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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE  
REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has received from the Commissioner-General of UNRWA a supplement to his special report on the effect on Palestine refugees of operations carried out in July and August 1971 by the Israeli military authorities in the Gaza Strip (A/8383). This supplement is transmitted herewith to the members of the General Assembly.

Supplement to the special report of the Commissioner-General  
of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine  
Refugees in the Near East on the effect on the Palestine  
refugees of operations carried out in July and August 1971  
by the Israeli military authorities in the Gaza Strip

1. On the basis of the information now available to him the Commissioner-General confirms that the figures given in the special report for the number of persons affected and the number of rooms constructed by the Agency or with its assistance are approximately correct: the figures he now has are 14,704 persons (against "about 15,000") and 4,428 rooms (against 4,360). He confirms that, in addition, between 2,000 and 3,000 privately built rooms were demolished. The number of families involved is lower: 2,410 against the figure of "about 2,900" given in the special report. The number of staff members involved is higher: 165 against the figure of "about 70" in the special report.

2. The breakdown by camp is as follows:

	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Agency-built or assisted rooms</u>
Jabalia	6,349	1,050	2,179
Beach (Shati)	4,680	789	1,205
Rafah	3,675	571	1,044

3. The present whereabouts of the displaced refugees is believed to be as follows: about 270 families are in El Arish, about 130 having returned from there to the Gaza Strip; about 30 are in the West Bank of Jordan; about 830 are in the same camps; and the remainder, about 1,280, are elsewhere in the Gaza Strip. Those at El Arish have been provided with accommodation by the Israeli authorities and those in the West Bank who had no other accommodation have been admitted to vacant UNRWA shelters. Some families remaining in the same camp have found vacant shelters but the majority have been taken in by relations and friends. Families who left their camp but did not go to El Arish or to the West Bank have found accommodation by renting vacant buildings or constructing temporary shelter or lodging with relations or friends, many of them having received compensation from the Israeli authorities for their property which was destroyed. The Commissioner-General has no information from official sources about the plans of the Israeli authorities for further payment of compensation to refugees whose property was destroyed or for assistance with the construction of housing for them.

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4. The Agency has submitted a claim for compensation to the Israeli authorities amounting to about \$400,000 in respect of Agency-built or Agency-assisted shelters and about \$36,500 in respect of public and private latrines, garbage platforms and bins, and water points and drains demolished in the course of the security operations with which the special report dealt.

5. Refugees whose dwellings were demolished and who have remained in the Gaza Strip continue to receive all Agency services, as do those who moved to the West Bank of Jordan. Those who remain at El Arish are collecting their rations monthly at distribution centres in the Strip.

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