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Israel forces launch arrest raids across West Bank

Ma'an News Agency

March 14, 2013 - 12:00am

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Media Outlet: Ma'an News Agency

Date: March 14, 2013

Source Link(s): <http://www.maannews.net/eng/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=574833> ^[1]

Israeli forces conducted arrest raids in cities and villages across the West Bank overnight Wednesday.

An Israeli military spokeswoman said 19 Palestinians were arrested and taken for security questioning, but locals reported a higher number of detentions.

The army spokeswoman told Ma'an that forces detained 11 people in Beit Fajjar, south of Bethlehem.

Residents said 13 young men were arrested in the village, identified as Jihad Thawabteh, Saher Thawabteh, Mohammad Takatka, Ahmad Dirayeh, Shaker Takatka, Yousef Thawabteh, Baha Thawabteh, Ibrahim Thawabteh, Ibrahim Takatka, Majdi Takatka, Yousef Thawabteh, Yousef Thawabteh and Rafat Takatka.

The army spokeswoman said one person was detained in Nablus, but a Ma'an reporter said five people were detained in Nablus' Old City.

The reporter identified the detainees as Badri Shihab, Salim al-Asta, Husam al-Arbodi, Rashid al-Kusa and Rashad al-Kusa.

Three people were detained in the Hebron district, the military spokeswoman said, in Hebron city, Dura and Deir al-Asal al-Fauqa.

A Ma'an reporter in Hebron said soldiers detained 34-year-old Nahil Abu Aisheh from the southern West Bank city, Ahmad Barwish, 26, from Dura, and Nidal Akila from al-Asja.

Three people were detained in villages around Ramallah, in Beit Sira, Turmusayya and

Qaraqat Bani Zeid, according to the army, as well as one person from Marah Rabah south of Bethlehem.

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