



HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT No. 435
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S PEACE SERVICE
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Date: 5 May 2011

International activist seriously injured by IOF

Date of incident: 1 May 2011

Place: Izbet-Al-Tabib, Qalqliya district, occupied Palestine

Witnesses: IWPS, MPT, ISM, EAPPI and local Palestinians

Note: IWPS withholds this information as a courtesy to those involved. However, we will do our best to furnish you with the information you may require, on request.

Description of Incidents:

On Saturday 30th of April a number of international activists joined with residents from the village of Izbet- Al- Tabib to protest the building of a fence through the village by the Israeli Occupying Forces . The villagers in conjunction with the activists set up a tent to protest the building of this wall which if completed would mean that the village would loose more olive trees and land to the IOF and would effectively be cut off from Route 55.

Early on Sunday morning a large number of army tanks and a bulldozer entered the village. The area was declared a closed military zone and no one was allowed to enter or leave the road that the tent was on despite pleadings from both Palestinian residents and farmers who wanted to access their land, and internationals who wanted to support the villagers.

By afternoon, three of the international protesters who were standing in front of one of the tanks were violently arrested by the Israeli soldiers. In addition, a 60 year old American woman was brutally thrown by a soldier causing her severe injuries including a head wound and two broken wrists.

The presence of the Occupying Soldiers and Police continued in the village all afternoon. By nightfall the Closed Military Zone Order was lifted. The activists remained in the tent all throughout Sunday night. At dawn on the 2nd of May these activists were pulled out of the tent and it was demolished and confiscated along with its furnishings by the soldiers.

Simultaneously the Mayor's house was raided by up to 30 soldiers. Nine sleeping children were woken up and ordered to leave the house as were their parents and the four internationals who were staying in the house at this time. They were instructed not to talk, not to take photos and were

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not allowed to use their phones. The house was ransacked and property was destroyed including a computer while its residents and internationals were held outside by 16 soldiers.

At the same time yet another squad of soldiers raided yet another house in the village – and as was also the case in the Mayor's house, wrecked the house room by room. Kitchen supplies were spilt all over the floor, clothes were taken out and thrown on the ground, and it was reported that a compute was stolen.

For the rest of this day the internationals remained in the village. That evening a children's candle light vigil was held by where the tend had been however shortly after the vigil began the Israeli Occupying Forces arrived and instructed the villagers to return to their homes within 5 minutes

Report written by: Joan

Report edited by: Marie

Date of report: 5th May 2011

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