

Friends Association in Nazareth. The letter noted the maltreatment of prisoners by prison guards, and the punitive measures taken after the last hunger strike. It called on the prison authorities to remove the metal sheets on the windows of the cells, improve the food and stop the confiscation of the prisoners' personal belongings.

In an attempt to redress the accumulation of grievances, political prisoners in Jnайд went on a hunger strike on January 25th, sparked by the unprovoked teargassing of prisoners in their cells. One of the administrative detainees, who suffers from heart disease, had to be rushed to the hospital. Palestinian newspapers in the

occupied homeland published the letter of this prisoner's family, asking for human rights organizations to intervene to free him, as his life is in danger.

On February 2nd, Palestinian political prisoners in the Hebron jail began a hunger strike, to protest the harassment and torture to which they are submitted. ●

Military Operations

The military operations in occupied Palestine assume particular significance in the current situation with the intensification of the enemy alliance's maneuvers to halt the liberation process in the region. In January 1987, Palestinian freedom fighters carried out more operations than in the previous month.

In January, anti-occupation operations were upgraded qualitatively and quantitatively. The Zionist enemy acknowledged the occurrence of 43 military operations, as opposed to 24 in December 1986. Sixteen operations were carried out in the part of Palestine occupied in 1948: the Galilee, Triangle and Naqab. Four of these were in Tel Aviv, four in Bir Sheeba, two in Jaffa, and one each in Haifa, Acca and Ramleh. In addition, two Zionist settlements, Dan and Metulla, in the upper Galilee, were heavily shelled.

In the occupied West Bank, there were 21 military operations against Zionist targets. Nine of these occurred in Jerusalem, six in Nablus, two in Hebron, one in Jenin, and one in Tulkarem. The other two attacks were against the Zionist settlements of Jeolim and Hatikva in the northern West Bank.

There were six operations in the occupied Gaza Strip: four in Gaza city and Shatti camp, one in Rafah, and one in Khan Younis.

TYPES OF OPERATIONS

The armed struggle of Palestinian revolutionaries assumed a variety of forms. There were 14 bombs against Zionist military and economic targets and transportation centers. There were 18 fire bomb attacks against Israeli

patrols, and four instances of Israeli hotels and armored personnel carriers being burned. On two occasions, Palestinian militants stabbed Zionist settlers. Another attack was carried out using an axe. An Israeli train was derailed, causing injury to the driver and a mechanic. Zionist military sources suspected that this was an anti-occupation attack. There were three instances of shelling of Zionist settlements in the Galilee.

The anti-occupation operations in January exhibited increased self-reliance by revolutionaries in occupied Palestine, in terms of securing arms and other materials needed for the armed struggle. Zionist sources confirm this tendency, and express concern that an increasing amount of weaponry is being stolen from Israeli army arsenals and channeled to Palestinian resistance fighters.

EXCEPTIONAL OPERATIONS

On January 1st, there were three major operations. An Israeli armored personnel carrier was attacked with fire bombs, as it went from the central station west of Jerusalem to Neve Yacoub settlement on the road to Ramallah. On the same day, a bomb exploded as a Zionist sapper was trying to detonate it. Another bomb exploded in Kafr Saba,

in 1948 occupied Palestine, destroying a number of buses and causing heavy casualties.

On January 2nd, a bomb exploded in the central market of Tel Aviv, and a 12-storey building was burned, devastating four floors. Seven Zionists were injured. On January 6th, a hotel was burned in Beit Hatikva; four Zionists were killed and 18 wounded. The next day, there was a fire bomb attack on a lorry station in Jenin. On January 8th, a bomb attached to the car of a Zionist intelligence officer, exploded in Tel Aviv. There was a fire bomb attack on a border patrol vehicle in the center of Gaza on January 10th, and another on a Zionist patrol in Hebron.

In Jerusalem, two Zionists were stabbed and seriously injured on January 17th. The next day, a hotel in Carmel was burned, causing the destruction of the main hall and one floor. Another Zionist was stabbed in Jerusalem on January 28th. On January 24th, a Zionist contractor was attacked with an axe while he was supervising the construction of highway in Nablus, part of the Israeli road grill aimed to fragment the Palestinian towns of the West Bank.

According to a Zionist military spokesman, anti-occupation operations in January resulted in the death of five Israelis and the injury of 36. This is an underestimation considering the number and type of the operations. Such underestimation is not new. Many casualties of military operations are written off as victims of car accidents. This month, the Zionists invented a new cover-up. On January 9th, a Zionist spokesman referred to four deaths caused by extreme cold and the victims not wearing winter clothes! ●