

## Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

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

Volume 44, March 2002 Issue

<http://www.arij.org>

#### March 2,2002

- An official source mentioned that a group of Jewish settlers started bulldozing land belonging to Yatta villagers, to the south of Otniel settlement located in Hebron District. Also they clarified that about ten dunums of cultivated crops were bulldozed in order to establish high voltage electricity network for Otniel settlement. *Ayyam*
- The Israeli bulldozers destroyed Nablus- Ramallah road near Beita village south Nablus district. The mayor of Beita village said that the bulldozers dug one-meter deep and four meter wide trench along the main road of the village. *Ayyam*

#### March 3,2002

- The Israeli bulldozers destroyed tens of dunums of agricultural land that belongs to villagers in Beit Surik, located at northwest Jerusalem, to construct a new bypass road which links “Hadar” settlement with the other settlements. The local rural chief of Beit Surik village pointed out that the bulldozers accompanied with military army started working in land cultivated with olive trees, thus destroying another 200 dunums of land. *Quds& Jadeeda*
- A group of settlers attacked two Palestinian ambulance vehicles and assaulted the drivers in Rachelim junction which is close to Za'tara village south Nablus city. *Quds*

- In Jericho district, a group of settlers damaged Al Hijla spring water's pump, which supplies Al Hijla church and the convent. This was the third colonist aggression during the last three-month against the properties of Al Hijla convent. *Quds*

### **March 4,2002**

- A group of Itamar settlers in Nablus city ran after farmers from Aqraba village preventing them from entering their land. The mayor of Aqraba affirmed that Itamar's settlers have caused much harassment; the last one was poisoning scores of sheep and cut down more than a thousand of olive trees. *Quds*
- Tens of settlers attacked some of Palestinian houses and their properties in the old city of Hebron District. *Quds*

### **March 5,2002**

- Israeli bulldozers demolished animal barracks and agricultural green houses In Al 'Isawiya town northeast Jerusalem city. *Quds*

### **March 6,2002**

- Israeli bulldozers demolished two Palestinian houses in Yatta village of Hebron District, under allegation of not having a building licence. The houses belong to Khaled Al Jundi and Ibrahim Rabiey. Furthermore, the Israeli Authorities dispatched house-demolition warnings to ten families in the same area under the pretext of not having permits. *Quds*
- Israeli bulldozers constructed a 50-meter-wide and a half-kilometer-long road near to a bypass road in Al Khader village in Bethlehem District. As a result, hundreds of olives, almond and forestry trees were uprooted. *Ayyam& Jadeeda*

### **March 9,2002**

- In Nablus District, the Israeli bulldozers destroyed tens of dunums from land cultivated with vegetables and seeds in Tubas village. One of the land owners, Mouhamed Abedel Raziq, said that the Israeli soldiers damaged his eight-dunum land cultivated with peas and beans. He added that the

Israeli tanks shot fire into a store “barracks” on the land of 300 m<sup>2</sup> area.  
*Quds*

- A group of settlers assaulted a 50-years-old Palestinian man ,Sameih Abu Alia, in Al Mughayyir village east Ramallah city and near the Shavout Rahil bypass road, while grazing his sheep. Also Rabah Abu Alia from the same village was hurt in his head. *Quds*

### **March 11,2002**

- In Hebron district, a group of settlers accompanied with soldiers for the second consecutive day, sprayed tens of dunums of cultivated land in Iska hamlet (Dura Village) with poisonous chemical substances. *Quds*
- The Israeli bulldozers implemented the second phase of bulldozing Palestinian lands in Bakush and Alia hamlet in Al Khader village of Bethlehem District. In Bakush area located beside a bypass road, the bulldozers destroyed and uprooted several kinds of trees. In addition, Israeli soldiers took control over roofs of buildings found near the land. One of the buildings belongs to Ibrahim Abu Assal was transformed it into military barracks. Moreover, in Alia hamlet, the Israeli bulldozers constructed a military road that leads to a military camp. The land annexed to build the road is approximately more than 20 dunums in area. The villagers pointed out that the Israeli soldiers expanded the existing road , which is 60 m wide and half a kilometre long, used by the villagers to reach their homes in the area, *Quds*

### **March 12, 2002**

- The Israeli Newspaper “Ma'ariv” mentioned that the settlers rented guards for serving at “wadi Alharamiah” checkpoint near Ofra settlement. Also, the colonization local committee placed a settlement site at the checkpoint. *Quds*

### **March 13, 2002**

- The Israeli soldiers took control over Walid Hammas house, who is the mayor of Al Bireh town transforming it into a military barrack. *Quds*

### **March 14, 2002**

- An Israeli bulldozer accompanied by more than 20 tanks destroyed Hasan Al Ordiani's house in Bethlehem district. *Quds*
- A bid in *Al Quds* daily newspaper announced the confirmation of adding housing units for expanding Gilo settlement in Jerusalem district.  
*Quds*

### **March 15, 2002**

- In Al Khader village of Bethlehem district, the Israeli bulldozers, under the protection of soldiers continued bulldozing a piece of land in the village and uprooting about 2500 trees in the process. *Quds*

### **March 16, 2002**

- The Israeli tanks dug up the roads in and around the Tubas, Tayassir, and Al 'Aqaba villages near Jenin district, and also they dug a number of trenches. *Jpost*

### **March 17, 2002**

- The Israeli bulldozers destroyed and placed a mound of earth on the main road of Al Badhan village, which leads to Nablus city. In this process all the main and secondary roads that lead to Nablus city were closed. *Quds & Jadeeda*

### **March 18, 2002**

- During the third invasion of Bethlehem district, the Israeli bulldozers demolished an old Palestinian building located in Al Jaduwal neighbourhood of Beit Jala. *Quds*
- An Israeli source stated that 537 investigation files were opened in 2001 for the Jewish settlers, 398 of them were opened for the settlers in Hebron city. *Quds*

### **March 19, 2002**

- According to Abu Dayak, the mayor of Silat adh Dhahr village, an Israeli bulldozer backed by military forces closed the road between Silat adh Dhahr and Fandaqumiya villages in Jenin district. Also, they uprooted

scores of olive trees that belong to Palestinian villagers. In addition, the bulldozers destroyed a store of construction material, which belongs to Ahmad Azzam from Fandaqumiya village. *Jadeeda*

- The Israeli bulldozers confiscated a vast area of land that belongs to Palestinian villagers next to Qalandiya camp. Many of the eyewitnesses mentioned that the Israeli bulldozers levelled some dunums on a hill, preparing for establishing a new military site there. Moreover, the settlers continued their harassment against Palestinian villagers in Kifl Haris and Mikhmas villages where the settlers forced six of Palestinian families to leave the village. *Jadeeda*

### **March 20, 2002**

- A report distributed by Peace Now groups showed that 34 new settlement outposts were set up in West Bank since February 2001; eight of them were established during the last two months. The largest one, Western Elazer, has 22 buildings. Three of the new posts are close to Maon settlement; the most recent of them was established on February 2002 on the old Maon farm. *Quds & JPost*

### **March 24, 2002**

- *Haaretz daily* newspaper reported that an Israeli company (Moreh) is planning to construct a new four-kilometre long road that will connect French Hill settlement neighbourhood and Ramat Shlomo settlement with Palestinian neighbourhoods in East Jerusalem, of which Beit Hanina is one. *Quds*
- According to Unrwa figures, 1620 refugee houses were damaged during Israel's invasion of Palestinian refugee camps in north of the West Bank.
- In Jenin, three of the buildings were completely damaged, while in Balata camp of Nablus 10 were entirely destroyed, and in Tulkarem nine were demolished. *Haaretz*

### **March 26, 2002**

- In Nablus District, Israeli settlers added more caravans and mobile houses east and south of Nablus city at the time where a settlement bypass road was finished in Allon Moreh settlement. *Quds*

District	Land confiscated	Land threatened	Uprooted / confiscated trees	Houses demolished	Threatened houses
Hebron	10	0	0	2	10
Jerusalem	200	0	0	0	0
Nablus	8	0	0	0	0
Bethlehem	20	0	2500	2	0
Total	238	0	2500	4	10

The Monthly overview report gives a list of the Israeli Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory which are based on reports provided by field workers and/or by one or more of the following news sources: Al-Ayyam daily newspaper, Al-Quds daily newspaper, Palestinian National Information Center, Haaretz Daily Newspaper, The Jerusalem Post - English-language daily newspaper, International Press Center, Palestine News Agency-Wafa, Ma'an News Agency, and Yediot Achronot.

The text is not quoted directly from the sources but is edited for size and clarity.

The Monthly report does not necessarily reflect ARIJ's opinion