

# Israel's bombs hit parts of evacuee 'safe zones'

## Humanitarian aid may begin to arrive in Gaza on Friday

John Bacon, Thao Nguyen and Kim Hjelmgard  
USA TODAY

No place was safe for more than 2 million Palestinians on Thursday as Israeli bombs slammed across Gaza, including parts of the Palestinian territory that Israel had declared "safe zones."

At least 12 people were killed and dozens wounded Thursday when a residential building in the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis was struck, medical personnel at Nasser Hospital said. The shelling came one day after Israel agreed to allow limited shipments of humanitarian aid into southern Gaza from Egypt.

"Israeli Air Forces continued to strike southern areas despite the directive for people in #Gaza to move south," the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) posted on X, formerly Twitter. The agency said at least 14 of its own staff had been killed and nine wounded — adding that the "actual number is likely to be much higher" — in less than two weeks since a stunning, bloody incursion of Hamas militants into Israel brought military reprisals.

### Mourning numbers

The commander of the Hamas-led National Security Forces, Maj. Gen. Jihad Muheisen, was killed in an Israeli strike on his Gaza City home along with relatives, Hamas said. The Israeli military says it is attacking Hamas militants wherever they hide in Gaza and has accused the militants of taking shelter among the civilian population.

The death toll of Israelis and Palestinians neared 5,000, making the conflict the deadliest of five wars involving the narrow, densely populated strip of land bordering Israel, Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea. More than 1,400 people in Israel have been killed in the conflict, and the Gaza Health Ministry says the death toll in Gaza climbed to at least 3,785 people Thursday, including more than 1,500 children and 1,000 women. At least 12,493 people have been injured and another 1,300 people are believed buried under the rubble, dead or alive, the ministry said.

The number of Americans killed in the conflict has risen to 31, with 13 still missing, according to the White House. Israeli authorities said Thursday that they had notified the families of 203 people believed held by Hamas militants. The number of known hostages has crept higher almost daily.

About 300,000 Israelis have been internally displaced since the start of the war, the Times of Israel reports, citing Israel Democracy Institute research. Most are from southern Israel in the Gaza border towns where Hamas carried out its murderous rampage.

More than 1 million people have fled their homes in



A girl stands inside one of the tents set up for Palestinians seeking refuge on the ground in the Gaza Strip on Thursday. MAHMUD HAMS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

the Gaza Strip ahead of an expected Israeli offensive that seeks to eliminate Hamas' leadership. Aid groups warn an Israeli ground offensive could hasten a humanitarian crisis.

On the return from Israel aboard Air Force One late Wednesday, Biden told reporters he spoke with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, who agreed to allow up to 20 trucks of humanitarian aid to travel through the Rafah gate, the crossing connecting his nation to Gaza.

"If Hamas confiscates it or doesn't let it get through ... then it's going to end, because we're not going to be sending in humanitarian aid to Hamas," Biden said. "The bottom line is that El-Sisi deserves some real credit because he was very accommodating."

Biden said Ambassador David Satterfield, whom the president appointed this week as the special envoy for humanitarian issues in the Middle East, will coordinate the operation.

Aid may not reach Gaza until Friday, Biden said. The roads must be patched first, and that work was to begin Thursday. Hamas' spokesman Wael Abu Omar said no aid trucks or road repair equipment had entered Gaza from the Egyptian border crossing as of Thursday afternoon.

### US armor arrives in Israel

A U.S. cargo plane arrived in Israel carrying the initial shipment of armored vehicles designated to replace those damaged during the war, the Israel Ministry of Defense said Thursday. Armored ambulances,



Rockets are fired from the Gaza Strip toward Israel over destroyed buildings following Israeli airstrikes on Gaza City, central Gaza Strip, Thursday. MOHAMMED DAHMAN/AP

trucks and mechanical engineering equipment are expected to arrive in coming days, the ministry said.

Biden also pledged \$100 million in U.S. funding for humanitarian assistance for Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank, and said he would seek congressional approval of an "unprecedented support package" to bolster Israel's defense.

More than 100 retired U.S. generals have signed an open letter from the Washington-based Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs calling on Biden and Congress to give Israel all the support it needs militarily, diplomatically and logistically against the "Iran-backed terrorist threats that surround it on all sides."

A militant video and weapons seized by Israel show that Hamas fighters also likely fired North Korean weapons during their Oct. 7 assault on Israel, despite Pyongyang's denials that it arms the militant group. South Korean officials, two experts on North Korean arms and an Associated Press analysis of weapons captured on the battlefield by Israel point toward Hamas using Pyongyang's F-7 rocket-propelled grenade, a shoulder-fired weapon that fighters typically use against armored vehicles.

Contributing: The Associated Press

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of County Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, beginning at 9:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter as the items may be heard, to consider adoption of the following ordinance:

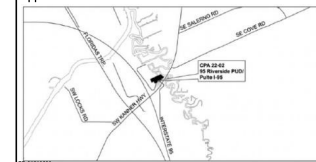
**AN ORDINANCE OF MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT 22-02, 95 RIVERSIDE PUD/PULTE I-95, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE MARTIN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS, SEVERABILITY, AND APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR FILING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This is a request by 195 Group, LLC to change the future land use designation from General Commercial to Commercial Office/Residential on approximately 12,402 acres. The subject site is located at 7601 SW Lost River Road on parcels also known as the Ninety-Five Riverside Planned Unit Development.

All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard. The meeting will be held in the Commission Chambers on the first floor of the Martin County Administrative Center, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida. Written comments may be mailed to: Paul Schilling, Director, Martin County Growth Management Department, 2401 S.E. Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida 34996. For further information, including copies of the original application documents or agenda items, contact Daphne Schaub, Senior Planner, Growth Management Department at (772) 288-5495.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding are entitled, at no cost, to the provision of certain assistance. This does not include transportation to and from the meeting. Please contact the Office of the ADA Coordinator at (772) 320-3131, or the Office of the County Administrator at (772) 288-5400, or in writing to 2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL 34996, no later than three days before the hearing date. Persons using a TTY device, please call 711 Florida Relay Services.

If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at the meetings or hearings of any board, committee, agency, council, or advisory group, that person will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record should include the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.



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