

Textdokumentation

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## 20 Are Wounded in East Jerusalem Rioting

Special to The New York Times

JERUSALEM, Oct. 16 — Five policemen and 15 Arabs were reported wounded today and at least 40 Palestinian students were arrested in the first riots in East Jerusalem since the spring.

The police fired tear gas and rubber bullets to break up a group of about 100 Palestinian high school students who threw stones at policemen and piled rocks in the street to block traffic. The students were protesting a planned Jewish cornerstone-laying ceremony at the Western Wall inside the Old City today, Palestinians said.

Mounted police galloped through the Arab neighborhood of Silwan.

East Jerusalem's streets to control the rioters, Palestinians said. They said the police fired in every direction, often sending tear gas into schools.

At roughly the same time, the police, hoping to avert the spread of rioting, prevented a small group of Jews from laying a cornerstone for what they hope will be a rebuilt biblical Temple at the Western Wall, near Al Aksa mosque, Islam's third-holiest site.

The police had given permission for the cornerstone ceremony but changed their minds. The Jewish protesters mounted a sit-down protest near the Western Wall after marching through the Arab neighborhood of Silwan Over the weekend, Government officials said they were considering action against a British diplomat who entered two closed military zones in the West Bank last week and then raised questions about the shooting death of a Palestinian.

The British Consul General for Jerusalem, Ivan Callan, visited the West Bank towns of Nablus and Beit Sahur.

After Mr. Callan spoke with Palestinians in Nablus, he quoted a woman who said an Israeli soldier had gunned down Nidal al-Habash, a 21-year-old protester, a week ago. Mr. Callan made a public call for an investigation. The army has denied the accusation.