

## Israeli soldier, Palestinian die in blasts

*by UPI*

JERUSALEM - At least two people -- an Israeli soldier and a Palestinian -- died Thursday in incidents near the Gaza-Israeli border, officials said. The soldier, a member of the Israeli army's tracking unit, was killed when a bomb exploded by his patrol vehicle near Kissufim, the Jerusalem Post reported. Three other soldiers were injured, one seriously. The military wing of Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility, CNN reported. Palestinian sources said a Palestinian operative died in an Israeli attack on a rocket-launching site in northern Gaza. Also Thursday, five Qassam rockets exploded in open fields in Negev, while four mortar shells lobbed from the Gaza Strip hit open areas near Ein Hashlosha. No casualties were reported in either incident, the newspaper said. Overnight, the Israeli army arrested 10 Palestinians during a military operation in the West Bank.

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