

## **HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT No. 437**

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S PEACE SERVICE

Deir Istiya, occupied Palestine

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Date: 19 September 2011

Soldiers cut down 500 olive trees in Deir Istyia

Date of Incident: 17-19 September 2011

Place: Deir Istya land near Revava settlement

Witnesses: Farmer who rents the land, Regional Co-ordinator of the Popular Committee, 2 IWPS volunteers, Mavor of Deir Istya, 2 Yesh Din members, 2 Palestinian radio stations, 1 Palestinian TV station, 2 IOF soldiers.

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:**

2 volunteers from IWPS were invited to visit the land of a farmer to witness the destruction of 500 olive trees aged 11 years. The trees were ready to be harvested next month. They had been cut down close to the ground at some time between Saturday and Monday morning when this was discovered. The area of 23 dunumms lies in a remote area between the Palestinian villages of Deir Istiya and Qarawat Bani Hassan and the settlement of Revava. This information was given to IWPS by the farmer and it was later learned that it was IOF soldiers who committed this act.

During 2011 2,000 olives tress have been destroyed on Deir Istiya land.

Report written by:Karin Report edited by:Gwen

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