

## FROM THE HEBREW PRESS

[The contents of this section are selected from news reports, articles and editorials appearing in the Hebrew press during the quarter and printed in the bi-weekly Arabic Bulletin of The Institute for Palestine Studies.]

### SETTLEMENTS IN THE GAZA STRIP

In the supplement to *al-Hamishmar* (May 5, 1972) Amir Shapira reviewed the series of steps taken by Israel to establish Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip, and linked their establishment with the decision to annex Gaza to Israel. He said, however, that the settlement plans were finding it difficult to keep to the political decision because of insufficient water supplies and the scarcity of land suitable for agriculture.

According to Shapira the settlements that had been, and were to be established in the Strip would be obliged to cultivate lands inside Israel and, as a result, "the areas that have been fenced off for purposes of settlement in the Strip are many times greater than what these settlements really need... the area of the land that has been confiscated bears no relation to the established agricultural capacity of these settlements, and it has been hinted that the confiscation was made for security purposes without any explanation..."

At the end of his review of settlement programmes in the Gaza Strip and the Rafah Heights, Shapira reached the following conclusions: "First, that the settlements that have been established in the Strip will cultivate land inside the Green Line;<sup>1</sup> secondly, that all the land ready for settlement has been demarcated... thirdly, that the rate of settlement will not be affected by the situation of the manpower forces that are expected to settle the land, and fourthly, that the most serious restriction is the water problem..."

Shapira believes that the water problem can be solved in one of two ways: "either by the construction of a vast Israeli-Ameri-

can distillation plant, or by pumping water from Israeli sources." Shapira explains that the second solution is difficult, "because the State has already distributed all the water available to it from various sources, while the first solution would take a relatively long time to achieve."

Writing in *Davar* (May 24, 1972), Dani Zidconi reviewed the situation regarding the existing settlements in the Gaza Strip and the plan to establish others there as follows:

" — Nahal Netzarim, established in the spring on the land of Abu Madyan, four kilometres south of Gaza, west of the main road. The official opening will take place shortly. It is in the middle of the sand dunes facing the sea. Experiments and studies are now being undertaken to discover ways of exploiting 700 dunums scheduled for agriculture..."

" — Tel Ur-Kfar Darom, the first Nahal settlement to be established in the Gaza Strip near Deir Balah, the same site as Kfar Darom, which was destroyed in 1948. When in three years' time it is turned into a civilian settlement, it will be attached to Ihud<sup>2</sup> and its name will be Tel Ur. The area of its land will be increased by exchanges with Arab landlords.

" — Sumeiri: It has not yet been decided to establish a settlement in Sumeiri between Deir Balah and Khan Yunis, one of the reasons being that there is no budget. The authorities have allotted it 30 thousand dunums of state land in the sand dunes area."

Another settlement at Nahal Murg would reportedly soon be established on Umm Kalb lands between Khan Yunis and Rafah.

<sup>1</sup> The pre-June 5, 1967 borderline.

<sup>2</sup> The Kibbutz movement attached to Mapai.

“At the beginning of next month the Sadot moshav will celebrate the first anniversary of its establishment on the Rafah Heights. The Sadot area is planned as follows: three settlements with ten families in each, each settlement having about 5,000 dunums of land... A start has been made on building the first units of Sadot B so that they may be ready to receive the first settlers next winter. Sadot C will not be settled before 1975, because of financial difficulties.

“To the list of settlements in the Strip and the Heights must be added Dekla, which has been established for three years... the settlers are planning to make a bathing beach on the coast in their area and to establish tourist services.

“To conclude: In the course of the next five years the new Hebrew settlement axis between al-Arish and Gaza will comprise eight settlements: four kibbutzim and four other settlements. This axis, as is well known, stretches a long way to the south, as far as Bardawil, where there is the most distant Israeli settlement in the south-west — Nahal Yam. (Also on this axis is a Nahal settlement attached to Bitar — Nahal Sinai in al-Arish.)”

A list of the total number of Jewish settlements established by Israel in the occupied areas since the June 1967 War was published in *Davar* on June 2, 1972. The settlements are:

GOLAN HEIGHTS

		<i>Name of Settlement</i>	<i>Kind of Settlement</i>	<i>Movement to which it belongs</i>
1	1	Sanir	Kibbutz	Hakibbutz Haartzi
2	2	El-Rom	”	Hakibbutz Hameuchad
3	3	Merom Golan	”	” ”
4	4	Ain Zivan	”	” ”
5	5	Nahal Geshur	Co-operative Settlement	Hakibbutz Haartzi
6	6	Ramat Magshimim	Kibbutz	Hapoel Hamizrahi
7	7	Efik	Nahal	Ihud
8	8	Nahal Al	Co-operative Settlement	Moshavim Movement
9	9	Ne’ot Golan	Kibbutz	The Zionist Worker
10	10	Mavo Hamma	Moshav	Ihud
11	11	Gev’at Yu’av	Kibbutz	Moshavim Movement
12	12	Bnei Yehuda Centre	—	—
13	13	Ganat	Industrial	Hapoel Hamizrahi
14	14	Navi Ativ	Co-operative Settlement	The Zionist Worker
15	15	Ramot	Moshav	Moshavim Movement

THE WEST BANK

16	1	Mahola	Co-operative Settlement	Hapoel Hamizrahi
17	2	Argmann	”	Herut-Bitar
18	3	Hamra (Atarot)	Nahal	Agricultural Union
19	4	Nahal Mashu’ah	”	Religious Kibbutz
20	5	Ma’alih Ephraim	Moshav	Moshavim Movement
21	6	Nahal Gilgal	Nahal	Hakibbutz Hameuchad
22	7	Nahal Na’ran	”	” ”

		<i>Name of Settlement</i>	<i>Kind of Settlement</i>	<i>Movement to which it belongs</i>
23	8	Nahal Kalia	"	Ihud
24	9	Nahal Mitzbeh Shalem	"	"
25	10	Kfar Etsion	Kibbutz	Religious Kibbutz
26	11	Allon Shefot Centre	—	—
27	12	Rosh Tsurim	Kibbutz	Religious Kibbutz
28	13	Mavo Horon	"	Poalei Agudat Israel
29	14	Buki'ah	Moshav	Agricultural Union
GAZA STRIP, SINAI AND ARABA				
30	1	Nahal Kfar Darom	Nahal	Religious Kibbutz
31	2	Sadot	Moshav	Moshavim Movement
32	3	Dekla	Co-operative Settlement	Herut-Bitar
33	4	Nahal Sinai	Nahal	Ihud
34	5	Nahal Yam	"	Hakibbutz Hameuchad
35	6	Ni'ot Hakekar	Co-operative Settlement	Agricultural Union
36	7	Ain Hatsbah	"	"
37	8	Nahal Tsufar	Nahal	Hakibbutz Haartzit
38	9	Nahal Ketura	Nahal	Ihud
39	10	Nefi'ot	Moshav	Moshavim Movement
40	11	Di-Zehav	"	The Zionist Worker
41	12	Nahal Netserim	Nahal	Bitar
42	13	Nahal Murg	"	Ihud
43	14	Faran	Moshav	Moshavim Movement

## ANNEXATION OF AN AREA IN SINAI

On June 9, 1972, *al-Hamishmar* stated that: "The area of Marjan Island and Tubba and the fjord outside the 'Green Line' will shortly be annexed to the Eilat Municipality, and the laws of the State of Israel will be enforced there."<sup>1</sup> The newspaper reported: "Last week representatives of the Israeli police and Ministry of the Interior arrived in Eilat for talks with the mayor on these changes and the new situation."

According to *al-Hamishmar*: "The annexation of these places, which will be used for bathing beaches, tourism and holiday resorts, to the Eilat municipality, will mean that any one wishing to build there will have to obtain a licence from the Urban Building Committee, not from the Military Government or the official responsible for

the Reserved Areas, as has been the case up to now...

"Asher Eiser, the mayor of Eilat, has admitted that there have been discussions on this subject. He added that the Minister of the Interior is to visit Eilat in the course of the next few weeks and that it is not improbable that, on that occasion, he will announce the annexation of these areas to the State of Israel.

"The Tubba area is five kilometres from Eilat, Marjan Island twelve kilometres and the fjord twenty kilometres, and it is learned that investors intend to build recreation and holiday centres in these places."

## ISRAEL IN WASHINGTON

The supplement to *Haaretz* on June 12, 1972 carried an article by Shlomo Shamir

<sup>1</sup> The area of Marjan Island, Tubba and the fjord is on the Sinai coast south of Eilat.