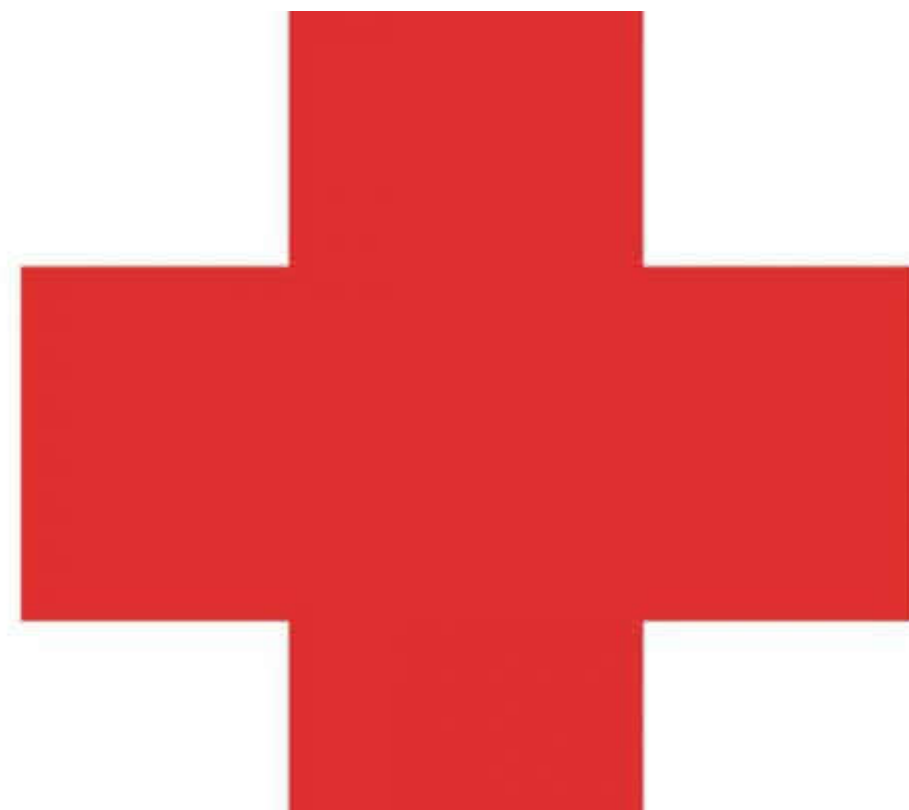


Red Cross Protests Confiscation of Aid Material



Ramallah, February 11 (RHC)-- The Red Cross has suspended provision of tents to displaced Palestinians in the Jordan Valley region of the occupied West Bank, in a rare protest over Israeli confiscation of aid material.

Jon Martin Larsen, a spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), said that they are "suspending the distribution of tents and shelter materials because we have seen a pattern of obstacles and confiscations since the beginning of 2013."

The office of James Rawley, the United Nations humanitarian coordinator in the occupied Palestinian territories, has said more than 1,000 people were displaced in 2013 in the West Bank and East Jerusalem after their homes were demolished for not having Israeli permits, "which are virtually impossible to obtain."

Israeli troops stormed the al-Awdeh protest village in the Jordan Valley last week, demolishing all tent structures there. The reports said that the soldiers also detained several activists. The protest village was set up in the Jordan Valley by Palestinian and international activists to oppose Israel's attempts to occupy the region.



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