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INTERNAL

NEWS SERVICE ITEMS: EXTERNAL - **ISRAEL AND OCCUPIED TERRITORIES** (This item is being sent to Arabic media by the IS press office)

PLEASE NOTE: INDONESIA - The new document updating developments in East Timor (see note in News Service 263/94) will not be sent out to you or the media today. There are still further developments in Indonesia which means the research team have not been able to finalize the document. I will let you know as soon as possible tomorrow morning when you can expect to receive it. If it is completed tomorrow then we will probably embargo it for Thursday 24 November and send it to international agencies and correspondents in Indonesia, although we will try to allow a bit of time for you to get it in case you plan to put it out to national media at the same time (this is not a priority news item however, so only do what you can) - will keep you posted.

ALSO PLEASE NOTE: Plans for the UN Commission on Human Rights in relation to the Indonesia and East Timor Campaign are as follows: A new report on Indonesia and East Timor is planned for early to mid-January. This is intended for Commission lobbying and we do not plan to raise media attention for it - though it would be mentioned in the Commission news release we have proposed for end January (see below), so could be made available to media then. The report will automatically be sent to the following sections: USA, Australia, UK, Netherlands, Sweden, Portugal, Canada and Japan, so other sections who want it, please contact Kerry in the research team on X5658. The next initiative planned for the Indonesia and East Timor Campaign is a report about women to be incorporated into Womens Campaign - keep tuned to News Service for more info on this.

UN Commission on Human Rights - 31 January 1995 We plan to put a news release out to international agencies directed at the UN Commission on Human rights (which happens from the last week of January to the first week of March) at the end of January. AI's priority countries for the commission have been identified as: Kashmir in India; Algeria; Colombia; Indonesia & ET; and Turkey. We propose to lead with Kashmir, but mention all the other countries - tying them together as all being countries with governments who use the excuse of fighting "terrorism" to cover up human rights violations. Will keep you posted.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS RELEASES

Pakistan - 24/25/28 November - SEE NEWS SERVICE 254/94

** Bosnia - 21 December ** - Section level action: ethnic cleansing still continuing in ceasefire zones.

Sudan - 25 January - SEE NEWS SERVICE 261

Turkey - 8 February - SEE NEWS SERVICE 261

Northern Iraq - 22 February - SEE NEWS SERVICE 261

TARGETED AND LIMITED NEWS RELEASES

India - 23 November - PLEASE NOTE THIS ITEM HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY LISTED WITH THE WRONG EMBARGO DATE, THIS IS THE CORRECT DATE (SEE ITEM AS SENT OUT IN NEWS SERVICE 257/94) SEE NEWS SERVICE 256

News Service 264/94

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ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES INCLUDING AREAS UNDER THE JURISDICTION
OF THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY: KILLINGS BY SECURITY FORCES

Last week's killings of demonstrators in Gaza by Palestinian police and Israeli security forces highlights the urgent need to ensure that all law enforcement personnel comply with international standards in using force and firearms, according to Amnesty International.

On 18 November, Palestinian police fired on hostile demonstrators outside the Palestine mosque in Gaza killing 14 people. The following day Israeli security forces shot dead two people during stone-throwing demonstrations against Israeli armed forces in Gaza and Tulkarem in the Occupied Territories. Ghazi Ahmad Qabb was also killed while he was sleeping when security forces fired a flare at his house in Deir al-Ghusoun village near Tulkarem. Israel has stated that two army commanders were suspended following his death.

"Amnesty International has frequently raised with the Israeli Government concerns that guidelines and procedures for using firearms against civilians violate international standards," the organization said.

"We are now extremely concerned that the security forces under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority have used massive lethal force in a situation where their lives were apparently not in danger."

The Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials, endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1985, states that law-enforcement officials should apply non-violent means before resorting to the use of force and firearms.

Amnesty International is calling on both the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli Government without delay to take urgent steps to ensure that all law enforcement personnel comply with international standards.

Following the Palestinian Authority's decision to establish a commission to investigate the killings, Amnesty International sent the Authority the organization's criteria for composition, terms of reference and procedure of Commissions of Inquiry:

- Those entrusted with the conduct of an inquiry should be chosen for their recognized impartiality, independence and competence and be independent of the institutions or agencies under investigation;

- The scope of the inquiry's mandate should be declared at the outset and should include consideration of future changes needed in law, administrative procedures and practice and accountability of personnel;
- The commission should have the authority to obtain all information necessary to its inquiry;
- All interested people should have the opportunity to be represented by legal counsel;
- Witnesses should be protected.

Amnesty International believes that all deaths caused by the security forces should be thoroughly, promptly and impartially investigated in accordance with international standards. The human rights organization is urging for a written report on the procedures and findings of the commission investigating the killings on 18 November to be made within a reasonable time and be made public immediately.

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