

# LIVE BLOG: Phase II Talks to Begin | West Bank Massacre | Hamas Commander Survives – Day 484

February 1, 2025 Blog, News



The Rafah crossing opened for the first time in months to allow the exit of injured Palestinian children. (Photo: via QNN)

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Three Israeli captives have been released as part of a ceasefire deal, while dozens of Palestinian detainees are set to be freed.

Meanwhile, the Rafah crossing reopens for the first time in months to allow the exit of 50 injured Palestinian children and their companions.

**This blog has been discontinued. Click here for the new blog.**

Sun, Feb 2, 9:17 AM (Palestine Time)

**Gaza Civil Defense Warns of Catastrophic Humanitarian Situation**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA:

Mahmoud Basal, Spokesperson for Gaza Civil Defense:

The Gaza Strip is facing a dire humanitarian crisis, with tens of thousands of residents left without shelter or basic necessities.

Upcoming weather depressions could severely endanger the lives of hundreds of thousands living in tents and unstable homes.

Large quantities of debris from Israeli attacks remain scattered in the streets and under destroyed buildings.

We call on the international community and human rights organizations to intervene urgently to save lives before it is too late.

Sun, Feb 2, 9:17 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Occupation Forces Palestinian Families to Displace from Their Homes in Tubas**

PALESTINIAN NEDIA: Israeli occupation forces have reportedly forced Palestinian families to flee their homes in the Al-Jabal area of Tammun, south of Tubas.

Sun, Feb 2, 9:17 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Occupation Tanks Open Warning Fire Toward Palestinians in Rafah**

AL-JAZEERA: Israeli tanks fired warning shots from the Philadelphia Axis toward Palestinians in the southern areas of Rafah.

Sun, Feb 2, 9:17 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Drones Fire Two Missiles Near Nuseirat Camp**

AL-JAZEERA: Israeli drones reportedly fired two missiles near a vehicle on Al-Rashid Street, northwest of the Nuseirat camp in central Gaza.

Sun, Feb 2, 9:17 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Netanyahu: We Will Work with Trump to Strengthen Israel's Security**

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stated that he will discuss critical issues facing Israel, the victory over Hamas, and the return of all hostages during his upcoming meeting with President Donald Trump.

Sun, Feb 2, 3:18 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Occupation Forces Storm Town in Tulkarm**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Israeli occupation forces have reportedly stormed the town of Atil in the Tulkarm district of the occupied northern West Bank.

Sun, Feb 2, 12:46 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Official: Netanyahu Decides to Cancel Meeting with Negotiation Team**

AXIOS (Citing a senior Israeli official):

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has decided to cancel a meeting with his negotiation team, opting to delay discussions until after his meeting with former US President Donald Trump.

The heads of Mossad and Shin Bet, Israel's intelligence agencies, have reportedly warned that this decision could harm progress in the second phase of negotiations. They emphasized that current talks with Hamas are being conducted through intermediaries in Qatar and Egypt, not through Washington.

Today's developments have raised concerns about the trajectory of the second phase of negotiations, with hopes that it will not negatively impact the ongoing first phase.

Sat, Feb 1, 9:50 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Trump Officials Justify His Remarks on Gaza Displacement**

AXIOS – US officials told Axios that President Trump's comments on relocating Gaza residents were linked to the massive destruction and the need for large-scale reconstruction efforts.

Sat, Feb 1, 9:50 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Eyal Zamir Appointed as Israel's Next Army Chief**

NETANYAHU'S OFFICE: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced the appointment of Eyal Zamir as the next Chief of Staff, replacing Herzi Halevi in March.

Sat, Feb 1, 9:50 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Resistance Fighters Clash with Israeli Forces in the West Bank**

AL JAZEERA: Palestinian resistance fighters detonated an explosive device and engaged Israeli forces in gunfire in the town of Arraba, south of Jenin.

Sat, Feb 1, 9:50 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Drone Drops Tear Gas during Prisoner's Welcome Ceremony**

AL JAZEERA: Israeli drones dropped tear gas on a crowd welcoming freed Palestinian prisoner Ali Hassan in Qalqilya, northern West Bank.

Sat, Feb 1, 9:50 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Resistance Says It Trapped Israeli Soldiers in Jenin**

AL-QUDS BRIGADES: The Jenin Battalion, alongside Al-Qassam Brigades and Youth of Revenge and Liberation, claims to have ambushed an Israeli infantry unit of 10 soldiers in Jenin's eastern sector, inflicting confirmed casualties.

Sat, Feb 1, 9:50 PM (Palestine Time)

### **EU Working to Evacuate 500 Wounded from Gaza**

WASHINGTON POST: A European diplomat told The Washington Post that the EU is coordinating with Palestinian Authority officials to evacuate 500 injured patients from Gaza.

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Rights Group: Israel Pursues Retaliatory Policies against Palestinian Prisoners**

EUROMED MONITOR: The deteriorating health of released Palestinian prisoners reflects the harsh conditions they endured during detention. Many showed severe weight loss, likely due to deliberate starvation, and were rushed to hospitals for urgent medical checks. These conditions highlight Israeli prisons as centers of torture, with documented testimonies revealing a retaliatory policy against Palestinian detainees.

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Defense Minister Threatens Freed Prisoner Zakaria Zubeidi**

AL-JAZEERA: Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz threatened Zakaria Zubeidi, a freed prisoner and former leader of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, warning, "If Zakaria makes even one mistake, he will meet his old friends (in prison)."

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Prisoner Release Showcased Hamas' Strength - Israeli Media**

ISRAELI ARMY RADIO : The release of Israeli prisoners today demonstrated Hamas' organizational strength and control over crowds, showcasing their ability to appear disciplined and organized when needed.

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Palestinian Killed by Israeli Sniper in Tulkarm Refugee Camp**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Waheed Sabbagh Abu Madi was killed by an Israeli sniper in the Tulkarm refugee camp in the northern West Bank.

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Palestinian Killed, Others Injured in Israeli Drone Strike in Jenin**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: A Palestinian was killed and others wounded in an Israeli drone strike near the Al-Saadi family's home in Jenin's eastern neighborhood.

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Gaza Civil Defense Warns of Humanitarian Catastrophe**

GAZA CIVIL DEFENSE: Gaza's Civil Defense spokesperson, Mahmoud Basal, warned of a dire humanitarian situation, with residents exposed to severe weather and dangerous debris from Israeli attacks. He called for urgent international intervention to save lives.

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Red Cross Criticizes Israel's Treatment of Released Prisoners**

HAARETZ: The Red Cross expressed outrage over Israel's treatment of released Palestinian prisoners, who were handcuffed with their hands raised and forced to wear threatening bracelets. The Israeli army defended the practice, stating it would continue until the last moment.

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Arab Nations Reject Forced Displacement of Palestinians**

JOINT ARAB STATEMENT: Qatar, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, the Palestinian Authority, and the Arab League issued a joint statement rejecting any forced displacement of Palestinians and reaffirming support for a two-state solution.

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **PPC: Israel Threatens Released Detainees**

PALESTINIAN PRISONERS' CLUB: The club accused Israel of terrorizing released prisoners and their families, including threats of murder, to prevent celebrations.

Sat, Feb 1, 7:38 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Lieberman Calls for Government Inquiry into October 7 Events**

ISRAEL BEITEINU PARTY: Avigdor Lieberman demanded a government investigation into the October 7, 2023, events, urging lessons be learned to avoid repeating the "disaster."

Sat, Feb 1, 1:10 PM (Palestine Time)

### **First Batch of Patients Heads to Egypt via Rafah Crossing**

AL-JAZEERA: The first batch of patients has left Gaza through the Rafah crossing into Egypt, under a mechanism supervised by the World Health Organization.

Sat, Feb 1, 1:10 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Former Israeli Negotiator: Netanyahu Won't Oppose Trump**

CBS (citing former Israeli negotiator): Israel is not discussing ending the war or withdrawing from Gaza. He added that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would not oppose US President Donald Trump if he is determined to complete the deal.

Sat, Feb 1, 1:10 PM (Palestine Time)

### **50 Cancer and Heart Patients Head to Rafah Crossing**

AL-JAZEERA: A bus transported 50 cancer and heart patients to Rafah Crossing, from where they will continue into Egyptian territory.

Sat, Feb 1, 12:52 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Freed Detainees Transferred to Ramallah Hospitals**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Several freed detainees are being transferred to hospitals in Ramallah, West Bank, due to their health conditions.

Sat, Feb 1, 12:52 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Israel Admits: Intel on Assassination of Hamas Commander Was False**

ISRAELI ARMY SPOKESMAN: The Israeli army spokesperson admitted that intelligence about the successful assassination of Qassam Brigades' Coastal Brigade commander, Haitham Al-Hawajri, was incorrect. This follows his appearance during the handover of Israeli detainee Keith Siegel at Gaza Port.

Sat, Feb 1, 12:52 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Hundreds Gather in Ramallah to Welcome Freed Detainees**

AL JAZEERA: Hundreds of Palestinians gathered in Ramallah, West Bank, to welcome freed detainees, despite warnings from the Israeli army to their families. Buses carrying Palestinian detainees from Gaza are expected to arrive at the Karam Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) Crossing.

Sat, Feb 1, 12:52 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Red Cross Bus Arrives at Ofer Prison**

ANADOLU: A Red Cross bus arrived at Ofer Prison, west of Ramallah, in preparation for the release of 32 Palestinian detainees to the West Bank as part of the fourth exchange batch.

Sat, Feb 1, 12:52 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Hamas Sends Messages Through Handover Locations**

CHANNEL 12:

Hamas delivers specific messages at each handover location.

The choice of Jabalia, Sinwar's home, Al-Shati Camp, and Gaza Port as handover sites was not random.

These locations demonstrate Hamas's control over these areas despite Israeli strikes.

Sat, Feb 1, 12:52 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Israeli Forces Raid Beitunia ahead of Detainee Release**

ANADOLU: Israeli forces raided Beitunia, near Ofer Prison in the occupied West Bank, ahead of the release of Palestinian detainees as part of the fourth exchange batch.

Sat, Feb 1, 12:52 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Jenin Brigade: Fierce Battles with Occupation Forces**

AL-QUDS BRIGADES-JENIN BATTALION: Our fighters engaged in intense battles with Israeli forces in the Al-Alamaniya and Al-Naseem axes in Jenin, confirming casualties among Israeli troops.

Sat, Feb 1, 12:52 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Hamas: Condition of Enemy Detainees Proves Our Resistance Values**

HAMAS STATEMENT:

We released 3 enemy detainees, including an Israeli with U.S. citizenship, in exchange for a new batch of our heroic detainees from occupation prisons.

Despite harsh conditions, Qassam Brigades ensured necessary healthcare for the Israeli detainee with multiple illnesses.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **First Batch of Injured Heads to Rafah Crossing**

AL JAZEERA: Patients and injured Palestinians scheduled to travel today began leaving hospitals via buses and ambulances heading to the Rafah crossing. This move is part of the ceasefire agreement, following Israel's withdrawal from the crossing to allow the travel of the injured and their companions under the terms of the deal. A correspondent reported that the agreement allows 50 patients and injured individuals to leave today, each accompanied by three people.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Hamas Rejects Repeated US Statements on Gaza Displacement**

AL JAZEERA:

Sami Abu Zuhri, a Hamas official, said in a statement:

Repeated US announcements about displacing Gaza's population are absurd and valueless.

US insistence on displacement under the guise of reconstruction represents complicity in crime.

What the occupation failed to achieve by force, it won't achieve through political maneuvers.

US insistence on displacement plans will only increase chaos and tension in the region.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Qassam Brigades Hand Over Keith Siegel to Red Cross**

AL JAZEERA: The Qassam Brigades handed over the third Israeli detainee, dual-national Keith Shmonel Segal to the Red Cross at Gaza Port. A correspondent noted that the Qassam Brigades also gave him a gift for himself and another for his wife, who was released in a previous exchange in November 2023.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Qassam Transferred Two Detainees in Israeli Army Vehicle**

AL JAZEERA: Channel 12 reported that the Qassam Brigades' Shadow Unit transported detainees Yarden Bibas and Ofer Calderon in a vehicle belonging to the Israeli army, seized during the October 7, 2023 attack.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Army Confirms Receipt of Calderon and Bibas**

AL JAZEERA: The Israeli army confirmed receiving detainees Yarden Bibas and Ofer Calderon, stating they are en route to Israel for initial medical evaluation. They also noted preparations to receive the third detainee, Keith Siegel, expected to be released soon from Gaza Port.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Qassam Prepares to Release Keith Siegel at Gaza Port**

AL JAZEERA: The Qassam Brigades are finalizing preparations to hand over Israeli detainee Keith Shmonel Siegel, a senior citizen with U.S. citizenship, at Gaza Port. A correspondent reported that Abu Omar Al-Hawajri, a brigade commander previously claimed assassinated by Israel, will appear during the handover.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Qassam Hands Over Two Israeli Detainees in Khan Yunis**

AL JAZEERA: The Qassam Brigades handed over Israeli detainees Ofer Calderon and Yarden Bibas to the International Red Cross in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Qassam Convoy Arrives in Khan Yunis**

AL JAZEERA: A convoy of Qassam Brigades vehicles arrived in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza, to begin arrangements for the handover of two Israeli detainees.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Red Cross Vehicles Arrive in Khan Yunis**

AL JAZEERA: Red Cross vehicles arrived in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza, as part of arrangements for the handover of two Israeli detainees in the fourth batch of the prisoner exchange.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Qassam Prepares Two Sites for Handover of Israeli Detainees**

AL JAZEERA: The release of Israeli detainees will occur at two locations in Gaza: Khan Yunis and Gaza Port. The Qassam Brigades are preparing platforms for the handover of detainees Keith Shmonel Siegel at Gaza Port and Yarden Bibas and Ofer Calderon in Khan Yunis.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Qassam Prepares in Khan Yunis for Release of Israeli Detainees**

AL JAZEERA: Qassam Brigades elements began deploying in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza, to prepare for the handover of Israeli detainees scheduled for release today as part of the fourth batch of the exchange.



Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Israel Arrests Four Palestinians in Qalqilya**

Wafa: Israeli forces arrested four Palestinians from Qalqilya in the West Bank after raiding the city early today.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Prisons Prepare to Release Palestinian Detainees**

AL JAZEERA: The Israeli Prison Service confirmed operational preparations to release Palestinian detainees as part of the ceasefire and prisoner exchange agreement. Detainees will be transferred from Ofer Prison to release points in the West Bank and Kerem Shalom Crossing.

Sat, Feb 1, 11:21 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Rafah Crossing Reopens After 8 Months**

AL JAZEERA: AFP sources confirmed that the Rafah crossing will reopen today after the fourth batch of the prisoner exchange between Hamas and Israel. The crossing has been closed for eight months since the Israeli army took control in May. A source noted that the move aims to allow the evacuation of the injured from Gaza as per the ceasefire agreement.