U.N. Aides Freed in Gaza

July 30, 2005

JERUSALEM, July 29 - A Palestinian family in Gaza sought to win the release of a kidnapped relative on Friday by briefly seizing two United Nations workers, the family said.

The two workers for the United Nations Development Program, identified as Steve Sabila, a Palestinian, and Zoe Constantine, an Australian, were released unharmed several hours after they were seized in Gaza.

A member of the family who held the two United Nations workers said they were freed after the Palestinian Authority pledged to win the freedom of the Jihad Abed, though he was still being held late Friday night.

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