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9 September 2004

UN envoy condemns Israel's killing of Palestinians in Gaza

9 September 2004 – The top United Nations envoy for the Middle East today condemned the killing of Palestinian civilians and the wounding of many more in Israeli military operations in the Gaza Strip over the last two days and called on the Government of Israel to avoid using disproportionate force in crowded areas.

The Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Terje Roed-Larsen, said he was particularly disturbed to hear that two children were among those killed.

Sending his sincere condolences to the families of the victims, the envoy called on Israel "to abide by its obligation under international humanitarian law to avoid the use of disproportionate force in densely populated areas and to protect the civilian population."

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