



EUROPEAN UNION

European Commission Technical Assistance Office (West Bank and Gaza, UNRWA)

By e-mail

REVIEW OF THE PALESTINIAN PRESS

June 4, 2007

1. Summary of key news

- **Cairo succeeded in consolidation an internal cease fire and another one with Israel**
- **Last moth: 158 Palestinians killed by the Israeli Army and in internal fights; most of them are from Gaza**
- **TIM provides euro 21m to public servants**
- **Security Chaos escalates in Gaza**
- **President Abbas lives in a tough situation and has no options**

2. Domestic situation

2.1 Political

- **Palestinian-Egyptian dialogue is ongoing in Cairo**
- **United Arab Emirates transferred \$80m to the PLO Account**
- **Dahalan President Abbas lives in a very tough conditions**
- All three Arabic dailies (*Al-Quds*, *Al-Ayyam*, *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*), focus on Cairo dialogue between Egyptians officials and Palestinian factions, security chaos in Gaza, the clashes between Fatah Islam and the Lebanese Army in Naher Al Bard and the ongoing Israeli operations in WBG.
- A dialogue started between the Egyptian officials and Islamic Jihad. Egypt also extended invitations to the PFLP, DFLP and the Palestinian People's Party to Cairo to participate in the dialogues. (*Al-Quds*) Ayman Taha, Hamas Spokesperson, revealed that Hamas would present to the Egyptian officials on June 10, 2007 a working paper, which will include its comprehensive vision on the internal conditions, the formulation of the PLO and the issue of an international conference to break the deadlock in the MEPP. (*Al-Quds*)
- Finance Minister Fayyad stated that the United Arab Emirates transferred \$80m to the PLO Account. (*Al-Hayat al-Jadida*) Fayyad praises the Arab countries that paid in full their financial commitments. He announced: payment of more than half of salary tomorrow and Wednesday. (*Al-Quds*)
- Mohammed Dahalan, the Palestinian National Security Advisor, said that President Abbas was working in very tough conditions in his attempts to resolve the internal difficulties in the oPt because control of the security situation is not in his hands, but in those of Hamas. (*Maannews*)
- Saeed Siam, former Palestinian Interior Minister and Head of Hamas PLC Bloc, revealed that Hamas has documents and evidence proving how a wing inside Fatah worked on frustrating the experience of Hamas in power. (*Al-Quds*)
- Khalil al-Hayyeh, Deputy Head of Hamas PLC Bloc, affirmed that his movement will not leave the authority due to the pressure exerted on it and affirmed that Hamas will participate in the next presidential elections to be held after 18 months and will also participate in the next PLC elections at the end of the legal term of the current PLC. (*Al-Quds*)
- Hamas criticize Ashrawi's (PLC member) meeting with the Israeli FM Livni. (*maannews*)
- President Abbas met in Ramallah with the US Senator Joseph Lieberman. (*Al-Hayat al-Jadida*)

2.2 Security

- **Hamas nominated Hamad as a Minister of Interior but it was rejected by President Abbas**
- **Security chaos escalates in Gaza: 3 killed in Gaza**
- **A joint central force consists of Hamas and Fatah Executive Forces**
- **Alan Johnston shown in a videotape and Erekat justifies a military intervention to liberate him**
- President Abbas rejects Hamas' proposal on Ghazi Hamad (Haniya's Spokesperson) assuming the Interior Ministry Portfolio and reports say Jibril Rjoob might be appointed to this post. (*JMCC*)

- Security chaos in the Gaza Strip has escalated: 3 killed, several injured, incidents of abductions, an internet café was blown up, gunfire and forced entry into houses were rife. (*Various sources*)
- M.G. Hammad, Head of the Egyptian security delegation in Gaza, affirmed that chances of the security plan to control the security chaos in Gaza are big and he explained that this is based on forming a joint central force to consist of merging two forces (Hamas and Fatah Executive Forces). (*Al-Quds*)
- The abducted BBC reporter Alan Johnston has said in a videotape distributed by the Army of Islam on Friday that he is being treated well by his abductors. (*Maannews*) Saeb Erekat: Military action to liberate Johnston is justified in case the negotiations for his release fail. (*Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*)
- Egyptian informed sources saying that an agreement is about to be reached soon by Egypt in its dialogues with Fatah and Hamas and Islamic Jihad on main issues pertaining to the Palestinian cause: a ceasefire between the Palestinian factions; and a new calm with Israel. The sources said the agreement will be formulated in an initiative to be posed by Egypt on the national dialogue table that will be hosted by Cairo in the second half of June to announce officially the agreement. (*Al-Hayat al-Jadida*)

3. Palestinian - Israeli conflict

- **Six Palestinians killed by the Israeli Army in WBG and rockets continue to fall on Israeli targets**
- **Prisoners Exchange file**
- **Hamas rejects Abbas' ten-point cease fire proposal but is considering a one-year truce with Israel**
- Israeli army killed a Palestinian citizen when he was standing inside a store in Nablus city, two children killed in the northern Gaza, one Palestinian dies from gunshot wounds sustained during Israeli attack a week ago, an Islamic Jihad activist killed by an air strike in Gaza and an activist killed in an armed clash in Jenin. (*Various sources*)
- Palestinian armed wings continue to fire projectiles at Sderot, Kisufim and Kerem Shalom Crossing. (*Maannews*)
- Ayman Taha said Hamas presented a list of 350 names of Palestinian prisoners as a first group but Israel rejected the list and only agreed to 45 names and asked that we submit a list of 1,000 names and they will choose out of the list 350 names but we reject this method because it frustrates the goal behind the deal. (*Al-Quds*)
- Hamas refuses Abbas' ten-point cease-fire proposal. (*Maannews*)
- Deputy Head of Hamas Politburo Musa Abu Marzouq said Hamas is considering holding a one-year truce with Israel. (*Al-Quds*)
- An Israeli human rights group: 18,000 Palestinian homes demolished since 1967. (*Al-Ayyam*)
- Four Israeli soldiers injured at Erez Crossing. (*Al-Ayyam*)
- The three contestants running in the Israeli Presidential race announced that they are ready to sign an order for the release of Fatah leader Marwan al-Barghouthi in case the political level requested this. (*Al-Hayat al-Jadida*)
- Israeli FM invites her Egyptian and Jordanian FM's to Israel to hold discussions over the Arab Initiative. (*Al-Quds*)

4. EU coverage in the local media

- **Euro 21m from EU to Public servants via TIM**
- **An EU delegation visits Gaza and met with the Minister of Health**
- The EU provides through TIM euro 21m for Palestinian public servants employees. (*Samanews*)
- The Palestinian Minister of Health met in Gaza with an EU delegation headed by Mr. Hugues Mingarelli - Director, Directorate Middle East & South Mediterranean and Mr. John Kjaer, EC Representative in WBG. (*Al Quds, Al Ayyam*)
- Swedish FM starts today a visit to the region. (*Al-Ayyam*)
- Thousands protest in Germany against the G8 summit. (*Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*)
- Holland to deliver 6.3 Million Euros for training of Palestinian police. (*Maannews*)
- France proposes a project to establish a Mediterranean Union. (*Al-Ayyam*)

5. Other

- **Egypt destroys a tunnel near Rafah**
- **73 Palestinian killed by the Israeli Army and 85 killed in internal chaos in the last month**
- The Egyptian Security destroyed a tunnel near Rafah Crossing. (*Fpnp*)
- Last month: 73 Palestinians (59 in Gaza) were killed by the Israeli Army and 85 (79 in Gaza) due to security chaos and clashes, 370 detainees including ministers and PLC members and destruction of 16 houses. (*Al-Ayyam*)
- Amnesty strongly attacked the checkpoints and the confiscation of lands and house demolition. (*Al-Ayyam*)
- The Lebanese army tightens the siege on Nahr al-Bared Camp. (*Al-Quds*)
- Amro Musa: The Quartet Committee to meet soon in Cairo to discuss the Arab Initiative. (*Al-Ayyam*)
- The Mediterranean Forum: the living conditions of the Palestinians are deteriorating. (*Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*)

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