

# *Israeli forces kill dozens of Palestinians protesting the opening of US Embassy in Jerusalem*

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Gaza City, May 14 (RHC)—More than 35,000 Palestinian demonstrators marched along the Gaza border on Monday to reject the official transfer of the United States Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. According to health officials, Israeli troops have killed at least 50 Palestinians, including a 14-year old boy and a man in a wheelchair.

Israeli newspaper Haaretz reports that over 1,600 people have been wounded, nearly 500 from live gunfire.

Protests intensified on the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Israel's founding and the opening of the new embassy on Monday, with the presence of Israeli leaders and a U.S. delegation including Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and President Donald Trump's daughter and son-in-law, Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner.

Jason Greenblatt, Trump's Middle East peace envoy, said on Twitter that "taking the long-overdue step of moving our Embassy is not a departure from our strong commitment to facilitate a lasting peace deal. Rather, it is a necessary condition for it."

Palestinian Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah said Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital in December and the relocation of the embassy were "blatant violations of international law."

Hamdallah added that 'choosing a tragic day in Palestinian history' for the transfer to Jerusalem 'shows a great insensitivity and lack of respect for the basic principles of the peace process'

Meanwhile, the Secretary General of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Saeb Erekat, said the Trump Administration is promoting international anarchy by supporting Israel and its flagrant and systematic violations of resolutions of the UN Security Council.

He also condemned Guatemala and Paraguay for following in the footsteps of the United States. and be close to opening their embassies in Jerusalem. In his opinion, they have 'chosen the wrong side of the story.'

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