

Palestinian group proposes cease-fire

by UPI

GAZA -- A spokesman for a Palestinian militant group offered Monday to stop rocket attacks on Israel in exchange for cessation of Israeli raids in the Gaza Strip. Al-Quds Brigades spokesman Abu Hamza told the Palestinian Ramatan news agency he also was seeking Palestinian consensus on the rocket campaign, the Jerusalem Post reported. "We are willing to stop shooting rockets if all the Palestinian factions reach an agreement (to do so) and if Israel promises to stop its attacks against Palestinian citizens," Hamza said. Elsewhere, the Al-Kabas newspaper in Kuwait reported Hamas agreed to transfer control of the Gaza Strip to Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas. If true, it would validate claims made by Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh three weeks ago. "Our rule in Gaza is temporary," Haniyeh said at the time. "We have made progress in reconciliatory talks with Fatah."

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