

# *Israel accused of collective punishment for demolishing Palestinian homes*

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Ramallah, March 7 (RHC)-- In the occupied West Bank, Israeli troops have bulldozed the homes of two Palestinian families whose relatives are blamed for an attack last year that killed an Israeli citizen.

The home demolitions sparked a protest by Palestinians who threw stones at Israeli soldiers. The soldiers responded with tear gas and stun grenades.

Israel's military called the demolitions a "deterrence" aimed at preventing terrorism. Human rights groups condemned them as collective punishment and part of Israel's campaign to illegally annex Palestinian land for Israeli settlements.

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