

Table 10. Selected basic housing facilities
in the occupied territories

(Percentage of families having the facility indicated)

<u>Facility</u>	<u>West Bank</u>		<u>Gaza Strip</u>	
	<u>1967</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1974</u>
<u>Toilet</u>				
None	14.4	21.1	29.0	21.0
<u>Kitchen</u>				
None	54.0	35.9	43.7	17.6
Shared	2.3	2.9	4.7	14.0
<u>Water</u>				
Well	27.8	33.0	27.9	30.0
Tap in courtyard	9.9	17.1	27.3	6.15
Tap in dwelling	N.A.	23.5	N.A.	13.9
<u>Electricity</u>				
None	76.1	52.5	61.1	64.3
<u>Bathroom</u>				
None	82.3	76.3	79.7	81.7

Source: For 1967 figures, see Bakir Abu-Kishk, "Human settlements: problems and social dimensions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip" (ECWA, March 1981), and for 1974 figures, see Statistical Abstract of Israel, 1975 ... p. 697.

38. From information provided by Governments of Arab States and the PLO, it seems that the official housing policy in the West Bank and, to a lesser extent, in the Gaza Strip, is not merely one of "benign neglect" but, in many instances, one of positive obstruction of efforts of individuals to build houses. Building permits are difficult to obtain and, in some cases, applications have been pending for as long as two years. It is stated that Palestinians, in desperation, have resorted to building houses without the required permit and that these houses are demolished by the authorities as unauthorized. Such demolition, which does nothing to alleviate the acute housing shortage, has been carried out in addition to the punitive demolition of 1,259 houses carried out by the end of 1980. Furthermore, difficulties are placed in the way of charitable and self-help organizations which utilize funds from abroad for development projects, including housing projects. For example, according to reports compiled from the Israeli press as at 12 October 1981 by the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories, several West Bank

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