
Gaza Peace Talks Continue as New Cease-Fire Started

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Israeli officials arrived in Cairo on Monday morning to continue peace talks with Palestinian negotiators as a new 72-hour cease-fire went into effect.

"The blockade must be lifted not only to get material into Gaza in order to rebuild it but to allow Gaza to do what it was doing very well just 10 years ago, to trade with the outside world," James Rawley, the top United Nations' humanitarian official for the Palestinian territories, told AFP.

Rawley told the news agency that fighting would likely continue unless Israel agreed to the condition.

Israel launched more than 85 missile attacks over the weekend after the previous cease-fire ended on Friday. According to the U.N., close to 2,000 Palestinians and 67 Israelis have been killed since fighting began July 8.

A Hamas spokesman said that this new round of talks would be the "last chance" for an agreement.
