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**Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center
at the Israel Intelligence Heritage
& Commemoration Center (IICC)**

The attack at the Kissufim Crossing: the Palestinian Islamic Jihad manipulated the media regarding the use of a jeep camouflaged as a press vehicle.¹



The jeep in stages of preparation for the terrorist attack as it appeared in a clip distributed by the PIJ to Arab and Palestinian media. The TV and Press signs which were attached before the attack are not shown in the clip. (Jerusalem Battalions' Website, June 10).



The jeep at the Kissufim Crossing, prominently displaying TV and Press signs. No picture of the jeep with the signs was distributed by either the PIJ or Fatah, both of which denied that it had been camouflaged as a media vehicle (Photo courtesy of the Yediot HaAharonot and Meir Azoulai).

¹ A continuation of the June 11 bulletin entitled "A Fatah-Palestinian Islamic Jihad terrorist squad infiltrated Israel near the Kissufim Crossing to attack an IDF force" at http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/malam_multimedia/English/eng_n/pdf/pij_e100607.pdf.

1. On June 10 a video clip about the attack at the Kissufim Crossing was posted on the PIJ's Website. It showed preparations for the attack, including Jerusalem Battalions operatives fortifying the jeep later used. It also showed the jeep driving toward the Kissufim Crossing, but the pictures were deliberately blurred so that the TV and Press signs could not be seen. The video clip showing the jeep without Press and TV signs was distributed to the Arab and Palestinian media **after** the attack; one of the channels broadcasting it was Al-Jazeera TV (June 9).

2. The PIJ video was photographed before the jeep was camouflaged and made a deliberate attempt **to mislead viewers and hide important facts**. Abu Ahmad, a PIJ spokesman, also made a deliberate attempt to mislead the public, when after the attack he described the jeep as a "white armored vehicle similar to that used by the Zionist command." **He made no mention of its having been camouflaged as a media vehicle.**

3. In addition, Abu Hamza and Abu Ahmad, both Jerusalem Battalions spokesmen, claimed that the jeep was military and denied that it had borne signs identifying it as a media vehicle. They blamed the "Zionist enemy" for misleading public opinion (Paltoday Website, June 10; Abu Hamza to Quds Press, June 9).

4. In the absence of freedom of movement and access to where fighting takes place, to a great extent the Arab and Western media are forced to rely on verbal and visual reporting supplied by the Palestinian terrorist organizations operating in the Gaza Strip.² **That reliance necessarily exposes the**

² Hezbollah as well makes extensive use of propaganda disguised as factual news, that is, disseminating what is purported to be news, sometimes even attractive news, for use by neutral and even hostile target audiences. For example, the information provided by Hezbollah is both selective and manipulative, as was seen during the second Lebanon war. For further information see our June 2007 Bulletin entitled "Hezbollah as a case study of the battle for hearts and minds," at

http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/malam_multimedia/English/eng_n/pdf/hezbollah_e_0607.pdf, pp. 77-80.

media to manipulation and fabrications integrated into “factual” information and the photographs supplied to them by the terrorist organization, as is clearly illustrated by the Kissufim Crossing attack.³

³ In addition to manipulating the photographs of the jeep, the PIJ and Fatah spokesmen made completely false claims about every aspect of the Kissufim attack. For example, they claimed that the attacking terrorists killed an Israeli soldier and captured another, who was subsequently executed.