



Intelligence and Terrorism Information
Center at the Israel Intelligence Heritage &
Commemoration Center

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The Israeli security forces detained a Fatah terrorist operative from the Gaza Strip who underwent advanced military training in Iran. He was involved in firing rockets into Israeli territory and even expressed willingness to act as a suicide bomber. ¹

Overview

1. On April 15 the Israel Security Agency and the IDF detained **Alaa' Jihad Awad Abu Mudeif**, who underwent advanced **military training in Iran**. Alaa' Abu Mudeif, 30, a resident of a village near Khan Yunis, was an operative in Fatah's Abu Rish faction.² He was also involved in firing rockets at western Negev population centers, and on two occasions was supposed to carry out a suicide bombing attack (the attacks were not carried out).



Alaa' Jihad Awad Abu Mudeif

¹ According to a Israel Security Agency report.

² One of the small groups which broke away from Fatah in the 1990s and cooperate with Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad. In recent years its operatives have been involved in rocket fire and in laying IEDs to attack IDF forces.

Particulars

2. During interrogation Alaa' Jihad Awad Abu Mudeif's revealed that in May 2007, a short time after being recruited into the Abu Rish faction, he was one of a group of terrorist operatives in the Gaza Strip **sent to Iran for training**. They left the Gaza Strip through the **Rafah Crossing** into Egypt and flew from Cairo to **Damascus**, and from there went to **Iran**. Once in Iran they were sent to isolated military camps situated in a mountainous region where they underwent extensive military training.

3. Their training lasted a month and included:

- i) Physical training and navigation.
- ii) Operating various types of weapons: light arms, machine guns, hand grenades and anti-tank weapons.
- iii) Assembling and operating explosive devices.
- iv) Indoctrination, especially anti-Israeli and anti-American incitement.
- v) Spy craft training (evading followers, etc.)

4. He returned to the Gaza Strip after the Hamas takeover, and in September-October 2007 carried out a series of rocket attacks against targets in the western Negev. On two separate occasions he also expressed his readiness to carry out a suicide bombing attack against IDF forces in the region of Kissufim (one in collaboration with the Democratic Front and the other with the Army of Islam³). He was photographed before the attacks, but in the end they were not carried out.

Summary

5. Abu Mudeif's interrogation provided **additional proof of Iran's support of the Palestinian terrorist organizations** operating in the Gaza Strip, manifested by their training of operatives from several organizations.⁴ The Iranians also provide support for Palestinian terrorist organizations in other areas: they transfer funds, provide weapons (including standard 122mm Grad rockets) and the technical knowhow for improving homemade weapons, etc. The interrogation also revealed the support **Syria** gives terrorist operatives in the Gaza Strip by allowing them to use Damascus as a transition point on their way to and from training in Iran.

³ A radical Islamic terrorist organization headed by Mumtaz Dughmush and affiliated with the global jihad.

⁴ For further information see our March 17, 2008 Bulletin entitled "Senior Hamas operative figure tells London Sunday Times' Gaza Strip correspondent about Iranian and Syria military aid" at http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/malam_multimedia/English/eng_n/html/hamas_160308e.htm.