

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
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Subject: Fw: (AP) Israeli police flatten mosque, say built illegally

From: Vu, Anny T
To: NEWS-Mahogany
Cc: SES-O_OS; SES-O_Shift-I
Sent: Sun Nov 07 05:30:53 2010
Subject: (AP) Israeli police flatten mosque, say built illegally

RAHAT (AP) – Israeli police said they demolished an illegally built mosque in the southern Bedouin city of Rahat, touching off rock-throwing protests by residents. Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said the two-story mosque was knocked down November 7 in keeping with a court ruling. Mosque activist Yousef Abu-Jama said residents built the structure illegally because Israeli authorities would take too long to issue approval. Authorities rarely target mosques for demolition. This particular mosque was financed by a group that is frequently in conflict with authorities.