

# Hamas official killed in Beirut blast

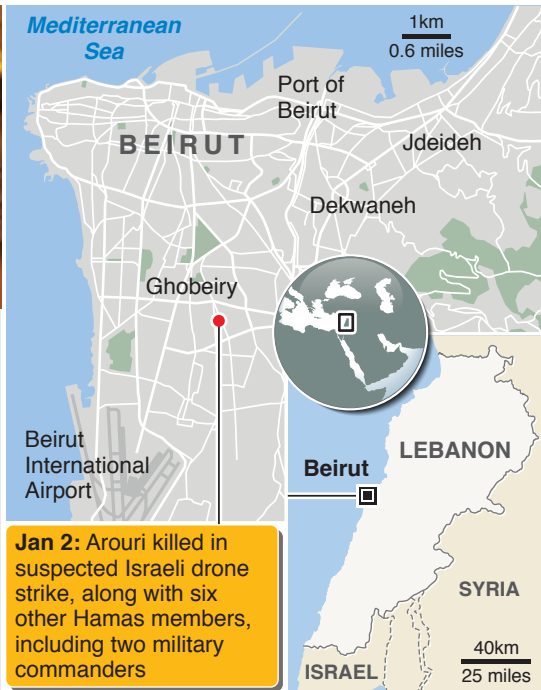
The deputy leader of Hamas, Saleh al-Aroui, and two leaders of its armed wing died in a surgical strike in southern Beirut



■ **Saleh al-Aroui, 57**  
Deputy head of Hamas' political bureau helped establish **Qassam Brigades** – group's military wing

■ Had been living in exile in Lebanon after spending 15 years in Israeli jail

■ Designated terrorist by U.S. in 2015, with \$5 million bounty offered for information on him



**Jan 2:** Aroui killed in suspected Israeli drone strike, along with six other Hamas members, including two military commanders