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Protection of Civilians – Weekly Briefing Notes

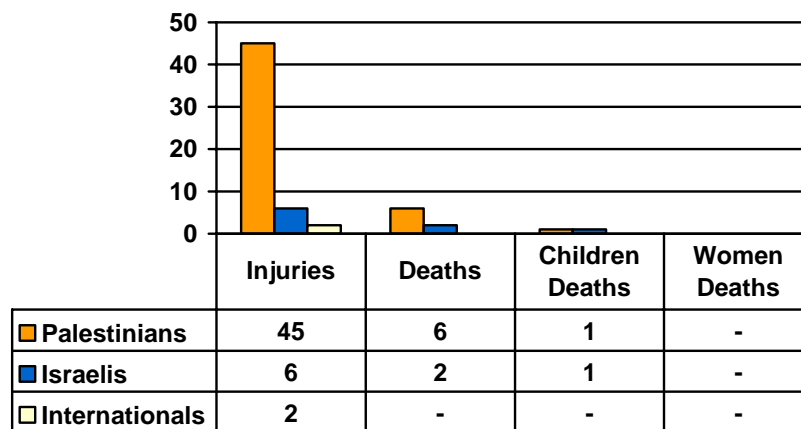
22 – 28 March 2006

Of note this period

- Israeli General Parliamentary Elections were held at the end of the reporting period. In the lead up to the elections a general closure of the oPt (no movement of Palestinian workers and traders with valid permits since 11 March) remained in place. All commercial crossing points, including Karni crossing in the Gaza Strip, were closed by Israeli authorities on election day. A higher number of flying checkpoints throughout the West Bank were also reported.
- Four of the Palestinian fatalities reported occurred in the Gaza Strip along the border fence with Israel. Settler violence continued throughout the West Bank, particularly in Hebron.

1. Physical Protection

Casualties and protection



- **22 March:** The IDF shot and killed a 22-year-old Palestinian man and injured another two Palestinians during a search and arrest campaign in Aqbat Jaber camp (Jericho).
- **22 March:** The IDF injured a 15-year-old boy after opening fire towards Palestinian stone throwing youths near the Idhna-Tarquimiya junction (Hebron).
- **22 March:** The IDF injured a 15-year-old Palestinian boy after open fire towards Palestinian stone throwing youths near the Zif gate (Hebron).
- **22 March:** Israeli settlers from Susya (Hebron) beat and injured a 22-year-old Palestinian man near the settlement.
- **22 March:** During a house demolition in Al Walaja (Bethlehem), IDF soldiers beat and injured a 27-year-old Palestinian man.
- **22 March:** Palestinians stoned Israeli plated vehicles passing on Road 55 near 'Azzun (Qalqiliya) injuring one female settler.
- **23 March:** Palestinian gunmen opened fire and injured two IDF soldiers in Nablus city (Nablus) during a search and arrest campaign.
- **23 March:** Two Palestinians, aged 20 and 22-years-old, were killed in confrontations with IDF soldiers near the border fence east of Abu Ajeen in Deir al Balah (Gaza Strip).
- **24 March:** The IDF injured fired tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets at Palestinian and Israeli activists demonstrating against the construction of the Barrier in Bil'in (Ramallah). 10 Palestinians were injured.
- **24 March:** The Israeli Border Police fired tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets at Palestinian, Israeli and International activists demonstrating against the construction of the Barrier in Beit Sira (Ramallah). Eight Palestinians, one International activist and two Israeli Border Police were injured.

- **24 March:** Two Palestinians (14 and 40-years-old) were injured in Tubas by an unexploded ordinance (UXO).
- **24 March:** The IDF shot and injured two 16-year-old Palestinian boys in 'Anabta (Tulkarm) during confrontation between Palestinian stone throwers and the IDF.
- **24 March:** The IDF injured an 11-year-old Palestinian boy after opening fire towards a demonstration taking place in Tulkarm city (Tulkarm) on the anniversary of the death of Sheikh Ahmed Yasin.
- **25 March:** IDF troops near the border fence east of Bureij (Gaza Strip) shot and killed a 16-year-old Palestinian boy approaching the fence.
- **25 March:** Israeli settlers from Susya settlement (Hebron) entered the home of two Palestinian brothers (26 and 27 years old) in the nearby Palestinian village of Susiya in the night and beat and injured the two men.
- **25 March:** Israeli settlers threw stones and beat and injured a 35-year-old international volunteer walking near Beit Hadassah settlement (H2-area Hebron city).
- **26 March:** The IDF shot and injured a 20-year-old Palestinian man in Al Yamun (Jenin) after an exchange of fire took place during a search and arrest campaign.
- **27 March:** Palestinians physically assaulted and injured an Israeli settler and stole his vehicle in Al Funduq (Qalqiliya).
- **27 March:** During a house search in Tel Rumeida (H2 area, Hebron city), IDF soldiers beat and injured a 60-year-old Palestinian man along with his two sons (27 and 39-years-old).
- **27 March:** One 24-year-old Palestinian gunman was killed and another three Palestinians injured in confrontations with IDF troops near the border fence north of Beit Hanoun (Gaza Strip).
- **27 March:** An IAF aircraft fired two missiles targeting a vehicle in Gaza City (Gaza Strip). Two Palestinian bystanders were injured.
- **27 March:** The Israeli Border Police injured one Palestinian man after they fired tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets during a search and arrest campaign in Dahiyat al Barid (Jerusalem).
- **28 March:** Two Israeli Bedouins were killed (a father and his 16-year-old son) in the western Negev when an unexploded Qassam rocket detonated as they handled it.
- **28 March:** The IDF shot dead a 24-year-old Palestinian man in Al Yamun (Jenin) after IDF surrounded a house and an exchange of fire took place during a military operation.
- **28 March:** The IDF injured an 8-year-old Palestinian girl during an incursion in Al Fawwar refugee camp (Hebron) after they fired rubber-coated metal bullets. Three Palestinian men were also injured by IDF soldiers in the same incursion.
- During the reporting period **11** home made (Qassam) rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip toward targets inside Israel. No injuries were reported.
- On **28 March**, Israeli media reported that for the first time, Palestinians fired a 122mm Katyusha rocket, a much longer-range projectile than the Qassam, from the Gaza Strip into Israel. No injuries were reported.
- During the reporting period the IDF fired more than **33** artillery tank shells and **four** F16 missiles towards targets in the Gaza Strip. No injuries were reported.

2. Shelter and Property

| Date | Location, Governorate | Structures demolished | Structures partially destroyed | People displaced / affected |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 21 March | Birqin, Jenin | 1 | - | 9 |
| 22 March | Al Walaja, Bethlehem | 2 | - | 18 |
| Total Week | | 3 | - | 27 |

- **21 March:** The IDF demolished a two-storey building in Birqin village (Jenin) after they surrounded the house during a search and arrest campaign. Two families (nine persons) were left homeless.
- **22 March:** The Jerusalem Municipality demolished two houses in Al Walaja (Bethlehem) for reportedly being built without a permit. Two families (18 persons) were left homeless.

Other related incidents:

- **20 - 22 March:** The IDF occupied eight houses in Beita village (Nablus) and used them as observation posts throughout a military operation in the area until 12 pm, 22 March.

- **26 March:** An IAF F-16 jet fired a rocket targeting an access road leading to the electricity power plant north of Nuseirat camp (Gaza Strip). Parts of the road were severely damaged,
- **26 March:** An IAF F-16 jet fired a rocket targeting an access road in Johr Ed-Dik north of Bureij camp (Gaza Strip). Parts of the road were damaged.

3. Natural Resources

Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting¹

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 Governorate:

No incidents to report.

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:

Ongoing incidents:

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

Salfit Governorate:

22 March: The IDF started levelling land in an archaeological site on the west side of the Barrier near Rafat village.

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:

- Barrier construction: Construction of the Barrier continues between Kharbatha al Misbah and Bil'in. Land levelling for the last section of the Barrier in Beit Sira is continuing between the village and Makkaim settlement. The construction of the Barrier between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and At Tira village is in the final stages. The construction of the "special security arrangements" around Ofarim and Beit Arye settlements is continuing parallel to bypass Road 465 and east of 'Abud village.
- The IDF continues levelling land around Ateret settlement to create a buffer zone around the settlement.

Hebron Governorate:

22 March: The IDF issued military order number T/23/06 requisitioning 7.3 dunums in Adh Dhahiriya for the purpose of installing military surveillance cameras.

22 March: The IDF issued military order number T/220/05 requisitioning 7 m² (0.007dunums) in Dura and Yatta for the purpose of installing military towers around the Israeli settlement of Otni'el.

25 March: Israeli settlers from Susya settlement uprooted an unknown number of trees belonging to the Palestinian community of Susiya.

28 March: The IDF started levelling land at the back-to-back section of Tarqumiya checkpoint.

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

Ongoing incidents:

- Land levelling continues west of the checkpoint of Tarqumiya where the new commercial checkpoint will be built. The Israeli contractor cut off the main road and re-routed it to a newly-paved road.
- Land levelling and road paving continues next to Meitar checkpoint.
- Land levelling continues at Beit Yatir checkpoint close to the Palestinian hamlet of Imneizil.
- Continued land leveling and development in Deir al 'Asal village for "military requirements".
- Barrier construction: Land levelling continues in the southern part of Hebron near the Israeli settlement of Shani and the Palestinian village of Imneizil for the construction of the Barrier. Land levelling and road paving continues in the towns of Surif, Nuba and Kharas and western side of the village of Al Ramadin.
- Land levelling for the construction of a road barrier has re-started east of Shani checkpoint on Road 317.
- New housing construction continues in the Israeli settlements of Susiya, Karmeit Tsur, Kiryat Arba, Karmel and Pnei Khever.

Bethlehem Governorate:**Ongoing incidents:**

- Land levelling continues next to Rachel's Tomb in preparation for the Barrier around a Palestinian empty apartment building.
- Land levelling continues on the side of Tunnels checkpoint to expand the site.
- Land levelling continues near Al Jab'a checkpoint to expand the site.
- Continued construction of a protection fence next to Al Khadr Boys School along the southern side of Road 60.
- New housing construction continues in the Israeli settlement of Efrat as well as northeast of Neve Daniel (in its most recent expansion), and in Har Gilo and Betar Illit.

Jerusalem Governorate:**Ongoing incidents:**

- Barrier construction: 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 a new road between Bir Nabala, Qalandiya village and Rafat. The road will allow access of residents from Bir Nabala, Al Jib and Al Judeira to Ramallah.
- Construction of a road barrier is continuing on Road 1, east of Az Za'ayem checkpoint. Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards intending to drive to Jerusalem, have to drive south to Ma'ale Adumim and then return through Az Za'ayem checkpoint.
- A fence has been installed between Ar Ram/ Dahiyat al Bareed checkpoint and the Barrier just north of the checkpoint. The fence prevents vehicles to access Atarot or Bet Hanina from the Ar Ram/ Dahiyet al Bareed area. The gap in the Barrier between Ar Ram and Bir Nabala/ Atarot has been blocked by concrete blocks.

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 |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 22 March | Beita, Nablus | 12 hours |
| 27 March | Al Funduq, Qalqiliya | 10 hours |
| Total Week | Incidents | 22 hours |

- **22 March:** The curfew imposed on Beita village (Nablus) since 20 March was lifted at 12pm on 22 March.
- **27 March:** The IDF imposed curfew on Al Funduq village (Qalqiliya) for 10 hours after an Israeli settler was beaten and his vehicle stolen by Palestinians.

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 from the IDF.

b) Access to Education

Nablus:

22 March: All schools in Beita were closed between 19 – 22 March due to an IDF military operation in the village.

Hebron:

Ongoing incidents:

- Students walking from Al Jab'a (Bethlehem) to their school in Surif (Hebron) were delayed by Israeli Border Police soldiers stationed at Surif Gate.
- The IDF and Israeli Police escorted Palestinian students from Tuba to their school in At Tuwani (south Hebron). The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks carried out by Israelis from the Ma'on settlement. Minor delays were experienced.
- Imneizil elementary school was delayed as teachers coming from the Palestinian towns of Yatta and Samu' were unable to reach the school on time. IDF soldiers manning Beit Yatir checkpoint denied the teachers' access. The teachers were sent back and advised by the soldiers to use risky alternative roads.

Gaza Strip:

Ongoing incidents:

- 60 Students from As Siafa living inside the "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

The general closure imposed on oPt by Israeli authorities since 11 March due to the Jewish holiday of Purim was not lifted after the holiday. The GoI stated that the closure would be extended until after the Israeli election. During the reporting period workers and traders with valid permits were again therefore not allowed access to Israel and East Jerusalem.

d) Closures/Movement restrictions

The general closure imposed on the oPt since 11 March remained in place throughout the reporting period.

Nablus Governorate:

22 – 28 March: Delays and long queues were experienced at the flying checkpoint on Al Badhan road. From 23 March the IDF prevented Palestinians from Jenin to enter Nablus city at this flying checkpoint.

22 – 26 March: The IDF closed the gate at the entrance of Jamma'in and prevented vehicles from entering or exiting the village.

22 March: The IDF forced Palestinians to close the shops located on both sides of Road 60 in Huwwara village.

23 March: The IDF opened the main entrance of Beita village and the roads connecting the nearby villages of 'Awarta, Odala and Aqraba after the IDF military operation in the area (19 – 22 March).

28 March: The IDF completely closed Shave Shomeron checkpoint including for UN and humanitarian organisations to finish the construction of the checkpoint (previously the checkpoint had been closed to Palestinians and access for international organisations only after prior coordination during limited hours). The IDF stated that they would open 'Asira ash Shamaliya checkpoint as a substitute to Shave Shomeron for UN and humanitarian organisations and Palestinians from 6am to 8pm. On 28 March at 5pm several NGOs, including an ambulance, were denied access at this alternate checkpoint. Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF are preventing all Palestinians from Jenin from leaving Nablus through Huwwara and Beit Iba checkpoints. Long delays are experienced at these checkpoints.
- The IDF at Za'atara checkpoint continue to deny access for Palestinians from Jenin heading south through the checkpoint. Palestinians heading north continued to be allowed access.

Jenin Governorate:

27 and 28 March: The IDF closed all entrances of Al Yamun and Kafr Dan villages with flying checkpoints and prevented residents from entering or exiting the villages during a search and arrest campaign.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continue to close Al Jalama checkpoint preventing workers and traders from entering Israel. The commercial checkpoint (back to back) remained open with delays this week.
- The IDF continues restricting the crossing of commercial trucks transporting goods to Barta'a enclave. Food products require prior coordination.

Tubas Governorate:

22 March: The IDF installed two road gates at the two ends of the earth wall along the northern side of Road 578 east of Khirbet 'Atuf.

Ongoing incidents:

- Palestinians experiences daily long delays at Tayasir checkpoint, especially during the morning and evening rush hours.

Tulkarm Governorate:

25 and 26 March: The IDF closed 'Anabta partial checkpoint for vehicular movement for several hours each day. Throughout the reporting period delays and long queues continue to be experienced at 'Anabta partial check point and at the flying checkpoint near Kafriat tunnel.

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 the road connecting Deir al Ghusun village with 'Attil village with earth mounds.
- The IDF continues to close Efrayim checkpoint preventing workers and traders from entering Israel. The Taybeh commercial checkpoint (back to back) remains open.
- The IDF continues to close the roads connecting Thinaba with Kafr al Labad and Izbat 'Khmish with earth mounds.

Qalqiliya Governorate:

22 March: The IDF closed the entrances of 'Izbat at Tabib and the western road connecting 'Izbat at Tabib with 'Azzun with earth mounds.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close Qalqiliya north checkpoint preventing workers and traders from entering Israel.

Salfit Governorates:

Ongoing incidents:

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

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

22 – 28 March: The IDF manned the gate at An Nabi Saleh daily during morning rush hours. The IDF searched cars and IDs of Palestinians going in/out the gate.

Bethlehem Governorate:**Ongoing incidents:**

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

Hebron governorate**Ongoing incidents:**

- Access restrictions to Road 35 continue to be reinforced with earth mounds on both sides.
- All entrances to As Samu' from Road 60 remain closed with a roadblock and earth mounds. The entrance to Adh Dhahiriya from Road 60 remains closed with a road block.
- All primary entrances to Hebron from Road 35 and 60 are closed. Alternative entrances via Halhul and Dura are possible through IDF positions permanently manned.
- Entrances to Idhna and Tarqumiya from Road 35 are still closed with road blocks.

Jerusalem Governorate:

27 March: Israeli security forces increased their presence inside and around the Old City. Palestinians were stopped and checked.

28 March: Due to the Israeli Parliament General Elections, a tight closure was imposed on Jerusalem with a heavy presence of Israeli Police and Border Police in the city. Palestinians from the West Bank who carry West Bank ID cards were denied access.

Jericho Governorate:

22 – 28 March: Heavy IDF presence during the week in Jericho; the IDF entered the city on patrol on seven occasions. Palestinians going in/out from Jericho DCO and An Nwemeh checkpoints experienced long delays.

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.
- Delays at the DCO checkpoint is continuing on a daily basis in the morning and evening hours.
- The IDF continue to operate the former partial checkpoint at An Nwemeh with official opening hours from 5am to 8pm.

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 area.
- 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 60 near; Yits'har junction (7). Road 60 near Al Madina club (7), Al Badhan Rd (6), Beita (4), Jamma'in (2) | 26 |
| Jenin | Al Yamun (5), Kafr Dan (5), Between; Birqin & Jenin (7), Al Yamun & Birqin (5), Kafr Qud & Birqin (5). | 27 |
| Tubas | Tubas, Tammun, Al Far'a. | 3 |

| | | |
|------------------------|--|------------|
| Tulkarm | Between; Deir Al Ghusun & Al Jarushiya (6), 'Attil, Balá (4). | 11 |
| Qalqiliya | Entrance Qalqiliya – DCO (7), 'Azzun (7), Kafr Thulth, Bet Hajja & Al Funduq, Jit junction (7), Jinsafut, Habla tunnel, Deir Istiya, Mahatat Tahseen Mansur. | 27 |
| Salfit | Deir Istiya, Bruqin (2), Yasuf, Marda, Qarawat Bani Hassan (3). | 8 |
| Ramallah and Al Bireh | Road 60 near Sha'ar Binyamim junction (14). | 14 |
| Jerusalem | Entrance off; Az Za'ayyem. Beit Hanina. | 2 |
| Jericho | No flying checkpoints reported. | 0 |
| Bethlehem | Husan, Beit Sahur, Al 'Aza camp (2), Dar Salah (2), Al 'Ubeidiya, 'Ayda camp (4), Al Khadr (2), Beit Jala (2), Za'atara, Bethlehem. | 17 |
| Hebron | Yatta, Beit Ummar (4), Bani Na'im, Dura (2), H1 (6), Halhul (2), Beit Kahil, Al Arrub camp (5), Ad Dhahiriya, Ar Ramadin, Sa'ir (2), Ash Shuyukh. | 27 |
| Total West Bank | | 162 |

5. Additional Protection Issues

- **23 March:** About 30 IDF jeeps entered Deir Ghassaneh and Beit Rima villages (Ramallah) followed by house searches and the arrest of five Palestinian males from Deir Ghassaneh. IDF soldiers also burned a copy of the Qur'an.

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 (2), Balata camp (1), Askar (1), Beita (1), 'Aqraba (1), Jamma'in (1). At CPs/Flying CPs: Huwwara CP, Zaatara CP, Al Badhan flying CP. | 7 | 16 |
| Jenin | Jenin city (2), Jenin camp (2), Al Yamun (4), Ya'bad (1), Silat adh Dhahar (1), 'Arraba (1), Kafr Dan (3), Birqin (2), Rummana (1), Kherbit Beir al Basha (1). At CPs/Flying CPs: Salem CP. | 18 | 6 |
| Tubas | At CPs/Flying CPs: Tayasir CP, Tubas. | 0 | 2 |
| Tulkarm | Tulkarm city (2), Faru'in (1), Qaffin (1), Nur Shams (1), Deir al Ghusun (1). At CPs/Flying CPs; Deir al Ghusun flying CP. | 6 | 18 |
| Qalqiliya | Qalqiliya city (4) 'Azzun (1) | 5 | 10 |
| Salfit | Salfit (1), Kafr ad Dik (1) | 2 | - |
| Ramallah/Al Bireh | Al Bireh (1), Ramallah city (3), Deir Ghassaneh (1), Beit Rima (1). | 6 | 28 |
| Jerusalem | Hizma (1). At CPs/Flying CPs: Container CP. | 1 | 2 |
| Jericho | Aqbar Jaber camp (1). | 1 | 2 |
| Bethlehem | Al 'Ubeidiya (2), Za'tara (1), Bethlehem city (3), 'Ayda camp(3), Al Khadr (4), Dar Salah (1), Beit Jala (3), Al 'Aza camp (3), Ad Duheisha (2), Beit Sahur (1), Ash Shawara (1). | 24 | 15 |
| Hebron | Adh Dhahiriya (1), Yatta (4), Dura (2), H1 (3), Halhul (1), Al Arrub camp (4), Bani Na'im (2), Idhna (1), Beit Kahil (1), Ar Ramadin (1), As Samu' (1), Ash Shuyukh (1), Beit Ummar (1), Surif (1), Beit Awwa (1). | 25 | n.a. |
| Total Week West Bank | | 95 | 99+ |
| Gaza Strip | Attempted infiltration to Israel; East Bureij | 0 | 4 |
| Total Week oPt | | 95 | 103+ |

Appendix: Checkpoints: 22 – 28 March 2006

| Checkpoint | Status |
|--|--|
| Tulkarm: | |
| Taybeh | Open between 5.30am to 5pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians with permits. The gate leads to the back-to-back checkpoint. |
| 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 4am – 7pm and Palestinian workers and traders are instructed to cross through. Since 15 January an Israeli civilian company operating at the checkpoint. Closed since 11 March. |
| 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. |
| Kafriat Tunnel | On 1 March IDF Installed concrete barriers on Kafriat Tunnel flying checkpoint situated 1km south of Kafriat Tunnel upgrading the flying checkpoint observed on a daily basis to partial checkpoint. The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin. |
| 'Anabta | Partial check point on the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. Manned daily during the reporting period. |
| Qalqiliya: | |
| Jaljoulia | 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. Closed since 11 March. |
| Qalqiliya North (new) | Open between 4am to 7pm for Palestinian permit holders. Closed since 11 March. |
| Salfit: | |
| Deir Ballut | Open between 6am to 6pm. The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western part of Salfit governorate. |
| Kafr Qasem (Road 5) | Open 24 hours for UN and international organisations and Palestinians with permits. Closed since 11 March. |
| Nablus: | |
| Huwwara 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. |
| Beit Iba 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. |
| Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan district of Jarzim with Nablus City | Open 6am to 6pm from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritans families living east of the checkpoint. 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 between 6am to 6pm for villagers from Beit Furik and Beit Dajan. The IDF continues to restrict villages between 16 – 40 years old from crossing. |
| Shave Shomeron Northwest, main road to Jenin | Since 15 August the checkpoint is closed for Palestinians. On 28 March closed for all vehicles, UN and international humanitarian organisations included. |
| 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, | 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. |
| Zaatara (Tappouah) South, main road to Ramallah | The IDF maintained restrictions on Palestinians from Jenin accessing Zaatara checkpoint. |
| Jenin: | |
| Al Jalama Main entrance to Israel | Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Friday. Closed since 11 March. |
| Imreih (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. 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. |
| 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. Long delays are reported for Palestinians crossing the checkpoint on a daily basis. |
| Ramallah/Al Bireh: | |
| Qalandiya | Open only for Internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West bank ID with valid permits. Long delays are being reported particularly during morning and evening rush hours. |
| Bet El/DCO | 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. |
| Atara Bridge (partial) | Open. |
| An Nabi Salih gate (partial) | Open. |
| At Tayba (partial) | Open. |
| Makkabim 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. |
| 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 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. |
| Az Za'ayyem 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. |
| Ar Ram 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. |
| Bir Nabala/Atarot 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. |
| Ramot Alon 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. |
| 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 | 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 |

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| Bank | allowed to cross. Long delays are reported. |
| Ras Abu Sbeitan (Olive) North eastern entrance on Road 1 | Open 24 hours, Palestinians pedestrians with West Bank ID cards with valid permits can use the checkpoint. Long delays are reported. |
| 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. Delays are reported especially during morning rush hours. Closed on 14 March. |
| 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. Closed on 14 March. |
| Gate opposite Allenby 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. Closed on 14 March. |
| Nwemeh 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. Closed on 14 March. |
| Bethlehem : | |
| Gilo (Rachel's Tomb) 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. Closed since 11 March. |
| Ein Yalow 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 allowed to cross. |
| Beit Jala DCO Entrance to Beit Jala | Rarely manned and open 24 hours. Movement allowed in both directions for all kind of vehicles including private cars. However, on 3 February, the checkpoint was manned and causing slow traffic and congestion. |
| Tunnels Road 60 at Har Gilo | Open 24 hours for international members of international humanitarian organisations Local staff of international organisations are also permitted to cross into Jerusalem through this checkpoint. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross and are redirected to Gilo checkpoint. 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. |
| 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 plated cars can pass. |
| Wadi Fukin Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line | Open 24 hours for Israeli Blue ID holders. Not open for Palestinians as of 3 February 2006. |
| Al Jab'a Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line | Open 24 hours for Israeli Blue ID holders. Not open for Palestinians as of 3 February 2006. Land levelling is on-going to enlarge the checkpoint.. |
| Ein Gedi On Road 90, along Dead Sea. | Open 24-hours. On bypass road 90, restricted to Palestinian movement. |
| Hebron : | |
| Beit Awwa At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354 | Crossing along Road 354 only for humanitarian organisations and critical service providers: no other movement allowed. Complaints of mistreatment by soldiers manning the checkpoint were reported during the reporting period. |
| Tarquimiya 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. During the reporting period, Palestinians experienced delays at the checkpoint while construction on the crossing point is still ongoing. Closed since 11 March for workers and traders. |
| Meitar Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 | Open 24 hours. Closed since 11 March for workers and traders. |

| on the Green Line | |
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| Shani 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. Work has re-started on a road barrier east of the checkpoint |
| Beit Yatir 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. IDF soldiers manning the checkpoint prevented school teachers from accessing the school in the nearby Palestinian community of Imneizil. |
| Prayers Road, H2 Access to area of Ibrahim 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. During the reporting period, IDF soldiers manning the checkpoint prevented students from the schools of Cordoba and Al Mohammadiya from reaching their schools in a timely fashion. |
| 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 problematic during Friday prayers. |
| Ar Ramadin At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325 | Manned by IDF soldiers and Border Police. Only residents of Ar Ramadin are allowed crossing. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325 |
| "Nabi Younis" Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on road 60 | Partial checkpoint at the entrance to Halhul, monitored by the nearby observation tower. The checkpoint was manned at certain periods during the reported period. |
| Al Fawwar 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. The checkpoint was manned for disconnected periods during the reported period. On 11 March, soldiers manning the checkpoint delayed a PLC Member for more than an hour. |
| Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints | |
| Erez crossing | Closed for Palestinian labourers since 12 March. Open for internationals and humanitarian cases. |
| Rafah Passenger Terminal | Since 18 December the terminal has had normal opening from 8:00am to 4 – 5:00pm; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 22 March: 663 arrivals, 712 departures. - 23 March: 729 arrivals, 666 departures. - 24 March: 653 arrivals, 685 departures. - 25 March: 574 arrivals, 758 departures. - 26 March: 634 arrivals, 780 departures. - 27 March: 610 arrivals, 725 departures. - 28 March: 676 arrivals, 626 departures. |
| Commercial checkpoints: | |
| Tulkarm/Qalqiliya | |
| Taybeh | 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. |
| Nablus | |

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| Awarta checkpoint 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. |
| Jenin | |
| Al Jalama Northern entrance/ main commercial check point. | Open between 7am to 4pm, Sunday to Friday. |
| Ramallah/AI Bireh | |
| Beituniya 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. |
| Jericho | |
| 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. |
| Gaza Strip | |
| Sufa | Closed since 14 February. Re-opened on 26 March for construction materials. |
| Karni | 22 March: Partially open from 9am – 5pm for imported food supplies 23 March: Partially open from 9am – 5pm for imported food supplies 24 March: Partially open from 9am – 1pm for imported food supplies 25 March: Closed (Weekend) 26 March: Partially open from 9am – 5pm for import/export 27 March: Partially open from 9am – 5pm for import/export 28 March: Closed (Israeli election) |
| Kerem Shalom | Open since 22 March for import of international [Egyptian] humanitarian food supplies. Closed 28 March due to the Israeli election. |

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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.