

ARIJ Daily Report

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Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 26 October 2017

I he daily report highlights the violations behind Israeli home demolitions and demolition threats occupied Palestinian territory, in the 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.

Israeli Arrests

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian after storming and ransacking his family home in the Qabatiya town, south of Jenin in the northern West Bank. Three others from Qabatiya were detained after being stopped by the IOA at a Nablus-area checkpoint. (Maannews 26 October 2017)
- In the Faqquaa village north of Jenin city, Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained one Palestinian. (Maannews 26 October 2017)

- In the northern West Bank, Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained two Palestinians from the Tulkarem Governorate. (Maannews 26 October 2017)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained two Palestinians during subsequent raids in the Jericho Governorate. (Maannews 26 October 2017)
- In the southern West Bank Governorate of Hebron, Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the Yatta town and detained one Palestinian. (Maannews 26 October 2017)
- Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Abd al-Rahman Abu Lihyeh, 27, from the southern Gaza Strip town of al-Qarara while on his way through the Erez crossing to the Jordanian capital of Amman to received medical treatment. Abd al-Rahman's father was escorting him through the checkpoint but was sent back. (Maannews 26 October 2017)
- Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Mu'ath Nu'man Srour, 29, from Ni'lin village west of Ramallah after firing at his vehicle while driving near Deir Qiddis village. (WAFA 26 October 2017)

Israeli Settler Violence

- Israeli settlers attacked Palestinians who were harvesting olives in the northern occupied West Bank Governorate of Nablus, injuring three Palestinians, including one woman. Israeli settlers from the illegal Itamar settlement assaulted Palestinians picking olives in the Ras Hazem area in Deir al-Hatab village. Settlers threw rocks and sharp objects and physically assaulted the Palestinians as they were working on their land. The injured Palestinians were identified as Jibril Abd al-Latif Zamel, Riyad Zamel and Ruwaida Zamel. (Maannews 26 October 2017)
- Israeli settlers renewed their incursions to Al Aqsa Mosque in occupied East Jerusalem through the Moroccan gate and performed religious rituals in the courtyard of Al Aqsa Mosque. (WAFA 26 October 2017)

Home Demolition & Demolition threats

• Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) delivered a demolition notice to a Palestinian home in the northern occupied West Bank Governorate of Jenin over accusations that a resident of the home was involved in the stabbing of an Israeli settler earlier this month. The IOA raided the town of Qabatiya and notified residents of a house that the home would soon be demolished by the IOA. The IOA gave the Palestinians a few days to either evacuate the home for demolition or appeal the decision in Israeli court. (Maannews 26 October 2017)

- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) demolished the 90-square meters home Adwan Bani Jaber in Al Duwa area in Kherbit Al Yanoun southeast of Nablus city. Jaber was forced to evacuate the house in 2013 due to continuous Israeli settlers attacks. (WAFA 26 October 2017)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) delivered a demolition order to Muhammad Ibrahim Abu Jamal in Jabal AL Mukkabit town southeast of Jerusalem under the pretext of lacking valid building permit. The house is inhabited by 5 family members and was built two years ago. (WAFA 26 October 2017)

Other

Ministers will vote Sunday on annexing Israeli local authorities beyond the Green Line to Jerusalem following several long delays. The bill is expected to win the support of the panel and be sent to the Knesset floor for approval. Cabinet ministers were told Wednesday that the socalled "Greater Jerusalem Bill" will be brought to a vote at Sunday's meeting of the Ministerial Committee for Legislation. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who previously delayed the vote on the bill, initially agreed to promote it in July following an attack on the Temple Mount that killed two police officers. But the bill never made it to the panel for a vote. According to the bill, the settlements of Ma'aleh Adumim, Gush Etzion, Efrat, Beitar Illit and Givat Ze'ev will be included under Jerusalem's municipal jurisdiction, but not officially annexed to Israel. The move is expected to spark strong opposition from the Palestinian Authority, which will see it as part of the de-facto creeping annexation of West Bank territory. The proposed bill was submitted by MK Yoav Kish (Likud) with the support of Transportation Minister Yisrael Katz (Likud), who also holds the Intelligence Affairs portfolio. Katz in the past said that the move would add thousands of residents to Jerusalem and would "weaken the Arab hold on the capital." Estimates in the Likud party is that Netanyahu allowed the bill to move forward to receive support from his rightwing voter "base" ahead of possible general election in the first half of 2018. "The Greater Jerusalem Bill is an extremely important bill," Kish said, adding that it "enshrines Jerusalem's status as the eternal capital of the people of Israel and the Jewish majority in the capital." Kish noted that, under the bill, "Jerusalem's jurisdiction will be expanded [to include] additional communities, while maintaining municipal autonomy for the local authorities." (<u>Haaretz</u> 26 October 2017)

Prime Minister Netanyahu approved a budget of 800 million shekels for the promotion of a plan to construct roads throughout the West Bank. A letter sent yesterday to heads of local settlement authorities states that the plan will come into effect in the upcoming budget year and it includes the following roads: Hawara Bypass Road – between Tapuah Junction (AKA Za'atra Junction) and Yizhar Junction, bypassing Hawara from the east, on lands of Hawara and Beita – 5.7 km, 1,191 dunams. The road will connect settlements in the Nablus area to Jerusalem through a highway. Al-Aroub Bypass Road -Between Gush Etzion Junction and Carmei Zur settlement, on lands of Beit Umar and Halhul – 6.5 km, 1223 dunams. The road is meant to connect the settlements of Kirvat Arba, Hebron and settlements of the South Hebron Hills to Jerusalem through a highway without having to pass inside any Palestinian villages. Qalandiya Underpass - A West to East road is which is meant to bypass the Qalandiya checkpoint and connect the settlements East of Ramallah to the center of Israel without having to pass through the traffic of Jerusalem. The road will require the establishment of another checkpoint in order to prevent the movement of Palestinians into Israel. In the future, another new road will connect to the underpass in order to connect it to the settlement of Kochav Ya'acov. We do not know at this point if the additional road is included in the budget approved yesterday. Lubban Al-Gharbiya Bypass – 5.3 km, approx. 270 dunams. The road is meant to create a highway between the settlement of Beit Arye and Israel proper, and to connect settlements West of Ramallah with Israel proper. The road had begun to be built as a part of the separation barrier project, and its development included the confiscation of lands for security needs. However, since the fence was not built in this area, the work on the road has not been completed, and the settlers are still using an old road, passing through the Palestinian village of Lubban Al-Ghariya. Several years ago the southern part of the road was completed, connecting Beit Arye and Ofarim to each other, but the part connecting them to Israel has not been built. For more information click here. Doubling road number 446 beween Modi'in Illit and Shilat – approx. 3.5 km, 150 dunams. The road is meant to ease traffic by the settlements of Modi'in illit and Hashmonaim, and to ease the access of settlements West of Ramallah to the South of Jerusalem. The plan also includes road lights and cellular infrastructure in areas were service is poor. It is worth noting that planning and construction of other roads in the West Bank is currently taking place, including the east wing road, another tunnel in the tunnels road, an underpass in Adam and more. (PEACENOW 26 October 2017)

In the past few weeks, 130 Israeli companies and 60 international corporations operating in Israel received warning letters from United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid bin Ra'ad al-Hussein cautioning them of their impending inclusion in a "blacklist" of companies <u>active</u> beyond the Green Line in "violation of international law and UN resolutions." Ynet has gained access to part of the list, which is set to be published in late December and cites 25 well-known Israeli companies. The companies operate in different food manufacturing, others in sectors-some in services, pharmaceuticals and even high-tech—but have one thing in common: they all operate in <u>settlements</u>, east Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley. Among the companies in the commissioner's sights are Ahava, Dor Alon, Amisragas, Angel Bakeries, Arison Investments, Ashdar, Clal Industries, Café Café, Cellcom, Danya Cebus, Electra, HP, Hot, the Israel Aerospace Industries, Matrix Systems, Motorola, Nesher, Partner, Paz, Rami Levy, Remax, Housing & Construction (Shikun Binui), Shufersal, Sonol and Trima. The above companies are joined by the 12 companies already published on Channel 2 News including Bank Hapoalim, Bank Leumi, Bezeq and Bezeq International, Coca Cola, Africa Israel, Teva, IDB, Egged, Mekorot, Netafim and Elbit Systems. The "Washington Post" published American companies will also be appearing on the list, including Caterpillar, Tripadvisor and Airbnb. Some of the companies to be included on the list are still considering their response, but others are already fighting back with the claim their inclusion on the list may cause them financial harm and tarnish their brand, and are therefore looking into filing suits against the Commissioner and the UN's Human Rights Council that called for the list's preparation in the first place. The companies claim the list's creation was politically motivated and point to the fact that the commissioner constructed no such lists pertaining to other regions of conflict-such as the Crimean Peninsula and Western Sahara-as proof. Both Israel and the US have been working behind the scenes in the past few weeks to prevent the list's publication, but it appears it may be presented with a fait accompli. Despite the fact the list carries no operational or legal ramifications, the symbolic move nevertheless caused concern among the Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials due to the fact it may provide a serious boost to BDS efforts, deter foreign investors and convince foreign companies operating in Israel to reduce their operations. "It may cause large investment firms or pension funds carrying stocks of various Israeli companies to divest in them because they, in turn, operate in the settlements. It may lead to a snowball effect that will greatly harm the Israeli economy eventually," said a senior Israeli official. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs estimates the Human Rights Commissioner received most of his information about the Israeli firms from Israeli non-profits operating in the settlements and investigating business activities beyond the Green Line. In an effort to scuttle the move, the pro-Israel American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) lobby has been working in the US on promoting rapid legislation in Congress determining any company divesting its business dealings from Israel will be considered to have "capitulated" to the Arab boycott, and would thus be in violation of American law. The Human Rights Council's efforts to isolate Israel—executed through the office of the commissioner—have largely been facilitated by what Israel frequently slams as the UN body's years-long anti-Israeli majority which has a long record of a bias slant. For more information, click here (<u>YNETNEWS</u> 26 October 2017)

Hundreds of millions of shekels will be invested in developing infrastructure throughout the West Bank, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised settler leaders on Wednesday. The leaders with whom Netanyahu spoke say the amount in question is about 800 million shekels (nearly \$230 million). Another source says the exact sum remains open, but amounts to hundreds of millions of shekels. The money for roads and other infrastructure will start to arrive next year, Netanyahu promised settler leaders, according to sources in the know of the conversation. At the meeting were Netanyahu, his bureau chief Yoav Horowitz, Yesha council leader Avi Roeh, and Ze'ev Hever (familiarly known as Zambish), head of the Amana movement. Some weeks ago Netanyahu had met with settler leaders in the territories, who demanded that the prime minister stop the "discrimination and allocate budgets for developing infrastructure in the territories." According to the settlers, Netanyahu "said he had been acting tirelessly in recent weeks to advance the request," and would earmark 800 million shekels for the effort, as of the next fiscal year. Though as said, another source says the exact sum remains unknown. The plan's main projects include five major highways, but the plan has not yet been formally written and is not ready to move forward. The agreement and promise of funds by the prime minister are only verbal pledges and are, to a large extent, written on ice. However, Netanyahu did express his commitment to the settlers that funding for this plan would start flowing early next year, after a detailed plan with actual budgetary estimates was put in writing. Netanyahu's consent was given following the erection of a protest tent two days ago by settler leaders demanding that these plans go forward. The tent was visited by Welfare and Social Services Minister Haim Katz (Likud) and by Economy Minister Eli Cohen (Kulanu). Some of the settlers at the protest tent said that the prime minister's promise was insufficient in allaying their concerns. "We want to see tractors working there and immediate action – we've had it with promises and media announcements" said Avi Ro'eh, the head of the Beit Aryeh local council. (<u>Haaretz</u> 26 October 2017)