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Complete weather, 8B

July 23, 2002

Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire

## Israeli missile kills 11 in Gaza

## Hamas leader dies in attack

By Molly Moore
The Washington Post

JERUSALEM — An Israeli warplane fired a missile into a Gaza City neighborhood Monday night and killed at least 11 people, including a militant Hamas leader who was the target, his wife and three daughters, according to Palestinian and Israeli sources.

At least 150 people were reported injured in the blast. Many bodies were buried under the rubble of five destroyed houses, and bodies were scattered across the debris, according to witnesses in the affected neighborhood in the densely populated center of Gaza City.

The target of the F-16 attack was Salah Shehada, a founder and leader of the Izzedine al-Qassam Brigades, the military wing of the Islamic Resistance Movement, or Hamas, according to Israeli security sources.

Shehada has been on Israel's most-wanted list and had dodged an Israeli assault on his house in the southern Gaza Strip town of Beit Hanoun in December because he was not home at the time. His group has claimed responsibility for a number of suicide bombings and other attacks against Israeli civilians.

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