



## OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

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## Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

### 22 – 28 August 2007

#### Of note this week

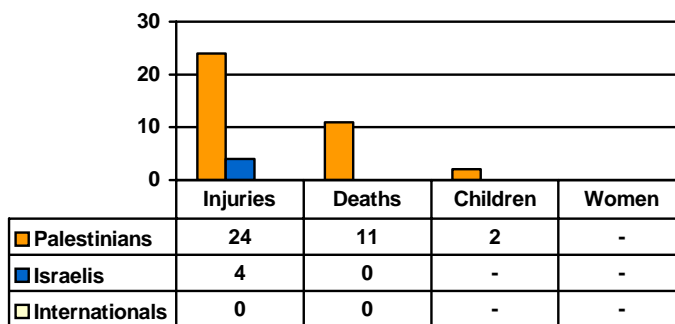
##### **Gaza Strip:**

- The IDF killed seven Palestinians and injured nine others. One IDF soldier was injured in an exchange of fire at Erez crossing.
- 37 Qassam rockets and 63 mortar shells were fired from the Gaza Strip towards Israel, including 23 Qassams towards Sderot. An additional seven mortars were fired towards Israeli tanks stationed east of Khuza'a in the Khan Younis governorate. Four IAF air strikes took place, including two at suspected rocket-launching sites.
- IDF coast guard vessels fired machineguns on two occasions at Palestinian fishing boats (Rafah and North Gaza).
- 17 Palestinians were injured in armed factional clashes that followed the arrest of a Fatah member by the ESF in Khan Younis.
- 75 Palestinians holding residency permits in Arab countries crossed to Egypt via Erez and Nitzana (a crossing point on the Israeli-Egyptian border that serves as an alternative to Rafah crossing). Rafah crossing has remained closed since 9 June. The Palestinian ministry of civil affairs estimates that at least 5000 Palestinians (students and those holding residency permits in foreign countries) are waiting to leave Gaza.

##### **West Bank:**

- The IDF killed four Palestinians (Tulkarm and Jenin) and injured 12 others throughout the West Bank. Three IDF soldiers were injured in an exchange of fire in Camp No. 1 (Nablus).
- Three Palestinians were injured by Israeli settlers in Nablus and Hebron. One Palestinian woman was run over by an Israeli settler in Hebron.
- **On 25 August**, The IDF evacuated approximately 100 Israeli settlers from the formerly dismantled settlement of Khomesh after they had entered the settlement in the early morning hours.
- 99 flying checkpoints, 98 IDF search campaigns, and 115 arrests 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 reported in Section 2.

## 1. Physical Protection – conflict related casualties

### Gaza Strip:

- **22 August:** A 20-year-old Palestinian (who was a Hamas member) was killed and a 19-year-old Palestinian was injured when an IAF helicopter fired a rocket targeting a group of Hamas members east of the Shuja'iya neighbourhood of Gaza City (Gaza).
- **23 August:** Four Palestinians were injured when an IAF helicopter fired a rocket targeting a group of Hamas members during an IDF incursion into the area east of Khuza'a. Hamas members subsequently fired two RPGs at IDF tanks stationed in the area. The IDF withdrew to the border fence at 1100hours (Khan Younis).
- **25 August:** Two Palestinians (aged 21 and 22 years and members of the PRC-affiliated Al Nasser Salah Ed-Din Brigades and DFLP) were killed during an exchange of fire with IDF soldiers at Erez crossing. The two men, along with a member of Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, had infiltrated the area around Erez. The third person was injured and apparently managed to escape back to Gaza. An IDF spokesperson stated that the infiltrators opened fire at the IDF, injuring one IDF soldier (North Gaza).
- **24 August:** Two Palestinians (aged 17 and 18 years and members of Islamic Jihad) were killed when IDF soldiers stationed at the border fence north of Beit Lahiya opened fire towards them while they were approaching the fence in an apparent attempt to cross into Israel (North Gaza).
- **24 August:** Two Palestinians (aged 21 and 28 years) were injured when IDF soldiers stationed at the Kerem Shalom military base in Rafah opened fire in the direction of Palestinians homes east of Al Shouka area (Rafah).
- **27 August:** A 43-year-old Palestinian farmer was killed when four IDF tanks and three bulldozers moved from the border fence and entered 500 metres into Johr Ed-Dik area south of Karni crossing to conduct a levelling and excavation operation. The IDF tanks withdrew from the area at 1200hours (Gaza).
- **28 August:** A 45-year-old Palestinian man was injured when IDF vessels fired two shells, while he was approaching the border fence north of Beit Lahiya. Local reports indicate that the man is mentally handicapped. He was taken by the IDF for treatment (North Gaza).
- **27 August:** A 27-year-old Palestinian (member of Islamic Jihad) died of wounds sustained during the IDF incursion in Khan Younis on 14 August (Khan Younis).

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

- **23 August:** Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for firing an RPG at an IDF patrol passing the borderline east of Deir El Balah. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **24–25 August:** Six IDF tanks and two bulldozers moved from the border fence and entered 300 meters into the area south of Al Shouka. The IDF conducted a tunnel-search operation under the cover of heavy helicopter gunfire and discovered and detonated a tunnel located underneath the border line between Egypt and Gaza near the airport (Rafah).
- **25 August:** Hamas claimed responsibility for detonating a roadside bomb under an IDF vehicle that was patrolling the borderline east of Al Shouka area. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **26 August:** An IAF helicopter fired one rocket at a suspected rocket-launching site near the agricultural school northwest of Beit Hanoun. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **26 August:** IDF soldiers stationed at the borderline north of Beit Hanoun fired a surface-to-surface missile targeting the agricultural school northwest of Beit Hanoun. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **27 August:** An IAF helicopter fired one rocket at a suspected rocket-launching site near the Beit Hanoun entrance. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **27 August:** IDF gunboats fired machine guns for five minutes towards Palestinian fishing boats at sea west of Beit Lahiya. The fishing boats returned to the shore. No injuries or damage were reported (North Gaza).

### West Bank:

- **22 August:** Three IDF soldiers were injured in Camp No.1 during a search campaign when an exchange of fire erupted between the IDF and armed Palestinians (Nablus).
- **22 August:** At 2300 hours, the IDF and the Israeli Border Police threw stun grenades at Palestinians in Wadi el Joz, injuring one Palestinian (Jerusalem).
- **22 August:** A 23-year-old Palestinian man from the town of Sa'ir was injured with rubber-coated metal bullets when IDF soldiers opened fire at stone-throwing Palestinians during an IDF incursion in Ras Al Arrud neighbourhood (Hebron).

- **24 August:** The IDF shot and killed two Palestinian males (a boy aged 12 and a 22 year-old man) as well as injured a 50-year-old woman and a 23-year-old man in Seida village. This took place after the IDF surrounded a house and exchanged fire with armed Palestinians (Tulkarm).
- **24 August:** Two Palestinians (aged 16 and 35 years) were injured in Urif village when Israeli settlers opened fire towards a wedding party in the village (Nablus).
- **24 August:** A 25-year-old Palestinian man was physically assaulted and injured by the IDF at Huwwara checkpoint (Nablus).
- **24 August:** A 19-year-old Palestinian woman was injured in Balata Camp by live ammunition when IDF soldiers opened fire while patrolling the area near the camp (Nablus).
- **24 August:** The IDF fired tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets at Palestinian, international and Israeli activists demonstrating against the Barrier constructed in Bil'in village. Two Palestinians were injured and several cases of tear gas inhalation were reported (Ramallah).
- **24 August:** An 11-year-old Palestinian boy from the H2 area of Hebron City had his arm broken when he was pushed off his bike by an Israeli settler near the Jewish cemetery (Hebron).
- **25 August:** Two Palestinian men (aged 23 and 25 years) were killed and three others (aged 25, 28 and 30 years) were injured by live ammunition in Jenin City when an IDF undercover unit opened fire at a Palestinian vehicle. Two of the injured persons were bystanders (Jenin).
- **25 August:** A 19-year old Palestinian man from Beit 'Ula (Hebron) was injured when a group of IDF soldiers beat him while he was guarding his family's gas station in the town of Beit Kahil (Hebron).

Other incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **22 August:** Palestinian traders from Qalqiliya City held a peaceful demonstration near the eastern entrance to the city (DCO) in protest against the placement of the checkpoint at the city's entrance and the prevention of Palestinians with Israeli citizenship from entering the city (Qalqiliya).
- **22 August:** The Israeli DCL informed the Ministry of *Awqaf* of its intention to place whitened glass over *Al Sahn* area in the Ibrahimi Mosque, located in the H2 area of Hebron City, a move *Al Waqf* considers to be changing the original form of the Mosque (Hebron).
- **25 August:** The IDF evacuated about 100 Israeli settlers from the formerly dismantled settlement of Khomesh after they had entered the settlement in the early morning hours (Nablus).
- **27 August:** Palestinian Preventive Security Forces in Jenin rescued an Israeli soldier who entered Jenin City by mistake. Later, his vehicle was burnt (Jenin).

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

**Gaza Strip:**

- **22 August:** Two Palestinians, including a 12-year-old boy, were injured when an explosive device was detonated in a house in Rafah. The reason behind the incident is unknown (Rafah).
- **23 August:** A 22-year-old Palestinian (member of Hamas) was killed and another unidentified person was injured while they were apparently planting a road side bomb that prematurely exploded east of Zaitoun area in Gaza City (Gaza).
- **24 August:** One Palestinian man, among others (unknown number), was beaten and injured when the ESF stormed a wedding party in Sheikh Radwan quarter in Gaza City to stop celebratory shooting in the air (Gaza).
- **25 August:** Eight people were injured when people threw stones at the ESF while it was trying to intervene to resolve an internal family dispute in Khan Younis (Khan Younis).

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

<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.

- **23 August:** Gaza City municipality workers suspended their strike after receiving a one-month salary. However, four Gaza strip municipalities have warned of their future inability to provide public services due to the lack of fuel budget.
- **28 August:** 500 labourers organized a demonstration in Gaza City demanding the payment of their salaries. The demonstration proceeded from Al Saraya Complex to the Unknown Soldier Park. The demonstration ended peacefully (Gaza).
- **28 August:** 200 Palestinians demonstrated in Gaza City in dual-protest against the Hamas-affiliated assaults on journalists in Gaza and the Fatah-affiliated assaults on journalists in the West Bank. The protestors proceeded from Al Wehda junction to the PLC building. At 1145hours the demonstration ended peacefully (Gaza).
- **28 August:** Two explosive devices set with timers were detonated at the Ansar Complex in Gaza City. The boundary wall was damaged. No injuries were reported. The motive behind the incident is unknown (Gaza).
- **28 August:** An explosive device exploded in a home owned by a Hamas member in Bureij Camp. Local reports indicate that they were preparing an explosive device. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).

#### West Bank:

- **26 August:** A 32-year old Palestinian woman from the H2 area of Hebron City was injured when an Israeli settler ran her over with his car (Hebron).
- **24 August:** A 22-year-old Palestinian was killed in Huwwara as a result of a family dispute (Nablus).

#### Inter-factional violence

##### Gaza Strip:

- **24 August:** 15 Fatah protestors were reportedly beaten by ESF members following a march organized by 500 Fatah supporters in an open area at the Unknown Soldier Park in Gaza City to protest ESF arrest campaigns and other actions taken against Fatah supporters in the Gaza Strip. Before the march, Fatah supporters performed Friday prayers in the same area. The protestors threw stones at the ESF and the Saraya complex during their march. The ESF responded by shooting in the air to disperse the protestors (Gaza).
- **28 August:** 17 Palestinian men were injured during armed factional clashes that erupted following the arrest of a Fatah member in Khan Younis by the ESF (Khan Younis).

##### West Bank:

- **28 August:** A 30-year-old Palestinian affiliated with Hamas was injured in Nablus City after he was kidnapped by unknown gunmen (Nablus).

### 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
22 August 2007	Qarawat Bani Hassan, Salfit	1	-	-	1
22 August 2007	Rafah, Rafah	0	11	-	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7</b>

- **22 August:** The IDF demolished an uninhabited two-storey building that is under construction in Qarawat Bani Hassan due to the lack of a building permit. The house is located in area C (Salfit).
- **22 August:** IDF coast guard vessels fired machineguns in the direction of Palestinian fishing boats west of Rafah. Ten boats and a house belonging to a local Palestinian family were damaged (Rafah).

#### Other incidents (not involving demolitions/property damage):

- **24 August:** The IDF issued two separate orders for the demolition of two houses in Al 'Aqaba village (Tubas).

#### Ongoing incidents (not involving demolitions/property damage):

- **25 April to date:** The IDF continues to occupy the fourth floor of a four-storey Palestinian office building in Huwwara (Nablus) and has converted it into an observation post to monitor Road 60. The offices have nonetheless continued to operate.

#### **Internal Violence Incidents Affecting Shelter and Property:**

No incidents to report.

### **4. Natural Resources**

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

##### **Nablus Governorate:**

Ongoing incident:

- **8 August to date:** The IDF continues construction work to upgrade the lanes at Beit Iba checkpoint.
- **15 January to date:** The IDF continues to level eight dunums of land near Huwwara checkpoint to expand the checkpoint. The land belongs to Palestinians from Burin village and was requisitioned on 10 July 2005 (Military Order T/106/05).

##### **Jenin Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

##### **Tubas Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

##### **Tulkarm Governorate:**

Ongoing incident:

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

##### **Qalqiliya Governorate:**

Ongoing incident:

- **13 August to date:** The IDF continues to carry out land leveling to build a military road connecting Qedumim settlement to road 55, in accordance with military requisition order T/15/07. The land belongs to farmers from Kafr Qaddum village.
- Barrier construction: land levelling and construction work continue near Immatin village, between 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth, and between 'Azzun and Kafr Laqif.

##### **Salfit Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

##### **Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - 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 been planned but is pending a decision by the Israeli High Court of Justice based on appeals submitted by Ni'lin village residents and Hashmon'im settlers (each side is demanding that the barrier be pushed closer to the other side).
  - Construction continues on 'Abud land to encircle Beit Arye and Ofarim settlements as part of the extension of the "Ariel finger." Construction is taking place around the two settlements and parallel to bypass Road 564. The Barrier will isolate 3,800 dunums of the village land.
- Construction of three "fabric of life" roads, which is part of an Israeli plan to build alternative roads for Palestinians *in lieu* of the main roads that have become closed due to closures and Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues at a fast pace of a new road between Rantis and Shuqba, parallel to bypass Road 465.
  - Construction continues of a road between Beit Liqya and Beit 'Anan.

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

- Construction continues of a road between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and Tira via an underpass under Road 443.
- Land levelling continues in order to construct a road between Beit Ur at Tahta and Beituniya.

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#### **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 a court case.
  - Construction near Ar Ram checkpoint between Dahiyat Al Bareed and Atarot is complete. One detour route between the neighbourhoods of Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed remains possible but the Barrier will soon seal off this neighbourhood entirely from Ar Ram and the West Bank. The iron gate between Ar Ram and Dahiyet Al Bareed was closed all week for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, so all vehicular traffic took the detour route through Dahiyet Al Bareed neighbourhood. Additional construction and infrastructure continues to be carried out on the remaining parts of the Barrier. It is planned that the gate will be used by Israeli security patrol vehicles and will not be open for humanitarian cases in the future.
  - The construction of a road barrier continues on Road 1 east of Az Za'ayem.
- Construction of an Israeli police station (two large buildings) in E1, or East 1, is an area north of Ma'ale Adummim and Road 1. Major infrastructure work is being carried out on the hill around the two buildings in preparation for building the roads that will lead to the police station.
- The road between Anata and Al 'Eizariya is under construction (Road 70). Another road (Road 80) is planned that will link Abu Dis to Road 1 east of the planned Barrier around Ma'ale Adummim. The road will be open for Palestinians only and is part of the "fabric of life" roads planned by the Israeli authorities.

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#### **Jericho Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

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#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

##### Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues next to Al Khadr Boys School along the eastern side of Road 60 adjacent to the school playground.
  - Land levelling continues in the section of Road 60 between the Palestinian village of Al Khadr and Al Nashshash (southern entrance of Bethlehem City). Additional lengths of the Barrier have been erected in this section during the reporting period.
  - Asphaltting continues west of Wadi Rahhal village and near the settlement of Efrata for the construction of the Barrier.
  - Sections of the Barrier have been placed in the vicinity of Har Gilo settlement and alongside Road 60.
- The expanded Tunnels checkpoint site is operational. Extensive land levelling has taken place on both sides of the road leading to Beit Jala at the junction with Road 60.
- Land levelling and digging for the construction of the underpass near Al Khadr village has continued. The initial construction of the underpass is complete but land levelling is currently being carried out to construct the underpass lanes.
- Land levelling is also taking place along the western side of Road 60 leading to the western villages.
- Land levelling continues for the construction of the new terminal next to Al Jab'a checkpoint.
- Construction work at Nu'man terminal is ongoing.
- Land levelling is on-going east of the Gush Etzion checkpoint.

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#### **Hebron Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:



- Barrier construction: construction continues west of Eshkolot settlement.
- Land levelling, including paving continues west of the checkpoint of Tarqumiya for a new commercial checkpoint.

### **Gaza Strip:**

- **22 August:** Five IDF tanks and three bulldozers moved from the border fence and entered 200 meters into the Palestinian area east of the Islamic Cemetery (located east of Jabalia) to conduct a levelling and excavation operation (North Gaza).
- **23 August:** Ten IDF tanks and two bulldozers entered east of Khuza'a area. IDF bulldozers levelled and excavated agricultural land. At 1100hours the IDF withdrew to the border fence (Khan Younis).
- **24 August:** Seven IDF armoured vehicles moved from the border fence and entered the Palestinian area north of Beit Lahiya. IDF troops were deployed in the former El Sinai settlement while bulldozers levelled and excavated land (North Gaza).
- **27 August:** Four IDF tanks and three bulldozers moved from the border fence and entered 500 metres in the Johr Ed-Dik area south of Karni crossing to conduct a levelling and excavation operation. The IDF withdrew from the area at 1200hours (Gaza).

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

### **a) Incidents of curfews**

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

Date	Location, Governorate	Duration
27 August 2007	'Azzun village, Qalqiliya	5
<b>Total Week</b>		<b>5</b>

- 27 August: The IDF imposed curfew on 'Azzun village for five hours during a search campaign, following shooting at Israeli vehicles travelling on Road 55 (Qalqiliya).

Ongoing incidents:

- **17 May to date:** Palestinians living in Gaza Strip areas (north east of Beit Hanoun 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**

No incidents to report.

### **c) Access to employment**

- **Throughout the week,** Palestinian workers from the Governorate of Hebron holding valid permits to work in Israel were obliged to stay overnight in front of the Meitar checkpoint, located south of the town of Adh Dhahiriya (Hebron), in order to reach their workplaces 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 manned by the Israeli Border Police and checks are conducted using palm identification. Similarly, Palestinian workers from the Governorate of Bethlehem holding valid work permits were obliged to stay overnight at Gilo checkpoint in order to cross and reach their work places inside Israel.

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 12 March 2006, Palestinian workers from the Gaza Strip have been prevented from entering Israel.
- In the West Bank, all Palestinians must apply to the DCL offices in the Jerusalem peripheries to obtain Israeli permits. The criteria for people to be eligible for an Israeli permit are similar for both workers and traders; a Palestinian should be above 35 years of age, married with at least one child, and with no security file.

### **d) Closures/movement restrictions**

#### **Nablus Governorate:**

- **26 August:** The IDF closed Beit Iba checkpoint for one hour, allegedly because a suspicious vehicle parked near the checkpoint.

Ongoing incidents:

- **28 March to date:** The IDF continues to close Shave Shomron checkpoint (Nablus) for all Palestinians, ambulances, UN and international organisations.

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#### Jenin Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- **30 August 2006 to date:** The IDF have continued to allow 40 commercial trucks (with a freight load of under two tonnes) to transport food products to Barta'a enclave. A list with the plate numbers of the trucks is present at the checkpoint. Other materials require prior coordination.

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#### Tubas Governorate:

No incidents to report.

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#### Tulkarm Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- **24 May to date:** The IDF continues to close the dirt road connecting Dhinnaba to Izbat abu Khameish with two earth mounds.

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#### Qalqiliya Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- **18 May to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Izbat at Tabib with 'Azzun and 'Asla villages with an earth mound.
- **13 July to date:** The IDF soldiers positioned at the flying checkpoint placed at the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City (DCO) continue to prevent Arab Israelis to enter Qalqiliya City.
- **20 August to date:** The IDF continues to close the main northern entrance to 'Azzun village with concrete blocks (Qalqiliya).

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#### Salfit Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

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#### Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

**24 and 25 August:** Long delays of up to 30 minutes were reported at 'Atara checkpoint.

Ongoing incidents:

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

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#### Jerusalem Governorate:

No incidents to report.

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#### Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:

Ongoing incidents:

- **14 September 2006 to date:** The IDF has announced that only Palestinians with Jericho residency, Jerusalem ID-holders, and residents of Bethlehem and Hebron, would be able to exit via the Jericho DCO checkpoint, forcing all others to either request a permit or to travel on the Al Mu'arrajat old road to reach the rest of the West Bank. Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers and residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayem and As Sawahira village are allowed to exit Jericho via the DCO checkpoint.
- **9 January to date:** Bisan checkpoint has been open for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley and Jericho to export their agricultural produce into Israel using a back-to-back system. Palestinians from the West Bank in possession of BMC cards (trader permits) in addition to an Israeli permit, are allowed through this checkpoint into Israel. Palestinians working for international organisations continue to be prohibited from using Bisan checkpoint.
- **26 April to date:** Access of Palestinians to the Jordan Valley continued at the improved level previously reported. 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. Access is only possible with public transportation as West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from entering the Jordan Valley.



**Bethlehem Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Hebron Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Gaza Strip**

Functioning of Gaza crossing points:

- On 25 and 26 August, working hours at Erez crossing were interrupted. On all other days, Erez was regularly open for senior Palestinian businessmen as well as the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, and critical medical cases with special coordination arrangements. However, since 4 July and for the first time since 12 June, a very limited number of senior Palestinian businessmen were permitted to cross Erez towards Israel and the West Bank. (Appendix for daily log of movement is based on estimated figures due to the absence of staff at the Palestinian DCL at the present time).
- Rafah crossing was closed this week
- Karni crossing: the conveyor belt operated for two days to transfer wheat into Gaza (23 and 27 August) due to shortages on the local market. No trucks were permitted to cross. Karni has been closed since 12 June.
- Sufa crossing was open on all scheduled operating days this week for the crossing of commercial goods and humanitarian aid.
- Kerem Shalom was open for five days this week (22, 23, 26, 27, and 28 August) for the crossing of commercial goods and humanitarian aid provided by international aid organizations.
- Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on six scheduled operating days.
- Gaza fishermen are 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. Officially, entry into the area for the 250 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 Beit Hanoun and north and northwest of Beit Lahia 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. In total, at least 200 dunums planted with different crops are currently inaccessible since IDF soldiers regularly open fire towards the area. There is a fear that if access obstruction continues more than 1,000 tonnes of potatoes, water melons and onions will rot.

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

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	'Aqraba (1)	1
Jenin	'Arraba (3), Al Kufeir (4), Sanur (4), Az Zababida (4), Az Zawiya (1), Fahma (1), Bir al Basha (1), Misiliya (1)	19
Tubas	-	0
Tulkarm	'Illar (3), Al Jarushiya (1), Deir al Ghusun (1), 'Attil (1), Kafr Sur (2)	8
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya entrance (DCO) (7), Habla Tunnel (2), Izbat Jalu'd (7), 'Izbzt at Tabib (2), An Nabi Elyas (1), Ras 'Atiya (1), Jayyus (2), Hajja (1), Kafr Laqif (1), Wadi Qana (4), Kafr Thulth (1), Kafr Qaddum (1)	30
Salfit	Marda (1), Bruqin (3)	4
Ramallah/Al Bireh	-	0
Jericho	-	0
Jerusalem	Beit Hanina/Al Ram (7), Beit Hanina/Atarot/Hamashbir (7)	14
Bethlehem	Bethlehem (1), Ash Shawareh, Beit Jala (1), Beit Fajjar (2), Al 'Ubeidiya (1), Dar Salah (1), Doha, Tuqu' (2)	8
Hebron	H1 Area of Hebron City (3), Sa'ir (3), Dura (2), Yatta (3), Adh Dhahiriya (1), Halhul (2), Surif, Fawwar RC (1)	15
<b>Total West Bank</b>		<b>99</b>

## 6. Search/Arrests/Detentions

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

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 (7), Balata RC (2), Camp No.1 (5), Tell (1), Sabastiya (1), 'Askar RC (2), Burqa (1) Huwwara CP	19	12
Jenin	Jenin City (3), Jenin RC (3), Qabatiya (1), AZ zababida (1), Deir abu Da'if (1)	9	7
Tubas	Tubas (1)	1	1
Tulkarm	Tulkarm City (2), Tulkarm RC (1), 'Attil (2), Zeita (3), Qaffin (1), Seida (1)	10	6
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya (7), 'Azzun (5), Habla (3), Jayyus (3), Kafr Qaddum (3), Kafr Thulth (1), 'Asla (1) Hajja (1), Baqat al Hatab (1)	25	3
Salfit	Deir Istiya (1), Salfit (1)	2	0
Ramallah	Beit 'Ur At-Tahta (2), Ramallah City (2), Bil'in, Arura (1)	5	64
Jericho	Jericho DCO CP, Jericho (1), 'Atara CP	1	4
Jerusalem <sup>1</sup>	Al Ram (1), Qalandiya CP	1	2
Bethlehem	Bethlehem (2), Beit Jala (1), Duheisha RC (2), Al Azza RC (1), Beit Fajjar, Ad Doha (1), Dar Salah, Obeidiya (3)	10	6
Hebron	H1 Area of Hebron City (4), Dura (Kanar, Kreisa and Deir Samit areas) (3), Yatta (2), Kharas, Sa'ir (3), Adh Dhahiriya (1), Nuba, Idna, As 'Samu (1), Beit Kahil (1)	15	10
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>98</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Gaza Strip</b>			
Central Gaza <sup>2</sup>	East of Al Bureij Camp	0	3
Rafah <sup>3</sup>	Rafah	0	8
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>98</b>	<b>126</b>

<sup>1</sup> On **26 August** at 1915 hours, the IDF arrested one Palestinian at Qalandiya checkpoint allegedly for attempting to stab an Israeli soldier. No injuries were reported.

<sup>2</sup> On **22 August**, IDF coast guard vessels fired machineguns in the direction of Palestinian fishing boats at sea west of Rafah and arrested eight Palestinian fishermen including five children (aged 14(2), 17(2) and 18 years). Ten boats and a house belonging to a Palestinian local family were damaged. No injuries were reported (Rafah).

<sup>3</sup> On **26 August**: IDF troops stationed at the border fence east of Al Bureij Camp opened fire towards and subsequently arrested three Palestinian men (aged 15 to 18 years) who approached the fence in a suspected attempt to cross into Israel (Central Gaza).

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

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention (number of searches) – additional information	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus City (2), Talluza (1), An Naqura (1)	4	7
Jenin	Kafr Ra'l (1), Al Yamun (1)	2	2
Tubas	Tubas (1), Tammun (1)	2	3
Tulkarm	Tulkarm City (1)	1	1
Ramallah	Ramallah	0	1
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Gaza Strip</b>			
North Gaza	Beit Lahiya (1) – <i>family dispute</i>	1	2
Gaza	Gaza City – <i>journalists covering a demonstration; released</i>	0	3
Gaza	Gaza City (1) – <i>community dispute</i>	1	2
Central Gaza	Nuseirat Camp (1) – <i>Fatah member; released</i>	1	1
Central Gaza	Nuseirat Camp (1) – <i>Islamic Jihad members; released</i>	1	5
Rafah	Rafah (1) – <i>Fatah member involved in a family dispute</i>	1	1
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>28</b>

## Appendix: Checkpoints: 22 – 28 August 2007

Checkpoint	Status
<b>Tulkarm:</b>	
<b>Ephraim</b>	Open 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>	Open 24 hours. It is divided into three parts: one that controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one that controls movement to Israel; and one that controls movement to and from Jbara.
<b>Kafriat Tunnel / Ar Ras</b>	The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin.
<b>'Anabta</b>	Located at the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57.
<b>Qalqiliya:</b>	
<b>Jaljoulia</b>	Open 24 hours. Access is only granted to holders of permits to enter Israel and residents of Ras Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi Ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda. Ambulances from Qalqiliya town to these five villages need prior coordination with DCL. Only vehicles leaving the West Bank are subject to security checks.
<b>Qalqiliya North</b>	Open from 0400 to 1900 hours Sunday to Thursday and from 0400 to 1400 hours on Fridays for Palestinian permit holders. The checkpoint is used by Palestinian workers and merchants with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Jit Junction, Partial CP</b>	Located at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.
<b>Salfit:</b>	
<b>Deir Ballut</b>	Open from 0600 to 1800 hours. The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western Salfit governorate.
<b>Kafr Kasem</b> <i>On Road 5.</i>	Open 24 hours for UN, international organisations and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Nablus:</b>	
<b>Huwwara</b> <i>Southern main entrance</i>	Open from 0600 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 pass the checkpoint between 0600 and 2100 hours. Commercial trucks are not allowed to pass.
<b>Beit Iba</b> <i>Western entrance, mainly for trade</i>	Open from 0500 to 1930 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 pass the checkpoint.
<b>Al Tur</b> <i>Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area of Jarzim with Nablus City</i>	Open from 0600 to 1800 hours from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritan families living east of the checkpoint.
<b>Beit Furik</b> <i>Eastern gate and checkpoint. After the closure regime main gateway between Nablus and the Jordan Valley</i>	Open 0530 to 2100 hours for villagers from Beit Furik and Beit Dajan. All residents heading south have to enter Nablus and cross through Nablus checkpoints.
<b>Shave Shomeron</b> <i>Northwest, main road to Jenin</i>	Closed since 15 August 2005 for Palestinians as well as for ambulances, UN and humanitarian organizations. For the latter category, the checkpoint was temporarily opened between 1 and 28 March 2007, after which it was re-closed.
<b>Za'atara (Tappouah)</b> <i>South, main road to Ramallah</i>	Open 24 hours. Controls Palestinian movement on Roads 60 and 505 southwards.
<b>17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed)</b> <i>On road leading to Nablus's northern villages</i>	Only open for humanitarian organizations and humanitarian emergency cases.
<b>Yizhar, Partial CP</b>	Located north of Huwwara village on Road 60.
<b>Al Badhan, Partial CP</b>	Located on Road 57 leading to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin. Closed three times for two to three hours.
<b>Jenin:</b>	
<b>Al Jalama</b>	Is the main entrance to Israel. Open between 0600 to 1930 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
<b>Imreiha (Reikhan)</b> <i>Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan</i>	Open between 0500 to 2100 hours for Palestinians living in the enclave, UN and international organisations. 34 vehicles with their plate numbers on a list at the checkpoint are allowed to transport

<i>enclave</i>	foodstuff into the closed area behind the Barrier. Other materials need prior coordination.
<b>Mevo Dotan (New)</b> <i>On Road 585 near Ya'bad</i>	Open from 0700 to 1900 hours for all Palestinians.
<b>Tubas:</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> <i>Main entrance to Israel</i>	Located north of Tubas. Since 9 January, 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. Open for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley and Jericho to export their agricultural produce into Israel via Bisan using the back-to-back system. Palestinians from the West Bank in possession of businessman cards, in addition to an Israeli permit, are allowed through this checkpoint into Israel. 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 Jordan, Tubas and Jenin. Officially open between 0300 and 2200 hours. As of 26 April, this checkpoint is now open for all Palestinians from the West Bank governorates. Access is only permitted with public transportation as West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited. Commercial trucks are also able to cross. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley via this checkpoint is no longer required. Delays continue to be reported on a daily basis.
<b>Maale Efrayim</b> <i>Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus</i>	Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus. Officially open between 0600 and 2200 hours. Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or are in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas. 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 Jordan and Nablus. Officially open between 0300 and 2200 hours. As of 26 April, the checkpoint is open for all West Bank Palestinians. Access is only permitted to commercial trucks and people traveling in public transportation. West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley via this checkpoint is no longer required. Some delays during the morning and evening rush hours were reported.
<b>Ramallah/AI Bireh:</b>	
<b>Bet El/DCO</b>	Since 20 August 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 17 May a new military company is in charge of the checkpoint with soldiers from the reserve forces.
<b>'Atara Bridge</b>	Manned by Border Police. No permits required to cross the checkpoint. As of 1 December, random checks of Palestinian vehicles and IDs going through the checkpoint in both directions. Delays were reported on several occasions. Delays of up to 30 minutes were reported on 24 and 25 August.
<b>An Nabi Salih gate, Partial CP</b>	Open.
<b>At Tayba</b>	Manned by the IDF. Controls movement between Ramallah governorate and the Jordan Valley and is placed at the intersection between bypass Road 458 and Road 449 (Al Mu'arrajat road that connects Road 90 to Road 458). No permits are required to cross the checkpoint. Beginning on 1 July, the partial checkpoint has become a permanent one and there have been random checks of the vehicles and IDs of Palestinians crossing the checkpoint.
<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 Israel/Jerusalem.
<b>Ni'lin</b>	Open 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>	Open 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>Jerusalem:</b>	
<b>Qalandiya</b>	Open for internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Only drivers of vehicles and their family members are allowed through inside the vehicle. Passengers, both West Bank

	ID holders and Jerusalemites, have to cross through the pedestrian lanes. As of 10 December, Israeli private Security Guards are present at the checkpoint at a second line behind the IDF for extra random security checks.
<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 ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February 2006 West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross through this checkpoint unless they belong to one of the new 'facilitated' categories; Palestinians working in international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and prominent businessmen (BMC Card holders).
<b>Az Za'ayyem</b> <i>North eastern entrance, on Road 1</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and internationals. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem, West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross unless they belong to one of the new 'facilitated' categories; Palestinians working in international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and prominent businessmen (BMC Card holders).
<b>Ar Ram</b> <i>Northern entrance, on Road 60</i>	Open for internationals, diplomats, Palestinians working with international organisations and residents of the southern part of Dahiyat al Bareed (soon to be within the Barrier) with their names and ID numbers registered on a list held at the checkpoint. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross. The iron gate between Dahiyet al Bareed and Al-Ram was completely closed for the entire week.
<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 ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
<b>Ramot Alon</b> <i>North western entrance on Road 436</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
<b>Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint</b>	Open 24 hours for Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and UN and international organisations; Palestinians from the West Bank need a permit. West Bank vehicles are not allowed. Commercial trucks are not allowed through this checkpoint unless the merchandise itself is from Shu'fat camp. All other commercial trucks from the West Bank must use Beituniya checkpoint.
<b>Container ("Wadi nar")</b> <i>East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank</i>	Open for all Palestinian vehicles without permits and for internationals. Israeli yellow-plated cars are not allowed to cross.
<b>Ras Abu Sbeitan (Olive)</b> <i>North eastern entrance on Road 1</i>	Open 24 hours. Access is permitted for Jerusalem ID holders, Palestinians holding West Bank IDs and valid permits, and internationals with valid Israeli visas (all pedestrians). No vehicles are allowed to cross.
<b>Abu Dis</b> <i>Between Abu Dis and Ras al 'Amoud</i>	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
<b>Lazarus</b>	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
<b>Bir Nabala / Rafat / Masyion</b> <i>On the new road between Rafat and Bir Nabala village</i>	This checkpoint has been moved further north on the new Israeli-built Rafat road and is closer to the Ramallah neighbourhood of Masyion.
<b>Jaba' Between Jaba' Junction and Qalandiya CP</b>	Random checks by the IDF soldiers.
<b>Jericho:</b>	
<b>DCO</b> <i>Main checkpoint off Road 1</i>	Open daily 24 hours. No permits required for Jericho residents and foreign passports and Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards. As of 14 September 2006, West Bank ID holders need permits to leave Jericho via the DCO (exceptions apply for Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers, residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayyem, As Sawahira, and residents of Bethlehem and Hebron). All vehicles including public taxis and commercial trucks have to have checkpoint permits to exit Jericho via this checkpoint unless they have Jericho or Jerusalem registration.
<b>Al Auja (Yitav)</b> <i>On Road 90</i>	Open 24 hours for Palestinians living in Jericho Governorate. Palestinians non-residents of Jericho and hold West Bank IDs going north towards al Auja and the Jordan Valley area are prohibited though unless they hold Israeli permits to allow them access to the area. No permit required for those travelling 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, which is the only open road to Ramallah at the moment.
<b>The Dead Sea</b>	Located on Road 90 alongside the Dead Sea. Open 24 hours daily for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, and holders of foreign passports. Access to the Dead Sea area is prohibited for Palestinians with West Bank IDs, except those with permits to work in Israeli settlements.
<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. Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with valid permits. West Bank Palestinians (including those working for the UN and other international agencies) have to walk through the terminal to undergo search procedures. Jerusalem ID holders passing into Bethlehem are being asked to prove that they reside in areas falling within Jerusalem boundaries. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to enter Bethlehem only if driven by an Arab Israeli. Palestinians holding valid work permits can access East Jerusalem and Israel through this checkpoint. During the reporting period Palestinian workers from the Governorates of Bethlehem and Hebron holding valid work permits were obliged to stay overnight at Gilo checkpoint in order to cross and be on time to reach their work places inside Israel.
<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 the village, 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.
<b>Ein Yalow</b> <i>Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police and open 24 hours for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations only. Commercial trucks also are allowed to go through.
<b>Beit Jala DCO, Partial CP</b> <i>Entrance to Beit Jala</i>	Rarely-manned. Open 24 hours and movement is allowed in both directions for all vehicles.
<b>Tunnels</b> <i>Road 60 at Har Gilo</i>	Open 24 hours and since 23 February manned by the Israeli Border Police and private security firm staff. Open for international humanitarian organisations although local staff are being requested to show their local IDs with a valid entry permit in order to proceed into Jerusalem. Palestinians with permits are not allowed to cross and are redirected to Gilo checkpoint. The checkpoint is still used by Jerusalem ID holders. Commercial trucks are only allowed to go through between 1100 and 1600 hours. Currently, there are six lanes leading to the Tunnels Terminal, four of which lead from Bethlehem to Jerusalem while the other two lead from Jerusalem to Bethlehem.
<b>Settlers' Checkpoint – Efrata</b>	Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by Israeli settlers and there are restrictions on the movement of Palestinians beyond it.
<b>Gush Etzion</b> <i>On Road 60, at Etzion turn</i>	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers checking northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
<b>Wadi Fukin</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line</i>	Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations.
<b>Al Jab'a</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line</i>	Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations. Land levelling is ongoing to enlarge the checkpoint.
<b>Ein Gedi</b> <i>On Road 90, along Dead Sea</i>	Open 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 along Road 354. Manned by the Israeli Border Police. The checkpoint is currently open 24 hours with occasional ID checks. However, it has been reported by MSF (Médecins Sans Frontiers/Doctors Without Borders) that thorough checks and maltreatment have been experienced by staff 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</i>	Workers are usually allowed to cross from 0500 to 1700 hours. The back-to-back section is open from 0700 to 1700 hours; goods are moving across smoothly and all cargo is checked by the IDF Military Police. 'Family visits' coordinated by ICRC for Palestinians detained in Israel were carried out as normal through this checkpoint.
<b>Meitar</b> <i>Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police and open between 0500 and 1900 hours. Checks are conducted using palm identification. Palestinian workers with valid permits are permitted to cross.

	However, during the current reporting period, it was reported that Palestinian workers holding valid permits to work in Israel were camping overnight at the checkpoint to ensure for themselves a reasonable chance of accessing Israel.
<b>Shani</b> <i>At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317</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 Imneizel</i>	Open 24 hours and manned by the IDF. The checkpoint is restricting the movement of Palestinians living south of it next to the settlement of Beit Yatir. The Terminal is operational and the checkpoint was pushed back behind the roundabout. Currently Palestinians living in the nearby village of Imneizil can access their village without having to cross the checkpoint.
<b>Prayers Road, H2</b> <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.
<b>Shohada street, H2</b> <i>Western entrance to Shohada street</i>	Open to Palestinians living beyond it and in the Tel Rumeida area. Access 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 in the vicinity of the Mosque must hold a special permit to gain access to their homes. On 18 August, Israeli security forces manning the checkpoint have reportedly asked one Palestinian woman to lift her <i>Jilbab</i> (a traditional Islamic dress) in order to physically search her before allowing her to enter the mosque.
<b>Bab Al Baladiyye , H2</b> <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.
<b>Qarantina, H2</b> <i>Junction with Shohada Street</i>	Closed to Palestinians. Entry point for Palestinian fire trucks and ambulances. No longer allowed for the use of international humanitarian organisations, though the TIPH have reported being able to use it.
<b>Bab Al-Khan, H2</b> <i>Entrance to Avraham Avinu</i>	Closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and north toward the market.
<b>Tel Rumeida, H2</b> <i>Beginning of street leading to settlement</i>	Open only to Palestinians travelling on foot living between the checkpoint and the settlement. A military order was issued on 17 July 2006 that declared the area beyond the checkpoint as a "Closed Area" barring the entry of anyone beyond the checkpoint except Israeli citizens, IDF and Israeli Police or those with an IDF-issued permit.
<b>Al Kasaba, H2</b> <i>Exit from the Kasaba, old city (Tomb of the Patriarchs)</i>	Permanent checkpoint which filters Palestinian movement from the Kasaba area directed to the Tomb of the Patriarchs. Movement is segregated for incoming and outgoing movement. Palestinians exiting Kasaba are processed through a combination of turnstiles, allowing one person at a time to pass, and a metal detector. The process is slow and problematic during Friday prayers.
<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>At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. All Palestinians with a Ramadeen address are allowed to cross after an ID check. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325.
<b>Halhul – Sa'ir, Partial CP</b> <i>At the entrance to Halhul (also called 'Nabi Younis' CP)</i>	Located on the junction between the two towns 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.
<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>	On 25 and 26 August, regular working hours at Erez crossing were interrupted (on 26 August, Erez was closed between 1300 and 1500 hours due to a mortar attack). On all other days, Erez was regularly open for Palestinian traders as well as the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, and critical medical cases with special coordination arrangements. However, since 4 July and for the first time since 12 June, a very limited number of senior Palestinian businessmen were permitted to cross Erez towards Israel and the West Bank. Appendix for daily log of movement is based on estimated



figures due to the absence of staff at the Palestinian DCL at the present time:

- 22 August: 44 medical cases, 95 Palestinians with special coordination and 24 businessmen crossed into Israel.
- 23 August: Erez was open for people with special coordination.
- 24 August: Erez was open and 30 businessmen crossed into Israel.
- 25 August: 28 medical cases and 48 Palestinians with special coordination crossed into Israel.
- 26 August: 67 medical cases, 27 Palestinians with special coordination and 13 businessmen crossed into Israel. 55 Palestinians holding residency permits in Arab countries crossed to Egypt via Erez and Nitzana.
- 27 August: 53 medical cases, 26 Palestinians with special coordination and 15 businessmen crossed into Israel. 20 Palestinians holding residency permits in Arab countries crossed to Egypt via Erez and Nitzana.
- 28 August: Erez was open for people with special coordination arrangements.

The crossing remains closed for Palestinian workers since 12 March 2006.

#### Rafah Passenger Terminal

Rafah crossing was closed all week. It was last open on 9 June.

#### Commercial checkpoints:

Tulkarm/Qalqiliya	
<b>Taybeh</b>	An Israeli private company is responsible for controlling the checkpoint. The back-to-back system is operational from 0800 to 1700 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0800 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
Nablus	
<b>Awarta checkpoint</b> <i>Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003</i>	Open from 0600 to 1800 hours, Sunday to Thursday, Friday from 0600 to 1400 hours and closed on Saturday. Commercial trucks need permits to pass the checkpoint.
Jenin	
<b>Al Jalama</b> <i>Main commercial checkpoint</i>	Open between 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
Ramallah/AI Bireh	
<b>Beituniya</b> <i>Back-to-back checkpoint</i>	Officially open between 0700 to 1700 hours Sunday to Thursday, 0700 to 1300 hours on Fridays and closed Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for commercial goods and a back-to-back system is in operation. Only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to pass through this checkpoint without using the back-to-back system, but only if bill lading stipulates Kafr 'Aqab and/or Sameeramees as offloading destinations. This checkpoint is not open for private cars or pedestrians. As of 1 July, UN staff and diplomats are not allowed to cross as it has become solely open for the movement of goods.
Hebron	
<b>Tarquimiya</b>	Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates. The back-to-back section is open from 0700 to 1700 hours; goods are moving across smoothly and all cargo is checked by the IDF Military Police.
Gaza Strip	
<b>Karni</b>	The conveyor belt operated for two days to transfer wheat into Gaza (23 and 27 August) due to shortages on the local market. It was closed on 22, 24, 25 (weekend), 26, and 28 August. Karni crossing has generally been closed since 12 June.
<b>Sufa</b>	Sufa crossing was open on five scheduled operating days this week (22, 23, 26, 27 and 28) for the crossing of commercial commodities and humanitarian aid. On 24 and 25 August, it was closed (weekend).
<b>Kerem Shalom</b>	Kerem Shalom was open on 22, 23, 26, 27 and 28 August for the crossing of commercial goods and humanitarian aid provided by international aid organizations. On 24 and 25 August, it was closed.
<b>Nahal Oz Energy Pipelines</b>	Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on six scheduled operating days. On Saturday, 25 August 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 Organization (WHO), Israel Defence Forces (IDF) website, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), offices of Palestinian Authority (PA) governors, Palestinian District Civilian Liaison (DCL).
- Shelter and property: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Natural Resources: OCHA FCU, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils, Land Defence Committee and Land Research Centre.
- Access for Medical Assistance: OCHA FCU, WHO, PRCS, Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), UN World Food Programme, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNRWA.
- Access and Movement for Civilians: Sources: Palestinian DCL, Christian Peacemakers Team (CPT).
- Curfews: OCHA FCU, Village Councils, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Access to Education: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, UNICEF, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils.
- Access to Employment: UNRWA, United Nations Office of the Special Coordinator for the Middle East (UNSCO), Palestinian Ministry of Labour (MoL), Palestinian DCL, Palestinian Chamber of Commerce, Israeli DCL.
- Closures/Movement Restrictions: OCHA FCU, UNRWA.
- Additional Protection issues: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), UNSCO, Palestinian DCLs, Palestinian Governors' offices, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, IDF.