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Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

19 – 25 March 2008

Of note this week

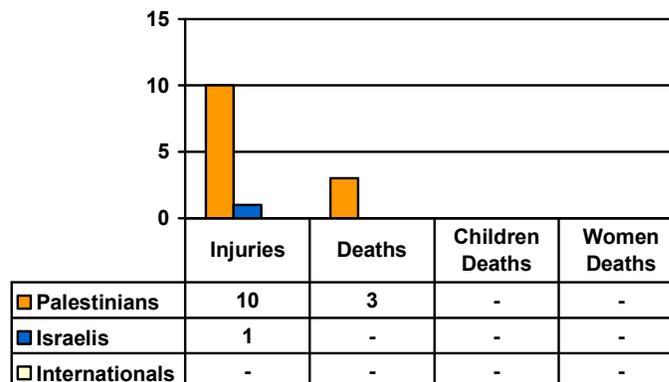
Gaza Strip:

- Three Palestinians were killed, including a 61-year-old farmer and an Islamic Jihad member who died of wounds sustained during an IAF missile attack on 18 March. In addition, the IDF injured a member of the Palestinian Resistance Committees during clashes in Rafah and a four-year-old girl when the IDF opened fire at a group of people living adjacent to the border in Central Gaza.
- Three Palestinians were killed and three injured when four tunnels collapsed along the Gaza-Egypt border.
- On three occasions, the IDF carried out levelling and excavation operations in the Gaza and Central Gaza governorates.
- **20 March:** Palestinians holding Egyptian residency who have been stuck in the Gaza Strip began a hunger strike inside the Rafah Youth and Sports Centre, demanding that they be allowed to return to Egypt.
- 23 rudimentary rockets and 19 mortars were fired at Israel.

West Bank:

- Israeli settlers injured four Palestinians with stones, including one woman, and the IDF injured four others. One Israeli settler was injured by a stone.
- On 20 and 21 March, the IDF closed all the main roads and dirt roads leading into Beita village with earth mounds, including the main entrance connecting the village to Road 60, after Palestinians threw stones and fire bombs at Israeli settlers' vehicles travelling on Road 60 near the village (Nablus).
- Between 20 and 23 March, the IDF imposed a general closure on the West Bank due to the Jewish Holiday of Purim. Palestinian permit holders, including workers and traders, denied access through all the checkpoints leading to East Jerusalem and Israel.
- The IDF demolished 12 structures (9 in Hebron, 2 in Jerusalem and 1 in Jenin). As a result, 56 people were displaced, including 38 children.
- The IDF imposed 54 curfew hours in 'Azzun village in response to stone throwing at Israeli settlers' vehicles. 8,262 people were affected and schools in the village were closed on two days (Qalqiliya).
- A total of 82 flying checkpoints, 99 search operations and 71 arrests/detentions were reported.

Palestinian and Israeli conflict related casualties:¹



¹ Excluding Palestinian-Palestinian internal violence and other 'indirect' conflict related incidents.

1. Physical Protection – conflict related casualties

Gaza Strip:

- **20 March:** A 61-year-old Palestinian man (farmer) was killed when IDF soldiers stationed at the Kissufim military base opened fire towards Palestinian farmers east of Al Qarara in Khan Younis (Khan Younis).
- **20 March:** One Palestinian (member of the Palestinian Resistance Committees—PRC) was injured during armed clashes between an IDF foot patrol unit and armed PRC members. The clashes erupted after the IDF unit entered approximately 1,500 meters into Al Jaradat area east of Rafah and carried out search operations. The IDF unit was also supported by two IAF helicopters. At 1630 hours the IDF withdrew to Kerem Shalom military base (Rafah).
- **23 March:** A 24-year-old Palestinian (Islamic Jihad member) died of wounds sustained during an IAF missile attack targeting a group of armed Islamic Jihad members in Beit Lahiya on 18 March (North Gaza).
- **24 March:** A 35-year-old Palestinian man was killed by IDF gunfire east of Khan Younis, which took place after armed PRC members fired two RPGs at a group of Israeli engineers performing maintenance work near the border (Khan Younis).
- **24 March:** A four-year-old Palestinian girl was injured when IDF soldiers stationed at the border east of Abu El Ajeen in Deir El-Balah opened fire at a group of people living in the area (Central Gaza).

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **19 March:** Israeli patrol boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats, forcing them to return to shore. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **19 March:** IDF tanks stationed at the border south of IDF Kissufim military base opened fire at areas east of Al Qarara village. No injuries were reported (Khan Younis).
- **20 March:** The IDF fired three tank shells targeting open areas east of Sheikh Zayed City. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **20 March:** An IAF aircraft fired a missile targeting a group of Hamas members who were monitoring the border east of Al Bureij Camp. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **20 March:** PRC members detonated a roadside bomb targeting an IDF jeep patrolling the fence southeast of Al Maghazi Camp. The IDF responded with Heavy Machine Gun (HMG) fire but no injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **22 March:** Armed Palestinians detonated a roadside bomb near an IDF Special Forces unit attempting to enter Gaza east of Al Bureij Camp. The unit immediately withdrew from the area. Following the explosion, IDF soldiers positioned at the border opened HMG fire. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **23 March:** Israeli patrol boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats west of Rafah, forcing them to return to shore. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **24 March:** Israeli patrol boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats at sea west of Khan Younis. No injuries were reported (Khan Younis).
- **24 March:** IDF forces stationed at Kissufim military base opened fire at areas east of Al Qarara village. No injuries were reported (Khan Younis).
- **24 March:** Members of Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, the military wing of Fatah, detonated an explosive device under an IDF jeep patrolling the border east of Khuza'a. According to Israeli media reports, no injuries were reported (Khan Younis).
- **24 March:** Israeli patrol boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats, forcing them to return to shore. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **25 March:** Armed Hamas members fired one RPG shell from east of Shuja'iyyeh quarter targeting an IDF bulldozer at the border fence east of Gaza City. No injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **25 March:** An IDF foot patrol entered approximately 200 metres into the area east of Al Bureij Camp. Armed clashes erupted between the IDF patrol and armed Hamas members. No injuries were reported. At 1630 hours the IDF withdrew to the border (Central Gaza).
- **25 March:** Israeli patrol boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats, forcing them to return to shore west of An Nuseirat camp. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).

West Bank:

- **18 March:** One Israeli settler (adult) and one Palestinian worker were injured when Israeli settlers from Ramot settlement clashed with a group of Palestinian workers in the settlement (Ramallah).

- **19 March:** A 21-year-old Palestinian man from the town of Surif was injured with a rock to the head when Israeli settlers from the settlement of Beit Hadassah threw stones at Palestinians walking on Al Shalaleh Street beneath the settlement (Hebron).
- **20 March:** A 23-year-old Palestinian man was injured in Beita village by live ammunition during a confrontation between the IDF and Palestinian stone throwers. En route to the hospital in Nablus City, the IDF arrested the man (from the ambulance) at Huwwara checkpoint (Nablus).
- **21 March:** A 44-year-old Palestinian man from the H2 area of Hebron City was injured in the head when a group of settlers from Kiryat Arba and Al Rajabi House threw stones at nearby Palestinian houses during the Jewish holiday of Purim (Hebron).
- **21 March:** Two Palestinian males (adults) were injured with rubber-coated metal bullets fired by the IDF soldiers during the weekly demonstration held by Palestinian, Israeli and international activists in Bil'in village protesting against Barrier construction on the village land. Cases of asphyxia among the demonstrators were also reported (Ramallah).
- **22 March:** An 18-year-old Palestinian man was injured in 'Azzun village by live ammunition during a confrontation between the IDF and Palestinian stone throwers (Qalqiliya).
- **23 March:** A 23-year-old Palestinian woman from Tel Rumeida neighbourhood in the H2 area of Hebron City was injured when a group of settlers from Tel Rumeida threw stones at her house during the Jewish holiday of Purim (Hebron).

Other incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **21 March:** A large group of Israeli settlers from the settlements of Beit Hadassah, Tel Rumeida and Avraham Avinu, all located in the H2 area of Hebron City, threw stones at Qurtuba School at midnight (Hebron).

2. Physical Protection – other incidents involving casualties²

Gaza Strip:

- **20 March:** A 15-year-old Palestinian boy was injured by a stray bullet while standing in front of his house in Al Maghazi Camp (Central Gaza).
- **20 March:** A 30-year-old Palestinian man was killed and another one was injured when a tunnel collapsed under the border between Egypt and Rafah (Rafah).
- **20 March:** Two Palestinians were injured when a tunnel collapsed between Rafah and Egypt opposite to the Al Salam quarter (Rafah).
- **21 March:** A 20-year-old Palestinian man was killed when a tunnel collapsed under the border between Egypt and Rafah (Rafah).
- **21 March:** A 25-year-old Palestinian man was killed when a tunnel collapsed along the Gaza-Egypt border. The man's body was trapped in the rubble and was found on 25 March (Rafah).
- **25 March:** A Palestinian man (Fatah affiliated and former reporter for Al-Hurriyeh broadcasting radio) was shot and injured when unknown gunmen in a vehicle attempted to abduct him while he was walking next to Beit Lahia square. He managed to escape (North Gaza).

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **19 March:** Members of a Palestinian family opened fire at three police vehicles in Rafah. This took place after a Police unit arrived to stop celebratory gunfire during a wedding ceremony. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **20 March:** Palestinians holding Egyptian residency who have been stuck in the Gaza Strip began a hunger strike inside the Rafah Youth and Sports Centre, demanding that they be allowed to return to Egypt.
- **23 March:** Approximately 30 members of the Palestinian People's Party and the National Action Committee organised a sit-in in Beit Lahiya Square to protest against the takeover of the Beit Lahiya Sports Club by Hamas. The police arrived and dispersed the crowd (North Gaza).

² 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.

- **23 March:** Approximately 2,000 students from the Islamic University organised a demonstration in Gaza City to mark the fourth anniversary of the death of Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin. The demonstration proceeded from the Islamic University to the former leader's house. The demonstration ended peacefully (Gaza).
- **23 March:** 200 members from various NGOs and secondary school students demonstrated at the Unknown Soldier Park to commemorate Al Karma battle. The demonstration ended peacefully (Gaza).
- **24 March:** Jabaliya municipality employees went on strike to protest against the non-payment of PA salaries (North Gaza).
- **24 March:** The Egyptian authorities located a tunnel used to smuggle goods under the Gaza-Egypt border (Rafah).

West Bank:

- **22 March:** Four Palestinian men and a Palestinian Police officer were injured in Huwwara village by live ammunition during a confrontation between residents and the police during an arrest operation. Nineteen people were arrested (Nablus).
- **24 March:** A 22-year-old Palestinian man was killed by live ammunition in Beit Furik due to a family dispute (Nablus).

Other incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

No incidents to report.

Inter-factional violence

West Bank:

Other Incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **19 March:** A group of Israeli settlers threw stones at Palestinian houses in Burin near Road 60. The IDF subsequently dispersed the settlers from the area (Nablus).
- **23 March:** A group of Israeli settlers from Eli settlement kidnapped two Palestinian boys from Al Lubban ash Sharqiya while they were grazing their sheep in an area between the village and the settlement. The boys were released following intervention by the Palestinian DCO after several hours (Nablus).

Gaza Strip:

Other Incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **23 March:** A dispute erupted between Fatah and Hamas supporters at the College of Science and Technology in Khan Younis. Hamas dismissed the Fatah-affiliated administration officer and appointed a pro-Hamas officer in his place. The police arrived and brought the situation under control. No injuries were reported (Khan Younis).

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
19 March 2008	Imneizel, Hebron	2	-	N/A	24
19 March 2008	Imneizel, Hebron	1	-	9 (inc. 7 children)	-
19 March 2008	Qawawis, Hebron	3	-	8 (incl. 6 children) + 7 (incl. 3 children) + 8 (inc. 5 children)	-
19 March 2008	Qawawis, Hebron	1	1	-	16 (inc. 7 children)
19 March 2008	Ad Deirat, Hebron	1	-	17 (inc. 12 children)	-
19 March 2008	Umm Lasafa, Hebron	1	-	7 (inc. 5 children)	-
19 March 2008	Hizmah, Jerusalem	2	-	-	N/A
19 March 2008	Bart'a, Jenin	1	-	-	N/A
19 March 2008	Burqa School, Nablus	0	4	-	N/A
21 March 2008	Qurtuba school (H2), Hebron	-	1	-	121 (school students)
Total		12	6	56	161

- **19 March:** IDF soldiers demolished two zinc-roofed houses (one of which is inhabited; 9 residents, including 7 children) and an animal pen in Imneizel due to the lack of building permit. The structures are located in Area C beyond the Beit Yatir checkpoint (Hebron).
- **19 March:** IDF soldiers demolished three residential structures and an animal pen in the hamlet of Qawawis south of Yatta due to the lack of building permit. The structures are in Area C. As a result, 23 people were displaced, including 14 children. The soldiers also partially damaged a storage place inside a cave (Hebron).
- **19 March:** IDF soldiers demolished a two-story house in Ad Deirat located east of Yatta due to the lack of building permit. The building is located in Area C (Hebron).
- **19 March:** IDF soldiers demolished a house in Um Lasafa east of the town of Yatta due to the lack of building permit. The house is located in Area C (Hebron).
- **19 March:** Bulldozers, accompanied by IDF vehicles and a Civil Administration vehicle, demolished two newly built houses (one was completed and the other under construction) in Hizmah village. According to the village council, based on PA maps both houses are located in Area B. The completed house was built upon obtaining a permit from the PA. According to the demolition order the two houses are located in Area C and, hence, their construction requires Israeli building permits (Jerusalem).
- **19 March:** The IDF demolished an agriculture store room in Bart'a due to the lack of building permit. The room is located in Area C (Jenin).
- **19 March:** IDF patrol jeeps broke some of window panels in Burqa School, some street lights and the wind shield of a vehicle when they opened fire towards the school, allegedly following stone throwing at the IDF. Another vehicle was burnt when the IDF fired a stun grenade near the vehicle (Nablus).
- **21 March:** A large group of Israeli settlers from the settlements of Beit Hadassah, Tel Rumeida and Avraham Avinu, all located in the H2 section of Hebron City, threw stones at Qurtuba School at midnight as they were celebrating the Jewish holiday of Purim. Window panels were damaged as a result (Hebron).

Other incidents (not involving demolitions/property damage):

- **23 March:** IDF soldiers raided an orphanage (affiliated with the Islamic Charitable Society) in the H1 area of Hebron City. The soldiers reminded the administration and the employees at the orphanage that they have to vacate the premises by 1 April (Hebron).
- **23 March:** The IDF welded shut the house of a Palestinian family located in the Old City of Hebron (H2). The family has moved out of the house three months earlier in order to renovate it. Upon completion of the renovation, they were prevented by the IDF from returning. The owner of the house was detained and told that there is a 15-day ban on him to reach the house (Hebron).
- **24 March:** IDF soldiers raided Al Hurriya and Al Siraj radio stations in the H1 area of Hebron City and confiscated a number of computers (Hebron).
- **25 March:** The IDF occupied a two-storey building in 'Azzun at 0500 hours and converted it into an observation post. The eleven residents, including six children, were held in a room. The occupation is still ongoing (Qalqiliya).

Internal Violence Incidents Affecting Shelter and Property:

No incident to report.

4. Natural Resources

Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting³

Nablus, Jenin, Tubas, Tulkarm, Qalqiliya and Salfit Governorates:

No incidents to report.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

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.

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

- 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. A total of 587.99 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:

During the reporting period: Construction of a “fabric of life” sunken road and a tunnel for use by Palestinians travelling between Al Jib and Biddu villages is complete. The sunken road is located under Road 436 which connects the settlements of Ramot Allon and Givat Ze'ev and is primarily for Israeli use and use by Palestinians from An Nabi Samwil village to access Beit Iksa via Ramot checkpoint. The “fabric of life” road replaces the dirt track between Beit Hanina al Balad and Beit Iksa through Ramot checkpoint, which was closed with cement blocks by the IDF during the reporting period.

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.
 - 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” road around Ma'ale Adummim settlement bloc has not begun. The road is planned to connect the southern and central West Bank such that Palestinians will no longer need to travel on Road 1 through the Ma'ale Adummim settlement bloc. A military order number T/19/07 had been issued to confiscate 1,128 dunums to construct this road.

Bethlehem Governorate:

23 March: The settlement of Efrat began constructing two three-story buildings (54 housing units) separated by a small park.

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
 - The Barrier contractor re-started the installation of 12-meters-high concrete blocks along the eastern side of Road 60 to the south of the Tunnel checkpoint. Construction of the patrol road along this section continues.
 - 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 Ezion 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, El'azar, 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:

- **20 March:** Four IDF bulldozers supported by two Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) entered approximately 100 metres into Gaza southeast of Karni. The bulldozers conducted levelling and excavation operations and withdrew to the border at 1800 hours (Gaza).
- **21 March:** Two IDF bulldozers guarded by two APCs entered approximately 100 metres into Gaza southeast of Karni. The bulldozers conducted levelling and excavation operations and withdrew to the border fence at 1650 hours (Gaza).
- **21 March:** One IDF tank and two bulldozers entered approximately 200 metres into Gaza east of Al Maghazi Camp. The bulldozers conducted levelling and excavation operations and withdrew to the border at 1600 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
21 – 24 March 2008	'Azzun, Qalqiliya	38
25 March 2008	'Azzun, Qalqiliya	16
Total Week		54 hours

21 - 24 March: The IDF imposed curfew on 'Azzun village for 38 hours from (1500 on 21 March until 0500 on 24 March) after Palestinians threw stones at Israeli settlers' vehicles travelling on Road 55 from/to Israeli settlements (Qalqiliya).

25 March: The IDF imposed curfew on 'Azzun village for 16 hours (0800—2400) after Palestinians threw stones and fire bombs at Israeli settlers' vehicles travelling on Road 55 from/to Israeli settlements. The curfew is still ongoing (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

- **22 March:** All schools in 'Azzun were closed due to the curfew imposed on the village by the IDF (Qalqiliya).
- **25 March:** All students in 'Azzun schools were forced to leave their schools at 0930 hours due to the curfew imposed by the IDF on the village in the morning (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 half-way through 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 (Hebron).

c) Access to employment

- **20 – 23 March:** Palestinian workers from the Governorates of Hebron and Bethlehem holding valid permits to work in Israel were not allowed to access their work places inside of Israel due to the general closure imposed on the West Bank due to the Jewish holiday of Purim.

Ongoing incidents:

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

d) Closures/movement restrictions

20 - 23 March: The IDF imposed a general closure on the West Bank due to the Jewish Holiday of Purim. Palestinian workers and traders were denied access through all the checkpoints leading to east Jerusalem and Israel. Internationals, staff working for international organisations and holding MFA cards and workers at Atarot industrial zone if married and over 30 years of age were unaffected.

Nablus Governorate:

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

20 and 21 March: The IDF closed all the main roads and dirt roads leading into Beita village with earth mounds, including the main entrance connecting the village to Road 60, after Palestinians threw stones and fire bombs at Israeli settlers' vehicles travelling on Road 60 near the village (Nablus).

25 March: The IDF removed the earth mound from the main entrance of Beita village.

Ongoing incidents:

- **29 October 2007 to date:** The IDF continues to close the southern entrance of Jamma'in 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 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:

22 March: The IDF denied Palestinian access to Qalqiliya City via the DCO checkpoint (eastern entrance) for two hours in the morning.

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 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 checkpoint placed at the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City (DCO) continue to prevent Palestinians with Israeli citizenship from entering Qalqiliya City with vehicles.

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 functions as 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:

No incidents to report.

Gaza Strip

Functioning of Gaza crossing points:

- **Erez** was open on two 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 coordination. (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 three days this week; it was closed on 19, 20, 21 and 22 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 Yunis 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	Beita (3), Huwwara (2), Salim (1), Jamma'in (1)	7
Jenin	'Arraba (2), Qabatiya (1), Ash Shuhada (1), Siris (1), Rummana (1), Az Zababida (1), Talfit (2), near the American University (1), As Sueitat (1)	11
Tubas	Tammun (1), 'Aqabba(1)	2
Tulkarm	Al Jarushiya (2), Kafr Sur (3)	5
Qalqiliya	'Azzun (5), Immatin (1), Wadi Qana (3), Izbat at Tabib (5), Kafr Laqif (4), Kafr Thulth (2), Habla tunnel (4), Jayyus (2), Anabi Elyas (1)	27
Salfit	Marda (1), Iskaka (2), Kafrad Dik (2), Haris (1), Kifl Haris (1), Bruqin (1)	8
Ramallah/Al Bireh	-	-
Jericho	-	-
Jerusalem	-	-
Bethlehem	Bethlehem western entrance junction with Rd 60 (1), Tuqu' (3), Obaidiya (1), Beit Sahur (2)	7
Hebron	H1 Area of Hebron City (4), Al Tabaqa area in Dura (2), Beit Ummar (1), Sinjer area in Dura (2), As 'Samu (1), Road between Yatta and As 'Samu (2), Susiya (2), Ad Dhahiriya (1)	15
Total West Bank		82

6. Search/Arrests/Detentions

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

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 (6), Balata RC (4), Burqa (2), Beita (3), Sarra (1), Huwwara CP	16	18
Jenin	Jenin RC (4), Jenin City (5), Qabatiya (2), Ar Rama (1), Birqin (1), Talfit (1)	14	8
Tubas	Tubas (2), Tammun (2), El Far'a RC (1),	5	4
Tulkarm	Tulkarm City (2), Nur Shama RC (1), Tulkarm RC (1), Qaffin (1), Zeita (1)	6	6
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya City (4), 'Azzun (5), Jayyus (3), Kafr Qaddum (3), Immatin (2), Jit (3), Habla (2), Izbat at Tabib (1), Kafr Thulth (3), Ras 'Atiya (2), 'Asla (1), Kafr Laqif (1), Flying CP in Wadi Qana	30	4
Salfit	Marda (1), Bruqin (1)	2	0
Ramallah	Qaddura RC (1), Beit Rima (1), Deir Qaddis (1)	3	3
Jericho	Jericho City (1)	1	2
Jerusalem	East Jerusalem	0	3
Bethlehem	Bethlehem City (3), Tuqu (4), Beit Sahur (1), Al Obaidiya (2), Beit Jala (1)	11	12
Hebron	Surif (6), Halhul (1), H1 area of Hebron City (3), Beit Ummar (1)	11	11
Total Week West Bank		99	71
North Gaza	Beit Hanoun (2)	2	8
Rafah	Al Jaradat (1)	1	0
Total Gaza Strip		3	8
Total oPt		102	79

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

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	Nablus (1,2), Huwwara (1,19)	2	21
Jenin	Jenin (1,1), Qabatiya (1,1)	2	2
Tulkarm	Seida (1,2)	1	2
Qalqiliya	Qaqiliya (1,1)	1	1
Salfit	Zeita Jamma'in (1,1)	1	1
Ramallah	Ramallah (1,6)	1	6
Hebron	Beit Awwa (4, 4)	4	4
Total Week West Bank		12	37
Gaza Strip*			
North Gaza	Beit Lahia (0, 4)—a demonstration to protest Hamas's takeover of the Beit Lahiya sports club	0	4
Deir al-Balah	Al Maghazi Camp (1, 5)—family dispute An Nuseirat Camp (1, 1)—affiliated with Fatah	2	6
Rafah	Rafah (1, 1)—alleged collaboration with Israel	1	1
Total Gaza Strip		3	11
Total oPt		15	48

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

• **Appendix: Checkpoints: 19 – 25 March 2008**

Checkpoint	Status
Tulkarm :	
Ephraim (Green Line CP)	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. Between 20 and 23 March, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday of Purim.
Kafriat	Manned by the IDF. Operating 24 hours. Divided into three parts: one controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one controls movement to Israel; and one controls movement to and from Khirbet Jubara. Movement to Israel via the closed area behind the barrier is permitted only for Israelis and international organizations.
Ar Ras/ Kafriat	Manned by the IDF. Controls traffic heading south from Tulkarm including Jenin residents. During the week, delays and long queues were reported.
Jubara	A Barrier gate manned by the IDF. Open 24 hours. Only allows Jubara community behind the Barrier to pass through.
Enav	Located at the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. During the week, delays and long queues were reported.
Qalqiliya:	
Jaljoulia	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.
Qalqiliya North (Green Line CP)	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. Between 20 and 23 March, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday of Purim.
Qalqiliya DCO Partial CP	Manned by the IDF. Controls the main eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City.
Izbat Jalu'd Partial CP	Manned by the IDF. Located south of Habla village. Controls movement to the southern entrance of Qalqiliya City.
Ras 'atiya	Manned by the IDF. Barrier Checkpoint. Open from 0600 to 1800 hours.
'Azzun Atme	Manned by the IDF. Barrier Checkpoint. Open from 0430 to 2200 hours.
Jit Junction, Partial CP	Manned by the IDF. Located at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.
Salfit:	
Deir Ballut	Manned by the IDF. Operating from 0600 to 1800 hours. Controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western Salfit governorate.
Kafr Kasem On Road 5	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. Between 20 and 23 March, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday of Purim.
Nablus:	
Huwwara Southern main entrance	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.
Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade	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. During the week, delays and long queues were reported.
Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area of Jarzim with Nablus City	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.

Beit Furik <i>Eastern checkpoint</i>	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.
Shave Shomeron <i>Northwest, main road to Jenin</i>	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.
Tappuah <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.
17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed) <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.
Yizhar, Partial CP	Manned by the IDF. Located north of Huwwara village on Road 60.
Majdal Bani Fadel Partial CP	Manned by the IDF. Controls access to areas north of Road 505.
Al Badhan, Partial CP	Manned by the IDF. Located on Road 57 leading to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin.
Jenin :	
Al Jalama (Green Line CP)	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. Between 20 and 23 March, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday of Purim.
Reikhan/ Barta'a <i>Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave</i>	Manned by the IDF. 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. Between 20 and 23 March, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday of Purim, except for people living in Barta'a enclave.
Salim DCO (Green Line CP)	Manned by the IDF. Entrance to the Israeli DCL.
Mevo Dotan <i>On Road 585 near Ya'bad</i>	Manned by the IDF. Operating from 0400 to 2300 hours for all Palestinians.
Tubas :	
Bisan <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.
Tayasir <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.
Maale Efrayim <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.
Hamra <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.
Ramallah/Al Bireh:	
Bet El/DCO	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.
'Atara Bridge	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.
An Nabi Salih gate, Partial CP	Usually Open. On 2 March the checkpoint was in operation, delays of up to 30 minutes were reported.
At Tayba <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 and it is open for all West Bank residents in both directions.
Makkabim <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.
Ni'lin	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.
Rantis	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.
Jericho:	
DCO <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.
Al Auja (Yitav) <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.
Gate opposite Allenby <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.
An Nwemeh, Partial CP <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.
Dead Sea Became a partial checkpoint as of 2 January 2008	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.
Jerusalem :	
Qalandiya	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.
Hizma <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.
Zayem <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.
Ar Ram <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 Bareded 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.

Bir Nabala / Atarot <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.
Ramot Allon <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. Palestinians travelling between Bir Nabala and Biddu enclaves are no longer allowed through the checkpoint and all movements are directed to the new “fabric of life” sunken road and tunnel between Al Jib and Biddu under Road 436.
Shu’fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint	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.
Container (“Wadi nar”) <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.
Az Zaytoun (olive) <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.
Lazarus	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.
Sheikh Sa’d	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.
As Sawahira ash Sharqiya	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.
Rafat / Al Masyion <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.
Jaba’ Between Jaba’ Junction and Qalandiya CP	Open. During the reporting period, delays during morning and evening rush hours were reported on a daily basis by Palestinians traveling to Ramallah.
Qawasmi <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.
Bethlehem :	
Gilo (Rachel’s Tomb) <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.
An Nu’mān <i>On the main entrance of Khallet an Nu’mān from Beit Sahur side</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Only Palestinians living in An Nu’mān 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.
Ein Yallow / Al Walaja	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Previously known as Ein Yallow.

<i>Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line</i>	Operating 24 hours only for Israeli-plated cars, international organisations and commercial trucks.
Beit Jala DCO, Partial CP <i>Entrance to Beit Jala</i>	Rarely-manned. Operating 24 hours and movement is allowed in both directions for all vehicles.
Tunnels <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.
Settler checkpoint: Mizpe Shalem – Efrata	Open 24 hours. Manned by Israeli settlers and there are restrictions on the movement of Palestinians beyond it. Previously known as settlers-Efrat checkpoint.
Gush Etzion <i>On Road 60, at Etzion roundabout</i>	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers sometimes check northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
Wadi Fukin <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 375. Not on the Green Line</i>	Operating 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations.
Al Jab'a <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.
Betar Illit <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.
Mitzpe Shalem <i>On Road 90, along Dead Sea</i>	Operating 24 hours; restricted for Palestinian movement.
Hebron :	
Beit Awwa, Partial CP <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.
Tarqumiya <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. 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. Between 20 and 23 March, Palestinian workers holding valid work permits were denied access to Israel due to the general closure imposed by the IDF on the West Bank.
Meitar <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. This week, except between 20 and 23 March (due to the Jewish holiday of Purim), 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.
Shani <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.
Beit Yatir <i>On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizel. 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.

Prayers Road, H2 <i>Access to area of Ibrahimi Mosque</i>	Closed to Palestinians. During the reporting period, both Israeli settlers and IDF soldiers prevented Palestinian residents from accessing this road.
Shohada street, H2 <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.
Ibrahimi Mosque, H2 <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.
Bab Al Baladiyye , H2 <i>Next to settlement of Beit Romano</i>	The checkpoint is closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and a new gate has been installed across the road blocking physical access towards it.
Qarantina, H2 <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.
Bab Al-Khan, H2 <i>Entrance to Avraham Avinu</i>	Closed to Palestinians travelling to Shohada Street and north toward the market.
Tel Rumeida, H2 <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.
Al Kasaba, H2 <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.
Abu Rish, H2 <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.
Ar Ramadin <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.
Halhul – Sa'ir, Partial CP <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.
Al Fawwar, Partial CP <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.
Tarqumiya – Idhna, Partial CP	On Road 35. Manned on a temporary basis by the Israeli Border Police.
Ras Al Joura, Partial CP	Near the junction between Road 35 and Road 60. Manned on a temporary basis by the IDF.
Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints	
Erez crossing	Erez was open on 5 March for the movement of diplomats as well as internationals and Palestinians with special coordination arrangements. On 19, 20 and 23 March it was open exclusively for internationals. It was closed on 21 and 22 March. The crossing remains closed for Palestinian workers since 12 March 2006.
Rafah Passenger Terminal	Rafah crossing continues to be closed but it was opened briefly to allow medical cases to pass through to Egypt. It was last open on 9 June. On 23 March, approximately 33 Hamas members who were detained in Egypt returned to Gaza via Rafah crossing. On 25 March, approximately 86 injured Palestinians who received medical treatment in Egypt returned to Gaza via Rafah crossing.
Commercial checkpoints:	
Tulkarm/Qalqiliya	
Taybeh (Green Line CP)	Manned by an Israeli private company. The back-to-back system is operational for goods traffic from 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday. Closed on Fridays and Saturdays.
Nablus	
Awarta checkpoint <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.
Jenin	
Al Jalama (Green Line CP)	Manned by the IDF. Open between 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to

Main commercial checkpoint	Thursday and 0800 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
Tubas	
Bisan <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.
Ramallah/AI Bireh	
Beituniya <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 <i>West of Hebron on Road 35</i>	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 (20, 24 and 25 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 three days this week; it was closed on 19, 20, 21 and 22 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 22 March for the weekend. 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 five scheduled operating days this week. On 21 and 22 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.