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Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

20 – 26 December 2006

Of note this week

- Palestinian internal violence decreased significantly in the Gaza Strip and West Bank following two weeks of internal tensions. However, in the Gaza Strip clashes between Hamas and Fatah supporters, as well as armed family feuds killed two Palestinians and injured six others. Armed clashes in the northern West Bank left a further eight Palestinians injured.

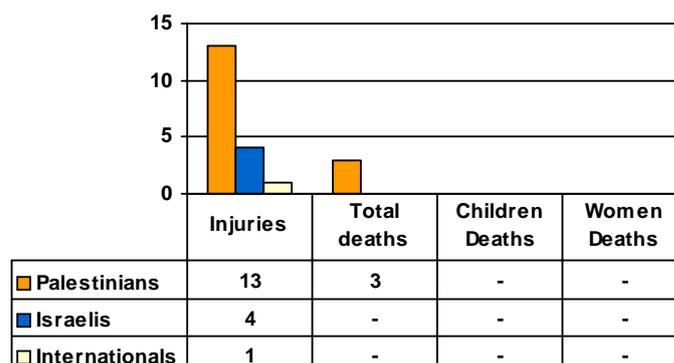
Ceasefire in the Gaza Strip:

- Palestinian militants fired nine mortar shells and 36 homemade rockets into Israel (compared to 11 homemade rockets in the previous period) injuring two 14 year-old Israeli boys in Sderot.
- The IDF injured two Palestinian farmers after opening fire towards them from the border fence in two separate incidents. IDF tanks entered approximately 50 metres inside the Gaza Strip to protect IDF soldiers working to the east of Erez checkpoint on two days. IDF vessels also fired towards Palestinian fishing boats off the Gaza Strip coastline on four separate occasions.
- According to Israeli media reports, the Israeli Prime Minister and Defence Minister instructed the IDF to resume 'pinpoint' operations targeting homemade rocket launching cells. IDF soldiers fired a surface-to-surface missile targeting a vehicle travelling in Beit Hanoun. Local reports indicate that the vehicle was carrying militants who were intending to fire rockets towards Israel. The militants escaped unharmed.

In the West Bank:

- In the West Bank, two Palestinians were killed and eight others injured during IDF operations in the northern West Bank.
- A group of Israeli settlers reoccupied the evacuated settlement of Homesh (Nablus) for a few hours before being removed by the IDF. This is the second week in a row that settlers have attempted to return to this settlement.
- The number of IDF flying checkpoints observed (116) throughout the West Bank during the reporting period was lower compared to previous week (124). Most of the flying checkpoints were recorded in Qalqiliya, Hebron and Bethlehem governorates.
- While the number of search and arrest operations increased (124) compared the previous week (115), the actual number of Palestinians detained/arrested decreased from 100 to 87. The majority of the searches took place in Hebron and Bethlehem.
- For the third time this year, the IDF raided the branch of the Islamic Charitable Society in Beit Sahur (Bethlehem) damaging the doors and internal rooms. The IDF also raided the medical centre associated with the Beit Awwa municipality (Hebron). The soldiers detained a doctor, a nurse and an ambulance driver for the duration of the raid. Physical damage to the building and the rooms was reported.

1. Physical Protection¹



¹ Note that this excludes casualties resulting from Palestinian-Palestinian (internal) violence reported in Section 2.

Gaza Strip:

- **20 December:** A Palestinian farmer was injured when IDF soldiers stationed at the border fence north of Beit Lahia opened fire in the direction of a group of farmers.
- **21 December:** A 22 year-old Palestinian fisherman died of wounds sustained on 13 December when IDF gunboats opened fire in the direction of fishing boats off the coast of Rafah (southern Gaza Strip).
- **26 December:** A Palestinian farmer was injured when IDF soldiers stationed at the border fence north of Beit Lahia opened fire in the direction of a group of farmers.
- **26 December:** Two 14 year-old Israeli boys were injured in Sderot when a homemade rocket was fired from near the Sheikh Zayed city (north-east of Beit Lahia) by Palestinian militants.

West Bank:

- **20 December:** Two Palestinian men (aged 24 and 26 years) were killed in Silat al Harithiya village (Jenin) when the IDF surrounded a house and opened fire at Palestinians in the house during a military operation.
- **21 December:** A 20 year-old Palestinian man was injured after being physically assaulted by the IDF at Beit Iba checkpoint (Nablus).
- **21 December:** A 24 year-old Palestinian man was injured after being physically assaulted by the IDF at Huwara checkpoint (Nablus).
- **22 December:** Three Palestinians and one international activist were injured after being physically assaulted by IDF soldiers during the weekly demonstration against the construction of the Barrier in Bil'in (Ramallah). Several cases of gas tear inhalations were also reported but are not included in the weekly total.
- **23 December:** A 15 year-old Palestinian boy was injured when the IDF physically assaulted him at a flying checkpoint near Az Zababida (Jenin).
- **24 December:** One Israeli settler was injured in Huwwara village (Nablus) when Palestinians threw stones at his vehicle while passing on Road 60 through the village.
- **24 December:** One Israeli settler was injured when his car was stoned by Palestinians at bypass Road 465 near Deir Abu Mash'al village (Ramallah).
- **25 December:** Five Palestinians were injured in Qabatiya (Jenin) during a search and arrest campaign; three of the Palestinians (two 15 year-old boys and a 24 year-old man) were injured by live ammunition and two Palestinians (a 24 year-old man and a 47 year-old woman) were physically assaulted by the IDF. During the arrest operation nine Palestinians were detained.

2. Palestinian internal violence and other incidents

[Casualties recorded in this section relate to Palestinian inter-factional fighting, family and community disputes and reckless use of weapons. Also reported in this section are casualties indirectly related to the conflict such as incidents involving Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), traffic accidents between Israeli and Palestinians in the oPt and deaths resulting from delay in receiving medical treatment at a checkpoint or during a military operation/curfew. These casualties are not recorded in the total in Section 1.]

Gaza Strip:

- **21 December:** A 27 year-old Hamas member was killed during an armed confrontation between Hamas members and a Palestinian family affiliated with Fatah in Gaza City.
- **23 December:** A Palestinian man was injured when a group of unknown armed men opened fire at him in Al Zaitoun area of Gaza City.
- **24 December:** A 35 year-old Palestinian man was killed when a group of unknown armed men opened fire in his direction in Khan Younis.
- **23 December:** Three Palestinians, including a child, were injured when unknown armed men opened fire at a vehicle carrying a PA Preventive Security Officer in Rafah.
- **25 December:** A 23 year-old PA police officer accidentally shot and killed himself while he was cleaning his rifle in Gaza City.
- **26 December:** A 35 year-old Palestinian bystander was injured during an armed family feud in Bureij Camp.
- **26 December:** A 31 year-old Palestinian man was injured during an armed family feud while he was travelling in his car in Rafah.

Other incidents:

- **20 December:** Four cars were burned during an armed clash between Hamas members and a Palestinian family affiliated with Fatah in Gaza City.
- **22 December:** An explosive device was detonated near a Jawwal cellular phone shop in Gaza City damaging the shop.
- **23 December:** An explosive device was detonated at the main gate of a video cassette shop in Khan Younis. The owner of the shop had received a warning one week prior to the bombing for allegedly selling sex videos.
- **25 December:** A group of armed men gathered on the Palestinian side of Karni crossing and disrupted movement of trucks within the crossing. Local reports linked the action to a dispute between the PA and a family.

West Bank:

- **22 December:** Armed clashes took place between Hamas and Fatah supporters in Nablus city (Nablus) near the municipal stadium injuring eight Palestinians. Hamas members also kidnapped a 20 year-old Fatah supporter in the Nablus area before later releasing him unharmed.

3. Shelter and Property

No demolition or damage to Palestinian structures was reported.

Other incidents:

- **26 December:** Israeli police confiscated four glass boards used by Palestinian families in Al Maleh (Tubas) for solar heating as the village is not connected to the electricity network. The next day, the Israeli Police requested purchase receipts to be delivered by a lawyer in order to release the glass boards.

4. Natural Resources**Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting²****Nablus Governorate:**

20 and 21 December: The IDF levelled land east of Huwwara checkpoint.

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 17 September land levelling continues on a road barrier installed north of Road 505, east of Zaatara checkpoint.
- Since 15 June land levelling continues north of Shave Shomeron settlement (west of Nablus) to install a fence.

Jenin Governorate:

No incidents to report.

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.

Qalqiliya Governorate:

20 December: Israeli settlers from Immanuél settlement started levelling land belonging to Palestinians from Jinsafut (Qalqiliya) for the expansion of the settlement.

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: land levelling and construction work continue near Immatin village, between 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth and between Azzun and Kafr Laqif.
- Since 12 November land levelling and the installation of a fence continues by the IDF south of Ázzun Átma.

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

Salfit Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: Israeli contractors continue construction and land levelling north of Salfit City, Iskaka and Deir Istiya villages and south of Marda and Kifl Haris villages around Ariel settlement.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
 - Construction continues between Kharbatha al Misbah and Bil'in and is in the final stages in the section between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and At Tira villages.
 - Construction continues near Umm Safa, parallel to bypass Road 465, to create a buffer zone around Ateret settlement. The land was earlier requisitioned by the IDF and belongs to Palestinians from Atara and Umm Safa villages.
 - The last section of the Barrier in Beit Sira village is complete between Beit Sira and Makkabim settlement. A 400-metre section between the village and Beit Nuba is under construction and a gate is being installed.
 - Following a decision by the Israeli High Court approving a new route of the Barrier in 'Abud, construction resumed parallel to bypass Road 465, as well as between 'Abud and Ofarim and Beit Arye settlements.

Jerusalem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
 - Construction continues along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate. Exceptions to this are northeast of Al 'Eizariya towards Ma'ale Adummim settlement. Construction continues along 3 km stretch of the Barrier south of Ma'ale Adummim and Kedar but has stopped since 3 March pending a court case.
 - Construction continues near Ar Ram checkpoint between Dahiyat Al Bareed and Atarot. Detours through the neighbourhoods of Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed continue and changes are experienced on a daily basis. The previous gate in the area is now sealed off by an iron wall. Vehicles are currently using a dirt road a few metres beyond the gate. Construction of the Barrier is progressing rapidly in this area.
- Construction of a road barrier continues on Road 1, east of Az Za'ayyem. Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards driving to Jerusalem, now have to drive south to Ma'ale Adummim and then return through Az Za'ayyem checkpoint.
- Construction of an Israeli police station in E1 continues (any update on the status of construction?).
- The road between Anata and Al 'Eizariya is under construction (Road 70). Another road (Road 80) is planned that will link Abu Dis to Road 1 east of the planned Barrier around Ma'ale Adummim. The road will be open for Palestinians only.

Jericho Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Bethlehem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
 - Construction continues next to Al Khadr Boys School along the eastern side of Road 60 adjacent to the school playground. This week contractors uprooted approximately 100 grape and almond trees in the construction area west of the tunnels, close to Al Khadr.
 - Land levelling continues in the section of Road 60 between the Palestinian village of Al Khadr and Al Nashshash (southern entrance of the city of Bethlehem).
 - Land levelling continues in the vicinity of the settlement of Har Gilo continues.
 - Land levelling continues in the vicinity of the settlement of Efrat, near Artas village, continues.

- Land levelling and digging for the construction of the tunnel near Al Khadr village has accelerated. Levelling is also taking place along the western side of Road 60. During the reporting period 40 grape and almond trees were uprooted.
- Paving continues on the side of Tunnels checkpoint to expand the site. Six lanes have been paved so far and four inspection cabins were installed.
- Work continues on the road leading to the Talita Khoumy School. A one-metre high road barrier was installed and land levelling has continued on both sides of the road.
- Land levelling for the construction of the new terminal next to Al Jab'a checkpoint continues.
- Construction work at Nu'man terminal is ongoing.

Hebron Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: Construction continues west of Eshkolot settlement.
- Land leveling including paving continues west of the checkpoint of Tarqumiya for a new commercial checkpoint.
- Construction of the agricultural terminal at Meitar checkpoint is ongoing.
- Paving continues at the Beit Yatir checkpoint close to the Palestinian hamlet of Imneizil.

Gaza Strip:

26 December: Two IDF tanks and two bulldozers entered approximately 100 metres east of Al Bureij Camp and levelled land (covered by weeds) next to the border fence. The two tanks withdrew to the border fence after levelling and excavating land.

5. Access and Movement for Civilians

a) Curfew

Date	Location, Governorate	Duration
25 December	Qabatiya village, Jenin	10 hours
Total Week		10 hours

25 December: The IDF imposed curfew on Qabatiya village (Jenin) for ten hours during a search and arrest operation.

b) Access to education

During the reporting period: At least 30 teachers at Jordan Valley schools coming from Tubas and Jenin governorates experienced long delays at Tayasir checkpoint. These delays caused the students to lose the first two morning classes.

During the reporting period: The IDF and Israeli Police escorted Palestinian students from Tuba to their elementary school in At Tuwani, south Hebron Governorate. The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks by Israeli settlers from the Ma'on settlement.

c) Access to employment

There is currently no communication between Israeli and Palestinian authorities (DCOs) and Palestinian workers and traders are applying directly to the Israeli authorities for permits to enter East Jerusalem and Israel.

The eligibility criteria for permits are similar for both workers and traders; over 35 years old, married with children and with no security file. The age restriction has been relaxed for permits to the Atarot Industrial Zone to over 21 years old.

d) Closures/movement restrictions

Gaza Strip:

The external closure of the Gaza Strip continues with no Palestinian workers allowed to access Israel since 12 March.

Nablus Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close the road connecting Qaryut village with Road 60 and the Mekorot water filling point with a road block. The closure separates three villages (Talfit, Jalud and Qaryut) from their source of water.
- The IDF continues to close Shave Shomeron checkpoint for all vehicles, including UN and humanitarian organisations.

Jenin Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 30 August, the IDF have allowed 40 commercial trucks (with less than a two tonnes freight load) to transport food products to Barta'a enclave. A list with the plate numbers of the trucks is present at the checkpoint. Other materials still require prior coordination.

Tubas Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Tulkarm Governorate:

21 and 24 December: Long queues and delays were reported at Anabta and Kafriat tunnel checkpoints.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to prevent Palestinians with Israeli IDs from entering Palestinian areas unless they have relatives living in Tulkarm.

Qalqiliya Governorate:

24 December: The IDF closed the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya (DCO) with a flying checkpoint for two hours for security reasons.

Ongoing incidents:

- The main entrance to 'Izbat at Tabib village continues to be closed by the IDF with an earth mound.
- The IDF continues to close the dirt roads connecting Kafr Qaddum with Hajja, Kur and Beit Lid villages.

Salfit Governorates:

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close the gate at the northern entrance of Kafr ad Dik.
- The agricultural gates in the Barrier continue to be closed by the IDF near Mas-ha and Az Zawiya preventing farmers from accessing their land.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

25 December: At approximately 9am, An Nabi Salih partial checkpoint was in operation. The IDF soldiers were randomly checking Palestinian vehicles and ID cards. Delays were experienced before the checkpoint was again left unmanned from approximately 11.30 am.

During the reporting period: Delays at Atara checkpoint continue to be reported on daily basis, especially during morning and evening rush hours. Israeli Border Police manning the checkpoint detained a Palestinian female at the checkpoint for at least three hours.

During the reporting period: Palestinians going to Jerusalem via Qalandiya checkpoint experienced long delays.

Bethlehem Governorate:

During the reporting period: Israeli Border Police stationed at the entrance of Khallet Nu'man village continued to delay the access of service providers and vegetable trucks.

Hebron Governorate:

15 December: Settlers from Karmil settlement prevented for two hours UNRWA and Dura municipality refuse trucks from dumping their loads at the Hebron municipal site.

Jerusalem Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:

During the reporting period: Palestinians going through Tayasir checkpoint (Tubas) reported delays of up to one hour on daily basis, especially during morning and evening rush hours.

Ongoing incidents:

- On 14 September the IDF announced that only Palestinians with Jericho residency and Jerusalem ID holders would be able to exit via the Jericho DCO checkpoint, forcing all other travellers to either get a permit issued by Israeli authorities or travel on the Al Mu'arrajat old road to reach the rest of the West Bank.

Gaza Strip

During the reporting period:

- Karni crossing was open for six days (the crossing is scheduled to close on Saturdays).
- Rafah Passengers' terminal was closed all week.
- Erez crossing was partially open for the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, critical medical cases and Palestinian 'senior' traders. (Non-diplomats require prior coordination with the IDF which is being decided on a case-by-case basis).
- Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open five days (the pipelines were closed on 20 December as well as the scheduled closure day (Saturdays)).
- Sufa crossing was open for six days (the crossing is scheduled to close on Saturdays).
- Kerem Shalom crossing was closed throughout the reporting period.
- Gaza fishermen are permitted to fish up to six nautical miles off the coastline. On **20 December**, IDF vessels fired machine guns for approximately 15 minutes at fishing boats west of Rafah causing damage to some boats. Later that day IDF vessels again fired machine guns sporadically towards Palestinian fishing boats over a two hour period. On **23 December** IDF vessels fired four shells at Palestinian fishing boats west of Al Waha resort in Beit Lahia. The fishing boats returned to shore and no injuries were reported. On **24 December** an IDF vessel fired another shell at a Palestinian fishing boat in the same area although again no injuries were reported.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF declared the eastern part of Beit Hanoun (approximately one km along the security fence east of Beit Hanoun) a closed military area.
- The IDF announced that Palestinians should keep a distance of at least 150 metres from the perimeter fence along the eastern and northern borders of the Gaza Strip.
- The IDF declared parts of the northern Gaza Strip a "no-go" or enlarged buffer zone on 28 December 2005. Entry into the area is only possible with prior permission from the IDF.

Reported flying (random) checkpoints – West Bank

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Jammi'n (2), Askar camp (1), Al Badhan (1), 'Azmut (1), Talluza (1)	6
Jenin	'Arraba (5), Az Zababida (5), Al Jalama (1), Al Jarba (1), Road No. 66 (1)	13
Tubas	Tubas (1), Tammun (1), Wadi El Far'a (2), Al 'Aqrabaniya (1)	5
Tulkarm	Kafr Sur (1), Balá' (1), Al Jarushiya (2), Tulkarm city (2), 'Attil (2), Zeita (1), Baqa ash Sharqiya (1), Illar (1)	11
Qalqiliya	Entrance Qalqiliya – DCO (7), Ázzun (2), Wadi Qana (7), Habla tunnel (1), An Nabi Elyas (3), Ras 'Atyia (1), Kafr Thulth (3), Kafr Laqif (1), Jayyus (2)	27
Salfit	Qarawat Bani Hassan (1), Bruqin (1),	2
Ramallah and Al Bireh	Bypass Road 60 (9)	9
Jericho	-	-
Jerusalem	-	-
Bethlehem	Al 'Ubeidiya (2), Za'tara (1), Bethlehem city (5), 'Ayda refuge camp (2), Al Khadr (2), Dar Salah (2), Beit Jala (1), Ad Duheisha (1), Beit Sahur (1), Tuqu (3)	20
Hebron	Yatta (3), Dura (3), Hebron city - H1(3), Halhul (4) , Al Arrub refugee camp (2), Ar Ramadin (2), Sa'ir (2), Surif (1), Karma (1), Beit Kahil (1), Al Fawwar refugee camp (1)	23
Total West Bank		116

6. Additional Protection Issues**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 (6), Balata RC (2), Askar RC (3), Camp No.1 (1), Kafr Qallil (2), Jamma'in (1), 'Ammuriya (1), Talluza (1), 'Azmut (1), Beit Furik, Huwwara CP, 'Awarta CP.	18	14
Jenin	Jenin city (5), Jenin RC (5), Kafr Dan (1), Az Zababida (1) , Silat al Harithiya (1), Qabatiya (2)	15	13
Tubas	El Far'a refugee camp (1), Tammun (1)	2	0
Tulkarm	Tulkarm city (1), Tulkarm RC (1), Baqa Ash Sharqiya (2), Illar (2), 'Attil (1), Ertah (1)	8	2
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya city (3), 'Azzun (2), Kafr Qaddum (2), Jit (1), Immatin (1), Baqat al Hatab (1), Kafr Laqif (1), Hajja (1)	12	5
Salfit	Salfit city (1), Kafr ad Dik (1), Marda(1)	3	0
Ramallah/Al Bireh	Ramallah (6), Atara checkpoint, Al Mazra'a al Qibliya (1)	7	17
Jericho Jordan Valley	-	0	0
Jerusalem	Al Ezariyeh (1), Atarot checkpoint	1	2
Bethlehem	Beit Sahur (2), Al 'Aza refugee camp (2), Dar Salah (1), Al 'Ubeidiya (1), 'Ayda refuge camp (2), Al Khadr (3), Beit Jala (2), Za'tara (2), Bethlehem (4), ad Duheisha Camp (2), Tuqu (2), Ash Shawawra (1), Al 'Asakira (1), Beit Fajjar (1), Nahhalin (1), Al Walaja (1), Jurat Sham'a (1), Az Zir (1)	30	20
Hebron	Hebron City (5), Al 'Arrub Camp (3), Dura (1), Tarqumiya (1), Beit Awwa (2), Surif (3), Yatta (3), Adh Dhahiriya (2), Sa'ir (2), As Samu (2), Taffuh (2), Bani Na'eem (1), Beit Kahil (1)	28	14
Total Week West Bank		124	87
Gaza Strip		-	-
Total Week oPt		124	87

Appendix: Checkpoints: 20 – 26 December 2006

Checkpoint	Status
Tulkarm:	
Taybeh	Open between 5.30am to 8pm Sunday to Thursday and 5.30am to 12 am on Fridays for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians with permits. The checkpoint leads to the back-to-back checkpoint.
Efrayim	Open from 4am to 7pm Sunday to Thursday and 4am to 12pm on Fridays for Palestinian workers and traders.
Kafriat	Open 24 hours. 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 Jbara.
Kafriat Tunnel	The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin. On 21 and 24 December queues and long delays were experienced.
'Anabta	The checkpoint is located on the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. Long queues and delays were reported. On 21 and 24 December queues and long delays were experienced.
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 to security checks.
Qalqiliya North	Open from 4am to 7pm Sunday to Thursday and from 4am to 12am on Fridays for Palestinian permit holders.
Jit junction partial checkpoint	Partial checkpoint at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.
Salfit:	
Deir Ballut	Open from 6am and 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, international organisations and Palestinians with permits.
Nablus:	
Huwara Southern main entrance	Open from 6am to 11pm 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. Public transportation and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint between 6am and 9pm. Commercial trucks are not allowed to pass. Long delays and queues were reported. No age restrictions but all males between 16 and 35 years were subject to full body search.
Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade	Open from 5am to 7.30pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only following prior liaison with the IDF. Long delays and queues. Public transportation, commercial trucks carrying aggregates and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint. No age restrictions but all males between 16 and 35 years were subject to full body search.
Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area 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.
Beit Furik Eastern gate and checkpoint. After the closure regime main gateway between Nablus and the Jordan Valley	Open 5:30am to 9pm for villagers from Beit Furik, Beit Dajan. All residents heading south have to enter Nablus and cross through Nablus checkpoints.
Shave Shomeron (Closed) Northwest, main road to Jenin	Closed since 28 March for all traffic.
Zaatara (Tappouah) South, main road to Ramallah	Open 24 hours. The checkpoint controls Palestinian movement on Road 60 and 505 southwards and no need for permits.

17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed) Road to the north villages of Nablus	The checkpoint is now only open for humanitarian organisations and humanitarian emergency cases.
Yizhar partial checkpoint	Partial check point north of Huwwara village on Road 60. Men from Nablus between 18 and 25 years are not allowed to go south through the checkpoint.
Aqraba partial checkpoint	Partial check point on the junction to Aqraba village with Road 505.
Al Badhan checkpoint	Presently unmanned.
Jenin:	
Al Jalama Main entrance to Israel	Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Thursday. And 7am to 12am on Fridays.
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. 40 vehicles with their plate numbers on a list at the checkpoint are allowed to transport foodstuff into the closed area behind the Barrier. Other materials need prior coordination.
Mevo Dotan (New) on road 585 near Ya'bad	Open from 7am to 7pm for all Palestinians
Tubas:	
Bisan Main entrance to Israel	Open 24 hours for Israeli ID card holders and internationals. Palestinians with West Bank IDs are no longer allowed access regardless having a permit to enter Israel and/or working with International organisations. Israeli plated trucks are not allowed through if Palestinian agricultural produces are on board.
Tayasir Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley.	Officially open between 5am-10pm. 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. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Very long delays are reported on daily basis.
Maale Efrayim Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus	Officially open between 6am-10pm. 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. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Delays are reported.
Hamra East, before closure regime main road to Jordan, Tubas, Jenin	Officially open between 3am-10pm. 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. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Delays for Palestinian commercial vehicles crossing the checkpoint are reported on a daily basis. Some delays were reported.
Ramallah/AI Bireh:	
Qalandiya	Open for internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Only drivers of vehicles and their family members are allowed through inside the vehicle. Passengers, both West Bank ID holders and Jerusalemites, have to cross through the pedestrian lanes. As of 10 December, Israeli private security guards are present at the checkpoint at a second line behind the IDF for extra random security checks. Long delays are being reported on daily basis following a stabbing of an Israeli private security guard by a Palestinian on 12 December.
Bet El/DCO	From 20 August the checkpoint has been in operation from 6 am to 8pm. Access in vehicles reserved only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, and Palestinians with special work permits.
Atara Bridge	Manned by Border Police. No permits required to cross the checkpoint. Delays are experienced on daily basis. During peak travelling times, commuters report delays of up to 50 minutes.
An Nabi Salih gate (partial)	Open. Delays up to 20 minutes were reported on daily basis during travelling rush hours.
At Tayba (partial)	Open. Some delays reported.
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	Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders. Palestinians with West Bank IDs not allowed through regardless of any valid permits to enter Israel.
Rantis	Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, 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 have been 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, with 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. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem, West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross.
Ar Ram Northern entrance on Road 60 north.	Open for internationals, diplomats, Palestinians working with international organisations and residents of the southern part of Dahiyat al Bareed (soon to be within the Barrier) with their names and ID numbers registered on a list held at the checkpoint. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross.
Bir Nabala / Atarot Northern entrance on Road 404 /45 Road Atarot Junction.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, and Palestinians with valid permits and internationals. UN staff have been 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. Commercial trucks are not allowed through this checkpoint unless the merchandise itself is from Shu'fat camp. All other commercial trucks from the West Bank must use Beituniya checkpoint.
Container ("Wadi nar") East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank	Open for all Palestinian vehicles without permits and for internationals. Israeli yellow-plated cars are not allowed to cross.
Ras Abu Sbeitan (Olive) North eastern entrance on Road 1	Open 24 hours, Palestinians pedestrians with West Bank ID cards with valid permits an use the checkpoint. No vehicles are allowed through this checkpoint.
Abu Dis Between Abu Dis and Ras al 'Amoud	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
Lazarus	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
Bir Nabala / Rafat At the new road between Rafat and Bir Nabala village	Delays are experienced on daily basis. Commuters report daily delays of 30 – 45 minutes.
Jaba' At the road between Jaba' Junction and Qalandiya checkpoint	Random checks by the IDF soldiers. Some delays were reported.

Jericho:

DCO Main checkpoint off Road 1	Open daily 24 hours. No permits required for Jericho residents and foreign passports and Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards. As of 14 August, West Bank ID holders need permits to leave Jericho via the DCO. All vehicles including public taxis and commercial trucks have to have checkpoint permits to exit Jericho via this checkpoint unless they have Jericho or Jerusalem registration.
Al Auja (Yitav) On Road 90	Open 24 hours for Palestinians living in Jericho Governorate. Palestinians non-residents of Jericho and hold West Bank IDs going north towards al Auja and the Jordan Valley area are prohibited thought unless they hold Israeli permits to allow them access to the area. No permit required for those travelling to Ramallah. Long delays up to 40 minutes have been reported by people travelling to Ramallah and Al 'Auja.
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.
An Nwemeh (partial) North Jericho	Open. No soldiers present this week. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arrajat road; the only road to Ramallah at the moment.

Bethlehem :

Gilo (Rachel's Tomb) Terminal at north entrance to Bethlehem leading to Jerusalem.	Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with valid permits. West Bank Palestinians (including those working for the UN and other international agencies) have to walk through the terminal to undergo search procedures. Jerusalem ID holders passing into Bethlehem are being asked to prove that they reside in areas falling within Jerusalem boundaries. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to enter Bethlehem only if driven by an Arab Israeli. Palestinians holding valid work permits can access East Jerusalem and Israel through this checkpoint. UN national staff can pass through the checkpoint without having to be physically checked. The checkpoint is currently manned by the Israeli Border Police.
Khallet an Nu'man On the main entrance of Khallet an Nu'man from Beit Sahur side .	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Only Palestinians living in the village are allowed through. Only listed vehicles and drivers of service providers are allowed through. Members of the extended family are not allowed to visit. International organisations wishing to enter the village are required to hold a permit, show their organisation's ID and their national IDs and/or passports.
Ein Yalow Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations only. Commercial trucks also are allowed to go through.
Beit Jala DCO Entrance to Beit Jala	Rarely-manned and open 24 hours. Movement allowed in both directions for all vehicles.
Tunnels Road 60 at Har Gilo	Open 24 hours for international members of international humanitarian organisations. Palestinians with 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. UN staff are being requested to show additional identification in order to proceed to Jerusalem. Commercial trucks are only allowed to go through between 11am and 4pm. Security at the checkpoint is now jointly managed by a private security firm and the border police.
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 checking northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
Wadi Fukin Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israelis and international organisations.
Al Jab'a Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israelis and international organisations. Land levelling is ongoing to enlarge the checkpoint.
Ein Gedi On Road 90, along Dead Sea.	Open 24 hours; restricted to Palestinian movement.
Hebron :	
Beit Awwa At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354	Crossing along Road 354. Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Open from 7am-7pm
Tarquimiya Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates	Workers are usually allowed to cross from 5am to 5pm. The back-to-back section is open from 7am to 5pm; goods are moving across smoothly and all cargo is checked by the IDF Military Police. Family visits to Palestinians detained in Israel were permitted. Agricultural products destined for Gaza and Israeli markets were allowed to go through.
Meitar Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line	Manned by Border Police. Open 24 hours. On 25 May, the IDF relocated the checkpoint close to the new Meitar Terminal. As of 20 August, Palestinians holding valid work permits were allowed access to Israel through this checkpoint.
Shani At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317.	Manned by the IDF. Only Israeli plated cars are allowed to travel through it. Palestinian workers cannot use the checkpoint to access Israel.
Beit Yatir On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizel	Open 24 hours and manned by the IDF. The checkpoint is restricting the movement of Palestinians living south of it next to the settlement of Beit Yatir. Next to the checkpoint construction work is taking place for constructing a new terminal. In area adjacent to the checkpoint, construction is on-going for the purpose of building new terminal.
Prayers Road, H2 Access to area of Ibrahimi Mosque	Closed to Palestinians. During the reporting period, both Israeli settlers and IDF soldiers prevented Palestinian residents from accessing this road.

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. Palestinians and internationals have to go through a mobile metal detector.
Ibrahimi Mosque, H2 Access to the Mosque	Worshippers and visitors are searched upon entry. Residents living in the vicinity of the Mosque must hold a special permit to gain access to their homes.
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. A mobile metal detector unit was occasionally in use during the reporting period, as IDF soldiers were searching Palestinians trying to access the Old City and the Ibrahimi Mosque.
Qarantina, H2 Junction with Shohada Street	Closed to Palestinians. Entry point for Palestinian fire trucks and ambulances. No longer allowed for the use of international humanitarian organisations.
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. A military order was issued on 17 July that declared the area beyond the checkpoint as a "Closed Area" barring the entry of anyone beyond the checkpoint except Israeli citizens, IDF and Israeli Police or those who have an IDF-issued permit.
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 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. During the reporting period long queues of Palestinians wanting to access the Ibrahimi Mosque for prayers were formed as IDF soldiers checked their IDs.
Abu Rish, H2 Near the Abu Rish Mosque at the end of Al Shohada St.	Manned by the IDF. The only access point for international organizations into Hebron Old City. Palestinians have to go through a mobile metal detector.
Ar Ramadin At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. All Palestinians are allowed after an ID check. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325. Harassment and long search process took place during the reporting period
"Nabi Younis" Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint at the entrance to Halhul, monitored by the nearby observation tower.
Al Fawwar Al Fawwar-Dura junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint monitored from the nearby observation tower.
Tarqumiya – Idhna The junction between the two towns on Road 35	Partial checkpoint. Manned on a temporary basis by the Israeli Border Police.
Ras Al Joura Near the junction between Road 35 and Road 60	Partial checkpoint; Manned on a temporary basis by the IDF.
Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints	
Erez crossing	Closed for Palestinian labourers since 12 March. Open for internationals and Palestinian humanitarian cases. On 12 September, a number of Palestinian traders started to enter inside Israel. Trader should be 'senior', 35+ years old, married, with children.
Rafah Passenger Terminal	Closed throughout the reporting period.

Commercial checkpoints:

Tulkarm/Qalqiliya	
Taybeh	An Israeli private has the responsibility of controlling the checkpoint. The back-to-back system has been operational from 9am to 6:30pm Sunday to Thursday and 9am to 12pm on Fridays.
Nablus	

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. Commercial trucks need permits to pass the checkpoint.
Jenin	
Al Jalama Northern entrance/ main commercial check point.	Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Thursday and 7am to 12pm on Fridays.
Ramallah/Al Bireh	
Beituniya Back-to-back checkpoint	Officially open between 7am to 5pm Sunday to Thursday, 7am to 1pm on Fridays and closed Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for commercial goods and a back-to-back system is in operation. Only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to pass through this checkpoint without using the back-to-back system. Palestinians holding Israeli IDs and drive Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed through without using the back –to-back system only if bill lading stipulates Kafr 'Aqab and /or Sameeramees offloading destination. This checkpoint is not open for private cars or pedestrians. UN staff are allowed through the checkpoint following prior coordination with the Israeli DCL.
Gaza Strip	
Sufa	Open on six days during the week (Sufa is scheduled to close on Saturdays).
Karni	Open on six days during the week (Karni is scheduled to close on Saturdays).
Kerem Shalom	Kerem Shalom was closed all week.
Nahal Oz Energy Pipelines	Nahal Oz crossing was open five days this week. The pipelines were closed on 20 December as well as on the regular scheduled closure day (Saturday).

– 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.