

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

Total civil disobedience, as defined by the uprising, essentially means the masses' independence from the occupation authorities. Reviewing the calls, one can chart the progress of this process. From the beginning, the emphasis was on inflicting economic damage to the Israeli economy, to make the occupation materially unprofitable, meanwhile calling for resignations from the «civil» administration apparatus established by the occupation authorities. Call no. 13, issued on April 12th, contains the first comprehensive assessment of the uprising's accomplishments in terms of moving towards civil disobedience. It lists five main points: (1) the beginning of the dissolution of the civil administration



lest Shin Bet killing of two Palestinians. Photo by Neal Cassidy, first foreign photographer to be shot by Israeli troops.



apparatus; with the resignations of policemen, customs officials and tax collectors; (2) the majority of people are not paying taxes; (3) the boycott of Zionist goods for which there is a local alternative; (4) the resignation of a large number of appointed municipal councilmen; and (5) the work boycott. These were to remain the basic elements of civil disobedience, each being expanded over time, and some new elements added.

The boycott of the civil administration was expanded with the resignation of department heads and, by early summer, employees in the license and traffic departments, and the regulation, housing, ID and population registry offices, as stipulated in call no. 18. Added to this, the people were called on

