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**Progress Report on the Performance of the
Palestinian Security Apparatuses since the Truce**

(July 17, 2003)

MOI poc
to
U.S. Security Members

Overview:

This report intends to measure the progress in the Palestinian security apparatuses achievements concerning halting attacks. The Palestinian Authority works on gradual basis and in accordance with a specific strategy to implement its declared security policy. However, in order to enforce law and order, the Palestinian Authority needs to have full control over the Palestinian territories.

It is worth noting that any delay or mistakes in implementing the road map would extremely harm the current Palestinian government and disrupt the whole process directed towards security reform, and eventually would lead to total chaos in the region.

Administrative Achievements of the Ministry of the Interior:

In the context of its efforts to achieve its new vision, the Ministry of Interior has put a plan to address security and organizational reforms. This plan is composed of five phases that emphasize a comprehensive, and an in-depth approach to address professionalism and quality of performance while maintaining full and effective coordination and communications to assure transparency.

The first phase focuses on planning. The second assures the implementation and institutionalization of the polices stipulated by the president and the Legislative Council concerning administrative and financial issues. The third, moreover, addresses the redeployment and reorganization of functions and the stipulation of responsibilities. The fourth focuses on training and rehabilitation. Finally, phase five focuses on full capacity level of work. In this phase the ministry will establish the Police Academy, a training institution for security officers in Gaza, and a central Computer and network Unit, amongst others.

Despite obstacles and difficulties, we have succeeded to a great extent to almost achieve the first three phases. Phase four was addressed with our local capabilities and own initiative in training and equipping our units, yet much more is needed to achieve an effective level. As for Phase five, it will need the allocation of financial resources to accomplish its goals. We have been discussing these needs with member states of EU, the U.S.A. and other donors. For this purpose, we have established a committee at the ministry to follow-up with these efforts, and with other immediate emergency needs such as Cars, facilities and equipment.

No doubt, having these resources available, as soon as possible, will help us to promote and enhance the performance of all our security apparatuses on all levels(security-wise, politically, legally, and socially).

Administrative Achievements:

This is a brief presentation of our achievements since the establishment of the ministry:

- Integrating and merging four security apparatuses into the Ministry of the Interior. This has been achieved through applying one administrative framework and the distribution of responsibilities..
- Setting well-defined work mechanisms among the different directorates.
- The unification of the various security financial accounts into one through the Ministry of Interior and under the supervision of the Ministry of Finance.
- Designing and implementing an effective organizational structure for each apparatus in addition to the assessment of the administrative and executive aspects, and defining points of weakness. We will continue to appoint qualified officers for assignments.

- Selection of qualified cadre in terms of educational and professional qualifications
- The direct supervision of the Minister of Interior over the work of the ministry at all levels.
- Completion of furnishing the premises of the Ministry and recruiting needed employees according to the organizational structure.

Work in Progress:

- The inclusion of all the civilians and military employees of the Ministry in the pension fund and retirement fund. (Approval of the project is undergoing by the Minister of Finance and the Pension Corporation).
- Issuing a new law for the Police. This law includes the establishment of the "Police Higher Council" with the mandate of establishing the overall policy of the Police, the nomination of officers and civil employees, the preparation of the Ministry's annual plans pertaining the promotion, and transfer of employees as well as retirement issues. The proposed law draft was sent to the Minister of Justice to present it to the Palestinian Legislative Council for approval.
- The reactivation of training and rehabilitation programs for all the officers and civil employees of the Ministry.

Future Plans For the Security Sector:

- To prepare a capacity building plan including training, human resources, and system set-up.
- Legal training rehabilitation for the security officer and security personnel, especially those who assume field work and deal directly with the civilians. In this respect, the Punitive Law is currently being presented before the Palestinian Legislative Council. It is concerned with the responsibilities of the security apparatuses in terms of employment, and legitimization of the security functioning according to the law. This means that there is a need to have more internal legal training for every apparatus under the supervision of a legal advisor.
- With regard to the relationship with the rest of the security apparatuses, the Ministry is planning to work on the required legislation for arbitration. There is a need to restructure these apparatuses with a law. The Ministry is now in the process of issuing a law that governs relationships amongst the four security apparatuses.

Achievements of Palestinian Security Apparatuses:

The Ministry of Interior has succeeded in restructuring its organization and adopting the cease fire initiative despite the Hudna . This has enabled the Palestinian National Authority to focus on the rebuilding process and gaining control. Statistics and statements by the Israeli government indicated that there is a drop in the activities launched by Palestinian military factions since the declaration of the truce (Hudna). This is

evident since security warnings dropped from 50 in 29/7/2003 to 25 in the following week. These warnings average between 7-10 recently.

Security Achievements

The Gaza Strip:

In spite of logistic and administrative red tape complexities in receiving assistance and aid for reactivating the functions of security forces, and despite 100 cases of Israeli preaching of the truce since its launch (see attachment), yet the following has been accomplished:

- The PA announced the state of emergency for its Police forces since Monday June 30th at 7:00 a.m. in all districts and directorates of the Gaza Strip. This required the redeployment of Police forces on the ground, reactivation of all security officers each according to his responsibilities, and redeployment of intervention and order keeping forces in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia which was especially created for this purpose.
- In the process of regaining control and reinforcement of order and law in the Palestinian territories, the Palestinian security apparatuses have led a limited campaign for collecting illegal weapons and stolen vehicles.
- Redeployment of Palestinian Police forces in the "hot areas" (direct contact between the Palestinians and Israelis) and sensitive areas in Deir El-Balah and in the north of Gaza Strip.

- In June 30, a bomb of 30 k.g. was deactivated near the Third Brigade in the north, on Salah El-Dein Road as another exploded missile was also found 11 meters away.
- Four missiles were found near Al-Tawashi house in Deir El-Balah, near Kfar Darom, the Palestinian security forces dealt with situation successfully.
- In July 2, a group of Palestinians launched missiles towards Kfar Darom settlement, on Thursday, the security forces specified suspected persons of the Popular Resistance activists in the Middle Areas of the Gaza Strip and the required measures for arresting them were taken.
- Israel hindered the deployment of the Palestinian forces in Rafah and Khan Younis; however, the forces managed to deploy in the these areas 5 days following a meeting with the Israeli Minister of Defense who protested against the delay in the deployment of the Palestinian forces without acknowledging that their forces were the reason behind hindering our forces to deploy there.
- 12 suspected Palestinians have been arrested after a shooting incident took place against Kfar Darom settlement in Deir El-Balah. Two of the members of the armed resistance forces were injured during the operation and four Kalashnikov assault guns were confiscated. Massive demonstrations broke in Gaza City the following day, yet people were calmed and convinced that the PA is enforcing law and order.

- In July 4, Ismael Ihrneid was shot in the leg and arrested in Al-Naser area after he tried to run away and open fire on the security force while chasing him.
- In July 6, the citizen Omar Salman, 19, from Deir El-Balah and belongs to the Islamic Jihad, was arrested and held for interrogation as a preventive procedure. This came after intelligence information were received on his being prepared, one month before the Hudna, to undertake operation in the Middle area.
- In July 7, upon receiving information on a breach of the Hudna by the Popular Resistance Brigades, Omar Abu Arner from Khan Younis, a leading activist in the Brigades, was taken into custody. He declared his full commitment to the Hudna and the Brigades are still being monitored by security apparatuses.
- In July 14, an unknown person opened fire on the military position in Northern Area, near Eritz, the person was accompanied by others. One of them was identified, as Mohammed Hijazi, and arrested for investigations on the issue. Mohammed is still under custody for further interrogations.

West Bank:**Bethlehem:**

Since the Israeli withdrawal from Bethlehem in July 2nd, the Palestinian security forces have undertaken the following:

- On July 2, Fadi Salhat was arrested one night preceding the Israeli withdrawal from the city, according to received information from the Israeli side.

- According to a report on the operations in Bethlehem, the Palestinian side informed the American side in July 10 at 12:00 p.m about a young Palestinian lady, form the Islamic Jihad movement in Jenin, who planned to conduct a military operation inside the Green Line. The case was investigated and the lady was interrogated. We followed-up the case with the Israeli side. The Palestinian security apparatus blew-up a cave in the area of mount ((Abu Aysh)) upon receiving confirmed intelligence information about explosives. (photos are archived)
- According to information about the existence of huge explosive bomb weighing 20 k.g. in the area of Bethlehem ((The Saff Street)) and close to the Bethlehem secondary school, ready to explode and belonging to Islamic Jihad, the Palestinian police blew it up.
- July 14, the security forces received intelligence information on explosives ready to use. Our security forces went to the suspected place in the Artas area in Bethlehem (a site for cars assembly) and closed the site.
- On July 14, the Palestinian side found three stores of TATP, and blew them up and informed the CIA station of the operation. (photos were presented).
- In a joint activity with the police, the Palestinian security forces confiscated 26 stolen cars. Some of them were handed to the Israeli D.C.O on July 16.
- There is an ongoing information gathering by the Palestinian security apparatuses concerning activities against Israel.

Hebron:

- On July 4, the Palestinian side handed 30-40 kg of explosives to the Israeli side under the supervision of the American side.
- The American side was informed on the intention of three Hamas activists who were planning for an attack with explosives in Jerusalem. The operation was thwarted and the suspects were arrested. Their names may be found at the CIA mission.

Jericho

- The Palestinian side requested transferring a wanted person called Mohammed Ubied from Jenin whom the Israeli forces have been looking for since two years. The two sides agreed that the Palestinian side transfer him to Jericho when he is found. The mission was accomplished successfully by the Palestinian forces and under the supervision of the CIA.

Ramallah:

- In July 7, the Palestinian security apparatuses interrogated persons who are supposed to be close to Bashir Hashhash and Kamel Ghanim, both are wanted by the Israeli side.
- In July 8, information were received about the intention of a girl called Hanin Suhwail to conduct a suicide operation in Israel. The Palestinian side verified the information and found them untrue, yet the girl is still monitored by the Palestinian security apparatuses.

Tulkarem:

- On June 29, the Palestinian side arrested Rabii' Jummah , a suicide bombe. The explosive belt was confiscated and handed to the American side.
- According to intelligence information on Sunday July 13th, the security forces found a LAO missile with remaining belongings of Jamal Ghanim.

Jenin:

- In Jenin, the security forces informed the American side on a group of young people from Jenin reported for intention to conduct attacks against Israelis.
- In July 1st , information were received from the Israeli side on the intention of Manal Al-Asamr to conduct a suicidal attack. The Palestinian security forces foiled the operation and is currently monitoring the girl

There has been an effective exchange of information regarding missing people. The security forces monitor missing members of Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, who are suspected of having intentions to execute suicidal operations inside the Green Line. Furthermore, the security apparatuses continuously undertake informed and full coordination within the West Bank and Gaza Strip regarding suspected cases..

In addition to the above; the Attorney General announced on Sunday, July 13, that the legal cases of all detained people on a security basis will be transferred to the concerned court to take the necessary decisions pertaining those who are convicted or free those who are not.

Israeli Violations
Gaza Strip
7/16-6/30

Location	Arrest	Land	Eracting Roads	Incurtion	Closure	Shedding	Date
						3	6/30
			1	1	1	4	7/1
				2	1	3	7/2
			1		3	3	7/3
				2		4	7/4
		1	1	1	1	6	7/5
				2	2	2	7/6
		3		2		4	7/7
	1	1					7/8
				2		1	7/9
2		2		2		4	7/10
1		1				3	7/11
			1		1	6	7/12
	1						7/13
1		2			1	1	7/14
		2			2	3	7/15
		2				2	7/16