Estimates of Palestinians killed during the last three years vary. In my judgement, the rough estimate of 1,200 is relatively reliable. But the number of Palestinians who in that same period of time have been wounded to the extent of requiring hospitalization or comparable treatment runs in the vicinity of 60,000! Needless to say, many of them will remain disabled or incapacitated for the rest of their lives. Since the total Palestinian population in the territories is almost two million, we can calculate that in three years' time, one in every 33 Palestinians has sustained bullet wounds. On the same scale, in America this would mean 7.5 million wounded.

3. Deliberate humiliation. Like the beatings, deliberate humiliation is considered by the Israeli army authorities to have "educational value" and "educational purpose". Both authorized and unauthorized humiliation of Palestinians is very common. It happens all the time and is almost unlimited in the diverse forms that it takes. Thus Palestinians may be ordered, on pain of being immediately beaten up, to sing songs abusing their nation or religion, or else, extolling Israel or a particular unit of the Israeli army. All males from a given village may be assembled and ordered to lie on the ground for six to ten hours or to sit without moving, or to stand in a sewage ditch. Passersby can be stopped and ordered to sit on the roadside. "Notables" can be summoned day after day to the courtyard of the military government compound and made to stand there for eight to ten hours in public view without being allowed to use the toilet facilities unless a young soldier on guard gives his okay. It is impossible to list all the methods of humiliation in daily use that are officially approved or at least never punished. In contrast to beatings and bullet woundings that can be explained away by tenuous security excuses, constant humiliation can only be justified by the Israeli authorities on totally implausible "educational" grounds. They are a consummate barbarity reminiscent of the dark ages of human history.

4. Arbitrary and excessive taxation. The taxation of Palestinians in the occupied territories is totally arbitrary. Like all other burdens, it is imposed without the consent or even the slightest consultation with the affected population. The notoriously high tax rates are arbitrarily determined by Israeli officials for punitive purposes. Non-payment of taxes leads to the seizure of property - even in cases when the taxpayer claims that a computer error has occurred. In such cases there is no way to appeal against the computer records, and they contain a wealth of data. For example, when a Palestinian driver is stopped at one of the many roadblocks in the territories, the computer record of his personal data is checked by two-way radio. If the computer shows that he has failed to pay any taxes or fines, his car is confiscated on the spot. The same thing happens in the searches of apartments even if there are carried out in the middle of the night. In such cases, any arrears in tax payments immediately leads to the confiscation of private property. This is carried out in a ruthless way that could be hardly conceived of in the United States. For example, every