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To: "IMRA Newsletter" <imra-l@lists.virtualjerusalem.com>
Subject: [imra-l] IDF Spokesperson : VIOLATION OF AGREEMENTS BY THE
PALESTINIANS SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF VIOLENCE AND BACKGROUND REFERENCES
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IDF Spokesperson : VIOLATION OF AGREEMENTS BY THE PALESTINIANS SINCE
THE OUTBREAK OF VIOLENCE AND BACKGROUND REFERENCES

17 October 2000

Since the outbreak of violence in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in late September, we have witnessed repeated violations of signed agreements between Israel and the Palestinians.

Tanzim Activities

A number of agreements (The Declaration of Principles, the Gaza and Jericho Agreement and the Interim Agreement) stipulate the establishment of a police force which will be solely responsible for the enforcement of law and order within the Palestinian Authority. The very existence of the Tanzim as an unofficial security force is forbidden by these agreements.

The Tanzim possesses firearms and does as it pleases, acting as an armed militia - with the encouragement and support of senior Palestinian Authority figures. In both the Wye Agreement and earlier agreements, the Palestinians promised to confiscate all illegal weapons. The fact that the Tanzim have so many weapons is a blatant violation of these agreements. Moreover, the Palestinian Authority itself has in its possession quantities and types of weapons exceeding those permitted by the agreements.

Attacks on Holy Sites

The security of a number of holy sites is mentioned in the Interim Agreements as being the responsibility of the Palestinian Authority. The agreements ensure that the Palestinian Authority will be responsible for the security of these sites, and that Jewish worshipers will be allowed unhindered access to them. The Palestinians have not upheld this written agreement, have not enabled Jewish worshipers to visit the sites and have allowed mobs to destroy Joseph's Tomb in Nablus and to burn the "Peace for Israel" synagogue in Jericho. In violating the agreements, the Palestinians have proven that they cannot be trusted to protect holy sites.

Detention of Israelis

For some time a serious phenomenon has been taking place, in which Israelis are apprehended by the Palestinians. The Interim Agreement expressly forbids the detention of Israelis and the confiscation of their firearms. During the lynching incident in Ramallah, the Palestinian policemen did not protect the safety of the Israelis. The very fact that they were arrested constitutes an illegal act, and their being taken to Ramallah for interrogation was an even more serious violation of agreements.

Palestinian Media Incitement

In all of the agreements (the Interim Agreement, the Wye Agreement and the Sharm Agreement) there is mention of the prevention of incitement to violence against Israel. The Palestinians have committed to prevent incitement to violence and terrorism. In recent weeks we have seen that the Palestinian Authority has been using all of its official channels to disseminate inciting material - incitement to injure Jews, to damage holy Jewish sites, to kill Jews (and Americans) and to carry out acts of terror.

Release of Terrorists

In all of the agreements (a letter from Arafat to Rabin in September 1993, the Interim Agreement, the Wye Agreement and the Sharm Agreement), the most important Israeli demand on the Palestinian Authority was to combat terrorism. The Palestinians took responsibility for the territories based on a commitment to combat terrorism, knowing that without this commitment, there would be no continuation of the agreements. Contrary to all of these commitments, the Palestinian Authority released the most notorious terrorists it was holding, who have murdered Israelis, and in so doing gave a "green light" to terror.

This is a violation of all international anti-terrorist norms, and the Palestinian Authority will be accountable will have to face justice for acts of terror committed by these terrorists.

The Palestinian Police

The Palestinian Police force is supposed to uphold law and order within the Palestinian Authority, and having not carried out these duties, has violated all of the agreements (the Declaration of Principles, the Gaza and Jericho Agreement and the Interim Agreement). The Palestinian policemen have disappeared from the flashpoints, and allowed extremists to set the tone. In many instances they even joined the Tanzim and fired on Israeli soldiers and civilians. This gunfire was not carried out in self defense, but rather was intended to hit and kill. Again, this is a blatant violation of all the agreements, and the Palestinian Authority is essentially participating in warfare against Israel.

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REFERENCE:

Palestinian Security Undertakings

Combating Terror and Violence

+Renunciation of the use of terrorism and other acts of violence
+(Arafat's
Letter to Rabin, September 9, 1993).

+Recognition of the right of Israel to exist in peace and security
+(Arafat's
Letter to Rabin, September 9, 1993).

+Commitment to the peaceful resolution of the conflict and that
+outstanding

permanent status issues will be resolved through negotiations (Arafat's Letter to Rabin, September 9, 1993).

+Adoption of all necessary measures to prevent acts of terrorism,
+crime and
hostilities and taking of legal measures against offenders
(Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Article XVIII; Interim Agreement, Article XV).

+Establishment of a strong police force in order to guarantee public
+order
and internal security for Palestinians (Declaration of Principles,
Article VIII; Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Article VIII; Annex I, Article
III; Interim Agreement, Article XII, Article XIV).

+The Palestinian Police will act systematically against all
+expressions of
violence and terror (Interim Agreement, Annex I, Article 11.1).

+The Palestinian Police will arrest and prosecute individuals who are
suspected of perpetrating acts of violence or terror (Interim
Agreement, Annex I, Article 11.1).

+Immediate, efficient and effective handling of any incident involving
+a
threat or act of violence or incitement (Interim Agreement, Annex I,
Article 11.2).

+Apprehension, investigation and prosecution of those directly or
+indirectly
involved in acts of terrorism, violence and incitement (Interim
Agreement, Annex I, Article 11.3).

+Security arrangements concerning planning, building and zoning
(Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Annex I, Article VI; Interim Agreement, Annex
I, Article XII).

+Reaffirmation of commitment to fight terror and violence (Note for
+the
Record).

+Reaffirmation of commitment to systematically and effectively combat
terrorist organizations and infrastructure (Note for the Record).

+Reaffirmation of commitment to apprehend, prosecute and punish
+terrorists
(Note for the Record).

+Recognition that it is in their vital interests to combat terrorism
+and
fight violence (Wye River Memorandum, Article II).

+Israeli-Palestinian cooperation to combat violence and terror (Wye
+River
Memorandum, Article II).

+Comprehensive, continuous and long-term struggle against terror and violence with respect to terrorists, terror support structure and environment conducive to the support of terror (Wye River Memorandum, Article II).

+Palestinian side will make known its policy of zero tolerance for
+terror
and violence against both sides (Wye River Memorandum, Article II.A. la).

+Palestinian work plan to ensure the systematic and effective combat
+of
terrorist organizations and their infrastructure (Wye River Memorandum, Article II.A.Ib).

+US-Palestinian committee to review the steps being taken to eliminate terrorist cells and terror support structure (Wye River Memorandum, Article II.A.Ic).

+Apprehension of individuals suspected of perpetrating acts of
+violence and
terror and establishment of US-Palestinian committee to review such matter (Wye River Memorandum, Article II.A.Id.e).

+Act to ensure immediate, efficient and effective handling of any
+incident
involving a threat or act of terrorism, violence or incitement.
Exchange of information and coordination of policies and activities in this regard (Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum, Article 8,a).

+Immediate and effective response to the occurrence or anticipated occurrence of an act of terrorism, violence or incitement and shall take all necessary measures to prevent such an occurrence (Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum, Article 8. a).

Prevention of Incitement

+Abstention from incitement, including hostile propaganda and adoption
+of
legal measures to prevent such incitement (Interim Agreement, Article XXII).

+Non-introduction of motifs into educational systems (Interim
+Agreement,
Article XXII).
Immediate, efficient and effective handling of any incident involving a threat or act of violence or incitement (Interim Agreement, Annex I, Article 11.2).

+Active prevention of incitement to violence (Interim Agreement, Annex
+I,
Article 11.3).

+Apprehension, investigation and prosecution of those directly or
+indirectly
involved in acts of terrorism, violence and incitement (Interim

Agreement, Annex I, Article 11.3).

+Reaffirmation of commitment to prevent incitement and hostile
+propaganda
(Note for the Record).

+Issuance of a decree, comparable to existing Israeli legislation,
prohibiting all forms of incitement to violence or terror and
establishment of mechanisms for acting against all expressions or
threats of violence or terror (Wye River Memorandum, Article II.A.3a).

+Establishment of a US-Palestinian-Israeli committee to monitor cases
+of
possible incitement to violence or terror and to make recommendations
and reports on how to prevent such incitement (Wye River Memorandum,
Article II.A.3b).

+Immediate and effective response to the occurrence or anticipated
occurrence of an act of terrorism, violence or incitement and shall
take all necessary measures to prevent such an occurrence (Sharm
el-Sheikh Memorandum, Article 8.a).

Prohibition of Illegal Weapons

+No manufacture, sale, acquisition, importation or introduction of any
firearms, ammunition, weapons, explosives, gunpowder or related
equipment into the West Bank or Gaza Strip, except for those of the
Palestinian Police (Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Article IX.3, Interim
Agreement, Article XIV).

+The Palestinian Police will prevent the manufacture of weapons as "
+well as
the transfer of weapons to persons not licensed to possess them
(Interim Agreement, Annex I, Article XI.2).

+Limitations on arms and ammunition for the Palestinian Police
+(Gaza-Jericho
Agreement, Annex I, Article III. 5, Interim Agreement, Annex I,
Article IV; Hebron Protocol, Article 5).

+Reaffirmation of commitment to confiscate illegal firearms (Note for
+the
Record).

+Ensuring an effective legal framework to criminalize any import,
manufacture or unlicensed sale, acquisition or possession of firearms,
ammunition or weapons in areas under Palestinian jurisdiction (Wye
River Memorandum, Article II.A.2a).

+Establishment and implementation of a systematic program for the
+collection
and appropriate handling of illegal weapons etc. (Wye River
Memorandum, Article II.A.2b).

+Establishment of a US-Palestinian-Israeli committee to assist and
+enhance

cooperation in preventing the smuggling or unauthorized introduction of weapons or explosive materials into Palestinian areas (Wye River Memorandum, Article II.A.2c). +Continuation of the program for the collection of illegal weapons, including reports (Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum, Article 8.b).

Security Cooperation with the Israeli Side

+Establishment of a Joint Security Coordination and Cooperation +Committee and District Coordination Offices (Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Article VIII; Annex I, Article II; Interim Agreement, Article XII).

+Establishment and operation of Joint Patrols and Joint Mobile Units (Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Annex I, Article II; Hebron Protocol, Article 4).

+Establishment of Joint Aviation Committee and Maritime Coordination +and Cooperation Center (Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Annex I, Article XI, XII; Interim Agreement, Annex I Articles XIII, XIV).

+Arrest and transfer of individuals suspected of, charged with or +convicted of an offense falling under Israeli criminal jurisdiction (Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Annex III, Article 11.7; Interim Agreement, Annex IV, Article 11.7).

+Requests for arrest and transfer of individuals to be submitted to +the Joint Legal Committee and respond to within a twelve week period (Wye River Memorandum, Article II.B.3)

+Full and comprehensive bilateral security cooperation (Wye River Memorandum, Article II. B. 1).

+Exchange of forensic expertise, training and assistance (Wye River Memorandum, Article II.B.2).

+Establishment of high ranking US-Palestinian-Israeli committee to +asses current threats, deal with impediments to effective security cooperation and address steps being taken to combat terror and terror organizations (Wye River Memorandum, Article II.B.3).

+Undertaking to implement its responsibilities for security and +security cooperation (Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum, Article 8).

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