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

Letter dated 9 September 2002 from the Permanent Observer for Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Israeli occupation army continues its large-scale military campaign of terror against the Palestinian people and their land, imposing a total siege on most Palestinian towns, villages and camps; conducting military incursions into Palestinian homes, destroying houses and popular and official institutions; bulldozing hundreds of dunums of agricultural land and trees; detaining hundreds of Palestinian civilians; deliberating killing and wounding others and confiscating thousands of dunums of Palestinian land to serve their increasing settlements and military interests.

On Friday, 6 September, in an act which reveals the bad intentions of the Israeli forces in targeting the Palestinian Ministry of Health and its working crews along with other Palestinian health institutions, medical staff and ambulances, Israeli forces broke into the Palestinian Ministry of Health offices in Nablus and deliberately destroyed the offices' possessions.

The city of Nablus has been under curfew for 80 continuous days; people there have been living under constant curfew for almost three months and are now being denied access to medical treatment. The humanitarian situation in Nablus is growing increasingly critical, as all medical services are currently paralysed by the Israeli army. Israeli tanks are surrounding and blocking all access to the Rafidia hospital, the Palestinian Red Crescent and the Palestinian Medical Relief.

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Herewith enclosed for further information are memorandums issued by the Palestinian National Authority on the daily Israeli aggressions against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories, for the period from Sunday 1 to Sunday 8 September 2002.

The Ministry of Health appeals to the international community, to the United Nations specialized agencies, humanitarian institutions, the World Health Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross to condemn and denounce such Israeli acts which violate and infringe all humanitarian and international conventions, to urge the Government of Israel to refrain from its campaign of destruction against the health institutions as well as all private and popular institutions in Palestine, to withdraw immediately from the premises of the Palestinian Ministry of Health and to allow ambulances and medical personnel freedom of movement so that they can undertake their mission, transport patients to hospital and provide them with the necessary medical treatment.

I would be most grateful if you could arrange to have this letter 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.

(Signed) Nabil RAMLAWI Ambassador Permanent Observer

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

Annex

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Sunday, September 1 - To: 19.00hrs Monday, September 2

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.

[2] Palestinians were killed, among them [1] child, [21] injured, among them [6] children, [1] critically and [23] were arrested. [19] Houses, [135] trees, [14] vehicles and [5] economic establishments, [2] schools [3] greenhouses, [1] animal farm were destroyed or damaged. Palestinian areas were shelled [11] & bombarded by machinegun fire [19] times.

- Jerusalem: The occupation forces arrested a number of Palestinian citizens.
- *Nablus*: The city, its villages and refugees camps are still under strict siege for the seventh week in row. Meanwhile, the occupation forces still storm houses, ransack properties and attack Palestinian residents.
- Jenin: Backed up and covered by tanks and Apache helicopters, the occupation forces invaded AL Fara'a Refuge Camp and Jaba'a & Kufr Ra'ee villages, opening fire and injuring three civilians and a South African journalist "David Philips". The occupation forces imposed tight curfew, stormed houses, caused severe damage to private properties and arrested seven Palestinians. They prevented a kindergarten bus from returning children back homes, detained teachers and besieged a basic girls school.
- *Tolkarem*: The occupation forces arrested a Palestinian girl near Baqa Sharqiya military checkpoint and another Palestinian from Shweika village, imposed curfew on Faroun town and opened heavy fire at residential houses, injuring many of them.
- *Qalqilya*: A 9-year-old boy was killed at Deir Sharaf military checkpoint due to preventing the ambulance from evacuating him to hospital despite knowing his critical condition. The occupation forces also re-imposed curfew on the city.
- Salfeet: Backed up by the Israeli occupation forces, Burqeen Jewish settlers continued to expand Jewish settlement outposts in Dheir Soboh area over more than (2000) dunams.
- *Hebron*: The occupation forces invaded Yatta town, closed down the entrance road, demolished four family houses and attacked and wounded owners. They also bulldozed vast areas of agricultural land and forced shop owners to close their shops and leave the area.
- Bethlehem: The occupation forces deported " Adeeb Thawabta " to Gaza.
- Northern Gaza: Mohammed Shinbari, 24-year-old, from Beit Hanoon, died from wounds sustained earlier by the occupation army fire.
- *Mid Area*: The occupation forces arrested five policemen at Abu Holy military checkpoint.
- *Khan Younis*: The occupation forces bombarded and damaged residential houses near Al Matahin.
- *Rafah*: The occupation forces opened heavy fire at Palestinians and their houses in Tel Sultan town, wounding a 20-year-old Palestinian.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Monday, September 2 To: 19.00hrs Tuesday, September 3

- [3] Palestinians were killed, [29] injured, among them [10] children, [5] critically and [37] were arrested. [2672] Trees were uprooted or burned, [204] Dunams were bulldozed and [25000] Dunams were bulldozed. [34] Houses, [14] vehicles and [9] economic establishments, [1] schools and [3] institutions were destroyed or damaged. [3] New military posts were erected. Palestinian areas were shelled [13] & bombarded by machinegun fire [29] times.
 - ♦ *Jerusalem*: The occupation forces prevented Palestinians' movement in the villages of Al Sawahra, Al Ezarya & Abu Dees. Meanwhile, a group of Ilad Jewish settlers took over a Palestinian house in Jabal Al Mukaber area.
 - ♦ Ramallah & Al Birah: The city, its villages and refugees camps are still under strict siege for the seventh week in row. Meanwhile, the occupation forces invaded Ber Zeet village, occupied the police station and arrested 20 policemen and citizens, held students & employees and injured five Palestinians. They also bulldozed 20 Dunams of Palestinian land in Beit Iksa village and stole 20 olive trees.
- ◆ Nablus: The occupation forces shot dead Hssien Abuljabar Al Najar (21) & Baher Abdulraoof Deab (23) in the village of Boureen and wounded two citizens on Tal road. They also raided Askar refugee camp, searched & ransacked houses, held a number of Journalists and confiscated tapes and dug up huge trenches in the city. Meanwhile, Brakha Jewish settlers started to build a new 20-residential unit neighborhood.
- ♦ *Jenin*: The occupation forces invaded Kofor Rae village, stormed houses, arrested one Palestinian, erected a road block and a tank deliberately knocked down an electric pole cutting off electricity supply.
- ♦ Tolkarem: The occupation forces started to bulldoze hundreds of olive & almond trees in Baqa Al Sharqya area and will confiscate more than [24000] Dunams of

Palestinian land for the security fence. They also took over more than [10000] Dunams of Palestinian land in Al Rass village.

- ♦ Qalqilya: The occupation forces notified Palestinian in the villages of Jayos, Falamya and kofor Soor of its intention to confiscate more than [10000] Dunams.
- ♦ Hebron: The occupation forces invaded several neighborhoods, arrested four Palestinians, and demolished two family houses and water well. They also raided & closed Beit Ola town, stormed houses, stores & institutions and circled & ransacked the Islamic charity center and arrested eight employees. Meanwhile, Jewish settlers started to build [14] settlement units in Tal Al Rumeda area.
- ♦ Gaza: The occupation frigates arrested Palestinian fishermen.
- ♦ *Mid Area*: The occupation forces bombarded residential neighborhoods causing damage, penetrated into Abu Holi area and continued to close Abu Holy military checkpoint.
- ♦ Khan Younis: The occupation forces killed Sulyman Talat Al Daghma (20) when a tank run over him, bombarded houses in Al Qarara, searched houses and demolished one house.
- Rafah: The occupation forces penetrated into Al Salam neighborhood and bulldozed a house on its residents injuring ten family members.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Tuesday, September 3 - To: 19.00hrs Wednesday, September 4

- [21] Palestinians were injured, among them [8] children, [5] critically and [10] were arrested. [2] Were deported. [274] Trees were uprooted or burned, [99] Dunams were bulldozed. [21] Houses, [6] vehicles and [4] economic establishments and [2] institutions were destroyed or damaged. [1] New military post was erected. Palestinian areas were shelled [7] & bombarded by machinegun fire [28] times.
 - Ramallah & Al Birah: The occupation forces bombarded and fired gas bombs at Palestinian houses in Al Amari refugee camp, wounding three Palestinians and causing severe damage.
 - Nablus: The occupation forces invaded Askar refugee camp, searched houses, destroyed properties and arrested two Palestinians. Another Palestinian was arrested in the village of Sorra where the occupation army imposed curfew and searched houses. Meanwhile, the curfew and siege continue to be imposed in the city and its refugee camps for the seventh consecutive week.
 - ♦ Jenin: Seven Palestinians, among them three children, two of them critically, were wounded when an explosive device left by the occupation army, went off. The forces also invaded Aneen and Yammoun villages, opened fire at residential areas, bulldozed and destroyed several dunams of land with olive trees. One Palestinian was injured and another was arrested.
 - ◆ *Tolkarem*: The occupation forces opened machinegun fire at Palestinian workers, critically wounding one of them and the occupation special units invaded the center of the city and arrested one Palestinian.
 - ♦ *Qalqilya*: The occupation forces invaded Palestinian houses in the city and arrested one Palestinian.
 - ♦ Hebron: The occupation forces invaded the local radio station in the village of Tarqumia, ransacked and confiscated its equipment. The occupation troops also invaded Palestinian houses in the villages of Taffouh and Halhoul, and arrested a number of Palestinians. Meanwhile, the curfew continues to be imposed in Al Hawooz and Wadi Al Haria areas.
 - ◆ Gaza: The occupation forces deported two Palestinian brothers from Askar refugee camp to Gaza.
 - ♦ Mid Area: The occupation forces stormed Palestinian land in Al Hekr area, opened fire and bulldozed vast areas of agricultural land with olive and citric trees and dug a new trench between Abu Holy road and the settlement of Kfar Darom.
 - ♦ *Khan Younis:* The occupation forces bombarded residential houses in Al Satr Al Gharbi and wounded three Palestinians, two of them are 3 and 5-year-old babies. They also closed down Al Tuffah military checkpoint

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Wednesday, September 4 To: 19.00hrs Thursday, September 5

- [1] Palestinian was killed, 22] injured, among them [4] children, [4] critically and [54] were arrested. [400] Trees were uprooted or burned & [85] Dunams were bulldozed. [33] Houses, [12] vehicles, [5] schools, [1] church, [10] economic establishments and [1] institution were destroyed or damaged. [3] New military posts were erected. Palestinian areas were shelled [18] & bombarded by machinegun fire [29] times.
 - Ramallah & Al Birah: The occupation forces confiscated and bulldozed [15]
 Dunams of Palestinian land near Sirda military checkpoint, stormed houses in Ein Erek village and arrested a number of citizens and prevented the Danish foreign minister from meeting six Palestinian ministers.
 - ◆ Nablus: Under the cover of heavy fire, the occupation forces invaded Balata refugee camp, Azmoot, Jamaeen and Sourra wounding two Palestinians and arrested nine others, stormed in the broadcasting unit of Path of Love Radio and confiscated equipment, held an ambulance and attacked its staff, declared the Ministry of Health area a closed military zone area and prevented the movement of physicians and medical staff, circled & closed a school in Sourra village and fired a shell at Dier Yaqoob causing damage.
 - Jenin: The occupation forces invaded the city, re-imposed curfew, opened fire at Palestinians in Jenin wounding seven Palestinians and causing damage to Palestinian property; stormed in the village of Al Yamoon, searched & ransacked houses and arrested three Palestinians. They also penetrated into the villages of Aneen & Marka and bulldozed land and trees and erected a military checkpoint.
 - ◆ Tolkarem: The occupation special forces stormed in Allar & Al Hafryat village, opened machinegun fire at Palestinians and wounded and arrested two Palestinians and imposed curfew there and arrested four citizens. They also broke into Al Shweka village, searched & ransacked houses and arrested [15] Palestinians, imposed curfew on the village of Baqa Al Sharqya and bulldozed more than [300] olive trees in the village of Qifeen.

- ♦ Qalqilya: The occupation forces invaded and bombarded Palestinian houses in the city causing damage, arrested one Palestinian and damaged the electricity network.
- ♦ Salfeet: The occupation forces stormed & ransacked houses in Jamaeen village and arrested two Palestinians.
- ♦ *Hebron:* The occupation forces invaded houses in Tafooh village and arrested six Palestinians.
- ♦ *Bethlehem:* The occupation forces prevented Palestinians from reaching the graveyard to bury a dead citizen.
- ♦ *Gaza*: The occupation forces trisect the Strip, prevented the movement of citizens and deployed tanks at the three main junctions.
- ♦ Northern Gaza: The occupation forces bombarded residential areas in Beit Lahya and killed Mahmoud Syam (22) and damaged Palestinian property. They also circled the Bedouin village, stormed & ransacked houses and institutions, held a number of students, took over a school, ransacked the medical center and bulldozed agricultural land.
- ♦ *Mid Area*: The occupation forces shelled Al Maghazi refugee camp causing severe damage to houses and penetrated in Wadi Al Salq area and bulldozed agricultural land.
- ♦ *Khan Younis:* The occupation forces closed down Salah Din road, prevented movement of Palestinians and opened fire at them.
- ♦ *Rafah*: The occupation forces penetrated into Al Salam neighborhood, wounded three Palestinians, arrested one citizen, bulldozed four houses and land and arrested two Palestinians at Rafah international crossing.

<u>The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People</u> From: 19.00hrs Thursday, September 5 - To: 19.00hrs Friday, September 6

- [2] Palestinian was assassinated, [17] injured, among them [3] children, [3] critically and [23] were arrested. [21] Houses, [15] vehicles, [11] economic establishments and [1] security post were destroyed or damaged. [5] New military posts were erected. Palestinian areas were shelled [14] & bombarded by machinegun fire [19] times.
 - Jerusalem: The occupation forces opened fire at a Palestinian in Shefat neighborhood and closed down the only road to Al Assize mosque preventing Palestinians from reaching it.
 - Ramallah & Al Birah: The occupation forces invaded Al Taiba and Der Jarir villages and stormed and ransacked Palestinian houses.
 - Nablus: The occupation forces arrested five peace activists under the pretext that they breached the curfew imposed in the city for the eighth consecutive week.
 - Jenin: The occupation special troops invaded Palestinian houses in the eastern neighborhood, arrested and lynched two Palestinians (Samir Younis Qandil 31 and Kamel Khaled Al Silawi 22). The occupation troops also invaded Kharouba area, bombarded residential houses, arrested a number of Palestinians, detained six families in a small apartment, took over one building and transformed it into military post. They also invaded, searched and ransacked a Palestinian's house, arrested him and destroyed two vehicles, several stores and a family building in the industrial zone.
 - ♦ *Tolkarem*: The occupation forces tightened the siege over the city, erected a number of new military checkpoints and imposed curfew in the village of Faroun and Irtah neighborhood.
 - ◆ Qalqilya: The occupation forces invaded Palestinian houses in the village of Azzoun, attacked their owners, imposed curfew and arrested five Palestinians.
 - ♦ *Hebron:* Jewish settlers attacked and looted a Palestinian's pharmacy. Documents, medicines and equipment were stolen.
 - ♦ Mid Area: Under cover of Apaches and heavy machinegun fire, the occupation forces invaded Der Al Balah, searched and ransacked Palestinian houses and arrested one Palestinian.
 - ♦ *Khan Younis:* Occupation Apaches bombarded and totally destroyed a Palestinian's warehouse causing severe damage to nearby houses and stores. The occupation forces also arrested a Palestinian journalist at Abu Holy military checkpoint and detained an ambulance in the same checkpoint.
 - ♦ Rafah: A 14-year-old Palestinian girl was critically wounded when the occupation forces bombarded residential houses in Tal Zourob. They also opened fire at a Palestinian vehicle wounding two (5 and15-year -old) brothers.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Friday, September 6 - To: 19.00hrs Saturday, September 7

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.

[21] Palestinians were injured, among them [8] children, [3] critically and [20] were arrested. [215] Trees were uprooted or burned & [75] Dunams were bulldozed. [22] Houses, [28] vehicles, [13] economic establishments, [3] institutions, [1] mosque, [2] schools, [1] medical center, [3] greenhouses, [1] animal farm and [3] security posts were destroyed or damaged. [4] New military posts, [1] settlement posts and [7] residential units were erected. Palestinian areas were shelled [10] & bombarded by machinegun fire [25] times.

- *Jerusalem:* A gang of Jewish settlers attacked and injured a number of Palestinians in Bab Al Selssela market and ransacked several stores.
- Ramallah & Al Birah: The occupation forces continue to occupy the city and circle the President's HQ and to storm and ransack Palestinian houses.
- ♦ Nablus: The occupation forces took over and ransacked the Ministry of Health HQs and opened fire at employees. The curfew is still imposed on the city for the eighth consecutive week.
- ♦ Jenin: The occupation forces invaded several villages & towns, searched & ransacked houses, opened fire at Palestinians and wounded five citizens, arrested three citizens, broke into schools and held teachers and students and tortured the staff of a Palestinian ambulance.
- ◆ *Qalqilya*: The occupation forces imposed curfew on the city and its villages.
- ♦ Hebron: The occupation forces placed a number of caravans on Abu Rumeda hill in order to build a settlement post and invaded the area and searched & ransacked houses and arrested two citizens.
- ◆ Northern Gaza: The occupation forces penetrated into Beit Lahya, searched houses, ransacked a resort, bulldozed land, trees, a factory, a security post & a house and arrested one citizen.
- ♦ Mid Area: Under the cover of heavy machinegun fire, the occupation tanks invaded Der Al Balah, searched & ransacked Palestinian houses, arrested six Palestinian, wounded a number of citizens, demolished two institutions & two warehouses, damaged a UN institution and took over several security posts and houses.
- ♦ *Khan Younis:* The occupation forces bombarded Palestinian houses in Qizan Al Najar area and wounded one citizen.
- Rafah: The occupation forces bombarded residential houses and bulldozed vast area of land in Al Brazil & Al Salam neighborhoods.

The Israeli Daily Aggression on the Palestinian People From: 19.00hrs Saturday, September 7 - To: 19.00hrs Sunday, September 8

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.

[17] Palestinians were injured, among them [6] children, [1] critically and [26] were arrested. [300] Trees were uprooted or burned. [130] Dunams and [15] green houses were bulldozed. [29] Houses, [65] vehicles, [3] economic establishments, [1] security post was destroyed or damaged. [5] New military posts were erected. Palestinian areas were shelled [13] & bombarded by machinegun fire [19] times.

- Jerusalem: Israeli occupation forces and attacked arrested two Palestinians from Isawya.
- Ramallah & Al Birah: The occupation forces continue to impose strict siege and curfew on the presidential HQ.
- Nablus: The city and its refugee camps continue to be under curfew for the eighth consecutive week. The occupation soldiers also arrested one Palestinian.
- Jenin: The occupation forces opened fire at Palestinians in the refugee camp critically wounding one child. The occupation troops also invaded and searched Palestinian houses in Kfar Raee and Methalon villages, erected a number of new military checkpoints, closed down Tubas-Tayaseer and Tubas Jericho roads isolating several villages.
- ♦ *Tolkarem:* The occupation forces continue to impose curfew in the city and in several villages and the refugee camp. The occupation soldiers opened fire at residential areas and invaded the refugee camp and several villages, erected several checkpoints and arrested four Palestinians.
- ♦ *Salfeet*: The occupation forces arrested one Palestinian, imposed curfew in Barqeen and Amouria villages and erected a number of checkpoints.
- ♦ Hebron: The occupation forces invaded Palestinian houses in Yatta, arrested [18] Palestinians and banned Palestinians from reaching Al Ibrahimi mosque to open it for Jews only. Meanwhile, Jewish settlers damaged more than [50] Palestinian vehicles near the checkpoints.
- ♦ *Jericho*: The occupation forces arrested one Palestinian in Al Ouja area after he was shot and wounded.
- ♦ Northern Gaza: Occupation forces penetrated east of the city, bombarded Johr Al Deek area and prevented 14 PLC members from participating in the Council sessions Ramallah.
- ♦ Northern Gaza: The occupation forces bombarded Palestinian houses north of Bet Hanoun damaging several houses.
- ♦ Mid Area: The occupation forces invaded Hekr Al Jame area and Al Maghazi refugee camp, bulldozed more than [130] dunams of agricultural land and opened fire at Al Birka area causing severe damage.
- ♦ *Khan Younis*: The occupation forces re-closed Abu Holy and Al Matahen checkpoints.
- Rafah: The occupation forces bombarded residential houses near Yebna refugee camp wounding a number of Palestinians and causing severe damage.
