### Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem

## Report on the Israeli Colonization Activities in the West Bank & the Gaza Strip

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### July 1, 2000

 In Nablus District, a group of settlers from Yizhar hindered the villagers of Huwwara from cultivating their fields, in an attempt to expropriate the land. Ayyam

### July 5, 2000

- A Palestinian report revealed that the Israeli government led by Ehud Barak confiscated and closed off 50,000 dunums of Palestinian lands since his tenure. Furthernore, the report noted that the government approved plans to build about 15,000 housing units in Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. Quds
- Abdel Hadi Hantash of the Palestinian Land Defense Committee reported that Israeli bulldozers uprooted scores of trees cultivated on a 3-dunum plot and owned by Da'oud Al Jamal, from Hebron (see photo). Meanwhile, the Israeli authorities attempted to demolish retaining walls belonging to Na'el Jaradat from Al Baq'a hamlet. Field Workers

## July 6, 2000

 A Palestinian shepherd, teenager Khalil Yousef Abu Arram from the village of Yatta in Hebron District, was killed yesterday morning after he stepped on the remnants of an unexploded shell while tending his flock in a former IDF training zone. The human rights organization B'tselem accused the army of failing to erect signs and fence in training areas. Human right organizations estimate that discarded landmines

have killed between 33 and 53 Palestinians since 1987, most of them under 18. Abu Arram was the 8th victim of landmines in the Yatta area in the last 12 years. Jerusalem Post

### July 8, 2000

• The Israeli Ministry of Housing revealed plans that over 6500 housing units are under construction in a number of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Of these settlements, 1000 housing units are being built in each of the following settlements: Arial, Ma'ale Adumim and Adam (see photo). The remaining 3500 units are currently under construction in settlements in the north of the West Bank, on Hebron Mountain, in Gush Qatif, Gush Etzion, the Jordan Rift Valley and in Ramallah District. Quds

### July 9, 2000

 According to Israeli sources, PM Barak is planning to annex Maale Adumim and Giv'at Ze'ev settlements to Jerusalem in return for handing over Shu'fat, Beit Hanina and 'Anata to Palestinian authority, and to move Abu Dis checkpoint two kilometers eastward. PIC

### July 13, 2000

 Abdel Hadi Hantash of the Palestinian Land Defense Committee reported that several Palestinians received dozens of notices from the Israeli occupation authorities to stop building in Beit 'Einun and As Samu' villages, in Hebron District. Field Workers

### July 14, 2000

• In Bethlehem District, the settlers of Efrat attacked a piece of cultivated land near Al Khadr village, removed its fence and demolished the retaining walls, most probably as a preparation to annex the land to the settlement (see photo 1 & 2). Quds

### July 15, 2000

 In Hebron District several Palestinians, including seven journalists, were wounded after an attack by a big group of Jewish settlers accompanied by Israeli occupation authorities. The settlers besieged

Palestinian houses along the highway from Qiryat Arba to the Ibrahimi Mosque and even attacked women and children. Ayyam

### July 16, 2000

- Version A- In Bethlehem District, IDF soldiers and police evicted some 70 Jewish settlers who tried to erect a new encampment on Efrat settlement, to protest against making further territorial concessions to the Palestinians at the Camp David summit. The protesters had hauled equipment and built two huts and a wooden watchtower. Two policemen were lightly injured after stepping on spikes the settlers dispersed on access roads leading to the hilltop. Six tires of police vehicles were also punctured by the spikes. Jerusalem Post, Haaretz
- Version B- A group of settlers from Efrat tried to capture 400-dunum plot belonging to Palestinian villagers from Al Khadr in Bethlehem District. They erected several mobile homes on the hilltop of Batin Al Mou'si in order to expand the settlement. At the same time, the Israeli occupation authorities prevented Al Khadr villagers from reclaiming their land even from cultivating it (see photo). Meanwhile, in Salfit, settlers of Elkana bulldozed wide areas of land in Mas-ha and Az Zawiya villages west of Nablus, in an attempt to confiscate around 50 dunums of land belonging to Abu Qaddus' family, from Az Zawiya village. Quds, Ayyam
- One IDF soldier, a colonist, and two Palestinians suffered light injuries in brawling that broke out in Hebron yesterday evening after a Palestinian allegedly sexually attacked a 17-year-old Jewish girl. Palestinian officials strongly denied the sex-assault allegation, saying it was a pretext for violence by settlers hoping to scuttle any peace accord at Camp David. Palestinians said that the settlers started throwing stones at Palestinians in the afternoon, accusing them of disturbing their Shabbat rest. IDF soldiers grappled with both groups. Both sides threw stones and bottles at each other. Settlers damaged about a dozen Palestinian vehicles. Jerusalem Post

### July 17, 2000

• The Israeli occupation authorities delivered eviction orders to a number of Palestinian citizens in Jericho District, under the pretext of declaring the area a military zone. The landowners have documents proving their right to their homes. Furthermore, in Tulkarm District,

the Israeli army bulldozers destroyed 20 dunums of agricultural land owned by the family of Barqawi from Wadi Al Ne'mr near Shufa village in order to open a new settlement by-pass road. Quds

### July 18, 2000

 The Orient House in Jerusalem unveiled a new Israeli plan to expand Matspeh Haget settlement that was established in February 1999, as a preparation to be annexed to Kfar Adumim settlement. Quds

#### July 20, 2000

• Jewish settlements near Burin village, in Nablus District, are undergoing an expansion campaign. More caravans were added and a new fence was erected around the nearby settlement. Quds

#### July 22, 2000

 Right-wing organizations, which have for years been organizing the purchase of houses and land in East Jerusalem, are making accelerated negotiating efforts to close a number of deals. The property deals, concentrated mainly in the Old City and along the seam between East and West Jerusalem, are intended for Jewish settlements. Jerusalem Post

### July 23, 2000

• The Yesha Council of Jewish settlements declared that all settlements will stay where they are (West Bank & Gaza Strip) under any circumstances and under any conditions despite government proposals to leave some of the enclaves in areas under Palestinian sovereignty. Haaretz

## July 24, 2000

• The Israeli occupation authorities confiscated an estimated 5000 dunums of land belonging to Palestinian inhabitants from 'Arab ar Rashayida village south of Bethlehem, in order to expand the nearby settlements. According to eyewitnesses, the Israeli bulldozers accompanied by soldiers are opening new by-pass roads and erecting fences around plots belonging to Kisan and Ar Rashayida villages (see

photo 1 & 2). Moreover, settlers of Shilo started to bulldoze large areas of land estimated at 200-300 dunums of land in Turmus'ayya village, near Ramallah, in order to prepare the ground for new mobile homes. Quds

#### July 27, 2000

According to a report published by the Israeli Ministry of Interior, the
population of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (except
Jerusalem) grew in 1999 by 7.5%, which equals 13,600 settlers. The
report also pointed out that the total number reaches about 200,000
Jewish settlers. Quds

### July 28, 2000

 According to official sources, extremist Jewish groups are seeking to seize more Palestinian buildings and houses in the old city of Jerusalem and Abu Dis. Quds

### July 29, 2000

- In Qalqilyah District, Israeli occupation authorities destroyed about 200 dunums of land and uprooted dozens of olive trees owned by the heirs of Suleiman's family from the Palestinian villages of 'Isla, Kafr Qaddum, Jayyus, in order to expand Alfei Menashe settlement. Quds
- In Nablus District, Eli, Maale Levona and Shilo settlers installed about 30 new caravans on hills overlooking Qaryut, Jalud and Al Lubban ash Sharqiya villages in an attempt to annex the area to the nearby settlements. Ayyam

### July 30, 2000

 Settlers from the settlement of Elazar near Bethlehem chopped down more than 250 vine trees and destroyed several nurslings belonging to Palestinian citizens. Furthermore, other settlers set up a new caravan on 100-dunum plot owned by the Palestinian Boshnaq family, in an attempt to expand the settlement. Jadeeda

The monthly report is an overview of events that have been reported by field workers and \or by one or more of the following sources: Al-Ayyam, Al-Quds, Alhayat Al Jadeeda, Ha'aretz, Jerusalem Post and Palestinian

Information Center (PIC). The text is not a direct quote from the sources but was edited for size and clarity.

District	Land Confiscated	Land Threatened	Uprroted Trees	Houses Demolished	Threatened Houses
Bethlehem	100	400	250	0	0
Salfit	0	50	0	0	0
Tulkarem	20	0	0	0	0
Nablus	300	0	0	0	0
Qalqilyia	200	0	0	0	0
Total	620	450	250	0	0