

## Reading 34

The death of Abdel Naser was accompanied by increased military activity in our area. During the months that followed, I repeatedly heard sudden explosive noises from Israeli planes that forced me to hide.....

Other planes flew low, and I could see their big bodies, like moving buildings.....Father cursed saying that we were living in the middle of a daily war.... It seemed to him that the planes flying low above Ramallah were meant to keep us frightened. And we were.

Everything reached a breaking point months later on a spring afternoon when two soldiers came to our door. Thinking they wanted a drink of water, Mother impatiently pointed to the water room. But they laughed, walked to the well, then returned.

One of them pulled out his gun and stood away from the window to guard the door. The other threw kisses at Mother, hugged and touched his body up and down as he pointed to hers.....Before the soldier left, he made a circle with his hands, meaning that he would return on another day.