activity in the Arab towns and villages throughout the administered areas and houses built by Arabs for Arabs are going up everywhere there in unprecedented numbers. Furthermore, various housing schemes for Arabs to improve their living conditions have been, and are being, sponsored in the areas by the Israeli authorities, and the participation of the Arab population in them is most encouraging.

As for demolitions, a very limited number of these have been carried out—not by way of collective punishment—but as an individual measure against a person in whose house acts of terrorism against the army or the civilian population have been prepared or from which they have been committed; also houses where arms caches have been found. If there are other inhabitants in the building who have no connection with the offense, then no actual demolition is carried out, but that part of the house connected with the offense is closed off and the people involved in it are evicted. Again, such action is based on laws that are part of the penal law of the West Bank and of Gaza and is on the decrease, as terrorism diminishes. The Special Committee, instead of aiming its barbs at Israel, should ask those who support and direct the terrorists, to make them cease and desist.

The provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention are invoked against action by the Israel military authorities in respect of deportations and destruction of property. While fully reserving our position on the applicability of that Convention in the administered areas, I should like to point out that Article 49 on which reliance is placed concerning deportations, does not apply in this case at all, as that Article was introduced into the Conven-