

Abbas, Olmert meet in Jerusalem

by UPI

JERUSALEM -- Israel's prime minister Friday promised his nation wouldn't cause a humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip to retaliate for rocket attacks on southern Israel. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert met over lunch at his home in Jerusalem with Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas, Haaretz reported. Senior government officials said Olmert's pledge to Abbas came despite Israel's threat to cut electricity to parts of Gaza unless the rocket attacks stop. An unidentified official said the two sides agreed to continue negotiations next week after Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni returns from a trip to China, Haaretz said. Olmert and Abbas were to discuss a general framework for U.S.-sponsored peace talks scheduled in November being drafted by Palestinian and Israeli officials. Earlier this week, Olmert met with French President Nicolas Sarkozy and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Abbas, Olmert meet in Jerusalem by UPI