

## Special Operations Veterans Group Facilitated Evacuation of US Service Members Mother From Gaza

**Washington, D.C.** — This past week, a group of veterans of the special operations and intelligence communities volunteering for **Special Operations Association of America (SOAA)** planned and facilitated a combined humanitarian operation to extract and subsequently evacuate the mother of a active duty U.S. service member and her brother from deep inside Hamas held northern Gaza. They did so through the Christmas and New Years holidays while working full time jobs.

"I'm incredibly proud of my fellow teammates and I'm thankful for the coordination and support from the US, Israeli, and Egyptian governments," said member of the board of advisors of SOAA, Alex Plitsas. "From the onset, the safety, security, and evacuation of the servicemember's mother and uncle were the primary concern for both us and government officials. We are happy to have been able to have executed this humanitarian operation in support of that end."

SOAA team will continue to work within the humanitarian space to assist Americans and allies whenever possible. For operations security purposes, we will not be commenting on the specifics of the operation. SOAA would like to thank Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Israeli-Palestinian Affairs Andrew Miller, U.S. Embassy Teams in Jerusalem and Cairo, the Office of the United States Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority, the Office of the Secretary of the United States Army, National Security Council coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa Brett McGurk, the Government of Israel, the Israeli Defense Forces, and the Government of Egypt.

## About Special Operations Association of America:

We advocate for all past, present, and future members of the Special Operations community and their families. Fighting for those who fight for us to ensure the mission success and lethality of those that bear the greater burden. SOAA is a 501c19 Veterans Non-Profit organization, registered with the IRS.

## Media Contact:

Steve Patterson steve@soaa.org 301.602.3704