

UN envoy condemns killing of Palestinian civilians in recent days

12 July 2004 – The top United Nations envoy for the Middle East, Terje Roed-Larsen, today condemned the rash of killings of Palestinian civilians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip over the past few days.

A statement released by the office of the UN Special Coordinator for the [Middle East Peace Process](#) said Mr. Roed-Larsen was "particularly disturbed" by the killing this morning of 70-year-old wheelchair-bound Mahmoud Halfalla in Khan Yunis.

"The Special Coordinator sends his sincere sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims and calls on the Government of 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," the statement said.

Mr. Roed-Larsen is scheduled to deliver the regular monthly briefing to the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East tomorrow.

Source: UN News Centre

Link: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=11318&Cr=palestin&Cr1=#.WQxSXGI95eM>