



ARIJ Daily Report

Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem (ARIJ)

P.O Box 860, Caritas Street – Bethlehem
Phone: (+972) 2 2741889, Fax: (+972) 2 2776966
pmaster@arij.org | <http://www.arij.org>

Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt

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The daily report highlights the violations behind Israeli home demolitions and demolition threats in the occupied Palestinian territory, the confiscation and razing of lands, the uprooting and destruction of fruit trees, the expansion of settlements and erection of outposts, the brutality of the Israeli Occupation Army, the Israeli settlers violence against Palestinian civilians and properties, the erection of checkpoints, the construction of the Israeli segregation wall and the issuance of military orders for the various Israeli purposes.

The Violations are based on reports provided by field workers and/or news sources.

The text is not quoted directly from the sources but is edited for clarity.

The daily report does not necessarily reflect ARIJ's opinion.

Brutality of the Israeli Occupation Army

- Clashes erupted between Palestinians and the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in Al 'Am'ari refugee camp, south of Ramallah city. (Wattan 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded and searched tens of Palestinian houses in Beit 'Awa town, west of Hebron city. (Wattan 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed and searched a number of Palestinian houses in several areas and neighborhoods in Silwan town

in Jerusalem city and confiscated five vehicles. (Maannews 28 July 2016)

- Clashes erupted between Palestinians and the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in Ad Duheisha refugee camp, south of Bethlehem city, after the IOA invaded and searched tens of Palestinian houses. The IOA fired live bullets and teargas grenades, causing dozens of suffocation cases and the injury of four Palestinians. During the operation, the IOA arrested four Palestinians, identified as: Raghd Shamroukh, Karam Nassri Abed Raboh, Hamdi Ma'rouf Al Atrash and Bilal Al Ma'iwi. (Orient FM & Maannews 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) opened fire at Palestinian farmers and shepherds while they were near the border fence, east of Al Maghazi refugee camp in the Gaza strip. (Safa 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) opened fire at Palestinian farmers while they were working in their land, near the border fence, east of Al Qarara town, east of Khan Younis city, south of Gaza strip. (Safa 28 July 2016)

Israeli Arrests

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Anas Ar Rajabi after storming his house in Shufat refugee camp, north of Jerusalem city. (Wafa 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Bassam Manasrah Ash Sha'wani after storming his house in Qalandiya refugee camp, north of Jerusalem city. (Wafa 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested two Palestinians after raiding and searching their houses in Wadi Qadum village in Silwan town in Jerusalem city. The arrestees were identified as: Kadem and Ramzi Ar Razem. (Wafa 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Raid Zghair from the old city of Jerusalem. (Wafa 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Navy arrested 7 Palestinian fishermen after attacking their boats while they were sailing at As Sudaniya shore, northwest of Gaza city. The arrestees were identified as: Mohammad Bakir, Nehad Ak Hissi, Khames Zaghra, Mohammad Zaghra, Mustafah Bakir, Salem Abu Sadeq and Mohammad Al Louh. The Israeli Navy also, seized their three boats. (Wafa & Maannews 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested four Palestinians after storming their houses in Hebron city. (Maannews 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested 7 Palestinians after storming and searching their houses in several areas in Nablus city. The

arrestees were identified as: Ihab 'Ashour, Mujahed 'Ashour, Abed Ar Rahman Al Bashtawi, Bara Thaqan, Abed Ar Rahman Al Wadi, Ameen Al Halbouni and Fawzi Bashakr. Clashes erupted between Palestinians and the IOA, where the IOA fired teargas and stun grenades, causing tens of suffocation cases. (Al-Quds 28 July 2016)

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) summoned Arafat Najeb and Firas Ad Dibas from Jerusalem city, to interview the Israeli Intelligence Police. (Wafa 28 July 2016)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Omar Diyab Bani Odeh from Tammun village in Tubas governorate. (Safa 28 July 2016)

Israeli Settler Violence

- Israeli settlers escorted by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded three tombs in Kafl Haris village, north of Salfit city, and performed Talmudic rituals. The targeted tombs are: Thi Al Kafl tomb; located southeast of the village, Thi An Non tomb, located at the western part of the village and Salah Ad Diy tomb. During the operation, the IOA imposed curfew on the residents of the village and erected military checkpoints at the entrances. (Al-Quds 28 July 2016)
- Israeli settlers escorted by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem city and toured in its courtyard. (Sama News 28 July 2016)

Expansion of settlements

- **Peace Now Settlement Watch: Tenders Published for 323 Housing Units in East Jerusalem.** This morning, tenders for 323 housing units in East Jerusalem were published: 89 units in Gilo, 36 units in Neve Yaacov, 68 units in Pisgat Zeev, 130 units in Har Homa. These tenders are for housing units that have been tendered in the past but were never built (the tender in Gilo was published without dates and details so we cannot tell if these are new units or units that were tendered before). Although the government tried to build these units in the past, it never did so and thus the government is now initiating entirely new construction. Peace Now: "the publication of tenders for 323 housing units a day after the home demolitions in Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem is indicative of the government's policy: on the one hand the government does not allow for Palestinian construction, and on the other hand it promotes massive construction for Israelis. Since 1967 the Israeli government initiated and planned the construction of 55,000 units for Israelis in East Jerusalem, and at the

same time planned and initiated only 700 units for Palestinians. The Netanyahu government decided to repudiate the Quartet report and to prove, yet again, that it has no intention to promote a peace agreement based on a two state solution." ([Peace Now](#) 28 July 2016)

Other

- EU Slams Israel's Destruction of Palestinian Homes in West Bank's Area C. Israel has granted only 44 construction permits in response to over 2,000 requests, Lars Faaborg-Andersen tells Knesset meeting. Buildings that were destroyed were 'illegal buildings,' Israeli body says in response. European Union ambassador to Israel Lars Faaborg-Andersen criticized Israel on Wednesday for destroying Palestinian homes in Area C of the West Bank. Faaborg-Andersen said at a conference at the Knesset that from 2009 to 2013 Israel had provided only 44 building permits to Palestinians in response to about 2,000 requests. "EU assistance is provided in situations where Israel is not fulfilling its duty as the occupying power. That is according to the international law, universal norms and the Oslo accords," Faabourg-Andersen told the conference initiated by lawmakers Dov Henin of the Joint List, Michal Rozin of Meretz and Ksenia Svetlova of the Zionist Union. "Some 70% of Area C has been taken for exclusive Israeli use. Near all of the remain 30% is private Palestinian property, but is effectively off limits for Palestinian development, he said. The envoy added that "in the first 6 months of 2016 alone 91 EU structures in Area C have been demolished. This is more than all of 2015. Since 2009, approximately 170 EU humanitarian structures have been demolished". According to B'Tselem data presented at the conference, Israel has destroyed more Palestinian homes in the first half of 2016 than the annual average for the past decade except for 2013. Israel has razed 168 Palestinian houses in Area C built against the law. By comparison 125 homes were destroyed in all of 2015. The number of homes destroyed the first half of this year is more than the annual average for the past decade except for 2013 when 175 homes were destroyed. The Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories said in response that buildings that were destroyed were "illegal buildings which didn't receive a permit from the authorities and therefore enforcement procedures were employed against them". Aviva Bar Ilan, who heads the Foreign Ministry department in charge of European organizations, said in January that the EU was weighing the possibility of suing Israel for damages for destroying structures donated by EU countries as humanitarian aid to Palestinian Bedouin living in the E1 area, outside Jerusalem. "illegal construction merits

destruction, Israel doesn't accept the EU's interpretation of humanitarian aid," Bar Ilan said. ([Haaretz](#) 28 July 2016)

- Secret 1970 Document Confirms First West Bank Settlements Built on a Lie. In minutes of meeting in then-defense minister Moshe Dayan's office, top Israeli officials discussed how to violate international law in building settlement of Kiryat Arba, next to Hebron. It has long been an open secret that the settlement enterprise was launched under false pretenses, involving the expropriation of Palestinian land for ostensibly military purposes when the true intent was to build civilian settlements, which is a violation of international law. Now a secret document from 1970 has surfaced confirming this long-held assumption. The document, a copy of which has been obtained by Haaretz, details a meeting in the office of then-defense minister Moshe Dayan at which government and military leaders spoke explicitly about how to carry out this deception in the building of Kiryat Arba, next to Hebron. The document is titled "The method for establishing Kiryat Arba." It contains minutes of a meeting held in July 1970 in Dayan's office, and describes how the land on which the settlement was to be built would be confiscated by military order, ostensibly for security purposes, and that the first buildings on it would be falsely presented as being strictly for military use. Aside from Dayan, the participants include the director general of the Housing Ministry, the Israel Defense Forces' commander in the West Bank and the coordinator of government activities in the territories. 'Construction will be presented as ...' According to the minutes, these officials decided to build "250 housing units in Kiryat Arba within the perimeter of the area specified for the military unit's use. All the building will be done by the Defense Ministry and will be presented as construction for the IDF's needs." A "few days" after Base 14 had "completed its activities," the document continued, "the commander of the Hebron district will summon the mayor of Hebron, and in the course of raising other issues, will inform him that we've started to build houses on the military base in preparation for winter." In other words, the participants agreed to mislead the mayor into thinking the construction was indeed for military purposes, when in fact, they planned to let settlers move in – the same settlers who on Passover 1968 into Hebron's Park Hotel, which was the embryo of the settler enterprise. The system of confiscating land by military order for the purpose of establishing settlements was an open secret in Israel throughout the 1970s, according to people involved in creating and implementing the system. Its goal was to present an appearance of complying with international law, which forbids construction for civilian purposes on occupied land. In practice, everyone involved,

from settlers to defense officials, knew the assertion that the land was meant for military rather than civilian use was false. This system was used to set up several settlements, until the High Court of Justice outlawed it in a 1979 ruling on a petition against the establishment of the settlement of Elon Moreh. Participant: We all knew the score.... Maj. Gen. (res.) Shlomo Gazit, who was coordinator of government activities in the territories at the time of the 1970 meeting in Dayan's office about Kiryat Arba, told Haaretz it was clear to all the meeting's participants that settlers would move into those buildings. He said that to the best of his recollection, this constituted the first use of the system of annexing land to a military base for the purpose of civilian settlement in the West Bank. He also recalled Dayan as the one who proposed this system, because he didn't like any of the alternative locations proposed for Kiryat Arba. Nevertheless, and despite what the document advocated, Gazit said, army officers told the mayor of Hebron explicitly that a civilian settlement would be established next to his city, rather than telling him the construction was for military purposes. Hagit Ofran, head of Peace Now's Settlement Watch project, also said this appears to be the first use of the system of using military orders to seize land for civilian settlement. And while this system is no longer in use, she said, "Today, too, the state uses tricks to build and expand settlements. We don't need to wait decades for the revelation of another internal document to realize that the current system for taking over land – wholesale declarations of it as state land – also violates the essence of the law." Gazit said that in retrospect, the system was wrong, but that he was just "a bureaucrat, in quotation marks; I carried out the government's orders, in quotation marks." "I think this pretense has continued until today," he added. "Throughout my seven years as coordinator of government activities in the territories, we didn't establish settlements anywhere by any other system." But government officials had no idea Kiryat Arba (pop. 8,000) would become so big, Gazit insisted. They only sought to provide a solution for the squatters in the Park Hotel, who "weren't more than 50 families." Today, even Kiryat Arba residents admit that this system was a deception. Settler ideologue Elyakim Haetzni, one of Kiryat Arba's original residents, noted that during a Knesset debate at the time, cabinet minister Yigal Allon said clearly that this would be a civilian settlement. "It's clear why this game ended; after all, how long could it go on? This performance had no connection whatsoever to Herut (the predecessor to Likud); it was all within Mapai," Haetzni added, referring to the ruling party at the time, a precursor of today's Labor Party. ([Haaretz](#) 28 July 2016)

- Israeli Knesset Gives Preliminary Okay to Bill Giving Tax Breaks to Settlements. Treasury opposes the bill that would make West Bank settlements eligible for tax breaks based on the security threats they face on the grounds that they can't be solved by tax breaks. West Bank settlements will be eligible for tax breaks based on the security threats they face, if a bill approved by the Knesset in preliminary reading on Wednesday becomes law. The Knesset vote took place after the Ministerial Committee for Legislation held a special session on Wednesday morning to approve the bill, which was sponsored by MK Bezalel Smotrich (Habayit Hayehudi). The ministerial committee also decided that by August 11, when the cabinet is due to start discussing the state budget for 2017-18, the finance and defense ministries should draft uniform criteria for granting tax breaks to residents of towns facing security threats. Today, security threats to the settlements are ranked on a different scale to the one used for towns near the Gaza and Lebanon borders. Once the new criteria are in place and the settlements have been ranked in accordance with them, it will be possible to determine which are eligible for tax breaks. Security will not be the only criterion, however; it will simply be one more factor added to the existing criteria. The Finance Ministry opposed Smotrich's bill, both because of its cost, which is estimated at about 150 million shekels (\$40 million) a year, and because the Knesset only just approved the list of towns eligible for tax breaks under the old criteria late last year. Those criteria include socioeconomic level, distance from the center of the country and proximity to the border. The treasury argues that there is no reason to add security threats to this list, because security problems can't be solved by tax breaks. But the bill was backed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, as well as by the three ministers from Smotrich's party – Education Minister Naftali Bennett, Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked and Agriculture Minister Uri Ariel. When the Knesset discussed the issue late last year, Smotrich asked that about 60 settlements be added to the list of communities eligible for tax breaks. Both Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon (Kulanu) and Knesset Finance Committee Chairman Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism) opposed the request, and Netanyahu agreed that the criteria shouldn't be changed at that time. But he promised Smotrich he would support legislation to change the criteria later. Smotrich welcomed Wednesday's vote. "Now, finally, we can say we've built the map of settlement for Israel," he said. "This law will enable thousands of families living in Judea and Samaria, who suffer from security threats, to receive what they deserve and to be equal in rights to the rest of Israel's residents." Gafni said Wednesday that he still opposes the bill, as he thinks it will cause financial damage. Even under the existing

criteria, he said, the tax breaks are costing the state 1.2 billion shekels a year in lost revenue. The bill now goes to the Knesset House Committee, which will decide which committee should prepare it for its first reading. Several MKs have demanded that instead of being sent to Gafni's Finance Committee, it be sent to the Special Committee for Distributive Justice and Social Equality, chaired by MK Miki Zohar (Likud). Zohar is seeking to get many poorer towns inside Israel added to the eligibility list. This gives Smotrich some leverage in negotiations with the treasury: If he reaches an agreement with the treasury, he'll support sending the bill to the Finance Committee. If not, he'll push to have it sent to Zohar's committee. ([Haaretz](#) 28 July 2016)