



## OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

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## Protection of Civilians – Weekly Briefing Notes

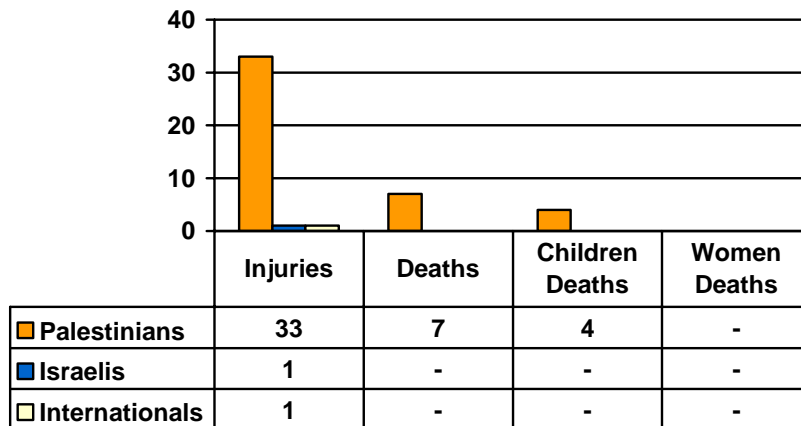
15 – 21 February 2006

Of note this period

- Four Palestinian children were killed by the IDF in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.
- The IDF conduct military operations inside Balata camp and Nablus city (Nablus) over three days. Three Palestinian deaths and 20 injuries are reported. One IDF soldier was also injured in the operation.
- Nwemeh partial checkpoint north of Jericho (on the road between Jericho and Ramallah) changed to a permanent checkpoint.

1. Physical Protection

## Casualties



- **15 February:** The IDF opened fire at and killed a 15-year-old Palestinian mentally disabled boy carrying a toy gun in Qabatiya (Jenin).
- **15 February:** The IDF opened fire at and injured a 23-year-old mentally disabled Palestinian man approaching the security fence north of Beit Hanoun (Gaza Strip).
- **17 February:** The IDF shot and killed a 17-year-old Palestinian minor while he was planting a road side bomb near the border fence east of Al Buraij camp (Gaza Strip).
- **17 February:** The IDF and the Israeli Border Police fired tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets at Palestinians, International and Israeli activists demonstrating against the construction of the Barrier in Bil'in and 'Abud (Ramallah). Three Palestinians (in Bil'in) and one international (in 'Abud) were injured.
- **17 February:** The IDF fired rubber-coated metal bullets at Palestinian stone throwers demonstrating in Azzun (Qalqiliya) against Israeli settlers for the second time writing anti-Islamic graffiti on a mosque in An Nabi Elyas. Five Palestinians (14, 16 (2), 18 and 22 years old) were injured.
- **19 February:** The IDF shot and killed two Palestinian minors (both 17 years old) and injured 13 others in Balata camp (Nablus) after confrontations occurred during an IDF military operation.
- **19 February:** An IAF helicopter fired two missiles and killing two Palestinians (both 20 years old) attempting to plant road side bombs near the border fence in Khuza'a east of Khan Younis (Gaza Strip).
- **20 February:** The IDF fired towards a group of Palestinians attempting to infiltrate into Israel through the security fence south of Kissufim. A 30-year-old Palestinian man was injured.

- **20 February:** The IDF shot and killed a 29-year-old Palestinian man and seriously injured another Palestinian in an exchange of fire with Palestinian gunmen in Nablus city (Nablus).
- **20 February:** The IDF injured three Palestinians (16, 17 and 23 years old) when they fired live ammunition and rubber-coated metal bullets at Palestinian stone throwers in Balata camp (Nablus). One Israeli Border Police was injured when Palestinians threw a Molotov cocktail at a Border Police jeep.
- **20 February:** IDF soldiers beat and seriously injured a 19-year-old Palestinian man in H2 area of Hebron city (Hebron).
- **20 February:** The IDF injured two Palestinians (14 and 28 years old) when they fired live ammunition after a Molotov cocktail was thrown towards them in Al Fawwar camp (Hebron).
- **21 February:** The IDF shot and injured three Palestinians (17 (2) and 18 years old) during confrontations in Balata camp (Nablus).

## 2. Shelter and Property

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures partially destroyed	People displaced / affected
19 Feb	Balata camp (Nablus)	1	-	n/a
21 Feb	H2 area, Hebron city (Hebron)	1	-	0
<b>Total Week</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>n/a</b>

- **16 February:** The IDF handed over three demolition orders for three animal pens in the Palestinian village of Tuqu' (Bethlehem). According to the demolition orders, the pens were built without a building permit.
- **19 February:** The IDF partially demolished a house in Balata camp (Nablus) during a search and arrest campaign.
- **20 February:** The IDF issued two demolition orders for houses to Palestinians from Al Funduq (Qalqiliya) for reportedly being built without a permit.
- **21 February:** The IDF demolished an uninhabited 300-m<sup>2</sup> house in Al Shaabe neighbourhood in H2 part of Hebron city (Hebron) for reportedly being built with a permit.

### Other related incidents:

- **15 February:** The IDF occupied two Palestinian houses in Qabatiya (Jenin) and converted them into military observation posts for several hours. One family was held in one room and the other was forced out of their home.
- **19 February:** The IDF occupied four Palestinian houses in Balata camp (Nablus) and converted them into military observation posts. Families of these houses were held in one room in each house.

## 3. Natural Resources

### Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting<sup>1</sup>

#### Nablus Governorate:

##### Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continue installing 3m high concrete slabs along Road 60 from Shave Shomeron checkpoint south to Deir Sharaf Junction to build a security zone and a wall/fence around the settlement.

#### Jenin and Tubas Governorates:

No incidents to report.

<sup>1</sup> 4 dunums = 1 acre; 10 dunums = 1 hectare

**Tulkarm Governorate:**

## Ongoing incidents:

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

**Qalqiliya Governorate:**

**20 February:** Israeli settlers from El Matan outpost near Kafr Thulth (Qalqiliya) uprooted two olive trees belonging to a Palestinians living near the outpost.

## Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues levelling land near Immatin village and between 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth for the construction of the Barrier.

**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.

**Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

## Ongoing incidents:

- Construction of the Barrier is ongoing between Kharbatha Bani Harith and Bil'in villages, and is also continuing between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and At Tira.
- The construction of the "special security arrangements" as part of the Barrier around Ofarim and Bet Arve settlements is continuing parallel to bypass Road 465 and east of 'Abud village.
- The IDF continues land levelling around Ateret settlement to create a buffer zone around the settlement as part of "special security areas around isolated settlements". This is a new measure confirmed the Israeli DCL to secure small isolated settlements.

**Hebron Governorate:**

**19 February:** Israeli settlers from Susiya settlement uprooted 20 olive groves which had been planted by Israeli peace activists on Palestinian-owned land next to the settlement.

**19 February:** The IDF started land levelling for the purpose of building a new section of the road protection barrier along Road 60 near the Palestinian community of Zanuta.

## Ongoing incidents:

- New housing construction continues in the Israeli settlements of Susiya, Karmeit Tsur, Kiryat Arba and Karmel.
- Land levelling continues west of the checkpoint of Tarqumiya where the new commercial checkpoint will be built.
- Land levelling continues in the southern part of the Governorate near Shani settlement and the Palestinian village of Imneizil for the construction of the Barrier.
- Road paving and land levelling continues for the construction of the Barrier in the western side of the village of Al Ramadin.
- Land levelling continues at the agricultural terminal next to Meitar.
- Land levelling for the construction of the road barrier has continued along Road 317 in the area between the Israeli checkpoint of Shani and Roads 60 and 317 junction near the settlement of Shima.

**Bethlehem Governorate:**

**15 February:** The IDF issued Military Order No. T/01/06 requisitioning 9 dunums (0.9 hectares) of Palestinian land in Beit Jala. According to the order, the confiscated land will be used to build a road fence to protect the road between the Tunnels checkpoint.

**17 February:** The IDF uprooted 50 olive groves near the Palestinian village of Wadi Fukin.

**18 February:** The IDF started to level an estimated 4 dunums (0.4 hectares) and 50 olive trees near Al Jab'a checkpoint.

**19 February:** The IDF has started to level an estimated 2 dunums (0.2 hectares) of land located to the south of Rachael's Tomb. No military order has been issued.

## Ongoing incidents:

- New housing construction continues in the Israeli settlements of Efrat as well as northeast of Neve Daniel (in its most recent expansion), and in Har Gilo and Betar Illit.
- Land levelling continues on the side of Tunnels checkpoint to expand the site.
- Continued construction of a protection fence next to Al Khadr Boys School along the southern side of Road 60.

#### **Jerusalem Governorate:**

**This week:** The IDF issued Military Order No. T/06/06 requisitioning 12.6 dunums of land in Abu Dis for an IDF base (The land in question is where the former Palestinian Muqata'a was located which has been occupied by the IDF since 2001).

Ongoing incidents:

- The construction of the Barrier is ongoing all along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate; exceptions to this are northeast of Al 'Eizariyya towards Ma'ale Adumim settlement. Construction has begun along 3km of the Barrier south of Maale Adumim and Kedar.
- 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 for the new arrangements at the Qalandiya checkpoint.
- Construction continues on the new road which divides Bir Nabala and Ar Ram parallel to the constructed Barrier, and on a new road between Bir Nabala, Qalandiya village and Rafat, that will allow access of residents from Bir Nabala, Al Jib and Al Judeira to Ramallah.

#### **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 reinforced with the placement of new military bases and observation towers.

## **4. Access and Movement for Civilians**

### **a) Curfew**

Date	Location, Governorate	Duration
19 Feb	Balata camp (Nablus)	64 hours
<b>Total Week</b>	<b>Incidents</b>	<b>64 hours</b>

**19 – 21 February:** At 2am the IDF imposed curfew on Balata camp (Nablus) which lasted until 6:00pm on 21 February.

Ongoing incidents:

- Palestinians' movement inside As Siafa area in the northern Gaza Strip continues to be restricted following the IDF announcement of parts of the northern Gaza Strip a "no go" or enlarged buffer zone on 28 December. The 250 Palestinian residents of As Siafa (within this buffer zone) continue to limit their movement during the day and do not move after dark. Entry into the area is only possible with prior coordination with the IDF.

### **b) Access to Education**

#### **Nablus;**

**19 February – 21 February:** All schools in Balata camp (Nablus) have been closed since 19 February due to the IDF military operation in the camp.

#### **Hebron;**

**20-21 February:** IDF soldiers manning Al Shohada Street Checkpoint in H2 area of Hebron city denied students and staff of Qurtuba School access to their school unless students go through the electronic metal detector. Classes resumed at 10am after the IDF allowed the students and staff to by-pass the metal detector.

**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. During the reported period, students were delayed an average of 45 minutes each day during both the morning and afternoon escort.

**Gaza Strip;****Ongoing incidents:**

- 60 Students from As Siafa living inside the newly announced "no-go" or enlarged buffer zone in the northern Gaza Strip and surrounding areas are experiencing difficulties reaching their schools on time.

**c) Access to Employment****West Bank: permits valid for January 2005**

Governorate	Work Permits to Israel	Trade permits to Israel
Nablus	672	1,400
Jenin	359	800
Tubas	25	186
Tulkarm	405	1,000
Qalqiliya	934	650
Salfit	63	294
Ramallah and Al Bireh	850	1,500
Jericho	20	65
Jerusalem	402	101
Bethlehem	834	1,620
Hebron	2,328	770+
<b>Total Permits Issued West Bank</b>	<b>6,892</b>	<b>8,386+</b>

**Gaza Strip:**

As of 21 February the total number of Gaza Strip workers with valid permits is 5,177. In order to be eligible for a permit Palestinians must be over 35 years old and married with children. All overnight permissions (about 1,000) were cancelled in the aftermath of the Netanya (Israel) suicide bombing on 5 December. As of 14 February, the total number for traders with valid permits is 474.

Date	Gaza Workers crossing to Israel	Gaza Traders crossing to Israel	Comments
15 February	3,426	198	OPEN ALL WEEK
16 February	3,115	116	
17 February	2,141	75	
18 February	240	21	
19 February	3,389	214	
20 February	2,656	100	
21 February	2,418	50	

**d) Closures/Movement restrictions****Nablus Governorate:**

**15 and 17 February:** The IDF closed Huwwara checkpoint for one hour.

**16 and 18 February:** The IDF closed Al Badhan road with a flying checkpoint for several hours.

**19 February:** The IDF closed the entrances of Balata camp with concrete blocks and earth mounds.

**19 February:** The IDF closed the main road from Nablus to Huwwara checkpoint (Jerusalem Rd) for vehicular movement with an earth mound.

**Ongoing incidents:**

- The IDF are preventing all Palestinians from Jenin and Tulkarm from leaving Nablus through Huwwara and Beit Iba checkpoint.

- The IDF at Za'atara checkpoint are denying access for Palestinians from Tulkarm and Jenin heading south through the checkpoint. Palestinians heading north continued to be allowed access.
- Shave Shomeron checkpoint remains closed for Palestinians (since 15 August 2005). Since 1 February humanitarian organisations require prior coordination to cross the checkpoint due to the erection of concrete blocks.
- The IDF are preventing all Palestinians from Beit Furik and Beit Dajan below 30 years of age through Beit Furik checkpoint.

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**Jenin Governorate:**

**19 February:** The IDF opened all the entrances to Kafr Dan.

**19 February:** The IDF opened the road between Bruqin and Al Yamun.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues restricting the crossing of commercial trucks transporting goods to Barta'a enclave. Food products require prior coordination.

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**Tubas Governorate:**

**15 – 21 February:** Palestinians travelling via Tayasir checkpoint experienced long delays (1-3 hours) during morning and evening hours.

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**Tulkarm Governorate:**

**18 February:** The IDF prevented farmers from Qaffin to enter their land inside the Barrier.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to prevent Palestinians with Israeli IDs from entering Palestinian areas unless they have relatives living in Tulkarm.
- The IDF continues to close 'Anabta checkpoint for several hours daily. Delays and long queues continue to be experienced at 'Anabta partial check point and at the flying checkpoint near Kafriat tunnel.

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**Qalqiliya Governorate:**

No major incidents to report.

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**Salfit Governorates:**

**19 February:** The IDF installed a road gate at the entrance of Kifl Haris village.

**20 February:** The IDF closed a dirt road between Haris and Deir Istiya by an earth mound.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close the gate at the northern entrance of Kafr ad Dik.

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**Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

No major incidents to report.

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**Bethlehem Governorate:**

The Israeli DCL has informed international organisations that national staff with a valid permit are allowed to access Jerusalem through the Tunnels checkpoint.

Ongoing incidents:

- The road from Al Jab'a to Surif remains closed by road blocks.
- Delays continued to be experienced at Gilo checkpoint.

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**Hebron governorate**

A total of 150 cement blocks were placed by the IDF along Road 317 between the Palestinian community of Ad Deirat and the junction of the Israeli settlement of Pnei Khever with Road 317.

**15-21 February:** The IDF added five more closures in Hebron Governorate; there are four new earth mounds along Road 60 and Road 317 in addition to one road block on Road 317.

**18 February:** The IDF removed the Yatta Gate and replaced it with an earth mound.

**19 February:** The IDF closed the main access point to the Palestinian village of At Tuwani, denying access of 2,000 Palestinians living in At Tuwani and the close-by region of Masafer Yatta.

**19 February:** The IDF opened Zif gate on Road 317 east of the Palestinian town of Yatta. Palestinian traffic was only allowed to travel north on Road 317 towards Hebron city.

Ongoing incidents:

- Closure remains tight in the district along bypass roads. On Road 35 the IDF has reinforced the earth mounds on both sides and continues to keep closed the Idhna – Tarqumiya crossings. The road is now used exclusively by Israeli settlers and a few Palestinian truck drivers with travel permits;
- Closures on Road 317 and Road 60 remained strict especially after adding a large number of cement blocks before and in the vicinity of Zif gate.
- All entrances to As Samu' from Road 60 remain closed by a roadblock and earth mounds.
- The entrance to Adh Dhahiriya remains closed by a road block.
- All primary entrances to Hebron from Roads 35 and 60 are closed. Alternative entrances via Halhul and Dura are possible through IDF positions permanently manned.
- Travel permit restrictions remain enforced along Road 60 and 317 south of Hebron.

#### Jerusalem Governorate:

**15 February:** The Israeli DCL informed the Palestinian DCL that Nwemeh partial checkpoint will be manned permanently. The checkpoint will operate between 5am to 8pm.

**17 February:** Israeli police enforced a tight closure around the Old City of Jerusalem. Palestinian males below 45 years old were not allowed into Haram al Sharif for the Friday prayers.

#### Jericho Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to prohibit all Palestinians from entering the Jordan Valley 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. However, Palestinians with permits are not allowed to stay over night in the area.

#### Gaza Strip

Ongoing incidents:

- 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.
- The IDF continues to enforce the "no go" or enlarged buffer zone in the Palestinian areas which lies to the north of Gaza on the border with Israel. This area, in the former enclosed area of As Siafa, is home to more than 250 Palestinians.

#### Reported flying checkpoints – West Bank:

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Road No. 60 near; Yits'har junction (7), Road No. 60 between Tulkarm and Al Madina club (1), Al Badhan Rd (7), Jamma'in (1).	16
Jenin	Haifa Rd (1), Jenin west entrance (1), Kafr Dan (2).	4
Tubas	Aqqaba (1).	1
Tulkarm	Kafriat tunnel (7), Bal'a (1), 'Illar (1), Baqa ash Sharqiya (1).	10
Qalqiliya	Entrance; DCO (4), 'Azzun (4), An Nabi Elyas (3), Izbat at Tabib (3), Kafr Laqif (1), Jit junction (4), Kafr Qaddum (1), Immatin (1).	21
Salfit	Kifl Haris (1), Deir Istiya (7), Az Zawiya Tunnel (1), Between Biddya and Mas-ha (1), Qarawat Bani Hassan (1).	11
Ramallah and Al Bireh	Road 60 (14), 'Ein Arik rd.	15
Jerusalem	Sheikh Jarrah. Entrance off; Hizma, Al 'Eizariyya.	3
Jericho	No incidents reported.	0
Bethlehem	Husan, Beit Sahur, Dar Salah (2), Al 'Ubeidiya, 'Ayda camp (2), Al Khadr (2), Beit Jala, Za'atara.	11
Hebron	Zif gate (2), Yatta, Beit Ummar (3), Bani Na'im (4), Dura (2), H1 (2), Halhul, Beit Kahil, Al Arrub (4), Ad Dhahiriya (2), Ar Ramadin, Tarqumiya, Twani (2).	26
<b>Total West Bank</b>		<b>118</b>

## 5. Additional Protection Issues

- During the reporting period **27** home made rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip toward targets inside Israel.
- During the reporting period, the IDF fired more than **114** artillery tank shells and **one** air-to-ground missile towards targets in the Gaza Strip.
- **16 February:** Israeli settlers from Qedumim settlement prevented Palestinian farmers from Kafr Qaddum (Qalqiliya) to access their land to plough the olive groves.
- **18 February:** Israeli settlers attacked a Palestinian house in Kafr Laqif (Qalqiliya) near Road 55. No injuries or damage occurred.
- **18 February:** Following prior coordination with the IDF, PA security forces discovered and detonated in a controlled manner two road side bombs northwest of the Bedouin village next to the former northern Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip.
- **18 February:** IDF soldiers discovered and safely detonated a road side bomb near the border fence east of Shija'ia area of Gaza City (Gaza Strip). Armed clashes occurred with Palestinian militants. No injuries were reported.

### Searches/Arrests/Detentions

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention, number of searches noted at locations with brackets	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus city (5), Balata camp (3), Zawata (1). CP/Flying CPs; Huwwara CP.	9	31
Jenin	Jenin city (4), Jenin camp (2), Qabatiya (1), Kafr Ra'i (2), Ya'bad (2), Zububa (1), Rummana (1). CP/Flying CPs; Salem CP, Kafr Dan.	13	35
Tubas	Tubas (1).	1	0
Tulkarm	Tulkarm city (2), Illar (1), Attil (1), Balá (1), Baqa ash Sharqiya (1).	6	17
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya city (3), Ázzun (1), Ázzun Átma (1).	5	6
Salfit	Haris (1).	1	1
Ramallah/Al Bireh	Kafr 'Ein (1), Ramallah (2), Kafr Ni'ma (1), Qarawat Bani Zeid (1).	5	10
Jerusalem	Dahiyat al Bareed (1). Old City, East Jerusalem.	1	4
Jericho	No incidents reported.	0	0
Bethlehem	Al 'Ubeidiya (2), Za'tara (1), Bethlehem city (3), 'Ayda camp (2), Al Khadr (4), Dar Salah (2), Beit Jala (1), Al 'Aza camp (2), Ad Duheisha (2), Beit Sahur (2), Ash Shawara (1), Al Khadr (4).	26	8
Hebron	Adh Dhahiriya (1), Yatta (2), Dura (4), H1 (3), Halhul (1), Al Arrub camp (1), Bani Na'im (4), Idhna (1), Beit Kahil (1), Ar Ramadin (1), As Samu' (1), Ash Shuyukh (1), Beit Ummar (2), Surif (1), Beit Awwa (2)	26	15
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>93</b>	<b>127</b>
Gaza Strip	Attempted infiltration; East of Rafah	0	4
<b>Total Week oPt</b>		<b>93</b>	<b>131</b>



## Appendix: Checkpoints: 15 – 21 February 2006

Checkpoint	Status
<b>Tulkarm:</b>	
<b>Taybeh</b>	Open between 5.30am to 5pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians with permits. The gate leads to the back-to-back checkpoint.
<b>Efrayim</b>	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 4am – 7pm and Palestinian workers and traders are instructed to cross through. Since 15 January an Israeli civilian company operating at the checkpoint.
<b>Kafriat</b>	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 57 was opened reducing the need to use the checkpoint.
<b>‘Anabta</b>	Partial check point on the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. Manned daily during the reporting period and closed for several hours daily.
<b>Qalqiliya:</b>	
<b>Jaljoulia</b>	Open 24 hours. 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.
<b>Qalqiliya North (new)</b>	Open between 4am to 7pm for Palestinian permit holders.
<b>Salfit:</b>	
<b>Deir Ballut</b>	Open between 6am to 6pm. The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western part of Salfit governorate.
<b>Kafr Qasem (Road 5)</b>	Open 24 hours for UN and international organisations and Palestinians with permits.
<b>Nablus:</b>	
<b>Huwwara</b> Southern main entrance	Open between 6am to 8pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only after prior liaison with the IDF. The IDF maintained restrictions on Palestinians from Jenin and Tulkarm crossing from Nablus.
<b>Beit Iba</b> Western entrance, mainly for trade	Open between 6am to 8pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only after prior liaison with the IDF.
<b>Qusin</b> Internal closure between Sarra and Nablus	Closed by a gate since mid-March 2004; traffic diverted through Beit Iba checkpoint.
<b>Al Tur</b> Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan district of Jarzim with Nablus City	Only open for Samaritans. The gate is occasionally open for vehicles.
<b>Beit Furik</b> Eastern gate and checkpoint. After the closure regime main gateway between Nablus and the Jordan Valley	Open between 6am to 6pm for villagers from Beit Furik and Beit Dajan. The IDF continues to restrict villages under the age of 30 years from crossing.
<b>Shave Shomeron</b> Northwest, main road to Jenin	Since 15 August the checkpoint is closed for Palestinians. Only humanitarian vehicles are allowed access. Since 1 February humanitarian organisations need prior coordination for crossing due to the installation of concrete slabs as a security wall for the settlement.
<b>Maale Efrayim</b> 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.
<b>Hamra</b> East, before closure regime main road to Jordan, Tubas,	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. A security zone has been declared

Jenin	by the IDF around Hamra checkpoint. No land has been confiscated; however any Palestinian crossing the area that is not owner of the land will be arrested. Landowners names have been compiled in a list at the checkpoint. Delays for traders crossing the checkpoint are reported on a daily basis.
<b>Zaatara</b> (Tappouah) South, main road to Ramallah	The IDF maintained restrictions on Palestinians from the northern West Bank (Tulkarm and Jenin) accessing Zaatara checkpoint.
<b>Jenin:</b>	
<b>Al Jalama</b> Main entrance to Israel	Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Friday.
<b>Imreiha (Reikhan)</b> 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. Vegetables are allowed into Israel after prior coordination.
<b>Tubas:</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> Main entrance to Israel	Open 24 hours for permit holders. Since 16 November closed for Israeli and Palestinian commercial trucks.
<b>Tayasir Gate</b> 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. Long delays are reported for Palestinians crossing the checkpoint on a daily basis.
<b>Ramallah/AI Bireh:</b>	
<b>Qalandiya</b>	Open only for Internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West bank ID.
<b>Bet El/DCO</b>	Open between 6am to 10pm. Access in vehicles only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, and Palestinians with special work permits.
<b>Atara Bridge (partial)</b>	Open.
<b>An Nabi Salih gate (partial)</b>	Open.
<b>At Tayba (partial)</b>	Open.
<b>Makkabim</b> On Highway 443	Usually open for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders and foreign passport holders. Road 443 is off limits to West Bank Palestinians, except those with permits to enter Israel/Jerusalem.
<b>Ni'lin</b>	Usually open for Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Rantis</b>	Usually open for Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Jerusalem:</b>	
<b>Hizma</b> Eastern entrance of junction Road 437/Psigat Ze'ev settlement	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross, exceptions only for West Bank Palestinians working in international organisations.
<b>Az Za'ayyem</b> North eastern entrance on Road 1.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross.
<b>Ar Ram</b> Northern entrance on Road 60 north.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, Palestinians with valid permits and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
<b>Bir Nabala/Atarot</b> Northern entrance on Road 404 /45 Road Atarot Junction.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, Palestinians with valid permits and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
<b>Ramot Alon</b> North western entrance on Road 436	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross.
<b>Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint</b>	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.
<b>Container ("Wadi nar")</b> 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:**

<b>DCO</b> 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. Long delays were experienced throughout the week.
<b>Al Auja (Yitav)</b> 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.
<b>Gate opposite Allenby</b> Checkpoint off Road 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.
<b>Nwemeh</b> North Jericho	Since 15 February the partial checkpoint has become permanent with regular opening hours from 5am to 8pm. Palestinian vehicles and ID cards are subjected to regular checks.

**Bethlehem :**

<b>Gilo (Rachel's Tomb)</b> North entrance to Bethlehem	New terminal-like crossing. Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with valid permits. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to enter Bethlehem only if driven by an Arab Israeli. During the reporting period, Palestinians experienced delays at the checkpoint
<b>Ein Yalow</b> Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line	Open 24 hours and only for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations. Since 3 February Palestinians with permits are not to cross.
<b>Beit Jala DCO</b> Entrance to Beit Jala	Rarely manned and open 24 hours. Movement allowed in both directions for all kind of vehicles including private cars.
<b>Tunnels</b> Road 60 at Har Gilo	Open 24 hours for international members of international humanitarian organisations. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross, exceptions only for West Bank Palestinians working in international organisations. The checkpoint is still used by Jerusalem ID holders and will remain the main access point for commercial goods originating from Palestinian areas into Jerusalem. Land levelling is on-going to enlarge the checkpoint.
<b>Settlers' Checkpoint - Efrata</b> Southern entrance to settlement	Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by settlers with movement beyond it restricted for Palestinians.
<b>Gush Etzion</b> 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 plated cars can pass.
<b>Wadi Fukin</b> Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israeli Blue ID holders. Since 3 February closed for Palestinians.
<b>Al Jab'a</b> Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israeli Blue ID holders. Since 3 February closed for Palestinians.
<b>Ein Gedi</b> On Road 90, along Dead Sea.	Open 24 hours. On bypass Road 90, restricted to Palestinian movement.

**Hebron :**

<b>Beit Awwa</b> At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354	Crossing along Road 354 only for humanitarian organisations and critical service providers: no other movement allowed.
<b>Tarqumiya</b> Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem districts	Open for both Palestinian workers and commercial goods from Palestinian areas to Israel. Workers are usually allowed to cross from 5am – 5pm. The back-to-back section is open from 7am to 7pm; goods are moving across smoothly and all cargo is checked by the IDF Military Police. Structures are already in place for the possible future movement of people and goods from and to Gaza under the Rafah Agreement. During the reporting period, Palestinians experienced delays at the checkpoint.
<b>Meitar</b> Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line	Open 24 hours. Palestinian workers and traders were able to cross.
<b>Shani</b> At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317.	Manned by the IDF; The soldiers manning the checkpoint are not allowing teachers coming from As Samu towards Imneizil school from accessing Road 317. New road barrier is being installed near the checkpoint.
<b>Beit Yatir</b> On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizil	Manned by the IDF. Open 24 hours. Moved south by 1 km to the section of road where the Barrier will cross road 316.
<b>Prayers Road, H2</b>	Closed to Palestinians.

Access to area of Ibrahimi Mosque	
<b>Shohada street, H2</b> 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. Access for students and staff of Qurtuba School was denied for 2 hours on 20 and 21 February.
<b>Ibrahimi Mosque, H2</b> Access to the Mosque	Worshippers and visitors searched upon entry.
<b>Bab Al Baladiyye , H2</b> 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.
<b>Qarantina, H2</b> Junction with Shohada Street	Closed to Palestinians.
<b>Bab Al-Khan, H2</b> Entrance to Avraham Avinu settlement	Closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and north toward the market.
<b>Tel Rumeida, H2</b> Beginning of street leading to settlement	Open only to Palestinians travelling on foot living between it and the settlement.
<b>Al Kasaba, H2</b> 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 problematic during Friday prayers.
<b>Ar Ramadin</b> At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325	Manned by IDF soldiers and Border Police. All Palestinians are allowed after an ID check is performed which a departure from last week's policy where only Palestinians living in Al Ramadin were allowed access. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325.
<b>"Nabi Younis"</b> Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint at the entrance to Halhul, monitored by the nearby observation tower.
<b>Al Fawwar</b> Al Fawwar-Dura junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint monitored from the nearby observation tower. During the reported period, Palestinians experienced delays at the checkpoint.

#### Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints

<b>Erez crossing</b>	Open all week.
<b>Rafah Passenger Terminal</b>	Since 18 December the terminal has had normal opening from 8:00am to 4 – 5:00pm; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 15 February: 539 arrivals, 811 departures.</li> <li>- 16 February: 505 arrivals, 916 departures.</li> <li>- 17 February: 911 arrivals, 718 departures.</li> <li>- 18 February: 755 arrivals, 831 departures.</li> <li>- 19 February: 654 arrivals, 870 departures.</li> <li>- 20 February: 701 arrivals, 989 departures.</li> <li>- 21 February: 734 arrivals, 884 departures.</li> </ul>

#### Commercial checkpoints:

<b>Tulkarm/Qalqiliya</b>	
<b>Taybeh</b>	An Israeli private company took over the responsibility of controlling checkpoint. Delays were experienced. The back-to-back system has been operational from 7am to 5pm except on Saturday.
<b>Nablus</b>	
<b>Awarta checkpoint</b> Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003.	Open from 6am to 5pm, Sunday to Thursday, Friday from 6am to 2pm and closed on Saturday.
<b>Jenin</b>	
<b>Al Jalama</b> Northern entrance/ main commercial check point.	Open between 7am to 4pm, Sunday to Friday.
<b>Ramallah/AI Bireh</b>	
<b>Beituniya</b> Back-to-back checkpoint	Officially open between 7am to 5pm Sunday to Thursday, 7am to 1pm 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.
<b>Jericho</b>	
Checkpoint/ DCO checkpoint	Open, but only for basic necessities, including dairy products. Other goods need a permit to be brought in. Closed from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning. Opening hours are 6am to 8pm.
<b>Gaza Strip</b>	
<b>Sufa</b>	Closed since 14 February due to a security threat.
<b>Karni</b>	Karni commercial crossing was partially open all the week. On 21 February the crossing did not open until 1:30pm (with no reason given).

– 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.