



## OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

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# Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

## 12 – 18 March 2008

### Of note this week

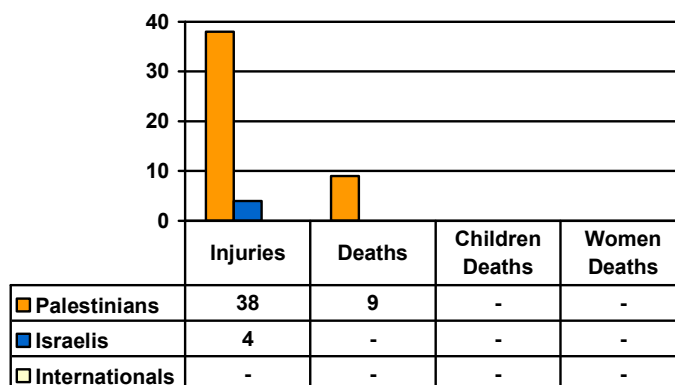
#### Gaza Strip:

- Four Palestinians were killed and 12 injured by missiles fired by the Israeli Air Force. The injured include a 10-year-old boy.
- The Israeli Air Force carried out six air strikes on the Gaza Strip.
- On two occasions, Israeli patrol boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats at sea, forcing them to return to shore (Rafah).
- Three demonstrations took place in the Gaza and Rafah governorates: one to protest the non-issuance of Palestinian IDs; one to demand that Palestinians in Egypt be allowed to return to Gaza; and one to protest against the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip.
- IDF tanks and bulldozers carried out four levelling and excavation operations in the Gaza Strip.
- 45 rockets and 10 mortars were fired toward Israel. No injuries were reported as a result. In addition, four mortars were fired at IDF soldiers inside the Gaza Strip.

#### West Bank:

- Five Palestinians were killed, including four who were shot by an IDF undercover unit in Bethlehem City and one killed in an exchange of fire in Seida village (Tulkarm).
- Twenty-six Palestinians were injured, including five in clashes with the Israeli Border Police while they were organising a sit-in to protest against the digging of a tunnel underneath Silwan village in East Jerusalem.
- Four Israelis were injured, including three demonstrators injured by the IDF in a demonstration in Bil'in and one who was stabbed by an unknown Palestinian in the old City of Jerusalem.
- The IDF imposed 78 curfew hours on localities in the Qalqiliya and Salfit governorates, affecting more than 11,000 people.
- Two residential structures were demolished by the IDF in the Tulkarm and Qalqiliya governorates, leading to the displacement of five Palestinians, including two children.
- 72 flying checkpoints, 129 search operations and 168 arrests/detentions were reported.
- Nine search operations and 10 arrests/detentions by Palestinian security forces were reported.

#### Palestinian and Israeli conflict related casualties:<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Excluding Palestinian-Palestinian internal violence and other 'indirect' conflict related incidents

## 1. Physical Protection – conflict related casualties

### Gaza Strip:

- **15 March:** A 20-year-old armed Palestinian was killed and another one was injured when an IAF aircraft fired two missiles targeting a group of armed Hamas members north of Beit Lahiya (North Gaza).
- **15 March:** Three Palestinians (aged 22, 23 and 24 years; Islamic Jihad members) were killed and a 10-year-old boy was injured when an IAF aircraft fired a missile targeting a group of Islamic Jihad members east of Toufah. The IDF also fired one ground-to ground missile at the same target (North Gaza).
- **18 March:** Ten Palestinians were injured when an IAF aircraft fired a missile at a group of Islamic Jihad members in Beit Lahiya (North Gaza).

### Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **12 March:** IDF soldiers stationed at the border east of Abu Al Ajeen opened fire at Palestinian farmers working in the area. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **13 March:** Islamic jihad members fired two rockets from north of Beit Hanun towards Sderot. According to the Israeli media, two rockets were fired at Sderot and landed in an open area. No injuries or damage were reported (North Gaza).
- **13 March:** Armed Palestinians fired 13 rockets from Sheikh Zayed City towards the Western Negev. According to Israeli media reports, at least 13 rockets were fired at Sderot from the northern Gaza Strip following a brief lull in attacks on southern Israel communities. Two rockets landed near a school and next to a warehouse, causing some damage. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for firing the rockets, saying that the barrage was an "initial response" to the killing of four Palestinians in Bethlehem (North Gaza).
- **13 March:** An IAF aircraft fired two missiles targeting an open area near Sheikh Zayed City northeast of Beit Lahiya. No injuries were reported, but the attack caused a power outage in most of the northern area (North Gaza).
- **13 March:** An IAF helicopter fired two missiles targeting a group of armed Palestinians attempting to launch rockets from north of Beit Lahiya. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **13 March:** IDF soldiers stationed at the Gaza border fired one ground-to-ground missile targeting an open area north of Sheikh Zayed City. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **14 March:** Armed Palestinians fired three rockets from north of Beit Hanun towards the Western Negev. At 1500 hours an IAF helicopter fired one missile targeting the rocket launching site. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **14 March:** IDF soldiers stationed at the border fired two ground-to-ground missiles targeting open areas east of Sheikh Zayed City. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **14 March:** Armed Hamas members opened fire at an Israeli helicopter hovering over the northern Gaza Strip. According to the Israeli media, an IAF helicopter was hit by Palestinian fire but returned safely to base (North Gaza).
- **16 March:** Israeli patrol boats opened fire targeting a vehicle carrying members of the Palestinian Resistance Committees (PRC) travelling west of Beit Lahiya. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **17 March:** Israeli patrol boats fired seven shells and Heavy Machine Gun (HMG) fire at Palestinian fishing boats, forcing them to return to shore. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **18 March:** Israeli patrol boats opened fire targeting Palestinian fishing boats west of Rafah, forcing the boats to return to shore. No injuries were reported (Rafah).

### West Bank:

- **12 March:** Four Palestinian men (aged 35, 36 and 48 (2) years) were shot and killed in Bethlehem City when an IDF undercover unit opened fire at their vehicle (Bethlehem).
- **12 March:** Two Palestinian boys (both aged 14 years) were injured in Beit Umar – one by live ammunition and the other with rubber-coated metal bullets – when IDF soldiers opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers during a demonstration near Karne Zur settlement in protest against the requisitioning of Palestinian land for the settlement's expansion (Hebron).
- **12 March:** A 26-year-old Palestinian man from 'Attil was killed after the IDF surrounded the house he was in in Seida village and exchanged fire with him for several hours. The IDF demolished the house and removed the man's corpse from under the rubble (Tulkarm).

- **12 March:** Two Palestinians males (aged 16 and 45 years) were injured in Qalqiliya City by rubber-coated metal bullets during an IDF military operation in the city (Qalqiliya).
- **13 March:** Five Palestinians (male) were injured upon being physically assaulted by the Israeli Border Police following clashes between Palestinians sitting in a tent to protest against the digging of a tunnel underneath Silwan village (Jerusalem).
- **13 March:** An 18-year-old Palestinian male was injured in Beit Jala City by live ammunition when the IDF opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers protesting against the killing of four Palestinians in Bethlehem (Bethlehem).
- **14 March:** One Palestinian, two internationals and three Israeli demonstrators were injured with rubber-coated metal bullets fired at them by the IDF during the weekly demonstration held by Palestinian, Israeli and international protestors in Bil'in village against Barrier construction on the village land and the Israeli military operations in Gaza. Cases of Asphyxia among the demonstrators were also reported (Ramallah).
- **14 March:** Seven Palestinians were injured with rubber-coated metal bullets fired at them by the IDF in clashes in Saffa village during an IDF search and arrest operation. Palestinian cars in the area sustained damage by rubber-coated metal bullets and tear gas canisters. No arrests were reported (Ramallah).
- **15 March:** A 17-year-old Palestinian boy was injured by shrapnel in Tubas City when the IDF fired live ammunition and sound grenades at Palestinian stone throwers while the IDF was patrolling the city (Tubas).
- **15 March:** Five Palestinians were physically assaulted by the IDF in 'Azzun village at a wake to mourn the death of one of their relatives and were forced them to leave due to the curfew imposed on the village (Qalqiliya).
- **15 March:** A 38-year-old blind Palestinian man was injured in Al 'Arrub Refugee Camp when an IDF jeep ran over him while patrolling the camp (Hebron).
- **16 March:** One Palestinian male was physically assaulted by Israeli settlers, who entered Jabal al Mukaber village and stoned Palestinians and their properties in response to the killing of eight Israelis on 6 March by a resident of the village. Six Palestinian houses and many vehicles also sustained damage (Jerusalem).
- **18 March:** A 49-year-old Israeli man was injured when an unknown Palestinian stabbed him with a knife while walking with his bodyguard near Damascus Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem (Jerusalem).

#### Other incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **13 – 15 March:** Palestinians held a two-day general strike in Bethlehem and one day of mourning in response to the killing of four Palestinians by an IDF undercover unit (Bethlehem).
- **14 March:** Clashes among Palestinian commuters took place while they were waiting at the Jericho DCO checkpoint for approximately three hours. The IDF fired tear gas canisters towards the crowd. No injuries were reported (Jericho).
- **15 March:** Palestinians from Al Khader held a demonstration near An Nashash entrance in protest against Barrier construction on their land. The protest ended peacefully (Bethlehem).
- **16 March:** Palestinians threw stones at Israeli settlers' vehicles travelling near Turmus'ayya. No injuries were reported but some the vehicles reportedly sustained some damage (Ramallah).

## **2. Physical Protection – other incidents involving casualties<sup>2</sup>**

### **Gaza Strip:**

- **12 March:** A 25-year-old Palestinian man was killed while handling an explosive device near his home in An Nuseirat Camp. Local reports indicate that the deceased was mentally disabled (Central Gaza).
- **12 March:** One Palestinian was injured when a tunnel collapsed under the Egypt-Gaza border line opposite Al Salaam quarter (Rafah).
- **13 March:** A 16-year-old Palestinian girl was shot and injured during an exchange of fire that erupted between cigarette merchants and the Hamas police over an attempt to remove the cigarette stalls in Ma'en area east of Khan Younis (Khan Younis).

<sup>2</sup> Casualties recorded in this section relate to Palestinian inter-factional fighting, family and community disputes, reckless use of weapons, and disputed incidents. 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.

- **17 March:** Three Palestinians were injured during an exchange of fire between the police and gunmen from a local family in Khan Younis. The incident took place after cigarette merchants escaped from a police unit and took refuge inside a house belonging to one of the family members (Khan Younis).

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **12 March:** A group of Hamas members detonated an experimental explosive device east of Zatioun quarter. No injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **13 March:** Four armed men abducted a member of Saraya Al Quds Brigades (the military wing of the Islamic Jihad) while he was walking in Al Bureij Camp. The motive for the abduction is unknown (Central Gaza).
- **14 March:** The military wing of Hamas held a training session southwest of Gaza City. Hamas members detonated bombs during the training, causing powerful explosions (Gaza).
- **16 March:** Approximately 50 Palestinian women erected a sit-in tent at the Unknown Soldier Park to protest against the non-issuance of Palestinian identification cards. At 1300 hours the sit-in tent was removed (Gaza).
- **16 March:** Armed members from a local family blocked Al Awda square in Rafah and opened fire in the air to protest the killing of their son, who was killed on 30 January. At 2200 hours the police brought the situation under control and the road was reopened (Rafah).
- **17 March:** Approximately 1000 family members of those detained in Egypt demonstrated in front of Rafah crossing demanding that their relatives be permitted to return to Gaza. The demonstration ended at 1200 hours (Rafah).
- **18 March:** Approximately 100 members of the Palestinian Popular Committee against the Siege, including factory owners, organised a sit-in at Al Azhar Park in Gaza City to protest against the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip. At 1200 hours the sit-in ended peacefully (Gaza).
- **18 March:** A group of Hamas members detonated an experimental explosive device northwest of An Nuseirat Camp. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **18 March:** According to Egyptian media reports, the Egyptian police uncovered 500 kg of explosives and 40 landmines in two separate locations near the Egypt-Gaza border (Rafah).
- **18 March:** An IDF Special Forces unit entered approximately 300 metres southeast of Al Bureij Camp. Clashes erupted between armed Palestinians and the unit; the armed Palestinians fired four mortar rounds and HMG fire targeting the unit. The unit withdrew from the area towards the border (Central Gaza).

**West Bank:**

- **13 March:** A 35-year-old male shepherd from Aqbat Jaber Camp was critically injured and lost one of his eyes after he stepped on a land mine while grazing his sheep in An Nabi Musa area (Jericho). The Palestinian DCO raised the issue with the Israeli DCL and requested an investigation into this matter (Jericho).
- **18 March:** Unknown persons shot and killed a Palestinian man in Qalqiliya City (Qalqiliya).

Other incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

No incidents to report.

**Inter-factional violence**

**West Bank:**

No incidents to report.

**Gaza Strip:**

Other Incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **14 March:** The Palestinian police took over the building that houses the Palestinian Refugees Popular Committee in Rafah, which is run by Fatah (Rafah).
- **15 March:** The Palestinian police took over the building of the Palestinian mini-Parliament (a children's project) in Rafah, which is run by Fatah (Rafah).
- **17 March:** Approximately 200 Fatah members gathered at Al Awda square in Rafah demanding that Hamas return the Fatah-controlled mini-Parliament office (a children's project), which was taken over on 15 March (Rafah).

### 3. Shelter and Property

**Table 1: Structures Demolished/Damaged by the Israeli Authorities (IDF, Border Police, Civil Administration...etc) and Israeli Settlers**

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures damaged	People displaced	People affected
12 March 2008	Seida, Tulkarm	1	-	5	-
12 March 2008	Qalqiliya City, Qalqiliya	1	-	-	-
12 March 2008	Burin, Nablus	-	1	-	N/A
12 March 2008	H2 area, Hebron	-	1	-	N/A
18 March 2008	Al Far'a RC, Tubas	-	1	-	N/A
18 March 2008	Az Zababida, Jenin	-	4	-	N/A
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>N/A</b>

- **12 March:** The IDF demolished a two-storey house in Seida with bulldozers after they surrounded the house to arrest a Palestinian wanted by the IDF. Five persons, including two children, were displaced (Tulkarm).
- **12 March:** The IDF demolished an uninhabited room in Qalqiliya City that belongs to a Palestinian wanted by the IDF (Qalqiliya).
- **12 March:** The IDF exploded an allegedly suspicious vehicle parking near the junction to Burin village (Nablus).
- **12 March:** A group of Israeli settlers forcibly entered Qurtuba Basic School for girls in the H2 area of Hebron City and damaged some window panels and doors. The IDF later evacuated the settler from the school (Hebron).
- **18 March:** The IDF damaged the main door and some belongings of a centre for the handicapped in Al Far'a refugee camp during an IDF search campaign (Tubas).
- **18 March:** The IDF exploded the internal walls of one room and damaged all furniture and belongings of a house in Az Zababida during a search and arrest operation. The house belongs to the Imam of Siris village mosque. The IDF also exploded his vehicle and damaged the main door of Az Zababida mosque. The IDF arrested the man (Jenin).

Other incidents (not involving demolitions/property damage):

- **12 March:** The IDF continued to occupy a three-storey building in Marda for 24 hours and converted it into an observation post. Five residents including three children were held on the first floor and prevented from leaving the house at night. The IDF left the building before midnight. In total, the IDF occupied the house for 55 continuous hours (1700 on 10 March – 2400 on 12 March) (Salfit).
- **13 March:** The IDF handed over three stop building orders to residents in Al 'Aqaba village for the second floor of a kindergarten, a house and the road connecting the village with the main road due to the lack of building permits (Tubas).
- **13 March:** The IDF handed over an order for the demolition of one house in Ar Ras village due to the lack of building permit (Tulkarm).

Internal Violence Incidents Affecting Shelter and Property:

- **13 March:** An explosive device was detonated in front of an Internet café on Thawra Street in Gaza City. The main gate of the café sustained minor damage. No injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **15 March:** An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) was detonated at the main gate of a coffee shop in Beach Camp. The main gate was damaged but no injuries were reported. The motive for the attack is unknown (Gaza).
- **15 March:** Unknown persons set fire to the Women's Centre in Yatta which is affiliated with the Fatah movement. No injuries were reported but the Centre sustained damage (Hebron).

### 4. Natural Resources

#### **Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting<sup>3</sup>**

#### **Nablus, Jenin, Tubas, Tulkarm and Salfit Governorates:**

No incidents to report.

<sup>3</sup> 4 dunums = 1 acre; 10 dunums = 1 hectare

**Qalqiliya Governorate:**

**14 March:** The IDF leveled a piece of land near an IDF observation tower west of 'Azzun village. The reason for the leveling is unknown.

**Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

**18 March:** During the morning hours, Palestinians in Turmus'ayya went to their land near Shilo settlement after having observed settlers going into their fields with torches in the middle of the previous night. The villagers found that approximately two hundred olive trees (in two different locations) owned by two families from Turmus'ayya had been uprooted and damaged. The fences installed by the farmers around their fields had also been destroyed. The Israeli DCL visited the location together with the Police to carry out an investigation. The villagers reported that Palestinians working in their fields have been experiencing continuous harassment by settlers from Shilo and Rehalim settlements and Adei Ad outpost. The farmers also reported that they are unable to access several hundred dunums of their land due to their proximity to these settlements.

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - **As of 6 November:** Barrier construction has stopped in the Ramallah governorate, including construction on 'Abud land to encircle Beit Arye and Ofarim settlements—as part of the extension of the “Ariel finger.” According to the DCL officer in Ramallah, the decision was made due to technical reasons at the Ministry of Defence.
  - Barrier construction on Palestinian land extending between Rantis (northwest of Ramallah governorate) and Beit Nuba (southwest of Ramallah governorate) is complete, except for Al Midya-Ni'lin section.
  - Barrier construction between Al Midya and Ni'lin has stopped pending a decision by the Israeli High Court of Justice based on appeals submitted by Ni'lin village residents and Hashmona'im settlers (each side is demanding that the barrier be pushed closer to the other side).
- Construction of four “fabric of life” roads, which is part of a Gol plan to build roads for Palestinians as an alternative to main roads now inaccessible due to road obstacles, the route of the Barrier, and the route of roads which Palestinians are restricted from using:
  - Construction of a new road between Rantis and Shuqba, parallel to Roads 465 and 446, has almost been completed, except for the final 50 meter section to connect it back to Road 465. The road is open for access between Shuqba and 465 via an underpass at the intersection of 446 and 465.
  - Construction of a road between Beit Liqya and Beit 'Anan has been completed and is now operational.
  - Construction continues of a road between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and Tira via an underpass under Road 443. The Israeli DCL reports that the underpass will be completed during the summer of 2008.
  - Construction has begun on a new road between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and Beituniya. About 588 dunums of land were requisitioned and some land levelling at Beit 'Ur al Fauqa has begun. The Israeli DCL reports that the construction of the road will take approximately ten months.

**Jericho Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**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 has been stopped along a 3-km stretch of the Barrier south of Ma'ale Adummim and Kedar since 3 March 2006 pending an appeal filed by a few Bedouin families who would be displaced if construction continues.
  - Construction of the Barrier between the neighbourhoods of Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed remains incomplete. One detour route for pedestrian and vehicular traffic continues to connect these two neighbourhoods, but when the Barrier is completed, the Dahiyat Al Bareed neighbourhood will be separated from Ar Ram and the rest of the West Bank.

- The construction of a road barrier continues on Road 1 east of Az Za'ayem.
- Since **26 November 2007**, Barrier construction has been halted between Al Jib and An Nabi Samwil villages due to budget constraints.
- Construction of an Israeli police station (two large buildings) in E1 is mostly complete. E1, or East 1, is an area north of Ma'ale Adummim and Road 1. Construction of a road leading to the police station was completed and the road is currently being widened.
- A new "fabric of life" road between Anata and Az Za'ayim (Road 70) is in the final construction stage to allow Palestinians to enter and exit Az Za'ayim without using the entrance lane off Road 1 near Za'ayim checkpoint.
- Construction of a "fabric of life" sunken road and tunnel is nearing completion between Al Jib and Biddu villages under Road 436. Road 436 connects the settlements of Ramot Allon and Giv'at Ze'ev and is primarily for Israeli use.

#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

**16 March:** The Barrier contractor resumed work near Al Khader tunnel on the eastern side of Road 60.

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - The Barrier contractor halted the installation of 12-meters-high concrete blocks along the eastern side of Road 60 to the south of the Tunnel checkpoint but building of the patrol road along this section was started.
  - The Barrier contractor halted the installation of 8-meters-high concrete blocks along Road 60 between Al Khadr Tunnel and Al Nashash (southern entrance of Bethlehem City).
  - The Barrier contractor suspended land levelling and asphaltting the section of the Barrier to the east of Efrat Settlement.
  - Land levelling and installation of 12-meters-high concrete blocks was suspended in the Barrier section between the two tunnels.
  - Land levelling for the construction of the Barrier was suspended around the Israeli settlement of Har Gilo.
- Land levelling for the construction of Al Khadr Tunnel was suspended during the reporting period. This tunnel will be the only access point for the Palestinian towns within the proposed Gush Etzion enclave.
- Construction of buildings for new crossing continued next to Al Jab'a checkpoint.
- Land leveling and installation of new buildings at An Nu'man crossing is ongoing.
- Land leveling and construction of new buildings is taking place in Betar Ilit, Eleazar, Allon Shevut and Efrat settlements.

#### **Hebron Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Construction of a building continued next to Beit Yatir checkpoint.
- Pavement of roads and construction of new buildings continued west of Tarqumiya checkpoint.
- Construction of new buildings continued in Karmil, Susyia, Kiryat Arb'a and Shani settlements.
- Land leveling for building a new road – parallel to Road 60 between Shim'a settlement and Metar checkpoint – continued during the reporting period.

#### **Gaza Strip:**

- **15 March:** Two IDF tanks and two bulldozers entered approximately 200 metres into Gaza southeast of Al Maghazi Camp. The bulldozers conducted a levelling and excavation operations. The IDF withdrew to the border at 2030 hours (Central Gaza).
- **16 March:** Two IDF bulldozers and two Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) entered approximately 50 metres southeast of Karni Industrial Zone to conduct a levelling and excavation operation. At 1630 hours the bulldozers and APCs withdrew to the border (Gaza).
- **18 March:** Four IDF bulldozers and two APCs entered approximately 50 metres southeast of Karni Industrial Zone to conduct a levelling and excavation operation. At 1800 hours the bulldozers and APCs withdrew to the border (Gaza).
- **18 March:** One IDF tank and two bulldozers entered approximately 200 metres into Gaza east of Deir Al Balah and conducted a levelling and excavation operation. IDF troops withdrew to the border at 1800 hours (Central Gaza).



## 5. Access and Movement for Civilians

### a) *Incidents of curfews*

**Table 2: Incidents of Curfew Imposed by the IDF**

Date	Location, Governorate	Duration
12 March 2008	'Azzun, Qalqiliya	6
12 March 2008	Marda, Salfit	4
14 – 17 March 2008	'Azzun, Qalqiliya	61
16 March 2008	Anabi Elyas, Qalqiliya	7
<b>Total Week</b>		<b>78</b>

**12 March:** The IDF imposed curfew on 'Azzun village for 6 hours (2400 to 0600 hours) after Palestinians threw stones at Israeli settlers' vehicles travelling on Road 55 from/to Israeli settlements. The curfew began at 1800 on 10 March and continued until 0600 on 12 March (a total of 36 hours) (Qalqiliya).

**12 March:** The IDF imposed curfew on Marda village for 4 hours (0700 to 11:00 hours) after Palestinians threw stones at Israeli settlers' vehicles travelling on Road 505 from/to Israeli settlements (Salfit).

**14 - 17 March:** The IDF imposed curfew on 'Azzun village for 61 hours (1600 on 14 March until 0500 hours on 17 March) after Palestinians threw stones and fire bombs at Israeli settlers' vehicles travelling on Road 55 from/to Israeli settlements (Qalqiliya).

**16 March:** The IDF imposed curfew on Anabi Elyas for 7 hours (0500 to 1200 hours) after finding a suspicious object on Road 55 that passes through the village (Qalqiliya).

Ongoing incidents:

- **17 May to date:** Palestinians living in Gaza Strip areas (northeast of Beit Hanun and north, and northwest of Beit Lahiya) continue to maintain a self-imposed curfew after dark due to IDF military operations.

### b) *Access to education*

- **12 March:** All schools in Marda were closed due to the curfew imposed on the village by the IDF (Salfit).
- **13 March:** All schools and universities in Bethlehem governorate were closed due to the general strike held following the killing of four Palestinians by the IDF (Bethlehem).
- **16 March:** All schools in 'Azzun were closed due to the curfew imposed on the village by the IDF (Qalqiliya).
- **During the reporting period:** The IDF and Israeli Police escorting Palestinian students to and from their elementary school in At Tuwani (south Hebron) to their homes in Tuba and Magyar Al Abid came on schedule to escort the children from and to the school in At Tuwani. **However**, the IDF and Israeli Police have been leaving school children before the chicken barn and, thus, the children have to walk the remaining distance alone, including passing immediately near the outpost of Havat Ma'on. The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks by Israeli settlers from the Ma'on settlement. The IDF escort includes soldiers walking beside the children. The soldiers, however, usually stay in the jeep while the students walk in front of the IDF jeep. On **17 March**, students were forced to take a long detour route to reach their homes after school time because the new gate that the settlers had erected on the road from Tuba to At-Tuwani was closed.

### c) *Access to employment*

- **During the reporting period:** Palestinian workers from the Governorate of Hebron holding valid permits to work in Israel arrived in the early morning hours in front of the Meitar checkpoint, located south of the town of Adh Dhahiriya (Hebron), in order to reach their work places inside Israel on time. This checkpoint is the only checkpoint in the Governorate of Hebron that can be used by Palestinian workers to reach their work places inside Israel. It is staffed by the Israeli Border Police and checks are conducted using palm identification. Similarly, Palestinian workers from the Governorate of Bethlehem holding valid work permits arrived in the early morning hours at Gilo checkpoint in order to cross and reach their work places inside Israel on schedule (Hebron and Bethlehem).

Ongoing incidents:

- **12 March 2006 to date:** Palestinian workers from the Gaza Strip have been prevented from entering Israel.



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

**During the week,** delays and long queues were reported at Huwwara, Beit Iba and Tappuah checkpoints.

**12 March:** The IDF closed Beit Iba checkpoint for two hours due to a security alert.

Ongoing incidents:

- **29 October 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close the southern entrance of Jamma'n village with road blocks. The closure was placed four days after a drive-by shooting incident on an adjacent road (Road 505).
- **29 October 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close a gate connecting 'Asira Ash Shamaliya village with 'Asira Ash Shamaliya checkpoint, denying access through the checkpoint, including access to ambulances with emergency cases.
- **29 August 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close 'Asira ash Shamaliya checkpoint, preventing access for all except ambulances with emergency cases (Nablus).
- **28 March 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close Shave Shomron checkpoint for all Palestinians, ambulances, UN and international organisations (Nablus).

**Jenin Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **30 August 2006 to date:** The IDF prohibits the free movement of all commercial trucks to enter the Barta'a enclave surrounded by the Barrier. Forty trucks, registered with the IDF at the checkpoint with a freight load of under two tonnes are allowed to transport food products. Other materials require prior coordination.

**Tubas Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Tulkarm Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **15 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Shuweika to Iktaba village with an earth mound.
- **14 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Beit Lid and Kur village with an earth mound.
- **8 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close four roads connecting Bal'a with Road 57, 'Anabta, Deir al Ghusun and Iktaba with earth mounds.
- **5 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Al Masqufa and Shuweika with an earth mound (Tulkarm).
- **12 December 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Dhinnaba to Kafr al Labbad with an earth mound.

**Qalqiliya Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **4 March to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Izbat at Tabib with 'Azzun village with an earth mound.
- **2 March 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the dirt roads connecting Hajja with Al Funduq and Hajja with Baqat al Hatab.
- **9 February 2008 to date:** The IDF continues to close the northern entrance of 'Azzun with concrete blocks and an earth mound. The IDF also continues to close with an earth mound a dirt road connecting 'Azzun with Kafr Laqif, after stones were thrown at Israeli vehicles travelling on Road 55 en route to Israeli settlements.
- **13 July 2007 to date:** IDF soldiers positioned at the DCO checkpoint at the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City continue to prevent Palestinians with Israeli citizenship from entering Qalqiliya City.

**Salfit Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **27 November 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close the entrance of Kifl Haris with road blocks.
- The IDF continues to close the gate at the northern entrance of Kafr ad Dik.

**Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

**During the reporting period:** Long delays of up to 30 minutes continue to be reported by Palestinians travelling from Ramallah to Bir Nabala via Al Masyoun-Rafat checkpoint.

In several cases, the Border Police stopped vehicles, demanded that Palestinian male youngsters step out and detained them at the checkpoint for one or more hours before allowing them to pass through the checkpoint.

**During the reporting period:** Delays of up to 40 minutes were reported at Wadi An Nar checkpoint due to the slow inspection of vehicles by the Border Police.

Ongoing incidents:

- **1 July 2007 to date** The road gate of At Tira (Ramallah) opens three times a day for half an hour each time. The gate is used by the residents travelling in Palestinian-plated taxis to enter/exit the village—only 11 Palestinian taxis are permitted to cross and travel on Road 443.

#### **Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **26 April 2007 to date:** Movement from the West Bank continues to be controlled through the four main checkpoints: Tayasir, Hamra, Ma'ale Efraim and Yitav. A personal permit is no longer required to enter the Jordan Valley for West Bank residents through Hamra and Tayasir checkpoints only. Access is only possible with public transportation as West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from entering the Jordan Valley.
- **26 September 2007 to date:** All West Bank ID-holders can enter Jericho via the DCO checkpoint, but Palestinians from the northern West Bank (Nablus, Qalqiliya, Jenin, Tulkarm) are not allowed to exit Jericho via this checkpoint. Residents of these four governorates are forced to take the old road to Ramallah via Yitav checkpoint whereas all other West Bank ID-holders are allowed to exit Jericho via both the DCO and Yitav checkpoints.
- **2 January 2008 to date:** The Dead Sea checkpoint was converted to a partial checkpoint. Palestinians and Palestinian plated vehicles are no longer prohibited from accessing the Dead Sea area. However, all Palestinians and their vehicles have been denied access by the Israeli Border Police whenever the checkpoint is manned, particularly during the weekends.

#### **Jerusalem Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **As of 10 January 2008:** Additional installations were added to Ramot checkpoint and the Israeli Border Police presently checks all vehicles and IDs of Palestinians travelling between Bir Nabala and Biddu enclaves.

#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

#### **Hebron Governorate:**

**12 March:** The IDF closed the segment of Road 60 from Gush Etzion to Halhul-Sa'ir partial checkpoint (Halhul junction) and closed Beit Ummar gate for 30 minutes after locating a suspicious object on the road near Beit Ummar.

**13 March:** Palestinians opened the dirt roads closed by the IDF with earth mounds near Imneizl village following the attack on a Yeshiva in Jerusalem.

#### **Gaza Strip**

Functioning of Gaza crossing points:

- **Erez** was open on six days this week for the movement of diplomats as well as internationals and Palestinians with special coordination arrangements. National UN staff members continue to be denied entry to Israel, even with permits and prior co-ordination. (Appendix for daily log of movement is based on information provided by the Palestinian civil affairs office due to the absence of Palestinian DCL staff at the present time).
- **Rafah** crossing continues to be closed. It was last open on 9 June.
- **Karni** crossing: the conveyor belt/chute operated on three days this week to transfer wheat grain and animal feed into Gaza. However, the crossing has remained closed for other imports and all exports since 12 June.
- **Sufa** crossing was open on four days this week; it was closed on 14, 15 and 18 March. Sufa crossing was re-opened on 23 December for humanitarian and commercial commodities (it had been closed since 28 October). Sufa has been the principal alternative commercial crossing following the closure of Karni crossing in mid-June.

- **Kerem Shalom** crossing was open on six days this week for the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods. During the closure of Sufa between 28 October and 22 December, Kerem Shalom was effectively the only crossing allowing the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods into Gaza.
- **Nahal Oz energy pipelines** were open on six scheduled operating days this week.
- Gaza fishermen continue to be permitted to fish up to six nautical miles off the coastline.

Ongoing incidents:

- Following Israel's unilateral disengagement from the Gaza Strip in September 2005, 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.
- On 28 December 2005, the IDF declared the former northern settlement bloc to be a "no-go" zone. Entry into the area for the 250 Palestinian residents and international organisations requires prior coordination with the IDF. Since 17 May, IDF presence in this area has been enforcing this ban.
- **17 May to date:** Palestinian farmers have been unable to reach their farms in the areas east and north of Beit Hanun and north and northwest of Beit Lahiya due to ongoing IDF military activities. Palestinian farmers have also been unable to reach farms located east of Al Bureij Camp and east of Khan Younis due to intermittent military operations by the IDF.

**Table 3: Reported IDF Flying (random) Checkpoints in the West Bank**

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Bizzariya (1), Huwwara (3), Salim (1)	5
Jenin	Kafr Ra'i (1), Az Zawiya (1), Al Kufair (2), 'Arraba (1), 'Aja (1)	6
Tubas	Tammun (3), Kashda (1)	4
Tulkarm	Al Jarushiya (2), Kafr Sur (2), 'Illar (2), 'Attil (1)	7
Qalqiliya	'Azzun (5), Ras 'Atiya (1), Wadi Qana (2), Izbat at Tabib (3), Kafr Laqif (4), Kafr Thulth (1), Habla tunnel (1), Jayyus (2), Anabi Elyas (1)	20
Salfit	Marda (2), Kifl Haris (1), Bruqin (1)	4
Ramallah/Al Bireh	-	0
Jericho	-	0
Jerusalem	-	0
Bethlehem	Bethlehem western entrance junction with Rd 60 (4), Tuqu' (1), Beit Sahur (2), Hussan (2)	9
Hebron	H1 Area of Hebron City (7), Halhul Bridge (3), Al Fawwar RC (1), Dura (1), Al Arrub RC (2), Beit Ummar (2), Yata (1)	17
<b>Total West Bank</b>		<b>72</b>

## 6. Search/Arrests/Detentions

**Table 4: Searches, Arrests, and Detentions Conducted by the Israeli Authorities (IDF, Border Police, Civil Administration...etc)<sup>1</sup>**

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention by the IDF, number of searches noted at locations within brackets	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus City (5), Balata RC (3), 'Askar RC (1), Camp No.1 (2), Kafr Qalil (2), Zawata (1), Qusin (1), Huwwara CP	15	27
Jenin	Jenin RC (3), Jenin City (5), Qabatiya (3), Rummana (1), 'Arraba (1), Al 'Araqa (1), Al Yamun (1), Birqin (1), Fahma (2), Zbuba (1), Deir abu Da'f (2), Az Zababida (1), Kafr Qud (1), Ash Shuhada (1)	24	14
Tubas	Tubas (3), Tammun (1), El Far'a RC (3), Al 'Aqaba (1), Kashda (1)	9	0
Tulkarm	Tulkarm City (2), Nur Shama RC (2), Seida (2), 'Attil (1), Iktaba (1), Ar Ras/ Kafriat CP	8	5
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya City (5), 'Azzun (6), Jayyus (3), Kafr Qaddum (2), Immatin (2), Jit (2), Habla (3), Izbat at Tabib (1), Kafr Thulth (1), Ras 'Atiya (2)	27	8
Salfit	Marda (1), Mas-ha (1), Bruqin (1), Yasuf (1)	4	1
Ramallah	Al Jalazun Camp (2), Ramallah City (3), Beituniya (1), Beit Sira (2), Saffa (1), Silwad (1), Rammun (1)	11	11
Jericho	-	0	0
Jerusalem	Qalandiya RC (1), Hizma (1), <sup>2</sup> Jabal al Mukaber, Al 'Ezariya (1), <sup>3</sup> As Sawahira ash Shariqiya	3	73
Bethlehem	Bethlehem City (4), Husan (1), Tuqu' (1), Beit Jala (2), Nahalin (1)	9	11
Hebron	H1 Area of Hebron City (6), H2 area of Hebron City (1), Beit Ummar (1), Taffuh (1), Yatta (1), Dura (3), Al Fawwar RC (1), Al 'Arrub RC (1), Idhna (1), Bani Na'im (1), As Samu' (1), Adh Dhahriya (1), Al Fawwar partial CP	19	18
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>129</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>129</b>	<b>168</b>

<sup>1</sup> Figures exclude the number of West Bank Palestinians arrested in Israel due to the lack of work permits.

<sup>2</sup> On 13 March, the IDF detained a Palestinian journalist/photographer in Jabal al Mukaber, along with his car, camera and cellular phones for trying to take pictures of the funeral of the Palestinian man who killed eight Israelis at the Jewish seminary on 6 March 2008. The photographer was released after the funeral was over (Jerusalem).

<sup>3</sup> On 16 March, the IDF entered As Sawahira ash Shariqiya and detained seventy people who were attending a wake opened to receive condolences for the death of the Palestinian man who killed eight Israelis at the Jewish seminary on 6 March 2008. The IDF confiscated the detainees' identity cards and kept them inside the house for several hours. They were later released and got back their IDs on the condition that they leave the wake (Jerusalem).

**Table 5: Searches, Arrests, and Detentions Conducted by Palestinian Security Forces**

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention (number of searches, number of arrests) – additional information	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	'Askar Camp (1,1), Camp No.1 (1,1)	2	2
Jenin	Jenin City (1,1)	1	1
Tulkarm	'Anabta (1,1), Qaffin (1,1), Seida (1,1)	3	3
Salfit	Salfit (1,1), Zeita Jamma'in (1,1)	2	2
Bethlehem	Bethlehem City (1,2)	1	2
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Gaza Strip</b>			
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>

\* Carried out by the Gaza police affiliated with the dismissed Hamas government.

## Appendix: Checkpoints: 12 – 18 March 2008

Checkpoint	Status
<b>Tulkarm :</b>	
<b>Ephraim (Green Line CP)</b>	Manned by the IDF. Operating from 0430 to 1900 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0430 to 1300 hours on Fridays for Palestinian workers and traders with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Kafriat</b>	Manned by the IDF. Operating 24 hours. It is divided into three parts: one controls movement to and from Tulkarm town and is closed for all; one controls movement to the closed area behind the barrier and from there to Israel; and one controls movement to and from Khirbet Jubara village. Movement to Israel via the closed area behind the barrier is permitted only for Israelis and international organizations.
<b>Ar Ras/ Kafriat</b>	Manned by the IDF and controls all traffic heading southwards from Tulkarm.
<b>Jubara</b>	Manned by the IDF. Only allows Jubara community behind the Barrier to pass through.
<b>Enav</b>	Located at the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. During the week, delays and long queues were reported.
<b>Qalqiliya:</b>	
<b>Jaljoulia</b>	Manned by the IDF. Operating 24 hours. Access is only granted to holders of permits to enter Israel and residents of Ras at Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda, which are isolated behind the Barrier. Ambulances travelling from Qalqiliya City to these five villages need prior coordination with the DCL.
<b>Qalqiliya North (Green Line CP)</b>	Manned by the IDF. Operating from 0400 to 1900 hours Sunday to Thursday and from 0400 to 1400 hours on Fridays. The checkpoint is used by Palestinian workers and merchants with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Qalqiliya DCO Partial CP</b>	Manned by the IDF. Controls the main eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City.
<b>Izbat Jalu'd Partial CP</b>	Manned by the IDF. Located south of Habla village. Controls movement to the southern entrance of Qalqiliya City.
<b>Ras 'atiya</b>	Manned by the IDF. Barrier Checkpoint.
<b>'Azzun Atme</b>	Manned by the IDF. Barrier Checkpoint.
<b>Jit Junction, Partial CP</b>	Manned by the IDF. Located at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.
<b>Salfit:</b>	
<b>Deir Ballut</b>	Manned by the IDF. Operating from 0600 to 1800 hours. Controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western Salfit governorate.
<b>Kafr Kasem On Road 5</b>	Manned by the IDF. Operating 24 hours for UN, international organizations, Israelis and allows them to enter Israel via the closed area behind the Barrier.
<b>Nablus:</b>	
<b>Huwwara Southern main entrance</b>	Manned by the IDF. Operating from 0500 to 2300 hours for humanitarian organisations and Palestinian pedestrians. Israeli citizens can pass only after prior liaison with the IDF. Public transportation and private vehicles need permits to cross between 0600 and 2100 hours. Commercial trucks are not allowed to pass. During the week, delays and long queues were reported.
<b>Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade</b>	Manned by the IDF. Operating from 0500 to 2100 hours 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. Public transportation, commercial trucks, trucks carrying aggregates and private vehicles need permits to cross. Only 63 trucks with special permits are allowed to use the checkpoint. During the week, delays and long queues were reported.
<b>Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area of Jarzim with Nablus City</b>	Manned by the IDF. Operating from 0630 to 1930 hours from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritan families living east of the checkpoint.
<b>Beit Furik Eastern checkpoint</b>	Manned by the IDF. A major linkage between Nablus and the Jordan Valley area. Operating from 0500 to 2100 hours. Palestinians travelling out of Beit Furik and Beit Dajan must enter Nablus City through this checkpoint and then cross through other Nablus checkpoints to reach their destinations.
<b>Shave Shomeron Northwest, main road to Jenin</b>	Manned by the IDF. Closed since 15 August 2005 for Palestinians as well as for ambulances, UN and humanitarian organisations. For the

	latter category, the checkpoint was temporarily opened between 1 and 28 March 2007, after which it was re-closed.
<b>Tappuah</b> <i>South, main road to Ramallah</i>	Manned by the IDF. Operating 24 hours. Controls Palestinian movement southwards on Roads 60 and 505. During the week, delays and long queues were reported. During the week, delays and long queues were reported.
<b>17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed)</b> <i>On road leading to Nablus's northern villages</i>	Manned by the IDF. As of 29 August 2007, the IDF closed the checkpoint for Palestinians as well as ambulances, UN and humanitarian organizations.
<b>Yizhar, Partial CP</b>	Manned by the IDF. Located north of Huwwara village on Road 60.
<b>Majdal Bani Fadel Partial CP</b>	Manned by the IDF. Controls access to areas north of Road 505.
<b>Al Badhan, Partial CP</b>	Manned by the IDF. Located on Road 57 leading to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin.
<b>Jenin :</b>	
<b>Al Jalama (Green Line CP)</b>	Manned by the IDF. A crossing for workers and traders to enter Israel. Operating between 0530 to 2000 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0530 to 1400 hours on Fridays. It was closed between 7 and 9 March following the attack on a Yeshiva in West Jerusalem.
<b>Reikhan/ Barta'a</b> <i>Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave</i>	Manned by an Israeli private company. Operating between 0500 to 2200 hours for Palestinians living in the enclave behind the Barrier as well as UN and international organisations crossing in their vehicles. 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.
<b>Salim DCO (Green Line CP)</b>	Manned by the IDF. Entrance to the Israeli DCL.
<b>Mevo Dotan</b> <i>On Road 585 near Ya'bad</i>	Manned by the IDF. Operating from 0400 to 2300 hours for all Palestinians.
<b>Tubas :</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> <i>Main entrance to Israel On the Green Line</i>	Located north of Tubas. Since 9 January 2007, the checkpoint is officially open from 1000 to 1800 hours Sunday through Thursday, 0600 to 1200 hours on Fridays, and closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Palestinians holding both businessman cards and permits to enter Israel are allowed to cross. Palestinians working for international organisations continue to be prohibited from using Bisan checkpoint.
<b>Tayasir</b> <i>Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley</i>	Previously the main road to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin. Operating from 0300 to 2200 hours. As of 26 April 2007, this checkpoint is open for all Palestinians from the West Bank governorates using public transportation as well as commercial trucks. Residents of Jericho and the Jordan Valley are permitted to cross with private vehicles. Other West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from crossing. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley is no longer required.
<b>Maale Efrayim</b> <i>Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus</i>	Connects Jericho and Nablus governorates. Operating from 0600 to 2200 hours. Only Palestinians who are residents of Jericho and the Jordan Valley are permitted to use this checkpoint. The same restrictions apply to commercial trucks.
<b>Hamra</b> <i>East, before closure regime main road to Jordan and Nablus</i>	Previously the main road to the Jordan Valley and Nablus. Operating from 0300 to 2200 hours. The checkpoint is open for all West Bank Palestinians using public transportation and for commercial trucks. Residents of Jericho and the Jordan Valley are permitted to cross with private vehicles. West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from crossing. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley is no longer required. Delays were experienced on a daily basis throughout the reporting period.
<b>Ramallah/AI Bireh:</b>	
<b>Bet El/DCO</b>	Since 20 August 2007 the checkpoint has been in operation from 0600 to 2000 hours. Access in vehicles is reserved only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, PRCS and PMRS ambulances, staff of the water and electricity companies and Palestinians with special work permits. As of 14 January 2008, a Border Police company now mans the checkpoint.
<b>'Atara Bridge</b>	Manned by the Border Police. No permits are required to cross the checkpoint. As of 1 December 2007, random checks of Palestinian vehicles and IDs going through the checkpoint are reported in both directions. Delays were experienced during the morning and evening rush hours.
<b>An Nabi Salih gate, Partial CP</b>	Usually Open. On 2 March the checkpoint was in operation, delays of up to 30 minutes were reported.
<b>At Tayba</b> <i>At intersection between Road 458 and Road 449</i>	Located on <i>Al Mu'arrajat</i> road that links Road 90 to Road 458. Partial checkpoint manned by the IDF. Controls movement between Ramallah governorate and the Jordan Valley. No permits are required

<b>Partial CP</b>	and it is open for all West Bank residents in both directions.
<b>Makkabim</b> <i>On Highway 443</i>	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 East Jerusalem and Israel.
<b>Ni'lin</b>	Operating daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, and foreign passport holders. Palestinian merchants with BMC cards, workers inside Israel, coordinated medical cases and holders of Israeli permits for personal needs are allowed through the checkpoint.
<b>Rantis</b>	Operating daily 24 hours for Israelis and holders of Jerusalem IDs and foreign passports. West Bank Palestinians are not allowed to cross irrespective of their possession of permits to enter Israel.
<b>Jericho:</b>	
<b>DCO</b> <i>Main checkpoint off Road 1</i>	Operating 24 hours/day. As of 26 September 2007, all West Bank ID-holders can enter Jericho via the DCO checkpoint. Palestinians from the north of the West Bank (Nablus, Qalqiliya, Jenin, Tulkarm) are not allowed to exit Jericho via this checkpoint and are hence forced to take the old road to Ramallah via Yitav checkpoint. All other West Bank ID-holders may exit Jericho via the DCO checkpoint or Yitav. During the reporting period, delays of up to 45 minutes were reported on a daily basis. On 14 March delays of up to 3 hours were reported.
<b>Al Auja (Yitav)</b> <i>On Road 90</i>	Operating 24 hours/day for Palestinians living in Jericho Governorate. Palestinians who are non-residents of Jericho and hold West Bank IDs travelling northward to Al Auja and the northern Jordan Valley area are prohibited from crossing unless they hold Israeli permits that allow them access to the area. No permit is required for those travelling from and to Ramallah.
<b>Gate opposite Allenby</b> <i>Checkpoint off Road 90</i>	Gate manned by the IDF but remains closed. Soldiers open the gate only for shuttle busses taking Palestinians to Jordan via Allenby Border crossing.
<b>An Nwemeh, Partial CP</b> <i>North Jericho</i>	Open. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arrajat road, the only road out of Jericho for residents of Ramallah and the northern West Bank.
<b>Dead Sea</b> <b>Became a partial checkpoint as of 2 January 2008</b>	Located on Road 90 near the Dead Sea. Was a permanent checkpoint between 1 July 2007 and 01 January 2008. As of 31 October 2007, it is manned by the Border Police and until 2 January 2008 operated on a daily basis 24 hours/day allowing passage only to Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, and holders of foreign passports. As of 2 January 2008, the checkpoint was converted to a partial checkpoint. Palestinians holding West Bank ID cards and Palestinian-plated vehicles are denied access to the Dead Sea area whenever the IDF is present, at random during weekdays and 24 hours per day on the weekends.
<b>Jerusalem :</b>	
<b>Qalandiya</b>	Open for internationals, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Only drivers and their family members are allowed to cross while staying inside the vehicle. All other persons, both West Bank and Jerusalem ID holders, have to cross through the pedestrian lanes. As of 10 December, Israeli private security guards are present at the checkpoint along with the IDF for extra random security checks. Delays facing pedestrians continue to be reported on a daily basis.
<b>Hizma</b> <i>Eastern entrance of junction Road 437/Psigat Ze'ev settlement</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal IDs/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. As of 3 February 2006, Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross unless they also are employees at international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers or BMC Card holders.
<b>Zayem</b> <i>North eastern entrance, on Road 1</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs, internationals, Palestinians working for international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and BMC Card holders. Palestinian permit holders who do not belong to one of these categories are not allowed to cross.
<b>Ar Ram</b> <i>Northern entrance, on Road 60</i>	Open for internationals, diplomats, Palestinians working for international organisations and residents of the southern part of Dahiyat al Bareed whose names and ID numbers are registered on a list at the checkpoint. All other Palestinians, both holders of Jerusalem IDs and permit holders, are not allowed to cross since this is not one of the four Israeli-designated crossings into Jerusalem.
<b>Bir Nabala / Atarot</b> <i>Northern entrance on Road 404 /45 Road Atarot Junction</i>	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 IDs/national passports in addition to their UN ID cards.
<b>Ramot Allon</b> <i>North western entrance on Road 436</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal IDs/national passports in addition to their UN ID cards.



	As of 10 January 2008, additional installations were added to the checkpoint. The Israeli Border Police now randomly checks vehicles and IDs of Palestinians travelling between Bir Nabala and Biddu enclaves. Since 14 January 2008, delays of up to 20 minutes have been regularly reported by Palestinians crossing the checkpoint westwards to reach Beit Iksa village.
<b>Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint</b>	Operating 24 hours for Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and UN and international organisations. West Bank Palestinians need permits to cross. West Bank vehicles are not allowed to cross. Commercial trucks transporting merchandise from places other than Shu'fat Camp are not allowed to cross and must use Beituniya checkpoint.
<b>Container ("Wadi nar")</b> <i>East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank</i>	Manned by Border Police. Operating for all Palestinian vehicles without permits and for internationals. Israeli yellow-plated cars are not allowed to cross. During the reporting period delays were experienced on a daily basis.
<b>Az Zaytoun (olive)</b> <i>North eastern entrance on Road 1</i>	Operating 24 hours. Access is permitted for Jerusalem ID holders, other Palestinians holding West Bank IDs and valid permits, and internationals with valid Israeli visas (all pedestrians). No vehicles are allowed to cross.
<b>Lazarus</b>	Manned by the IDF. Provides access to Jerusalem for 300 residents of the Abu Dis neighbourhood adjacent to the checkpoint who have Jerusalem IDs and have their names on a list held at the checkpoint.
<b>Sheikh Sa'd</b>	Manned by the IDF. Provides access to Jerusalem for Jerusalem ID holders who are residents of the village of Ash Sheikh Sa'd, which is located to the east of the Barrier.
<b>As Sawahira ash Sharqiya</b>	Manned by the IDF. Allows Jerusalem residents of As Sawahira al Gharbiya who live adjacent to the barrier to access As Sawahira ash Sharqiya, which is located to the east of the Barrier.
<b>Rafat / Al Masyion</b> <i>On the new road between Rafat and Bir Nabala village</i>	On the "Fabric of Life" road between Ramallah and Bir Nabala, near Rafat village. As of 5 March, The checkpoint is manned by the Border Police. Delays were experienced on a daily basis during the reporting period.
<b>Jaba' Between Jaba' Junction and Qalandiya CP</b>	Open. During the reporting period, delays the during morning and evening rush hours were reported on a daily basis by Palestinians traveling to Ramallah.
<b>Qawasmi</b> <i>Northern entrance at roundabout on road between Atarot and Qalandiya</i>	Manned by the Border Police. Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards or valid permits and internationals. Vehicle checks for those traveling towards Qalandiya and Beit Hanina are conducted.
<b>Bethlehem :</b>	
<b>Gilo (Rachel's Tomb)</b> <i>Terminal at north entrance to Bethlehem leading to Jerusalem</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Operating 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinian permit holders. West Bank Palestinians (including those working for the UN and other international agencies) must walk through the terminal to undergo search procedures. Jerusalem ID holders travelling to Bethlehem City are asked to show their IDs. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to cross only if driven by a Palestinian with Israeli citizenship. Palestinians holding valid work permits can access East Jerusalem and Israel through this checkpoint after showing their IDs, work permits, and occasionally their magnetic cards as well as sometimes undergoing hand print scanning. Palestinian workers from Bethlehem and Hebron governorates holding valid work permits were obliged to stay overnight at Gilo checkpoint in order to reach their work places inside Israel on schedule. Delays and long queues were reported during the week.
<b>An Nu'man</b> <i>On the main entrance of Khallet an Nu'man from Beit Sahur side</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Only Palestinians living in An Nu'man and listed vehicles and drivers of service providers are allowed through. Extended family members are not allowed to visit Palestinian residents. 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. As of 31 August 2007, the checkpoint is open to settlers from 0600 to 1800 hours to allow them to travel on the newly opened Jerusalem-Gush Herodion highway.
<b>Ein Yallow / Al Walaja</b> <i>Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Previously known as Ein Yallow. Operating 24 hours only for Israeli-plated cars, international organisations and commercial trucks.
<b>Beit Jala DCO, Partial CP</b> <i>Entrance to Beit Jala</i>	Rarely-manned. Operating 24 hours and movement is allowed in both directions for all vehicles.
<b>Tunnels</b> <i>Road 60 at Har Gilo</i>	Operating 24 hours. Manned by the Israeli Border Police and private security personnel since 23 February 2007. Palestinians working for international organisations are requested to show their local IDs and permits to cross into Jerusalem. Other Palestinian permit holders are

	not allowed to cross and are redirected to Gilo checkpoint. Commercial trucks are permitted to cross from 1100 to 1600 hours. Palestinian ambulances use the back-to-back system to send patients to hospitals in East Jerusalem or Israel.
<b>Settler checkpoint: Mizpe Shalem – Efrata</b>	Open 24 hours. Manned by Israeli settlers and there are restrictions on the movement of Palestinians beyond it. Previously known as settlers-Efrat checkpoint.
<b>Gush Etzion</b> <i>On Road 60, at Etzion roundabout</i>	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers sometimes check northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
<b>Wadi Fukin</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 375. Not on the Green Line</i>	Operating 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations.
<b>Al Jab'a</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 36. Not on the Green Line</i>	Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations. Operating from 0500 to 1900 hour for Palestinians with work permits to cross through the pedestrian lane to work in Israel. Land levelling and construction is ongoing to enlarge the checkpoint. On 3 March, the IDF and Israeli security personnel operating the checkpoint informed commercial trucks holding the appropriate papers to access Israel that they would not be allowed to go through the checkpoint anymore and that all commercial traffic will be re-directed to Tarqumiya crossing.
<b>Betar Illit</b> <i>Access to the settlement of Betar Illit and nearby Palestinian lands.</i>	Palestinian land owners can access their land, which is beyond the checkpoint, upon showing personal IDs.
<b>Mitzpe Shalem</b> <i>On Road 90, along Dead Sea</i>	Operating 24 hours; restricted for Palestinian movement.
<b>Hebron :</b>	
<b>Beit Awwa, Partial CP</b> <i>At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354</i>	Crossing on Road 354. Manned by the Border Police. Operating 24 hours with occasional ID checks. Employees for MSF (Médecins Sans Frontier/Doctors Without Borders) reported experiencing thorough checks and maltreatment, especially while trying to reach Palestinian families living along the road leading to the settlement of Negohot.
<b>Tarqumiya</b> <i>Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates. Not on the Green Line.</i>	Palestinian workers from Bethlehem and Hebron governorates holding valid work permits are allowed to cross from 0500 to 1700 hours. Family visits coordinated by ICRC for Palestinians detained in Israel were cancelled between 7 and 9 January and are expected to resume on 10 January. During the reporting period, long delays of trucking movement were reported due to the new procedures enforced by the IDF after the opening of the new Tarqumiya Terminal.
<b>Meitar</b> <i>Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line.</i>	Manned by the Border Police and operating from 0500 to 1900 hours Sundays through Thursdays. On Fridays, the checkpoint operates from 0500 to 1300 hours and on Saturdays it is closed. Checks are conducted using palm identification. Palestinian workers with valid permits are permitted to cross. During the reporting period, Palestinian workers were allowed to reach their work places inside Israeli through this checkpoint. Incidents of Palestinian workers holding valid work permits sleeping overnight at the checkpoint to ensure for themselves a reasonable chance of accessing Israel have also been reported.
<b>Shani</b> <i>At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317. On the Green Line.</i>	Manned by the IDF. Only Israeli plated cars are allowed to cross. Palestinian workers cannot use the checkpoint to access Israel.
<b>Beit Yatir</b> <i>On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizil. Not on the Green Line</i>	Operating 24 hours and manned by the IDF. Restricts the movement of Palestinians living near the settlement of Beit Yatir south of the checkpoint. The Terminal is operational and the checkpoint was pushed back behind the roundabout. Palestinians living in Imneizil can now access their village without having to cross the checkpoint. Palestinians living beyond the checkpoint have their names listed with the IDF to allow them passage. Friends and family members holding Palestinian IDs cannot visit their relatives in the area since their names are not on the list.
<b>Prayers Road, H2</b> <i>Access to area of Ibrahim Mosque</i>	Closed to Palestinians. During the reporting period, both Israeli settlers and IDF soldiers prevented Palestinian residents from accessing this road.
<b>Shohada street, H2</b> <i>Western entrance to Shohada street</i>	Open to Palestinians living beyond the checkpoint and in the Tel Rumeida area. Access is possible only on foot. Palestinians and internationals have to go through a mobile metal detector.
<b>Ibrahimi Mosque, H2</b> <i>Access to the Mosque</i>	Worshippers and visitors are searched upon entry. Residents living near the Mosque must hold a special permit to gain access to their homes.
<b>Bab Al Baladiyye , H2</b> <i>Next to settlement of Beit</i>	The checkpoint is closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and a new gate has been installed across the road

<i>Romano</i>	blocking physical access towards it.
<b>Qarantina, H2</b> <i>Junction with Shohada Street</i>	Closed to Palestinians. Entry point for Palestinian fire trucks and ambulances. No longer allows passage to international humanitarian organisations although TIPH and ICRC staff have reported being able to use it.
<b>Bab Al-Khan, H2</b> <i>Entrance to Avraham Avinu</i>	Closed to Palestinians travelling to Shohada Street and north toward the market.
<b>Tel Rumeida, H2</b> <i>Beginning of street leading to settlement</i>	Open to Palestinian pedestrians living between the checkpoint and the settlement. A military order was issued on 17 July 2006 that declared the area beyond the checkpoint a "Closed Area", barring the entry of anyone except Israeli citizens, the IDF, Israeli Police and those with an IDF-issued permit.
<b>Al Kasaba, H2</b> <i>Exit from the Kasaba, old city (Tomb of the Patriarchs)</i>	Filters Palestinian movement from the Kasaba area directed to the Ibrahimi Mosque. Palestinians exiting Al Kasaba must go through several turnstiles and a metal detector that allow one person to pass at a time. The process is slow during Friday prayers.
<b>Abu Rish, H2</b> <i>Near the Abu Rish Mosque at the end of Al Shohada St.</i>	Manned by the IDF. The only official access point for international organisations into the Old City of Hebron. Palestinians have to go through a mobile metal detector.
<b>Ar Ramadin</b> <i>Not on the Green Line.</i>	This checkpoint was removed on 17 October 2007. Located at intersection between Ar Ramadin entrance and Road 325.
<b>Halhul – Sa'ir, Partial CP</b> <i>Also called 'Nabi Younis' CP)</i>	Located at Halhul's entrance on the junction between Halhul and Sa'ir on Road 60. Monitored from the nearby observation tower.
<b>Al Fawwar, Partial CP</b> <i>Al Fawwar-Dura junction</i>	On Road 60. Monitored from the nearby observation tower. On 6 and 11 February, the IDF erected a flying checkpoint at the entrance of Al Fawwar Camp, east of Al Fawwar partial checkpoint.
<b>Tarqumiya – Idhna, Partial CP</b>	On Road 35. Manned on a temporary basis by the Israeli Border Police.
<b>Ras Al Joura, Partial CP</b>	Near the junction between Road 35 and Road 60. Manned on a temporary basis by the IDF.
<b>Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints</b>	
<b>Erez crossing</b>	<p>Erez was open on six days this week for the movement of diplomats as well as internationals and Palestinians with special coordination arrangements. On 12 March it was open for internationals only. It was closed on 15 March. On 13 March, it was closed from 1130 to 1350 hours due to a search operation at Erez for a Palestinian who fled toward Israel.</p> <p>13 March: six Palestinians patients exited Gaza to Egypt via Erez and Kerem Shalom for medical treatment.</p> <p>The crossing remains closed for Palestinian workers since 12 March 2006.</p>
<b>Rafah Passenger Terminal</b>	Rafah crossing continues to be closed. It was last open on 9 June.
<b>Commercial checkpoints:</b>	
<b>Tulkarm/Qalqiliya</b>	
<b>Taybeh (Green Line CP)</b>	A private Israeli company controls traffic movement. The back-to-back system is operational for goods traffic from 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday. Closed on Fridays and Saturdays.
<b>Nablus</b>	
<b>Awarta checkpoint</b> <i>Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003</i>	Manned by the IDF. Open from 0600 to 1800 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0600 to 1300 hours on Fridays. Closed on Saturday. About 120 commercial trucks have permits to cross whereas all other loads must be transferred using the back-to-back system.
<b>Jenin</b>	
<b>Al Jalama (Green Line CP)</b> <i>Main commercial checkpoint</i>	Manned by the IDF. Open between 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0800 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
<b>Tubas</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> <i>Main entrance to Israel</i>	Located north of Tubas. Since 9 January 2007, the checkpoint is open from 1000 to 1800 hours Sunday through Thursday and 0700 to 1300 hours on Fridays. Closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley area to export their agricultural produce to Israel using the back-to-back system.
<b>Ramallah/Al Bireh</b>	
<b>Beituniya</b> <i>Back-to-back checkpoint</i>	Operating from 0700 to 1630 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1200 hours on Fridays. Closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for commercial goods (back-to-back system). Only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to cross without using the back-to-back system, but only if the bill of lading stipulates Kafr 'Aqab and/or Sameeramees as offloading destinations. It is not open for private cars or pedestrians.

As of 1 July 2007, UN staff and diplomats are not allowed to cross.

#### **Hebron**

##### **Tarqumiya**

*West of Hebron on Road 35*

Entrance for commercial goods from both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates. The back-to-back section is open from 0700 to 1700 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1300 on Fridays. All cargo is checked by the Border Police and a container x-ray machine is in place. During the reporting period, long delays of commercial trucks were reported.

#### **Gaza Strip**

##### **Karni**

The conveyor belt operated on three days this week (13, 17 and 18 March) for the transfer of grains and animal feed into Gaza. However, since 12 June, Karni remained closed for all other imports and all exports.

##### **Sufa**

Sufa crossing was open on four days this week; it was closed on 14 and 15 March. Sufa crossing was re-opened on 23 December for commercial and humanitarian goods.

##### **Kerem Shalom**

Kerem Shalom was open on six days this week for the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods. It was closed on 15 March. Kerem Shalom has been open since 4 March, when it re-opened following its closure on 23 January.

##### **Nahal Oz Energy Pipelines**

Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on six scheduled operating days this week. On 15 March, they were closed for the weekend.

– 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 Organisation (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.