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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE

Letter dated 26 August 2002 from the Permanent Observer for Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Following our note to you dated 19 August 2002, please find herewith enclosed memorandums issued by the Palestinian National Authority on the Israeli daily aggressions against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories, for the period from Sunday 18 to Sunday 25 August 2002, all of which constitute violations of human rights and grave violations categorized according to international humanitarian law as war crimes and crimes against humanity, particularly the continued Israeli acts of deliberate killing, extrajudicial executions, house demolitions, besieging Palestinian towns, villages and camps, imposing collective punishments, severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinians and a suffocating curfew which obviously threatens the lives of thousands of Palestinian civilians, who are denied access to food, water, medicine and even to hospitals for getting urgent treatment, a definite humanitarian crisis.

I would be most grateful if you could have this note and its enclosure* distributed to the members of the Commission on Human Rights, as an official document of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

(Signed) Nabil RAMLAWI Ambassador Permanent Observer

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^{*} Reproduced as received, in the language of submission only.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Sunday, August 18 To: 19.00hrs Monday, August 19

Israeli occupation troops continue their aggression and now they occupy virtually every Palestinian population center on the West Bank, and maintain a system of checkpoints, security cordons and curfews in the rest of the Palestinian territories. Israeli occupation forces have also cordoned off the Gaza Strip and conducted military attacks against Palestinian installations and houses inside its borders. Under the occupation, Palestinians are prohibited from leaving their homes to go to work or shop, and transport for relief provisions has been made difficult, if not impossible; up to half of the 3.3 million Palestinian population is verging on serious malnutrition.

[1] Palestinian child was killed, [19] were injured, among them [3] children, [2] critically and [22] were arrested. [390] Trees and [25] dunams of land were bulldozed. [31] Houses, [18] vehicles, [11] economic establishments, [1] institution, [1] mosque, [1] school and [3] green houses were destroyed or damaged. [1350] Dunams of land were confiscated for the expansion of settlements. [2] New military posts were erected. Palestinian areas were invaded [18], shelled [10] & bombarded by machinegun fire [22] times.

- Ramallah & Al Birah: The two cities, including the presidential HQ continue to be under Israeli military occupation and siege. The occupation troops also arrested [3] Palestinians in Jalazoun Refugee Camp and besieged hundreds of Palestinians between Al Jedera village and the entrance of Qalandia with the participation of special troops and the occupation soldiers.
- Nablus: The occupation forces continue to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages, search, ransack & damage houses. They occupation troops also invaded Rojeeb and the old city, arrested six Palestinians, attacked civilians and blew up a family house, wounding one Palestinian.
- Tolkarem: The occupation forces stormed, searched and ransacked several Palestinian houses in Nor Shams refugee camp and arrested three members of the same family
- Jenin: The occupation forces shot dead Mohamad Abu Odeh, 14, with bullet in the head. He was left bleeding to death. The occupation forces also penetrated in Jenin Refugee Camp and the village of Borqeen, opened fire at residential houses, demolished several houses and wounded [6] Palestinians, among them a 4-year-old girl, a 5-year-old boy and a 4-month-old baby girl. The occupation troops took over and destroyed parts of houses and re-imposed a curfew in the city and in several of its neighborhoods, villages and refugee camps.
- Qalqilya: The occupation forces confiscated [1350] dunams of land for the security fence and isolated the village of Kfar Qadoum.
- Mid Area: The occupation forces started the works in a new settlement road between Jewish settlement of Kfar Darom and Gosh Katif They also invaded AI Birka and Al Mahata areas, opened fire at residential houses causing severe damage.
- Khan Younis: The occupation forces penetrated in Al Satr Al Gharbi and Al Qarara areas, opened fire and wounded two Palestinians, searched houses and partially destroyed a Palestinian's house and uprooted tens of olive trees.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Monday, August 19 - To: 19.00hrs Tuesday, August 20

- [4] Palestinian were killed, [32] were injured, among them [6] children, [8] critically and [50] were arrested [26] Houses, [23] vehicles, [9] economic establishments, [1] institution, [1] hospital, [1] security post were destroyed or damaged. [4] New military posts were erected. Palestinian areas were invaded [23], shelled [16] & bombarded by machinegun fire [30] times.
 - ◆ Jerusalem: The occupation forces closed down the entrances of Al Ezaria & Abu
 Dees and arrested three Palestinians.
 - ♦ Ramallah & Al Birah: The occupation forces assassinated Mohammed Sadat (22) while the two cities, including the presidential HQ continue to be under Israeli military occupation and siege. The occupation troops also stormed in a National Security building and arrested six members, stormed houses in Al Amari refugee camp and tortured many citizens, prevented more than ten villages' citizens from reaching the city and opened fire at passing cars.
 - ◆ Nablus: The occupation forces continue to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages, search, ransack & damage houses. They occupation troops also shot and critically injured one Palestinian, arrested another two and blow up a family house and three stores.
 - Jenin: The occupation forces invaded the villages of Al Yamoon & Beit Qad, stormed & ransacked houses, arrested three Palestinians and opened fire at Palestinian injuring eight citizens among them four children, two of them in critical condition and a European activist.
 - ◆ Tolkarem: The occupation forces invaded the city with massive force, stormed, searched and ransacked Palestinian houses and took over many homes and transformed them into military posts and arrested twelve Palestinians. They a so fired bullets, gas bombs & stun grenades at citizens and killed two Palestinians and kidnapped their bodies, critically wounded four citizens, circled & searched Thabet Thabet hospital and prevented the movement of ambulances.
 - Salfeet occupation forces raided town, searched houses and arrested 3 Palestinians.
 - *Hebron:* The occupation forces stormed in the town of Dora, searched nouses, arrested tens of Palestinians and ransacked a charity there.
 - Jericho: The occupation forces attacked twenty Palestinians in Al Aghwar a ea and forced them to take off their clothes
 - Mid Area: The occupation forces opened fire at Palestinian houses, searched houses and started to pave a settlement road.
 - Khan Younis: The occupation forces shot & killed Ayman Tawfeeq Zorob (15) and critically wounded another girl They also closed Al Toffah military checkpoin.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Tuesday, August 20 To: 19.00hrs, August 21

- [1] Palestinian was killed, [22] were injured, among them [4] children, [3] critically and [18] were arrested. [61] Houses, [19] vehicles and [9] economic establishments were destroyed or damaged. [500] Dunams of Palestinian land were confiscated for the expansion of Jewish settlement. Palestinian areas were shelled [15] & bombarded by machinegun fire [26] times.
 - Ramallah & Al Birah: The two cities, including the presidential HQ continue to be under Israeli military occupation and siege. The occupation troops invaded the village of Rafat and confiscated [500] dunams of agricultural land. One Palestinian was arrested.
 - Nablus: The occupation forces continue to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages, search, ransack & damage houses. The occupation army bombarded and invaded Palestinian houses in Askar and Balata refugee camps, arrested [6] Palestinians and opened fire at residential houses in the village of Sorra.
 - Jenin: The occupation forces, covered by Apache helicopters and machinegun fire, invaded the village of Silat Al Hartheia, imposed a curfew, besieged one house and arrested two Palestinians. Several houses were destroyed and a number of Palestinians were injured.
 - Salfeet: The occupation forces invaded, searched and ransacked Palestinian houses in the village of Al Laban, and arrested several Palestinians. And Jewish settlers attacked with machineguns and destroyed parts of Palestinian houses and set fire in dozens of olive trees in the village of Single.
 - Gaza: The occupation forces kidnapped a Palestinian fisherman and bulldozed vast areas of land east of the city. They also invaded Palestinian areas near the Eastern Cemetery and destroyed tens of olive trees.
 - ◆ Mid Area: The occupation forces stormed Palestinian areas in Al Birka area, raided and searched Palestinian houses and arrested a Palestinian policeman.
 - Khan Younis: Under cover of heavy bombardment and Apache shelling, the occupation forces invaded Al Gharbi refugee camp, destroyed two family buildings killing one Palestinian and wounding two others. Thirty-seven other houses and the electricity generator were severely damaged. The occupation troops also buildozed several houses around the refugee camp. Meanwhile, three Palestinian children were critically wounded when an explosive device left by the occupation army vient off. Three Palestinians were arrested in the city of Rafah.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Wednesday, August 21 To: 19.00hrs Thursday, August 22

- [1] Palestinian was killed, [12] were injured, among them [3] children, [3] critically and [18] were arrested. [115] trees were uprooted and burnt. [19] Houses, [9] vehicles and [3] economic establishments were destroyed or damaged. [427] Dunams of Palestinian land were confiscated for the expansion of Jewish settlement, [27] dunams were bulldozed and [10000] dunams were closed off. Palestinian areas were shelled [8] & bombarded by machinegun fire [17] times.
 - Jerusalem: The Israeli occupation forces arrested the Greek Orthodox hishop "Atallah Hanna", the official spokesperson in The Holy Land, and also arrested three other Palestinian children in Sour Bahir. They also demolisiened a Palestinian citizen's house.
 - Nablus: The occupation forces continue to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages. Meanwhile, The occupation special forces invaded Joreesh village, stormed houses, searched and ransacked property and arrested a Palestinian citizen. Another Palestinian security man was also arrested on Salem by-pass road.
 - Jenin: The occupation forces besieged one house and arrested one Palestinian. Several houses were stormed and families were piled up in single rooms for hours. The occupation forces opened fire at resiodential houses in Wadi Furqin area and Fandqomia town, causing severe damage and wounding critically one Palestinian.
 - Salfeet: "Ameena Idrees", 50-year-old lady was killed and her son was critically injured when a device detonated in a farm to the nnorth of the city. The occupation forces invaded Izbat Shofa village, stormed houses, ransacked proprty and arrested a university student. They also notified the city's villagers that their hundreds of dunams be confiscated, thus Khiba Jbara would be sandwiched between The Green Line and the new separation fence. Meanwhile, a new by-pass road would be opened (5km. Length, 48m. width).
 - Qalqilia: The occupation forces invaded the city and stormed one Palestinian house and arrested him.

- Bethlehem: The occupation forces invaded Bteer village, stormed houses, ransacked property and arrested two Palestinians.
- Gaza: The occupation forces arrested two fishermen off-shore Gaza const and detained their boat.
- North Gaza: The occupation forces, positioned near Eretz Crossing Point, opened fire at farms in Beit Hanoon area causing damage.
- Mid Area: The occupation forces stormed Palestinian areas in in Deir el Balah, searched houses and arrested three Palestinians. They also leveled many dunams of agricultural land and bullduzed one Palestinian's house.
- Khan Younis: The occupation forces, stationed in Neveh Dekalim Jewish-only settlement, bombarded the western section of the Refugee Camp and at the residential houses in Al Amal suburb injuring two Palestinians.
- Rafah: The occupation forces bulldozed one Palestinian's house in Al Mawasi area.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Thursday, August 22 To: 19.00hrs Friday, August 23

- [2] Palestinian was killed, [9] were injured, among them [2] children, [1] critically and [12] were arrested. [585] Trees were uprooted. [22] Houses, [13] vehicles and [3] economic establishments were destroyed or damaged. [585] Dunams of Palestinian land were bulldozed. [1] New Israeli military post was exected. Palestinian areas were shelled [6] & bombarded by machinegun fire [15] times.
 - Nablus: The occupation forces continue to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages. Meanwhile a Palestinian policeman was arrested in the village of Salem.
 - Jenin: The occupation forces imposed a curfew in the village and its refugee camps, preventing prayers from reaching mosques, invaded the western area, opened fire at Palestinians and destroyed [500] olive trees in the village of Aneen.
 - Tolkarem: The occupation forces destroyed a three-story family house in the western neighborhood, damaging tens of nearby houses and the electricity supply network and delivered demolition orders to another two families.
 - Hebron: The occupation forces invaded several houses in Doura and Yatta villages, arrested one Palestinian and erected a new military checkpoint near Al Hawooz area.
 - Mid Area: The occupation forces shot and killed two Palestinians near the Jewish settlement of Kfar Darom, invaded, searched and ransacked Palestinian houses and bulldozed several dunams of land with olive trees.
 - Rafah: The occupation forces closed Rafah crossing, detained hundreds of Palestinian travelers and arrested one Palestinian. Several Palestinians suffered suffocation. The occupation troops also opened fire at Palestinians after Friday prayers wounding one.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Friday, August 23 - To: 19.00hrs Saturday, August 24

Israeli occupation troops continue their aggression and now they occupy virtually every Palestinian population center on the West Bank, and maintain a system of checkpoints, security cordons and curfews in the rest of the Palestinian territories. Israeli occupation forces have also cordoned off the Gaza Strip and conducted military attacks against Palestinian installations and houses inside its borders. Under the occupation, Palestinians are prohibited from leaving their homes to go to work or shop, and transport for relief provisions has been made difficult, if not impossible; up to half of the 3.5 million Palestinian population is verging on serious malnutrition.

[31] Palestinians were injured, among them [9] children, [3] critically and [26] were arrested. [200] Trees were uprooted. [26] Houses, [8] vehicles and [9] economic establishments were destroyed or damaged. [215] Dunams of Palestinian land were bulldozed & [350] Dunams were confiscated for settlement expansion. [6] New Israeli military post was erected. Palestinian areas were shelled [11] & bombarded by machinegun fire [24] times.

- Jerusalem: The occupation forces stormed in, searched & ransacked a charity in Al "Izarya, confiscated more than [350] Dunams of land in Qalandia, Al Ram & Kofor Aqab and closed several towns' roads and commercial stores.
- Ramallah & Al Birah: The occupation forces raided Kofor Neme village, stormed houses and arrested one Palestinian.
- Nablus: The occupation forces shot and injured seven Palestinians and continue to impose curfew on several neighborhoods, towns and villages and to search and ransack houses. They also arrested three Palestinians and prevented peace activists from entering the village of Hawarah while Beit Foreek residents suffer acute shortage of water.
- Jenin: The occupation forces penetrated into Anza village, took over several houses, bulldozed vast areas of land and prevented an ambulance from transporting a patient to the hospital.
- Qalqilya: The occupation forces prevented Palestinians from entering the city and fired gas bombs at them causing suffocation to many women.
- *Hebron*: The occupation forces stormed and ransacked several houses, installations & stores in the city, arrested several Palestinians including a policeman and erected many military checkpoints.
- Bethlehem: The occupation forces closed the entrance of Al Khader and fixed gas bombs at Palestinians causing suffocation to many.
- Mid Area: The occupation forces bulldozed three family houses, one factory, a water well, vast areas of land and took over a house and transformed t into a military post near the settlement of Kfar Darom.
- Khan Younis: The occupation forces bombarded residential areas near Ghadid settlement, penetrated into Al Faraheen area and bulldozed vast areas of agricultural land. They also penetrated into Abassan area and bulldozed [96] Dunams of olive, palm and almond trees.
- Rafah: The occupation forces bombarded Tal Al Sultan area wounding one citizen and damaging property.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Saturday, August 24 To: 19.00hrs Sunday, August 25

- [1] Palestinian was killed, [18] were wounded, among them [4] children, [2] critically and [18] were arrested. [370] Trees were uprooted. [12] Houses, [5] vehicles and [7] economic establishments were destroyed or damaged. [55] Dunams of Palestinian land were bulldozed. [1] New Israeli military post was erected. Palestinian areas were shelled [8] & bombarded by machinegun fire [17] times.
 - Ramallah & Al Birah: The occupation forces raided Khirbet Almisbah village, searched houses, ransacked property and arrested one Palestinian.
 - Jenin: The occupation forces shot and killed "Mohammed Al Att", 24, and injured three other Palestinians when penetrated into the eastern section of the city, opened fire at residents injuring three among them two children (12, 13), one critically. They also exercised partially the separation fence regulations, which forbade movement without showing ID cards. The occupation forces also burnt huge areas of agricultural land surrounding Sanoor Refugee Camp.
 - Nablus: The occupation forces injured three Palestinians and arrested one of them when they opened fire at residents near Azmout village. Meanwhile, a strict curfew still being imposed on the city and its camps and villages.
 - Salfeet: The occupation forces, backed up with choppers and tanks, invaded the city, opened fire at residential houses, searched and ransacked property and arrested a number of Palestinians.
 - *Hebron*: The occupation forces stormed and ransacked several houses, installations & stores in the city and arrested one Palestinian.
 - Gaza: The occupation forces opened fire at residential houses east of Al Mintar area, causing severe damage to private property.
 - North Gaza: The Israeli occupation forces opened fire at the Belgian delegation of the International Popular Protection Campaign during a visit to the area to overlook the sufferings of the Palestinian residents.
 - Khan Younis: A 13-year-old boy was injured when the occupation troops opened fire at a group of children eastren of Al Matahin juncture. They also opened fire at Al Faraheen residential area.
 - Rafah: The occupation forces bombarded Tal Al Sultan area, causing severe damage. They also penetrated into Abu El Hossein village, opened fire, bulldozed several dunams and hundreds of olive trees.