

Israeli demolition ultimatum targets Palestinian homes in West Bank

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Israeli policeman stands in front of buildings demolished in the West Bank village of Dar Salah. (Photo: AFP)

Ramallah, January 26 (RHC)-- Israel keeps demolishing Palestinian buildings as its soldiers storm various areas in the occupied West Bank to deliver demolition notices.

In Khirbet al-Maitah area, there was threat and there was ultimatum on Monday where six homes and some other structures under construction were the target, the Palestinian Information Center reported. The Israeli soldiers also photographed some homes.

To Israel, the structures that are demolished have been built 'without permits.' Palestinians are sometimes ordered to tear down their own homes or pay the demolition costs to the municipality. The trend has prompted the United Nations' censure, but there has not been any change on the ground.

Separately, Palestinian media said Israeli forces had arrested a number of Palestinians in large-scale dawn raids after breaking into their homes in different neighborhoods of the West Bank and East Jerusalem al-Quds.

Some Palestinians in the city of al-Khalil (Hebron) were handed orders to appear before the Israel Intelligence Service for interrogation. Israeli forces also arrested four young Palestinians in an area northwest of Jerusalem al-Quds.

Israel holds more than 7,000 Palestinians in its jails. Most of the prisoners are being held with no indictment or trial, under a controversial policy known as "administrative detention."

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