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Protection of Civilians - Weekly Briefing Notes

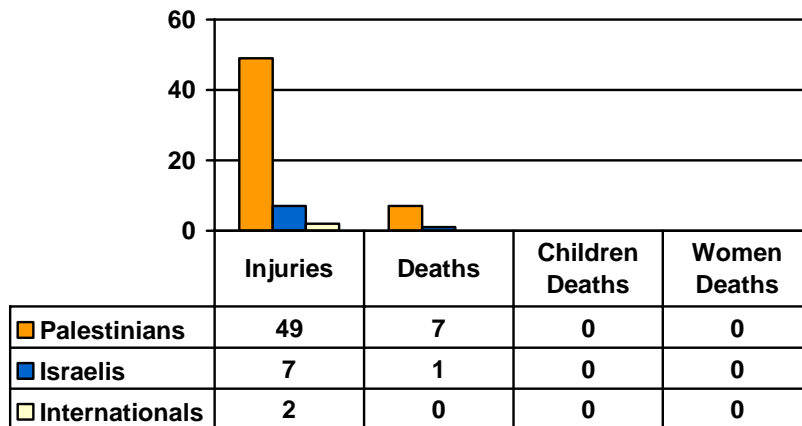
14 – 20 December 2005

Of note this week

- The IDF intensified attacks in the Gaza Strip, targeting both people and infrastructure. Violence continues also in the West Bank. A general closure was imposed on the oPt on 16 December.

1. Physical Protection¹

Casualties



- **14 December:** Four Palestinian males (21, 22, 23 and 24 years old) were killed in an IAF missile attack against their vehicle east of Shajayeh area of Gaza City (Gaza Strip). Four bystanders were injured.
- **14 December:** One Palestinian bystander was injured when an IAF aircraft fired two rockets towards a vehicle in Shajayeh area in Gaza City (Gaza Strip).
- **14 December:** One IDF soldier was injured during an exchange of fire between IDF and Palestinian militants in Qabatiya (Jenin).
- **14 December:** 12 Palestinians were injured during clashes between the IDF and Palestinians in Qabatiya (Jenin) when IDF fired teargas canisters and rubber coated metal bullets at Palestinian stone throwers.
- **14 December:** Two Palestinian males (18 and 24-years-old) were shot and injured in 'Anabta village (Tulkarm) when the IDF opened fire during a search campaign.
- **14 December:** Two Palestinians were injured by the IDF during a search operation in Ayda refugee camp (Bethlehem).
- **15 December:** One 23-year-old Palestinian male was shot dead in Qabatiya (Jenin) by an IDF uncover unit.
- **15 December:** One Israeli settler was injured near Al Lubban ash Sharqiya (Nablus) when Palestinians stoned his vehicle on Road No. 60.
- **15 December:** Three Palestinian were injured in an IAF rocket attack into open areas northeast of Beit Hanoun (Gaza Strip).
- **16 December:** Two Palestinians were injured in IAF air strikes into northern areas of Beth Hanoun and Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip).
- **16 December:** Three Palestinians, three Israelis and two international activists were injured during a demonstration against the Barrier construction in Bil'in (Ramallah).
- **16 December:** One 24 year-old Palestinian male was injured in 'Anabta village (Tulkarm) when the IDF opened fire during a search campaign.
- **16 December:** One Israeli settler was killed and two female settlers were injured when Palestinian militants fired on their vehicle near the settlement of Beit Khagai (Hebron).

¹ Three Israeli injuries were sustained in clashes with the IDF and Israeli Barrier demonstrators.

- **16 December:** A Palestinian man from An Nu'man (Bethlehem) captured by the IDF Border Police on 11 December died of wounds sustained while in custody. The matter is under investigation.
- **17 December:** One 25-year-old Palestinian was injured in Kafr al Labad (Tulkarm) when IDF opened fire during a search campaign.
- **17 December:** One Palestinian was wounded when IDF fired two artillery shells towards open areas southeast of Beit Hanoun (Gaza Strip).
- **17 December:** One 22-year-old Palestinian male was killed and one injured in armed clashes with the IDF near Erez crossing (Gaza Strip).
- **18 December:** Three Palestinians were injured in IAF missile attacks into areas in Beth Hanoun (Gaza Strip).
- **18 December:** The IDF beat and injured two Palestinians in Hebron city.
- **18 December:** Two Palestinian medics were injured on duty in an IAF missile attack on the main entrance of the Bedouin village in Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip).
- **18 December:** One 10-year-old Palestinian minor was injured in Balata camp (Nablus) by an IDF dog during a search campaign.
- **19 December:** One Palestinian was injured in 'Illar (Tulkarm) and transferred to hospital after he was beaten by the IDF.
- **19 December:** One Palestinian was injured when the IDF responded with live rounds at stone-throwers during a search campaign in Tuqu' (Bethlehem).
- **19 December:** One 22-year-old Palestinian was injured in Balata camp (Nablus) when IDF opened fire from the military post on Jerrizim Mountain towards the camp.
- **20 December:** One Palestinian was injured in Nablus city when the IDF opened fire during a search campaign.
- **20 December:** Eight Palestinians were injured by rubber coated metal bullets in Al Yamun (Jenin) when the IDF fired teargas canisters and rubber coated metal bullets during an operation in the village.
- **20 December:** IDF troops fired at the border fence east of Bureij camp (Gaza Strip) opened fire towards three Palestinians attempting to infiltrate into Israel. One Palestinian was injured.

2. Shelter and Property:

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures partially destroyed	People displaced / affected
14 Dec	'Illar, Tulkarm	0	1	N/A
15 Dec	Beit Lahiya, Gaza Strip	0	1	N/A
15 Dec	Rafah, Gaza Strip	0	1	N/A
15 Dec	Next to Kiryat Arba', Hebron	2	0	N/A
Total Week		2	3	N/A

Incidents:

- **14 December:** The IDF caused damage to a Palestinian house in 'Illar (Tulkarm) during a search campaign.
- **15 December:** A three-storey house was damaged after being hit by an IAF missile in Beit Lahia (Gaza Strip).
- **15 December:** One house was damaged when hit by an IAF missile in Rafah (Gaza Strip).
- **15 December:** The IDF demolished two structures near Kiryat Arba' (Hebron) as they were lacking a building permit.

Other property related incidents:

- **17 December:** Israeli settlers from Susya (Hebron) ploughed and planted approximately 330 dunums of Palestinian land near the settlement.
- **18 December:** The two bridges leading into Beit Hanoun (Gaza Strip) were damaged and the road made impassable when targeted by several F-16 missiles.
- **19 December:** An IAF missile hit and damaged the main electricity transformer that supplies Beth Hanoun and other parts of the Gaza Northern areas (Gaza Strip).

3. Natural Resources:

Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting²

Nablus Governorate:

17 December: Israeli settlers from the outpost of Berakhya settlement cut down 150 olive trees belonging to Palestinians from Burin village.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues levelling land along side Road No. 505 near Jamma'in village to install a security fence.

Jenin and Tubas Governorates:

No incidents to report.

Tulkarm Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Land levelling around Avnei Khfets and Enav settlements continues for the construction of a new fence around the settlements.

Qalqiliya Governorate:

19 December: Israeli settlers from Matan outpost ploughed and cultivated about 100 dunums of land belonging to Palestinians from Kafr Thulth.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues levelling land near Immatin village and between 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth for the construction of the Barrier.
- Israeli contractors continue levelling land from Jayyus in the seam zone area to expand Zfim settlement.

Salfit Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Israeli contractors continue levelling land north of Salfit city, Iskaka and Deir Istiya villages and south of Marda and Kifl Haris villages around Ari'el settlement and near Az Zawiya and Deir Ballut villages for the construction of the Barrier.
- The IDF continues levelling land and the installation of a security fence alongside Roads No. 505 and No. 5 near Marda, Kifl Haris and Haris villages.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

20 December: In the early morning hours the IDF brought in construction equipment and started land clearing in Beitillu to create a buffer zone around Nakhli'el settlement. Around 30 olive trees were destroyed in the process.

Ongoing incidents:

- The Barrier between Rantis, Budrus to south of Al Midya is completed. The construction between Kharbatha Bani Harith, Bil'in and Safa villages and between Beit Nuba and Beit Sira is also completed. Barrier construction continues also between Beituniya and Beit 'Ur al Fauqa, between At Tira and Beit Duqqu and south of Beit Liqya.
- The IDF is continuing land clearing in Beit Liqya village in order to build a new road between Beit Liqya in Ramallah district and Beit Anan in Jerusalem district. According to the municipality in Beit Liqya, the purpose of this road construction is not clear since there is an old road that only needs some rehabilitation.
- The IDF is continuing land clearing in the western side of 'Abud village and in north western side the parallel to bypass road 465 for the construction of the "special security arrangement" around Beit Arye and Ofarim settlements.

Hebron Governorate:

15 December: The IDF bulldozed 500 metres of land belonging to a Palestinian farmer next to the settlement of Kiryat Arba' (Hebron).

19 December: The IDF issued order T/196/05 requisitioning 1,355 dunums of land belonging to Palestinians in the area of Hameeda - An Najada, south east Hebron. The land will be used to build the Barrier.

Ongoing incidents:

² 4 dunums = 1 acre; 10 dunums = 1 hectare

- Land levelling for the construction of a fence around the settlement of Adora continues following confiscation orders issued for the expansion of its security buffer zone.
- Work continues on the stretch of the Barrier running from Imneizel to Ar Ramadin.

Bethlehem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Land levelling is taking place on the side of the “Tunnels” checkpoint for expansion of the checkpoint.
- Land levelling and new housing construction is ongoing in the settlements of Efrat and its two northern outposts (Givat Hatamar and Givat Hadagan), as well as northeast of Neve Daniel, and in Har Gilo and Betar Illit.
- Construction of the Barrier is ongoing in the last section around Rachel's Tomb north of the building hosting the Al Waqf.

Jerusalem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- The construction of the Barrier is ongoing all along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate; of note is construction along road 45 around Bir Nabala and land clearing for the barrier around Al Jib. Construction is also ongoing to the East of the villages of At Tira, Bet Duqqu and Bet Ijza.
- The IDF closed the road from Qalandiya checkpoint towards Atarot Checkpoint; construction is taking place in the area to continue the part of the Barrier near Qalandiya and Al Ram area for the new arrangements at the Qalandiya checkpoint.

Jericho Governorate:

No incidents to report.

The Gaza Strip:

Ongoing incidents:

- Construction continues of a concrete wall north of Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia. The borders are also being enforced with the placement of new military bases and observation towers.
- The IDF informed the Palestinian DCO that the eastern part of Beit Hanoun (about one km along the security fence east of Beit Hanoun) had been declared a closed military zone.
- The IDF announced that Palestinians should keep a distance of at least 150 metres away from the perimeter fence in the eastern and northern Gaza Strip.

4. [Access for Medical Assistance:](#)

Date	Location / Governorate	Affected Organisation	Denial	Delay	Shooting/Damage to Ambulance
13 December	Qalandiya CP/ Ramallah	PRCS	1		
14 December	Az Za'ayem CP / Jerusalem	PRCS	1	0	-
Total Week	Incident		2	0	0

- **13 December:** A PRCS ambulance on route from Al-Bireh to Qalandiya checkpoint to pick up a Palestinian women in labour from the checkpoint to the hospital in Ramallah was denied access at the checkpoint. The woman's husband carried her across the checkpoint to the PRCS crew waiting on the other side. The woman delivered the baby inside the other ambulance.
- **14 December:** A PRCS ambulance was stopped and denied access at Az Za'ayem checkpoint, while on route to transport a Palestinian woman in labour from Abu Dis to Al Moqassed hospital in East Jerusalem.

5. Access and Movement for Civilians:

a) Curfew

Date	Location, Governorate	Duration
14 Dec	Qabatiya, Jenin	9 hours
18 Dec	H2 areas, Hebron	8 hours
20 Dec	Al Yamun, Jenin	6 hours
Total Week	3 Incidents	23 Hours

- **14 December:** The IDF imposed curfew on Qabatiya (Jenin) for nine hours during a search campaign.
- **18 December:** The IDF imposed curfew in neighbourhoods of the Old City of Hebron close to the settlements and along the "Prayers Road" from 10:00am to 6:00pm during the funeral of the Israeli settler killed near Beit Khagai.
- **20 December:** The IDF imposed curfew on Al Yamun village (Jenin) for six hours.

b) Access to Education

Jenin

- **14 December:** All PA and UNRWA schools in Qabatiya were closed due to curfew imposed on the town.

Ramallah/Al Bireh

- **14, 17 and 20 December:** Palestinian school students with West Bank IDs were delayed to reach their schools in Jerusalem due to flying checkpoints on Road No. 60 during morning rush hours.
- **19 December:** Both Palestinian teachers and students were delayed to schools due to Israeli settler's closure of bypass Road No. 465. Employees and workers were also delayed.

Bethlehem:

- **14 December:** The IDF surrounded the Ayda Girls' School during a search operation and prevented teachers and schoolchildren from leaving the premises at the end of the school day.

Hebron:

- **17 December:** School children from Susiya were not able to reach the school in At Tuwani as the IDF closed off roads out of the village after the killing of an Israeli settler near Beit Khagai.
- Ongoing incidents:
 - The IDF and Israeli Police escorted Palestinian students from Tuba to their school in At Tuwani, south Hebron governorate. The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks carried by Israelis from the Ma'on settlement.

c) Access to Employment

West Bank: November: A general closure was imposed on the oPt on 16 December, prohibiting Palestinian workers from entering Israel. The closure on Tulkarm and Jenin governorates has continued since 5 December.

West Bank: Permits issued for December (cancelled as of 16 December)

Governorate	Work Permits to Israel	Trade permits to Israel
Nablus	845	605
Jenin	721	36
Tubas	77	77
Tulkarm	73	450
Qalqiliya	903	370
Salfit	738	200
Ramallah and Al Bireh	639	1,000
Jericho	14	600
Jerusalem	299	N/A
Bethlehem	733	N/A
Hebron	1,766	N/A
Total Permits Issued West Bank	6,808	3,338+

The Gaza Strip:

As of 13 December the total number of Gaza Strip workers with valid permits is **5,361**. All overnight permissions (about 1,000) were cancelled in the aftermath of the Netanyahu suicide bombing 5 December. As of 16 December no labor movement into Israel was allowed.

Date	Gaza Workers crossing to Israel	Gaza Traders crossing to Israel
14 December	4,345	233
15 December	4,660	260
16 December	C L O S E D	
17 December		
18 December		
19 December		
20 December		

d) Closures/Movement restrictions

The IDF imposed a tight closure on the West Bank on 16 December following several security alerts. Palestinians with valid permits are prevented from entering Israel. The closure on Tulkarm and Jenin has continued since 5 December.

Nablus Governorate:

14 December onwards: The IDF at Zaatara Checkpoint restricted and denied access for Palestinians from the North West Bank heading south. Palestinians travelling north are allowed access.

14 December onwards: Delays and long queues were experienced at Huwwara and Beit Iba checkpoints.

17 December: The IDF closed the two entrances of Huwwara secondary schools with earth mounds. After liaison with the Israeli DCL the municipality of Huwwara re-opened them on 20 December.

19 December onwards: The IDF lifted the age restrictions for Nablus residents (16 -30) at Huwwara and Beit Iba checkpoints.

Ongoing incidents:

- Shave Shomeron checkpoint remains closed.
- All entrances connecting Sabastiya village with Road No. 60 remain blocked with earth mounds.
- The dirt road connecting Tulkarm with Road No. 60 near Sabastiya (at the junction with Road No. 57) continues to be blocked with earth mounds.
- The IDF continues to restrict Palestinian movement on Al Badhan road by two flying Checkpoints.
- The IDF continues to prevent all Palestinians from Jenin and Tulkarm from leaving Nablus through Huwwara and Beit Iba checkpoints.

Jenin Governorate:

18 December: The IDF closed Al Jalama checkpoint for all Palestinians with valid permits and prior coordination with the commercial checkpoint was needed to allow vegetables into Israel.

Ongoing incidents:

- Road No. 585 from Mevo Dotan settlement entrance to Kharmesh settlement entrance remains closed with two checkpoints.
- The metal gate at a road leading from Ya'bad town and the two checkpoints on Road No. 585 near Mevo Dotan and Kharmesh settlements entrances are hindering Palestinian movement. Palestinians are using dirt roads to reach their charcoal factories and olive groves in the area.
- The IDF restricted the crossing of commercial trucks transporting goods to Barta'a enclave. Food products now need prior coordination.

Tubas Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Tayasir checkpoint remains closed for all Palestinian non-residents of the Jordan Valley. Medical personnel and teachers are allowed access.
- The IDF closed Bisan checkpoint for Palestinian and Israeli commercial trucks transporting vegetables from Jordan Valley into Israel. The trucks had to go to Al Jalama crossing via Hamra checkpoint.

Tulkarm Governorate:

15 - 19 December: The IDF closed 'Anabta gate for vehicular movement and prevented Palestinians from other districts from entering Tulkarm. On 20 December it was re-opened but long queue and delays were experienced.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to prevent Palestinians with Israeli IDs from entering Palestinian controlled areas unless they have relatives living in Tulkarm.
- The IDF continues to close the roads between Deir al Ghusun and Iktaba, Bal'a and Tulkarm by earth mounds.
- The IDF continues to prevent access to the garbage dump sites in al Jarushiya and Deir al Ghusun with earth mounds.
- The IDF continues to close the road between Bal'a and Al 'Attara with an earth mound.
- The IDF continues intensified restrictions at Kafriat checkpoint and prevented the vehicular and pedestrian movement in and out of Tulkarm except for Tulkarm residents.
- Tulkarm district continues to be an IDF announced closed military area and movement of Palestinians in and out of the district is restricted.

Qalqiliya Governorate:

18 December: The IDF closed the north Qalqiliya crossing and prevented Palestinians with valid permits from entering Israel due to the total closure imposed on the West Bank.

Salfit Governorates:

13 December (previously not reported): The IDF erected a 20m high observation tower near Haris junction on Road No. 505.

14 December: The IDF closed Bruqin with an earth mound.

19 December: The IDF closed Kafr Ad Dik gate with concrete blocks.

Ongoing incidents:

- The western entrance of Deir Istiya remains closed with an earth mound.
- The IDF continues to intensify the checking at Deir Ballut checkpoint and delays were experienced during the week.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

16 December: The partial checkpoint at An Nabi Salih was in operation from 8:00am to 11:00am.

19 December: The IDF removed the roadblock at the entrance to Umm Safa which has been closed the last five years.

19 December: Several armed Israeli settlers from Ofarim settlement closed bypass Road No. 465 preventing Palestinian vehicles from accessing the road for about 2 hours before being removed by the IDF.

20 December: The IDF issued a permit for Palestinians to construct and rehabilitate the road between Beit Liqya and Beit Nuba.

Ongoing incidents:

- Qalandiya checkpoint continued to be closed for all Palestinian vehicular and pedestrian movements following the killing of one IDF soldier at the checkpoint by a Palestinian on 8 December. The checkpoint was reopened on 11 December only for blue ID cards and internationals. However; on 20 December Palestinians with West Bank IDs were allowed entering Ramallah.

Hebron and Bethlehem Governorates:

No movement restrictions are active on bypass roads in Bethlehem district (Roads No. 367, 375 and 60). Restrictions on Road No. 60 still apply to any movement below the city of Hebron with frequent flying checkpoint beyond the crossing of "Nabi Younis". The city of Hebron and the villages south of it are under closure.

Hebron

16 - 20 December: Tight closure imposed on the city of Hebron and south of it. Halhul bridge remained closed until 19 December, restricting movement for Palestinians to the north. Road gates at the Dura-Al Fawwar have been closed and only crossing on foot is possible from Hebron to Yatta and is closely monitored by an IDF checkpoint. Tight closure with the reinforcement of obstacles has been enforced along Road No. 60 and Road No. 317, encircling the area of Yatta. Movement north from southern Hebron (Masafer/Yatta) is not allowed; the community of At Tuwani is closed off by three successive earth mounds on the road to Al Karmil.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close Zif gate from Road No. 317.
- The IDF continues to close Yatta gate with earth mounds off Road No. 60.
- Access to As Samu'a from Road No. 317 continues to be closed.

Bethlehem

Ongoing incidents:

- The road from Al Jab'a to Surif remains closed with road blocks.

Jerusalem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Qalandiya checkpoint continues to be closed for Palestinians with West Bank ID cards. As a result of this closure Palestinians will have to travel to Jerusalem via Atara partial checkpoint and from Road No. 60 via Ar Ram or Atarot.

Jericho Governorate:

14 – 17 December: The IDF searched all vehicles going in and out of Jericho via the DCO checkpoint.

14 – 19 December: Long delays were reported at Yitav Checkpoint during daytime due to the IDF car searches and IDs inspections.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to prohibit all Palestinians from going to the Jordan valley unless they have a Jordan Valley addresses on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan valley areas. Palestinians, even with Israeli permits are not allowed to stay over night in the area, and if they are caught by the IDF patrols, then their IDs are confiscated and they will have to go collect them at the Palestinian DCL in Jericho.

The Gaza Strip:

Several access routes in the northern areas of the Gaza Strip have been targeted by IAF missiles; including Salah Ed Din Road and two bridges leading into Beth Hanoun. In effect, access into the area was severely blocked for several hours.

Reported flying checkpoints – West Bank:

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Al Badhan Road (14). Road No. 60 near; Yits'har junction (7). Road No. 57 between Tulkarm and Al Madina club (7). Entrance off; 'Azmut.	29
Jenin	Entrance off; Rummana.	1
Tubas	Entrance off; Tammun.	1
Tulkarm	Between; Ar Ras and Kafriat tunnel (7). Entrance of; 'Anabta gate (6). Junctions off; Ar Ras, Al Jarushiya (4), 'Illar (2), Bal'a (4), Qaffin (3).	27
Qalqiliya	Entrance off; Qalqiliya – DCO (3), Jit junction, Jinasfut, 'Azzun, Mahattat Tahseen Mansur, Jayyus, Habla tunnel.	9
Salfit	Road No. 505 near; Marda. Entrance off; Salfit.	2
Ramallah and Al Bireh	Road No. 60 near; Sha'ar Benjamim junction (3). Entrance off; Umm Saffa (2).	5
Jerusalem	No flying checkpoints observed.	0
Jericho	No flying checkpoints observed.	0
Bethlehem	Dar Salah (2), Al Ubeidiya, Tuqu'.	4
Hebron	Halhul (2), Al Arroub (3), turn for Karmeit Tsur, junction 60-317 north, Metarim industrial estate, Sa'ir, Hebron (2), Yatta (2), Beit Kahil (2), Dura, Kharsa, Bani Na'im, Beit Einun, Al Fawwar, As Samu', Tarqumiya, Nabi Younis.	23
Total West Bank		101

6. Additional Protection Issues:

- During the reporting period **47** home made rockets were fired by Palestinian militants from the Gaza Strip towards targets in Israel. IDF fired about **66** artillery shells into open areas northeast of Beth Hanoun and other targets in the Gaza Strip. The IAF fired **34** air-to-ground missiles – particularly in the northeastern areas of Beit Hanoun.
- **14 December:** The IDF distributed leaflets to Palestinians in Al 'Auja prohibiting them from opening their shops located on road 90 until 20 December. The IDF threatened to permanently close any shop that does not abide by the military orders.
- **14 December:** IDF naval vessels opened fire in the direction of Palestinian fishing boats west of Rafah, forcing the boats to return to the seashore.
- **16 December:** IAF airplanes flew low over the Gaza Strip, breaking the sound barrier

- **19 December:** The IDF announced that one Palestinian carrying an explosive belt who managed to infiltrate Israel was captured near Kibbutz Nir Am in southern Israel.

Searches/Arrests/Detentions

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention, number of searches noted at locations with brackets	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	'Asira ash Shamaliya (1), Balata camp (1). At CP/(flying); Huwwara, Al Badhan.	2	5
Jenin	Qabatiya (2), Silat al Harithiya (1), Al Yamun (3). At CP/(flying); Rummana.	6	23
Tubas	Tammun (1). At CP/(flying); Tammun.	1	4
Tulkarm	Tulkarm city (1), 'Illar (3), Seida (1), Tulkarm camp (1), Bal'a (1), 'Anabta (3), Deir al Ghusun (1). At CP/(flying); Qaffin.	11	16
Qalqiliya	At CP/(flying); Sanniriya, Qalqiliya DCO.	0	3
Salfit	No reported incidents.	0	0
Ramallah/Al Bireh	Qalandiya CP, Deir Dibwan (1), Silwad (1), Qibya (1).	3	14
Jerusalem	Ar Ram CP, Al 'Isawiya (1).	1	2
Jericho	No reported incidents.	0	0
Bethlehem	Al Ubeidiya (1), Al Khadr (3), Har Homa (1), Tuqu'(1).	6	6
Hebron	Hebron (2), Al Fawwar (1), Adh Dhahiriya (1), Dura (1), Al Majd (1), Sa'ir (1), Ar Ramadin (1), Yatta (1), Beit Kahil (1).	10	13
Total Week West Bank		40	86
Gaza Strip	Infiltration attempts: East of Rafah	0	2
Total Week oPt		40	88

Appendix: Checkpoints 14 - 20 December 2005

Checkpoint	Status
Tulkarm:	
Taybeh	Open from 5:30am to 5:00pm for UN and international organisations and Palestinians with permits. Closed for all Palestinians since 5 December.
Efrayim	The checkpoint is constructed as a crossing point into Israel for Palestinian workers and traders and others from Tulkarm Governorate with a special permit. On 29 June the checkpoint became operational from 4:00am – 7:00pm and Palestinian workers and traders are instructed to cross through. Closed since 5 December for all Palestinians
Kafriat	The checkpoint is manned and physically divided into three parts: one that controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one that controls movement to Israel proper; and one that controls movement to and from Jubara. On 24 August the Tunnel near the checkpoint under Road No. 57 was opened reducing the need to use the checkpoint.
'Anabta	This gate was reestablished on 14 July 2005. On 5 December closed for all Palestinians
Qalqiliya:	
Qalqiliya DCO	Unmanned but with frequent flying checkpoints.
Jaljoulia	Access through this checkpoint is only granted for holders of permits into Israel and residents of Ras Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi Ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda. Ambulances from Qalqiliya town to these five villages need prior coordination with DCL. Only vehicles leaving the West Bank are subjects for security checks. Closed for all Palestinians since 18 December..
Qalqiliya North (new)	The IDF opened a new crossing point on 28 November north of Qalqiliya Barrier gate to Palestinian permit holders such as workers, traders and humanitarian cases. The crossing is open from 4:00am to 7:00pm. Closed for all Palestinians since 18 December.
Salfit:	
Deir Ballut	Officially open between 6am and 6pm The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western part of Salfit District. Delays were experienced this week.
Kafr Qasem (Road 5)	Open 24 hours for UN and international organisations and Palestinians with permits. Closed for all Palestinians since 18 December.
Nablus:	
Huwwara Southern main entrance	Open for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens. Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports are requiring to prior liaison with the IDF before access can be granted. Movement is allowed from 4:30am to 8pm. On 19 December age restrictions (16 -30) on Nablus residents were lifted. Delays and long queues were experienced.
Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade	Open for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports are subject to prior liaison with IDF before access can be granted. Movement is allowed from 6am to 8pm. On 19 December age restrictions (16 -30) on Nablus residents were lifted. Delays and long queues were experienced.
Sarra South western entrance, before the closure regime main road to Qalqiliya	Closed except to villagers from Sarra or Qusin, who occasionally are let through.

Qusin Internal closure between Sarra and Nablus	Closed by a gate since mid-March 2004; traffic diverted through Beit Iba checkpoint.
Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan district of Jarzim with Nablus City	Only open for Samaritans. The gate is occasionally open for vehicles.
Beit Furik Eastern gate and checkpoint. After the closure regime main gateway between Nablus and the Jordan Valley	Open for villagers from Beit Furik, Beit Dajan, and open between 6am and 6pm. On 18 December age restrictions (16 -30) were lifted.
Shave Shomeron (Sabastiya) Northwest, main road to Jenin	Since 15 August the checkpoint is closed for Palestinians. Only humanitarian vehicles are allowed access.
Maale Efrayim Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus	Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas.
Hamra East, before closure regime main road to Jordan, Tubas, Jenin	Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas.
Zaatara (Tappouah) South, main road to Ramallah	Vehicular movement for residents of northern west bank (Jenin, Tubas, Nablus, Tulkarm and Qalqiliya) is prohibited unless they have a special permit. Closed for residents of Tulkarm and Jenin heading southbound.
Jenin:	
Al Jalama Main entrance to Israel	Open between 7:00am to 4:00pm Sunday to Friday. Open for all goods from Israel into west bank and only vegetables are allowed into Israel after prior coordination..
Imreiha (Reikhan) Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave	Open between 7am to 9pm. Open for all goods from Israel into west bank and only vegetables are allowed into Israel after prior coordination.
Tubas:	
Bisan Main entrance to Israel	Open 24 hours for permit holders. Since 16 November closed for Israeli and Palestinian commercial trucks. On 5 December closed for all Palestinians.
Tayasir Gate Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley	Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas.
Ramallah/AI Bireh:	
Qalandiya	Closed For Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Opened for internationals and Jerusalem ID holders.
Bet El/DCO	Open daily from 6:00am to 10:00pm. Access in vehicles only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, and Palestinians with special work permits.
Atara Bridge (partial)	Open.
An Nabi Salih gate (partial)	Open until the 2 December, but in operation during morning rush hours on the 3 and 4 December.
At Tayba (partial)	Open.
Makkabim On Road No. 443	Usually open for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders and foreign passport holders. Road No. 443 is off limits to oPt Palestinians, except those with permits to enter Israel/Jerusalem.
Ni'lin	Usually open for Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
Rantis	Usually open for Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
Jerusalem:	
Hizma Eastern entrance of junction Road No. 437/Psigat Ze'ev settlement	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals.
Az Za'ayem	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank

North eastern entrance on Road No. 1	and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals.
Ar Ram Northern entrance on Road No. 60 north.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
Bir Nabala/Atarot Northern entrance on Road No. 404 /Road No. 45	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
Ramot Alon North western entrance on Road NO. 436	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint	Open 24 hours for Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and UN and international organisations; Palestinians from the West Bank need a permit. West Bank vehicles are not allowed.
Container ("Wadi nar") East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank	Open for Palestinian vehicles with permits (taxis and municipality trucks), humanitarian reasons and for internationals. Permits not required for Palestinian pedestrians. Israeli- yellow plate cars are not allowed to cross.
Jericho:	
DCO Main checkpoint off Road 1	Open daily 24 hours, after the IDF handed security control of Jericho to the Palestinian Authority on 16 March 2005. Open for everyone but Israelis. Vehicles with West Bank registrations can pass without permits.
Al Auja (Yitav) On Road 90	Open 24 hours for Palestinian living in Jericho District. Prohibited for Palestinians holding West Bank ID cards from other governorates unless they hold Israeli permits to allow them access to the area.
Gate opposite Allenby Checkpoint off Road No. 90	Gate manned by the IDF. Closed at all times. Soldiers open the gate for shuttle busses taking Palestinians to Allenby Border Crossing to Jordan.
Bethlehem :	
Rachel's crossing North entrance to Bethlehem	New terminal-like crossing. Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with valid permits.
Ein Yalow Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line	Open 24 hours and only for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations. No movement of Palestinians beyond it unless with a permit.
Beit Jala DCO Entrance to Beit Jala	Not manned. Movement allowed in both directions for all kind of vehicles including private cars. Open from 7am to 10pm.
Tunnels Road 60 at Har Gilo	Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians with permits. Land levelling is taking place to expand the site of the checkpoint.
Settlers' Checkpoint - Efrata Southern entrance to settlement	Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by settlers with movement beyond it restricted for Palestinians.
Gush Etzion On Road 60, at Etzion turn	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers are checking vehicles in both directions but are not always manning the checkpoint. Private Palestinian cars allowed passage.
Wadi Fukin Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line	Open 24 hours: only Palestinians with permits are allowed to cross.
Al Jab'a Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line	Open 24 hours: only Palestinians with permits are allowed to cross.
Ein Gedi On Road 90, along Dead Sea.	On bypass Road No. 90. Used to be located close to the Avnot settlement but has now been moved south to the intersection with the settlement of Mitzpe Shalem. On the 24 of September, external closure was imposed on the Palestinian territory, Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to pass
Hebron	
Beit Awwa At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road No. 354	Crossing along Road No. 354 only for humanitarian organisations and critical service providers: no other movement allowed.
Tarqumiya Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road No. 35 for	Only Palestinians with permits are allowed to cross. ICRC family visits are taking place and

both Hebron and Bethlehem districts	
Meitar On Road No. 60, Green Line after intersection with Tene settlement road.	Crossing of Palestinian workers re-started on 13 December.
Shani At turn for Shani settlement on Road No. 317.	Manned by the IDF. A military base has been established nearby.
Beit Yatir On Road No. 316, at the turn for the settlement of Beit Yatir	Manned by the IDF. Open 24 hours. Residents of Imneizil village are allowed to cross but other Palestinians are asked for permits.
Prayers Road, H2 Access to area of Ibrahimi Mosque	Closed to Palestinians.
Shohada street, H2 Western entrance to Shohada street	Open to Palestinians living beyond it and in the Tel Rumeida area in accordance with a list held by the IDF at the checkpoint. Access possible only on foot. The metal detector near the checkpoint is used to check all Palestinians including schoolchildren on their way to the Al Ibrahimiyye school.
Ibrahimi Mosque, H2 Access to the Mosque	Worshippers and visitors searched upon entry.
Bab Al Baladiyye , H2 Next to settlement of Beit Romano	The checkpoint is closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and a new gate has been installed across the road blocking physical access towards it.
Qarantina, H2 Junction with Shohada Street	Closed to Palestinians
Bab Al-Khan, H2 Entrance to Avraham Avinu settlement	Closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and north toward the market.
Tel Rumeida, H2 Beginning of street leading to settlement	Open only to Palestinians travelling on foot living between it and the settlement.
Al Kasaba, H2 Exit from the Kasaba, old city (Tomb of the Patriarchs)	Permanent checkpoint which filters Palestinian movement from the Kasaba area directed to the Tomb of the Patriarchs. Movement is segregated for incoming and outgoing movement. Palestinians exiting the Kasaba are processed through a combination of turnstiles, allowing one person at a time to pass, and a metal detector. The process is slow and extremely problematic during Friday prayers.
Ar Ramadin At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road No. 325	New permanent checkpoint established in September 2005, manned by IDF soldiers who check and search Palestinian civilians travelling to and from a cluster of Palestinian villages (4,000 people) around Ar Ramadin area. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road No. 325.
"Nabi Younis" Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on Road No. 60	New permanent checkpoint established in October 2005, partially manned by IDF soldiers; new cameras have been installed on the military observation tower.
Al Fawwar Al Fawwar-Dura junction on Road No. 60	New checkpoint established in October 2005, partially manned by IDF soldiers; new cameras have been installed along the road, around the military observation tower
Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints	
Erez crossing	Erez crossing was closed for Palestinians on 16 December, some exceptions to humanitarian cases. It remains open for internationals.
Rafah Passenger Terminal	Rafah Crossing Terminal was partially open all the week. It was open for four hours daily until 18 December when it was extended to eight opening hours (8:00am – 4:00pm). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 14 December: 554 arrivals, 531 departures - 15 December: 645 arrivals, 625 departures - 16 December: 605 arrivals, 589 departures - 17 December: 491 arrivals, 504 departures - 18 December: 635 arrivals, 602 departures
Commercial checkpoints:	
Tulkarm/Qalqiliya	
Taybeh	The back-to-back system has been operational from 5.30am to 5pm except on Saturday. Closed for all Palestinians since 5 December.
Nablus	

Awarta checkpoint	Open from 6:00am to 5:00pm, Sunday to Thursday, Friday from 6:00am to 2:00pm and closed on Saturday.
Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003.	
Jenin	
Al Jalama	Open between 7:00am to 4:00pm, Sunday to Friday On 5 December closed for all Palestinians
Northern entrance/ main commercial check point.	
Ramallah/AI Bireh	
Beituniya	Officially open 7:00am to 5:00pm Sunday to Thursday, 7:00am to 1:00pm on Fridays and closed Saturdays. Open for commercial goods and a back-to-back system is in operation. Only Palestinians from Kafr 'Aqab and Sameeramees holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to pass through this checkpoint without using the back-to-back system. This checkpoint is not open for private cars or pedestrians. ICRC and UN vehicles are permitted to cross.
Back-to-back checkpoint	
Jericho	
Back-to-back checkpoint/DCO checkpoint	Open.
Gaza Strip	
Sufa	Closed on 16 December following the general closure imposed despite Israeli announcements that it would remain open and not be affected by the closure.
Karni	Partially open all week.

– End –

Method and Sources

The information used to compile these Briefing Notes comes from a range of sources with a field presence in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The accuracy of the reported information is ensured through the corroboration of reports by two additional sources. Typically, the OCHA Field Coordination Unit (FCU) receives an initial incident report from a source, which is verified through visits to the incident site in addition to further corroboration with a third source, such as an NGO. In addition, OCHA FCU collects military orders as documentary evidence and provides information on incidents witnessed in person.

In the interests of timeliness and readability, the sources are not listed for each incident within the texts of the report. Listed below are the sources relied upon each week in compiling this Briefing:

- Physical protection: OCHA FCU, Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS), United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA), World Health Organization (WHO), Israel Defence Forces (IDF) website, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), offices of Palestinian Authority (PA) governors, Palestinian District Civilian Liaison (DCL).
- Shelter and property: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Natural Resources: OCHA FCU, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils, Land Defence Committee and Land Research Centre.
- Access for Medical Assistance: OCHA FCU, WHO, PRCS, Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), UN World Food Programme, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNRWA.
- Access and Movement for Civilians: Sources: Palestinian DCL, Christian Peacemakers Team (CPT).
- Curfews: OCHA FCU, Village Councils, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Access to Education: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, UNICEF, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils.
- Access to Employment: UNRWA, United Nations Office of the Special Coordinator for the Middle East (UNSCO), Palestinian Ministry of Labour (MoL), Palestinian DCL, Palestinian Chamber of Commerce, Israeli DCL.
- Closures/Movement Restrictions: OCHA FCU, UNRWA.
- Additional Protection issues: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), UNSCO, Palestinian DCLs, Palestinian Governors' offices, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, IDF.