

Mideast Peace Talks Miss U.S. Deadline as Report Finds Massive Settlement Expansion



Washington, May 2 (RHC)-- The United States has failed to meet a self-imposed deadline for a framework accord on a "peace deal between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

The Barack Obama administration had hoped to reach an agreement on the broad outlines of an eventual final settlement. But the talks have repeatedly broken down over Israel's refusal to halt settlement construction in the occupied West Bank.

A new report from the Israeli group Peace Now says Israel has laid plans for building nearly 14,000 settlement homes since resuming talks with the PA last July.

Earlier this week, Israel carried out new demolitions in the West Bank, destroying a mosque and three homes. The United Nations says Israeli demolitions have displaced more than 400 Palestinians so far this year.



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