

Jerusalem Terrorist Attack Wounds 8, Including 5 Americans

Less than a week after Israel concluded its Operation Breaking Dawn against the Palestinian Islamic Jihad in the Gaza Strip, an Arab-Israeli man opened fire on a bus near Jerusalem's Old City early Sunday, wounding eight, including five Americans.

Terrorist groups welcomed the attack and called it a "heroic operation" that proved Israel didn't have the victory in the Gaza operation.

"It is an affirmation that the illusory victory that (Prime Minister Yair Lapid) and (Defense Minister Benny Gantz) had marketed to his people and Israeli society was squandered in this heroic and brave operation, which is a blow to the Zionist security system," said Fawzi Barhoum, a spokesman for the Hamas terror group.

The attack took place near a bus stop around 1:00 a.m., just outside Jerusalem's Old City walls near a place called David's Tomb, where many people pray. The attacker fired on a bus full of people, wounding those who were at the bus stop as well as those inside the bus.

"Six wounded arrived at the trauma unit at Shaare Zedek Medical Center: two wounded in serious condition—a pregnant woman in her 30s with a very complex [abdominal] injury and a man in his 60s with an injury on the neck and head, also a gunshot wound," said Dr. Alon Schwarz, Director of the Trauma Unit at Shaare Zedek.

All the wounded are recovering, including the woman and her baby, which had to be delivered by C-section.

While Hamas praised the attack, the suspect, Amir Sidawi, a Jerusalem resident, is apparently not a member of a terrorist organization. He does have a criminal background and turned himself into the police hours after the shooting. {eo}

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