



Mr. Robert H. Serry  
Special UN Coordinator for the Middle East

August 10, 2014

Dear Mr. Serry

Re: Recovery of remains of two IDF victims in Gaza

Following Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's personal request to Red Cross President Peter Maurer for assistance in the return to Israel of the bodies of missing-in-action Staff Sgt. Oron Shaul and 2nd Lt. Hadar Goldin, I am writing to you on behalf of the ZAKA International Rescue and Recovery.

Given our decades of experience as a UN-recognized international humanitarian volunteer organization in recovering human remains of disaster victims, we turn to you, as the UN Representative in the Middle East, to help facilitate the return of the soldiers' body parts.

We ask that the UN exerts its influence to make this happen in two ways:

- as a humanitarian body that works with all peoples, regardless of religion, race, creed and politics, to work with the relevant people
- to help ensure that ZAKA volunteers be allowed into Gaza to recover the remains, in respect of humanitarian law and in keeping with Jewish halachic laws.

ZAKA International Rescue and Recovery is an international volunteer humanitarian organization recognized by the United Nations. As such, we assist everyone – regardless of religion, race or creed - in the belief that mankind was created in the divine image and all are entitled to a full burial.

With highly-trained volunteers around the world, we have years of experience and expertise in assisting with major international humanitarian disasters. From mass casualty terror attacks in New York, Turkey, Mombasa and Taba to natural disasters in Thailand, Japan, USA, Haiti and the Philippines, ZAKA volunteers have helped recover remains and provide emergency medical support.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance in this matter,

Mr. Yehuda Meshi-Zahav  
ZAKA Chairman and Founder

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