

Monday November 14th, 2011



To Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman
Foreign Ministry-Jerusalem

Subject: UN observers Operate in Heart of Gush Etzion In Violation of their mandate

Greetings,

We wish to call your attention that on Nov. 9, 2011 a vehicle from the UN Observers Force arrived in the area of Netzer, located between Elazar and Alon Shevut, in the heart of Gush Etzion block. The UN vehicle arrived with two Arabs, to apparently intervene in a property dispute. Attached are photographs of the UN vehicle and the observers.

The UN personnel reached the plot that according to the Israeli Civil Administration is definitely state land. Still, the Arabs are trying in a violent and illegal manner to take over that land. Our movement, Women in Green, has been operating for several years to protect and redeem land through planting of trees on state land illegally targeted by the Arabs. Over the last few weeks, the Arabs uprooted five times tens of Jewish olive trees at the plot as well as attacked Jews.

The Arabs who falsely claim that they are the owners of the plot, are from El Khader, from the Sand Tsalah family, well connected with both the Palestinian Authority and the UN.

We wish to point out that the latest incident marked at least the second time that we saw UN observers roaming in our area with their vehicle and cameras. The observers, who did not wear uniforms, were accompanied by and cooperating with the Arabs.

We wish to protest in the strongest terms that the UN observers have been intervening in matters outside of the UN mandate. This is a blatant intervention of Israel's sovereignty over the area. The UN has no mandate to intervene in property disputes.

We are requesting that that this matter be examined and dealt with as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
Yehudit Katsover and Nadia Matar
co-chair Women for Israel's Tomorrow (Women in Green)
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cc: MK Danny Ayalon, deputy minister of foreign Affairs
MK Zeev Elkin, Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee
MK Prof Arieh Eldad, Erets Israel committee

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