Photos show Hamas tunnel discovered under UNRWA school

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Israel’s public broadcaster, Kan News, on Thursday published photos of the tunnel shaft that had been exposed under a United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) school yard in Gaza City.

The photos show a hole in the ground, caused by either a missile or a missile shard, which exposed the shaft of a tunnel dug by Hamas terrorists 7-8 meters under the school yard.

Earlier this week, [UNRWA said](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307587) in a statement that the tunnel beneath one of its schools had been exposed following a strike by the Israel Air Force.

While declaring the inviolability of UNRWA premises, opining that all United Nations buildings are clearly marked on their roof, it acknowledged that “no displaced persons were inside the school at the time of the strike and no physical injuries were caused.”

The statement did not mention that it is highly likely that the IDF called ahead of the strike to warn that the school was a target.

UNRWA said the tunnel was not connected to the school and there is no “indication of the existence of any entry or exit points for the tunnel within the premises.”

Created in 1949, UNRWA supplies aid to more than three million of the five million registered “Palestinian refugees” in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and territories assigned to the Palestinian Authority.

However, it has also come under fire for its anti-Israel activities. During the 2014 counterterrorism Operation Protective Edge, Hamas rockets [were discovered](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/183089) inside a school building run by UNRWA.

Likewise, a [booby-trapped UNRWA clinic](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/183566) was detonated, killing three IDF soldiers. Aside from the massive amounts of explosives hidden in the walls of the clinic, it was revealed that it stood on top of dozens of terror tunnels, showing how UNRWA is closely [embedded with Hamas](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/186739).

Sunday’s statement followed criticism of UNRWA after its Gaza director, Matthias Schmale, said [in an interview](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/306993) with Israel’s Channel 12 News that he did not dispute Israel’s assertion that its air strikes on Hamas terrorist targets in the Strip were “precise”.

The comments resulted in protests in Gaza, with Hamas ridiculing Schmale as “a spokesman for the Israeli military”.

While Schmale has apologized, [he was called in for consultations](https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/307393) with his bosses in Jerusalem last week.