



WEST BANK DISENGAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT, 23 August 2005

1. **Settler evacuation status**

- All four settlements slated for the evacuation in the Northern West Bank have been evacuated;
- The evacuation of Sa Nur and Khomesh started in the early hours of the morning and was completed by 18:00: the IDF appears to be in control of the settlements. No major incidents were reported;
- The IDF has continued the demolition of houses in the settlement of Ganim and retains a military presence in both Ganim and Kadim.

2. **Incidents reported**

- Clashes were reported between Israeli security forces and Israeli settlers during the evacuation of Sa Nur and Khomesh;
- No incidents were reported between settlers and Palestinians or between Israeli security services and Palestinians during the day.

3. **Coordination**

- Coordination among the UN, the Jenin Emergency Room and the village council worked well throughout the day. Humanitarian issues of concern coming from the villages under closure along the evacuation route were all addressed and referred to the proper focal point for a resolution.
- The Israeli DCL in Jenin has been on standby all day offering support for coordination for critical humanitarian cases.
- OCHA remains the focal point for all coordination between the UN agencies on the ground. In addition, close co-operation with ICRC on the ground continues.
- The Emergency Room in Jenin Governorate is operational 24 hours. Three telephone lines have been established: 042 503 220/221/222. A fourth line has been established (all calls paid by Jenin Governorate): 1800 330 033.

4. **External movements**

- All movement into Israel proper for Palestinian workers and traders has been suspended, and will remain so until end of the disengagement;
- Family visits from the area to Palestinian prisoners held in Israel have also been suspended until further notice.

5. **Internal movements and closure**

- Strict closure for the Palestinian villages along the route of the evacuation but no major problems on alternative routes designated for regular traffic, except through Qabatiya where the IDF minimised Palestinian movement until the early hours of the afternoon when it resumed;
- The IDF still occupies a number of inhabited Palestinian houses at strategic locations along road 60 and road 585;
- No restrictions on UN movement were experienced along road 57 and 557 during the course of the day; access onto them for Palestinians remains prohibited. Delays were experienced by UN staff at the Umm ar Rihan gate, along the Barrier.

6. Humanitarian issues

- WFP distributed food rations for 120 households in the village of Shufa according to the contingency plan agreed following the UNRWA assessment last week;
- Concerns were raised during the day by some of the councils in villages isolated by closures along the evacuation route. Concerns over water (Imreiha and Yabad) as well as over food stocks (Yabad, Silat adh Dhaher and Umm ar Rihan) were passed onto the Jenin Emergency Room. On site assessment and dialogue with the communities during the course of the day revealed that there is not a crucial humanitarian need at the moment but it could become so by Thursday should the closures continue. Specifically:
 - A shortage of water in Yabad is being addressed by the Emergency Room through the PWA;
 - Water shortage on Imreiha will be addressed temporarily by sharing the resources available in the community with the 15 families who have finished their supply. The situation could be critical by Thursday if no water tankers reach the village by then;
 - Food stocks in Silat adh Dhaher and Yabad are sufficient for the moment but will need to be assessed within the next 48 hours if the closure is not lifted;

7. Assessment

- There is no critical humanitarian situation. Supplies and stocks could start running low if the communities sealed off by the closures are unable to reach supplies and providers. According to the IDF, the closure will remain in place for some time after the evacuation is complete to ensure that extremist settlers do not re-establish a presence. The IDF DCL in Jenin has confirmed its full cooperation in addressing access issues to relieve humanitarian situations.

Sources: UNRWA OSO, OCHA, Palestinian DCL, Israeli DCL, Emergency Room in Jenin Governorate.