THE AMERICAN ALLIANCE for Palestinian Human Rights

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BULLETIN

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ITEM In yet another inexplicable act, the Israeli Government has denied permission to the Rev. Alex Awad to live temporarily in Jerusalem to serve as pastor of the East Jerusalem Baptist Church...He is a very peaceful, dedicated Christian who has never been accused of any wrong doing by the Israelis...His application was strongly supported by the local Baptist congregation and by Baptists in the U.S. as well...Alex and his wife issued a written statement, from which excerpts follow: "We were not surprised by the decision, being aware of the Israeli Governments's determined policy of liquidating the indigenous population in East Jerusalem...We continue to hope and pray that this undeniable case of discrimination will awaken Christians in the United States and around the world to the plight of their brothers and sisters in the occupied Palestinian lands." (Underlines added)

The above (excerpted with permission from an internal document of World Vision) is one very mild example of tens of thousands of documented incidents of killings, beatings, tear gas, torture, imprisonment without charge or trial, deportations, home demolitions, seizure of property, arbitrary taxes, curfews, travel restrictions, tree uprootings, water restrictions, and other degrading and dehumanizing acts.

Statistics are cold. When you read the summary below, realize that there is a story - many of unbelievable cruelty - associated with each of the individual casualties. Between December 9, 1987 and May 31, 1991 Israeli security forces and civilian settlers caused:

- Deaths by gunfire	745	Palestinians (204 under 16)
- Deaths by beating (or other means)	48	Palestinians (8 under 16)
- Deaths from tear gas	90	
- Injuries	113,468	(estimate)
- Homes demolished	1,952	
- Expulsions	66	
- Trees uprooted	110,646	

Ehud Sprinzak, a visiting Israeli professor of government at Georgetown University, writing of "Israel's most vocal American friends" said "Through their uncritical support of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who says he will never trade land for peace, these friends may inadvertently be helping plant the seeds of Israel's destruction." (New York Times, August 15, 1991).

The human rights of all those governed should be ensured by every nation. That is the only premise for a lasting peace. With the support of Congress, the Administration's inititiatives in the Middle East can bring security and justice to all nations, all persons, in that troubled part of the world. There is no other way. Any step which thwarts those initiatives is a step against peace.