**Operation ‘Protective Edge’ Commences as IDF Targets Terror Sites in the Gaza Strip**

IDF Blog

July 8, 2014

<https://web.archive.org/web/20140806023710/http://www.idfblog.com/blog/2014/07/08/operation-protective-edge-commences-as-idf-targets-terror-sites-in-the-gaza-strip/>

**Early in the morning of July 8, the IDF targeted approximately 50 terror sites and targets across the Gaza Strip, commencing operation ‘Protective Edge’ – aimed to retrieve stability to the residents of southern Israel, eliminate Hamas’ capabilities and destroy terror infrastructure operating against the State of Israel and its civilians.**

Among the [targets](http://humanrightsvoices.org/site/documents/?d=21997) were four activity sites utilized by Hamas operatives who are responsible for [numerous rocket attacks](https://web.archive.org/web/20140806023710/http:/www.idfblog.com/blog/2014/03/12/breaking-gaza-terrorists-fire-rockets-southern-israel-2/) [EDITOR’S NOTE: LINK GOES TO A MARCH 12, 2014 IDF BLOG ARTICLE ENTITLED “Israel Under Fire: Live Updates of Gaza Rocket Attacks”] and were involved in various terror activities against the State of Israel.

**The activity sites that were targeted were utilized by the following operatives:**

* *Ei’ad Sakik,* a [Hamas](http://humanrightsvoices.org/site/documents/?d=21822&id=25106) terrorists in Gaza, involved in rocket terrorism against the State of Israel.
* *Abdullah Hshash,* a Hamas terrorist in Rafah, involved in rocket terrorism against the State of Israel during the past few weeks and in the past as well.
* *Samer Abu Daka,*a Hamas terrorist in Khan Yunis, involved in terrorist activity against the State of Israel.
* *Hassan Abdullah,* a Hamas terrorist in Khan Yunis, involved in rocket terrorism against the State of Israel during the past few weeks.

[EMBEDDED VIDEO: <http://humanrightsvoices.org/site/documents/?d=21996>]

The IDF targeted dozens of [terror sites](http://humanrightsvoices.org/site/documents/?d=21998) across the Gaza Strip, including concealed rocket launchers, launching infrastructures, a weapon storage facility, training bases, terror tunnels’ shafts and further targets.

Lt. Col. Peter Lerner, IDF Spokesman: *“In the past weeks, residents of southern Israel were forced into an unbearable reality – a situation they haven’t encountered in these scales since November 2012. In light of these circumstances, the IDF commenced operation ‘Protective Edge’. We are determined to lay a significant blow on Hamas’ terror capabilities and infrastructure, eliminate any threat on Israeli sovereignty emanating from the Gaza Strip and restore stability to the southern region. Terrorists perpetrating the aggression against Israel have a personal price to pay and will bear the consequences of their actions.”*