

August 1st 2010



ITC intervention following 2 rocket attacks in 36 hours

A Qassam rocket fired from northern Gaza Saturday night hit the roof of a building in an educational institution located in the Shaar Hanegev Regional Council, outside of Sderot.

Security forces and firefighters were alerted to the scene. One firefighter reported seeing smoke billowing from the building. "I have no doubt that had there been people in the building – it would have been a major disaster. It's a miracle," he said, adding that "serious" damage was caused to three rooms.

The current round of violence along Israel's border with Gaza began Friday morning, when a Grad rocket fired from the Hamas-ruled territory landed near an apartment building in central Ashkelon. A few hours later two mortars landed within the limits of the Eshkol Regional Council.

the rocket damaged the structure's rooftop and destroyed most of the second floor of the building, which serves during the day as a daycare center for people with disabilities.

There were no reports of physical injury in either attack, but eight people suffered from shock in Ashkelon.

Immediately following the attack, ITC Sha'ar Hanegev Resilience Center moved into high gear, providing immediate care for shock victims, including a woman whose office had been completely destroyed in the attack.

Local Emergency Teams, trained by ITC, conducted comprehensive evaluation to ascertain that all trauma victims had been identified and were receiving appropriate treatment.

Over the next week, the Resilience center experts will be in constant contact with staff and members of the community affected by the attack.

Residents are concerned that these attacks signal an escalation of the so-called calm period. The attacks are further evidence of the necessity for continued activity of both the Resilience Center and Local Emergency Teams