

in the middle of the road. This stops soldiers from entering in military vehicles. They have to enter on foot. The soldiers come in busloads to demonstrations. You can see that the bulk of the forces of the Israeli army is in the occupied territories. The soldiers have to get out of their buses. They come running to the demonstration and are confronted by fearless Palestinians who throw stones at them. The soldiers are actually afraid of the stones and they back off. They start shooting tear gas and depending where it is, they pretty soon open up with live ammunition.

I witnessed a confrontation at Ramallah hospital one day. It was Women's Day, and there were demonstrations all over the territories. In the afternoon, women and others gathered at Ramallah hospital because we had heard there was a killing in Mazraah Al Sharqia village. They gathered to honor the martyr. On top of the hospital, there was a large Palestinian flag. I watched the soldiers advance, and the people throw stones at them; the soldiers would retreat and then advance once more, and the Palestinians would advance and throw more stones. Sometimes the soldiers would throw the stones back and then they used tear gas... This went on for hours. The people were on all sides, so the soldiers would have had to confront them from ten different streets to actually stop this demonstration. More wounded and dead were coming into the hospital...

«NON—LETHAL» WEAPONS

I understand now that in the Nablus area, the Israelis have used a new, so-called non-lethal weapon, a halftrack tank that spits gravel all over. It's like a cement mixer that shoots. This was used one time before I left. I did not see it, but I was told that it breaks every window, everything in sight. It is different from the other weapon they use to throw rocks back at demonstrators.

There is a lot of concern now about the gases being used, which are made in the USA. Different gases are being used and people can tell the difference by the smell. I was in Jerusalem one day when tear-gasing went on twice in a row. It was very clear that the second gas was somehow different - you started vomiting. Now there is a large problem with trimester miscarriages. It has been showing up since December. It's quite severe, particularly in Gaza. It is very clear that this is the result of the gas, and there is research being done now to prove it. We have to use this in the USA to show people what their tax dollars are doing. The Palestinians have the data and they have analyses done on these gases. It's clear it's causing miscarriages. It's also causing the death of young children and old people. You can pick up a cannister, because they are everywhere in the streets, and it says: «Made in USA, 1987 -Warning, do not use in closed places - can be lethal.» It's all written right on the containers. Tear gas is also used from helicopters; there are many methods.

RAIDS AND ARRESTS

One night I spent in a village, Kafr Al Diq. At 5 a.m. we were awakened by helicopters over the roof. The Israeli military brought two helicopters, two busloads of soldiers and two patrol jeeps of soldiers to raid the village. They were looking for fifteen people; they arrested five and couldn't find the other ten, so they left messages for them to show up at the

military headquarters. They took the flag from the top of the mosque and the loudspeakers from the mosque.

These things are very common. They are trying to cut off the head of the uprising, and they never seem to do it, no matter how many people they put in prison or administrative detention. Nothing stops, so they go for another layer and another and another... But my view is that no matter how many people they arrest, it will not change anything. Everybody knows what's happening; everybody is aware of the strategy. It's the main topic of conversation among old women, among children, among all. The uprising is unified and highly coordinated. There is no dissent. I did not hear one person say that it is wrong what they are doing. There is total unity and total willingness to continue. Although the deaths and the injuries are upsetting the people, they know that's the price they have to pay for freedom, and they are not afraid to pay it.

SCHULTZ'S VISIT

We were there during the week Schultz came. Three-year-old children were saying: Schultz, Schultz. It was amazing. Everyone knew Schultz was coming, and everyone knew what that meant. The day before he came, Jerusalem was heavily fortified. I was in the Old City the day of his visit, and soldiers were everywhere. What I saw most was beatings. They would take any young boy or man on the streets, and just beat him. You know, Ariel Sharon took a house in the Old City by the Damascus Gate. They actually take people in there and beat them. We saw it happen: This is what this house is being used for.

There were total general strikes all week; nothing was open. There were days when I was walking through Jerusalem and all of a sudden you would hear all this noise - bottles breaking and gunshots. You get used to these sounds - You hear a certain sound and you assume there are beatings. You hear another sound and you know its shootings, another sound and it's tear gas. There will be tires burning in the streets of Jerusalem, and the next day it happens again. It's so obvious when you walk down the streets, the soldiers are just waiting for something to happen, but they don't know what, where, how, when... They have to put all their forces into Jerusalem, because they are afraid of what will happen next.

WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

The uprising comprises all sectors, all classes, and the women have a very prominent role. One thing is that they have to make do and feed their families on very little, because there is only very little available. Another thing is that whenever a soldier grabs a boy, whatever women are around, one of them will start screaming, «That is my son, you can't take him.» All the women in the area will come and swarm the soldiers and start screaming and kicking the soldier, telling him to release the boy. It works most of the time, so they are really protecting a lot of people. They are very active, and they are fearless; they are everywhere, and many have been shot.

The different women's committees are together, united, holding demonstrations and sit-ins at the Red Cross; then they march. A lot of time and attention is being focused on medical relief right now. Some of the other activities generally sponsored by the women's committees, such as day care, are not so important now when nobody is working. There is no school, so