RELEASE IN FULL

From: Sent: To: Subject: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov> Saturday, October 15, 2011 10:32 AM H Fw: Hamas, Egyptians meet on Israeli soldier handover (AP)

From: OpsNewsTicker Sent: Saturday, October 15, 2011 07:27 AM To: NEWS-Mahogany; NEWS-Egypt; NEWS-NEA Subject: Hamas, Egyptians meet on Israeli soldier handover (AP)

GAZA CITY (AP) - A Hamas official says that the Palestinian group is meeting with Egyptian intelligence officials to discuss how to transfer a captive soldier to Israel.

Hamas-backed militants have kept Sgt. Gilad Schalit in hiding since his capture in a cross-border raid in 2006.

Hamas will transfer Schalit to Egyptian officials, who will return him home. In exchange, Israel will release 1,027 prisoners, as part of a swap deal concluded last week.

The discussions underline the tricky details involved in the deal.

The Hamas official says some militants fear Israeli forces will seize Schalit if they know his location during the transfer.

The Hamas official wouldn't say if the Saturday meeting had ended. He spoke anonymously because of the matter's sensitivity.

NewsTickers alert senior Department officials to breaking news. This item appears as it did in its original publication and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources.