

*War monitor says Palestinians  
fight on behind Israeli forward  
line of advance*

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Washington, December 14 (RHC)-- Palestinian fighters are continuing to put up resistance to Israel's advance north and east of Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip using small arms, mortars, anti-personnel mines and rocket-propelled grenades, according to the Institute for the Study of War (ISW).

The Washington, DC-based think tank said that while Israeli forces have reduced the ability of Hamas to launch rockets towards Israel, Palestinian fighters fired towards Israel territory on at least four occasions on Tuesday, including at least one rocket.

"An unspecified senior military source told Israeli Army Radio on December 10 that Hamas has 'hundreds' of medium- and long-range rockets left in its arsenal, however," the ISW reports.

Palestinian fighters also remain active in the Shujaiya, Zeitoun and Jabalia areas of Gaza City in the north of the strip, where Israel is continuing "clearing operations" that will take some time to complete.

"Clearing operations of the sort that the [Israeli military] is conducting frequently take weeks, if not months," the ISW said.

Palestinian fighters also "continued attacks on Israeli forces behind the Israeli forward line of advance, which is consistent with the nature of clearing operations," the think tank added.

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