



A UN school attacked by Israeli fighters in Gaza during a 22-day Israeli aggression.

## UN Report Condemns Israeli Attacks on Gaza, Recommends Investigation of Possible Israeli War Crimes in Gaza

A United Nations investigation into attacks by Israeli forces on UN installations during the Gaza war four months ago has strongly condemned Israel for gross negligence and recklessness.

The report, produced by a four-member inquiry board appointed by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, found that the Israeli army failed to

protect UN personnel and civilians sheltering in UN buildings. Israel has rejected the report as one-sided and biased.

The UN inquiry led by Briton Ian Martin, a former head of rights group Amnesty International who later joined the United Nations, investigated nine incidents of damage to UN property.

The report said Israel intentionally struck a UN-run

elementary school and repeatedly breached the inviolability of UN premises and that, in attacking another elementary school, it exhibited "reckless disregard for the lives and safety" of civilians.

It found Israel to blame in six incidents when people sheltering in UN buildings were killed or injured.

The report highlighted the firing of artillery shells near a

UN-run school in Jabalia where Palestinians had sought refuge on January 6.

Seven people were wounded inside the school, but an estimated 30-40 people were killed nearby.

The panel also says more than 40 people died outside the school.

In several cases, the report found Israel had "breached the inviolability of United Nations

premises," had not respected UN immunity and was responsible for deaths and injuries.

Meanwhile, Israeli President Shimon Peres said on Wednesday that Israel would never apologize for its military aggression on the Gaza Strip earlier this year.

"We will never accept it," Peres, after meeting with Ban Ki-Moon in New York. "It's

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## Libya Applies for Megrahi to be Sent Home

Libya has applied to the Scottish government for Abdel Basset al Megrahi, who was convicted and jailed for the 1988 Lockerbie bombing, to be sent back home.

Megrahi was unjustly accused of blowing up a Pan Am airliner over the Scottish town of Lockerbie as it flew from London to New York on December 18, 1988, and was

sentenced to life in jail.

"An application has been received for a prisoner transfer on behalf of Mr. Megrahi from the Libyan authorities," a spokeswoman for the Scottish government said.

Jim Swire, whose daughter Flora was killed in the bombing, told Reuters he would be "delighted" to see Megrahi go home, since he had never been

convinced of the Libyan's guilt.

"It's a tragedy that a man who is dying is being forced to remain in a prison in an alien country away from his family," Swire said. "I'd love to see him back in his own country. It would be fantastic if he went home."

The application for Megrahi to be allowed to go home was

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