



ing system of a Gaza hospital



body of a relative killed following Israeli

more than 1,400 people dead in Israel, mostly civilians, according to Israeli authorities.

Some victims of air strikes on Gaza are registered as "unknown", and their files are updated later when the bodies are identified by families.

For Rizk Abu Rok, a 24-year-old paramedic with the Palestinian Red Crescent, transporting those killed and wounded by Israeli bombardment to the hospital has become a daily routine.

But nothing could prepare him for the horror he experienced on October 22.

After receiving a report that the Rio Cafe in Khan Yunis had been hit, Abu Rok rushed to the scene in an ambulance, gripped with fear in the knowledge that his father and other relatives had been sheltering there.

"I was convinced that I was about to carry out the bodies of people I love very much," he said.

Arriving at the site of the bombing, he treated a seriously wounded person and gave him first aid before taking him back to the Nasser hospital.

"When I arrived, I rushed to the emergency room and found my father there. He had a head wound. I knew immediately that

he was dead.

"I collapsed and lost my nerve. The nurses brought me outside to calm me down."

When he came back to his senses, Abu Rok went back inside to the emergency room to see if any more of his relatives were there.

"I found them all, one after the other: Ajnad, Jamal and Talal Abu Rok, Mohammed Abu Rjeileh and Ahmad Qodeih. They were all killed in the cafe along with another 10 people."

The bodies were taken to the morgue to be examined by the pathologist, adding yet more numbers to the Nasser hospital's grim accounting system.

BETTER
YOU
KNOW

Some victims of air strikes on Gaza are registered as "unknown", and their files are updated later when the bodies are identified by families.

a 'graveyard' for of children: UN



in the rubble of a building in the Nuseirat refugee camp

medical aid, including water, food, and fuel.

"And if there is no ceasefire, no water, no medicine, and no release of abducted children? Then we hurtle towards even greater horrors afflicting innocent children," said Elder.

Israel's ambassador in Geneva, Meirav Eilon Shahaar, told reporters on Monday that Hamas was holding 33 children hostage, the youngest nine months old.

Infants on incubators

Elder said that according to figures from health faculties

in Gaza, 940 children were missing.

UN humanitarian agency spokesman Jens Laerke added: "It's almost unbearable to think about children buried under rubble, but (with) very little opportunity or possibility for getting them out." The World Health Organization said people in Gaza were dying not just from direct bombardment.

"We have 130 premature infants that are dependent on incubators, of which 61 percent approximately are in the north," said WHO

spokesman Christian Lindmeier.

Hamas says it will free foreign hostages 'in the next few days'

AFP | Jerusalem

Hamas's armed wing said yesterday it would release in the coming days some of the foreign hostages in its captivity, as it vowed to turn Gaza into a graveyard for Israel's military.

"We have informed intermediaries that we will release a certain number of foreigners in the next few days," Abu Obeida, a spokesman for Ezzedine Al-Qassam Brigades, said in a televised address. Around 240 hostages are believed to be held by Hamas at the moment in Gaza.

Five hostages have been released to date, including four after negotiations through a diplomatic backchannel and one following an operation by the Israeli army.

"It's an imminent public health catastrophe that looms with the mass displacement, the overcrowding, and the damage to water and sanitation infrastructure."

Israel laid a total siege on Gaza following October 7, cutting off food, fuel, water and power supplies to the territory.

From October 21-30 143 trucks carrying food, water and medicine entered the Gaza Strip via the Rafah crossing with Egypt, Laerke said.

"It remains a drop; it remains unacceptable," said Elder.

Climate 'loss and damage' dominates UAE talks ahead of COP28



a driver charges his electric vehicle at Antuoshan charging station in Shenzhen, China's southern Guangdong province

AFP | Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Setting up a "loss and damage" fund for poorer nations hit by climate change dominated preliminary talks yesterday one month before COP28 in Dubai, where delegates look set to tussle over the future of fossil fuels.

Around 70 ministers have gathered since Monday at the Emirates Palace, a luxurious resort in the United Arab Emirates capital Abu Dhabi, to hammer out details before next month's UN climate summit, the most important since the landmark Paris agreement in 2015.

"The main focus for the moment is clearly the loss and damage fund," said French Energy Minister Agnes Panzner-Runacher.

The agreement to set up a dedicated fund to help vulnerable countries cope with climate "loss and damage" was a flagship achievement of last year's COP27 talks in Egypt.

But countries left the details to be worked out later.

"We were one or two days away from an agreement" dur-

ing the last round, a European negotiator said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak on the issue.

But several disagreements, including on beneficiaries, delayed a breakthrough.

"The United States does not want to put in a penny if China is a potential beneficiary," the negotiator said.

Earlier in July, Jaber, who heads the UAE's oil giant ADNOC, said that "phasing down fossil fuels is inevitable" -- a statement he has not repeated this week.

"It's too early (for discussions), and would block negotiations even before the start of the COP," said a member of his entourage on condition of anonymity.

A fossil fuel phaseout is already implicit in other commitments, including one to triple renewable energy capacity to 11 terawatts by 2030.

"If you agree on the 11TW, you already agree on reducing fossil fuel emissions," said Francesco La Camera, Director-General of the Abu Dhabi-based International Renewable Energy Agency.

Police open fire at Paris train station on woman making 'threats'



French police officers leave a metro station

AFP | Paris, France

French police yesterday shot and seriously wounded an unarmed woman who was making threats at a train station in Paris during morning rush hour, police and prosecutors told AFP.

According to witnesses the woman, who was completely veiled, shouted "Allahu akbar" ("God is Greatest") and "made threats", the a police source said, adding that "police fired because they feared for their safety".

After passengers on a suburban train alerted police, agents managed to "isolate" the woman at the Bibliotheque

Francois Mitterrand station on the capital's south bank which was evacuated, the source said.

She "refused to follow police orders" and threatened "to blow herself up", the Paris prosecutor's office said.

A police officer then fired a single shot, inflicting a life-threatening injury to her abdomen, it said.

No explosives or other arms were found on the woman, the police source said.

Police have launched two investigations, prosecutors said. One will probe the woman's actions, while another is to elucidate whether the police's use of a firearm was justified.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



With my entire @UN family, I grieve the loss of so many @UNRWA colleagues. Amid unimaginable suffering & pain, colleagues in Gaza continue to serve those in need despite serious risk to their own lives. They have my gratitude, solidarity, and full support

@antonioguterres

02



I spoke with Bulgarian Prime Minister Nikolai Denkov on ways to further strengthen Black Sea security in the face of Russian militarization and threats to freedom of navigation. Ukraine strengthens global food security with the alternative Black Sea export corridor. I appreciate the joint naval demining initiative by Bulgaria, Romania, and Turkey. Ukraine is ready to take an active part in relevant efforts.

@ZelenskyyUa

03



Happy Halloween from Jill and me!

@POTUS

04



A reminder: the people in power don't need conferences, treaties or agreements to start taking real climate action. They can start today. When enough people come together then change will come and we can achieve almost anything. So instead of looking for hope - start creating it.

@GretaThunberg

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stance)