on Sunday, bore ultimate responsibility for not reining in militants during the 22 months of Mideast fighting.

The Palestinian leadership condemned the bombing but also accused Sharon of "war crimes" for the Israeli army's mass detentions, home demolitions and curfews imposed on Palestinians.

Israeli officials had said high-level talks between Sharon and Palestinian Cabinet ministers could be expected this week, but it was unclear whether the meetings will go ahead as planned after Sunday's attacks.

**Hamas** said the bus bombing was the second retaliatory strike for Israel's July 22 air strike that killed a senior **Hamas** leader, Salah Shehadeh, and 14 others in Gaza City. **Hamas** also carried out a Wednesday bombing at Jerusalem's Hebrew University that killed seven, including five Americans.

The nine passengers killed in Sunday's bus bombing included three Israeli soldiers, two **women** from the Philippines and four Israeli civilians, including an Arab Israeli woman. Thirty-seven people were injured, two critically.

The bomber apparently warned two Arab students of the impending attack, and they got off the bus shortly before it blew up, a police source said. The two students have been detained, the source added.

## MIDEAST HIT BY DAY OF CARNAGE

The bus driver, Shmuel Ronen, escaped with minor wounds, just as he did six years ago when a bus he was driving in Jerusalem was bombed.

About 1,500 people celebrated the bus bombing in Gaza City late Sunday, passing out sweets and praying near Shehadeh's destroyed house, where militants shouting over loudspeakers vowed to "avenge every drop of his blood."

The stepped-up Israeli military effort has included three days of house-to-house searches in Nablus, the West Bank city that Israel describes as the main center for Palestinian suicide bombers.

Israel also blew up nine Palestinian homes Sunday in the West Bank, all of them belonging to militants who carried out or orchestrated previous attacks. Israel is hoping the practice will discourage would-be assailants who want to spare their families from harm.

The only tangible result to date is that militant groups have stopped announcing the names of attackers and releasing their homemade videos, making it a bit more difficult for Israel to track down the families.

Three hours after Sunday's bus bombing, a Palestinian attacker opened fire just outside the stone walls of Jerusalem's Old City, sparking a gun battle with police that left three dead. The Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades claimed responsibility.

In two separate attacks, seven Israeli soldiers and Jewish settlers were injured while driving between settlements north of Ramallah and near Tulkarm.

Three soldiers were injured in an explosion during raids in Nablus' Old City.

Meanwhile, in the northern Gaza Strip, Israeli soldiers shot and killed an armed Palestinian dressed in a wet suit as he came ashore along the Mediterranean coast. The man had an automatic rifle and grenades and apparently swam along the coast before emerging near the Jewish settlements of Dugit and Alei Sinai, the army said.

**Load-Date:** August 5, 2002

## **Palestinians strike Israel with rockets: Attack highlights new Mideast risk**

The Ottawa Citizen

February 11, 2002 Monday

EARLY EDITION

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** NEWS,; News

**Length:** 430 words

**Byline:** Tim Johnson

**Dateline:** SAAD, Israel

### **Body**

---

Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired what appeared to be two next-generation rockets into Israel yesterday, marking a strategic shift in warfare that is likely to heighten fears in Israeli border cities.

The rockets, which may have carried up to 10 kilograms of explosives, landed harmlessly and were overshadowed by violence in the Negev Desert city of Beersheba, where gunmen linked to the militant **Hamas** organization killed two Israelis and wounded four others.

Israeli F-16 jets responded to the deadly attack by firing missiles at several targets in the Gaza Strip, including a base used by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's private security detail.

Knight Ridder

But the launches may prove significant in a region where tensions are already the highest in decades.

Israeli military sources said Palestinian militants in the West Bank and Gaza Strip now have the Kassam-II rockets in their arsenals, exposing tens of thousands of Israeli civilians to attack.

"If they were to use these rockets to hit a city, that would bring the war to a new phase," said an Israeli Defence Forces spokesman who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The homemade rockets lack a guidance system and are much less powerful than those used by Iraq during the Gulf War, but they travel three times as far as their first-generation cousins and are "precise enough to hit a metropolitan target," according to an army statement.

"Israel has warned the Palestinian Authority on more than one occasion that if the Kassam-II is fired into Israeli territory, into Israeli towns, this will be considered a new game with new rules," Israel Radio's military correspondent, Alan Ben Ami, told listeners last night.

A senior Israeli security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said **Hamas** leaders boast that they can load the rockets "with non-conventional warheads," meaning chemical payloads.

Israeli soldiers captured eight of the rockets at a roadblock between Nablus and Jenin in the West Bank last week, signaling that **Hamas** militants are attempting to distribute them to key border points.

## Palestinians strike Israel with rockets: Attack highlights new Mideast risk

"They can produce a lot. The explosives they need for propulsion are very simple to produce as well," the senior security official said.

In a separate attack in Beersheba, the Palestinian gunmen opened fire with assault rifles near an army base, killing two **female** soldiers and wounding four others. Security forces quickly killed the two gunmen.

"The two men got out of the car and started firing in all directions," said army Capt. Guy Shaham, who hit one of the gunmen.

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2002

---

End of Document

## **NUTS, CREEPY CRAWLIES? IT DOESN'T ADD UP**

Richmond Times Dispatch (Virginia)

August 11, 2002 Sunday City Edition

Copyright 2002 Richmond Newspapers, Inc.

**Section:** EDITORIAL; Pg. E-2; CORRESPONDENT OF THE DAY

**Length:** 1388 words

**Byline:** John Rast Hubbard,, Anita Huray Hubbard.,

### **Body**

---

Editor, Times-Dispatch:

We enjoyed Charles Krauthammer's "Disturbed Nerd Chic" Op/Ed column on mathematicians and computer scientists. Nevertheless, we would like to correct some misconceptions he may have foisted upon your readers.

Alan Turing was not the "father of the computer." Although the brilliant logician did make substantial contributions to the understanding of the theoretical limits to computing, he had very little to do with the development of the computer. The father of the digital computer was Charles Babbage (1791-1871).

Krauthammer asks, "Why this cultural fascination with mathematically brilliant creepy crawlies?" Maybe because the public finds it hard to believe that deep abstract thinkers can be normal, and so they delight whenever the popular media portray one as deranged. But most truly great mathematicians were quite balanced mentally. Isaac Newton and Turing are two notable exceptions. (Newton went mad from lead poisoning; Turing committed suicide.) One could also mention Blaise Pascal (1623-1662) and Georg Cantor (1845-1918), both religious neurotics. (Incidentally, Pascal invented the first calculating machine when he was 19.)

But for every John Nash and Alan Turing, there were dozens of greater mathematicians and computer scientists who were quite sane. We doubt that these disciplines have any more "creepy crawlies" than any other sciences.

Paper Would Be Wise

To Note County's Virtues

Editor, Times-Dispatch: -

In reference to the article on Wise County by Rex Bowman, I beg to differ with him on his description of the airport in Wise. It does not have a dusty runway. In fact it has a long, paved runway that can accept military aircraft. The facilities are modern and up-to-date. There are paved taxiways and parking areas. There are several modern hangars.

As far as serving those who have less than others, yes sir, Wise has an overabundance of people living at or below the poverty level. This is due mostly to the fact that the area was dependent for so many years on one industry,



## NUTS, CREEPY CRAWLIES? IT DOESN'T ADD UP

coal. And that is not a good industry to be in at the present time in that area. That area, like many others in the U.S., needs new industry to generate dollars that can flow throughout the business arena.

And to compare poor to poor, who is poorer? The poor person in the most run-down area of Richmond or the poor person living on a hillside back in those mountains? To me poor is poor, plain and simple. And the poor need help.

The area has poor people but it also attempts to educate its children so that they will have a better opportunity for success in their lives. The high-school facilities that were built in the 1950s were built with funds generated by a tax on each ton of coal shipped. We had better high-school facilities in Wise than many school districts in other parts of the state. Shucks, we had central air-conditioning back then and many of the schools in the tri-city area didn't.

The old families of that area, those who trace their roots back to Revolutionary War days, and many of the newcomers, are extremely proud of their area.

And all appreciate honest, factual reporting.

C.\*N. Craft.\* dundas.

<va8>Incident Showcased

Employee Dedication

Editor, Times-Dispatch: -

The quick alert to Chesterfield County residents about a potential threat to tapwater contamination was a reminder of the conscientiousness and professionalism of Chesterfield County workers.

The thoroughness and alertness shown by plant workers doing what surely must be a daily or hourly humdrum job that could easily be overlooked showed the quality of dedication county employees have.

In a routine check of water samples, they noticed an excess of particles present in the water, and without waiting to determine the cause, immediately sent out a warning to affected residents to boil all drinking water until the purity of the water supply could be ascertained.

The episode should give residents a good degree of assurance about their county's employees.

Sy London.\* chesterfield.

<va8>Israel's Critics

Ignore Atrocities

Editor, Times-Dispatch: -

Something is rotten with the state of world opinion.

Israel is being mercilessly chastised by every government on the planet for seeking out and eliminating one of the most heinous Palestinian killers but causing additional deaths in the process. Yes, women and children were killed in the Gaza operation. That is because the cowardly Hamas butchers hide behind women's skirts and children's toys. But in spite of this cunningly effective Hamas practice, Israel still has been able to wipe out most of the Hamas terrorist leaders with remarkably little "collateral damage." Unfortunatly, this was not one of those times.

## NUTS, CREEPY CRAWLIES? IT DOESN'T ADD UP

But the question is, where was the world's outrage when this Hamas thug was killing dozens of Israeli women and children earlier this year? Are the deaths of Israelis of no concern? There is something terribly wrong when the world expresses no outrage when Israelis are blown to bits. The Hamas suiciders wade into any gathering of Israelis and kill indiscriminately. The Israelis seek out particularly horrible Hamas murderers before they strike.

Israel has been quite successful in methodically knocking off the Hamas ringleaders. America should be as successful in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Neil November.\* richmond.

Civil Rights Include

Private Memberships

Editor, Times-Dispatch: -

Regarding Michael Paul Williams' comment about Tiger Woods and membership policies at Augusta National:

In most instances I can agree with Williams' untiring advocacy for the rights of minorities. However, in this case he seems to miss a point that Woods makes so well. The subject is not about fairness, as Williams would have us believe.

I am assuming the Augusta National course and the course in Scotland are both private clubs, otherwise Big Brother would have been all over the Augusta course by now. I have no idea how the Scottish government treats its private organizations, but from Williams' column, I assume it's similar to the way they are treated in the U.S.

The issue is about civil rights, including the right of every individual to associate with whomever he or she chooses.

Henry Dowgielewicz.\* north topsail beach, n.c..

<va1>St. Michael's Parishioner

Seeks Real Closure

Editor, Times-Dispatch: -

I have been a Catholic since birth and have attended Mass at St. Michael's for a few years now. My attendance at St. Michael's was due in part to Father Leonard, a dynamic priest who seemed to be leading his parish in a positive manner. However, my primary purpose for attending Mass was to honor my God in the religion in which I was raised. It was not to honor a priest.

I have read the articles on Father Leonard's alleged behavior; I have heard and read reactions from parishioners; and I have observed Father Leonard's reactions to the events. Unfortunately, I have to conclude that he just doesn't get it. I cringed when I heard him trivialize the matter during Mass by suggesting the paper could improve its coverage by using a better picture of him. I previously thought Bishop Sullivan didn't get it, but to hear Father Leonard make light of the matter confirmed for me that he didn't get it, either. The Bishop, Father Leonard, and many of the parishioners don't understand, in my opinion, the seriousness of the matter.

The alleged victims and the parish need healing, but the process cannot begin until the diocese recognizes healing is in order. From what I have observed, it seems the only person whose healing process has been of any concern is Father Leonard.

## NUTS, CREEPY CRAWLIES? IT DOESN'T ADD UP

Andrew Molloy.\* richmond.

<va1>Nigerian Women

Challenge Oil Giant

Editor, Times-Dispatch: -

Lest they continue to incur the wrath of the women of Nigeria, the officials of industry giant Chevron/Texaco may well uphold their promise to villagers to finance roads, schools, hospitals, jobs, and electricity.

Privileged, educated, and empowered American women should stand in awe of the hundreds of impoverished, largely uneducated Nigerian women who have the courage to challenge one of the largest oil companies in the world. In a male-dominated Third World culture, the success of these women's cohesive, fearless, steadfast efforts to bring Chevron/Texaco's Nigerian oil operations to its knees is nothing short of phenomenal.

You go, girls!

Sandee Cosby.\* richmond.

**Load-Date:** August 14, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Israel bulldozes Gaza homes*

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

January 11, 2002, Friday, South Pinellas Edition

Copyright 2002 Times Publishing Company

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. 2A

**Length:** 833 words

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

The Israeli army retaliated Thursday for the killing of four Israeli soldiers by Palestinian militants on Wednesday by bulldozing dozens of dwellings in a refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, leaving hundreds of homeless people searching for their belongings in a five-acre sea of rubble.

The action in Rafah, near the border with Egypt, was the largest Israeli demolition operation in more than 15 months of violent conflict with the Palestinians. Since the start of that uprising, the army has destroyed scores of homes and large swaths of agricultural land, actions that have drawn strong condemnations from human rights groups. On Thursday, the United States condemned the latest demolition, which the army said was intended to deny cover to Palestinian gunmen.

Compiled from Times WiresMIDEAST

An Israeli army statement said that troops had carried out "engineering activity," razing only 10 to 13 uninhabited homes that had "served as cover for gunmen firing on army forces operating in the area." The army said the structures were suspected to have covered tunnels serving for the smuggling of weapons from Egypt.

But an official from the U.N. Relief and Works Agency said that 54 houses were destroyed and that more than 500 people had been left without shelter. The Palestinian Center for Human Rights in Gaza said 58 houses had been destroyed and 700 people left homeless.

Throughout a day of pouring rain, men, women and children picked through the wreckage of the refugee camp where their homes - cinder-block dwellings with corrugated roofs - had once stood. They tried to salvage blankets, clothing and identity cards from the rubble. Smashed furniture and crushed appliances poked out from the ruins, along with a child's bed and a bicycle.

Residents said they had grabbed their children and run when they were awakened about 1:30 a.m. by the roar of about a dozen Israeli tanks and bulldozers rumbling into the camp.

Samir Ghneim, 35, said he had fled with his four children minutes before a bulldozer smashed into his family's house. The children were shaking and frightened, he said.

His 8-year-old daughter, Maryam, said: "I heard the bulldozers and tanks, and we ran away into the night. My father held me, and we were crying."

Tamam Ghneim, 52, a member of the same extended family, said she and her six children had managed to escape through a hole in a wall shared with a neighbor's house before her dwelling was destroyed.

## Israel bulldozes Gaza homes

"This is revenge," Ghneim said. "We didn't do anything. The attack happened in Israel, so why us? Why do our children have to go through this?"

Thursday's demolitions, after the killing of Israeli soldiers by attackers from the militant group **Hamas**, raised the possibility of a renewed slide into violence after weeks of relative calm that followed a call on Dec. 16 by Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, for a halt to armed attacks on Israelis.

Wednesday's attack on the soldiers occurred at an army post in southern Israel several miles away from Rafah, on the border with the Gaza Strip. The **Hamas** gunmen had come from Rafah, but not from the same refugee camp the Israelis entered on Thursday.

The militant Islamic Jihad group announced on Thursday that it was no longer bound by understandings with the Palestinian Authority to halt attacks in Israel. "Starting from today, we will not adhere to any understanding or cooperate with the Palestinian Authority and its security services in the lie of the cease-fire," it said.

Palestinian officials reacted angrily to the **Hamas** attack and Islamic Jihad statement.

"No Palestinian faction has the right to interpret the Palestinian position as it pleases," said Mohammed Dahlan, a Palestinian security chief, accusing **Hamas** of trying to destroy the Palestinian Authority.

Palestinian security forces in the last three days arrested two members of Islamic Jihad, including one who was on Israel's most-wanted list, a Palestinian official said Thursday, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Israel says the moves have been far from what is needed to crush the militants.

The area that was bulldozed had been the site of frequent fighting between Palestinian gunmen and Israeli soldiers posted along the border, and the army said its forces were met with gunfire and grenades during Thursday's demolition. But refugees living in the area said it has been calm since Arafat's call for a cease-fire.

Early today, Israeli tanks and bulldozers plowed up runways at Gaza International Airport, an official there said, in what appeared to be another response to Wednesday's fatal attack. The Israeli military acknowledged there was activity in the area but would give no details.

Palestinian officials said Israel should not have retaliated for Wednesday's **Hamas** attack, which was the first killing of Israelis by Palestinians in almost a month.

"Continuing the retaliation for every single incident will not help at all," said Ahmed Qureia, speaker of the Palestinian Parliament. "This is a very serious escalation on the Israeli side."

## Graphic

---

PHOTO, Associated Press; Two **women** sit in the ruins of their homes in Rafah, Gaza Strip, after a raid by Israeli tanks and bulldozers.

**Load-Date:** January 11, 2002

## **UN OKS JENIN PROBE Devastation, but Israel denies massacre**

Daily News (New York)

April 20, 2002, Saturday

SPORTS FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2002 Daily News, L.P.

**Section:** NEWS;

**Length:** 485 words

**Byline:** By BRIAN KATES DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER With News Wire Services

### **Body**

---

The United Nations Security Council approved a probe of the devastation of Jenin last night, just hours after Israeli troops withdrew from the West Bank refugee camp.

In the Gaza Strip, the worst violence there in months flared when a Palestinian suicide bomber attacked a border checkpoint.

The UN resolution, drafted by the U.S. under intense international pressure, calls for a fact-finding team organized by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to examine damage done by an Israeli offensive in Jenin and other West Bank towns.

Jenin was the scene of the heaviest fighting during the West Bank offensive, which began three weeks ago.

Israel has heatedly denied allegations that it massacred Palestinians in the camp, and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres called Annan last night to say it welcomed the mission, a UN spokesman said. Digging for bodies The document expresses concern at the "dire humanitarian situation of Palestinian civilians, in particular a report from Jenin "of an unknown number of deaths and destruction." And it calls for lifting of restrictions in Jenin and elsewhere on operations of relief bodies, such as the UN and the Red Cross.

Israeli soldiers ringed Jenin after leaving yesterday to bar people from leaving.

Men, women and children clawed through the rubble to retrieve the bodies of their dead and search for signs of the missing, as international aid workers moved in to aid the homeless and catalogue the missing.

Israeli officials put the Palestinian death toll at under 100. Military brass said the refugee camp had been booby-trapped and that children had been equipped with weapons and explosives.

Mohammed Abu Ghali, director of Jenin's main hospital, said the death toll could climb to between 200 to 400 once all the corpses have been uncovered.

Twenty-nine Israeli soldiers were killed and at least 100 wounded in the operation. Israeli commanders said they arrested 200 wanted terrorists.

In the Gaza suicide bombing, a Palestinian blew himself up and slightly wounded two Israeli soldiers at the Gush Katif military checkpoint. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the bombing, the first in Gaza in five months. 2

## UN OKS JENIN PROBE Devastation, but Israel denies massacre

**Hamas** leaders arrested **Hamas** leaders boasted they had escaped Israel's military offensive and threatened to carry out deadlier attacks using weapons-grade explosives smuggled into Gaza through Egypt.

In Bethlehem, where the siege at the Church of the Nativity continued, Israeli forces arrested two **Hamas** leaders - Khaled Tafesh Dweib, 36, chief of the local military wing that has claimed responsibility for several suicide attacks, and his aide, Nasri Youssef al-Zir.

Elsewhere, seven Palestinians were killed by Israeli gunfire yesterday, including two gunmen trying to infiltrate the Jewish settlement of Netzarim disguised as soldiers, and two boys, ages 9 and 14, who doctors said were shot by troops enforcing a curfew in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

**Load-Date:** April 22, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Israeli missile kills 5, hurts 47*

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

April 9, 2003 Wednesday Final Edition

Copyright 2003 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** FRONT; Pg. A8; NEWS

**Length:** 254 words

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP

### **Body**

---

An Israeli warplane fired a missile at a car in Gaza City after sundown yesterday, killing at least five people -- including a Palestinian militant -- in the first Israeli air strike in Palestinian territory since the war in Iraq began.

At least 47 people were wounded, eight of them critically, by the missile strike, doctors said.

Associated PressThe wounded were civilians ranging in age from six to 75, doctors said.

Witnesses reported a huge explosion in the Zeitoun neighbourhood in Gaza City, known as a stronghold of the militant group **Hamas**, which is responsible for dozens of attacks that have killed hundreds of Israelis in 30 months of fighting.

One of the dead was identified as Saed Arabeed, 38, a senior **Hamas** commander.

Those injured by yesterday's strike were taken to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. The casualties included **women** and children.

The Israeli military refused to comment. Since the war in Iraq began March 20, Israel had scaled back its incursions and military operations in the West Bank and Gaza, but Israeli forces have arrested dozens of suspects in nightly sweeps and raids in the West Bank.

Residents said two Israeli F-16 fighter planes circled low over Gaza City in the minutes before attacking a Subaru car on a Gaza street.

Yussef Touth, 24, said the white car was approaching an intersection when he saw the planes, then "a big flame in the sky" followed by the missile hitting the car. He was wounded in both legs and lay covered with blood in the hospital.

"I saw bodies torn to pieces," he said.

**Load-Date:** April 9, 2003



**Palestinian militants fire advanced rockets;  
The launches could signal a new phase in warfare.  
In a separate attack, 2 Israeli soldiers were killed.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

February 11, 2002 Monday CITY-D EDITION

Copyright 2002 Philadelphia Newspapers, LLC All Rights Reserved

**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A04

**Length:** 626 words

**Byline:** Tim Johnson KNIGHT RIDDER NEWS SERVICE

**Dateline:** SAAD, Israel

## **Body**

---

Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired what appeared to be two next-generation rockets into Israel yesterday, marking a strategic shift in warfare that is likely to heighten fears in Israeli border cities.

The rockets, which may have carried up to 22 pounds of explosives, landed harmlessly and were accompanied by violence in the Negev Desert city of Beersheba, where gunmen linked to the militant **Hamas** organization killed two Israeli soldiers and wounded four other people.

Israeli F-16 jets responded to the deadly attack by firing missiles at several targets in the Gaza Strip, including a base used by Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat's private security detail.

The rocket launches may prove significant in a region where tensions are already the highest in decades. Israeli military sources said Palestinian militants in the West Bank and Gaza Strip now have the Qassem 2 rockets in their arsenals, exposing tens of thousands of Israeli civilians to attack.

"If they were to use these rockets to hit a city, that would bring the war to a new phase," said an Israeli Defense Forces spokesman who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The homemade rockets lack a guidance system and are much less powerful than those used by Iraq during the Persian Gulf war, but they travel three times as far as their first-generation cousins and are "precise enough to hit a metropolitan target," according to an army statement.

"Israel has warned the Palestinian Authority on more than one occasion that if the Qassem 2 is fired into Israeli territory, into Israeli towns, this will be considered a new game with new rules," Israel Radio's military correspondent, Alan Ben Ami, told listeners last night.

Palestinian militants fire advanced rockets; The launches could signal a new phase in warfare. In a separate attack, 2 Israeli soldiers were killed.

Israeli soldiers captured eight of the rockets at a roadblock between Nablus and Jenin in the West Bank last week, signaling that **Hamas** militants are attempting to distribute them to key border points.

One of the rockets fired yesterday landed near a communal village, or kibbutz, four miles from the Gaza border in Saad. Another fell at a nearby cooperative farm, nearly five miles from the border.

Witnesses near the kibbutz said they heard three launches around 11 a.m. but found only one two-yard-wide crater, where a rocket slammed down near a tractor. Israeli soldiers later found three launchers in the Gaza Strip.

Hours after the launches, Palestinian officials said their security agents had arrested Adnan al-Ghoul, considered **Hamas**' top engineer. They said Ghoul helped develop the Qassem rockets.

The senior security official said the government of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon believes Palestinian militants are trying to escalate the conflict with Israel, hoping to increase international pressure on the Sharon government to come to the peace table.

In the separate attack in Beersheba, the Palestinian gunmen opened fire with assault rifles near an army base, killing two **female** soldiers and wounding four other people. Security forces quickly killed the two gunmen.

**Hamas** took responsibility for the shootings, the latest in a spate of suicide bombings and drive-by shootings.

Israel Radio said the F-16s that flew over Gaza destroyed a base of Arafat's security detail.

The Israeli bombs also blew out windows of the United Nations' special coordinator in the Middle East and slightly injured 18 people, including two U.N. employees, Palestinian officials said.

Terje Roed-Larsen, the U.N. official, said in a statement that "Israel's security needs will not be met by hitting civilian targets or by destroying the Palestinians' ability to police and maintain order."

Early today, Israeli tanks entered the West Bank city of Nablus. They pulled out after less than two hours. At least one Palestinian man was arrested and a police officer wounded, witnesses said.

## Graphic

---

MAP;

Israeli planes bombed a Palestinian security building; Two people killed and four wounded by Palestinian gunmen (The Philadelphia Inquirer)

**Load-Date:** February 14, 2002

## **ISRAELIS QUIT JENIN OK int'l observers; bomber hits Gaza**

Daily News (New York)

April 20, 2002, Saturday

FOUR STAR EDITION

Copyright 2002 Daily News, L.P.

**Section:** NEWS;

**Length:** 485 words

**Byline:** By BRIAN KATES DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER With News Wire Services

### **Body**

---

Israeli troops withdrew from the West Bank town of Jenin yesterday, as the Gaza Strip's worst violence in months flared when a Palestinian suicide bomber attacked a border checkpoint.

The Israeli pullout came amid international pressure to investigate Palestinian charges of a massacre at the Jenin refugee camp, a cradle for suicide bombers.

Israel heatedly denied the massacre allegations and told UN Secretary General Kofi Annan yesterday it would welcome a fact-finding mission to look into its actions in Jenin and other Palestinian cities, a UN spokesman said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' phone call to Annan was disclosed as the United States circulated a draft Security Council resolution suggesting the UN and Israel develop "accurate information regarding recent events in the Jenin refugee camp."

The U.S. threatened to veto an Arab-backed resolution expressing shock at reports of a massacre and requesting the secretary general investigate "the full scope of the tragic events." Searching for bodies Israeli soldiers ringed Jenin after pulling back yesterday, barring people from leaving.

Men, women and children clawed through the rubble to retrieve the bodies of their dead and search for signs of the missing, as international aid workers moved in to aid the homeless and catalogue the missing.

Israeli officials put the Palestinian death toll at less than 100. Military brass said the refugee camp had been booby-trapped and that young children had been equipped with weapons and explosives. The Israeli newspaper Haaretz reported that at least two of 19 Palestinian bodies recovered wore explosive belts.

Mohammad Ali Ghali, director of Jenin's main hospital, said the death toll could climb to between 200 and 400 once all the corpses have been uncovered.

Twenty-nine Israeli soldiers were killed and at least 100 wounded in the operation. Israeli commanders said they arrested 200 wanted terrorists.

In the Gaza suicide bombing, a Palestinian blew himself up and slightly wounded two Israeli soldiers at the Gush Katif military checkpoint. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the bombing, the first in Gaza in five months. 2 Hamas leaders arrested Hamas leaders boasted they had escaped Israel's military offensive and threatened to carry out deadlier attacks using weapons-grade explosives smuggled into Gaza through Egypt.

## ISRAELIS QUIT JENIN OK int'l observers; bomber hits Gaza

In Bethlehem, where the siege at the Church of the Nativity continued, Israeli forces arrested two **Hamas** leaders - Khaled Tafesh Dweib, 36, leader of the local military wing that has claimed responsibility for several suicide attacks, and his aide, Nasri Yuoussef al-Zir.

Elsewhere, seven Palestinians were killed by Israeli gunfire yesterday, including two gunmen trying to infiltrate the Jewish settlement of Netzarim disguised as soldiers, and two boys, ages 9 and 14, who doctors said were shot by troops enforcing a curfew in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

**Load-Date:** April 22, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Middle East anti-war protests said to be little more subdued*

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

April 5, 2003 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2003 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** FRONT; Pg. A6; NEWS

**Length:** 446 words

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP

### **Body**

---

Customers are few and far between at Tariq Abu-Dayyah's souvenir shop in Gaza City, but when they come they usually all want the same thing: Saddam Hussein paraphernalia.

Abu-Dayyah has run his shop in Gaza City since 1992, selling flags from around the world, tourist trinkets and more recently Saddam Hussein posters and flags. His sales are evident at pro-Iraqi protests like the many held yesterday in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

Cox Newspapers

"There is a demand from the people," said Abu-Dayyah, who said he sold about 500 Saddam Hussein posters and 600 Iraqi flags since late last year, when UN inspectors began searching for biological, chemical and nuclear weapons and the Bush administration began the build-up of troop in the region.

Abu-Dayyah has also sold more than 200 posters of French President Jacques Chirac, who visited Gaza in 1996 and has been a vocal opponent of the war in Iraq.

Those flags and posters of Saddam and the Iraq flags were on display when a group of 1,000 people, mostly supporters of the militant group **Hamas**, marched through the streets, denouncing the U.S.-led war in Iraq.

"It is important for Muslims all over the world to support the Muslim people," said Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the **Hamas** spiritual leader.

After leaving the city's main mosque, the demonstrators walked through town as a man shouted through a loudspeaker for God to take revenge on the United States and Israel.

Saddam developed a cult status among many Palestinians during the 1991 Gulf War as an Arab ruler willing to stand up to the West. He has provided money to the families of Palestinian suicide bombers who attacked Israelis.

In other parts of the Middle East, protests were more subdued than previous Fridays since the war began. In the Muslim world, Friday is the main prayer day and protests often follow services at mosques.

In Amman, middle-class Jordanians, angry over the presence of U.S. troops in their country, joined religious firebrands in a march organized by Jordanian opposition parties.

About 1,500 protesters, including parents and children, marched through the upscale neighbourhood Sweifiyah carrying Jordanian, Iraqi and Palestinian flags while they sang songs of Arab unity.

## Middle East anti-war protests said to be little more subdued

"This war is a criminal act. We don't want to be part of it. We don't want to be shamed by having American troops here," said Khawala Omar, 36, who brought her two-year-old son to the first political protest either had ever attended.

In Cairo, the largest city in the Middle East, a heavy police presence prevented a planned march on the U.S. embassy after the main prayers yesterday.

The Egyptian lawyers union said 60 people were detained, but police later released 17 women.

## Graphic

---

Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; Masked Palestinian Hamas activists, wearing white shrouds with "martyr" printed on their chests, march during an anti war rally in the West Bank town of Nablus yesterday.

**Load-Date:** April 5, 2003

---

End of Document

**'I'm no hero. I was just doing my job': Israeli bus driver helps pin bomber to  
let passengers escape blast**

Ottawa Citizen

October 11, 2002 Friday EARLY Edition

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** News; Pg. A13; Crime

**Length:** 829 words

**Byline:** Matthew Kalman

## **Body**

---

JERUSALEM -- The bravery of an Israeli bus driver and one of his passengers foiled a Palestinian suicide bomb attack yesterday, saving dozens of lives.

A 71-year-old grandmother was killed and four people injured when the bomber blew himself up next to a crowded commuter bus on a major highway near Tel Aviv at the height of the morning rush-hour, but the toll of dead and injured could have been many times higher.

The **Hamas** terror group said it was responsible and identified the bomber as a 31-year-old father of four from the West Bank village of Hableh, near Qalqilyeh. **Hamas** said the attack was in revenge for an Israeli missile strike in Gaza on Monday that killed 17 people.

The Ottawa Citizen; with files from The Associated Press

Baruch Neuman, the 50-year-old driver of the No. 87 bus, was just pulling away from a bus stop near Bar-Ilan University when he saw a man in his rear-view mirror trying to board through the back door.

"I noticed a man trying to sneak onto the bus," said Mr. Neuman, whose first name means "blessed" in Hebrew.

"I shut the door, and apparently the man fell onto the road and hurt himself."

Mr. Neuman stopped the bus and got down to see if the man was all right, accompanied by a young woman and a male passenger who said they were doctors.

"I noticed that the man who had fallen off the bus had a light head wound and was bleeding, apparently from the fall," said Mr. Neuman. "We opened his shirt and saw an explosives belt strapped onto his body. I was in shock. The man who was with me shouted that we should each grab one of the bomber's hands and not let him move so he couldn't blow himself up.

"Meanwhile, the bomber, who was conscious, began fighting us, and we yelled for all of the passengers on the bus, as well as those close by, to clear the area."

"The doctor and I yelled to everyone: 'Terrorist! Run! Terrorist! Run!'" Mr. Neuman said.

"We looked around as we held him for a few minutes, just us, him and God, as everyone fled."

'I'm no hero. I was just doing my job': Israeli bus driver helps pin bomber to let passengers escape blast

Mr. Neuman said he spoke to the bomber in Arabic, asking him about his motives and assuring him he would not be hurt if he stopped resisting. The bomber did not respond.

"All I could think was, 'Why are you doing this?'" Mr. Neuman said. "I looked at him and I saw how determined he was to blow up and it was as if he was a robot who was programmed to blow up."

Mr. Neuman, who was unarmed, said he and the doctor finally let go of the bomber when they began to fear for their lives because the bomber, who was initially passive, began struggling.

"We made the decision together to let go of the arms, and to flee together," Mr. Neuman said.

The bomber ran toward a group of people at the bus stop and then detonated his explosives, killing himself as well as the elderly woman.

It was the first successful suicide attack since Sept. 19. On Wednesday, Israeli troops killed another suicide bomber as he was trying to enter Israel from the West Bank. Israeli officials said they knew of at least 50 potential attacks about to occur and said they had captured other would-be attackers in recent weeks.

"I'm no hero," said Mr. Neuman. "I didn't have time to feel scared. I didn't have time to think about anything. I was just doing my job."

Tel Aviv police chief Yossi Sedboim said the courage of Mr. Neuman and his passenger had averted a major tragedy. "Their swift action prevented the terrorist from entering the bus and causing many deaths," said Chief Sedboim.

He said the bomb contained five kilograms of explosives and was packed with metal ball-bearings designed to kill and maim.

The Palestinian Authority issued a blanket condemnation of "all acts of violence against civilians," but blamed Israel for the incident.

"The Israelis are responsible for every single act of violence in the region," said Nabil Abu Rudeineh, official spokesman for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

The suicide attack followed a night of violence in the West Bank and Gaza where the Israeli army staged a series of raids against Hamas militants.

In the Gaza Strip, two Palestinian boys were shot dead by Israeli troops as tanks backed by helicopter gunships invaded Rafah refugee camp for the second day running. Israeli officials said they unearthed and destroyed two tunnels used to smuggle arms across the border from Egypt.

The West Bank town of Hebron was placed under curfew after Palestinian gunmen opened fire on Israeli settlers. And, in the early hours of yesterday morning, Israeli troops carried out a series of arrests in towns and villages all over the West Bank, taking more than 80 terrorist suspects into custody.

The Gaza Strip is still seething with anger over an Israeli raid into Khan Younis on Monday in which 17 Palestinians were killed, including women and children, by an Israeli missile.

Hamas leaders promised to avenge the Palestinian deaths.

"As long as there is aggression and occupation, we will continue our operations against the murderers everywhere," said Hamas leader Abdul Aziz Rantissi.

## Graphic

---



'I'm no hero. I was just doing my job': Israeli bus driver helps pin bomber to let passengers escape blast

Photo: Ofer Vaknin, Reuters; Israeli bus driver Baruch Neuman was hailed as a hero after helping delay a suicide bomber from detonating his bomb, allowing dozens of people to flee. One person was killed when the bomber eventually blew himself up.

**Load-Date:** October 11, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Israel bans most West Bank travel*

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

August 5, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

**Section:** WIRE;

**Length:** 942 words

**Byline:** By Nicole Winfield Associated Press writer

### **Body**

---

JERUSALEM -- Israel announced a "total ban" on Palestinian travel in much of the West Bank and sealed off a chunk of the Gaza Strip with tanks Monday in response to Palestinian attacks on Israelis that killed 13 people over 24 hours.

Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said restrictions would be tightened further and that troops were planning operations to "maintain a much bigger closure than what we are doing now."

The new restrictions were imposed after a bloody 24-hour period in which a Palestinian suicide bomber blew up an Israeli bus and gunmen carried out shooting attacks in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Thirteen people were killed in these attacks, including 11 Israelis, both Jews and Arabs, and two women from the Philippines. Three assailants also died.

A car exploded in northern Israel on Monday, killing one person and wounding another, both of them apparently Palestinians on their way to carry out an attack, police and rescue officials said.

The blast occurred at a road junction near the Arab Israeli town of Umm el-Fahm, said Loti Golan, a police spokeswoman.

Israeli troops on Monday arrested Mazen Foqha, a senior Hamas activist in the West Bank, on suspicion that he supplied the explosives for Sunday's bus attack. Palestinians said Fokha headed the Hamas military wing in the Jenin district.

Under the new ban, Palestinians will not be able to drive in the northern half of the West Bank, between the towns of Nablus, Jenin, Qalqiliya, Tulkarem and Ramallah, the army said. Some movement will be permitted in the southern West Bank, including the towns of Hebron, Bethlehem and Jericho.

Ben-Eliezer said there was "total closure" in the northern West Bank. "Nobody enters and nobody leaves. There is no movement between the towns and villages."

Stringent restrictions on Palestinian travel have been in place since the outbreak of fighting in September 2000, with Palestinians confined to their communities for extended periods as Israeli troops try to prevent terror attacks.

Palestinians trying to get to jobs and schools often use dirt roads to evade military checkpoints. The military said blockades would be strictly enforced, with exceptions made for humanitarian cases.

## Israel bans most West Bank travel

In Gaza, about 25 tanks took up positions on the main north-south road, cutting off the southern town of Rafah, a flashpoint of violence, and an adjacent refugee camp from the rest of the strip.

Palestinian attacks on Israelis have killed 27 people since an Israeli airstrike on July 22 killed leading **Hamas** militant Salah Shehadeh and 14 Palestinians, many of them children, in Gaza.

The Palestinian attacks -- which came despite Israel's occupation of seven of the eight main West Bank towns -- raised questions about the army's dwindling repertoire of responses. In trying to deter attacks, the army demolished nine homes of Palestinian assailants Sunday. Ben-Eliezer said he hoped to go ahead with another intended deterrent, deporting attackers' relatives, though it is currently being challenged in court.

The defense minister defended the effectiveness of the security measures, saying about 90 percent of attacks had been prevented and nearly 140 would-be Palestinian suicide bombers had been captured, though he didn't say over what period.

Palestinian gunmen fired early Monday on a car on the main road between Ramallah and Nablus, killing an Israeli couple. Two of the couple's children were wounded.

On Sunday, a Palestinian blew himself up on a crowded bus, killing nine passengers and himself and injuring 37. The suicide bombing, at Meron Junction in northern Israel, turned the green bus into a fireball.

"There was a lot of screaming, horrible screaming inside the bus," said Avraham Freed, who owns a nearby restaurant. "I saw one person on the ground next to the bus -- bodies, parts of bodies, people jumping through the windows."

The bus driver, Shmuel Ronen, escaped with light wounds -- just as he did six years ago when the bus he was driving in Jerusalem was bombed.

**Hamas** claimed responsibility, with the Islamic militant group saying it was the second strike in retaliation for Shehadeh's killing, following a Wednesday bombing at Jerusalem's Hebrew University that killed seven, including five Americans.

About 4,000 people celebrated the bus bombing in Gaza City late Sunday, passing out sweets and praying near Shehadeh's destroyed house. Militants shouting over loudspeakers vowed to "avenge every drop of his blood."

"We advise (Israelis) to prepare more body bags and wait for the coming operations," a masked **Hamas** militant said.

Hours after the bus bombing, a shooting attack in Jerusalem's Old City left three people dead, including the assailant.

In Gaza, an armed Palestinian was shot and killed Sunday as he emerged from the Mediterranean in a wet-suit and diving equipment near the Jewish settlements of Dugit and Alei Sinai, the army said.

Israeli soldiers also fatally shot two Palestinians, including a fugitive local leader of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, as they emerged from a house in the village of Borqa north of Nablus, relatives said. The men were killed, and four other people arrested, after troops surrounded the house and ordered them out, the relatives said.

President Bush said he was "distressed" to learn of the latest bombing.

The Israeli government said Arafat, who turned 73 on Sunday, bore ultimate responsibility for not reining in militants during the 22 months of Mideast fighting.

The Palestinian leadership condemned the bombing, but also accused Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of "war crimes" for the Israeli army's mass detentions, home demolitions and curfews imposed on Palestinians.

## Israel bans most West Bank travel

**Load-Date:** August 5, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Daughter's dedication was beyond doubt*

The Times (London)

March 1, 2002, Friday

Copyright 2002 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news

**Length:** 454 words

**Byline:** Stephen Farrell

### **Body**

---

When your daughter is the kind of girl who dips her handkerchief in the blood of "martyred" Palestinian fighters, rails at the shooting of pregnant women at Israeli checkpoints in her home town, Nablus, and is always the first to Hamas rallies, her dedication to the cause is beyond doubt.

But even when Dareen Abu Ashai, 22, disappeared two days before blowing herself up at an Israeli military checkpoint, none of her family believed earlier mutterings that she would avenge the deaths of fellow Palestinians.

On Wednesday night, Ashai carried out that threat, instantly converting herself from a fourth-year English literature undergraduate to the second Palestinian woman suicide bomber when she drove up to a roadblock separating Israel from the West Bank shortly before midnight and set off an explosive device, injuring the policemen who had challenged her to produce documents.

To the Israeli security forces she is nothing more than a terrorist. She is also the latest manifestation of a disturbing new trend begun by Wafa Idrees, the 28-year-old Palestinian paramedic who blew herself up in a busy Jerusalem street in January, killing an 81-year-old Israeli man and injuring 100 people.

To many Palestinians in Nablus she is a heroine and a martyr. At her family's whitewashed home, scores of women in white headscarves sat in rows inside and outside the building consoling her parents, her two brothers and seven sisters.

All were unanimous that the girl was motivated by the suicide mission of her 17-year-old cousin Safwat in Tel Aviv a month ago and the deaths of six Palestinian soldiers killed in Nablus, one of whose blood she smeared on her handkerchief. She left it behind with a message saying: "So that nobody forgets."

Grasping the handkerchief, her mother Wafika said: "No one knew she was going to do this. She left the house two days ago saying she would go to study and be back in half an hour. She did not return and called me half an hour before the explosion, saying: 'I will not be able to reach the house. Don't worry. I will come tomorrow.' Even when she disappeared I had a strong feeling something would happen and when I heard about the blast I knew it was her."

The issue of women suicide bombers is a controversial one among Palestinians, with Hamas and Islamic Jihad saying that they should not take part in such attacks. Even members of her own family disagreed yesterday about whether she should have demonstrated her support for the cause in such a way.

For Ashai there had been no such doubts.

Daughter's dedication was beyond doubt

"She came to me and said: 'Women should carry out such operations, but Hamas won't allow us.' I think it was the death of her cousin last month that was zero hour for her," her uncle Omar said.

**Load-Date:** March 1, 2002

---

End of Document

**'We held him ... just us, him and God, as everyone fled': Israeli bus driver helps pin bomber to let passengers escape blast**

Ottawa Citizen

October 11, 2002 Friday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** News; Pg. A13; Crime

**Length:** 829 words

**Byline:** Matthew Kalman

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

---

JERUSALEM -- The bravery of an Israeli bus driver and one of his passengers foiled a Palestinian suicide bomb attack yesterday, saving dozens of lives.

A 71-year-old grandmother was killed and four people injured when the bomber blew himself up next to a crowded commuter bus on a major highway near Tel Aviv at the height of the morning rush-hour, but the toll of dead and injured could have been many times higher.

The **Hamas** terror group said it was responsible and identified the bomber as a 31-year-old father of four from the West Bank village of Hableh, near Qalqilyeh. **Hamas** said the attack was in revenge for an Israeli missile strike in Gaza on Monday that killed 17 people.

The Ottawa Citizen; with files from The Associated Press

Baruch Neuman, the 50-year-old driver of the No. 87 bus, was just pulling away from a bus stop near Bar-Ilan University when he saw a man in his rear-view mirror trying to board through the back door.

"I noticed a man trying to sneak onto the bus," said Mr. Neuman, whose first name means "blessed" in Hebrew.

"I shut the door, and apparently the man fell onto the road and hurt himself."

Mr. Neuman stopped the bus and got down to see if the man was all right, accompanied by a young woman and a male passenger who said they were doctors.

"I noticed that the man who had fallen off the bus had a light head wound and was bleeding, apparently from the fall," said Mr. Neuman. "We opened his shirt and saw an explosives belt strapped onto his body. I was in shock. The man who was with me shouted that we should each grab one of the bomber's hands and not let him move so he couldn't blow himself up.

"Meanwhile, the bomber, who was conscious, began fighting us, and we yelled for all of the passengers on the bus, as well as those close by, to clear the area."

"The doctor and I yelled to everyone: 'Terrorist! Run! Terrorist! Run!'" Mr. Neuman said.

"We looked around as we held him for a few minutes, just us, him and God, as everyone fled."

'We held him ... just us, him and God, as everyone fled': Israeli bus driver helps pin bomber to let passengers escape blast

Mr. Neuman said he spoke to the bomber in Arabic, asking him about his motives and assuring him he would not be hurt if he stopped resisting. The bomber did not respond.

"All I could think was, 'Why are you doing this'?" Mr. Neuman said. "I looked at him and I saw how determined he was to blow up and it was as if he was a robot who was programmed to blow up."

Mr. Neuman, who was unarmed, said he and the doctor finally let go of the bomber when they began to fear for their lives because the bomber, who was initially passive, began struggling.

"We made the decision together to let go of the arms, and to flee together," Mr. Neuman said.

The bomber ran toward a group of people at the bus stop and then detonated his explosives, killing himself as well as the elderly woman.

It was the first successful suicide attack since Sept. 19. On Wednesday, Israeli troops killed another suicide bomber as he was trying to enter Israel from the West Bank. Israeli officials said they knew of at least 50 potential attacks about to occur and said they had captured other would-be attackers in recent weeks.

"I'm no hero," said Mr. Neuman. "I didn't have time to feel scared. I didn't have time to think about anything. I was just doing my job."

Tel Aviv police chief Yossi Sedboim said the courage of Mr. Neuman and his passenger had averted a major tragedy. "Their swift action prevented the terrorist from entering the bus and causing many deaths," said Chief Sedboim.

He said the bomb contained five kilograms of explosives and was packed with metal ball-bearings designed to kill and maim.

The Palestinian Authority issued a blanket condemnation of "all acts of violence against civilians," but blamed Israel for the incident.

"The Israelis are responsible for every single act of violence in the region," said Nabil Abu Rudeineh, official spokesman for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

The suicide attack followed a night of violence in the West Bank and Gaza where the Israeli army staged a series of raids against **Hamas** militants.

In the Gaza Strip, two Palestinian boys were shot dead by Israeli troops as tanks backed by helicopter gunships invaded Rafah refugee camp for the second day running. Israeli officials said they unearthed and destroyed two tunnels used to smuggle arms across the border from Egypt.

The West Bank town of Hebron was placed under curfew after Palestinian gunmen opened fire on Israeli settlers. And, in the early hours of yesterday morning, Israeli troops carried out a series of arrests in towns and villages all over the West Bank, taking more than 80 terrorist suspects into custody.

The Gaza Strip is still seething with anger over an Israeli raid into Khan Younis on Monday in which 17 Palestinians were killed, including **women** and children, by an Israeli missile.

**Hamas** leaders promised to avenge the Palestinian deaths.

"As long as there is aggression and occupation, we will continue our operations against the murderers everywhere," said **Hamas** leader Abdul Aziz Rantissi.

## Graphic

---



'We held him ... just us, him and God, as everyone fled': Israeli bus driver helps pin bomber to let passengers escape blast

Photo: Ofer Vaknin, Reuters; Israeli bus driver Baruch Neuman was hailed as a hero after helping delay a suicide bomber from detonating his bomb, allowing dozens of people to flee. One person was killed when the bomber eventually blew himself up.

**Load-Date:** October 11, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Assad told to cut links with terror: Israeli fury at Syrian leader's visit*

The Guardian (London)

December 16, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 10

**Length:** 491 words

**Byline:** Ewen MacAskill and Michael White

### **Body**

---

Tony Blair will press the Syrian president, Bashar al-Assad, today to close down the offices in Damascus of three of the most feared Islamist militant groups in the Middle East.

He will tell Mr Assad, who is almost certain to reject the request, that cutting links with Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Hizbullah will be a significant contribution to reviving an Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

A British-sponsored effort earlier this year to secure an end to Palestinian suicide bombings was scuppered when the Hamas headquarters in Damascus overruled the Hamas leadership in Gaza and the West Bank.

A senior Foreign Office source said Mr Assad's visit was an opportunity to "put across home truths in a way that the president could stand and that would be in private rather than in public".

Mr Assad's four-day visit, the first by a Syrian leader to Britain, is controversial. The Israeli government, while maintaining publicly that Britain has a right to invite whoever it chooses, will seek to embarrass Mr Blair.

Jewish lobby groups are planning to demonstrate outside Downing Street today. The Israeli government is particularly incensed at the red-carpet treatment, which includes a meeting with the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

The Israeli government has organised a simultaneous visit to Britain by Ori Tenenboim, whose father, Elchanan, was kidnapped two years ago during a business trip to Europe by, Israel claims, Hizbullah.

When Mr Blair met the Syrian leader in Damascus last year, Mr Assad embarrassed the prime minister at a joint press conference with his trenchant views on Israel. Syria is unapologetic about its support for the Palestinian groups and the Lebanese-based Hizbullah and regards suicide bombings as a legitimate tactic of resistance against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

A Downing Street official said yesterday of Mr Assad's visit: "It is important that we have a dialogue that is honest and candid . . . we are very concerned about terrorist groups operating out of Syria."

No 10 said Britain would do whatever it could to help Mr Assad make progress on his domestic reform agenda, though Mr Blair will insist that more changes are still needed.

British officials are playing up the modest reforms which have occurred under the young British-educated president since he succeeded his bloody and autocratic father two years ago, citing the amnesty for political prisoners, a

Assad told to cut links with terror: Israeli fury at Syrian leader's visit

loosening of restrictions on the press, modest improvements to women's rights and reforms of Syria's previously closed economy.

The British approach to Syria contrasts with that taken towards Iraq, even though Syria has a chemical and biological weapons programme and, unlike Iraq, supports groups listed by Britain and the US as terrorists.

The Foreign Office source, denying double standards, said: "There is no single template for how we treat countries of proliferation concern. Each must be treated as its behaviour merits."

**Load-Date:** December 16, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Mideast diplomats fail to halt Israeli-Palestinian violence*

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

January 13, 2003 Monday Final Edition

Copyright 2003 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. C03; News

**Length:** 513 words

**Byline:** Dexter Filkins

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

Nine Palestinians and two Israelis were killed yesterday as diplomatic efforts to stop the violence stalled.

The bloodshed unfolded against the backdrop of an Israeli election, pitting Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, a hard-line former general, against his Labour challenger, Amram Mitzna.

The violence began shortly after midnight and continued all day. Two Palestinians and an Israeli soldier were killed in a gunfight that broke out when Israelis spotted a group of militants they said were entering Israel from Egypt near the border town of Nitzana.

New York Times News Service

It was a rare departure from the quiet that prevails on the border between the two countries.

In another incident, a pair of Palestinian gunmen slipped into the Israeli farm town of Mojav Gadish, near the boundary with the West Bank, and killed an Israeli there. After a gun battle the two militants were killed by Israeli troops.

Palestinian sources said two teens were killed in an Israeli missile strike against a car thought to contain a group of fighters for **Hamas**, the militant group. The missiles missed the **Hamas** fighters but killed two civilians nearby. Israeli officials acknowledged the missile missed its target, but said they could not confirm any casualties.

At least two Palestinians were killed during Israeli operations in Gaza in the morning. In the first, Israeli tanks and helicopters entered the town of Khan Younis where they dynamited and bulldozed several buildings where Israeli officials said Palestinian militants had been making bombs. Local residents said the buildings had been used to fabricate metal.

Palestinian sources said a gun battle broke out when the Israeli troops killed a member of the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a group that has carried out several major attacks against Israelis. At least 23 others were wounded, Palestinian sources said, among them **women** and children.

In the Gaza city of Beit Hanun, Israeli forces said they destroyed the home of Mohammed Al Masri, a fighter for Islamic Jihad killed while attacking an Israeli ship in November. A Palestinian militant, Mohammed Nasar, was killed yesterday, Palestinian sources said.

## Mideast diplomats fail to halt Israeli - Palestinian violence

Three rockets fired from Gaza landed near a school in the southern Israeli town of Sderot, injuring two people. **Hamas** claimed responsibility, saying it was done in retaliation for the Israeli incursions.

In Hebron, Israeli officials said a Palestinian gunman was killed after he opened fire on a fuel tanker guarded by a civilian. The guard returned fire after the gunman fired first, Israeli officials said. Palestinian sources said the man was an unarmed civilian.

Efforts at diplomacy sputtered as well. Sharon met with British ambassador Sherard Cowper Coles but refused to relent and let a Palestinian delegation travel to London for a conference to encourage change in the Palestinian leadership.

Sharon denounced a call by Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, for Palestinians to refrain from attacks on Israeli civilians. Sharon accused Arafat of trying to swing the outcome of the Israeli elections to his challenger, Mitzna.

**Load-Date:** January 13, 2003

---

End of Document

## 16 hurt as Palestinian gunman opens fire

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia)

January 24, 2002, Thursday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 31

**Length:** 472 words

### **Body**

---

JERUSALEM: A Palestinian with an assault rifle sprayed bullets at a bus and crowds on a busy Jerusalem street yesterday, wounding at least 16 people, six seriously, police said.

In minutes, a plain-clothes police officer shot and killed the gunman.

Shortly after the attack, a news bulletin on the al Manar television station, run by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah organisation in Lebanon, said the gunman was a member of the al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades.

MATP

The brigades are an armed militia closely linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

An al Aqsa leader died in a bomb explosion last week in the West Bank city of Tulkaram, and Palestinians blame Israel for assassinating him.

The latest bloodletting in the escalating tit-for-tat violence in the Middle East came several hours after Israeli soldiers and tanks thrust deeply into the West Bank to destroy what they claimed was a bomb laboratory in Nablus. They killed four members of the radical Islamic group Hamas, sparking a demonstration in the city.

Hamas, an acronym for the Islamic Resistance Movement, vowed "all-out war" against Israel.

And in a worrying sign of growing unity among secular and Islamic militants, the al Aqsa group also cited the deaths of the Hamas members in claiming responsibility for the latest Jerusalem attack.

"We are at war," said Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert. "Not in some far-off battlefield, but at home."

As the region girded for more bloodshed, an Israeli legislator told Prime Minister Ariel Sharon it was "high time" to re-occupy briefly all of the Palestinian-held territories in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and wipe out Israel's opponents. The army intelligence chief told the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament, that he expected Palestinians to launch bigger attacks on Israeli cities.

The violence has overwhelmed US efforts to revive negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, and is complicating efforts to combat Islamic terrorists in Afghanistan and elsewhere in the Muslim world.

The attack came about 1.10pm yesterday Sydney time (4.10pm Tuesday local time) as pedestrians clustered under store awnings to stay out of the rain or waited at a bus stop.

## 16 hurt as Palestinian gunman opens fire

A Palestinian in a jacket and a knitted cap pulled out an automatic rifle in Jaffa Rd in downtown Jerusalem and loosed bursts of gunfire, witnesses and police said.

The gunman "shot at the bus stop. There were 30 or 40 people there at least," said Yossi Cohen, a passerby. "People were gathered together at the stop. So [he] had an easy target."

"He shot at two or three women, who were sitting there," said Avi Malkhan, another witness. "Then he turned round and started shooting again."

The gunman, who was later identified as Said Ibrahim Ramadan, 24, a Palestinian from a village near Nablus, turned his weapon on a nearby bus filled with passengers.

**Load-Date:** January 23, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Palestinians warned: you cannot win war*

The Australian

August 8, 2002, Thursday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 8

**Length:** 286 words

### **Body**

---

WARSAW: The last surviving commander of the 1943 Warsaw Jewish ghetto uprising has called on Palestinian militants to stop their war against Israel, arguing that history shows they are doomed to fail and will only bring unnecessary bloodshed.

"I was shaken by the bombing at the Hebrew University," Marek Edelman said from his home in Lodz, Poland.  
AP

"It was the only place where Jews and Arabs could still meet and now even that link has been destroyed. It's tragic."

In a letter addressed to Palestinian leaders and fighters, Mr Edelman recalled the struggle on April 19, 1943, when about 200 "poorly armed boys and girls" fought back when Nazi troops began to liquidate the ghetto.

The uprising was crushed after three months and most of the remaining 60,000 people were killed.

"We fought with hopeless determination, but we never targeted defenceless civilians, never killed women and children," Mr Edelman said in the letter, which he delivered this week to Palestinian and Israeli representatives in Warsaw.

"You and the state of Israel must radically change attitudes. You must want peace ... attainable only by bilateral concessions.

"Urban guerilla warfare has never been successful anywhere in the world, nor have well-armed troops managed to defeat it.

"This war won't bring any solution either, only unnecessary bloodshed."

The militant group Hamas claimed responsibility for last week's cafeteria blast at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, a popular gathering spot for Jewish, Arab and foreign students.

Seven people were killed, including five Americans.

Hamas called it revenge for an Israeli attack in Gaza that killed Salah Shehade, leader of its military wing, and 14 others, including nine children.

**Load-Date:** August 7, 2002



Palestinians warned: you cannot win war

---

End of Document

## *Al-Aqsa Brigades fight for mainstream*

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

March 19, 2002 Tuesday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** News; Pg. B1 / BREAK

**Length:** 841 words

**Byline:** LARRY KAPLOW

**Dateline:** BETHLEHEM, West Bank

### **Body**

---

Abdullah Abu Hadid's CIA-trained bodyguards once provided security for the visit of Bill Clinton, when he was U.S. president. Now, they are assigned by the Palestinian Authority to protect a man hunted by Israel, but greeted as a hero on the streets of this town.

Abu Hadid, 31, is a local leader for the Bethlehem Al-1Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, now firmly established as the most important force fighting Israel.

They have staged brash attacks on soldiers and Jewish settlers in Israeli-occupied areas of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Lately, their bombings have killed women and children inside Israel itself.

Cox News Service

A loose alliance of militias, the brigades have emerged in 18 months of conflict with Israel as the fighters for the Palestinian mainstream.

They are largely secular, rather than fundamentalist like the militant Hamas. They comprise university students, labourers, longtime activists and thieves-turned-nationalists who joined the fight as Palestinians in general have become embittered by Israeli attacks.

They are seamlessly wrapped within Fatah, the dominant political faction headed by Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat.

They are reportedly being considered for the U.S. State Department's list of terrorist organizations. But, when Abu Hadid walks through Bethlehem's narrow stone streets, barbers, restaurant owners and souvenir sellers step out to shake his hand and offer coffee.

Last weekend, sipping tea with a few of his men, Abu Hadid said he wanted his Bethlehem fighters to provide a "lull" in the fighting for the visit of U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni.

"During negotiations, we call on our fighters not to shoot. We are giving them a chance. We are happy to do that," said Abu Hadid, relaxing in a sparse sitting room and taking occasional calls on his handheld radio.

"If Israel attacks us, I'll tell the others to go and fight, and everybody will know where to go and what to do."

But a member of Al-Aqsa in the Gaza Strip was stopped yesterday, apparently on his way to bomb an Israeli settlement. More than 1,200 people have died in the latest round of fighting, more than two-thirds of them

## Al-Aqsa Brigades fight for mainstream

Palestinians. Palestinians say they are fighting, among other reasons, to drive Israeli troops and settlers from areas captured in 1967.

While violent resistance to Israel has been spearheaded in recent years by Islamist groups such as **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad, the brigades' attacks have surpassed them in frequency, precision and lethality.

They are the largest militia facing Israel, with more than a thousand fighters by Israeli estimates. An Israeli security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, called the brigades the "key" to the conflict.

Israeli officials say they can connect 57 Israeli deaths this year to the brigades, compared to 27 by **Hamas**.

Analysts say they represent the grassroots new guard of Palestinian leadership, waiting to assume power from Arafat and his peers. That older generation spent decades in exile and is often seen as out of touch.

Israelis say Arafat controls the brigades, but acknowledge that his influence wanes at times depending on popular sentiment. Abu Hadid says Arafat never orders attacks, but that the group would follow his orders for a ceasefire, since it follows the political line of Arafat's Fatah.

"It is the armed wing of Fatah," Abu Hadid explained, noting that, also unlike **Hamas** leaders, he once supported the Fatah-backed Oslo peace process.

He is slightly stocky with thinning black hair and a limp from wounds accrued in his years of fighting Israel, which included seven years in jail. He has a thick mustache but no beard, more reminiscent of the revolutionary Palestinian fighters of the 1970s than the Islamic fundamentalist militants of the 1990s.

In recent weeks, the brigades have claimed attacks that destroyed two Merkava tanks in the Gaza Strip. In the West Bank, an area captured by Israel in the 1967 war, brigades gunmen killed 16 Israeli troops at two checkpoints.

The group has long targeted settlers in Israeli-occupied areas and recently targeted civilians within Israel's boundaries. Abu Hadid said the Bethlehem brigade sent a suicide bomber who killed 11 Israelis, including an 18-month old baby girl, March 2 in an ultra-religious Jewish neighbourhood of Jerusalem.

Abu Hadid said the attack was in response to stepped-up attacks by Israeli forces on civilian Palestinian areas.

"They hit our civilians, so we hit their civilians," he said.

But unlike **Hamas** leaders, who view attacks on civilians with absolutist fervor, Abu Hadid says it is a tactic his group is reassessing.

"I am against killing civilians, and killing civilians is a red line we should not cross. Especially **women** and children," he said as he watched one of his guards playfully wrestle with a small boy in the house.

"What does (Israeli Prime Minister Ariel) Sharon expect when he sends tanks into the camps? The Palestinians have no other choice than to transfer the battle inside Israel," he said.

## Graphic

---

Photo: CHARLES DHARAPAK, AP; A Palestinian boy lies yesterday by the tent where his family lives after their home was bulldozed by Israeli troops in the village of Mograka, Gaza Strip. Palestinian homes on the road leading to the Jewish settlement of Netzarim were bulldozed last week after the destruction of two Israeli Merkava-3 tanks by explosives planted by Palestinian militants. The Al-Aqsa Brigades claimed responsibility for the destruction of the tanks.

## Al-Aqsa Brigades fight for mainstream

**Load-Date:** March 19, 2002

---

End of Document

## *The Most Wanted Palestinian*

The New York Times  
June 30, 2002 Sunday  
Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2002 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section 6; Column 1; Magazine Desk; Pg. 27

**Length:** 7733 words

**Byline:** By Elizabeth Rubin; Elizabeth Rubin writes frequently on the Mideast.

### **Body**

---

In the early morning of April 5, in the West Bank town of Tubas, an elderly man was milking his goats in his olive grove when he heard the whining of an unmanned drone in the sky. He looked up and saw Israeli special forces emerging from behind some trees on the nearby hillside and from cars with Palestinian plates to surround a small stone house that belonged to his son. "Jaish, jaish" ("army, army"), he shouted to his son, and told him to send his wife and daughter down the slope. He did not suggest that his son, Munqas Sawafta, try to escape. Sawafta had given refuge the day before to five Palestinian fighters, in the midst of Israel's Operation Defensive Shield.

"Would it have been acceptable for the host to run away and leave behind his guests?" asked the father, in his red kaffiyeh, leaning on his cane. "It was better he die with dignity than be killed as a collaborator." Someone had obviously tipped off the Israelis that the men were hiding in the house and that among them was Qeis Adwan, a 25-year-old **Hamas** activist, inventive bomb maker, mastermind of several devastating suicide-bomb attacks and charismatic political leader who had risen to the top of Israel's most-wanted list the previous summer. He had already escaped several attempts to capture or kill him.

The Israelis shouted an order to surrender. Sawafta came out the front door while one of the Palestinian fighters slipped out the back, skidding down toward the olive trees, firing his rifle. Both were shot dead. Tanks, helicopters and troops besieged the house. Around midafternoon, after hours of trading gunfire, the Israelis dispatched a neighbor with a white flag, to see if anyone in the house had survived the onslaught. In fact, Qeis Adwan and the three other fighters were still alive and armed. The neighbor told them they had two choices -- surrender or be martyred. The discussion was brief; they'd never surrender.

As an Israeli D-9 armored bulldozer ripped off the front of the house, one of the men had time to scrawl a message in blood on the bedroom wall above a white bed frame: "Allah-u-Akhbar, Abu Hamza Said, Tulkarm" ("God is great," his name and hometown). By dusk the four men were dead. Adwan was the last to die, shot in the head at close range. The next day, the military wing of **Hamas**, the Iz al-Din Al Qassam Brigades, issued a statement vowing horrific revenge: "It will be a new kind of punishment this time, of an unaccustomed type that will shake their entity and destroy its pillars."

By now, Israeli assassination operations against Palestinians have become as routine as Palestinian suicide bombings. Every terrorist act prompts an Israeli military response or what the Israelis call a "targeted killing," which in turn elicits a murderous Palestinian retaliation -- particularly when the target is a leader of an armed wing like Al Qassam Brigades of **Hamas**; Al Aksa Martyrs Brigades of Fatah, Arafat's nationalist party; Islamic Jihad; or the

## The Most Wanted Palestinian

Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The cycle has been spiraling unabated, with minor truces, for more than eight years, since Hamas launched its first suicide-bombing missions to avenge a massacre by an Israeli settler, Baruch Goldstein. And it shows no signs of abating: in just the week before this article went to press, Jerusalem suffered two suicide attacks in which 26 were killed and retaliated by killing 2 militants, seizing Palestinian lands and sweeping up thousands of Palestinians.

Most Israelis had never heard of Qeis Adwan (pronounced kice ODD-wahn) until he was killed and the newspapers reported his rap sheet: how he masterminded the suicide attacks at the Matza restaurant in Haifa on March 31, two days after the start of Operation Defensive Shield; at a Sbarro restaurant in Jerusalem last August; and on a crowded railway platform in the coastal town of Nahariya the following month. Altogether, 31 Israelis died in the bombings, and scores more were wounded. To Shin Bet, the Israeli internal security service, Adwan had become one of the most dangerous Palestinian militants, threatening enough to merit a carefully calculated -- and expensive -- assassination plot, right in the middle of the army's first emergency call to war since the invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

One morning a few weeks after Adwan's death, I met with a Shin Bet officer in Tel Aviv to find out why Adwan was considered to be so dangerous. "He had three outstanding characteristics which were catastrophic from our point of view," the officer said: his ability to manufacture ever more potent bombs, his logistical imagination in the plotting and execution of the attacks and his leadership potential.

Adwan had emerged as the most popular and inspiring leader of the student union at An Najah National University in Nablus, which is, with 13,000 students, the largest in the West Bank. But he was also a longtime member of Hamas, the virulently anti-Israeli Islamic group. So when the second intifada began, in September 2000, he moved quickly into a more militant role, assuming command responsibility in the northern military wing of Hamas.

He not only recruited and dispatched suicide bombers but led attacks against Israeli military positions. He also pushed to improve the Palestinians' crude and so far ineffective Qassam rocket, a homemade weapon with a range of about five miles. He coordinated military attacks and financial matters for Hamas in the West Bank and Gaza (physical travel between the two is impossible for most Palestinians) and talked with affiliates in other countries. "He's one of the few who were in touch with Hamas headquarters in Jordan and Syria," the Shin Bet officer said.

On March 31, two days after Israeli tanks rolled into Ramallah, Adwan produced his deadliest bomb yet and sent it off in an explosives belt with a young man from a village not far from his own. The bomber detonated himself in the Arab-run Matza restaurant, killing 15 and wounding more than 40. Among the dead -- many of whose bodies were disfigured beyond recognition by fire and shrapnel packed inside the bomb -- were several Israeli Arabs.

Listening to the Shin Bet officer's descriptions of Qeis Adwan's Haifa bombing -- "an outstanding operation," "he learns from his mistakes," "he pulled off a difficult one, a first for Hamas" -- I had the feeling that he almost admired his adversary in a professional way. But if he did, the feeling was tempered by moral revulsion.

"I've been in this business for 20 years," the officer said, "and I've never encountered such a vicious and cruel terrorist as Qeis Adwan."

It was an astonishing claim regarding such a young man barely out of college, given the long list of his predecessors -- among them, Yahya Ayyash, the prototype of the Hamas "engineer" (typically a bomb maker with an engineering degree) and originator of Hamas's suicide bombers.

The Shin Bet officer shook his head. Ayyash had a family, he said, but Adwan had no personal life whatsoever -- no wife, no interest in his family. He was, he said, a "terror machine."

Cross the Green Line into the West Bank, and not surprisingly, you find an entirely different portrait of Qeis Adwan. "Kind," "simple," "flexible," "polite," "diligent," "beloved." When I met his mother a few weeks after his death, she said, "He never carried a gun." She was a tall, formidable woman, dressed in black with a white hijab tight around her face. Her eyes shone with pride in Qeis as she showed me a photograph of him crouching next to a snowman. "He was an angel in a human body," she said. "When he was young, he didn't even like to see insects die."

## The Most Wanted Palestinian

One of Qeis's brothers, Nassar, a skinny 22-year-old studying civil engineering, told me he was taking an exam last summer when a friend passed him a newspaper with Qeis's name printed in a list of those most wanted by the Israelis. He raced home from Nablus. "I opened the door, and Qeis looked at me and knew I knew, and that I wanted a reaction. He said: 'What they're saying is totally untrue. Is it possible I could be responsible for all this?'"

"All of us knew it was the death sentence for Qeis," Nassar continued. "In the past, if Israel suspected you, they arrested you. But in this intifada they send you a rocket."

The Adwans all agreed -- Qeis was enough politics for one family. Nassar stays out of the limelight at college. Ahmad, Qeis's oldest brother, who sacrificed his dream of attending college to help finance Qeis's studies, is engaged to be married.

The family now lives in a modern, airy apartment that Qeis insisted they move into after his graduation. (It was not clear who financed the move, or how.) Until then, Qeis, his four brothers, parents and grandparents had shared one stone room in a crammed alleyway in the old quarter of Jenin, just a five-minute walk from the new place. The domed room is bare and dusty now, except for one relic from Qeis's student days -- an ornate architectural model for a fine arts building at An Najah University. White and blue and gold, the model sits shining in relief, as if it might offer some clue to Qeis's life, like the golden-hued watercolor he painted for his architecture professor.

The watercolor depicts the corner of an old stone house, with a shuttered window and curved stone steps leading to a door shaded in an archway. "He was so committed to academics and politics," his professor said, fingering the sketch, "I can't imagine what changed him -- if it's true." Shin Bet would say that nothing changed him, that he was Hamas and that Hamas is terror. But what forces had converged, I wondered, to transform a promising young architect and student leader into the commander of a regiment of suicide bombers?

Qeis Adwan Abu Jabal (Abu Jabal means "father of the mountain" and is his family name) was 10 in 1987, when the first intifada exploded throughout Gaza and the West Bank. Streets in his old neighborhood -- the stronghold of the resistance in Jenin during that time -- bear names like Al Mujahedeen, Al Intifada and Yahya Ayyash. Growing up, he saw constant confrontations between the Israeli Army and young stone-throwing Palestinians. He watched the army storm the homes of his neighbors and relatives. His aunt recalled him watching his uncle, who was 16 at the time, getting beaten by Israeli soldiers. His uncle never recovered his mental faculties, she said.

When Qeis wasn't in school, he spent hours at the mosque with his grandfather, a devout man from Siris, a village in the valley between Nablus and Jenin, where the family still has olive orchards. By 12 or 13, one of his friends said, Qeis was a Hamas child, hanging up the group's green flags, pasting up martyrs' posters and throwing stones at the soldiers in the municipal park.

Later, he was one of the top students at his high school. He memorized large sections of the Koran and followed, like every Hamas child, the group's motto: "Allah is its goal, the prophet is its model, the Koran is its constitution, jihad is its path and death for the sake of Allah is its most coveted desire." In his last year in high school, he landed in an Israeli prison for 40 days, family members said, on suspicion of belonging to Hamas. (The Shin Bet officer insisted that it was only eight days.)

The next year, his parents mustered the money for him to study architectural engineering. Soon after, he lost one of his closest friends and a fellow Hamas activist, Tariq Mansour, who was shot dead in uncertain circumstances at an Israeli checkpoint. And in his second semester, he was hauled off again to prison, this time for six months and by the Palestinian Authority, which had been pressured by Israel to round up Islamic militants after a spate of suicide attacks. While there, as his friend and the current student leader of An Najah University, Ala'a Hmeidani, put it, he gained "the ability to sustain pain like a sponge."

In prison, Qeis forged one of his most important relationships, with Sheikh Jamal Abu al-Haija, a Hamas leader in the Jenin refugee camp. As a child, Qeis listened to his preachings, but it was in prison that their bond was sealed. He became Qeis's spiritual mentor. Qeis gave lessons to Jamal's young children on visiting days. Jamal was the caretaker of the prison's other political detainees. Qeis was his deputy, leading hunger strikes and attending to prisoners' problems.

## The Most Wanted Palestinian

Qeis was on affable terms with everyone, even his jailers, said a cousin and a Fatah officer from his ancestral village. But he was enraged that the Palestinian authorities were detaining political activists without trial. This was not the free Palestine he had imagined since childhood. The experience intensified both his determination to resist and his belief that "Islam is the solution" -- a Hamas slogan. Sacrifice, in whatever form, became the essence of his ideology. A fellow prisoner recalled him reiterating the word like a mantra in every context: "He said, 'My only concern now is how I can sacrifice myself to stop the oppression in our homeland.'"

At An Najah University he found a way. Spread out under the rocky mountains of Nablus, the university is not only the largest but also the most radical in the West Bank. In the annual student elections -- pitting candidates from student affiliates of all the major Palestinian parties -- the Islamic bloc has won by increasing margins every year since 1995. It's not hard to see why. The Islamic parties are not considered to be corrupt. They don't work for the Palestinian Authority intelligence services, as do many in Arafat's Fatah party. And they have a highly efficient recruitment apparatus. Any time the P.A. rounds up Hamas student activists or the Israelis assassinate a suspected militant (as they did 15 in Nablus in 2001), the Islamic bloc wins more members.

Hamas calls An Najah University "the nest of the Qassami Brigades," the group's military wing, and boasts that the university has produced 11 suicide bombers for the intifada. The day I arrived in mid-May, two Hamas leaders opened an exhibition on the Israeli occupation, and local journalists were being barred from entering the campus. The administration was eager to avoid a repeat of the scandal last September, when Hamas unveiled an exhibit on the bombing of the Sbarro pizza restaurant in Jerusalem. That attack, which took place at lunch hour at the intersection of Jaffa and King George Streets -- the equivalent of Times Square -- was planned and executed seemingly with malevolent care to produce the maximum carnage. Packed with nails, the bomb killed 15 people, including 6 children, and wounded 130 more.

The Sbarro exhibit was a room-size installation with broken tables splattered with fake blood and body parts, a mannequin of the bomber with a Koran and a rifle and a slogan referring to Hamas's military wing: "Qassami Pizza is more delicious." After a report on Israeli television, the university president's office was bombarded with outraged faxes from around the world. Yasir Arafat promptly had the exhibit shut down.

Qeis was on the political scene from his first days in the engineering department in 1996. By his junior year, he was so popular that the Palestinian Authority sparked a revolt by detaining him and another student leader just days before the campus elections. Students boycotted classes and went on hunger strikes. Even the Fatah youth candidates railed at the P.A. for corrupting their image -- for making it look as if they had conspired to sabotage Qeis. After three days, the P.A. released the two, and the Islamic bloc won.

As the leader of the student union, Qeis advocated "Islam as a solution," not just to fight Israel but to change Palestinian society. He led demonstrations against the Palestinian Authority's crackdowns on Islamic activists. He visited students in prison and registered them for classes. At this stage, his friends claimed, Qeis often said that as long as the P.A. considered jihad illegal, "we will delay until a suitable time and focus our priorities elsewhere." He closely followed the teachings of Hasan al-Banna, an imam who founded the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt in 1928 and was assassinated in 1949. "Build the state of Islam in your hearts," al-Banna once said in a passage that is often quoted, "so this will lead to the Islamic state on your land." When the student council chose Qeis as its leader, he accepted in divine terms. "I am mandated by God to help the students," he once wrote.

Everywhere I went on the campus, I heard stories of Qeis's efforts to solve students' problems. "He found my sister housing and lowered her tuition fees," a local journalist said. He created a Web site for the student council to connect with students elsewhere in the West Bank and in Gaza. He was the poor students' advocate, collecting funds from rich families to give to the poor, finding them cheap housing, appealing to the administration to lower or waive their fees. He opened a used-book store on campus.

Students of every political persuasion sought him out for help with their psychological, financial and academic problems. They affectionately called him Abu (father) Tariq, a name he once gave himself in memory of his high-school friend killed by Israelis. In the courtyard, he erected a clock tower in the shape of pre-1948 Palestine, to



## The Most Wanted Palestinian

remind students that "we own all of Palestine," said a classmate. It is now called Qeis's or Abu Tariq's Tower. And he brought to the campus the muezzin's call to prayer five times a day.

Tensions between the Islamic parties and Fatah were often explosive in Nablus. And yet, his professors said, Qeis always tried to unify the factions and mollify the Palestinian Authority. He was not a fanatic, they insist, but a pragmatist. "And he was funny," Ala'a Hmeidan said. "This opened all doors for him."

"He would have been a great political leader in our history," his mother told me. And that is precisely what had so worried the Shin Bet officer. It was the combination of his engineering and strategic and political talents, the officer said, that "made him lethal."

But history and politics intervened in Qeis's destiny. In July 2000, the Camp David summit meeting convened and quickly unraveled, with each side accusing the other of intransigence. Qeis led a campus protest, shouting: "From Camp David 1979 to Camp David 2000 is all a path of compromises. Our Palestine is from the river to the sea, and we will not give up a grain of soil."

As his brother Ahmad said: "Of course he didn't approve of the peace process. We didn't regain a lot of our lands. The lands handed to the Palestinians weren't contiguous. As a Palestinian and Muslim, he argued, he couldn't get to Al Aksa Mosque even once in his life." While the mosque is on the Temple Mount in East Jerusalem, and under nominal Palestinian control, Israeli travel restrictions prevent Palestinians outside Jerusalem from getting to the city. In fact, Qeis never made it out of the Nablus-Jenin area.

And then on Sept. 29, 2000, Ariel Sharon, who would soon be Israel's prime minister, went to the Temple Mount in a move that enraged the Palestinians. At a campus protest two days later, Qeis shouted, "Let Sharon know that all of us will be time bombs which will explode one day defending Al Aksa Mosque." And he led the students out of the university gates, through the city and toward an army checkpoint.

There, suddenly, the whole game changed. Time magazine published a collection of intifada diary entries at the time. One, by Qeis, reflected on that day:

"I was under a special premonition of fear and portent. After dawn, I started reading the Koran. The sun's rays were weaving a special dress of martyrdom. The sun told us, 'You have a date with martyrdom.' My heart was brimful with a special feeling. Large numbers of students gathered in the courtyard. We started shouting, 'God is most great!' I asked the students to wash their faces and hands before prayers. I looked at the faces of the youths, thinking that a serious incident would occur.

"It was the biggest march I have ever seen at An Najah University. We walked for five or six kilometers. Hundreds of the marchers rushed to the front line to clash with the soldiers. I could not forget these moments. The shooting from the Israeli soldiers was intense. It was like a battlefield. Our faith is our weapon against the soldiers, the occupiers. Two youths standing next to me were wounded. The number of casualties was large beyond expectation.

"I was told that my roommate, Zakariya Kilani, 21, was among the martyrs. He was with me for two years. He was my brother and my friend. He was my body. I could not believe that Zakariya died. I lost my dearest friend. This is the decree of God. He told me at the mosque that he wanted to die as a martyr. Heaven has opened its gates for martyrs. Honestly, though, I was shocked when Zakariya fell a martyr."

With the violence spreading to every Palestinian city, Israel gambled that a swift military response would crush the uprising. Within five days, 42 Palestinians were dead and about 1,300 wounded. Three Israelis were killed. Qeis was delighted that the confrontation had finally arrived. Until then, he had obeyed the Palestinian Authority's ban on jihad. Now, with Fatah in the fray, everything was fair game. "He said this is the true nature of our relations with Israel until the occupation ends," one friend told me.

Another, Muhammad Hambali, said: "Qeis began to rethink everything. 'We're giving all these martyrs by means of stones and marchers,' he said. 'We're losers with these methods.' And so he began to develop the new method." In

## The Most Wanted Palestinian

retrospect, it looks as if Qeis's life had been one long germination process for the second intifada. He had come of age with Hamas, which was founded in 1987, and in joining Al Qassam Brigades he took the final step to jihad.

Sometime in the fall of 2000, the "engineers" of Nablus, the West Bank headquarters of Al Qassam, began educating Qeis in the arts of bomb-making. That December, the first Hamas suicide bomber from An Najah University blew himself up at a roadside cafe packed with soldiers. Days later, Hamed Abu Hejli, a friend of Qeis's on the student council, blew himself up at a bus stop in Netanya. "It's marvelous," Qeis remarked at ceremonies for the two bombers, "that man sacrifices himself so as to enable his nation to live."

In May 2001, shortly before his graduation, Qeis noticed a white Subaru pull up outside his building. Three men dressed like Palestinians but looking suspiciously like Israeli special forces stepped out. When one aimed a pistol at Qeis, who was standing in the window, he shouted to the students in the street and ducked under the table. The men jumped back into the Subaru and sped away. After that, said Qeis's friend Muhammad Hambali, Qeis was constantly on the move, and his friends rarely saw him anymore.

Before I left An Najah University, I took a tour of the Hamas exhibition of the Israeli occupation. I was curious to see what the university officials had wanted to hide from the local press. A dropcloth painted like the facade of a gray house with blood dripping down the stones was draped over the building. The exhibition began in a room haunted by taped screams and lined with photographs of the invasion of Nablus, as well as a shot of a house collapsed atop a ponytailed girl. The next gallery reproduced a military internment camp, with photographs of imprisoned students behind fake jail bars. Just ahead of me, dozens of students squeezed through a dark, narrow tunnel and covered their mouths to hide their laughter as they filed past a live model of a militant in fatigues, lying motionless in a sniper's position, defending the Jenin refugee camp. Rockets made from plastic bottles, painted in gold with the words "Made in America," penetrated a stone wall.

A warning sign was tacked over the door to the next room: "If you have a weak heart or troubles, take care when entering this room." There you were greeted by photographs of Palestinian babies torn apart, of bodies charred and chewed up by shrapnel. Next was a scene from paradise -- a photograph of Qeis in military fatigues atop a painted mountain, with an elegy to him as he joins his Hamas comrades.

What followed was an homage to Qeis: his graduation project, which was a large model of a tree-lined bus terminal and shopping center planned for downtown Jenin, and photographs of him accepting the student leadership, speaking at a rally and honoring the best students. On display behind black curtains and a low black scrim were the highlights of his career in Al Qassam -- models of the Sbarro restaurant, the Matza restaurant, posters of the suicide bombers involved in each and a poster with Qeis in the middle flanked by Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the founder and leader of Hamas, and Osama bin Laden.

At the end, there was a decree: "After we studied and saw the number of Zionists killed, and in accordance with the rules of Jihad, we decided to grant Qeis Adwan Abu Jabal, born in Jenin, a degree of excellence in martyrism from Yahya Ayyash College with all the rights of this degree." It was signed "Iz al-Din Al Qassam Brigades."

The exhibit wrapped up in paradise: birds singing amid bouquets of flowers; a sweet aroma of perfume; a life-size dummy of Qeis in a shroud, the jacket he died in draped over it; and a photograph of Qeis and Zakariya Kilani smiling, relaxed, before the intifada.

Later, I met up with a student of marketing and advertising called Ali, and his art professor, who said they felt it was time for the silent dissenters -- "And we're not a small faction," Ali said -- to speak out against the suicide bombings. "In the past, people thought we should leave the extremists alone," the art professor said. "Now it has changed. We should stop them because they are hurting us." Then he glanced over his shoulders. "I want to shout it, but sometimes I am afraid."

In mid-May, hoping to fill in the remaining mystery of Qeis's life -- the military side -- I paid a visit to his old friend and mentor Sheikh Jamal Abu al-Haija in the Jenin refugee camp. A glossy scorecard of past suicide operations was being passed around the camp, and the guys from Hamas were angry. How could they be last on the list, after Islamic Jihad and Al Aksa Martyrs, especially since their attacks were usually the deadliest?

## The Most Wanted Palestinian

In the exposed third floor of one house, where the facade had been stripped off by an Israeli bulldozer, a poster of Saddam Hussein balanced on a chair. A local journalist told me that Saddam's money had just arrived for 40 families with destroyed homes -- \$25,000 per family, the same amount given to the families of suicide bombers. A retarded boy wandered by spraying perfume over the odor of unseen rotting bodies. "Give me liberty or give me death" was scrawled in English on the shard of a wall.

Wanted men appeared and disappeared. A fatherly figure, whose destroyed living room is now an open-air porch and meeting point for the homeless, said about an elusive fighter I needed to talk to: "He can't stay in one place too long. He's still wanted." The fighter, with a pistol in his pants and a face flecked with shrapnel bites and black burned patches, appeared momentarily but then dashed off.

Jamal is the wanted man in the camp these days. He's 42, with a kinky gray-and-black beard. His eyelids are so dark that they look as if they were brushed with charcoal. I met him a few weeks earlier, when he was still insisting that he was just a media spokesman and that he had seen Qeis in passing only over the last six months. This time, in his home, Jamal partly lifted the veil, as if he had decided that his days were numbered and that the publicity could only do Hamas good. The house, like the whole of the Jenin camp, was a damaged martyrs' gallery, decorated with posters of those who bombed the Sbarro and Matza restaurants, as well as of the fighter who led the camp's resistance.

Young men wandered in and out all day, each filling in pieces of Qeis's life. "You see Hamas is now attracting the intellectuals," Jamal said with a touch of sarcasm, since most of the young men were studying hard sciences. Indeed, the Hamas militant responsible for the recent Jerusalem bus bombing, 22-year-old Muhammad al-Ghoul, was pursuing a master's degree in Islamic studies from An Najah University.

"Hamas's operations are so painful to the Israelis because they use their scientific capabilities," Jamal added. Qeis himself, in the months leading up to his killing, was concocting ever more lethal explosives. "He was developing rocket-propelled grenades and Qassam rockets," said one of the young men, a computer scientist. Pointing to him, Jamal laughed and said, "You should replace Qeis." The young man shook his head shyly, saying, "No, no."

The men clearly loved Jamal and his warm, embracing manner. He sat in his chair rubbing the short nub that remains of his left arm, which he lost March 1, during the first invasion of the Jenin refugee camp. Two school-age boys came home with their red backpacks. One of them, Jamal's 10-year-old son, Hamzi, said that he was a great admirer of Qeis, who taught him how to do his homework and brought toys for his little sister, Sadjita. "I told him I want to be like you, a fighter for freedom," Hamzi said. Sadjita, who is about 5, piped up and said she wanted to be a martyr when she grows up. Her father said that she told him she's going to meet his martyred friends in paradise, between the mountains. To me, she said, "I want to meet Qeis in paradise."

Martyrdom, revenge, jihad, occupation, liberation. The words, the deeds, the aspirations have become so enmeshed that it's impossible to envision a world outside this deadly ring. Here in Jamal's half-destroyed home, in the destroyed camp, in the besieged city of Jenin, there was the collective sense of resisting the occupiers. But there also was a collective disease born of utter despair, a cult of suicide, of celebrating death as a solution for life. You rarely see posters of singers, athletes or actors in the West Bank anymore. Suicide bombers are the new celebrities and heroes of Palestine.

In the evening, Jamal's cellphone rang. It was Zaid Kilani, the brother of Qeis's best friend Zakariya. He's in prison, having partly blown himself up in March 2001, when Israeli special police ambushed him at a checkpoint in Wadi Ara as he was rushing back from Tel Aviv to Jenin with a defective bomb. Zaid's story is a tale of revenge and conversion. And speaking to him through my translator, I caught a glimpse of the mundane details that make up what these militants and suiciders see as their "sublime vocation."

He was leading a directionless, debauched life, he said, until his brother Zakariya was shot dead. "I went out on the streets with a knife," Zaid recalled. "I wanted to kill any Jew." Then he went to Qeis. He asked for his help to avenge his brother's killing. He told Qeis that he wanted to join Al Qassam Brigades. "Qeis told me, 'I felt you would come to see me.' So he mobilized and prepared me. He rented me an apartment, gave me a pistol and money, 2,000

## The Most Wanted Palestinian

shekels" (about \$400 today). Zaid became a soldier for Al Qassam and began to change his ways. He started praying, stopped drinking and started thinking seriously about marriage.

"Before Qeis, I had no aim in my life," Zaid said quietly. (He is apparently not supposed to have the cellphone in prison.) "He was the essential element in changing my life. He lightened the road for me and raised my morality." Soon after Zakariya's death, Zaid traveled to Tel Aviv to the Carmel market and stabbed an Israeli officer.

Zaid had two assets that were extremely appealing to Qeis. Having worked in various restaurants in Tel Aviv, he knew all the city's shopping centers and streets. But more important, he had a 20-year-old Russian Jewish girlfriend, Angelica Francesca Yosefov. Zaid wanted to end the relationship and marry a Palestinian woman, but "Qeis told me: 'No, keep it. You have to use it.' We planned to rent an Israeli apartment in the Russian girl's name and establish a laboratory there to manufacture bombs inside Tel Aviv. Qeis told me we have to do our best to kill at least 200 Jews, me and him."

Zaid did not aspire to be a suicide bomber. "How many could I kill in a suicide? Ten? Twenty? I could make much greater losses on the Israeli side by planting explosives." But just in case of a slip-up, he carried a pistol, preferring martyrdom to detention. Carrying two sets of explosives, Zaid said he picked up Angelica and went to a restaurant on Allenby Street in Tel Aviv. He left one bomb there and headed to the Dolphinarium, a nightclub where a friend worked as a guard and where, three months later, a suicide bomber would kill 21 and wound more than 100, mostly young people.

Zaid slipped inside, dropped off a sack with the second bomb and left. The detonator was supposed to be activated by a cellphone. "Suddenly Qeis called me," Zaid said. "The bomb was discovered in the restaurant. It didn't explode. So I went back and took the explosives from the nightclub."

Zaid said that Israeli investigators told him that there were 36 missed calls registered on the phone detonator of the restaurant bomb. "I tried to explode it 36 times," he exclaims. "But the explosives had so many technical errors." Qeis told him to leave immediately and throw his phone into the sea.

"Unfortunately," he said, "I didn't obey him. It was my fatal mistake." The Israelis traced the contact between his cellphone, the detonator in the restaurant and the calls to Qeis. When the Israeli police surrounded him, he used his pistol to detonate the explosives. He lost an eye, a hand and his stomach lining, but his proud achievement, he said, is that he killed an Israeli. He's still in touch with Angelica, who is also in prison. And though he did in fact marry a Palestinian woman -- 10 days before his arrest -- he said he would like to marry Angelica, too, one day.

Why, I asked Zaid, did you choose to blow up the Dolphinarium? "The only guidelines my Al Qassami colleagues gave me," he said, "were that the bombs must be far away from the schools and kindergartens, far away from the synagogues and far away from the inhabited buildings and universities. I was very close to that site, and I saw those young men and young girls who are drunk. There were a lot of them. So I chose that spot because I'd have the chance to kill a large number of them."

For the Israelis, Zaid was a boon. He said he tried to keep quiet in the interrogation, but sleep deprivation and injections of some kind of stimulant defeated him. "I only told them Qeis led me to get the bombs from Mohaned Tahir," who is known as Engineer No. 5. The Shin Bet didn't believe him, thinking correctly that the bombs had come from Qeis. And from that moment on, Qeis was a wanted man.

Qeis's friends and followers often described him as simple, a word of praise you often hear in Islamic countries. It doesn't mean ignorant, as much as lacking ostentation, plain, pure, fundamental, like the prophet Muhammad. Qeis believed himself to be not only continuing the heroic struggles of the prophet but also following in the footsteps of Sheikh Iz al-Din al-Qassam, after whom **Hamas** named its military wing. A Syrian-born imam, al-Qassam organized terrorist cells to kill the British and the Jews in Palestine. He was forced to flee to the mountains around Jenin, where he was killed by the British in 1935. His final, 10-day stand and his execution exalted his life into legend.

By the summer of 2001, Qeis was taking refuge in those same mountain villages between Jenin and Nablus where he had harvested olives as a child. There he read the Koran, dispatched martyrs and plotted his operations.

## The Most Wanted Palestinian

I was given a glimpse of that period in Qeis's life from a thin young man with wide, dark eyes and long eyelashes, whom I met in Sheikh Jamal's house on my visit to Jenin. When the man appeared at the landing, the other men in the room were asked to leave, so as not to see his face. He was one of Qeis's soldiers, trained and inspired by him. We went into the bedroom, where grain was drying on a mat. He drew a curtain over the interior window and began to paint a sketchy picture of Qeis's life underground.

He reiterated Qeis's teachings. "We don't like killing the Jews, but Al Aksa is under the Israeli occupation, and we have to liberate Al Aksa Mosque and all Palestinian lands." With each memory of Qeis, a shy smile of a child spread across his face.

He recalled bringing a few dates and bread to Qeis to break his Ramadan fast. "And though it wasn't much, Qeis told me, 'Our aim in this life is not only to eat.' And he took these dates and bread and went to the mountain saying, 'I hope I will take my meal in paradise.'" Qeis knew he could no longer marry on earth, the man said, so he talked instead of marrying the huris (the virgins) in paradise.

Shortly after Qeis's name appeared on the wanted list, the young soldier went to warn him. When the soldier found Qeis in his shelter, he was calmly preparing explosives. The soldier urged Qeis to lie low, but he refused. He planted his bombs on a Jenin bypass road -- one of the special roads built for Israeli settlers and soldiers -- and waited for an Israeli patrol. As soon as the jeep was in view, he detonated his bombs by remote control, killing several soldiers. "He came back to the shelter. He was happy and smiling, and he told me: 'You see. We are mujahed, and we mustn't be afraid.'"

In September 2001, just days before the World Trade Center attack, Muhammad Saker Habashi blew himself up at a train station in the northern coastal town of Nahariya. He was an Israeli Arab, the first to mount a suicide operation, and his act set a terrifying precedent, given the million Israeli Arabs inside Israel. Moreover, he was 48, with two wives and several children; not the usual profile of a suicide bomber.

Qeis, the young man told me, was astonished when Habashi had come to his shelter and said he wanted to be a martyr. "He said, 'But you're an old man, why?' Habashi answered: 'Every human being has his own aim in this life, and mine is I want to be a martyr. I want to enter paradise.'"

"I remember Qeis was touched by his strong words, and he took the explosives belt and told Habashi: 'I will go instead of you. You stay.' Habashi refused. They had lunch. They sat on the floor and drank coffee. They talked for four hours. Qeis insisted that Habashi take care of his family. Habashi replied: 'The pioneers and martyrs in the beginning of Islam used to leave their families and go to al jihad. They didn't care about their families.' The next day, Habashi walked to the train platform, which was crowded with Israeli soldiers, and blew himself up. Three Israelis were killed, and more than 90 people -- Arabs among them -- were injured.

Qeis maintained his reign as terrorist mastermind throughout the winter and into the spring. Once a prospective architect and engineer and caretaker of students, he was now the caretaker of martyrs and an unrepentant killer, deciding the fates of Palestinians and Israelis alike. Ultimately, he would tell prospective bombers -- who often competed hotly for the chance to carry out attacks -- it makes no difference who is chosen. "All of us expect to be martyred," he said in a taped interview shortly after the Sbarro bombing. "When the mujahed carries a rifle in one hand and his soul in the other, he knows his destiny is martyrdom."

He also feels empowered, according to Dr. Iyad Serraj. A psychiatrist in Gaza, Serraj has been studying the effects of the occupation and resistance on young Palestinians, particularly from the first, unarmed intifada. "When you join one of these militant organizations, you suddenly have access to guns and grenades and all these symbols of man's power," he said. "This brings back to the children their early traumatic experience and puts them in a position today to say: 'I am not powerless like my father was. I am in control.' Of course there's the element of excitement, being able to play a very serious game of hide-and-seek, of chasing the enemy and risking your life. Take all this and put on it the question of ideological teaching, and you have a new person."

The last time the young soldier saw Qeis was on April 4. "Qeis wanted very much to commit a suicide-bomb attack," the soldier recalled. "We used to prepare explosives for the invasions, but the night before the Israelis invaded, he

## The Most Wanted Palestinian

told me to leave the camp immediately, because he didn't want us to lose all our armed men." The Israelis believe that Qeis was given instructions from Hamas leaders outside Israel to save himself for future use. The young soldier said, "I remember Qeis said: 'Scatter yourselves. Work by wisdom. Use your brain. And take care.' He took his M-16 and a belt of explosives that weighed 35 pounds. He insisted that he would never surrender.

"Qeis," the soldier said, fidgeting and obviously eager to be on his way, "is a loss you can't restore." But, he vowed, he will follow in Qeis's path with the other young men who share his spirit of faith and jihad.

I left Jamal at 11 p.m. Three hours later, tanks ground into Jenin while helicopters clattered overhead. Shots rang out here and there. The family I was staying with was accustomed to it by now. The youngest daughter had a thick stack of postcard-size collectors' items, like baseball cards, only these were martyrdom cards. Toubasi, Al Masri, Hamad, Hashem, Tawalbi, she said, dropping one after another on my lap. On television, Al Manar, the Hezbollah station and one of the favorites in the Arab world, flashed a picture of Tawalbi, a leader of Islamic Jihad, who was killed leading the resistance in the Jenin camp. Another daughter crooned at the TV and kissed Tawalbi's image.

The next morning, with the city closed off by Israeli tanks, I returned to Jamal's house. Outside, two children were mocking the speech Arafat made weeks earlier from his compound in Ramallah, which was then surrounded by Israeli tanks. Arafat had said he wanted to be "a shahid, a shahid, a shahid," a martyr. The kids said, "You say you want to be a shahid, but you're just a traitor, a traitor, a traitor."

Jamal's home had been dynamited during the night. Wet and charred clothes, furniture, the boys' red schoolbags and a red grenade handle were scattered on the roof in front of his second-floor door. The clock was stopped at 3:15. His wife, Assma, in her green-and-white veil, was calm as she described a long, surreal night with Israeli forces under the command of a Captain Jamal, a Druze officer who spoke Arabic and knew everything about the family. (The Israeli military was unable to comment by press time.)

Assma said she awoke to gunshots and the heat of a fire. She screamed, "Don't shoot, don't shoot," grabbed her children and ran outside. Someone shouted at her, "Tell anyone inside we're going to burn your house down."

She wanted her passport and other documents. Sadjita asked if she could get her toys. Then, according to several Palestinians interviewed separately, and who claim to have witnessed the entire incident, Captain Jamal told them to shut up and summoned each child by name. A soldier put a pistol to 11-year-old Assam's head shouting, "Where's your father?" The boy didn't know and was beaten. The same was done to the next son. They took aside Banan, Jamal's 18-year-old daughter, and interrogated her. But her fear had been numbed long ago. Even Sadjita, eating an unripe cherry, said: "I am very sad because my toys were burned, and they beat my brothers in front of me. But I didn't feel frightened from the army. They don't kill children. Only big people. And God is stronger than them."

Captain Jamal summoned Assma and offered a deal for her husband. "We'll put him in prison, not kill him," if she would tell him where he was. But she said she didn't know where he was. "Take my mobile, call him, tell him to come so we won't destroy your house," Captain Jamal said, according to Assma. She began prayers to Allah. "Look," she said the captain told her, "we know there were five young men and a journalist in your house. They stayed until night. Jamal washed, went for prayers and didn't come back. We know what you eat. What you have for lunch, for supper. Not one of our spies was watching you but 20. You have five minutes to decide: where's your husband, or we demolish the house." Assma wasn't budging. The five minutes were over.

"Close your ears," Captain Jamal shouted. After the dynamite had been exploded, the Palestinian witnesses said, Captain Jamal told Assma: "All this army came for your husband, Jamal. We brought 11 military vehicles, tanks, a truck for prisoners. Your husband sends people to blow themselves up and kill our children. We are going to capture him." To date, he's still hiding in Jenin somewhere.

Assma said she prepares herself and her children every moment for Jamal's death. After this last invasion, she said, "the spirit of jihad has been planted in the children and women themselves. The hatred gets wider and wider."

## The Most Wanted Palestinian

Over the two days I spent in the Jenin camp, I watched and occasionally talked to a 13-year-old girl who was staying with Jamal's family because her house had been destroyed and her father killed. She had an encyclopedic brain and an uncanny memory. She remembered what I wore in the camp a month before, though we had never met. She remembered conversations with her father from eight years ago and knew what all the politicians were saying or had said. She never smiled and told me that her father wanted her to be a doctor. She said she would prefer to study nuclear physics so she could blow up America. "When someone comes to fight you in your home, you have to fight him back, isn't that true?" she asked.

Of course, these are the words of an angry, hurt child. But in the mind of Serraj, the psychiatrist in Gaza, they may express a potentially terrifying illness, the fruits of 15 years of unending violence. "We have seen the children of the first intifada become suicide bombers," he had said. "You only have to wait and see these children of today, what kind of horror they will bring to the world."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

---

Photos: At age 7, Qeis Adwan (far right) was still playing little-boy games with guns. By the time he was 12 or 13, having experienced the first intifada, in 1987, he had become dedicated to **Hamas**; At 17, Qeis was a top high-school student, memorizing long Koran passages and taking the **Hamas** motto to heart; At 23, thanks to the second intifada, Qeis became the man he had been growing up to be: a terrorist mastermind. His engineering, strategic and political talents "made him lethal." ; At 25, Qeis was finally caught by Israeli special forces. "It's marvelous that man sacrifices himself so as to enable his nation to live," he once said in celebration of the martyrdom of others. (Adwan Family); Qeis's mother, Fatiya, and three of his brothers -- Ahmad, Waseem and Nassar -- outside their old home in Jenin.; Sheikh Jamal, Qeis's spiritual mentor, is now the most wanted man in the Jenin camp. (Heidi Levine/SIPA Press, for The New York Times)

**Load-Date:** June 30, 2002

---

End of Document

## **Israelis hit back in Nablus; 5 Palestinians killed and 50 arrested in reprisal raid**

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

August 3, 2002 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. D06; News

**Length:** 679 words

**Byline:** Ibrahim Hazboun

**Dateline:** NABLUS, WEST BANK

### **Body**

---

The Israeli army blew up two buildings with explosives labs and arrested at least 50 Palestinians in house-to-house searches yesterday as troops took control of Nablus, a city Israel called "the main factory of suicide bombings."

The army clashed with Palestinians in several places in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and overall, five Palestinians were killed, including an elderly woman, and seven houses and buildings were destroyed.

Also, the military said it planned to expel two relatives of suspected Palestinian militants from their homes in the West Bank to the Gaza Strip -- a transfer Israel hopes will deter potential attackers.

The stepped-up Israeli military actions follow a series of Palestinian attacks against Israel, including a bombing Wednesday at Jerusalem's Hebrew University that killed five Americans and two Israelis.

The Associated Press

"There's been a train of Palestinian terrorism that's been hitting Israel over the past week to 10 days, and what we've been able to discern is that its hub is in Nablus," said Israeli government spokesman Dore Gold. Nablus has replaced nearby Jenin "as the main factory of suicide bombings against Israel."

Nablus, the largest city in the West Bank with about 200,000 people, has been under an Israeli military curfew for most of the past six weeks, along with other Palestinian population centres.

Residents of Nablus defied the curfew from Monday to Wednesday, and life regained a semblance of normalcy as Palestinians returned to the streets and Israeli forces remained in armoured vehicles parked on the outskirts of the city.

However, the military reinforced the curfew Thursday, and a convoy of more than 100 tanks and armoured personnel carriers rolled into Nablus around 2 a.m. yesterday. Shortly afterward, soldiers began working their way on foot through the narrow alleyways of the Old City. In exchanges of fire, two Palestinian gunmen were killed, witnesses said.

May Fataier, 16, who was shot in the leg, said that shortly after the Israeli armoured vehicles entered Nablus, there was "shooting in all directions."



## Israelis hit back in Nablus; 5 Palestinians killed and 50 arrested in reprisal raid

"I heard someone screaming and went out of the house and a soldier opened fire at me," she said from a hospital.

The Palestinian suspects were handcuffed and blindfolded before being taken from Nablus on army buses. The Israeli military said it found and blew up two buildings in the Old City that were being used as explosives laboratories.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called the Israeli operation "a new massacre" and appealed for UN intervention. "I need an answer from the whole United Nations: is this acceptable?" he said at his headquarters in Ramallah.

Outside Nablus, in the village of Salem, Israeli soldiers surrounded the house of a **Hamas** activist, 28-year-old Amjad Jubur, and shot him dead, both sides said.

Also Friday, the Israeli military said that faulty intelligence was to blame for the deaths of 14 civilians -- most of them **women** and children -- in an air attack on a Gaza City apartment building that successfully targeted and killed a **Hamas** military leader last month.

In a statement summarizing the military investigation of the incident, the army said it regretted the civilian deaths. The army also said the attack never would have been launched if authorities had known **women** and children were in the building with Salah Shehadeh, head of the **Hamas** military wing.

Israel faced widespread world criticism for the attack.

The Israeli pilot of a U.S.-made F-16 fired a one-tonne missile at the three-storey building where Shehadeh was staying on the night of July 22. His wife and 14-year-old daughter were among those killed in the attack. Some 150 people were wounded in the explosion that brought down the targeted building and badly damaged three others.

Palestinian officials and other critics of the attack said that using such a powerful bomb in the densely packed Gaza City neighbourhood was sure to cause civilian casualties.

**Hamas** vowed to avenge Shehadeh's death and said the first blow was struck Wednesday in the bombing at Jerusalem's Hebrew University.

## Graphic

---

Photo: Enric Marti, the Associated Press; Hiba Atari, 21, said Israeli soldiers demolished her house before they arrested her during a raid in Nablus yesterday.

**Load-Date:** August 3, 2002

## **Israeli missiles strike Gaza City; Warplanes: Missile aimed at car reportedly kills 5**

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

April 9, 2003 Wednesday

Copyright 2003 Woodward Communications, Inc.

**Section:** Pg. c6

**Length:** 296 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip

### **Body**

---

An Israeli warplane fired a missile at a car in Gaza City after sundown Tuesday, killing at least five people - including a Palestinian militant - in the first Israeli airstrike in Palestinian territory since the war in Iraq began.

At least 47 people also were wounded - eight of them critically - by the missile strike, doctors said. The wounded were civilians ranging in age from 6 to 75, doctors said.

Witnesses reported a huge explosion in the Zeitoun neighborhood in Gaza City, known as a stronghold of the militant group **Hamas**, which is responsible for dozens of attacks that have killed hundreds of Israelis in 30 months of fighting.

One of the dead was identified as Saed Arabeed, 38, a senior **Hamas** commander.

Those injured by Tuesday's strike were taken to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. The casualties included **women** and children.

The Israeli military refused to comment. Since the war in Iraq began March 20, Israel had scaled back its incursions and military operations in the West Bank and Gaza, but Israeli forces have arrested dozens of suspects in nightly sweeps and raids in the West Bank.

Residents said two Israeli F-16 fighter planes circled low over Gaza City, breaking the sound barrier, in the minutes before attacking a Subaru car on a Gaza street.

Yussef Touth, 24, said the white car was approaching an intersection when he saw the planes, then "a big flame in the sky" followed by the missile hitting the car. He was wounded in both legs and lay covered with blood in the hospital.

Israel has carried out many similar attacks targeting suspected Palestinian militants. Palestinians and human rights groups have condemned the practice.

Since violence broke out in September 2000, 2,243 people have been killed on the Palestinian side and 753 on the Israeli side.

Israeli missiles strike Gaza City; Warplanes: Missile aimed at car reportedly kills 5

**Load-Date:** April 9, 2003

---

End of Document

## *Eliminate Palestinian threat for sake of Israeli children*

University Wire

March 11, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 Sidelines via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 467 words

**Byline:** By Michael Schultz, Sidelines

**Dateline:** Murfreesboro, Tenn.

### **Body**

---

Israel has been in a war with Palestinian terrorists for the past 18 months. The cause of the war is over land that was taken in military actions more than 30 years ago by Israel. The Israeli army took the West Bank and Gaza strip from Jordan, which has a large population of Palestinians. In doing so, a very large cycle of violence was created. Middle Tennessee State U.

I think they are sorry that they did it now.

Sorry because they had no idea of the conflict that it would cause.

This is a war that has become very dirty. The Palestinian Liberation Organization run by Yasser Arafat has employed some rather unconventional tactics. It's true that his armies have not engaged in battle yet with Israeli armies.

Although Arafat says that he is trying to end the terror reign of religious fanatics such as **Hamas**, the news would indicate otherwise.

Every day when I turn on the news I see that there has been another attack in either a Jewish neighborhood, or a reprisal on a Palestinian governmental building. I can deal with the attacks on Arafat's compounds, or governmental buildings.

But this thing is getting way out of hand.

Just a couple of days ago, Palestinian "suicide bombers" targeted a church in an ultra-orthodox section of Jerusalem. They set off their bombs when the **women** and children came out of the synagogue.

Recently, shrapnel from a bomb intended for one of Arafat's offices damaged a school. There were minor injuries to the people present.

The problem that exists now is that both societies have become accustomed to violence as part of their everyday life.

Violence loses its meaning when it is done constantly. When you take a group of people and subject them to violent acts two or three times a day, then it just becomes a way of life.

## Eliminate Palestinian threat for sake of Israeli children

By the direct targeting of children, the terrorists are creating young adults who are oblivious to violent acts. Teenagers in a crowded square were recent targets for the **Hamas** group. There were five children who were killed and a number of others who were injured. It seems as though children in Jerusalem are going to have to take guns to school.

The real sad part to this whole thing, besides the children being targeted by **Hamas**, is that one of these groups is going to have to lose.

For that to happen, one side is going to have to be obliterated. If we are coming to a time when people go out to get the paper with their AK-47s strapped on, then I say the demise of one of the groups is a good thing.

Machiavelli says that for violence to be effective it must be quick and forceful.

Nobody likes to use brute force but if it lets children be children and not mercenaries, then by all means, Israel should end the war with the terrorists. It's obvious that talking with them doesn't do any good.

(C) 2002 Sidelines via U-WIRE

**Load-Date:** March 11, 2002

## **ISRAEL SPY CHIEF'S WARNING Tells nation worst violence from Palestinian ns is yet to come**

Daily News (New York)

January 24, 2002, Thursday

SPORTS FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2002 Daily News, L.P.

**Section:** NEWS;

**Length:** 479 words

**Byline:** By DEBORAH BLACHOR in Jerusalem and CORKY SIEMASZKO in New York DAILY NEWS WRITERS

### **Body**

---

Israel's new military spymaster is warning his countrymen to brace for a new, more vicious, wave of terror attacks as Palestinian militants threatened "all-out war" yesterday to avenge the killing of **Hamas** terrorists.

Secretary of State Powell telephoned Yasser Arafat to urge him to curb attacks on Israel, but many of the Palestinian leader's followers marched arm-in-arm with militants yesterday at the funeral of slain **Hamas** terror commander Yousef Soragji.

The military intelligence chief warned Israelis to prepare for attacks "worse than what we have experienced so far in Israeli cities" in an interview that appeared a day after a terrorist killed two **women** and turned downtown Jerusalem into a shooting gallery.

Arafat cannot - and will not - rein in the radicals who have been waging war on Jewish civilians, Maj. Gen. Aharon Zeevi-Farkash told the Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronot.

"Arafat will not begin a civil war against Palestinian organizations," he said. "It seems that the U.S., too, has given up on the man and sees him as a lost cause."

Arafat said to OK attacks

An Israeli intelligence source told the Daily News that Arafat had given the Tanzim, the military branch of his Fatah party, a green light to carry out attacks.

"The amount of alerts is piling on the desks of intelligence agents all over the country," the source said. "The methods are wide range, including shooting, car bombs, suicide missions, and they include all the Palestinian organizations."

Arafat, who remains trapped by Israeli tanks in the West Bank city of Ramallah, said nothing yesterday.

The escalation in the tit-for-tat violence that has racked Israel anew in recent days began last week after the Israelis assassinated Raed Karmi in the Palestinian city of Tulkarm.

Karmi was a senior Tanzim official and was believed to be planning to rub out a high-ranking Israeli security figure.

## ISRAEL SPY CHIEF'S WARNING Tells nation worst violence from Palestinian is yet to come

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon authorized the hit on Karmi even though the assassination might bring on a new series of attacks in Israel, the source said.

### More terror

Indeed, Karmi's death sparked a new wave of terror, beginning with a bloody attack on a bat mitzvah in the town of Hadera last Thursday, and the shooting spree in Jerusalem on Tuesday.

Soragji, 42, the alleged mastermind behind several suicide attacks against Jewish civilians, was killed with three other **Hamas** members in a predawn raid Tuesday by Israeli commandos on their West Bank hideout and bomb factory.

More than 15,000 people attended the funerals of Soragji and two of his henchmen yesterday. "We will not close our eyes until we see your reprisal," the crowd chanted.

On another front, Israeli war planes attacked suspected Hezbollah terror camp positions in southern Lebanon for the first time since Oct. 22 after the guerrillas fired rockets and mortar shells at Israeli outposts in the disputed Chebaa Farms area.

**Load-Date:** January 24, 2002

## *Palestinian Cease-Fire Was in Works Before Israeli Strike*

The New York Times  
July 25, 2002 Thursday  
Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2002 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 3

**Length:** 994 words

**Byline:** By JAMES BENNET and JOHN KIFNER

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM, July 24

### **Body**

---

Tanzim, the Palestinian militia connected to Yasir Arafat's Fatah faction, was preparing to announce a unilateral cease-fire with Israel before an Israeli warplane dropped a one-ton bomb early Tuesday on a **Hamas** leader's home in Gaza City, Palestinian officials and Western diplomats said today.

Israeli officials acknowledged that they had known of a possible Palestinian cease-fire proposal before the bomb was dropped, but they dismissed it as a futile attempt by Palestinians without influence over terrorist groups.

Several Palestinian factions, including groups belonging to Tanzim, have vowed retaliation for the bombing, which killed the **Hamas** leader, Sheik Salah Shehada, and 14 others, including 9 children. More than 140 people were injured.

European Union officials led the effort for a cease-fire, which intensified over the past two weeks and was supported by Jordanian and Saudi diplomats, people familiar with the process said. Bush administration officials had been informed of the effort, they said.

During extensive negotiations with Yasir Arafat's Palestinian Authority, some **Hamas** leaders had said they would cooperate in a cease-fire if it was connected to an Israeli withdrawal from areas it seized in the West Bank, Palestinian officials said. Publicly, top **Hamas** officials have imposed cease-fire conditions that Israel considers absurd.

Raanan Gissin, a spokesman for Ariel Sharon, Israel's prime minister, acknowledged that there had been talk of a cease-fire, but he said it was being exaggerated. He said that several cease-fires had already been negotiated and ignored during the 22-month conflict.

"They had so many opportunities to really issue a cease-fire," Mr. Gissin said. "Not in one case did we learn about orders issued down to the field commanders to say, 'You've got to stop.' "

A senior Israeli military official said tonight of the cease-fire effort: "There was no chance it was going to happen. It was only thoughts or dreams or desires of some people who have no influence on terrorist activities."



## Palestinian Cease-Fire Was in Works Before Israeli Strike

One Israeli was killed and another seriously injured early Thursday when gunmen, apparently Palestinians, fired on a car near the Jewish settlement of Elei Zahav, south of the Palestinian town of Qalqilya, the Associated Press reported.

A text identified as the planned cease-fire announcement that was published today in the Israeli newspaper Yediot Ahronot, promised an end by Tanzim to "all attacks on innocent men, women, and children who are noncombatants."

Fierce debate among Israelis continued today about the attack. Mr. Sharon told Yediot Ahronot that he would not have authorized the strike had he known its results in advance. On Tuesday, Mr. Sharon had called the bombing "one of our major successes."

The air raid was approved by Mr. Sharon and by Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, the defense minister, who gave his approval by telephone from London, where he was on vacation.

The Israeli Army and security agency are investigating what Israeli politicians have called faulty intelligence that indicated civilians would not be endangered by the bomb, the government said.

The bomb, which was dropped into a densely populated neighborhood from an American-made F-16 jet, pulverized Sheik Shehada's house and two neighboring houses, leaving a jumble of cinder blocks and steel bars. Several other houses were damaged. The bodies of three children were recovered today.

Of the 15 people killed, 11 were not in the house when the bomb hit.

"I think all of us feel sorry for the loss of life of innocent people, particularly children," said Shimon Peres, Israel's foreign minister.

At the United Nations on Wednesday night, in an emergency meeting of the Security Council to discuss the bombing, Palestinians called the bombing a war crime and demanded the prosecution of Israelis.

Palestinians and Israeli critics of Mr. Sharon accused him of deliberately scuttling cease-fire talks. The attack fit a pattern, they said, of attacks against popular militants during times of relative quiet. The government has argued that its policy of killing militant leaders is essential to security.

Mr. Gissin said he did not believe that Sheik Shehada, a founder the paramilitary wing of Hamas, would have ever abided by any cease-fire. Israeli security officials said that Sheik Shehada was preparing attacks against Israeli settlers in the Gaza Strip at the time he was killed.

Israeli forces have seized control of seven of eight major Palestinian cities and towns in the West Bank. And in Gaza, tensions are at a new high, raising the possibility of an Israeli operation there as well. Three rockets were fired from Gaza into Israel last night, and several mortar shells were fired at Israeli settlements within the strip.

Yediot Ahronot reported today that the text of the cease-fire was finished just 90 minutes before the attack on Mr. Shehada, during a meeting of Tanzim leaders in Jenin. Israeli defense officials had been updated by European diplomats on the evolving text, the newspaper reported, in an account Western diplomats confirmed today.

Ahmed Razak Yehiyeh, the new Palestinian interior minister, who has responsibility for security forces, met for almost three hours with Mr. Peres in Tel Aviv on Saturday. Mr. Yehiyeh has been leading the negotiations among Palestinian factions for a cease-fire, Palestinian officials said.

Saeb Erekat, the chief Palestinian negotiator, also participated in the Tel Aviv meeting, and he said the group discussed the possible cease-fire. "They had a plan submitted to them in writing that pointed to the fact that there is a serious dialogue going on to maintain the Authority and to stop the suicide bombing," he said. "And in that same paper it urged them to refrain from any assassinations."

## Palestinian Cease-Fire Was in Works Before Israeli Strike

Mr. Peres today repeated a statement he had made on Monday that Israel was prepared to withdraw from some West Bank cities, provided Palestinian security forces would ensure Israelis' security.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

---

Photo: Dozens of Palestinian men were detained yesterday near Nablus, in the West Bank. The Israeli Army has been heavily patrolling the area after an attack on a bus at the nearby settlement of Immanuel killed 10 people. (Agence France-Presse)

**Load-Date:** July 25, 2002

---

End of Document

**Sporadic violence disrupts tentative peace moves: Bloody weekend claims five lives as two-tracked peace efforts made**

Ottawa Citizen

July 29, 2002 Monday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** News; Pg. A7; News

**Length:** 577 words

**Byline:** Matthew Kalman

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY

## **Body**

---

GAZA CITY -- Tentative peace efforts continued yesterday despite a bloody weekend that claimed the lives of an Israeli couple and their young son, an Israeli soldier and a 14-year-old Palestinian girl, shot dead at her home.

The continuing bursts of violence came as Israeli troops captured a leading **Hamas** militant and his lieutenant in Beituniya, near Ramallah. The army said Hussein Abu Kwaik, long on Israel's wanted list, and Freij Rumeidah had been planning attacks on Israelis. An Israeli army spokesman would not comment on Palestinian reports that three other **Hamas** men were arrested in the swoop.

The Ottawa Citizen; with files from Reuters

Israelis have braced for revenge attacks vowed by the extreme Islamic **Hamas** group for the assassination of its Sheik Salah Shehadeh in Gaza last week in a bombing that killed 15 civilians, mostly children.

Meanwhile, a confrontation between Jewish settlers and Palestinians erupted yesterday during the funeral procession in Hebron for an Israeli soldier killed Friday.

The Palestinians began throwing stones at the funeral procession, according to witnesses, and the armed settlers replied with gunfire.

Nizin Jamjoum, 14, was on the balcony of her home when she was fatally shot in the head, her brother, Marwan, said. Six Palestinians were also hurt.

The Israeli soldier, along with Yossi and Hana Dickstein and one of their 10 children, were killed in an ambush Friday by Palestinian militants. The Dicksteins were buried yesterday in the West Bank settlement of Psagot.

The tentative peace moves appeared to be heading along two separate tracks: official talks between Israeli and Palestinian officials with the prospect of a high-level U.S.-Palestinian meeting, and a "street-level" Palestinian initiative to halt terror attacks against Israeli civilians.

On the official level, the Israeli Finance Ministry announced yesterday it would release \$23 million Cdn in tax revenues owed to the Palestinian Authority.

Sporadic violence disrupts tentative peace moves: Bloody weekend claims five lives as two-tracked peace efforts made

Ministry director-general Ohad Marani said after meeting Palestinian Authority Finance Minister Salam Fayed that the money was the first of three equal payments to be made in coming weeks. Israel had previously refused to transfer the money, saying it could be used to finance terrorism.

Mr. Fayed said he would meet Israeli Finance Minister Silvan Shalom today in a sign of continuing high-level dialogue between the two sides.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres described the payment as "a goodwill gesture."

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said he'll meet with Palestinian Authority ministers in early August, the highest-level contacts with the U.S. administration since President George W. Bush's speech in June calling for the Palestinians to elect new leadership.

On the ground in the West Bank and Gaza, discussion veered between calls for revenge against Israel for last Monday's bombing, and continued pressure for an end to Palestinian attacks.

Hana'a Mattar, whose two-month-old daughter, Dina, was killed in the bombing raid on the Darraj neighbourhood of Gaza City, summed up the confusion felt by Palestinians in the wake of the Israeli strike.

"I still hope there can be peace between the Palestinians and the Israelis," Mrs. Mattar said as she picked through the rubble of what was her home. "I can't forgive what happened to my daughter and the other children, but I don't want anyone else to die. I don't want any more children to die. I don't want any more women to die."

**Load-Date:** July 29, 2002

## *Palestinians give up plan to halt suicide bombings*

The Times (London)

July 31, 2002, Wednesday

Copyright 2002 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news; 15

**Length:** 944 words

**Byline:** Stephen Farrell in Jerusalem

### **Body**

---

Two Jewish settlers were killed yesterday and five Israelis were wounded as a senior Palestinian official confirmed that an unprecedented initiative to end suicide bomb attacks has been abandoned.

The remarkable nature of that initiative, suspended indefinitely after the Israeli airstrike in Gaza last week, is revealed in a long and detailed statement that was to have been released with a much briefer "ceasefire" declaration last week. The statement, obtained by The Times, explains why Fatah and its armed wings, the Tanzim, were ready to end attacks on Israeli civilians.

Addressed to a world audience, it spells out the economic, social and political costs of continuing violence on both sides, including a frank admission that suicide bombings had led to "hardened hearts amongst a generation of Palestinian children".

Two Israeli brothers delivering fuel to a factory in an Arab village near their West Bank settlement were murdered yesterday by masked gunmen who jumped from behind olive trees and shot them before dumping their bodies in a quarry.

A few hours later a 17-year-old Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up at a food stand in West Jerusalem, injuring five other people. Police believe that the bomber detonated his device because he had just come across a police patrol, or had set off the explosive too early by accident.

Both attacks were claimed by the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, the armed wing of Yassir Arafat's Fatah movement, which had been about to issue the statement when the Israeli airstrike killed 15 Palestinians, including the head of **Hamas**'s military wing, in Gaza last Tuesday.

Hatem Abdel Qader, a senior Fatah official in Jerusalem, confirmed yesterday that Marwan Barghouti, the jailed West Bank leader, had given his backing to the ground-breaking declaration, drawn up with the help of international diplomats and interlocutors.

Mr Qader also confirmed that he had himself flown to Tehran three months ago for talks with senior **Hamas** leaders, urging them to accept the proposals being discussed with the group's spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin.

Fatah's armed Tanzim wing and the Brigades, its most militant section, had signed on and Sheikh Yassin had agreed to give the plan **Hamas**'s "silent support", he said.

## Palestinians give up plan to halt suicide bombings

"It was a very important initiative, but it failed because of the Israeli strike on Gaza," Mr Qader told The Times. "Everything is destroyed. After the attack on Gaza, we have gone back to zero and it will take weeks or months to recover.

"**Hamas** have officially informed us that they are not committed to any agreement and they reserve the right to strike against military or civilians. The Tanzim are also talking about reaction to the Israeli aggression. We are trying to convince them to do so within the borders of 1967 (Gaza and the West Bank), but we don't have any guarantees."

The plan is now on hold, with its international backers receiving signals from the Palestinians that any move to resurrect it would be doomed.

"We haven't even been talking to them," one official with two decades of experience of dealing with the Palestinian leadership, said. "We have been hanging back and allowing them to conduct their internal discussions."

Israel has consistently discounted any prospect of a serious ceasefire. A senior government official said: "We have been in this movie before. We have heard several times that there are talks while our Intelligence shows no signs of change," he said.

He said that **Hamas** was dedicated to the destruction of the State of Israel and would never back a ceasefire other than to protect itself when in dire straits for pragmatic reasons.

### 'AN END TO THE RIVERS OF BLOOD'

These are extracts taken from the letter to Israel from Fatah and Tanzim "We understand...how you feel about us. We are a 'gang', and a 'bunch of murderers'... We 'can't be trusted'.

"But maybe, just this once, you should drop these prejudices and listen to what we say...We, the leaders of the most influential political movements among the Palestinian people; we, who represent those who, like you, have been orphaned and widowed; we who desire the comfort and security of not just a state but a home - we choose the future.

"We will do everything in our power to end attacks on Israeli civilians, on innocent men, **women** and children, in both Israel and in the occupied lands of the West Bank and Gaza. We make this declaration without seeking or demanding any prior conditions.

"Why now?

"The bombings of the last few months have transformed your society. Those bombings horrified and angered your people, and sent your nation into despair. It did that to us. It sparked a rethinking of who we are as a people. It marked a shift in our perceptions -not of you, but of ourselves.

"For a time we were able to put this horror out of our minds... Our eyes look out to see what you are doing to us in our towns and villages every day, but the same eyes look in at the hardened hearts of our children. It may take a generation for us to teach our children a new way, to soothe their bitterness, to erase their hatred, to teach them that there is hope for the future. But we must begin. It is for them, for their future, that we have made this historic decision. The rivers of blood that have so embittered our people will be staunched. The suicide bombings will be brought to an end. By us. Now.

"We will not stop fighting for our land, we will not renounce our dream or betray our birthright...This is not a surrender, this is not a retreat. We will continue to fight every moment of every day for our rights and for our state. We are certain that we will achieve this, that we will be victorious."

**Load-Date:** July 31, 2002

## Palestinians give up plan to halt suicide bombings

---

End of Document

## **Clashes kill 5 Palestinians: Israeli troops take over Nablus, 'the main factory of suicide bombings'**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

August 3, 2002 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** News; Pg. A22

**Length:** 537 words

**Byline:** IBRAHIM HAZBOUN

**Dateline:** NABLUS, West Bank

### **Body**

---

The Israeli army blew up two buildings with explosives labs and arrested at least 50 Palestinians in house-to-house searches yesterday as troops took control of Nablus, a city Israel called "the main factory of suicide bombings."

The army clashed with Palestinians in several places in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and overall, five Palestinians were killed, including an elderly woman, and seven houses and buildings were destroyed.

Also, the military said it planned to expel two relatives of suspected Palestinian militants from their homes in the West Bank to the Gaza Strip - a transfer Israel hopes will deter potential attackers.

AP

The stepped-up Israeli military actions follow a series of Palestinian attacks against Israel, including a bombing Wednesday at Jerusalem's Hebrew University that killed five Americans and two Israelis.

"There's been a train of Palestinian terrorism that's been hitting Israel over the past week to 10 days, and what we've been able to discern is that its hub is in Nablus," said Israeli government spokesman Dore Gold. Nablus has replaced nearby Jenin "as the main factory of suicide bombings against Israel."

Nablus, the largest West Bank city with about 200,000 people, has been under an Israeli military curfew for most of the past six weeks, along with other Palestinian population centres.

Residents of Nablus defied the curfew from Monday to Wednesday, and life regained a semblance of normalcy as Palestinians returned to the streets and Israeli forces remained in armoured vehicles parked on the outskirts of the city.

However, the military reinforced the curfew Thursday, and more than 100 tanks and armoured personnel carriers rolled into Nablus around 2 a.m. yesterday. Then soldiers began working their way on foot through the narrow alleyways of the Old City. In exchanges of fire, two Palestinian gunmen were killed, witnesses said.

May Fataier, 16, who was shot in the leg, said that shortly after the Israeli armoured vehicles entered Nablus, there was "shooting in all directions. I heard someone screaming and went out of the house and a soldier opened fire at me," she said from a hospital.



Clashes kill 5 Palestinians: Israeli troops take over Nablus, 'the main factory of suicide bombings'

The Palestinian suspects were handcuffed and blindfolded before being taken from Nablus on army buses. The Israeli military said it found and blew up two buildings in the Old City that were used as explosives laboratories.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called the Israeli operation "a new massacre" and appealed for UN intervention. "I need an answer from the whole United Nations: is this acceptable?" he said.

Outside Nablus, in the village of Salem, Israeli soldiers surrounded the house of a **Hamas** activist, 28-year-old Amjad Jubur, and shot him dead, both sides said.

Also yesterday, the Israeli military said that faulty intelligence was to blame for the deaths of 14 civilians in an air attack on a Gaza City apartment building that successfully targeted and killed a **Hamas** military leader last month.

The army said in a statement it regretted the civilian deaths, and that the attack never would have been launched if authorities had known **women** and children were in the building with Salah Shehadeh, head of the **Hamas** military wing.

## Graphic

---

Color Photo: ENRIC MARTI, AP; A Palestinian youth, detained by Israeli troops, waits on a street in Nablus.

**Load-Date:** August 3, 2002

**Israeli army takes control of Nablus; West Bank city called 'main factory' of suicide bombings**

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

August 3, 2002 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** FRONT; Pg. A6; NEWS

**Length:** 518 words

**Dateline:** NABLUS, WEST BANK

## **Body**

---

The Israeli army blew up two buildings with explosives labs and arrested at least 50 Palestinians in house-to-house searches yesterday as troops took control of Nablus, a city Israel called "the main factory of suicide bombings."

The army clashed with Palestinians in several places in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and overall, five Palestinians were killed, including an elderly woman, and seven houses and buildings were destroyed.

Also, the military said it planned to expel two relatives of suspected Palestinian militants from their homes in the West Bank to the Gaza Strip -- a transfer Israel hopes will deter potential attackers.

Associated Press

The stepped-up Israeli military actions follow a series of Palestinian attacks against Israel, including a bombing Wednesday at Jerusalem's Hebrew University that killed five Americans and two Israelis.

"There's been a train of Palestinian terrorism that's been hitting Israel over the past week to 10 days, and what we've been able to discern is that its hub is in Nablus," said Israeli government spokesman Dore Gold. Nablus has replaced nearby Jenin "as the main factory of suicide bombings against Israel."

Nablus, the largest city in the West Bank with about 200,000 people, has been under an Israeli military curfew for most of the past six weeks, along with other Palestinian population centres.

Residents of Nablus defied the curfew from Monday to Wednesday, and life regained a semblance of normalcy as Palestinians returned to the streets and Israeli forces remained in armoured vehicles parked on the outskirts of the city.

However, the military reinforced the curfew Thursday, and a convoy of more than 100 tanks and armoured personnel carriers rolled into Nablus around 2 a.m. yesterday. In exchanges of fire, two Palestinian gunmen were killed, witnesses said.

May Fataier, 16, who was shot in the leg, said that shortly after the Israeli armoured vehicles entered Nablus, there was "shooting in all directions."

"I heard someone screaming and went out of the house and a soldier opened fire at me," she said from a hospital.

Israeli army takes control of Nablus; West Bank city called 'main factory' of suicide bombings

The Israeli military said it found and blew up two buildings in the Old City that were being used as explosives laboratories.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called the Israeli operation "a new massacre" and appealed for UN intervention.

Outside Nablus, in the village of Salem, Israeli soldiers surrounded the house of a **Hamas** activist, 28-year-old Amjad Jubur, and shot him dead, both sides said.

Also yesterday, the Israeli military said that faulty intelligence was to blame for the deaths of 14 civilians -- most of them **women** and children -- in an air attack on a Gaza City apartment building that successfully targeted and killed a **Hamas** military leader last month.

In a statement summarizing the military investigation of the incident, the army said it regretted the civilian deaths. The army also said the attack never would have been launched if authorities had known **women** and children were in the building with Salah Shehadeh, head of the **Hamas** military wing.

Israel faced widespread world criticism for the attack.

## Graphic

---

Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; A Palestinian suspect reacts in pain yesterday as an Israeli soldier adjust his handcuffs in the West Bank city of Nablus.

**Load-Date:** August 3, 2002

## *Palestinian militants renew peace efforts*

Times Colonist (Victoria, British Columbia)

July 30, 2002 Tuesday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** World; Pg. A8; News

**Length:** 505 words

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

JERUSALEM -- Palestinian militant groups said Monday they planned to renew their offer to end terror attacks against Israeli civilians despite last week's Israeli air strike that killed an extremist leader and more than a dozen civilians in Gaza City.

The proposed moratorium on attacks against civilians in Israel and the occupied territories was due to be announced last week, but was put on hold because of the Israeli bombing that killed Salah Shehadeh, leader of the terrorist wing of the Hamas resistance movement, a senior aide and 15 civilians including nine children.

Hatem Abdel Kader, a leader of the Fatah Tanzim militia in Jerusalem, said in an interview that he was one of the Palestinian officials involved in hammering out a declaration calling a unilateral halt to armed attacks on Israeli civilians, including settlers.

Southam Newspapers

"We call on all Palestinian political organizations, factions and movements to end all such attacks immediately, and to do so without hesitation or precondition," said the draft declaration.

"We will do everything in our power to end attacks on Israeli civilians, on innocent men, women and children, in both Israel and in the occupied lands of the West Bank and Gaza," the Fatah leaders wrote in an essay accompanying the declaration. "We make this declaration without seeking or demanding any prior conditions.

"The rivers of blood that have so embittered our peoples will be stanchied," they said. "The suicide bombings will be brought to an end. By us. Now."

The draft had been agreed to by local militia leaders all over the West Bank and Gaza Strip before the Israeli attack. Former Palestinian security chief Mohammed Dahlan met with Hamas leaders to secure their tacit agreement as well.

"Our efforts had nearly succeeded," said Abdel Kader. "We in Fatah felt that we had to do something to change the situation. That's why we began a dialogue with Hamas and Islamic Jihad."

But not all agree with the approach. Thousands of Palestinians poured onto the streets of Nablus in defiance of the 40-day-old Israeli army curfew on Monday in the strongest challenge yet to the Israeli army restrictions on West Bank cities and towns.

## Palestinian militants renew peace efforts

If Nablus residents effectively lift the curfew on their own, such actions could spread to other West Bank cities. Nablus Gov. Mahmoud Aloul, who had urged his people to defy the curfew, said. "People who can't find food and need medicine and treatment should break the doors of their jail," Aloul said.

Shops, banks and offices opened to accommodate the curfew breakers, who filled the streets of Nablus. "I've been confined to my home for more than a month. I have eight children, we've eaten all we have," said Tamer Adnan, working at his felafel stand. "I'm just fighting to get food for my kids."

Israeli soldiers in armoured vehicles ringing the city stood by without response, in contrast to tough reactions to earlier violations in which troops have even opened fire on people because of misunderstandings over the curfew's duration.

## Graphic

---

Photo: Vadim Ghirda, Associated Press; Stone-throwing Palestinian children target Israeli tanks near Nablus on the northern portion of the Gaza Strip on Monday.

**Load-Date:** July 30, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Travel ban enforced as Israel gets tough*

THE JOURNAL (Newcastle, UK)

August 6, 2002, Tuesday

Edition JL0608-01A

Copyright 2002 Newcastle Chronicle & Journal Ltd

**Section:** NEWS,

**Length:** 525 words

**Byline:** By Barry Clint, The Journal

### **Body**

---

Israel yesterday enforced a "total ban" on Palestinian travel in much of the West Bank and sealed off a chunk of the Gaza Strip with tanks in response to Palestinian attacks on Israelis that killed 13 people over 24 hours.

Last night, Israeli helicopters fired a missile at a target in Gaza City, witnesses said. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

Defence Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said restrictions on Palestinian movement would be tightened further, and that troops would "maintain a much bigger closure than what we are doing now."

The new restrictions were imposed after a bloody 24-hour period in which a Palestinian suicide bomber blew up an Israeli bus and gunmen carried out shooting attacks in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Thirteen people were killed in these attacks, including 11 Israelis, both Jews and Arabs, and two women from the Philippines. Three assailants also died.

Yesterday, a car blew up in northern Israel, killing one person and injuring another. Police and rescue officials said it appeared the dead passenger was a Palestinian militant en route to carrying out an attack.

Israeli TV said the driver of the car was an Arab Israeli, who picked up a hitchhiker not knowing he was a militant. The driver was injured.

The area of the blast, near the Arab Israeli town of Umm el-Fahm, southeast of Haifa and near the West Bank, is not far from the site of Sunday's bus bombing and several other recent attacks.

Israeli troops yesterday arrested Mazen Foqha, a senior Hamas activist in the West Bank, on suspicion that he supplied the explosives for Sunday's bus attack. Palestinians said Fokha headed the Hamas military wing in the Jenin district.

Ben-Eliezer said Israeli security forces have thwarted 90pc of planned Palestinian attacks, and have intercepted nearly 140 suicide bombers.

## Travel ban enforced as Israel gets tough

Under the new travel ban, Palestinians will not be able to drive in the northern half of the West Bank, between the towns of Nablus, Jenin, Qalqiliya, Tulkarem and Ramallah, the army said. Some movement will be permitted in the southern West Bank, including the towns of Hebron, Bethlehem and Jericho.

"We are in a situation of total closure in the area of Samaria," Ben-Eliezer said, using the biblical name for the northern West Bank. "Nobody enters and nobody leaves."

Stringent restrictions on Palestinian travel have been in place since the outbreak of fighting in September 2000, with Palestinians confined to their communities for extended periods as Israeli troops try to prevent terror attacks.

Palestinians trying to get to jobs and schools often use dirt roads to get around military checkpoints. The military said the announcement of a "total ban" on Palestinian traffic meant that existing blockades would be strictly enforced. Exemptions would be made in humanitarian cases, the military said.

In Gaza, about 25 tanks took up positions on the main north-south road, cutting off the southern town of Rafah and an adjacent refugee camp from the rest of the strip.

Palestinian attacks on Israelis have killed 27 people since an Israeli air strike on July 22 killed leading **Hamas** militant Salah Shehadeh and nine children in Gaza.

**Load-Date:** August 6, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Mideast Terror Brought Home*

The New York Times  
August 4, 2002 Sunday  
Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2002 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section 4; Column 1; Editorial Desk; Pg. 12

**Length:** 516 words

### **Body**

---

Last Wednesday was a day of celebration for many in Gaza City. They handed out sweets and thousands danced in the streets. The cause: seven Jews, five of them American, had been massacred by a remote-control bomb at Jerusalem's Hebrew University. Soon, Israeli armored vehicles were tearing through the West Bank city of Nablus and Israeli troops were blowing up homes of refugee relatives of suicide bombers.

Nearly two years of this cycle -- accelerating Palestinian terror and Israeli military reprisal and occupation -- have numbed us to the horror. The killing goes on over there, life goes on over here. The murder of five Americans brings it home.

Marla Bennett, a 24-year-old from San Diego who was among those killed, liked to write about life in Jerusalem. Last May Ms. Bennett wrote that each decision -- whether to turn right or left -- could be life threatening. But, "if I am here I can take an active role in attempting to put back together all that has been broken. I can volunteer in the homes of Israelis affected by terrorism, I can put food in collection baskets for Palestinian families."

Anyone who has spent time in Jerusalem knows young Americans like Ms. Bennett -- idealistic searchers for whom the study of ancient Jewish texts is brought to life by the pleasure of wandering the city's stony back streets. No matter how frightening it had become, Ms. Bennett said she was alive in Jerusalem in ways she had never known before.

There will doubtless be fewer idealists willing to study in Jerusalem just now. This is a shame because their spirit and openness are in increasingly short supply there. Public sentiment on both sides has hardened into a kind of tribal rage that sees only its own pain. When on July 23 the Israeli military decided to kill Salah Shehada, a top **Hamas** terrorist, it dropped a one-ton bomb on his apartment in an area as densely populated as Manhattan's Upper West Side. Fourteen others, including nine children, were killed with him.

The point here is not that the deaths of innocents caused by Israel's attack and **Hamas's** blatant act of terror are morally equivalent. The point is that they are both terribly wrong. Yitzhak Frankenthal, who lost his son to **Hamas** terrorists in 1994, leads a group of Israelis and Palestinians who have lost children to political violence. He said that if Israeli soldiers had his son's killers in their sights but knew that innocent Palestinians would die as well, he would demand they hold their fire.

"It is unethical to kill innocent Israeli or Palestinian **women** or children," he said. "It is also unethical to control another nation and to lead it to lose its humanness."



## Mideast Terror Brought Home

Israel cannot take the blame for causing the Palestinians "to lose their humaneness." Palestinians must search their own consciences for the depravity of dancing in the streets in celebration of death. But there is plenty of searching for Israel as well. Blowing up homes of terrorists' relatives will not end the terror. Nor will it help create the conditions that will bring more young Americans like Marla Bennett to Jerusalem.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

**Load-Date:** August 4, 2002

---

End of Document

## **Terror trial refugee may come North**

EVENING CHRONICLE (Newcastle, UK)

May 23, 2002, Thursday

Edition 1

Copyright 2002 Newcastle Chronicle & Journal Ltd

**Section:** NEWS LOCAL,

**Length:** 488 words

**Byline:** By The Evening Chronicle

### **Body**

---

A refugee cleared of being a terrorist could end up setting up home in the North East.

As reported in later editions of last night's Chronicle, Adnan Abdelah's trial collapsed in farce after a judge ruled there was no case to answer.

Newcastle Crown Court had heard claims that Mr Abdelah, 22, a Palestinian, of Bavington Drive, Fenham, Newcastle, was a member of terror network **Hamas**.

But the case was thrown out after Judge David Hodson directed the jury to clear him of charges that he was a **Hamas** member and that he had been professing membership of the fanatical organisation.

He said, Abdelah was "more Billy Liar than fanatical terrorist".

Now asylum chiefs have pledged to help Mr Abdelah gain refugee status in this country - providing they get the go-ahead from the Home Office.

Daoud Zaaroura, chief executive of the North of England Refugee Service, said: "It is a very difficult situation because the court case is not directly related to his application for asylum.

"If someone is an asylum seeker we will deal with him from than angle but if he is a member of a terrorist group that is not part of our responsibility.

"If we are approached to help him as an asylum seeker that is what we will do we have a contractual obligation to do so.

"But it is a matter for the Home Office to decide what happens to him, and we will be approaching the Home Office.

"It is up to the National Asylum Seekers Service to give us authorisation to help him, and if we are formally approached by Mr Abdelah then we will ask NASS for permission to help him."

Mr Abdelah had been studying drama at North Tyneside College after arriving as a stowaway on a ferry from Norway in North Shields.

Today fellow students at the college spoke of their shock at hearing of the allegation against Mr Abdelah.

## Terror trial refugee may come North

One **female** student, who asked not to be named, said: "Loads of people are talking about it, we can't believe it.

"No-one seems to know that much about him because I don't think he was here for that long, but it's a bit scary if he was involved in the sort of stuff that came out in court."

Another student said: "We heard he claimed he was some kind of relation to Osama bin Laden but no-one seems to know who he was really." Mr Abdelah had become the first person in the country to stand trial under the Terrorism Act 2000.

Throwing the charges out, Judge David Hodson said: "I have come to the conclusion there's no sufficient evidence that the defendant has taken part in the activities of **Hamas** after it became a prescribed organisation. Therefore neither of these counts can be proved."

During the trial details emerged about how Mr Abdelah had found his way to the region.

Immigration officer William Carmichael told Newcastle Crown Court that Abdelah had left Palestine and travelled to Turkey, from there he went to Hungary before flying to Oslo then taking the overnight train to Bergen.

He then stowed away on a lorry and travelled to the UK.

**Load-Date:** May 24, 2002

## **The Battle of Jenin**

New York Sun (Archive)

April 24, 2002 Wednesday

Copyright 2002 The New York Sun, Two SL, LLC

**Section:** EDITORIAL & OPINION; Pg. 6

**Length:** 514 words

### **Body**

---

No doubt the left-wing opinion elites are going to go into high dudgeon over Jerusalem's decision to refuse to cooperate with the "fact-finding" mission the United Nations wants to send to Jenin. Let them peer at the photograph on today's front page of the corpse of one of three Palestinian Arabs lynched in cold blood yesterday morning by their own fellow Palestinian Arabs.

Elsewhere around the world yesterday, Iran was building a nuclear bomb, Communist China was brutally suppressing labor union organizers, and Saudi Arabia was denying women the right to drive cars. Yet the "emergency session" the Security Council was in last night was to figure out how to launch an effort to smear the Jewish state for defending its citizens against a wave of suicide bombings aimed at women and children.

For what it's worth, a lot of ordinary New Yorkers will see through the U.N.'s game. There doesn't seem to be any move afoot on the Security Council, alas, for an emergency investigation of the Iranians, the Chinese Communists, or the Saudis. Or for an inquiry into the lack of due process or a fair trial for the man whose corpse is pictured on page one. But so long as the U.N. is set on investigating the Battle of Jenin, it might begin with the accounts of the clash that appeared in the Arab press and broadcasts. A batch of these dispatches, translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute, landed in our inbox last night.

One dispatch on the Hamas Web site quotes Sheikh Jamal Abu Al-Hija, the commander of the Hamas Izz Al-Din Al-Qassam Brigades in the Jenin refugee camp, as reporting, "Some of the youths stood fast, and filled their school bags with explosive devices."

The Islamic Jihad commander in the Jenin refugee camp, Abu Jandal, was interviewed several times by the Al-Jazeera television network during the fighting. In one conversation, Abu Jandal said: "Believe me, there are children stationed in the houses with explosive belts at their sides ... Today, one of the children came to me with his school bag. I asked him what he wanted, and he replied, 'Instead of books, I want an explosive device, in order to attack.'"

The Islamic Jihad Web site, meanwhile, announced that its commander in Jenin, Muhammad Tawalbeh, had prevented civilians from leaving the camp. The Islamic Jihad Web site said that Tawalbeh "had thwarted all attempts by the occupation to evacuate the camp residents to make it easier for the Israelis to destroy [the camp] on the heads of the fighters."

So in its investigation into the alleged civilian casualties at Jenin, the U.N. might do well to be less concerned with the level of cooperation it gets from Israel, and more concerned with the level of cooperation it gets from the Hamas and Islamic Jihad commanders who were equipping schoolchildren with explosive devices in their bookbags. Or from the Islamic Jihad commander who was preventing civilians from fleeing the battlefield. Or from Iran, which is

## The Battle of Jenin

funding these terrorist organizations. Or from the Arab thugs who murdered the man whose corpse appears in our page one photograph.

**Load-Date:** November 4, 2003

---

End of Document

## *Attacks prompt travel ban on Palestinians;*

Irish News

August 06, 2002

Copyright 2002 The Irish News Limited

**Section:** Pg. 13

**Length:** 315 words

### **Body**

---

ISRAEL has enforced a "total ban" on Palestinian travel in much of the West Bank and sealed off a chunk of the Gaza Strip with tanks in response to Palestinian attacks on Israelis that killed 13 people over 24 hours.

Defence Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said restrictions on Palestinian movement would be tightened further, and that troops would "maintain a much bigger closure than what we are doing now".

The new restrictions were imposed yesterday after a bloody 24-hour period in which a Palestinian suicide bomber blew up an Israeli bus and gunmen carried out shooting attacks in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Thirteen people were killed in these attacks, including 11 Israelis, both Jews and Arabs, and two women from the Philippines. Three assailants also died.

Meanwhile a car blew up in northern Israel yesterday killing one person and injuring another. Police and rescue officials said it appeared the dead passenger was a Palestinian militant en route to carrying out an attack. Israeli TV reported that the driver of the car was an Arab-Israeli, who picked up a hitchhiker not knowing he was a militant. The driver was injured.

The area of the blast, near the Arab-Israeli town of Umm el-Fahm, south-east of Haifa and near the West Bank, is not far from the site of Sunday's bus bombing and several other recent attacks.

Israeli troops yesterday arrested Mazen Foqha, a senior Hamas activist in the West Bank, on suspicion that he supplied the explosives for Sunday's bus attack.

Palestinians said Mr Fokha headed the Hamas military wing in the Jenin district.

Mr Ben-Eliezer said Israeli security forces had thwarted 90 per cent of planned Palestinian attacks, and had intercepted nearly 140 suicide bombers.

The minister did not say when the would-be attackers were caught.

Under the new travel ban, Palestinians will not be able to drive in the northern half of the West Bank.

**Load-Date:** October 22, 2002

Attacks prompt travel ban on Palestinians;

---

End of Document

**Special report: The men behind the suicide bombers: Origins and aims of groups targeting Israel**

The Guardian (London)

June 12, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 13

**Length:** 349 words

## **Body**

---

### **HAMAS**

Established in Gaza in late 1980s, as offshoot of religious groups associated with Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood. Name is acronym for Islamic Resistance Movement, but also means "zeal" in Arabic. Came to prominence during first intifada which began in 1987, presenting itself as rival to "secular" PLO. Seeks to replace Israel with Islamic Palestinian state. Founder and spiritual leader is Sheikh Ahmad Yasin, 63, who was paralysed by accident in his youth. Enjoys significant popular support among Palestinians. Sub-group known as Izzadin al-Qassem Brigades has carried out numerous attacks against Israel, including suicide bombings.

### **PALESTINE ISLAMIC JIHAD**

Smaller of two main Islamic militant organisations, it developed in Gaza during 1970s and remains series of factions rather than cohesive group. Believes in destruction of Israel and creation of Islamic Palestinian state. Jihad factions also exist in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. Fathi Shaqaqi, its leader, was assassinated by Israeli hit squad in Malta in 1995. Stepped up military activity last year, claiming numerous attacks against Israeli interests.

### **AL-AQSA MARTYRS' BRIGADES**

Secular rival of **Hamas** and Jihad, formed in 2000 by activists linked to Yasser Arafat's Fatah organisation. Initially most attacks directed at Israeli soldiers and settlers in West Bank and Gaza but this year began suicide bombings inside Israel's 1967 borders, including first by **female** bomber. Has strong support in some refugee camps. Several leaders have been assassinated by Israel. Arafat does not recognise the brigades but Israel claims Palestinian Authority has given them financial support.

### **POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE**

Marxist-Leninist group founded in 1967 by George Habash, with uncompromising stance towards Israel. Active internationally in 1970s, and activity increased again last year. In August Israel killed its leader, Ali Abu Mustapha, with rocket fired into his office. In retaliation it killed Israel's extremist tourism minister, Rehavam Ze'evi.

Special report on Israel and the Middle East [guardian.co.uk/israel](http://guardian.co.uk/israel)

**Load-Date:** June 13, 2002



Special report: The men behind the suicide bombers: Origins and aims of groups targeting Israel

---

End of Document

## **TERROR OF SUICIDE BOMB KIDS AGED 8**

Daily Star

March 11, 2002

Copyright 2002 Express Newspapers

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 10

**Length:** 292 words

**Byline:** EXCLUSIVE by ROSS KANIUK

### **Body**

---

PALESTINIAN terror groups are to use children as young as eight and women with prams as suicide bombers.

Terror chiefs say using women posing as mothers walking their babies will make it easier to evade Israeli security in packed civilian areas.

A source claimed "around 20 children, some aged as young as eight, have already volunteered for suicide missions".

Many are from refugee camps across the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The move will crank up the fear and bloodshed in the Middle East after a weekend which saw at least another 23 killed.

It is not known whether Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has approved the shocking new tactic.

But he did endorse two recent suicide attacks by women members of the AlAqsa Martyrs - a militia linked to Arafat's Fatah movement.

The would-be child bombers have been brainwashed by religious leaders, who have preached to them about the honour of martyrdom.

A Hamas leaflet distributed in the West Bank states: "In place of a nuclear arsenal, we are proud of our arsenal of believers."

The decision was made at a secret conference in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley attended by terror groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

Yesterday, it emerged that the training of suicide bombers is being bankrolled by Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. Some of the Iraqi money has also been used to take financial care of the relatives of suicide bombers.

EU foreign ministers will today meet in Brussels to throw their weight behind peace efforts after one of the bloodiest weeks in the 17 months since the start of the uprising.

On Saturday, suicide bomber Fouad Hurani killed 11 and injured dozens after blowing himself up in a crowded Jerusalem cafe.

## TERROR OF SUICIDE BOMB KIDS AGED 8

His mother Haldea said: "Of course I am sad that my son was martyred, but he took revenge."

**Load-Date:** March 11, 2002

---

End of Document

**THE CYCLE OF TIT-FOR-TAT VIOLENCE CONTINUES;**  
**Suicide bomber claims 24 victims**

The Advertiser

January 26, 2002, Saturday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** FOREIGN; Pg. 45

**Length:** 315 words

**Byline:** By JASON KEYSER in Tel Aviv

## **Body**

---

A SUICIDE bomber blew himself up, wounding 24 bystanders in a pedestrian mall in a crowded Tel Aviv shopping area yesterday.

Two of his victims were in serious condition, said police.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility. However, the attack came just hours after the Islamic militant group **Hamas** said it would avenge the killing of a senior commander in an Israeli missile attack in the Gaza Strip on Thursday.

In yesterday's attack, an assailant detonated explosives strapped to his body in a pedestrian mall near the abandoned old bus station in Tel Aviv, an area filled with ethnic restaurants, small groceries and sidewalk pubs.

The explosion overturned wooden benches at a footpath cafe and shattered shop windows. Investigators searched the site with bomb-sniffing dogs and Orthodox Jewish volunteers searched the area for human remains.

"There was an enormous explosion. People were flying in the air," said a witness, Kalman Sitton. Initial reports said the bomber had ridden a motor scooter. However, witnesses later said he was leaning against a scooter belonging to one of the shopowners when he detonated the nail-studded explosives. Israel's Government held Yasser Arafat responsible.

There was no immediate Palestinian comment.

Palestinian Authority officials have accused Israel of triggering the latest round of violence by renewing killings of suspected militants.

Earlier this week, Israeli commandos killed four senior members of **Hamas**' military wing, Izzedine al Qassam, in a raid of their hideout in the West Bank town of Nablus.

Late yesterday, the Izzedine al Qassam commander in Gaza's Khan Yunis refugee camp, Bakr Hamdan, 28, was killed by two missiles fired from an Israeli helicopter at his car.

Two other men were hurt in the continuing tit-for-tat attacks launched since a Palestinian gunman killed two **women** in Jerusalem's shopping district on Tuesday.

THE CYCLE OF TIT-FOR-TAT VIOLENCE CONTINUES; Suicide bomber claims 24 victims

**Load-Date:** January 25, 2002

---

End of Document

## *Israel Hits Police Site After Palestinian Rocket Attack*

The New York Times

February 12, 2002 Tuesday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2002 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 14

**Length:** 760 words

**Byline:** By JAMES BENNET

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM, Feb. 11

### **Body**

---

A wave of Israeli F-16 warplanes struck a Palestinian security compound in Gaza City today after a Palestinian rocket attack on Sunday that Israeli officials called an escalation in the conflict.

Two rockets were launched by the radical group Hamas across the Gaza Strip boundary toward communities in southern Israel. The rockets landed in fields, and no one was injured. Israel had repeatedly promised a harsh response if the Hamas rockets, said to be dangerously inaccurate and to have a range of four to seven miles, were ever used against Israel. Palestinian hospital officials reported that 37 people were wounded in the Israeli air raids.

Israel also struck sites in the Gaza Strip on Sunday night. Those air raids followed an attack by Palestinian gunmen in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba on Sunday. Two Israeli soldiers, both women, were killed in the shooting.

On Tuesday morning, the Israeli Army raided the town of Halhoul in the West Bank, killing one Palestinian and arresting two militants, Palestinian and Israeli officials said, according to Reuters. A Palestinian official said a member of the security forces was shot dead as he fled a checkpoint during the raid. The Israeli Army said it killed a gunman after he opened fire, and arrested militants involved in smuggling arms and deadly shooting attacks.

After the Israeli bombings today, a number of Palestinian militants went free from prison. Many of the security compounds that Israel has attacked in recent months, including the one in Gaza today, hold jails.

Palestinian demonstrators have regularly demanded after such attacks, or in anticipation of them, that prisoners be freed for their own protection. In Gaza, Palestinian security officers moved prisoners from the compound under bombardment to a separate, less secure building. When demonstrators began flinging stones at the Palestinian security forces, the officers fired in the air to disperse them but then let some prisoners go, witnesses said.

Tonight, 300 Palestinians stormed a prison in the West Bank city of Hebron, which was not under Israeli attack. Palestinian security officials said the officers on duty had decided not to fire on the crowd and had permitted them to free 16 prisoners.

Palestinians in Hebron said they had feared an Israeli raid on the security compound there because the two gunmen who had carried out the attack in Beersheba were from a nearby town. Both men were shot dead at the scene in Beersheba.

## Israel Hits Police Site After Palestinian Rocket Attack

Israel's defense minister, Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, called the **Hamas** rockets, of a type known as Qassam-2, "a new level of threat." But some Israeli politicians wondered why the government was treating the rockets as any more lethal than other forms of attack.

"I can't draw a distinction between Qassam-2 rockets and these terrible ticking suicide bombs coming into Israel," said Yossi Sarid, the leader of the leftist opposition in the Israeli Parliament.

In Gaza today, Terje Roed-Larsen, the United Nations special coordinator for the Middle East, toured United Nations offices that were damaged in Sunday night's attack. Israel apologized for the damage.

Mr. Roed-Larsen took the unusual step of meeting with representatives of several Palestinian factions, including **Hamas**. "I think at this point in time it's incredibly important to have a dialogue with all factions in the Palestinian society, based on the principle of zero tolerance for terrorism and on the principle of using peaceful means in order to reach an agreement," Mr. Roed-Larsen said.

In four attacks since Wednesday night, Palestinian militants have killed six **female** Israelis -- one of them a 79-year-old woman and another an 11-year old girl -- and one man, an army reservist.

On Sunday the chief of Israel's national police made official what every Israeli knew: last year was the worst in terms of terrorist violence in Israel's history. Shlomo Aharonishki, the inspector general of the Israeli police, said things would only get worse. "The working assumption of the Israeli police is that terror will increase and grow stronger," he said. Israeli statistics show that Palestinian militants killed 208 Israelis in 2001 and Israeli forces killed more than three times that many Palestinians.

Today, an Israeli military court sentenced a Palestinian to 26 consecutive life prison terms for masterminding two suicide bombings in Jerusalem in 1997. The court sentenced the man, Muaid Said, 31, to a life term for each of 21 Israelis killed in the attacks and a life term for each of the five Palestinian bombers who died.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

---

Photos: Israeli soldiers, above, displayed Palestinian rockets last week at an Israeli Army base outside the Palestinian town of Nablus in the West Bank. Below, a Palestinian policeman stood next to a crater in Gaza yesterday, in front of a Palestinian security compound that was hit by an Israeli airstrike. (Photographs by Agence France-Presse) Map of Israel highlighting Gaza: Israeli jets struck Gaza after Palestinians launched rockets at Israel.

**Load-Date:** February 12, 2002

## **ISRAEL, PALESTINIANS NEAR DEAL ON HOW TO DISARM MILITANTS**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

May 31, 2003 Saturday Five Star Late Lift Edition

Copyright 2003 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 6

**Length:** 533 words

**Byline:** Ravi Nessman The Associated Press

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

\* Meanwhile, the United States warns of possible kidnappings of Americans in the Gaza Strip.

Israelis and Palestinians neared agreement Friday over disarming Palestinian militants as both sides prepare to meet with President George W. Bush.

But security remained a key issue - as underscored by a U.S. Embassy warning of "credible reports" about plans to kidnap U.S. citizens in Gaza.

The Israelis have demanded that Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas crack down on militant groups. Abbas says he prefers persuasion and has been working to negotiate cease-fires.

Both sides said Friday that they would be willing to accept a combination of the two plans.

Abbas told Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in a meeting Thursday night that a cease-fire would be only the first phase of a crackdown, a senior Palestinian official said Friday.

If Israel refrains from military operations in Palestinian areas, the Palestinians will collect weapons and force militant groups to integrate into the political system, said the official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Sharon understood that efforts to shut down the groups would have to start with a cease-fire, said adviser Zalman Shoval.

"There was an understanding, but I want to be clear that they have to start cracking down on terror immediately," Shoval said.

Israel believes Abbas is heading in the right direction, he said.

"We got the impression that the Palestinians were serious about fighting the terror," Shoval said.

But the U.S. Embassy announced that it had received "credible reports" of plans to kidnap U.S. citizens in the Gaza Strip.

The embassy gave no details.



## ISRAEL, PALESTINIANS NEAR DEAL ON HOW TO DISARM MILITANTS

The Islamic militant groups **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad are based mainly in Gaza. Both have claimed responsibility for scores of attacks that have killed more than 350 people in 2 1/2 years.

Although Americans have been killed, they have usually died in attacks that targeted Israelis. **Hamas** said it did not target Americans.

Some Palestinians and Israeli settlers in the Gaza Strip hold American citizenship. Other U.S. citizens are in the area as international aid workers and peace activists. The U.S. Embassy said fewer than 500 Americans were in Gaza.

Security has been a main sticking point ahead of Abbas and Sharon's meeting with Bush, planned for the Jordanian resort of Aqaba on Wednesday. At that meeting, the Palestinians want Israel to endorse their right to statehood.

Declarations by each side recognizing the rights of the other to statehood and security are supposed to be the first step of the U.S.-backed "road map" toward peace. The plan first calls for a halt to violence. It ends with a full-fledged Palestinian nation in 2005.

Abbas has been working for more than a week to try to halt new attacks by militants. In an Israeli television appearance Friday night, he said **Hamas** could agree within a few days to a cease-fire.

The leader of Islamic Jihad also offered a conditional cease-fire. But the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades said it would continue attacks.

The Israelis argue that it will be impossible to dismantle the militant groups and disarm them without using force because they have known no other life.

But Abbas said Friday that force would be unnecessary.

## Notes

---

TOP OF THE NEWS

## Graphic

---

PHOTO; Photo by the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE - Israeli members of the **Women's** Coalition for Peace lie on the ground Friday on a Tel Aviv square in memory of those who have died in the 36 years of Israeli control of the Palestinian territories.

**Load-Date:** May 31, 2003

**BLOODY BOMB ATTACK LEAVES 7 DEAD, 80 HURT;  
CROWDED CAFETERIA IS HIT AT JERUSALEM UNIVERSITY; THREE  
AMERICANS KILLED**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

August 1, 2002 Thursday

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2002 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 1291 words

**Byline:** JAMES BENNET AND JOHN KIFNER, THE NEW YORK TIMES

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

---

A powerful bomb hidden in a bag and left on a table tore apart a bustling cafeteria during lunch at Jerusalem's Hebrew University yesterday, killing at least seven people, including three Americans, and wounding more than 80.

The radical Palestinian group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for the bombing. Police said the assailant who left the bomb apparently escaped unharmed.

Through a bedlam of screams and crashing glass, students fled in horror from the cafeteria, in the Frank Sinatra Student Center, some trailing blood onto the concrete courtyard of Nancy Reagan Plaza.

Because of the campus' diverse student body -- it is one of the few enclaves in Jerusalem where Israeli Jews and Israeli Arabs still mix -- students said they had felt safe, even as new violence threatened the city this week. Arab students were among the wounded, hospital officials said, as were foreign students.

In Washington, the State Department reported the deaths of the three Americans, two **women** and one man. One victim, Janis Coulter of New York City, was identified last night by the American Friends of Hebrew University.

The State Department declined to identify the American victims further as consular officials worked to notify relatives.

Philip Reeker, a department spokesman, called the attack "absolutely tragic and outrageous."

President Bush condemned the attack and said it was perpetrated by "killers who hate the thought of peace and therefore are willing to take their hatred to all kinds of places, including a university."

It was the second bombing in two days in Jerusalem but the first attack on the Mount Scopus campus of Hebrew University since 1948.

**Hamas** said it acted in retaliation for Israel's killing last week of a top **Hamas** leader. Fourteen others, including nine children, died in that attack, in which Israel dropped a one-ton bomb on a house in Gaza City.

## BLOODY BOMB ATTACK LEAVES 7 DEAD, 80 HURT; CROWDED CAFETERIA IS HIT AT JERUSALEM UNIVERSITY ; THREE AMERICANS KILLED

Spencer Dew, 26, a divinity student from the University of Chicago studying at Hebrew University for the summer, was eating on the patio when he heard the blast, then smelled gunpowder. Cut by flying glass, he joined the fleeing crowd, then returned for a notebook, which had also been pierced by glass.

"I know there are justifications -- bad justifications," he said of the political violence, his shirt spotted crimson and his khaki pants torn as he left a city hospital. "It's killing college students. That's no political solution for anything. It's killing college kids."

As emergency workers cleared the site, Abeer Salman, 19, a student from the Arab village of Beit Safafa, sat on the stone steps of the plaza, stunned.

"I was across the plaza," she said. "My friend wanted to get something to drink. After two minutes we heard a blast, and we can't find her."

Israeli officials said the attack fit a Palestinian strategy of killing civilians. "This is a continuous effort by the Palestinians to kill as many Israelis as possible in order to sabotage the peace process," said Gideon Meir, a senior Foreign Ministry official. "It has nothing to do with what happened in Gaza City a week ago."

The Palestinian Authority, led by Yasser Arafat, issued a statement saying it "absolutely condemns the attack against Hebrew University" but adding that it blamed Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon for provoking violence.

### Israel expected attacks

After back-to-back bombings killed 26 people here more than a month ago, Israel began a ground offensive in the West Bank that until Tuesday appeared to have successfully suppressed Palestinian violence, in part by imposing curfews on seven of eight Palestinian cities. But Palestinian militants vowed retaliation after the bombing last week, and the head of Israel's security agency warned Tuesday that at least 60 attacks were being planned.

After five people were injured in the suicide bombing here Tuesday, Sharon met senior security advisers before yesterday's attack to discuss ways of coping with suicide bombers, and the group endorsed the idea of deporting members of the killers' families. Last night, Israeli military officials convened to consider possible retaliation.

Ron Krumer, a spokesman for the Hadassah Medical Center on Mount Scopus, where some of the wounded were taken, said the victims suffered "penetrating injuries, with lots of metal elements, such as bolts and screws and nails, all over their bodies."

The bomb sprayed blood across the acoustic ceiling tiles, tore apart wooden chairs and scattered the antique radios decorating the cafeteria. A large jar of pickled radishes sat unbroken on one counter, as an officer a few feet away used large tweezers to pick evidence out of a pool of blood.

Students jotted down lists of friends and frantically dialed their cell phones, checking off the names of those who responded. Others called home to say they were all right.

"I got delayed; I'm the luckiest man in the world," Allistaire Goldrein, 19, of Liverpool, England, told his worried father, calling from England. Goldrein said he ate in the cafeteria every day, and was delayed yesterday by another student.

"I was coming around the corner, and suddenly there was this huge explosion," he said. "I can't describe it -- huge. The very foundation of the stone structure was shaken."

Goldrein said he raced inside. "It was carnage in there," he said. "Carnage, anarchy. It was disgusting. I saw dead people. I saw people with no heads. There was a guy, I gave him mouth to mouth, but he was dead."

## BLOODY BOMB ATTACK LEAVES 7 DEAD, 80 HURT; CROWDED CAFETERIA IS HIT AT JERUSALEM UNIVERSITY ; THREE AMERICANS KILLED

The campus is fenced, and guards check the bags of those who enter. But some students complained that the security was porous, and an investigation by a campus newspaper last January warned that a cafeteria would make an appealing, accessible target.

"The security tries to do their best," said Kobi Cohen, the student union president. "But there are a lot of holes in the fence. A lot of guards don't check the bags well."

Cohen, who helped rescue the wounded, said, "We always believed that because there are Arab students here and Arab workers, nobody will try to hurt us here."

Just outside the campus yesterday afternoon, police detained scores of Arab men, including some who appeared to be students, keeping them standing in the sun for several hours as they searched for suspects.

Representatives of an anti-Palestine faction arrived at the blast site and unfurled a banner declaring, "It's them or us" and "Expel the Arab enemy." Dror Lederman, 26, a student of economics and accounting, angrily accosted one man. "Get out of here," he said. "You come every time. You come to dance on the blood."

Students watched in shock as emergency workers carried their peers away on orange stretchers, through an area where graduation ceremonies are held. "I was standing in the Forum and watching them bring people on stretchers, and I saw blood and shoes and IVs on the ground," said Sophia Aron, 19, of Los Angeles, a student from the University of California at Davis who is studying in Israel for a year. "Right in the Forum. It freaks me out. But I'm not leaving."

Dr. Mahmoud al-Zahar, a political leader of Hamas, blamed Israel for the attack. "Such operations will continue until the elimination of the occupation," he said. Hamas leaders consider all of Israel to be occupied territory, not just the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, which Israel occupied in 1967.

Shlomo Avineri, a professor of political science at the university, said, "This is beyond the pale, to attack a university, and it shows what the war is about. It's not about the settlements. It's not about occupation. It's about the very existence of a Jewish population in this country."

He predicted that on the campus, "the anger will overshadow the agony -- the sense that they're not going to shut off the Hebrew University."

## Graphic

---

PHOTO: David Guttenfelder/Associated Press: A man helps a wounded near the scene of the explosion at Hebrew University yesterday.

PHOTO: Markus Schreiber/Associated Press: Young supporters of Hamas celebrate in Gaza Strip last night after a bomb was detonated in a crowded cafeteria at the Frank Sinatra Student Center in Jerusalem during lunchtime, killing at least seven people and wounding more than 80.

**Load-Date:** August 2, 2002

**Israeli tanks roll through Gaza City;  
Three Palestinians killed in fighting**

Windsor Star (Ontario)

April 3, 2003 Thursday Final Edition

Copyright 2003 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. C8; News

**Length:** 602 words

**Byline:** The Associated Press

**Dateline:** Gaza City

## **Body**

---

Israeli tanks, accompanied by attack helicopters, invaded a refugee camp near the Gaza-Egypt border late Wednesday, killing three Palestinians, doctors said.

Earlier, Israeli troops rounded up hundreds of men in a sweep of Tulkarem on the West Bank of the Jordan River and demolished the home of a jailed Palestinian accused in a string of attacks.

In Gaza, residents said about 25 tanks and several bulldozers entered the refugee camp next to Rafah. Palestinian gunmen shot at the soldiers and an Apache helicopter fired back, killing a Palestinian. Two others died in an exchange of fire and eight were wounded in the violence, doctors said.

AP

The Israeli military would say only an operation was in progress. Israel Radio reported four Israeli soldiers were wounded when a bomb went off under a tank.

The area is the scene of daily clashes between armed Palestinians and Israeli soldiers and Israel often sends in bulldozers to destroy buildings used by gunmen for cover.

The arrested men in Tulkarem were held in a barbed-wire enclosure for several hours and then all but seven were released. Another four suspected militants, including a **Hamas** member accused of planning shooting attacks, were arrested elsewhere on the West Bank.

The military said during the Tulkarem operation troops caught a wanted militant trying to slip out of the town's refugee camp disguised in **women**'s clothing.

The military's operations came as Mahmoud Abbas, the recently named Palestinian prime minister, met with political leaders in the Gaza Strip on Wednesday to discuss the formation of his new cabinet, expected later this month.

Abbas, who is widely known as Abu Mazen, also met in recent days with leaders of the **Hamas** militant group, based in Gaza. Abbas has been trying to persuade **Hamas** and the smaller Islamic Jihad to end, at least for a period, attacks against Israelis.

## Israeli tanks roll through Gaza City; Three Palestinians killed in fighting

Israel has said a U.S.-backed "road map" for Palestinian statehood cannot move forward as long as attacks persist. President George W. Bush said the road map will be formally presented as soon as Abbas and his cabinet are officially confirmed.

### Possible thaw

Meanwhile, there were other signals of a possible thaw in Israeli-Palestinian relations, which have been devastated by 30 months of deadly violence and bitter recrimination.

Israeli security officials met for the first time in months with Palestinian security officials, said Ribhi Arafat, a Palestinian commander. Two meetings took place last Tuesday and Thursday, in Israel near the Gaza border, he said.

The Palestinians asked for Israel's eventual withdrawal from the West Bank, while the Israelis asked for an end to attacks, Arafat said.

"We said that we are ready for security control...after the Israelis pull out," said Arafat.

"We are waiting for an answer from the Israelis."

Over the last year, efforts to return occupied areas to the control of the Palestinian Authority fell apart when they were subsequently used by militants to regroup and launch attacks on Israel.

Under interim peace accords, the Palestinian Authority is supposed to control about 40 per cent of the West Bank but in a series of incursions that followed suicide bomb attacks, the Israeli military has gradually retaken most of the areas, including all but one of the main Palestinian cities and towns.

A spokeswoman from the Israeli Defence Ministry would neither confirm nor deny the security meetings took place.

Reviving security talks would be one of many steps that could help thaw icy relations between the two sides, who have been locked in 30 months of fighting.

**Load-Date:** April 3, 2003

**U.S. DENOUNCES ATTACK ON ISRAELIS;  
GUNMAN FIRES ON CROWD, WOUNDING 16, HOURS AFTER ISLAMIC  
MILITANTS ARE KILLED**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

January 23, 2002 Wednesday Three Star Edition

Copyright 2002 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A1

**Length:** 701 words

**Byline:** From News Services

**Dateline:** WASHINGTON

## **Body**

---

The United States condemned a Palestinian gunman's attack Tuesday on Jerusalem's main shopping street that wounded 16 Israelis. It also said it planned to send its peace envoy back to the region but gave no date.

"We absolutely condemn this terrorist attack. There's no justification for these kinds of attacks. They only kill innocent people," Richard Boucher, a State Department spokesman, said in a news briefing.

The gunman, armed with an assault rifle, opened fire on Israelis waiting in the rain for a bus in the heart of Jerusalem. The attack happened hours after Israeli commandos stormed an explosives laboratory and killed four Islamic militants in the West Bank town of Nablus. The violence provoked outrage and warnings of retaliation on both sides.

Police fatally shot the gunman, Saeed Ramadan, a member of the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a militant group linked to Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement. The shooting was in retaliation for last week's killing of an Al Aqsa Brigades' leader, sources in the group said.

Boucher said the United States was pushing Arafat to crack down on groups responsible for such attacks.

"Once again, the point is that he needs to dismantle the organizations that do these things. It's not a matter of whether they decide they will or they won't carry out attacks. It's making sure that they can't," he said.

Boucher said the United States also continued to oppose Israeli incursions into Palestinian-controlled territory and welcomed reports that Israeli troops had pulled out of the West Bank city of Tulkarem.

The Israelis said they conducted Tuesday's commando raid in Nablus and other pre-emptive operations because Arafat repeatedly had refused to act against militants. They also held Arafat responsible for the shooting attack on one of west Jerusalem's busiest streets.

"You can certainly expect an Israeli reaction," said Avi Pazner, an Israeli government spokesman. "Israel has done very little until now. Apparently this was not strong enough medicine, and maybe a strong reaction is needed."

## U.S. DENOUNCES ATTACK ON ISRAELIS; GUNMAN FIRES ON CROWD, WOUNDING 16, HOURS AFTER ISLAMIC MILITANTS ARE KILLED

But Ahmed Abdel Rahman, the Palestinian Cabinet secretary, said Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon "has to blame himself for pushing the Palestinians to react against this continuous aggression."

The shooting Tuesday in Jerusalem took place near the corner of Jaffa and King George streets, only a few yards from where a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up at a pizzeria in August, killing 15 people.

Akiva Harari, 21, who witnessed the attack, said the gunman, wearing a heavy coat, emerged from a parking lot.

"I saw him shoot two women and they fell," he said. Police then chased the gunman back into the parking lot, followed by several minutes of sporadic gunfire, Harari said.

Sixteen people were shot, with six of them seriously wounded. In addition, more than 20 people were treated for shock, police and rescue workers said.

### Raid on hide-out in Nablus

In the Israeli raid in Nablus early Tuesday, Israeli commandos entered a ground-floor apartment in a nine-story residential building where Hamas fugitives were hiding, Palestinian witnesses said.

As the soldiers entered the building, Palestinians set off a bomb and fired at the troops, said Israeli Brig. Gen. Yitzhak Eitan. Four soldiers were slightly wounded, he said.

### Official says militants were killed while sleeping

The Palestinian intelligence chief in Nablus, Talak Dweikat, said it appeared the four dead men were killed while sleeping.

Palestinian medics said they had found three bodies lying on a floor covered with mattresses and the fourth in the shower, in a sitting position. The man in the shower was stripped to his underwear and the shower tiles were smeared with blood.

Soldiers found large amounts of explosives in the apartment, and nine suspects were arrested, the army said.

Palestinian officials identified the dead as members of the Hamas military wing, including the Nablus leader of the group, Yousef Soragji. Hamas has carried out several deadly bombings on Israel.

The army said all four had been released by the Palestinian Authority shortly after the Israeli-Palestinian fighting began 16 months ago and had been involved in planning bombing attacks on Israelis.

## Graphic

---

PHOTO; THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Color Photos; (1) An Israeli soldier in a modified army armored personnel carrier keeps an eye on a street in the West Bank town of Nablus on Tuesday. Israeli commandos raided a hide-out and explosives factory in Nablus early Tuesday and killed four members of the militant group Hamas; (2) Ambulances clog Jaffa Road in downtown Jerusalem Tuesday where a Palestinian gunman armed with an assault rifle opened fire on Israelis waiting for a bus. Israeli police shot and killed the gunman, a member of the militant group Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades.

**Load-Date:** January 23, 2002



U.S. DENOUNCES ATTACK ON ISRAELIS; GUNMAN FIRES ON CROWD, WOUNDING 16, HOURS AFTER  
ISLAMIC MILITANTS ARE KILLED

---

End of Document

## *Israel Shuts Down Two Palestinian Universities*

New York Sun (Archive)

January 16, 2003 Thursday

Copyright 2003 The New York Sun, Two SL, LLC

**Section:** FOREIGN; Pg. 5

**Length:** 663 words

**Byline:** By JAMIE TARABAY

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

Nabil Abu Rdeneh, aide to Yasser Arafat, yesterday said Egypt is to host a series of meetings next week of Palestinian factions, aimed at forging a common program. Earlier meetings in Cairo between Arafat's Fatah and the violent Islamic **Hamas**, aimed at an end to suicide bombings in Israel, ended inconclusively.

Meanwhile, Israel closed

two Palestinian universities yesterday and pumped cement into three east Jerusalem houses to destroy apartments belonging to Palestinians convicted in a series of deadly bombings.

Also yesterday, three Palestinians were killed in scattered clashes with Israeli soldiers in the West Bank - two teenagers and a man said by relatives to be mentally ill, according to Palestinian Arabs and the Israeli army.

Israeli forces closed the Islamic University and the Polytechnic Institute in Hebron as part of its response to a Palestinian suicide bombing in Tel Aviv earlier this month. That attack killed 23 people.

Some students at the universities belong to militant groups, including **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad, and use its facilities to plan and carry out attacks, the army said in a statement.

America criticized Israel's closure of the Islamic University and the Polytechnic Institute, both in the West Bank town of Hebron.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the action was not in the interest of either side.

Palestinian Arab Education Minister Naim Abu'l Humus accused the Israelis of attempting to "sabotage the education process, which already has been badly affected through sieges, closures and curfews."

In eastern Jerusalem, Israeli police, accompanied by cement trucks and Asian workers, filled three houses with barrel after barrel of wet cement. They also punched holes in opposite sides of the houses and placed long steel beams through the houses at chest level to further discourage anyone from returning.

Unlike dozens of other Palestinian homes, these were not torn down because each contained other apartments police said they did not want to damage.

But another home in east Jerusalem was bulldozed after Israeli forces blew up part of it.

## Israel Shuts Down Two Palestinian Universities

Israel said the homes belong to four **Hamas** militants convicted of organizing bombings that killed 35 people last year, including five Americans who died in a July attack at Hebrew University. All are serving life sentences except one, who received a 60-year prison term.

Israel has demolished dozens of homes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to deter Palestinian Arabs from carrying out attacks on Israelis - a tactic Palestinian Arabs condemn as collective punishment. However, yesterday's demolitions were the first in eastern Jerusalem during the 28-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Yasser Arafat criticized recent Israeli military actions.

The Israelis "are continuing their military escalation against our people, lands, institutions, **women** and children everywhere," Mr. Arafat said.

In Tulkarem, Israeli troops entered a refugee camp to arrest suspected militants, the army said.

A Palestinian Arab detonated several bombs, and soldiers fired and killed him, the army said. Palestinian hospital officials said Mouhi Aldin Hamza, 16, was killed in the clash.

A second 16-year-old Palestinian Arab was killed by Israeli troops in stone throwing clashes that erupted later in Tulkarem, Palestinian witnesses and officials said.

In Kabatiya village in the northern West Bank, Israeli troops surrounded a building where two suspected militants were hiding, and demanded that the pair surrender, Palestinian Arab witnesses said.

A gun battle erupted between the soldiers and the gunmen. When a third Palestinian Arab man began walking toward the troops, and ignored warnings to stop, Israeli troops shot him dead.

The man was identified as Ribhi Zakarna, 42, by relatives who said he was mentally ill. The two Palestinian Arab gunmen inside the house eventually surrendered, witnesses said.

Overall, more than 20 suspected Palestinian Arab terrorists were arrested in sweeps overnight, the army said.

**Load-Date:** January 22, 2004

## *Israeli tanks invade Gaza refugee camp*

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

April 3, 2003 Thursday

Final Edition

Copyright 2003 Prince George Citizen All Rights Reserved

**Section:** CANADA/WORLD; Pg. 14

**Length:** 855 words

**Byline:** (See hardcopy for illustration)

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY

### **Body**

---

GAZA CITY (AP) -- Israeli tanks, accompanied by attack helicopters, invaded a refugee camp near the Gaza-Egypt border late Wednesday, killing three Palestinians, doctors said.

Earlier, Israeli troops rounded up hundreds of men in a sweep of Tulkarem on the West Bank of the Jordan River and demolished the home of a jailed Palestinian accused in a string of attacks.

In Gaza, residents said about 25 tanks and several bulldozers entered the refugee camp next to Rafah. Palestinian gunmen shot at the soldiers and an Apache helicopter fired back, killing a Palestinian. Two others died in an exchange of fire and eight were wounded in the violence, doctors said.

The Israeli military would say only an operation was in progress. Israel Radio reported four Israeli soldiers were wounded when a bomb went off under a tank.

The area is the scene of daily clashes between armed Palestinians and Israeli soldiers and Israel often sends in bulldozers to destroy buildings used by gunmen for cover.

The arrested men in Tulkarem were held in a barbed-wire enclosure for several hours and then all but seven were released. Another four suspected militants, including a **Hamas** member accused of planning shooting attacks, were arrested elsewhere on the West Bank.

The military said during the Tulkarem operation troops caught a wanted militant trying to slip out of the town's refugee camp disguised in **women**'s clothing.

The military's operations came as Mahmoud Abbas, the recently named Palestinian prime minister, met with political leaders in the Gaza Strip on Wednesday to discuss the formation of his new cabinet, expected later this month.

Abbas, who is widely known as Abu Mazen, also met in recent days with leaders of the **Hamas** militant group, based in Gaza. Abbas has been trying to persuade **Hamas** and the smaller Islamic Jihad to end, at least for a period, attacks against Israelis.

## Israeli tanks invade Gaza refugee camp

Israel has said a U.S.-backed "road map" for Palestinian statehood cannot move forward as long as attacks persist. President George W. Bush said the road map will be formally presented as soon as Abbas and his cabinet are officially confirmed.

Meanwhile, there were other signals of a possible thaw in Israeli-Palestinian relations, which have been devastated by 30 months of deadly violence and bitter recrimination.

Israeli security officials met for the first time in months with Palestinian security officials, said Ribhi Arafat, a Palestinian commander. Two meetings took place last Tuesday and Thursday, in Israel near the Gaza border, he said.

The Palestinians asked for Israel's eventual withdrawal from the West Bank, while the Israelis asked for an end to attacks, Arafat said.

"We said that we are ready for security control...after the Israelis pull out," said Arafat.

"We are waiting for an answer from the Israelis."

Over the last year, efforts to return occupied areas to the control of the Palestinian Authority fell apart when they were subsequently used by militants to regroup and launch attacks on Israel.

Under interim peace accords, the Palestinian Authority is supposed to control about 40 per cent of the West Bank but in a series of incursions that followed suicide bomb attacks, the Israeli military has gradually retaken most of the areas, including all but one of the main Palestinian cities and towns.

A spokeswoman from the Israeli Defence Ministry would neither confirm nor deny the security meetings took place.

Reviving security talks would be one of many steps that could help thaw icy relations between the two sides, who have been locked in 30 months of fighting. Both are under international pressure to find a way to end the violence and resume peace talks.

Israeli officials, meanwhile, have in recent days said they detect a genuine effort by Abbas to try to stop the violence.

Israeli Defence Minister Shaul Mofaz was quoted Wednesday saying he hoped Abbas's efforts would not be torpedoed by Arafat.

"Arafat will try to raise difficulties for Abu Mazen," he told the Israeli Web site Y-net.

"The stronger Abu Mazen is, the more he'll be able to bring change."

Mofaz was also quoted saying he hoped peace talks with an Abbas government could resume by the end of the year.

Israel said Arafat has encouraged terrorism and in some cases provided militants with funds. The Palestinians deny such charges, noting Arafat has made numerous public appeals for an end to attacks; they also say they are powerless against the militants because Israel has crushed their security forces and severely limited their freedom of movement.

On Wednesday, Israeli troops arrested four men in the West Bank town Hebron. Two allegedly belonged to **Hamas**, while the other two belonged to Islamic Jihad, which claimed responsibility for Sunday's suicide bombing near a cafe in the coastal town Netanya. The attack wounded dozens of Israelis.

Soldiers also demolished the home of Omar Abu Sneineh on Wednesday in Hebron. He is a member of the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, which is linked to Arafat's Fatah party. He was jailed three months ago after being accused in several bomb attacks and shootings, the army said. It was unclear whether he has been charged.

## Israeli tanks invade Gaza refugee camp

**Load-Date:** February 17, 2006

---

End of Document

## Briefly

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

December 14, 2002 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. D02; Brief

**Length:** 598 words

## **Body**

---

### ONTARIO

#### Murder-suicide in Vaughan

VAUGHAN -- Police were canvassing a townhouse complex yesterday after a man and woman were found dead in an apparent murder-suicide.

Dead are Peter and Vera Islamkin. Their son came home to find his mother's body in the hall. Police found the man dead in the basement.

The Hamilton Spectator

"We're treating this as a murder-suicide," Constable Steve Morrell said. "There were obvious signs of trauma on the female."

#### Left lane only for passing

TORONTO -- The government's overhaul of the Road Safety Act includes tougher fines for street racers and allows police to seize the car.

Transport Minister Norm Sterling says he's also after people who go slow in the fast lane by making the left lane of big highways the passing lanes.

And Ontario will make car booster seats mandatory for young children ages five to nine. And he will impose limits on the darkness of after-market tinting applied to cars and trucks.

#### Natives want revenue sharing

TORONTO -- First Nations from Northern Ontario warn that conflict with natural resource developers is inevitable unless a process to ensure fair revenue sharing is put in place.

They are disappointed the Tories voted down a resolution that called for such a process. The 10,000 First Nations peoples argue revenue-sharing from development on their lands would enhance their economic self-sufficiency. Municipalities automatically share in the rewards of projects within their boundaries through taxation, but aboriginals do not.

### CANADA

## Briefly

Bus hits truck, 24 kids injured

ST-SEVERE, Que. -- Twenty-four children were treated for minor injuries yesterday after a collision between their school bus and a semi-trailer truck transporting pigs.

Police said initial information indicated the truck was blocking the road in Quebec's Mauricie region, midway between Quebec City and Montreal.

## WORLD

**Hamas** parades bombers

KHAN YOUNIS, Gaza Strip -- **Hamas** marked its 15th anniversary yesterday with threats to keep attacking Israel, delivered at a rally led by dozens of armed men and would-be suicide bombers in white robes.

Gathered at a stadium, at least 30,000 supporters chanted "God is great" to cheer **Hamas** founder, Ahmed Nimer Hamdan, who said fighters of the Islamic militant group "will not lay down their weapons and will not stop firing their bullets until the end of this battle."

In Khan Younis, Palestinians buried five labourers killed by Israeli tank fire. The relatives tried to sneak into Israel to find work, and had no weapons. In Hebron, Israeli troops bulldozed three Palestinian homes after a sniper killed two Israeli soldiers, including the first woman slain in combat in the past two years.

\$10,000 tip for waitress' son

QUINCY, Massachusetts -- A Massachusetts waitress got a \$10,000 tip from one of her regular customers.

Sarah Nilsen says she got the cheque in the mail, made out to her 11-month-old son.

The 22-year-old woman waits tables to supplement her job at an insurance agency.

She won't identify the man but says he's a regular and she's been talking to him about her son, Andrew, since he visited the restaurant with her when he was three months old.

NYC transit strike prevented

NEW YORK -- A judge has barred New York City transit workers from carrying out a threatened strike.

A walkout by the 34,000-member transit union would paralyze the mass transit system and strand seven million daily riders.

The judge ruled state law clearly bans strikes by public employees and said a walkout would be "debilitating and destructive."

The contract was due to expire at 12:01 a.m. Monday.

-- Hamilton Spectator wire services

**Load-Date:** December 14, 2002



## **IF HE WANTS TO BE A SUICIDE BOMBER, HE COMES TO US**

The Scotsman

March 9, 2002, Saturday

Copyright 2002 The Scotsman Publications Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 11

**Length:** 1294 words

**Byline:** Tim Cornwell

### **Body**

---

A NEW birthplace of Israel's pain might have come in a narrow alley in the Balata refugee camp here, on an autumn evening in 2000, when five men sat around in chairs to sip water, drink small cups of strong coffee and smoke.

It was after a day of "heavy confrontation" with the Israelis around a city that has long been a hotbed of Palestinian radicalism. The early days of the second intifada were raging; a Palestinian farmer had been shot dead by a settler.

Yasser Badawi took the lead. "He said we must form a very strong, fearful band or group, to put an end to settler occupation," said his brother, Nasser. "Our target was clear. Our goal was attacking the Israeli army, the settlers, in the occupied territories."

Then or later, the brothers took a name: the al-Aqsa group, for Jerusalem's al-Aqsa mosque. Yasser Badawi is dead, blown up in his car in August in a presumed assassination by the Israelis.

But as the conflict of strike and counter-strike sent the body count soaring these last seven days in the Middle East, approaching something close to guerrilla war, the al-Aqsa Brigades are at the forefront.

Challenging the image of the Palestinian fighter as a rock-throwing youth, tinpot gunman or crazed bomber, the brigades claimed a single sniper's shooting of seven Israeli soldiers and three civilians at a West Bank check point on the Nablus road last weekend.

Days before they had killed more soldiers and blown up an Israeli tank in Gaza.

But they also carried out the horrific suicide bombing at an Orthodox Jewish school in Jerusalem, where the bomber walked up to a cluster of mothers and children in push-hairs, and the deadly grenade and gun assault on a swinging late-night Tel Aviv restaurant where the stars of its football team hang out.

Soon after that Nablus meeting, military marches were held in the cities of Nablus in the north, Ramallah near Jerusalem, and Gaza in the south, to warn settlers to stay away from the Fatah militia, Badawi said.

Al-Aqsa Brigades are operating from across Palestinian territory, as they knock down a myth of Israeli invincibility and create, for the Palestinians, one of their own.

Commonly called a terrorist or militia wing of Yasser Arafat's 40-year-old Fatah movement, formed under the aegis of local warlords, they might be beyond the control of the Israelis and quite possibly Mr Arafat.

## IF HE WANTS TO BE A SUICIDE BOMBER, HE COMES TO US

They say their goal is an end to Israeli occupation. Israelis say the name is meaningless, that al-Aqsa is just a front for more Palestinian terror, this time from the mainstream.

"This is the trick, or style from the beginning," said Ze'ev Schiff, military analyst for Haaretz, Israel's leading newspaper. "Denial of responsibility is the name of the game."

The fighting cock, goes an Arab saying, starts crowing in the egg. Mahmoud Attiti's military career began at the age of 13-and-a-half, when he attacked an Israeli commander's vehicle with an axe. "I didn't reach him, but I broke the front windscreen shield, and I also threw rocks."

He was jailed for six months. He too was at the original Balata meeting. Now, at the age of 30, his CV strengthened by a month's training in Iraq, he is second in command of the al-Aqsa Brigades in Nablus.

"We have a special group that monitors all kinds of collaborators," he said after we met in the middle of a street in central Nablus. "You think it was easy but it was not that easy."

"There were 20 people surrounding me while you were approaching us. There was a man on the cellphone talking on it, and my people went and checked him out."

"We know that we are wanted," he said. "I was number eight on the list that included **Hamas** and all the Palestinian factions."

When the Israeli army invaded the Balata refugee camp last week, in its demonstration that the terrorists had no safe havens, they destroyed his house. The tanks have left Balata, and Nablus is calmer today.

"It is a temporary calm," said Nasser Badawi, who these days calls himself an al-Aqsa field commander. His dead brother's face is emblazoned on posters around the walls, with the movement's emblem, the al-Aqsa mosque roofed by rifles.

These men live under death sentences. Already wanted for murder by the Israelis, they do not object to the use of their names.

Al-Aqsa's notorious leader in the West Bank town of Tulkarem, Raed Karmi, was killed in January by a bomb that ripped through his car, after a helicopter strike missed him months before. He boasted openly of killing Israelis, including kidnapping and executing two restaurateurs; the office of Ariel Sharon, the Israeli prime minister, listed nine murders by his name.

On Tuesday, a helicopter missile strike killed two men dubbed leaders of the al-Aqsa Brigades in Ramallah. "Our salutation to the brigades that have shown miracles to the Israelis," mourners chanted amid the volleys of gunfire.

Well aware that a casually answered call could be the homing beacon for a missile, the fighters in Nablus claim to communicate in code, text messages and by messengers. But, typically, they are far more public figures than **Hamas**. "We are already laid bare," Attiti said. "We don't care."

The al-Aqsa Brigades, certainly their leaders, appear typically older and educated, not the young, ill-educated, religious loners who carried out **Hamas** suicide bombings. They use local blacksmiths to upgrade their M-16s. University degrees are not uncommon; between missions. Badawi, at the age of 36, after nine years in an Israeli jail, is studying for a sociology degree.

Unlike **Hamas**, al-Aqsa has recruited **women** to its suicide missions.

"Most of the people that founded the brigade, people that joined the brigade, were well trained before they joined it," Badawi said. "Some had experience in the old intifada, or were wanted or experienced military work. Some were taught outside. But they weren't in Lebanon. They were in Iraq."

## IF HE WANTS TO BE A SUICIDE BOMBER, HE COMES TO US

Initially, attacks were aimed at soldiers or settlers, but now the brigades justify suicide bombings by the deaths of Palestinian children. There are no suicide brigades, Attiti said. "But if anyone wants to be a suicide bomber he comes to us. It's not our strategy, but we don't prevent people from going down to work."

Pressed on the political impact of suicide bombings, let alone the killing of children, he turns angry. "I don't care about this political opinion. You have political figures in al-Aqsa. You have people that died. I am a military person and I am second man in the al-Aqsa brigade, and I don't give a damn."

The question for Israelis, Americans and the European Union as they lay the pressure on Yasser Arafat is how much he or any central figure, can now control these fighters.

In mid-December, Fatah's leading bodies decided to respect Mr Arafat's impassioned call for a ceasefire that included al-Aqsa, Palestinian sources said. An understanding was also reached with groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad to "lay low for some time".

Hamas has also been reeling from a wave of assassinations. But as a "hot debate" raged in the top leadership over military action or peace moves, the assassination of Karim drove a new burst of attacks. A communique by one Fatah leader, dissolving the al-Aqsa, was denounced in other parts of the West Bank as a forgery.

Al-Aqsa members are outraged by Mr Arafat's confinement in Ramallah, as Israeli missiles lop off one bit of his compound after another, but military orders are another question.

"You must be aware of something: that al-Aqsa was not formed by a leadership decision," Badawi said. "And it will not be dissolved by their decision. Al -Aqsa Brigades were explained by the people, it was coming from the womb of the intifada, nourished and cherished by the people, and it will be dead after the vanishing of the occupation."

**Load-Date:** March 9, 2002

## *Fatah seeks end to attacks against Israeli civilians*

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

September 11, 2002 Wednesday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. D08; News

**Length:** 360 words

**Byline:** Molly Moore

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

A draft statement by senior leaders of Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement calling for a halt to attacks against Israeli civilians was leaked to news organizations here yesterday, and was immediately met by dissension among Palestinians.

The disclosure threatened to sideline support for a plan seeking to halt attacks against Israeli civilians being pushed by U.S. and European representatives.

The draft statement, which was approved by the Fatah's Central Committee in a meeting with Arafat on Friday, said, "We call on all Palestinian organizations to stop targeting Israeli civilians" but stressed that "we will continue our resistance."

The Washington Post

A copy was made available to news outlets.

U.S. and European intermediaries have spent weeks struggling to persuade Palestinian factions to stop suicide bombings and other attacks inside Israel. Their efforts have been stymied by the competing interests of divergent Palestinian organizations, the Israeli occupation of West Bank cities and Israel's targeted attacks against militant leaders.

An agreement by Palestinian groups to halt attacks was derailed in July when the Israeli military bombed a neighbourhood in Gaza City, killing a leader of the military wing of the Islamic Resistance Movement, or **Hamas**, and 15 others, many of them **women** and children. At that time, a range of Palestinian organizations, including **Hamas**, were prepared to sign the declaration, according to U.S. and European intermediaries involved in the process.

No large-scale attacks have been carried out in Israel since the July 31 bomb detonation at Hebrew University in Jerusalem that killed eight people, including five Americans.

Although several Fatah members said they agreed in principle with the draft statement, they expressed anger that the Central Committee -- whose members are close to Arafat -- had taken action without consulting what they describe as the rank and file of the organization.

## Fatah seeks end to attacks against Israeli civilians

"Maybe we will agree to this statement, but we have not signed it and no one has consulted us on the matter," said Fares Qadura, a Fatah member. "We do not want anything imposed from above, and it should be a collective decision."

**Load-Date:** September 11, 2002

---

End of Document

**Fatah says it will end attacks on Israeli civilians: Pressure to be applied to Palestinian militants**

The Guardian (London)

September 11, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 15

**Length:** 849 words

**Byline:** Jonathan Steele in Jerusalem

## **Body**

---

Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement yesterday announced a unilateral halt to attacks on Israeli civilians and said it would try to prevent other militant Palestinian groups carrying out suicide bombings and other such attacks.

The statement, contained in a three-page letter released to the media, was shrouded in confusion, with some representatives of Fatah saying it was only a draft and not yet a final decision.

If confirmed as official policy, that would mark a major shift in direction. The al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, which is affiliated to Fatah, has conducted most of the recent attacks by Palestinians on civilians in the West Bank and Gaza, as well as inside Israel.

The group has relied mainly on shooting attacks rather than suicide bombings.

Yesterday's statement was prepared in cooperation with European Union security officials. "It does not mention al-Aqsa by name but it refers to Fatah and its cadres, which includes al-Aqsa," a diplomat who was close to the drafting process said yesterday.

Although Mr Arafat has regularly condemned attacks on civilians, most recently in his speech to the Palestinian legislative council on Monday, he usually argues pragmatically that they are counter-productive.

The new statement for the first time says they are against Islam. "In accordance with the higher interests of the Palestinian people, and with our moral values, tolerant religions and belief; we, the Fatah movement, reject and we will prevent any attacks against Israeli civilians.

"We are aware that the continuation of the Israeli occupation and aggression and the targeting of our **women**, children and homes will lead to individual responses; nevertheless, we are committed to following this political line and we will work to prevent all attacks on civilians in keeping with our human values and this important human principle," the statement says.

Described as "a declaration to the peaceful and progressive people of Israel and the world", the statement is careful not to condemn suicide bombers who have already died and pledges to continue "resistance" in the West Bank and Gaza, but no longer within Israel's 1948 borders.

Fatah says it will end attacks on Israeli civilians: Pressure to be applied to Palestinian militants

Raanan Gissin, the spokesman for Israel's prime minister Ariel Sharon, said Fatah's statement was insufficient because it did not rule out attacks against Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza.

The cautious wording of the Fatah statement reflects the tense debate among Palestinian groups during the past month. The statement is designed not to look like a surrender in the face of Israel's retaliation for attacks on civilians and the arrests of militants, diplomats said yesterday.

Although Fatah had been trying to persuade more hardline groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad to make a joint truce declaration with them, yesterday's decision to publish the statement unilaterally did not mean talks had broken down, they said.

However, Abdel Aziz Rantisi, the Gaza spokesman for Hamas's political wing, said: "There are no talks under way and none planned. We are under direct occupation and attack by Israeli forces every day. It's impossible to stop resistance in this atmosphere."

Court papers leaked to an Israeli newspaper yesterday claimed that Hamas activists in the West Bank had planned to stage a "mega-attack" in Tel Aviv by blowing up a skyscraper with a lorry bomb and carrying out a double suicide attack on an Israeli hospital.

The details, published in Ha'aretz, emerged from an indictment filed in an Israeli military court against Mohammed Jarrar, 20, an activist in the Islamic militant group in the Jenin refugee camp in the northern West Bank.

According to the indictment, Mr Jarrar joined Hamas last November. He and other members of the cell recruited two suicide bombers who were to carry out a double attack on the Tel Hashomer hospital near Tel Aviv, it said.

A doctor employed by Jenin hospital drove the two bombers, but the trio turned around when they spotted large numbers of soldiers at an Israeli checkpoint, the indictment said.

Mr Jarrar, the doctor and the two would-be bombers were arrested by Israeli troops in June.

Hussein al-Sheikh, a Fatah leader in the West Bank, said yesterday's statement was not the final version and that the Fatah leadership still had some reservations about the text.

With Mr Arafat under fire from some members of the Palestinian legislative council on the second day of its meeting in Ramallah yesterday, the statement called for unity.

The council is expected to vote on Mr Arafat's new cabinet tomorrow. A small group of legislators has threatened to vote against the cabinet, saying the Palestinian leader has failed to fire corrupt and incompetent ministers.

\* A lieutenant of Fatah's West Bank leader Marwan Barghouti went on trial in Jerusalem yesterday and, like Mr Barghouti, who was arrested in April and went on trial last week, he refused to recognise the Israeli court.

Nasser Abu Hamid, 31, refused to let his lawyers represent him. A Fatah commander in Ramallah, he is charged on 11 counts of organising attacks against Israelis. The trial was adjourned until October 8.

**Load-Date:** September 12, 2002

## **Gunman kills 3 Israeli students**

Windsor Star (Ontario)

May 29, 2002 Wednesday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A14; News

**Length:** 362 words

**Byline:** The Associated Press

**Dateline:** Jerusalem

### **Body**

---

A gunman sneaked onto the grounds of an Orthodox Jewish high school in the West Bank late Tuesday and killed three teenagers, even as Israeli troops continued their daily raids into Palestinian towns.

The man shot and killed three Israeli students outside a high school in the settlement of Itamar, near the Palestinian city of Nablus, settlers and rescue service officials said. The attacker was shot and killed by the settlement's security chief.

AP

Hezi Katoa, a rescue service worker, told Israel Radio that they found one student hit by a number of bullets in the chest and then two more "lying behind the building with bullet wounds all over their bodies." All three were dead at the scene, he said.

A few hours earlier, an Israeli motorist was killed and another wounded in a shooting attack, apparently by a Palestinian gunman, near the Jewish settlement of Ofra, said rescue services spokesman Yeruham Mandola.

The violence accompanied repeated Israeli incursions into Palestinian towns in the West Bank.

Late Tuesday, Israeli soldiers entered Beitunia, a suburb of the West Bank town of Ramallah, Palestinians said and surrounded the house of a prominent **Hamas** leader. However, the leader, Hassan Yussuf, was not there. The Israeli military had no comment.

Israel's latest sweep in the West Bank came after a Palestinian blew himself up outside an ice cream parlour and cafe crowded with **women** and children in a Tel Aviv suburb Monday, killing Ruth Peled, 56 and her 18-month-old granddaughter, Sinai Kenaan.

The Al Aqsa Brigades, linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility and identified the bomber as Jihad Titi, 18, a cousin of a leading Al Aqsa militant Mahmoud Titi, who was killed in an Israeli tank attack last week.

On Tuesday, troops in armoured personnel carriers and jeeps drove into Jenin and a nearby refugee camp at about 3 a.m. and left by midday. They arrested eight, including the local leader of the Islamic militant group **Hamas**, Rami Awad. Soldiers also searched an Islamic school, seizing computer disks, residents said.

There were heavy exchanges of fire with Palestinian gunmen.



## Gunman kills 3 Israeli students

**Load-Date:** May 29, 2002

---

End of Document

## LETTERS: AMERICA SUPPORTS WAR CRIMINAL

Dayton Daily News (Ohio)  
July 31, 2002 Wednesday CITY EDITION

Copyright 2002 Dayton Newspapers, Inc.

**Section:** OPED; LETTERS TO THE EDITOR; Pg. 7A; LETTERS

**Length:** 616 words

### **Body**

---

The July 23 Israeli Air Force F-16 ATTACK on Sheik Salah Shehadeh not only killed 15 and injured an estimated 150 people, it demolished any remaining idea that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's words are worth anything. "We have no interest in killing children," he said.

'If he had known there were innocent civilians there, he wouldn't have done it,' one of his spokesmen said.

Let's face it, we are allies of a war criminal. President George W. Bush condemns the attack - faintly - by calling it heavy-handed. Our subsidy of Israel with F-16s and millions of dollars continues.

Let's look one more thing in the face: If we peace-loving Americans invade Iraq, whether on the ground or with our F-16s, no matter what justifications are put on paper, we will kill 100,000 times as many civilians as did Sharon.

But, of course, we have no interest in killing children, either.

Theodore L. Scheidt Dayton

Civilian deaths haunt Israel There is no joy in Israel over the loss of innocent life as a result of the killing of **Hamas** terrorist leader Salah Shehadeh. Contrast this with the Palestinian celebrations over Israeli deaths at the hands of homicide bombers in the last two years.

Shehadeh engineered the murder of more than 130 Israelis, including 21 teen-agers at the Dolphinarium disco and 29 men, **women** and children as they sat down to a Passover seder.

**Hamas** as a terrorist organization has distinguished itself as totally outside the peace process and most recently admitted that Israeli **women** civilians are legitimate targets because they may have served in the military.

Israel's pre-emptive attack is an accepted tactic of counterterrorism to eliminate terrorist leaders, identical to the U.S. effort in Afghanistan and worldwide.

The loss of innocent life is never taken lightly. Officials of the Israeli government, including Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, have sent condolences to the families of those who lost loved ones.

Alan Segal Farmersville

Accidents shouldn't stop war The fight against terrorism is war, and wars include accidental civilian casualties.

## LETTERS: AMERICA SUPPORTS WAR CRIMINAL

Both the United States and Israel in their war against terrorism have caused accidental civilian deaths. That should not deter either country from continuing its campaign to eradicate terrorism.

The innocent civilians killed by Hamas and al-Qaida terrorists are not accidental, they are deliberate.

Joan Marcus Harrison Twp.

Big Steel helped beat Traficant

The July 24 cartoon by Chip Bok of the Akron Beacon Journal was right on. I find it hilarious that Congress, with all the slimeballs among its members, should pass judgment on Jim Traficant.

Traficant is a true congressman in the sense that he stands up for his constituents' rights. Isn't that what we want from our representatives?

I know many Daytonians don't know much about Traficant, but he is the heart of the Youngstown working class. When the big steel companies such as LTV tried to take part of their retirees' pensions in the 1980s, Traficant was at every rally and every march from Youngstown to New York to Washington, D.C.

Now, in 2002, LTV was at it again, wanting the retirees' medical benefits this time. Coincidentally, Traficant was in court defending his political life, and couldn't be front-stage fighting for his people. The big company won this time. The retirees lost their medical benefits and their prescription benefits, and Traficant is in the jailhouse.

I hope our society isn't too naive to think Big Business and government weren't involved in Traficant's demise. I, for one, know they were involved. So does my father, who will have to wait until he qualifies for Medicare to go to the doctor and refill his prescriptions.

Angela Williams Beaver Creek

**Load-Date:** August 1, 2002

### 3 Americans in Israel among 7 killed by bomb

The Philadelphia Inquirer

August 1, 2002 Thursday CITY-D EDITION

Copyright 2002 Philadelphia Newspapers, LLC All Rights Reserved

**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** Pg. A01; news

**Length:** 858 words

**Byline:** Soraya Sarhaddi Nelson Knight Ridder News Service

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

---

Palestinians seeking revenge for a recent Israeli air strike on the Gaza Strip detonated a bomb yesterday in a crowded cafeteria at Hebrew University, killing seven people, including three Americans, and wounding 86.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's cabinet vowed to retaliate immediately.

The terrorist wing of the Islamic group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for the bombing, saying it was retaliating for the assassination of its commander, Salah Shehadeh. He was killed by the Israel Defense Forces in an air strike July 23 that also killed 15 others and wounded 145, many of them children.

Officials did not identify the Americans who were killed.

But one was identified by a family spokesman as Janis Ruth Coulter, 36, an assistant director of graduate studies based at Hebrew University's New York office.

Many students in Jerusalem were stunned. "This shows it can happen anywhere," said Spencer Dew, 26, of Owensboro, Ky., a University of Chicago doctoral student in divinity. His shirt torn and bloody, his face and ears scratched, Dew said he had been sitting outside on the patio when the windows blew out in his direction.

The lunchtime bombing was on a 77-year-old campus known for ethnic and religious tolerance, a haven for Israeli Jewish and Arab students who study and socialize together. The campus, on Mount Scopus at the edge of Arab East Jerusalem and the West Bank, is bordered by several Arab neighborhoods.

Jerusalem police said the bomb appeared not to have been carried by a suicide bomber, but was inside a bag planted in the building.

"What happened was in response to the IDF massacre that took place in Gaza against **women**, children and our leader," Ismail Haniya, a **Hamas** leader in the Gaza Strip, told a television station run by the militant Islamic group Hezbollah in Beirut, Lebanon. "Again we prove the intifadah [uprising] is the strategy that will continue until the liberation and full independence of our people."

## 3 Americans in Israel among 7 killed by bomb

Early today, in the town of Beit Jala, next to Bethlehem, the Israeli military destroyed the family house of Haza Yusuf, who carried out a suicide bombing attack on Tuesday in Jerusalem that wounded seven Israelis, the military said in a statement. Military sources said the destruction was a deterrent measure to show that such actions have a price.

President Bush, who is trying to broker a cease-fire between Israelis and Palestinians, condemned yesterday's bombing, which he blamed on "killers who hate the thought of peace and therefore are willing to take their hatred to all kinds of places, including a university."

More than 10,000 Palestinians marched last night in Gaza City to celebrate the attack, carrying pictures of Hamas' spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, and passing out sweets. A masked Hamas leader told the crowd through a bullhorn that they had "targeted the brains of Jews for revenge of our children." He promised more attacks.

Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat condemned the bombing.

"We will continue our efforts to stop the violence... against the civilians whether they are Palestinians or Israelis," Arafat said. "These actions are not our behaviors as Muslims, Christians and Jews."

An Israeli Arab student, who was searching for a cousin believed to have been in the cafeteria at the time of the blast, agreed.

"As people, we shouldn't accept any kind of hurting of innocent people," said Waseen Mashalha, 22, of Daburiya, east of Nazareth. "They can't be considered human beings when they think like this."

The university has a mostly Jewish student population of about 23,000. School was not in session when the bomb went off. The students who were on campus were taking summer-school exams, registering for classes, or simply hanging out.

Unlike restaurants elsewhere in Israel, no one checks backpacks when people enter the cafeteria, students said. Security personnel check bags when students enter the campus, and police patrol the buildings, officials said.

The university's student newspaper had warned recently of the possibility of an attacker infiltrating from a nearby Arab village.

All of the cafeteria windows were blown out by the force of the 1:40 p.m. blast. For an instant, there was stunned silence, then people panicked, escaping any way they could, said Sharon Avital, 26, a Jewish graduate student who was slightly injured when shrapnel struck the back of her head.

Avital, who said she had barely sat down to a lunch of chicken schnitzel, Chinese pasta and cabbage, at first didn't know what to do. "The explosion was behind me, so I squatted on the floor. There was blood and everything."

Haneen Hussein, 18, and her friend Abeer Salman, 19, both of the Israeli Arab neighborhood of Beit Safafa, leaned against each other as they sat on stone steps next to the patio, trying not to cry.

"We can't find our friend," said Hussein, her lips quivering. "She told us she would follow us upstairs... from the cafeteria."

Nearby, right-wing Israelis, who show up at such bombings, held a sign that read: "It's either us or them. Expel the Arabs."

Contact Soraya Sarhaddi Nelson at [snelson@krwashington.com](mailto:snelson@krwashington.com). This article includes information from the Associated Press.

### 3 Americans in Israel among 7 killed by bomb

---

End of Document

## *Second woman dies for cause*

The Advertiser

March 1, 2002, Friday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** FOREIGN; Pg. 29

**Length:** 334 words

**Byline:** BY MOHAMMED DARAGHMEH in Nablus, West Bank

### **Body**

---

TURNED down as a potential suicide bomber by an Islamic militant group because she was a woman, Dareen Abu Aisheh, 21, turned to a militia linked to Yasser Arafat's Fatah to get the explosives she needed.

On Wednesday night, the English literature student blew herself to pieces at an Israeli checkpoint, wounding three Israeli policemen.

A young, devout, Muslim from a poor family, she fitted in many ways the profile of the average suicide bomber, but women bombers are rare.

Abu Aisheh was the second woman to blow herself up since the fighting began in September 2000 and the first known to have set out to do so, although she was foiled in her choice of target.

A woman who blew herself up in Jerusalem in January may have been intending to plant a bomb, which may have exploded prematurely, police said at the time. In all, there have been 37 male bombers in the past 17 months.

Abu Aisheh was stopped at a roadblock about 30km northwest of Jerusalem as she tried to enter Israel from the West Bank. Challenged by police and soldiers to get out of the car in which she was travelling, she detonated an explosive charge on her body, an army statement said. Two Palestinians travelling with her were wounded by Israeli security forces.

Yesterday, as word of the bomber's identity spread, family and friends gathered to mourn at the Abu Aisheh family's home in the hilltop Beit Wazan neighbourhood of Nablus.

On the walls of the modest three-room house a poster showed Dareen, brandishing a knife. Staring into the camera with a dull gaze and dark rings under her eyes, she wore a shawl embroidered with the Palestinian flag and the headscarf of the observant Muslim woman, with a headband emblazoned with the name of an armed wing of Hamas, Izzedine al Qassam.

Fatah's Al Aqsa Brigades, a secular militia, claimed responsibility for Abu Aisheh's attempt, but relatives said she only used the Fatah militants to get the bomb and remained at heart a fervent Hamas supporter, like other members of the family.

**Load-Date:** February 28, 2002

## Second woman dies for cause

---

End of Document



## *Israel Will Pull Back Troops, Release Funds in Goodwill Gestures*

New York Sun (Archive)

July 25, 2002 Thursday

Copyright 2002 The New York Sun, Two SL, LLC

**Section:** INTERNATIONAL; Pg. 5

**Length:** 918 words

**Byline:** By NICOLE WINFIELD

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

---

Facing a storm of criticism for its raid on Gaza, Israel offered Palestinians a series of goodwill gestures yesterday and blamed faulty military intelligence for the deaths of nine children and four other civilians in the fatal attack on a **Hamas** military chief.

Palestinians, meanwhile, claimed militant groups had signed a cease-fire declaration less than two hours before the attack. Israeli officials dismissed those reports and defended the bombing, even as they admitted intelligence surrounding the attack was flawed.

"It's a tragedy because innocent people got killed. It's not a tragedy because a cease-fire was imminent," said Daniel Taub, a Foreign Ministry spokesman. "Unfortunately that wasn't the case."

As Israelis braced for promised retaliation, Foreign Minister Peres said a troop pullback would go ahead from some occupied areas of the West Bank if they remain calm. He also said the government had released millions of dollars in blocked Palestinian taxes and issued 4,000 permits to Palestinians who work in Israel.

Each measure already was under negotiation during talks between Mr. Peres and the Palestinians before the Tuesday bombing, which killed Salah Shehadeh, who Israel says was responsible for dozens of attacks and at the top of their most-wanted list of terrorists.

Mr. Peres said he hoped to press forward with negotiations on security and economic issues, including a Palestinian offer to resume security cooperation. Palestinians said there was no decision about continuing the talks.

Abdul Aziz Rantisi, a **Hamas** spokesman, said any cease-fire was off.

"After yesterday's heinous massacre in Gaza, there will be no more respect for a Zionist child or the so-called Zionist civilians," he said.

As politicians blamed an intelligence failure, the army said it would investigate the air raid on a crowded residential area of Gaza City when entire families were home asleep. The blast destroyed the building that housed Shehadeh and also killed his wife and one of their children. Three other buildings were damaged.

"The intelligence was apparently not complete," Israeli President Katsav told Israel Army Radio, saying political leaders bore the responsibility.

## Israel Will Pull Back Troops, Release Funds in Goodwill Gestures

With the Israeli leadership admitting problems surrounding the attack, the media began questioning the use of what was reportedly a one-ton bomb in such a densely populated area.

"It's possible that the designation of the bomb was not right," said army spokeswoman Captain Sharon Feingold.

The head of military planning, Major General Giora Eiland, said the army had used the weapon because of its accuracy but acknowledged "wrong calculations" were made.

America, the United Nations, and many European and Arab governments condemned the strike, and the Palestinians threatened to take the case to the newly formed International Criminal Court. At the request of Saudi Arabia, the U.N. Security Council hastily scheduled a meeting for late yesterday to discuss the attack.

Israeli media concluded the strike was a public relations debacle. "The assassination and the embarrassment," read a headline in Maariv. Haaretz said the army would investigate what it called the "Gaza bombing disaster."

Amid the criticism, Prime Minister Sharon, Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, Mr. Peres and Finance Minister Silvan Shalom met to discuss resuming talks with Palestinians and easing the hardships in the Palestinian territories, Army Radio said.

Mr. Peres told reporters after the meeting that the army still intended to withdraw from areas of Hebron and Bethlehem if they remained calm and if the Palestinians assumed control.

He said the army also would consider leaving Ramallah, where Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has been holed up for much of the last few months, if there was a plan guaranteeing law and order there.

Mr. Peres also said he had called the Palestinian finance minister yesterday morning to tell him that about \$45 million was being transferred: about 10% of the total amount Israel has withheld in tax revenues, and that Israel had forgiven about \$31 million in Palestinian debt to Israeli utilities.

In addition, 4,000 work permits had been issued of a promised 7,000, and the total number would reach 30,000, he said.

Before fighting broke out in September 2000, an estimated 125,000 Palestinians crossed daily into Israel for jobs, but Israel has since blocked most of them, fearing attacks.

Ismail Abu Shanab, a leading **Hamas** official in Gaza, said the Islamic resistance group had held meetings with Palestinian officials in recent weeks in which **Hamas** agreed "we will stop these operations" if Israel withdrew from occupied Palestinian towns.

The Yediot Ahronot newspaper published what it said was a document that the Arafat-linked Al Aqsa Brigades had approved hours before the strike, in which they promised to "end all attacks against innocent men, **women** and children who are not fighters" and urged other Palestinian groups to follow suit.

It was not clear what that group's reaction to the Gaza attack would be.

Also yesterday, Palestinian rescue workers pulled the remains of three children from the rubble of the collapsed Gaza City apartments. They had already been included in the number of dead.

A Chinese worker injured in a suicide bombing last week in Tel Aviv died, bringing the toll in that attack to four.

Meanwhile, an accomplice in the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Rabin was released from jail three months early as part of efforts to relieve overcrowding in jails, officials said.

**Load-Date:** December 3, 2003

## Israel Will Pull Back Troops, Release Funds in Goodwill Gestures

---

End of Document

***Born to kill: Raising suicide bombers: Palestinian children receive early training in terror methods***

Ottawa Citizen

June 29, 2002 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 CanWest Interactive, a division of CanWest Global Communications Corp. All Rights Reserved

**Section:** News; Pg. A10; News

**Length:** 801 words

**Byline:** Matthew Kalman

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

---

JERUSALEM -- Shocking new evidence emerged this week that Palestinian children are being steeped in the glorification of suicide bombings even before they can talk.

In Hebron, the Israeli army discovered a family snapshot of a tiny Palestinian baby wrapped in a cartridge belt and wearing an infant-sized suicide bomb harness in a house they were searching for terrorist suspects.

The baby is wearing a headband similar to those worn by suicide bombers in their farewell video messages, filmed hours before they attack.

"Born to kill" proclaimed one right-wing Israeli paper, seizing upon a chilling photograph likely to prove one of the defining images of the intifada. "Terror in diapers" thundered another.

Citizen Special

And in Gaza, photographs of a kindergarten graduation ceremony for five-year-olds show the children dressed in military fatigues, as suicide bombers and as terrorist leaders.

"Israeli army forces were searching the house of a terrorist suspect in Hebron today and found what appears to be a photograph from the family album," said an Israeli army spokesman.

"This image is a sharp reminder that while we educate our children to strive for peace, too many Palestinian children are being educated in murder, literally with their mothers' milk," said the spokesman.

Israeli leaders have repeatedly warned international donors to the Palestinian Authority that young children are being taught hatred and war from an early age. This, they say, is what fuels young people to commit suicide attacks in response to the sufferings of the Palestinian people.

Evidence that this incident was not unique came from the Shateh refugee camp near Gaza City, where last month a graduation ceremony was held for 1,650 children educated at a network of kindergartens run by the Islamic Association Al-Jamaiya Al-Islamiya -- a group closely associated with the ***Hamas*** terror group.

But instead of prizes for good behaviour and a school play of Aladdin, children as young as five years old were dressed as terrorists and drilled to act out scenes from suicide bombings. Instead of learning home safety, they are taught to burn Israeli flags.

## Born to kill: Raising suicide bombers: Palestinian children receive early training in terror methods

And the message from the director of the Islamic Association to the mothers of the toddlers was clear: educate your children to become suicide bombers.

In one scene, toddlers in sinister black hoods with dummy explosive harnesses strapped to their bodies declare their willingness to become suicide bombers for the Palestinian cause.

In another scene, children as young as five years old are dressed in miniature military fatigues, and march in formation armed with dummy semi-automatic weapons.

One young boy, his angelic face a wholesome picture of childhood innocence, aims his rifle straight at the camera.

They dress as their heroes, terrorist leaders like Sheik Ahmed Yassin of **Hamas** and Sheik Hassan Nasrallah of Hezbollah.

In one particularly chilling episode, a young girl holds up her hands with the palms stained in red -- a tribute to the murderers of two Israeli soldiers who waved their blood-stained hands to a baying crowd in Ramallah during a vicious lynching in October 2000.

Sheik Ahmed Bahar, director of the Islamic Association, told the audience he was proud of the Palestinian mothers.

"You have taken a leading role in the intifada and the education of the believing generations," he told them.

"These scenes remind us of the mother of the martyr Mahmoud Marmash who blew up the blood of the occupiers in Netanya," he said, referring to a recent suicide bomb attack.

Mr. Bahar called on parents to "raise generations for victory" and raise "children of the Koran" with a "love of holy war and resistance."

The ceremony began with dozens of children from the Al-Noor kindergarten putting on a military display with dummy rifles, Islamic banners and Palestinian flags. The children knew their lines by heart.

"Are you terrorized by the tanks, missiles and rockets of Sharon?" he asked the crowd.

"No, no," answered hundreds of children.

"We are not terrorized by Zionist shelling," said the boy. "Our people will not succumb." And he set fire to an Israeli flag.

Then a class from the Al-Iman kindergarten staged a play about "the dangers of Zionist settlement, uprooting of Palestinian trees and the need to avenge the blood of the martyrs and to continue the resistance and the intifada."

One child imitated **Hamas** leader Sheik Ahmed Yassin, surrounded by dozens of children dressed as suicide bombers with dummy explosive harnesses strapped to their tiny bodies.

Mr. Bahar was unrepentant about the scenes depicted in the photographs.

"The Jews are the ones who usurp our land, desecrated our holy sites, killed our children, **women** and elderly," he said. "The Jews are teaching their children to kill Palestinians."

## Graphic

---

Born to kill: Raising suicide bombers: Palestinian children receive early training in terror methods

Photo: Israeli Army; An Israeli soldier holds a photo the army says is of a Palestinian baby dressed as a suicide bomber with a headband bearing the name of the Islamic militant group **Hamas**. It was found in the house of a wanted person during military searches in the West Bank on Thursday.

**Load-Date:** June 29, 2002

---

End of Document

*A Palestinian leader in waiting?;*  
*As Arafat falters, a name emerges as someone many factions could get*  
*behind.*

The Philadelphia Inquirer

May 23, 2002 Thursday CITY-D EDITION

Copyright 2002 Philadelphia Newspapers, LLC All Rights Reserved

**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** Pg. A13; news

**Length:** 592 words

**Byline:** Soraya Sarhaddi Nelson Knight Ridder News Service

**Dateline:** RAMALLAH, West Bank

## **Body**

---

He's a promising member of the new generation of Palestinian leaders, a man who is respected - even liked - by many Israeli and U.S. officials. At the same time, he's one of Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat's most trusted advisers.

Mohammed Dahlan's name is floating off the lips of friends and foes these days as a man who could eventually replace Arafat. He also could restore credibility to the corruption-plagued Palestinian Authority, which administers the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the predominantly Palestinian areas adjacent to Israel. After a 20-month uprising against Israel that has ruined the economy and provoked a six-week invasion from Israel, the Palestinian Authority is crumbling.

"I don't want to be president" of the Palestinian Authority, Dahlan said during an interview this week.

Still, Dahlan, 40, admits the time is ripe for him to seek a more visible role in a reformed Palestinian Authority, and he hopes it is a post he is elected to rather than one he has been appointed to by an aging leader whose appeal has faded among war-weary and poverty-stricken Palestinians.

Arafat has promised reforms and new elections. More power in the hands of trusted and moderate advisers such as Dahlan could stem the anti-Arafat tide and stave off challenges by opposition groups such as the radical Islamic group **Hamas** or the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

"He's very impressive, in terms of his presentation, in terms of his intellectual abilities, in terms of understanding his audience," said a U.S. official who has dealt with Dahlan and spoke on condition of anonymity. "He's clearly politically very shrewd."

Dahlan has publicly disagreed with Arafat on the increasingly violent direction the uprising has taken. He even quit twice as head of Palestinian security in the Gaza Strip and then returned, most recently before the Israelis temporarily confined Arafat to Ramallah.

A Palestinian leader in waiting?; As Arafat falters, a name emerges as someone many factions could get behind.

"Killing our people or killing the Israeli people is useless," he said. "But I, who believe in the peace process, say it's the Israelis who pushed the Palestinian people to use violence."

Yet his moderate stance has limits. He rejects any possibility of reaching an agreement with an Israeli government led by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, whom he dismisses as a "killer of children, women and old men."

Radical groups appear to view Dahlan as a man who stands up to Israel and the West. For example, Hamas tolerates him, though not his rival, West Bank security chief Jibril Rajoub. Hamas leaders recently accused Rajoub of collaborating with Israel.

"Dahlan is knowledgeable and doesn't share in the illusions of the people around Arafat as to what's doable and what's not" in dealing with Israel, said Eran Lerman, a former Israeli intelligence officer who heads the American Jewish Committee's Israel office.

Dahlan has been trying to raise his profile. Recently, he publicly unveiled his proposal for a better internal security agency, and he has shown a new willingness to grant interviews to the Western press.

By venturing more into the public eye, Dahlan stands a chance of challenging the better-known Marwan Barghouti to be the Palestinian public's favorite leader, Palestinian pollster Khalil Shikaki said.

Barghouti, a senior leader of Arafat's Fatah faction on the West Bank whom Israel arrested during its siege, was named the most popular Palestinian leader after Arafat in a poll Shikaki released Tuesday. The poll of 1,317 Palestinians by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research had a margin of error of 3 percentage points.

**Load-Date:** May 23, 2002



## *Israelis attack Arafat's HQ with bulldozer*

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia)

March 30, 2002, Saturday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 28

**Length:** 615 words

**Byline:** WARREN P. STROBEL

### **Body**

---

THE explosion that shattered a festive evening, killing 22 Israelis, forced Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat yesterday to offer a ceasefire "without conditions".

As the wreckage of the Park Hotel was still being cleared away, Mr Arafat's words -- delivered in Arabic from his base in Ramallah

-- were immediately doubted by Israeli officials, who demanded action rather than words.

In line with their scepticism, the Israeli army started calling up reserves and within minutes tanks and troops were seen entering Ramallah and massing outside Mr Arafat's compound.

And a bulldozer, backed by two tanks, began last night demolishing a wall at the main entrance of Mr Arafat's headquarters, about 50m from his offices. About 20 tanks had circled the compound.

MATP

Palestinians had been braced for retaliation for the suicide bombing in the resort of Netanya and for the killing of four Israelis yesterday.

"At this particular moment, there are Israeli preparations ... [for] a massive military operation" against Palestinian cities and refugee camps, a spokesman said.

Suicide bomber Abdelbaset Odeih of the *Hamas* group killed 21 Israelis and wounded 170.

More than 200 guests were in the Park Hotel banquet hall for the ritual Passover meal commemorating the exodus of the Jews from slavery in Egypt when Odeih got past a security guard.

Round tables had been covered with white linen and elaborate Seder place settings. Guests were dressed in their holiday finest -- *women* in festive dresses and men in white shirts and dark pants.

Then a huge blast ripped the hall, blowing out windows and walls, overturning tables and chairs.

"There was the smell of smoke and dust in my mouth and a ringing in my ears," history teacher Nechama Donenhirsch, 52, her eyes red from crying, said from her hospital bed.

The explosion knocked out the electricity, plunging the hall into darkness amid screams for help.

## Israelis attack Arafat's HQ with bulldozer

Itai Donenhirsch said his family were sitting just metres from where the bomber blew himself up.

"I felt shock waves and was pushed under the table and everything blacked out," he said.

Nechama Donenhirsch said that as she ran from the inferno, she saw a little girl, 10 or 12, lying on the ground.

"Her face was so nice, it was as if she was surprised -- big, big open eyes -- but surely dead," she said.

As US-led talks have faltered and Israel's reservations over the Arab peace initiative intensified, Mr Sharon has reportedly drawn up a plan for a major invasion of Palestinian cities and refugee camps to root out militants responsible for the devastating attacks on Israel.

And as word of an impending Israeli attack circulated and the evacuation of foreign diplomats went ahead, Palestinians yesterday rushed to shops to purchase food and other supplies. Those who could got out of town.

Most of the businesses in Ramallah's CBD closed down and the government and military installations of Mr Arafat's Palestinian Authority had been evacuated.

"This time, if they invade Ramallah, [the attack] will be stronger than the first time," said Hasan Yosef, West Bank political leader of the militant group **Hamas**.

"[But] It's impossible to surrender or raise the white flag."

Like many Palestinian politicians, Mr Yosef said the suicide bombings and other attacks were a direct result of Israel's suffocating occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and its policy of establishing Jewish settlements in those areas.

Mr Yosef said his group, which is separate from Mr Arafat and rejects negotiations with Israel, would not necessarily respect the ceasefire.

"**Hamas** has the right to reject any understanding or any agreement that doesn't respond to the rights of the Palestinian people," he said.

**Load-Date:** March 29, 2002

## *Israel on the brink after 22 die in the bloodiest day yet*

DAILY MAIL (London)

February 20, 2002

Copyright 2002 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 2

**Length:** 573 words

### **Body**

---

ISRAEL was on the brink of all-out bloody conflict with Palestinians last night.

Twenty-two people were killed in 24 hours of gun attacks and retaliatory missile strikes, marking the worst day of violence in 17 months of clashes.

The escalation in the crisis showed no signs of slowing.

Palestinian gunmen killed at least six Israelis and wounded several others in a night-time attack at an army checkpoint in the West Bank.

The shooting at Ein Ariq, northwest of the Palestinian city of Ramallah, was certain to provoke still further fury from the Israeli government.

It had spent the day blasting Palestinian sites throughout Gaza and the West Bank with rockets in response to earlier Palestinian gun attacks, in which four Israelis died.

An Israeli helicopter fired a missile at an office of the Islamic Hamas movement in the Gaza Strip's Jabalya refugee camp, killing two militants and wounding several nearby schoolchildren, after other air strikes overnight.

In all, 12 Palestinians, including two suicide bombers and a gunman killed after firing at an Israeli convoy, have died in two days.

In the Jordan Valley yesterday, a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up outside the Jewish settlement of Mehola after trying to board a bus carrying 50 Israelis.

The driver, his suspicions aroused by the fact that the bomber had his jacket zipped up to the neck despite the mild weather, pushed him off the vehicle's steps, preventing further carnage.

Pressure is now mounting on Prime Minister Ariel Sharon from both the political right and left over his failure to end the violence.

He vowed yesterday to 'deliver the hardest of blows to the terrorist groups'.

At least 861 Palestinians and 273 Israelis have been killed since September 2000, after peace talks stalled. Persistent Palestinian attacks have highlighted the inability of President Yasser Arafat who is confined to Ramallah by Israeli tanks to curb militants.

## Israel on the brink after 22 die in the bloodiest day yet

Although Arafat again spoke of pursuing 'the path of peace' yesterday, Mahmoud al-Zahar, a **Hamas** leader in Gaza, vowed revenge for the missile strike on his group's office.

'The answer for the killing of children and civilians can never be silence,' he said. The missile hit a school near the **Hamas** office at a time when many pupils were entering or leaving. A nine-year-old girl was critically injured by shrapnel and five other children were seriously hurt.

**Women** wept as they frantically searched for missing children.

'God, please save my child. I have no other child,' one woman wailed.

Meanwhile at a cemetery in Israel, mourners buried Ahuva Amargi, a settler killed in a roadside ambush in the Gaza Strip on Monday.

Her sister told how the doomed woman called her on her mobile phone as she came under attack, and gunfire could be heard over the line.

Also in the latest spate of incidents, a suicide bomber blew himself up near Jerusalem, killing a policeman, while at Khan Younis refugee camp in southern Gaza a girl of 14 was among three people killed when Israeli tank shells smashed their homes overnight.

Israeli troops shot dead two Palestinians, at least one of them armed, near Jewish settlements in southern Gaza overnight, and killed another two in a gunfight early yesterday near Nablus.

Later yesterday in the Gaza Strip, army bulldozers flattened four Palestinian homes near the scene of Monday's ambush, before the Israeli High Court intervened to stop any further demolition.

**Load-Date:** February 21, 2002

## *On a Moonlit Tank Charge Into a Gaza Powder Keg*

The New York Times

May 16, 2003 Friday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2003 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 3; Foreign Desk; Pg. 8

**Length:** 1193 words

**Byline:** By GREG MYRE

**Dateline:** BEIT HANUN, Gaza Strip, May 15

### **Body**

---

Under a brilliant full moon, the Israeli Army commander took a final drag on his cigarette, then wriggled into a cramped armored personnel carrier and ordered his men on a nighttime charge into one of the Gaza Strip's most combustible neighborhoods.

The commander, a lieutenant colonel named Ron who insisted that his last name be withheld, predicted that shooting would erupt, and it did. In several sharp exchanges of fire, five Palestinians were killed, including two militants and three youths aged 12, 14 and 18, according to Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. More than a dozen Palestinians were wounded as part of an operation Israel said was aimed at preventing Palestinian rocket fire.

The colonel, a slim, energetic man with a day's worth of stubble, permitted a reporter to join him in his armored vehicle for an inside look at the fighting that persists despite a new Middle East peace plan.

As commander of a special forces battalion who also received training at Fort Benning, Ga., the colonel leads some of the army's more delicate missions in Gaza. Preparing for this one, he discussed the often-conflicting demands of tracking down militants and avoiding civilian casualties.

"It's important just to hit the terrorists, not the civilians," he said before the raid. "Most of the time we succeed. But the terrorists sometimes use the women and children as human shields, and it makes our job very difficult."

The raid, among the most sustained of the conflict into Gaza, came as the Bush administration was pushing a new peace plan here, and as the first Palestinian prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, said he was trying to marshal Palestinian security in the Gaza Strip. The Palestinians accuse Israel of trying to undermine the plan with assassinations of militant leaders and almost daily raids into Palestinian towns.

But Israeli officials say that with Mr. Abbas still failing to act to stop the violence, they have no choice but to carry out raids like this one. The diplomatic signals may be mixed, but for Ron, the mission had a straightforward message.

"We want the people to understand that if they let the terrorists operate from their neighborhoods, we will be there," he said.

## On a Moonlit Tank Charge Into a Gaza Powder Keg

Israel said it had selected Beit Hanun, in the northeast corner of Gaza, as a target because the militant Hamas movement used the lush orange groves there for cover when launching homemade rockets at the Israeli town of Sederot, just outside Gaza's boundary fence.

The Israeli commander directed more than two dozen tanks, armored personnel carriers, bulldozers and Humvees as they traversed rutted, winding roads and entered Beit Hanun in single file, with their lights out, navigating by moonlight and night-vision goggles.

The commander, who was relaxed and chatty before the operation began, became intensely focused once it started. With a 360-degree view through bulletproof-glass panels, he was constantly checking the positions of other vehicles. The radio between him and his offices rarely went silent, and he often flipped on a small flashlight to check a map book with aerial photos of Beit Hanun on a detailed grid.

After an hour of driving on deserted roads, the forces staked out positions at 3 a.m. in the dirt streets, many just wide enough to accommodate tanks. Spreading out over several blocks, they encircled two houses they said belonged to Hamas members accused of involvement in the rocket fire, and prepared to blow them up.

Speaking in Arabic, a soldier on a megaphone told residents to get out of the two houses, as well as those nearby. But Beit Hanun, like many Palestinian communities, is awash in weapons, and the call was greeted almost immediately with bursts of gunfire from elsewhere in the neighborhood, prompting shooting exchanges that lasted 15 minutes. Palestinians also hurled grenades and set off two roadside bombs, the Israelis said.

Despite the gunfights, Palestinian families emerged on the streets as ordered, with parents toting small children in their arms. The Israelis shined spotlights on them to make sure that they were unarmed, startling some children.

As the shooting died down, small bands of soldiers slipped into the two homes and the neighboring ones to confirm that they had been evacuated and to plant explosives.

A pair of blasts only minutes apart brought the two-story structures crashing down amid bright orange flashes, a shower of sparks and a gust of wind through the gun portals of the armored vehicle, bringing dust as fine as talcum powder.

A short distance away, the scenario was repeated, with another bout of shooting preceding the demolitions of two more houses the soldiers said belonged to Hamas men.

The Israeli practice of tearing down the homes of militants has been criticized by Palestinians, who call it collective punishment. The Israelis see it as deterrence.

Israeli troops made no arrests, but remained in the area, and periodic clashes continued throughout the day. Young men set up burning tire barricades in the streets and threw stones at the Israeli armor; unseen gunmen occasionally opened fire.

"Until this moment, we feel like we are in jail," Sufian Hamad, a Beit Hanun resident, said tonight. "We are surrounded by tanks."

He told his seven children to resist the temptation to peek out the window, saying the 12-year-old boy who died was shot while looking at the troops.

Palestinians said that the army had blocked ambulances for several hours, and that the boy, Muhammad Zaneen, who was hit in the head, had had to be carried from the combat zone. Israel denied the charge.

The Israeli colonel was remorseful about the youths who were killed. "It's a terrible feeling," he said. "It's the last thing I want to happen. I can only hope that we have made it difficult for the Palestinians to fire rockets from this area."

## On a Moonlit Tank Charge Into a Gaza Powder Keg

These up-close confrontations, which are commonplace, are inherently jittery. When troops turn a dark corner, as they did today, they may be greeted by a family of 10 in pajamas, or a barrage of gunfire from militants laying an ambush.

At dawn, the army's hulking D-9 bulldozers systematically flattened the large orange groves that the military says **Hamas** has been using as a launching pad.

Five bulldozers took down hundreds of mature orange trees like huge lawn mowers trimming an overgrown yard. The bulldozers were so powerful, oranges were flung from their branches as the trees were pressed to the ground.

"With these trees gone, we now have a clear line of sight from our positions, and the terrorists can't hide," the colonel said.

But Marwan al-Shawa, whose family owns the land, was furious at the destruction. "The Israelis are just doing this for revenge," he said.

Over the last year, Israeli forces have maintained an almost permanent presence in and around Palestinian cities in the West Bank. But quick in-and-out raids have been the norm in Gaza, where the army is wary of getting bogged down in the congested towns.

Nevertheless, Maj. Gen. Doron Almog said the troops would remain in Beit Hanun, because of the recent increase in rocket and mortar fire. Israel says it will not tolerate the attacks, which have caused injuries but no deaths so far.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

---

Photo: Israeli armor in the Beit Hanun area yesterday several hours after the first raid into the town, which the army says **Hamas** uses for rocket attacks. (Rina Castelnovo for The New York Times) Map of Gaza Strip highlighting Beit Hanun: Israel says Sederot has been the target of attacks from Beit Hanun.

**Load-Date:** May 16, 2003

---

End of Document