

Suspected Awadallah accomplice remanded

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Abstract:

The Beit El Military Court yesterday extended the remand of a 37- year-old US citizen suspected of transferring funds to Adel Awadallah, the former leader of the Hamas military wing Izzadin Kassam who was killed by IDF forces in September.

Jamil Salim Suliman Tsartsur, who lives in Milwaukee, was arrested by the IDF in El Bireh on October 23 during a family visit. The court ordered Tsartsur to remain in custody until the end of his trial.

Military prosecutor Lt. Eli Bar-On said Tsartsur, a well- established businessman in the US, received a note from Awadallah while visiting relatives in El Bireh in September 1996.

Full Text:

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Jamil Salim Suliman Tsartsur, who lives in Milwaukee, was arrested by the IDF in El Bireh on October 23 during a family visit. The court ordered Tsartsur to remain in custody until the end of his trial.

He is charged with carrying out services for an illegal organization.

Military prosecutor Lt. Eli Bar-On said Tsartsur, a well- established businessman in the US, received a note from Awadallah while visiting relatives in El Bireh in September 1996.

The note told him he was considered a fugitive by Israel and the Palestinian Authority and asked him to send funds.

Awadallah had previously met Tsartsur's brother Salah and shared a Ramallah prison cell with him.

Tsartsur agreed to open an account in the US, together with his brother Salah, and send money to fund Awadallah's activities.

Bar-On said that from 1996 until this year, Tsartsur visited El Bireh on a number of occasions, bringing with him bank checks which he cashed and transferred to Awadallah via the aging mother of Hamas leader Sheikh Mohammed Abu Ter, who was detained in prison part of that period.

Bar On said Tsartsur claims some \$35,000 was given to Awadallah. Bar On said that when captured, Tsartsur was carrying approximately \$67,500.

Bar On said new charges will be filed against Ter, who was arrested following Awadallah's death.

If found guilty, Tsartsur can face up to 10 years in prison, Bar- On said, adding that the date of the trial has yet to be set.

Meanwhile, IDF soldiers dispersed scores of Palestinians during clashes at the Tarik Junction in Hebron