



Dozens of Exotic Animals Seized at Turkish Border

ISTANBUL (AP) – Turkish customs officials in the northwestern city of Edirne discovered dozens of exotic animals being smuggled into Turkey from Greece. State-run Anadolu Agency reported that the mid-sized sedan with Greek license plates was carrying three kangaroos, three alpacas and one Patagonian mara in the trunk, and 12 parrots and 23 flying squirrels inside the vehicle. Many of the animals are juveniles. Photos from the scene show the larger animals bound and squeezed together in tight confinement, while the smaller ones were crowded in cages. The private Demiroren News Agency identified the driver of the vehicle as Yuksel D., who was subsequently detained by authorities. All the animals survived and will be delivered to the Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks.

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Zionist Settlers Step Up Assault Against Palestinians

RAMALLAH (Dispatches) – **Illegal Zionist settlers assaulted Palestinians and their properties in different areas across the occupied West Bank on Friday evening.**

According to the Palestinian news agency Wafa, settlers set fire to a large area of cultivated land belonging to Palestinians from the village of Burqa, located east of Ramallah. The settlers reportedly came from the nearby settlement outpost of Oz Zion.

Following the attack, the Israeli army entered Burqa, firing stun grenades and teargas canisters at villagers' homes and obstructing Palestinian firefighting teams from reaching the burning land, Wafa reported.

In a separate incident, settlers took control of a spring water source near the village of Beit Furik, east of Nablus.

In the eastern West Bank, settlers targeted a Bedouin community northwest of Ariha. Hassan Malihat, general supervisor of al-Bay-



Assault on Jorat al-Khail results in stolen livestock, damaged property, and injured residents

dar Organization for Defending Bedouin Rights, stated that settlers attacked the Bedouin community of Arab al-Malihah. He noted that these Bedouin communities have faced repeated attacks by armed settlers, aiming to forcibly expel them from their land.

Meanwhile, settlers launched an early morning attack on a Palestin-

ian residential area in the southern West Bank on Saturday, stealing 300 sheep and causing significant damage to the property of local residents.

Eyewitnesses reported to Anadolu Agency that settlers from the Nokdim settlement, which is itself illegal under international law, descended on the Jorat al-Khail area,

east of the town of Sair, near Al-Khalil. During the assault, the settlers not only stole livestock but also destroyed mobile homes belonging to three Palestinian families.

The witnesses further detailed that the settlers "damaged water tanks, stole five mobile phones, and assaulted several residents" during the raid, exacerbating tensions in the region.

Israeli settler attacks against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank have spiked since Oct. 7, according to Palestinian sources.

The methods employed by illegal settlers varied from firing live ammunition to beatings, stoning vehicles, and attacking homes, families, and farmers.

The overall death toll of Palestinians killed in the West Bank since Oct. 7 by the Israeli army and settlers reached 673, in addition to over 5,400 others injured, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry.

Leaked U.S. Cable: Israel's Forced Displacements Could 'Debilitate' Gaza Aid Efforts

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – **The Zionist regime's decision to accelerate a forced displacement of Palestinians in Gaza over the summer has "exacerbated" the humanitarian crisis in the besieged enclave, according to a leaked U.S. cable circulating on social media.**

The cable provides a blunt assessment of the occupying regime's forced displacement orders, in one case noting that at least 1.7 million Palestinians were crowded into a "safe zone" whose size is equivalent to just 70 percent of the total area of Washington's Dulles International Airport.

The cable was reported by online news site Klip News. It includes an assessment by the

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) on the accelerated pace of the regime's forced displacement orders between July 22 and August 25.

"Many people have been displaced multiple times, as the IDF (the regime's military force) has issued evacuation orders under unsafe conditions in quick succession and with little warning before operations begin, heightening protection risks," the USAID's disaster assistance relief team said.

"In addition to displacing large swaths of the population, IDF evacuation orders and subsequent military operations further constricted humanitarian space in Gaza, compounding risks to humanitarian staff and

curbing access to populations in need," the U.S. officials warned.

The bulk of the USAID cable reiterates assessments made by the UN about the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, but it does provide a warning.

"The continuation of this pace of evacuation orders could debilitate remaining humanitarian operations in the enclave and, as a result, continued assistance to the 2.1 million people in dire need," USAID said.

USAID said that Israel has not revoked a single forced removal order since October 2023, compounding the shrinking space Palestinians can move in, with many fearing they could be forcibly displaced again.

The cable says the U.S. government has lobbied the Zionist regime on "several mitigating measures", based on the assessment that the regime is "unlikely" to change its overall policy.

The UN on Monday warned that the regime's order for a forced displacement of Palestinians from parts of Deir al-Balah in central Gaza has severely impacted humanitarian work.

"[The] relocations took place at short notice and in dangerous conditions" the UN office for the coordination of humanitarian affairs, said. "[The relocation] effectively upends a whole lifesaving humanitarian hub that was set up in Deir al Balah following its evacuation from Rafah back in May."

Australian Charged With 'Antisemitism' for Israeli Genocide Retweets

SYDNEY (Dispatches) – A senior Australian journalist has been charged with "antisemitism" for two retweeting two posts about the Zionist regime's genocidal war in Gaza that has been ongoing since October last year.

Mary Kostakidis, a leading anchor of Australia's SBS nightly broadcast, was accused by a Zionist group of supporting ethnic cleansing of Jews for retweeting two posts on X critical of the Zionist regime, Consortium News reported this week.

Kostakidis is facing charges of allegedly violating the country's Racial Discrimination Act.

Alon Cassuto, the CEO of the Zionist Federation of Australia, filed the complaint to the Australian Human Rights Commission about two Kostakidis's retweets from January this year, which contain a video of a speech by

Secretary General of Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in which he blasted the Zionist regime.

One of the posts he retweeted was from independent British journalist Richie Medhurst, who is one of the most vocal critics of the regime's genocidal war against the people of Gaza.

The other tweet is from a user called Censored Men, who is also critical of the regime.

The Zionist group is seeking Kostakidis's apology, removal of the posts from her X account, promise not to post such material again, and payment of the legal costs.

The group said Kostakidis should have written in her retweet of the video that she did not agree with or endorse it.

The Zionist group claimed that Nasrallah was calling for the ethnic cleansing of Jews from Israel. Whereas the Hezbollah chief

only predicted the end of the regime due to its genocidal crimes against the Palestinians.

In that video, Nasrallah also reminded the Zionist entity that "the land of Palestine is for the Palestinian people and the Palestinian people only."

Kostakidis has rejected the charges, tweeting, "This because I have been sharing the reports of extremely highly regarded independent journalists who have written about the absence of credible evidence of the claims of 'systemic, widespread rape' by Hamas on Oct 7."

Regarding the retweet of Nasrallah's video, Kostakidis told The Sydney Morning Herald: "What are you saying, that we shouldn't hear what the other side has to say? The point of that tweet was to say that Israel is inviting an escalation, it's inviting retribution because it is conducting a genocide."

Rights Groups: Israel Facilitates Forced Disappearance of Palestinian Detainees



Palestinians gather in support of Gaza and prisoners in Israeli jails on the occasion of the 'National and International Day of Support for Gaza and Prisoners in Israeli Jails' in Ramallah, West Bank on August 3, 2024.

RAMALLAH (Dispatches) – **Palestinian rights groups on Friday said that the Zionist regime's judicial system facilitates the crime of forced disappearance of Palestinian detainees from Gaza, calling for holding the occupying regime accountable.**

The statement, reported by the official Palestinian news agency Wafa, was issued by the Palestinian Prisoner Society, the Prisoners Affairs Commission, and the Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association to mark the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearance on Aug. 30.

The statement noted that thousands of detainees are being held under the "Unlawful Combatants Law," enacted by the Zionist regime's parliament, or Knesset, in 2002, which the groups argue fundamentally violates due process.

The statement further highlighted the lack of clear information regarding the number of detainees from Gaza in Israeli jails, including children and women.

The groups criticized the Israeli High Court, stating it has proven to be "a tool to entrench crimes against Palestinians." Despite several appeals to the court to reveal the identities of the Palestinians detained from Gaza, no response has been given.

WHO: Polio Vaccination Period in Gaza 'Unlikely to Be Enough'

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – **The World Health Organisation (WHO) chief says that the time agreed on for a polio vaccination campaign in Gaza is "unlikely to be enough" to achieve adequate coverage, Anadolu Agency reports.**

The polio vaccination campaign for children under 10 will begin in Gaza on Sunday and will last three days in each zone: central, south and north of Gaza – where humanitarian pauses will take place during the distribution.

"Due to insecurity, damage to roads and infrastructure, and population movement and displacement, three days in each area is unlikely to be enough to achieve adequate coverage," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a press briefing.

"Vaccination coverage will be monitored throughout the campaign, and it has been agreed that vaccination will be extended by one day, wherever necessary," Tedros said.

He underlined that the vaccination teams must be protected and allowed to conduct the campaigns safely, and urged all parties to ensure their protection, as

Thousands of Palestinians have been arrested by the Zionist regime's army from various areas across the Gaza Strip, yet Israeli authorities continue to refuse to disclose the exact number of those detained.

Under the UN definition, forced disappearance occurs when individuals are secretly detained by a state or its agents, with their whereabouts concealed. This leaves them beyond legal protection, causes immense suffering, and deprives them of their political and legal rights.

The Zionist regime has continued its aggression on the Gaza Strip since Oct. 7, despite a UN Security Council resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire.

The onslaught has resulted in over 40,600 Palestinian deaths, mostly women and children, and over 93,800 injuries, according to local health authorities.

An ongoing blockade of Gaza has led to severe shortages of food, clean water, and medicine, leaving much of the region in ruins.

The regime faces accusations of genocide at the International Court of Justice, which has ordered a halt to its crimes in the southern city of Rafah, where over 1 million Palestinians had sought refuge before the area was invaded on May 6.

well as that of health facilities and children.

"Humanitarian pauses are welcome, but ultimately, the only solution to safeguard the health of the children of Gaza is a ceasefire," he stressed.

Rik Peepkorn, representative of the WHO in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, told a UN briefing earlier on Friday that the polio vaccination campaign will provide two drops of novel oral polio vaccine type 2 (nOPV2) to more than 640,000 children under age 10.

Peepkorn said 1.26 million doses of vaccines and 500 vaccine carriers have been delivered to Gaza, while 400,000 additional vaccine doses will arrive soon.

He noted that over 2,180 health workers and community outreach workers have been trained to provide vaccination and inform communities about the campaign.

"At least 90 percent vaccination coverage during each round of the campaign is needed to stop the outbreak and prevent the international spread of polio," he stressed.