

Egypt Joins Search for Hostage Bodies as Netanyahu Cautions 'Israel Will Determine' Who Enters Gaza

JERUSALEM, Israel – Two weeks after Hamas was supposed to have returned all 48 hostages, living and deceased, Egypt has stepped in to help with excavations to retrieve 13 missing bodies, two of whom are Americans, as the remaining live hostages leave the hospital for home.

Israel is allowing an Egyptian team and heavy equipment into the Gaza Strip to help search for the bodies of the remaining hostages.

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Israeli Government Spokesperson Shosh Bedrosian clarified, "This is a technical team only, and none of these personnel are in the military. The Red Cross and the Egyptian team are allowed entry beyond the IDF's yellow line position into Gaza territory to conduct the search for our hostages."

According to reports, Hamas is also involved in the search for the bodies. The terror group claimed they couldn't find all of the bodies.

President Trump warned Hamas on Saturday that he was "watching very closely" to ensure that it returns more bodies in the next 48 hours.

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He posted on Truth Social, "Some of the bodies are hard to reach, but others they can return now, and for some reason, they are not."

Secretary of State Marco Rubio met with families of two American hostages, Omer Neutra and Itay Chen, whose bodies are still held in Gaza. He said the U.S. won't "forget the lives of the hostages who died in the captivity of Hamas. We will not rest until their – and all – remains are returned."

Rubio wrapped up his visit with a phone call to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and then headed to Qatar.

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Earlier, Rubio said that UNRWA (the United Nations Relief and Works Agency) would not have a place in ruling Gaza.

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