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PCHR

Palestinian Centre for Human Rights
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Weekly Report: On Israeli Human Rights
Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory

No. 40/2006
05- 11 Oct. 2006

Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) Launch More Attacks on Palestinian Civilians and Property in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT)

- **6 Palestinian civilians, including a child, were killed by IOF.**
- **2 of the victims were killed by IOF at military checkpoints near Nablus.**
- **IOF attempted to extra-judicially executed a number of Palestinians, but the attempt failed.**
- **14 Palestinians, including 2 children, were wounded.**
- **IOF have continued to launch air strikes on houses and civilian facilities in the Gaza Strip; 3 were destroyed in Khan Yunis and Gaza.**
- **IOF conducted 48 incursions into Palestinian communities in the West Bank, and 5 others into the Gaza Strip.**
- **IOF arrested 58 Palestinian civilians, including a child.**
- **IOF razed at least 3 donums[1] of agricultural land in the southern Gaza Strip.**
- **IOF transformed a house in the northern Gaza Strip into a military site.**

- **IOF have continued to impose a total siege on the OPT; IOF arrested 5 Palestinian civilian at checkpoints.**
- **IOF have continued to construct the Annexation Wall in the West Bank; Palestinian farmers have been denied access to their agricultural land to cultivate olives; and IOF fired at Palestinians who got close to the Wall.**

Summary

Israeli violations of international law continued in the OPT during the reported period (5 – 11 October 2006):

Killing: During the reported period, IOF killed 6 Palestinians, including a child

In the West Bank, IOF killed 4 Palestinians in Nablus. On Sunday morning, 8 October 2006, IOF killed a Palestinian militant during an incursion into Balata refugee camp, east of Nablus. On Sunday afternoon, 8 October 2006, IOF killed a Palestinian civilian when they opened fire at a civilian car near Til village, southwest of Nablus. On Monday, 9 October 2006, IOF shot dead a Palestinian civilian, while he was crossing Hawara checkpoint, south of Nablus. They claimed that he attempted to attack a soldier with a knife, but investigations conducted by PCHR refute this claim. On Wednesday morning, 11 October 2006, IOF killed a Palestinian civilian in 'Ein Beit al-Maa' refugee camp, west of Nablus.

In addition, 8 Palestinians, including a child, were wounded by IOF gunfire throughout the West Bank.

In the Gaza Strip, IOF killed two Palestinian civilians in two separate attacks. On 9 October 2006, IOF killed a Palestinian child in Beit Lahia town in the northern Gaza Strip. IOF fired a missile at the child, when he found an iron tool used as a launcher for home-made rockets and attempted to take it to his family's land. This attack has been the eighth of its kind since 25 June 2006, when IOF initiated Operation Summer Rains in the Gaza Strip. These attacks have killed 18 Palestinian civilians, including 13 children and two woman, in the northern Gaza Strip. On 10 October 2006, IOF shot dead a Palestinian civilian in al-Shouka village in Rafah for no apparent reason.

In addition, 7 Palestinian civilians, including two children and a mentally disabled man, were wounded by the IOF gunfire in the Gaza Strip. when IOF attempted to extra-judicially execute 3 Palestinians.

IOF also launched two air strikes on two houses in Khan Yunis refugee camp and Gaza City. One of these houses belongs to a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, representing Hamas. The two houses and a third one were destroyed, and a number of other houses were severely damaged. IOF often warn residents of houses of their intention to attack them a very short time prior to the attack.

Incursions: During the reported period, IOF conducted at least 48 military incursions into Palestinian communities in the West Bank, during which they raided dozens of houses and arrested 58 Palestinian civilians, including a child. In the Gaza Strip, IOF conducted 5 incursions in the northern Gaza Strip. They detained and interrogated 53 Palestinian civilians for at least 18 hours, razed 3 donums of agricultural land, raided and searched houses, and transformed a house into a military site.

Restrictions on Movement: IOF have continued to impose a tightened siege on the OPT and imposed severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including Occupied East Jerusalem.

Gaza Strip

IOF have imposed a strict siege on the Gaza Strip. They have closed its border crossings as a form of collective punishment against Palestinian civilians.

IOF have closed Rafah International Crossing Point since 25 June 2006, even though they do

not directly control it. During the reported period, the crossing point was reopened for 3 separate days. IOF have closed commercial crossings of the Gaza Strip, especially al-Mentar (Karni) crossing. As a consequence, the economic situation inside the Gaza Strip has further deteriorated and many goods have been lacked in markets. During the reported period, IOF partially reopened al-Mentar (Karni) crossing, east of Gaza City, and Sofa and Kerem Shalom crossings near Rafah. IOF have also continued to close Erez crossing in the northern Gaza Strip. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from the Gaza Strip had been prevented from traveling through this crossing. IOF have allowed international workers to pass through the crossing. With this closure, only few Palestinian patients have been able to travel to hospitals in Israel and the West Bank. In addition, IOF have prevented Palestinian fishermen from fishing for more than 3 months. During the reported period, IOF shot dead a Palestinian fisherman.

West Bank

IOF have tightened the siege imposed on Palestinian communities in the West Bank. They have isolated Jerusalem from the rest of the West Bank. IOF positioned at various checkpoints in the West Bank have continued to impose severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. IOF have continued to separate between the north and south of the West Bank. They have further prevented Palestinians from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from entering Jerusalem to pray in al-Aqsa Mosque in the Holy Ramadan. IOF positioned at various checkpoints around Jerusalem imposed severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian civilians. During the reported period, IOF positioned at various checkpoints in the West Bank arrested 5 Palestinian civilians.

Annexation Wall: IOF have continued to construct the Annexation Wall inside the West Bank. During the reported period, IOF imposed additional restrictions on Palestinian farmers wishing to go their agricultural lands located behind the Wall to cultivate olives, which is their main source of income. IOF soldiers often fire at farmers to prevent them from going to their lands. During the reported period, a Palestinian farmer was wounded by the IOF gunfire when he was on his way back home in Qiffin village, north of Tulkarm.

The outcome of crimes committed by IOF since 25 June 2006:

- 287 Palestinians, mostly civilians, including 60 children and 13 women, have been killed by IOF.
- At least 1027 Palestinian civilians, including 301 children and 41 women, have been wounded by the IOF gunfire. 836 of these Palestinians, including 224 children, 35 women, 4 paramedics and 6 journalists, have been wounded.
- At least 274 air-to-surface missiles and hundreds of artillery shells have been fired at Palestinian civilian and military targets in the Gaza Strip.
- Buildings of the Palestinian Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of National economy, the office of the Palestinian Prime Minister and a number of educational institutions have been destroyed.
- The electricity generation plant, providing 45% of the electricity of the Gaza Strip, was destroyed, and electricity networks and transmitters have been repeatedly attacked.
- 6 bridges linking Gaza City with the central Gaza Strip and a number of roads have been destroyed.
- Hundreds of donums of agricultural land and dozens of houses have been destroyed.
- Hundreds of Palestinian civilians, including 9 ministers and 31 members of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC), including the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Secretary, have been arrested. Minister of Prisoners' Affairs, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Labor and Second Deputy Speaker of the PLC were released.
- The Palestinian governmental compound in Nablus has been destroyed.

- Many families in Rafah, Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia have been forced to leave their houses.
- IOF intelligence has warned some Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip by phone to evacuate their houses, which would be attacked.
- 48 houses belonging to activists of Palestinian factions were destroyed by IOF warplanes.
- IOF have imposed a strict siege on the OPT, and have isolated the Gaza Strip from the outside world.

Israeli Violations Documented during the Reporting Period (5 -11 October 2006)

The full report is available online at:

html format:

http://www.pchrgaza.org/files/W_report/English/2006/12-10-2006.htm

pdf format:

http://www.pchrgaza.org/files/W_report/English/2006/pdf/weekly%20report%2040.pdf

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[1]1 donum is equal to 1000 square meters.