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UNCLAS JERUSALEM 01387

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: ASEC, PROG, PREL, SCUL, SHUM, IS, JO, KPAL
SUBJECT: JERUSALEM AND WEST BANK PRESS SUMMARY FOR
WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1987

1. SUMMARY:

-- JERUSALEM/WEST BANK NEWS:

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PERES MEETS WITH WEST BANKERS FROM HEBRON DISTRICT.

JERICHO MUNICIPALITY PROTESTS GUSH EMUNIM MARCH IN THE CITY.

CURFEW IN QALQILYA AFTER MOLOTOV COCKTAIL ATTACK; OTHER INCIDENTS.

FAR'A PRISON HAS 525 PRISONERS, DDUBLE ITS CAPACITY.

ABU ZA'IM ACTIVISTS TRY TO OPEN OFFICES IN RAMALLAH.

BETHLEHEM MAYOR FREIJ SAYS: "IT IS FUTILE TO SEEK AN ALTERNATIVE FOR THE PLO."

-- EDITORIALS:

PLO SHOULD SPEAK FRANKLY WITH KING HUSSEIN; WALDHEIM AND AUSTRIA ON WATCH LIST; PLO, EGYPT, SYRIA AND JORDAN MUST MAKE UP; MINI SUMMITS MAY LEAD TO ARAB SUMMIT; PALESTINIAN-SYRIAN CONCILIATION COMMENDABLE.

-- END SUMMARY.

2. JERUSALEM/WEST BANK NEWS:

ASHAAB REPORTED THAT FOMIN SHIMON PERES MET WITH SEVERAL PERSONS FROM THE HEBRON DISTRICT AT HIS OFFICE IN TEL AVIV. AMONG THOSE ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE: MOHAMMED ABDUL QADER NASSER, PREVIOUS HEAD OF THE VILLAGE LEAGUES; ISMAIL ABU HMEID AND MOHAMMED ABU ZAHRA, BOTH OF YATTA AND MOUSA DARABEE' OF DURA.

AL-QUDS REPDRTED THAT JERICHO MAYOR, JAMIL SABRI KHALAF, SENT A LETTER TO DEFMIN RABIN ON BEHALF OF THE JERICHO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AND THE CITIZENS OF JERICHO PROTESTING AGAINST THE MARCH HELD BY GUSH EMUNIM ACTIVISTS IN JERICHO ON MAY 2. KHALAF REQUESTED THAT SIMILAR MARCHES, "WHICH AROUSE THE FEELINGS OF CITIZENS," BE BANNED.

ALL ARABIC PAPERS REPORTED THAT A MOLOTOV COCKTAIL WAS THROWN AT AN ISRAELI VEHICLE NEAR A GAS STATION IN NORTHERN QALQILYA. NO DAMAGE OR INJURIES WERE REPORTED. A CURFEW WAS IMPOSED ON SEVERAL NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE CITY AND THE ARMY CONDUCTED A SEARCH. OTHER INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED AS FOLLOWS:

-- THE POST ALONE REPORTED THAT SALAMA SAWARKA, 29, A PALESTINIAN FROM THE GAZA STRIP WHD IS WANTED FOR MURDER IN EGYPT AND IS SUSPECTED OF STEALING CARS IN ISRAEL, IS BEING HELD IN CUSTODY FOR SEVEN DAYS. A DEPORTATION ORDER HAS ALREADY BEEN ISSUED AGAINST HIM.

-- AL-QUDS AND AL-FAJR REPORTED THAT ISRAELI SOLDIERS, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DEPUTY MILITARY GOVERNOR OF BETHLEHEM, UPROOTED "A LARGE" NUMBER OF TREES PLANTED ON

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A PLOT OF LAND "OWNED BY" THE AL-AREEDY FAMILY IN HUSAN VILLAGE, NEAR BETHLEHEM. AUTHORITIES CLAIM THE PROPERTY

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IS STATE LAND. A CLASH ENSUED BETWEEN IDF SOLDIERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS. SEVERAL VILLAGERS WERE ARRESTED.

-- AL-QUDS AND ASHAAB REPORTED THAT THE NABLUS MILITARY COURT REMANDED IN CUSTODY FOR 20 MORE DAYS THE WIFE OF NABLUS JOURNALIST MOHAMMED AMIREH. SHE WAS ARRESTED 14 DAYS AGO; HER HUSBAND HAS BEEN IN CUSTODY FOR THE PAST 35 DAYS.

-- THE POST AND ASHAAB REPORTED THAT "HUNDREDS" OF STUDENTS FROM THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY IN JERUSALEM HELD A DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE THE ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, DURING A CABINET MEETING, TO PROTEST AGAINST HIGH TUITION FEES. THE HEAD OF THE REGIONAL STUDENTS' COUNCIL SAID THAT STUDENTS WILL CONTINUE TO PROTEST THROUGHOUT THE NEXT WEEK.

AL-QUDS AND AL-FAJR QUOTED RELIABLE SOURCES THAT THE NUMBER OF PALESTINIAN DETAINEES IN FAR'A PRISON HAS BEEN ON THE RISE AND RECENTLY REACHED 525, MORE THAN DOUBLE ITS CAPACITY. TEN DAYS AGO, FAR'A PRISON AUTHORITIES SENT 125 PRISONERS TO TULKARM MILITARY PRISON, WHICH WAS RECENTLY RE-OPENED AFTER A CLOSURE OF TWO YEARS.

ASHAAB REPORTED THAT FOLLOWERS OF PLO DISSIDENT, ATTALLAH ATTALLAH (ABU ZA'IM), ARE TRYING TO OPEN NEW OFFICES IN THE WEST BANK, PARTICULARLY IN RAMALLAH. THE GROUP HAS BEEN HOLDING "HOUSE MEETINGS," WHERE THE PLO POLICY WAS CRITICIZED.

ASHAAB REPORTED THAT BETHLEHEM MAYOR FREIJ TOLD THE CORRESPONDENT OF THE HEBREW DAILY YEDIOT, THAT PALESTINIANS WHO ATTEND THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WILL BE "OUTCAST," BOYCOTTED BY ARAB COUNTRIES AND DUBBED AS "AGENTS," IF THEY DO NOT GET THE GREEN LIGHT FROM THE PLO BEFOREHAND. FREIJ ADDED THAT HE IS CONFIDENT THAT, "IF ATTEMPTS ARE MADE TO INCLUDE PALESTINIANS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE PLO, THEY WILL BE INEFFECTIVE." ISRAEL AND THE U.S. TRIED, LAST YEAR, TO FIND PALESTINIANS WHO DO NOT REPRESENT THE PLO AND CONVINCED THEM TO FORM A PALESTINIAN DELEGATION, BUT THESE PERSONS ARE LESS THAN "ZERO," THEY REPRESENT THEMSELVES ONLY AND CAN WORK ONLY "IN A VACUUM," WITHOUT GAINING THE CONFIDENCE OF ANY ONE. THE PROBLEM IS NOT

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THAT THESE PERSONS WILL ENDANGER THEIR LIVES IF THEY AGREE TO FORM A DELEGATION WITHOUT THE BLESSING OF THE PLO, "IT IS MUCH DEEPER AND IS AGAINST PRINCIPLE." ALL THE ARAB WORLD, KING HUSSEIN AND PRESIDENT MUBARAK AGREED THAT THE PLO IS THE SOLE AND LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

3. EDITORIALS:

AN-NAHAR COMMENDS KING HUSSEIN'S STATEMENT TO THE "BOSTON GLOBE," WHICH EMPHASIZED THAT THE KING "SPEAKS TO ALL HIS ARAB BRETHREN, HIS PALESTINIAN PARTNERS, HIS EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN FRIENDS IN ONE LANGUAGE ONLY." THE PLO IS ASKED TO RESPOND TO JORDAN IN THE SAME "CLEAR" LANGUAGE.

THE POST OBSERVED THAT SINCE THE U.S. DECIDED TO DECLARE **KURT WALDHEIM** PERSONA NON GRATA, HE HAS BECOME "AN OFFICIAL OUTCAST" AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. WALDHEIM'S CASE "PRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 JERUSALEM 01387

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AUSTRIAN PEOPLE TO FINALLY ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR OWN HISTORIC CULPABILITY, AND BY A VERY SIMPLE EXPEDIENT: NAMELY, TO STOP BLAMING THE JEWS."

AL-QUDS REMARKED THAT THE ELIMINATION OF TENSION BETWEEN THE PLO, EGYPT, JORDAN AND SYRIA SHOULD BE GREATLY SUPPORTED AND ENCOURAGED SO THAT AN ARAB BASE CAPABLE OF BREAKING "THE RING OF CHOICES IMPDSED ON THE ARAB NATION" CAN BE FORMED.

AL-FAJR EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF HOLDING ARAB "MINI-SUMMITS, WHICH COULD LEAD TO COMPREHENSIVE ARAB SUMMITS," PARTICULARLY SINCE THE PLO ACHIEVED NATIONAL UNITY DURING THE 18TH SESSION OF THE PNC.

ASHAAB IS OPTIMISTIC THAT THE "SIGNS OF A POSSIBLE VISIT" BY PALESTINIANS TO DAMASCUS COULD LEAD TO A NORMALIZATION IN RELATIONS WITH SYRIA.
DRAPER

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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