

Heavy rocket barrage hits western Israel

by UPI

JERUSALEM -- A barrage of at least 13 rockets were fired into Israel's western Negev region Thursday but no injuries were reported, the Israeli military said. At least nine rockets fired from the Gaza Strip fell on open fields and the others caused minor structural damage, Ynetnews.com reported. Islamic Jihad's Al-Quds Brigades and the Popular Resistance Committees' Salah al-Din Brigades claimed responsibility for the attacks that terrified residents, the report said. "It was one of the scariest days I've ever lived through in Sderot," Baruch Dahari told Ynetnews. "I plan on leaving the town immediately. I can't stay here; it's just horrible." Elsewhere, Israeli forces reported they had killed four terrorists in three operations that began Wednesday. "Since the start of the year, over 220 terrorists have been killed in a long line of operations," a military source told the news agency. "The fighting here goes on around the clock, mainly around the security fence, which the terrorists are seeking to take control of in order to carry out attacks against soldiers and Israelis over the fence."

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