

Memorandum to the UN Fact-finding Mission - about the recent conflict in Gaza

To: **Judge Richard Goldstone and the UN Fact-Finding Mission to Gaza**

From: **Take-A-Pen**
email: chairman@takeapen.org

June 29, 2009

ELEVEN MAJOR WAR CRIMES HAMAS HAS COMMITTED; I. A. DELIBERATELY TARGETING CIVILIANS; USING THEIR OWN CIVILIAN POPULATION AS HUMAN SHIELD & INCITING TO GENOCIDE

1. The rationale of this submission:

We are honored to submit our contribution to this UN Mission.

The rationale of this submission is twofold: to look into the war crimes Hamas and Hamas leaders have actually committed during, before and after Israel's recent Gaza military operation, and to demand that Hamas be tried for these war crimes as a fully responsible party.

We'll briefly present 11 major war crimes that Hamas has committed, i.a. deliberately targeting Israeli civilian populations, using their own population as human shield and their ongoing incitement to genocide, particularly among children and minors.

A failure to prosecute the Hamas leadership in International Court would lead to their war crimes growingly become normative behavior, and to more of the same humanitarian catastrophes, to more victims of oppression and killings undefended by the UN.

2. The Submitter:

The Submitter of this Memorandum is Take-A-Pen, a fully volunteer international virtual organization operating since 2001 – www.takeapen.org - watching media and politics for anti-Israel errors, bias and distortions in up to 18 languages, and countering those with facts and figures, in the spirit of seeking the truth and understanding, as a first step towards co-existence, peace and reconciliation, peace for Israel and for the whole region.

3. Nine major Hamas War Crimes as specified in our Letter and Petition to the UN

On 13 January 2009 Take-A-Pen's Chairman sent a letter to UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-Moon demanding: "Hamas Leaders to be brought to trial for War Crimes" for nine major war crimes they have committed, as specified in that letter:

- (a) Shooting rockets and grenades purposely on civilian targets in Israel.
- (b) Shooting these rockets from within Palestinian civilian compounds such as schools or in close proximity of hospitals or residential buildings.
- (c) Storing weapons and ammunition in schools, mosques, public offices and buildings and the sort.

- (d) Regularly using their own civilians as human shield; particularly children, often forced to be in the most dangerous spots.
- (e) During fighting with the Israeli forces the Hamas fighters, who wore uniforms at the beginning, changed to civilian clothing or IDF uniforms and continued to fight.
- (f) Hamas fighters have routinely hid among civilians in hospitals
- (g) To the kidnapped Israeli soldier, Gilad Schalit, Hamas did not provide the most elementary rights of war prisoners, such as information given to the other side and Red Cross visits, rights Israel grants even to convicted Hamas terrorists.
- (h) Children and minors were routinely used by Hamas for military tasks, both battle and auxiliary. The Hamas regime has also educated, indoctrinated and trained children and minors to murderous hatred, to will and techniques to kill.
- (i) The Hamas leadership embezzled aid money received for the peaceful needs of Gaza's population and used these extensive funds for war efforts; weaponry, military equipment and constructions, and an enormous military build-up.

See the whole Take-A-Pen letter to the UN Secretary-General in **APPENDIX A**.

Days later this letter was turned also to a global PETITION which seeks endorsement for the above letter to the UN, and was placed for public signatures on the neutral PetitionOnline website at www.PetitionOnline.com/tap12009/. Within three weeks the petition received **80,000** signatures; private personal endorsements from the whole world, without a penny spent on professional promotion. With the financial might of some anti-Israel NGO-s one million signatures could still be a realistic goal.

Our letter contains certain supporting data and arguments. But full support would need presenting whole libraries of existing material, and we suppose that its acquisition is not our task. We link here only a few pieces in connection with war crimes of using human shields and child abuse [see (d) above]. See this most telling video "[Hamas admits it uses and wants to use human shields](#)" (PMW). There are many relevant photos and videos in this Israeli MFA site '[Hamas Exploitation of Civilians](#)' – as 13Jan2009.

An appalling video shows Hamas gunmen pushing, grabbing and [forcing children to serve as human shield](#) – you can notice the indifference to the brutal scene of adults walking by: obviously they are used to it. A search for "human shield" on TakeaA-Pen's own website www.takeapen.org shows 31 items, some very rich in info – see in **APPENDIX B**.

4. Further War Crimes Hamas has committed

Reflecting to the Petition above, the public brought up to us further Hamas war crimes, of which we cite here only two.

The Hamas regime committed unprovoked one-sided aggressions and acts of war against Israel for three full years daily, shelling and attacking with rockets Israel's civilian population. After the full evacuation of all Israeli military and civilian presence from Gaza there were not even the slightest pretexts for such aggressions.

Another war crime has been the terror and murders Hamas regularly commits in order to oppress its opponents and "to discipline" citizens in Gaza. PA sources spoke about one hundred

Fatah and other civilian Hamas opponents murdered by Hamas gunmen shortly after Israel left Gaza in January, “in revenge”, without any legal formalities. Two short videos, one of them from the PA, show Hamas torturing and murdering fellow Palestinians, in **APPENDIX D**.

5. About the trustworthiness of information the Mission may acquire

A remarkable asymmetry –

All are and should be equal in front of the Law – and so it has to be also in this case for the two sides, for the people on the two sides of the conflict.

However we’d like to point out an important asymmetry between the trustworthiness of information, data and testimonies received from the two sides: one a democracy with full freedom of speech and public criticism at its best, the other a violent tyranny where real and suspected opponents are threatened and not once physically eliminated.

On the one hand a democracy where full freedom of speech prevails, and all official statements are scrutinized by one of the world’s most self-critical media and independent legal system, and on the other hand a violent tyranny where political enemies and suspected collaborators are tortured and frequently killed by street-lynch, hung on lamp-posts or thrown from rooftops alive – all these unbelievable atrocities are documented by testimonies and videos.

Deliberate hiding or falsification of evidence can be done without criticism in the latter side only. An example: after Hamas announced that it lost 188 of its fighters on the first two days of the Israeli attack, they changed tactics and spread the word that revealing names or photos of fallen Hamas gunmen would be a crime punishable by death. This ban on true info was necessary to spread their deceitful figures later about high civilian casualties. On the other hand Israel, hesitant, scrupulous and self-critical as only true democracies can be, was rather late to publish its findings about 1166 killed in Gaza, of whom 709 were known Hamas or Islamic Jihad military operatives, about 200 were unidentified young males and about 250 civilians. Tragic as it is, this is a very low civilian casualty rate relative to a side which regularly uses human shields and seeks to provoke civilian casualties. (See also at end of this Chapter 5, and in APPENDIX E)

To equally credit data and testimonies born so differently in the two sides would be a big mistake and would serve the unscrupulous side. Even more obvious is that most witnesses against Hamas are simply missing – they would never speak out in Hamas-ruled Gaza.

Intimidation - An important legal precedent –

An important legal precedent of such distinction is in the Paris Court of Appeals’ decision on 21 May 2008, in the case of France-2 state television vs. Philippe Karsenty, whether France 2’s 2000 Muhammed Al-Durra video can be called a “fraudulous media fabrication” and a “totally staged fake”. The Court decided against France 2, and among its many arguments was the limited trustworthiness of the Palestinian cameraman and other witnesses living in Hamas-ruled Gaza, based on the intimidating environment prevailing there. You can contact the presiding Judge Mme Laurence Trébucq for further information, surely easier than we could do.

‘Pallywood’ -

Also worth mentioning in the context of trustworthiness is ‘Pallywood’.

International media have reported that Judge Goldstone had expressed admiration for the Palestinians' active attitude toward the probe and that their most willing cooperation would be noted in the Mission's report. May we respectfully note that those who follow Palestinian propaganda for years have never complained about Palestinian unwillingness to tell their case, but did complain sometimes the other way around, because the Palestinian side presented only too willingly plenty of dubious stories and fake evidence - as if facts.

Manufacturing fake evidence like staged videos of alleged war scenes and presenting them as news have reached industrial sizes in Gaza: Pallywood news have been played by Palestinian armed and unarmed actors instructed by a director and filmed by a crew. Read the article "Pallywood arrived at Gaza too" in **APPENDIX C**. It contains a false Gaza photo 'evidence' and also the address of one of the well-documented videos about how 'Pallywood' operates made by Boston historian Richard Landes.

UN / UNRWA sources –

Sadly, it is clear that UN and in particular UNRWA sources in Gaza should not be automatically accepted as if reliable neutral sources.

The UN agency UNRWA has become fully dominated by Hamas and moderate Palestinians are forced out from it, as the overwhelming Hamas victory in UNRWA employees' union election show it, see: www.alqassam.ps/english/?action=showdetail&fid=1570 .

Foreign UNRWA employees are not necessarily more reliable; we all can recall the sensational UN announcements in January on all major TV-s on earth that Israeli bombardment killed 44 civilians in the Jabaliya UN school building, where they took shelter – to learn much later only that not a single (!) civilian died in that school building. Tragically enough, 12 civilians died in the street adjacent to the school, from where Hamas fired rockets - obviously in order to draw fire at the school building - and to where the IDF returned fire. Unfortunately these facts learned later are known only to those few who really want to know. During a recent interview with Judge Goldstone on Al-Jazeera the libelous and untrue UNRWA text about '44 civilians killed by Israel in the UN school' was screened along the whole in-depth interview – and Judge Goldstone's mere presence on the screen lent it some undeserved credit. The UNRWA has never issued a proper apology and correction of its grave mistake. Their credibility is limited.

IDF – the Israeli Defense Forces -

As we know Israel has chosen to remain absent from this UN investigation. We'd consider however making a further attempt to involve at least the Israeli Defense Forces, as a close source of information. Past experience shows them as a reliable source.

We remind in this context the alleged "Jenin massacre" in April 2002, when Palestinian Minister of Truth then, Mr Saeb Erekat spoke of an "Israeli massacre of 3000 Palestinian civilians", to decrease his figure three days later to 500 civilians "only". The world media led by the BBC News unscrupulously quoted Erekat and ridiculed the IDF when it announced that there were 52 Palestinian victims in Jenin, most of them young males in arms. An UN special committee published its findings four months later, in August, only to justify the IDF figures to the letter.

So, the IDF could be a very useful source of information for your work. We, Take-A-Pen, would be ready to make a dedicated attempt to mediate to this effect.

Trustworthiness of Palestinian civilian casualty figures in Operation 'Cast Lead' -

One of the most loaded discrepancies between Israeli and Hamas figures was the one about Palestinian civilian casualties. Without detailed discussion I am attaching an article of January 26 on YNet: *"IDF: Only 250 of Gaza fatalities were civilians"* (**APPENDIX 'E'**) presenting the IDF information available at that time - although there were more complete data released by the IDF later in April. The subtitle is *"Senior military sources say recent findings indicate at least 700 of those killed in Gaza offensive were gunmen. Palestinians claim only 300 armed men killed"*. Watch the insert about Human Right groups demanding an investigation. This vivid public criticism helps to maintain trustworthiness. (You may want to see also:

<http://www.nowpublic.com/world/palestinian-ngo-lies-about-civilian-casualties-gaza>)

6. Take-A-Pen's decision to submit – in spite of doubts

TakeAPen decided to submit this memorandum, in spite of the doubts we used to have about the impartiality of the UN Human Rights Council and its present fact-finding mission. Beyond the known consistent anti-Israel bias of the Council in the past and the totally one-sided and prejudicial original wording of the terms of reference for this Fact-finding Mission, the selection of the honorable members of the Mission for this specific task also raised questions.

Would the Mission be able, in its present composition, study Israel's deeds without prejudice, and investigate independently crimes what the Palestinian and Islamic sides of the conflict committed? How could a professor be selected to this Mission after publishing extremely one-sided judgments regarding the very case in question; without proper time and effort spent for bilateral fact-finding before? Isn't such a nomination somewhat incompatible, at least without a clear full public retraction of earlier partisan declarations? – this would be still in place.

We put these doubts aside and in this last minute we decided to submit. We hope, wish and trust that your Mission and all its members will grow far above past setbacks and up to your greatly important and very difficult task. We'll watch this process supportively and closely.

Invocation -

We sincerely hope that you will find our memorandum useful for your work. We expect that you'll thoroughly investigate the information contained here and that it will be reflected in your final report. We wish you success in this mission.

Sincerely,

(*Signed by*)

Endre (Andre) Mozes

Chairman, Take-A-Pen - chairman@takeapen.org

www.takeapen.org

Appendix A:

Open Letter to UN Secretary-General

To: UN Secretary-General

Mr Ban Ki-Moon

United Nations

Thursday, January 8, 2009

The Honorable Secretary-General, Mr Ban Ki-moon!

Subject: **Hamas leadership to be brought to trial for War Crimes**

Your Excellency! We, the Take-A-Pen international public advocacy organization, request your decisive action regarding a severe case of war crimes.

In the recent years and in the present ongoing military conflict the Hamas terrorist organization ruling in Gaza has committed a large number of diverse war crimes, as defined by International Law.

The form of warfare the Hamas movement inflicted both on the Gaza population and on Israel has caused much suffering and heavy losses and damage both to Israel's civilian population and to the entire Gaza Strip. The Hamas regime has fired 6,300 rockets targeting Israeli civilians. In Gaza the Hamas stored rockets and other weaponry and ammunition primarily in residential areas; in houses, mosques, and schools. Thousands of rocket and mortar grenade attacks were launched from within these areas, obliging Israeli military response which inevitably led to great suffering of the population and damage to property.

According to International Law any source of fire on civilian targets is a legitimate target itself. If that source of fire was located among civilians it still remains a legitimate target; and if that vicinity invites fire in return, causing casualties among the local population, these casualties are the full and sole responsibility of the party placing them deliberately in harm's way. In this case Hamas is fully responsible both for the deliberately targeted Israeli civilian casualties and for the civilian casualties of its own population used by Hamas as a human shield.

Your Excellency, Mister Secretary General! We demand that the Hamas leadership be brought to international justice without delay, and tried for the following war crimes:

- (j) Shooting rockets and grenades purposely on civilian targets in Israel.
- (k) Shooting these rockets from within Palestinian civilian compounds such as schools or in close proximity of hospitals or residential buildings.
- (l) Storing weapons and ammunition in schools, mosques, public offices and buildings and the sort.
- (m) Regularly using their own civilians as human shield; particularly children, often forced to be in the most dangerous spots.
- (n) During fighting with the Israeli forces the Hamas fighters, who wore uniforms at the beginning, changed to civilian clothing or IDF uniforms and continued to fight.
- (o) Hamas fighters have routinely hid among civilians in hospitals
- (p) To the kidnapped Israeli soldier, Gilad Schalit, Hamas did not provide the most elementary rights of war prisoners, such as information given to the other side and Red Cross visits, rights Israel grants even to convicted Hamas terrorists.
- (q) Children and minors were routinely used by Hamas for military tasks, both battle and auxiliary. The Hamas regime has also educated, indoctrinated and trained children and minors to murderous hatred, to will and techniques to kill.
- (r) The Hamas leadership embezzled aid money received for the peaceful needs of Gaza's population and used these extensive funds for war efforts; weaponry, military equipment and constructions, and an enormous military build-up.

A failure to prosecute the Hamas leadership in International Court would, no doubt, lead to their war crimes growingly become normative behavior, and to more of the same humanitarian catastrophes, to millions of victims of oppression and killings undefended by the UN.

Mr Secretary General, we would appreciate your considered reply, which, with your permission, we would publish, along with this letter. We shall follow your relevant activities with great honor, high expectations, and deep moral support.

Yours sincerely,

Endre Y. MOZES
Chairman
Take-A-Pen International

Appendix B:

31 items on the Search page on Take-A-Pen's website for "human shield"

See below the copy of pg 1 of 3 of the Search pages for "human shield" on Take-A-Pen's website www.takeapen.org. In many of these items there are plenty of photos and videos showing children used or forced by Palestinian gunmen to serve as human shield.

31 Results found for "*human shield*":

Petitie: Hamas oorlogsmisdadigers moeten berecht worden

De onderstaande open brief aan de VN secretaris-generaal Ban Ki-Moon verzoekt, overeenkomstig het internationale recht, ...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=10&TMID=84&FID=1587>

Last Updated : 26 Jan, 2009

Oproep aan de heer Balkenende tot evenwichtiger beleid ten aanzien van het Midden Oosten

Keer op keer wordt door EU en VN van Israel geeist zich aan het Internationale Recht te houden. Nederland doet daar ook ...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=10&TMID=84&FID=1075>

Last Updated : 31 Jul, 2008

CEASE FIRE in GAZA – Israeli PM Olmert's announcement – 2009/1/17

Israeli Prime Minister, Ehud Olmert's Statement: at the Press Conference on January 17, 2009 (translated from Hebrew...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=84&FID=1458>

Last Updated : 26 Jan, 2009

The Tragedy at the School in Jebaliya Jan 6 2009

Today, a reported 30 Palestinians were killed in a heartrending tragedy at a school in Jebaliya. Initial investigations...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=842&FID=1347>

Last Updated : 13 Jan, 2009

Operation Cast Lead continues: IAF and Naval Forces strike Hamas

..activities, and forces their children and spouses to act as **human shields**....

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=178&FID=1316&>

Last Updated : 1 Jan, 2009

School incident - residents confirmed the Israeli account, saying a group of militants fired mortars from a street near the school

...s Hamas rulers of "cynically" using civilians as **human shields**. Residents confirmed the account, saying milit...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=178&FID=1316&>

Last Updated : 8 Jan, 2009

Initial inquiry into school incident in Jabalya

..from schools, in such a way deliberately using civilians as **human shields** in their acts of terrorism against Israel. This w...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=178&FID=1316&>

Last Updated : 8 Jan, 2009

Take-A-Pen's OPEN LETTER to UN Secretary-General

..ies and for those of its own population, which it uses as a **human shield**. We demand that Hamas leadership be brought...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=178&FID=1316&>

Last Updated : 12 Jan, 2009

Fighting in Gaza - Israel's Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

(1) Why did the IDF embark on military operation in Gaza?(2) What does Israel want to achieve?(3) When will Israel concl...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=84&FID=1325>

Last Updated : 19 Jan, 2009

No Army Ever did more to reduce civilian casualties than the IDF in Gaza

..civilian casualties, and Hamas using the Gaza population as **human shields**. "I don't think there has ever ... British Colonel Kemp on video

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=84&FID=1532>

Last Updated : 26 Jan, 2009

Why the Israeli people have finally had enough

By Ian O'Doherty So, it's genocide now, is it? Or is it actually another holocaust, something one typically...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=84&FID=1596>

Last Updated : 3 Feb, 2009

Video - Tunnel exposed inside residential house in Gaza

<>

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=84&FID=1457>

Last Updated : 19 Jan, 2009

Hamas is violating Human Rights

The suffering that Hamas causes*By Jeff Robbins December 30, 2008 LAST MONTH'S commemoration of the 60th anniversary...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=84&FID=1319>

Last Updated : 1 Jan, 2009

Hamas explains using civilians as human shields: "We desire death as you desire

..ontext of Hamas's declared ideology to use civilians as **human shields** for Hamas fighters.Indeed, Hamas continues to ...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=84&FID=1318>

Last Updated : 1 Jan, 2009

Hamas Makes Massive Use of the Civilian Population as Human Shields, Causing Th Harm (Update, January 11)

..how Hamas uses the civilian population in the Gaza Strip as **human shields** as part of its strategy. 2 A prominent ...

<http://www.takeapen.org/Takeapen/Takeapen/Templates/ShowPage.asp?DBID=1&LNGID=1&TMID=84&FID=1434>

Last Updated : 19 Jan, 2009

Appendix C:

'Pallywood' has arrived at Gaza—

A picture can say not 1000 but 1001 words – the one extra word being "Pallywood". Now in Gaza too.

by Endre MOZES, Take-A-Pen

2009-01-18

For years already we have been watching helplessly the unacceptable phenomena – unacceptable but almost standard practice - when Palestinian propaganda and certain Western media are co-operating in preparing and using fake media products. One prepares and the other markets fraudulent, faked and staged photos, captions or whole videos, disguised as news.

Such photos and fake news, played by Palestinian armed and unarmed actors instructed by a director and filmed by a crew, were so widespread that they deserved the nickname:

'Pallywood'. See several well-documented videos like

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXVstrwA7OM&feature=channel> .

Unwittingly? We'd like to believe that the Western media were only misled and did such things unwittingly – as is the case in our first example below. This new Pallywood gem 'from Gaza' was found and shared by this blog: <http://israelmatzav.blogspot.com/2009/01/picture-says-1000-words.html> :

"This picture with its caption says 1000 words about the media's coverage of Israel's war in Gaza. It's so bad that apparently, even the Jerusalem Post, from whose front page I snipped this, has been taken in:



The UNRWA building in Gaza hit by the IDF, Thursday

For those of you who don't get it, look at the writing on the board on the right and left sides of the picture. That ain't Arabic - but Hebrew. And I'll guarantee you that UNRWA doesn't teach Hebrew in Gaza. Hmmm... "

Knowingly? - In other cases, the fake, or worse: the staged libel, must have been obvious for any professional; however some respected media organs continued to distribute the libelous anti-Israel pieces; apparently they thought it was good for rating.

The single most famous and most damaging fabrication was probably the **Mohammed Al-Durra video**; the 1-minute-long video staged by a lone Palestinian cameraman, the sole eye-witness, and the totally unfounded accusation of Israel with a child-murder by state owned France-2 TV, in 2000. It incited waves of unprecedented hatred and murderous vengeance for years, but France-2 became less cock-sure in accusing Israel only after eight years, when the Paris Appeal Court decided against them on May 21, 2008.

The BBC News, the largest news organization on earth, is maybe the worst offender of distributing falsified evidence, sometimes probably knowingly. The BBC has distributed many deceitful items, unrepentantly even when well-documented facts countered their standpoint. For example the BBC continued to spread the inciting accusation of “the Jenin massacre” – as if Israel killed 500 civilians there in 2002 - long after every serious source, including an international committee and later a special UN committee justified Israel’s previous announcements: a total 53 Palestinians were killed in Jenin, mostly young males in arms. The BBC has never apologized or called those perpetrators of suicide-homicide bombings against Israeli civilians as “terrorists”.

Pallywood is back now, in Gaza this time. The tragedy in Gaza is of course very real; each and every civilian death or injury is tragic. But false reporting flourishes. The trained eye sees lots of fake photos and staged videos around. In the same time the real reasons are covered up brutally. Adult Gazans don’t have to be reminded what to say and what not; they have been convinced by the bodies of alleged collaborators hanging from lamp-posts or thrown from rooftops alive in Hamas’ Gaza.

But two bereaved little children in Gaza did not know the rules yet. They both tragically lost their family and were interviewed live on Al-Jazeera. When they started to tell that it was Hamas which ruined their life – they were cut off immediately.


Israel announces again and again that it makes all possible effort to spare civilian lives as much as possible. Among others it warned civilians by leaflets and in hundred thousand phone calls about the exact time and location before bombings. Israeli data on January 14th showed that 0 out of 1100 dead Gazans an estimated 700 were Hamas gunmen and operatives, about half of them known by name, 250 to 300 were unidentified young males and civilian casualties were between 200 and 250. A circumstantial evidence to this relatively low civilian figure is the number of casualties itself: so many bombs – as the material damage shows - would have caused much-much more casualties had they been aimed at densely populated areas.

Pallywood’s Western accomplices, like the BBC News, continue to do great harm to the public and the journalistic profession by disseminating extremist Hamas propaganda without proper check. They don’t want to learn from their active role supporting for example the tenfold Jenin Lie against the true Israeli data. Whether out of greed for rating or choosing the easier way of complicity with the Hamas terror regime, the BBC parrots again unreservedly the Hamas propaganda about ‘300 children killed’ in Gaza. BBC’s Kathie Adler “reported” about Gaza on January 14, 2009 at 3:02pm GMT this way: “Israel continues bombing Gaza day and night...” *(true, though tendentious)* **“...the bodies of children and women are filling the cemeteries of Gaza.”** This is not journalism whatsoever; no facts, no sources, only a malevolent, extremist, inciting propaganda phrase from the mouth of once respected BBC News.

“The BBC throws journalistic integrity out of the window” says the following well-documented article of the prestigious media-watch NGO, HonestReporting too:

The BBC THROWS JOURNALISTIC INTEGRITY OUT OF THE WINDOW

Yet again, journalistic professionalism is thrown out of the window in the BBC's desperate attempts to attack and sully Israel. A [story](#) claiming that IDF soldiers have fired on Gaza civilians attempting to leave their homes - in some cases carrying white flags - is based on totally unverifiable and unsubstantiated claims.

	Agenda-driven reporting sees the BBC sinking to new moral lows.
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The article states that **"BBC journalists in Gaza and Israel have compiled detailed accounts of the claims."** Who are these BBC journalists in Gaza? On the basis that foreign press have not been allowed access to Gaza, one can only assume that these supposedly neutral observers are, in fact, Palestinians. This seems to be confirmed by a footnote in the story: **"Research and reporting by Hamada Abu Qammar in Gaza** and Heather Sharp, Fouad Abu Ghosh and Raya el-Din in Jerusalem."

So the BBC is relying on a Palestinian 'journalist' and Palestinian 'eyewitnesses' in Gaza along with others who are nowhere near the conflict zone. This form of agenda-driven reporting sees the BBC sinking to new moral lows.

A picture can say 1000 words we use to say. The 1001st word these photos, videos, captions and stories add to say, is: "Pallywood". The number 1001 may be also a hint that it would be nice if the BBC News and its kin would leave the "Tales of 1001 Arabian Nights" within the rich Arab folklore - and out of their 'News' about Israel.

Appendix D:

Terror and murders Hamas commits against fellow Palestinians (with 2 videos attached)

Another war crime has been terror and murders Hamas regularly commits in order to oppress its opponents and “to discipline” its population. PA sources spoke about one hundred Fatah and other civilian Hamas opponents murdered by Hamas gunmen “in revenge”, without any legal formalities, shortly after Israel left Gaza in January.

The following two short videos illustrate Hamas torturing and murdering fellow Palestinians (Warning: Very violent videos)

(Source Tom Gross – using also Palestinian Media Watch – PMW - material):
Palestinian Authority Television, which is controlled by Fatah and part-funded by the EU and U.S., marked the second anniversary of the Hamas takeover of Gaza by broadcasting an event that focused on vilifying Hamas. One part of the event featured graphic video of Hamas beating and torturing Palestinians in Gaza. You can watch a one minute segment only here. (Warning: this video is violent.)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnuDg2316dk&feature=player_embedded

There are several even more violent videos about Hamas torturing and killing Palestinian victims - but their source, with understandable reasons, is less clear. For example, the following 44-second film shows Hamas operatives throwing political opponents, with their hands bound and in some cases blindfolded, off a Gaza rooftop (Warning: this video is violent.): www.road90.com/watch.php?id=OrfFEfyK5F

APPENDIX E:

On YNet:

IDF: Only 250 of Gaza fatalities were civilians

Senior military sources say recent findings indicate at least 700 of those killed in Gaza offensive were gunmen. Palestinians claim only 300 armed men killed

Hanan Greenberg

Published: 01.26.09, 12:38 / [Israel News](#)

A continuing IDF investigation into the number of civilian Palestinian casualties during the [Israeli offensive in Gaza](#) indicated that only 250 of the fatalities were civilians.

The military estimates that between 1,100 and 1,200 people were killed during the offensive. Some 700 of are believed to be militants and most are believed to be [Hamas](#) operatives.

Aftermath

Rights groups demand Gaza op probe / Aviad Glickman

Human rights organizations urge attorney general to investigate violations of combat rules in Gaza

[Full story](#)

The IDF is still trying to ascertain the identity of the remaining fatalities, but security sources said many would probably turn out to be militants as well. "Hamas is familiar with the numbers and is doing everything it can to conceal them," said an IDF source.

The data presented by the Palestinian is vastly different: Palestinian Groups operating in the Strip have reported 92 of the fatalities as gunmen, 48 of whom were affiliated with Hamas, 32 with [Islamic Jihad](#), 10 with the Popular Resistance Committees' Salah a-Din Brigades and two with the Mujahedeen Brigades.

According to a Palestinian source, the majority of the Palestinian fatalities were killed in air raids. *The Palestinians reported 200 police officers were killed in the [first day](#) of the Gaza shelling, alone.*

Hamas claimed that "the Israelis are concealing their losses and lying about the losses suffered by the Palestinians."

'Ratio of 1:3'

The military is doing everything it can to compile accurate data regarding the identity of those killed in Gaza, including debriefing soldiers and cross-referencing their information with intelligence.

Gaza Division Chief Brigadier-General Eyal Eisenberg alluded to the fact that the majority of the Palestinian fatalities were Hamas operatives, but refused to specify numbers.

The IDF has yet to verify the identity of some 200 fatalities, mostly men in their 20s, whose identification is delayed because they are still buried under the rubble. The defense establishment believed many of them would prove to be Hamas men.

Many of the fatalities were considered to be civilians at first, because there were no weapons found with them, said a military source, "But that method of operation is consistent with the way Hamas was hiding in the midst of civilians, moving between their strongholds with no weapons. In many cases someone thought to be a civilian casualty turned out to be a Hamas operative after we ran our checks."



Rubble in northern Gaza neighborhood of Jabaliya (Photo: AP)

The civilian-gunman casualty ratio, he added, was one to three, proving that the IDF was targeting Hamas and not civilians. The IDF stressed that the forces took significant precautions in order to avoid harming any civilians; but considering the way that Hamas chose to involve civilians in the fighting, mounting a surgical strike resulting in absolutely no civilian casualties was impossible.

Ali Waked contributed to this report