STORY: UN / UN INDEPENDENT COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON THE PROTESTS IN GAZA  
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SOURCE: UN COMMISSION OF INQUIRY  
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LANGUAGE: ARABIC/ENGLISH/NATS

FOR USING THE DRONE SHOTS PLEASE CREDIT SOLIMAN HIJJY, HQ Media   
DATELINE: 28 FEBRUARY 2019, GENEVA/GAZA

SHOTLIST

1. Drone shot of protesters walking towards protest site by Gaza separation fence

2. Drone shot of Malaka protest site east of Gaza City, one of five designated protest sites

3. SOUNDBITE (Arabic) Ahmad Abu Artema, Gaza poet and journalist, one of the initiators of the Great March of Return and Breaking of the Siege: I have believed in peaceful resistance for many years. I have written articles about peaceful struggle and its methods for ten years.

4. Drone shot towards open field towards separation fence at Malaka protest site east of Gaza City

5. SOUNDBITE (Arabic) Ahmad Abu Artema, Gaza poet and journalist, one of the initiators of the Great March of Return and Breaking of the Siege: I wrote principles, the most important that this movement must be peaceful.

6. Shot of man in alley in Gaza

7. Shots of UNRWA food distribution to Palestine refugees in Gaza

8. SOUNDBITE (Arabic) Ahmad Abu Artema, Gaza poet and journalist, one of the initiators of the Great March of Return and Breaking of the Siege: Our struggle in the Great March of Return

is a struggle for our rights. We are a people looking to live in dignity. We want our voices to reach the rest of the world. We want to knock down the walls instead of dying a slow death in a cramped place that is under siege.

9. Drone shot of protests by Gaza separation fence and teargas fired by Israeli security forces

10, Drone shot of protesters by Gaza separation fence. Teargas canisters smoking, tyres burning.

11. Drone shot of protesters near Gaza separation fence

12. Shot of protesters by Gaza separations fence being hit by live ammunition

13. SOUNDBITE (Arabic) Ahmad Abu Artema, Gaza poet and journalist, one of the initiators of the Great March of Return and Breaking of the Siege: 14 May 2018 was a bloody day. The blood was spilt on one side only,not on the Israeli, but on the Palestinian side.

14. Shot of protesters by Gaza separations fence being hit by live ammunition

15. Drone shot of injured man carried away from fence on stretcher

16. Drone shot of medics tending to injured protester

17. Wide drone shot of medics tending to injured protester and crowds of protesters

18.SOUNDBITE (Arabic) Ahmad Abu Artema, Gaza poet and journalist, one of the initiators of the Great March of Return and Breaking of the Siege: Many times a person is hit by a bullet and he would be a meter away from me. The bullets do not differentiate between anyone. It is by the grace of God that when the sun sets on Friday - I can go home uninjured. But you could be

in the shoes of any person who was injured that day.

19. Drone shot by earth mound by protest site

20. Wide drone shot of protesters on open field between protest tents and separation fence. Kites in the air.

21. SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Yael Raz Lachyani, resident of Kibbutz Nahal Oz, 800 meters from the separation fence to Gaza: No one wants to live in a war zone. And we are living in a war zone. And we can smell the smoke and we can see the smoke and we can hear the drones and we can hear the protest. And I think protest is a good thing. But I think that at the moment, the protest is covering some terror activities. And this is something that I cannot accept - I don’t want to accept.

22. Drone shot of protesters by separation fence. Burning tyres

23. Shot of protesters dragging barbed wire away from separation fence

SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Yael Raz Lachyani, resident of Kibbutz Nahal Oz, 800 meters from the separation fence to Gaza: Guessing that they are not coming to play soccer with my kids

- this is my worst nightmare. Because why are they trying to cross the fence? It’s not for food, it’s not for work. It’s not for having some kind of a normal activity. Because if this is their wishes - there are other ways to do that, in spite of cutting the fence. This is my nightmare. I cannot describe in a word what will happen - because this will bring my nightmare into clear picture, which I don’t want to imagine.

STORYLINE

The United Nations Independent Commission of Inquiry on the protests in the Occupied Palestinian Territory today presented its findings in Geneva. The report focuses on the demonstrations in the Gaza Strip, referred to as the “Great March of Return and the Breaking of the Siege”. The Commission found that Israeli snipers shot at journalists, health workers, children and persons with disabilities, knowing they were clearly recognizable as such. The Commission found reasonable grounds to believe that individual members of the Israeli Security Forces killed and injured civilians who were neither directly participating in hostilities, nor posing an imminent threat. These serious human rights and humanitarian law violations may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity. The Commission investigated every killing at the designated demonstration sites by the Gaza separation fence on official protest days. The investigation covered the period from the start of the protests until 31 December 2018. 189 Palestinians were killed during the demonstrations inside this period. The Commission found that Israeli Security Forces killed 183 of these protesters with live ammunition. Thirty-five of these fatalities were children, while three were clearly marked paramedics, and two were clearly marked journalists. According to the Commission’s data analysis, the Israeli Security Forces injured 6,106 Palestinians with live ammunition at the protest sites during this period. Another 3,098 Palestinians were injured by bullet fragmentation, rubber-coated metal bullets or by hits from tear gas canisters. Four Israeli soldiers were injured at the demonstrations. Four Israeli soldiers were injured at the demonstrations. One Israeli soldier was killed on a protest day but outside the protest sites. Victims, witnesses and representatives of civil society were interviewed by the Commission, among them Ahmad Abu Artema, a Gaza poet and journalist, and one of the initiators of the protests, referred to as the Great March of Return and Breaking the Siege. The Commission also spoke with Yael Raz Lachyani, a resident of Kibbutz Nahal Oz, 800 meters from the separation fence to Gaza.