AI INDEX: MDE 15/30/95 13 SEPTEMBER 1995

<u>ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL</u> CONDEMNS KILLING BY ARMED SETTLER GROUP

Amnesty International condemns last week's killing of a 25-year-old Palestinian, Salman Zamari, which was reportedly claimed by a Jewish armed settler group.

The killing took place in Salman Zamari's home in the town of Halhoul, near Hebron on 8 September 1995 and was reportedly claimed by an extremist Jewish group called *Eyal* -- a splinter group of the banned group Kach.

"This killing comes at a time when an increasing number of attacks by armed opposition groups, both Jewish and Islamist, have been taking place," Amnesty International said. "We are calling urgently for an immediate end to the deliberate and arbitrary killing of civilians by these groups."

Armed men, dressed in Israeli army uniforms, reportedly entered eight houses in the town of Halhoul, looking for Palestinian men and youths. During the search, they reportedly beat residents. According to the Zamari family, the group then entered the house of Salman Zamari's father and tied him up. When Salman Zamari returned to his house shortly after, he was killed by a bullet in his neck during a burst of automatic fire.

Amnesty International has also condemned killings of Israeli civilians by Palestinian armed opposition groups, including the suicide bombing claimed by Hamas of a bus in Jerusalem on 21 August 1995 which killed 4 people.

ENDS\