

Hamas vows West Bank takeover

by UPI

JERUSALEM -- Hamas vowed Monday to overthrow Fatah and take control of the West bank within a year. "Next fall we shall pray in Ramallah," senior Hamas official Nizar Riyan told a rally in Gaza, where Hamas gained control after ousting Fatah last June, The Jerusalem Post reported. In response, a senior member of the Palestine Liberation Organization predicted Hamas would fail. Riyan "should be admitted to a mental institution," Yasser Abed Rabbo told the Post. Meanwhile, Israeli military officials said Hamas was digging tunnels near the border with Israel, building a bunker system and amassing an unprecedented amount of weapons and bomb-making materials, the Post reported. "They are trying to build this up and we are trying to stop them," said Yuval Diskin, the head of Shin Bet, Israel's security agency.

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

Hamas vows West Bank takeover by UPI