



UNRWA

PRESS BRIEFING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNRWA COMPLETES ITS DEMOLITION ASSESSMENT OF OPERATION RAINBOW

Gaza

Following the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Rafah on 24 May 2004, UNRWA has now been able to complete its full assessment of the numbers of homes demolished or damaged beyond repair during the latest Israeli military operation in Rafah.

From 18 May until 24 May a total of 167 buildings in the Tel Sultan, Brazil and Salam quarters of Rafah were destroyed or rendered uninhabitable. These buildings housed 379 families or 2,066 individuals.

This latest round of demolitions come on top of what had already been one of the worst months of the intifada in Rafah. In total, from 1 May until 24 May, 277 buildings, housing 641 families, or 3,451 individuals have been demolished in Rafah.

Since the start of the intifada 1,476 buildings have been demolished in Rafah, affecting 14,666 people.

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