

Mideast

Truce Sought In Latest Outburst

BY KARIN LAUB AND IBRAHIM BARZAK
 Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers traded fire and tough cease-fire proposals Monday, and threatened to escalate their border conflict if diplomacy fails. No deal appeared near.

An Israeli airstrike targeting a Gaza media center killed a senior militant and engulfed the building in flames, while Gaza fighters fired 95 rockets at Israel, nearly one-third of them intercepted by an Israeli missile shield.

A total of 38 Palestinians were killed Monday. Two more Palestinians were killed in airstrikes past midnight, bringing the death toll since the start of Israel's offensive to 111, including 56 civilians. Some 840 people have been wounded, including 225 children, Gaza health officials said. Three Israeli civilians have been killed and dozens have been wounded.

Over the weekend, civilian casualties in Gaza rose sharply after Israel began targeting the homes of what it said were suspected militants. Two such strikes late Monday killed five people — a father and his 4-year-old twin sons in northern Gaza and two people in the south, medics said.

Jamal Daloo, who lost his wife, a son, four grandchildren and five other members of his family in an attack Sunday, sat in quiet mourning Monday next to the ruins of his home, his face streaked with tears.

"The international public opinion witnessed the facts," he said, speaking as his 16-year-old daughter, Yara, was still missing under the rubble being cleared away by bulldozers. "This does not require my words."

Egypt, the traditional mediator between Israel and the Arab world, was at the center of a flurry of diplomatic activity Monday. Egyptian intelligence officials met separately in Cairo with an Israeli envoy and with Khaled Mashaal, the top Hamas leader in exile.

Hamas wants Israel to halt all attacks on Gaza and lift tight restrictions on trade and movement in and out of the territory that have been in place since Hamas seized Gaza by force in 2007. Israel demands an end to rocket fire from Gaza and a halt to weapons smuggling into Gaza through tunnels under the border with Egypt.

With positions far apart on a comprehensive deal, some close to the negotiations suggested Egypt is first seeking a halt to fighting before other conditions are discussed. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the talks are in a



EYAD AL BABA/APA IMAGES/ZUMA PRESS/MCT
Smoke rises after an Israeli airstrike Monday in Rafah in southern Gaza Strip.

sensitive stage.

Mashaal told reporters that Hamas would only agree to a cease-fire if its demands are met. "We don't accept Israeli conditions because it is the aggressor," he said. "We want a cease-fire along with meeting our demands."

Mashaal also suggested that Israel's threat of invading Gaza was simply a ploy. He said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "is waving the threat of a ground offensive and asking the world to pressure Egypt, Turkey and Qatar, so they pressure Hamas."

"He wants to negotiate with us under fire to impose his conditions, pretending he is acting from a position of strength," Mashaal said.

Israeli leaders have repeatedly threatened to widen the offensive, saying an invasion is an option. Israel has amassed troops on the Gaza border and begun calling up thousands of reservists. Still, an Israeli official emphasized that Israel hopes to find a diplomatic solution.

"We prefer the diplomatic solution if it's possible. If we see it's not going to bear fruit, we can escalate," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the diplomatic efforts

under way. He added that Israel wants international guarantees that Hamas will not rearm or use Egypt's Sinai region, which abuts Gaza, for militant activity.

As part of global efforts to end the Gaza fighting, U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon arrived in Cairo on Monday and was to meet with Israeli President Shimon Peres on Tuesday.

The U.N. Security Council held closed-door consultations at the request of Russia, and Ambassador Vitaly Churkin later accused one country of foot-dragging, implying it was the U.S.

Germany's foreign minister was also headed to the region for talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders. On Tuesday, Turkey's foreign minister and a delegation of Arab League foreign ministers were to visit Gaza.

Hamas, an offshoot of the region-wide Muslim Brotherhood, is negotiating from a stronger position than four years ago, when Israel launched a three-week war on the militants in Gaza. At that time, Hamas was internationally isolated; now, the Muslim Brotherhood is in power in Egypt and Tunisia, and Hamas is also getting political support from Qatar and Turkey.

President Continues His Historic Asia Trip

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — On a history-making trip, President Barack Obama on Monday paid the first visit by an American leader to Myanmar and Cambodia, two Asian countries with troubled histories, one on the mend and the other still a cause of concern.

Obama's fast-paced, pre-Thanksgiving trip vividly illustrated the different paths the regional neighbors are taking to overcome legacies of violence, poverty and repression.

Cheered by massive flag-waving crowds, Obama offered long-isolated Myanmar a "hand of friendship" as it rapidly embraces democratic reforms. Hours later, he arrived in Cambodia to little fanfare, then pointedly criticized the country's strongman leader on the issue of human rights during a tense meeting.

Obama was an early champion of Myanmar's sudden transformation to civilian rule following a half-century of military dictatorship. He's rewarded the country, also known as Burma, with eased economic penalties, increased U.S. investment and now a presidential visit, in part to show other nations the benefits of pursuing similar reforms.

"You're taking a journey that has the potential to inspire so many people," Obama said during a speech at Myanmar's University of Yangon.



Obama

Syrian Islamist Groups Reject Opposition

BEIRUT (AP) — Syria's increasingly powerful Islamist rebel factions rejected the country's new Western-backed opposition coalition and unilaterally declared an Islamic state in the key battleground of Aleppo, a sign of the seemingly intractable splits among those fighting to topple President Bashar Assad.

The move highlights the struggle over the direction of the rebellion at a time when the opposition is trying to gain the West's trust and secure a flow of weapons to fight the regime. The rising profile of the extremist faction among the rebels could doom those efforts.

Such divisions have hobbled the opposition over the course of the uprising, which has descended into a bloody civil war. According to activists, nearly 40,000 people have been killed since the revolt began 20 months ago. The fighting has been particularly extreme in Aleppo, Syria's largest city and a major front in the civil war since the summer.

Salman Shaikh, director of The Brookings Doha Center in Qatar, said Monday the Islamists' declaration will unsettle both Western backers of the Syrian opposition and groups inside Syria, ranging from secularists to the Christian minority.

Many State Legislatures Have Supermajorities

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — There's a new superpower growing in the Great Plains and the South, where bulging Republican majorities in state capitols could dramatically cut taxes and change public education with barely a whimper of resistance from Democrats.

Contrast that with California, where voters have given Democrats a new dominance that could allow them to raise taxes and embrace same-sex marriage without regard to Republican objections.

If you thought the presidential election revealed the nation's political rifts, consider the outcomes in state legislatures. The vote also created a broader tier of powerful one-party governments that can act with no need for compromise. Half of state legislatures now have veto-proof majorities, up from 13 only four years ago, according to figures compiled for The Associated Press by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

All but three states — Iowa, Kentucky and New Hampshire — have one-party control of their legislatures, the highest mark since 1928.

Steady U.S. Housing Recovery Providing A Lift

WASHINGTON (AP) — From purchases and prices to builder sentiment and construction, the U.S. housing market is making consistent gains.

The latest evidence came in reports Monday that sales of previously occupied homes rose solidly in October and that builders are more confident than at any other time in 6 1/2 years.

New-home sales and home-price indexes have reached multi-year highs. And Lowe's Cos. on Monday reported a surge in net income, a sign that home-improvement retailers are benefiting.

The housing market's recovery still has a long way to go. But for now, it's helping prop up an economy that's being squeezed by a global slowdown and looming spending cuts and tax increases.

Joseph LaVorgna, an economist at Deutsche Bank, estimates that the housing recovery could boost U.S. economic growth by a full percentage point next year. That's because a stronger housing market would mean more jobs, especially in industries like construction, and more consumer spending.

AC/DC Releases Entire Catalog On iTunes

NEW YORK (AP) — AC/DC is finally releasing its music digitally on iTunes.

Columbia Records and Apple announced Monday that the classic rock band's music will be available at the iTunes Store worldwide.

Sixteen studio albums will be released, including "High Voltage" and "Back in Black," which is already in the Top 30 on iTunes' top albums chart. Two of the group's albums are also in the Top 100 and several of the Australian band's songs are in the Top 200.

AC/DC was one of the few acts that would not release music through the digital outlet. Two years ago Apple struck a deal with The Beatles' record label, EMI Group, and management company, and began selling the group's music. Kid Rock, who had also been against selling his music through the digital retailer, is releasing a new album, "Rebel Soul," on Monday and it's available on iTunes.

OBITUARIES

Bonnie Krause

Bonnie Kay Krause, age 65, formerly of Columbus, NE, and Yankton, SD, died Sunday November 18, 2012 in Sioux Falls, SD.

The family will greet friends from 5:00-7:00 p.m., with a Scripture service at 7:00 p.m., Friday November 23 at the McKown Funeral Home in Columbus. Burial will be at a later date.



Krause

Bonnie Wallick, daughter of Ivan and Merle (Choat) Wallick, was born December 9, 1946 in Albion, NE. She was baptized and confirmed at the United Methodist Church in Albion. Bonnie attended Boone Country School, district 23-49, Albion Junior High and graduated from Albion High with the Class of 1964. Bonnie then worked at Putters Jewelry in Norfolk.

She was united in marriage to David Krause on May 8, 1965 at St. Michaels Church in Albion. The couple lived in Norfolk for a short time and later moved to Columbus in October of 1965. She worked at Dales, Gibson's, Saunder's Archery, and Runza before working for 24 years at Wal-Mart, retiring in 2009. In her earlier years Bonnie was very active in 4-H and was crowned Boone County Queen in 1962. She enjoyed traveling, her camper, and reading. The couple spent 6 months of the year near Yankton, SD and 6 months in Bullhead City, AZ.

Grateful for having shared her life are her husband Dave, daughter Cindy (Rod) Johnson, Omaha, NE, 2 grandchildren, Sean and Kasi Kuta, Omaha, 2 brothers, Jim (Diane) Wallick, Villisca, IA, Dick Wallick, Columbus, NE, a sister, Donna Klopnienski, of Colum-

Marlene Rembold

A memorial service for Marlene Rembold of Scotland will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 21 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Scotland with Rev. David W. Ellis officiating. Organist is Harriet Schaeffer. Inurnment will follow in Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. until a 7:00 p.m. prayer service at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Marlene Lois Rembold was born on Friday, April 15, 1949 at Scotland, South Dakota to Richard and Lois (Newlon) Rembold. She graduated from Scotland High School in 1967. Following high school, she attended Concordia College in St. Paul, Minnesota. She worked for the Veteran's Administration in St. Paul, Honolulu, Reno, and Sioux Falls. She later returned to Scotland to help her aging parents, but continued to work for the VA by working online and traveling to Sioux Falls. Marlene was a member of St. Paul



Marlene Rembold

Lutheran Church and the Scotland Historical Society. She loved her birds and dogs. She enjoyed crafts, furniture refinishing, needlework and always decorated her house for the holidays. Due to poor health, she entered the Yankton Care Center, later returning home for a short time. She was a resident at the Good Samaritan Society of Scotland, Autumn Winds in Yankton, and the Wakonda Heritage Manor. Marlene went to be with her Lord on Saturday, November 17, 2012 at the Lewis and Clark Specialty Hospital in Yankton at the age of 63 years, 7 months, and 2 days.

Marlene is survived by four sisters and one brother: Wanda Dolejsi of Yankton, Roger (Rosa) Rembold of Kaneohe, Hawaii, Joyce Brunken of Yankton, Lillian (Elden) Helms of Creighton, Joan Rembold and Mark Araiza of Honolulu, Hawaii; many nieces and nephews; a god-daughter, Melissa; and numerous great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Richard and Lois Rembold, sister Barbara Rembold in infancy, brother-in-law Larry Dolejsi, and niece Carrie Russaw.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
 November 20, 2012

Goglin
 Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

Bentley Rogers

Bentley Laval Rogers, newborn son of Stephen and Lindsay (Ostrem) Rogers of Wakonda, died Nov. 18, 2012, at Sanford

USD Medical Center, Sioux Falls.

Private family services will be held at a later date.

Hansen Funeral Home, Irene, is in charge of arrangements.

The perfect combination

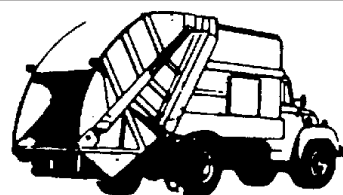
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Thursday, Nov. 22nd, 2012

All Wednesday & Thursday routes will be picked up on Wednesday, Nov. 21st. Friday routes will be picked up on Friday, November 23rd. All other routes as scheduled.

TRANSFER STATION WILL BE
CLOSED THURS., NOV. 22ND, 2012.
CLOSING 1PM, FRI., NOV. 23RD 2012.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR GARBAGE
 & RECYCLABLES PLACED BY 7 A.M.

YOU'RE NEWS!
 The Press & Dakotan

The family of Carl Gratzfeld would like to thank everyone for the kind words, visits, telephone calls, cards, food, flowers and memorials. We really appreciated everything. The outpouring of thoughtfulness and love was tremendous.

Thank you all

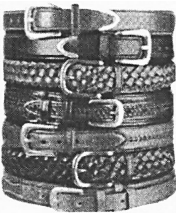
Donna Gratzfeld, Cheryl and Tim Vanderkooi, Gary and Marlene Gratzfeld, Jeff, Tyler, Rose, Journey and Christi, Carla and Clay Amick, Emma, Jake and Vern, Joe and Sylvia Gratzfeld, Ed and JoAnn Gratzfeld

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