



OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

P.O. Box 38712, East Jerusalem, Phone: (+972) 2-582 9962 / 582 5853, Fax: (+972) 2-582 5841 ochaopt@un.org, www.ochaopt.org

Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

13 – 19 December 2006

Of note this week

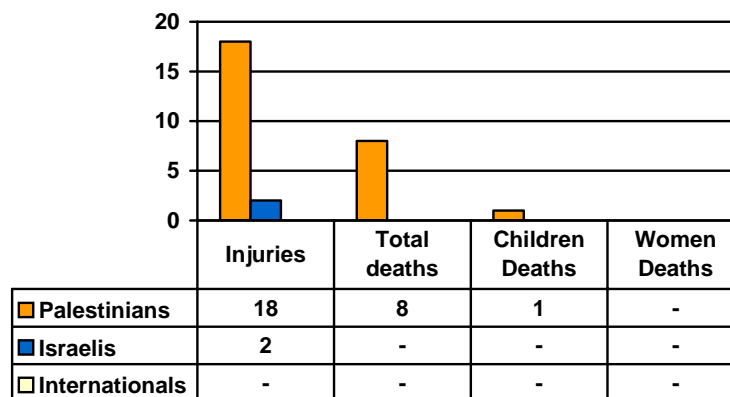
Israeli-Palestinian conflict

- The Israeli-Palestinian ceasefire held for the fourth week in the Gaza Strip despite infringements by both sides - 11 homemade rockets were fired by Palestinians, the IDF killed a Palestinian man, IDF gunboats fired at Palestinian fishing boats injuring three fishermen, IDF tanks and bulldozers entered the Beit Hanoun area, and an IDF soldier was lightly injured from an explosive device placed on the inside of the Gaza border fence.
- Israel requested the closure of Rafah Crossing (Gaza Strip) to prevent the Palestinian Prime Minister (PM) from entering Gaza with a reported US\$ 35 million in cash as he returned from an overseas trip. EUBAM observers temporarily suspended operations but the PM later crossed into the Gaza Strip without the money.
- In the West Bank, seven Palestinians – including a 13 year-old girl – were killed and 14 others injured during IDF operations.
- During the week, 127 IDF flying checkpoints were reported; 115 search and arrest campaigns were conducted, and 100 Palestinians were arrested/detained by the IDF.
- Security at the Tunnels and Qalandiya checkpoints around Jerusalem is now jointly managed by an Israeli private security firm and the Border Police. Private security guards will replace the Border Police although remain under the overall supervision of the IDF.
- The Israeli High Court delivered a final ruling on a petition to dismantle a road barrier along Roads 317 and 60 in south Hebron governorate. The concrete barrier which separated farmers and herders from their land must be dismantled within six months.

Palestinian internal violence

- High levels of violence were reported between Hamas and Fatah supporters in the second week of increased intra-factional fighting across the oPt. Seventeen Palestinians – including two children and one woman – were killed and 147 injured in internal violence. Tensions were particularly high following a call by the PA President for early Presidential and Parliamentary elections on 16 December.
- The situation is of particular concern in the Gaza Strip where armed clashes killed fourteen Palestinians and injured 110 others. A ceasefire between the factions was agreed to on 17 December but was soon broken. A new ceasefire was called for on 19 December.
- In one incident, a bodyguard of the Palestinian PM was killed and 18 Palestinians injured when armed clashes erupted between Hamas and Fatah security forces at Rafah crossing as the PM crossed into Gaza.
- In the West Bank, three Palestinians – including two 14 year-old boys – were killed, and 37 others injured in internal violence. Hamas and Fatah supporters organised rallies in support of their causes in most cities as tensions peaked. Other demonstrations were held by Palestinians protesting against the internal Palestinian fighting.

1. Physical Protection¹



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

Gaza Strip:

- **13 December:** A Palestinian man, aged 20 years, was shot and killed by IDF soldiers stationed at the border fence south of Karni.
- **13 December:** Three Palestinian fishermen were injured when an IDF patrol boat fired machine guns on Palestinian fishing boats west of Rafah.
- **19 December:** An IDF soldier was lightly injured by an explosive device detonated at the Gaza border fence.

West Bank:

- **12 December:** Palestinians stoned Israeli vehicles near Hizma (Jerusalem), injuring one Israeli. (*not reported last week*)
- **13 December:** A Palestinian stabbed and injured an Israeli man working for a private security company at Qalandiya checkpoint (Ramallah).
- **13 December:** A 22 year-old Palestinian man was injured when the IDF physically assaulted him at Zaatara checkpoint (Nablus).
- **14 December:** A 27 year-old Palestinian man was killed in Kafr ad Dik village (Salfit) when the IDF opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers during a search and arrest campaign.
- **14 December:** A 26 year-old Palestinian man was killed in Camp No. 1(Nablus) when an IDF undercover unit opened fire at a Palestinian vehicle. Seven Palestinians were also injured: two Palestinian girls (aged five and 12 years), a 12 year-old Palestinian boy and a 26 year-old Palestinian man were injured by live ammunition while two Palestinian girls (both aged 2 years) and a 35 year-old Palestinian woman were injured by shrapnel.
- **15 December:** Two Palestinians were injured by rubber-coated metal bullets fired by the IDF during the weekly demonstration against the construction of the Barrier in Bil'in, (Ramallah). Several cases of gas tear inhalations were reported but have not been included in the weekly total.
- **15 December:** A 45 year-old Palestinian man from Bet Awwa' (Hebron), was physically assaulted by IDF soldiers whilst he was pruning his olive trees near the Barrier.
- **16 December:** A 23 year-old Palestinian man from Ad Dhahiriya (Hebron) was injured by live ammunition near Ramadin village, close to the Green Line when the IDF opened fire at him whilst he was returning from work in Israel.
- **16 December:** A 20 year-old Palestinian man was killed in Nablus city (Nablus) when an exchange of fire erupted between the IDF and Palestinian gunmen during a search and arrest campaign.
- **17 December:** A 15 year-old Palestinian boy was injured by live ammunition in Jenin city (Jenin) when the IDF opened fire at him, allegedly after throwing a fire bomb.
- **19 December:** A 24 year-old Palestinian man from Balata camp was shot dead in Nablus city (Nablus) when an IDF undercover unit opened fire at him while he was in his vehicle outside Al Ittihad Hospital. Two Palestinians, aged 27 and 33 years, were injured in the same vehicle before being later arrested by the IDF.
- **19 December:** A 26 year-old Palestinian man from Camp No. 1 (Nablus) died from injuries sustained on 14 December when the IDF opened fire at a Palestinian vehicle in the camp.
- **19 December:** A 23 year-old Palestinian man from Seida village (Tulkarm) was killed when an IDF undercover unit opened fire at his vehicle in the village.
- **19 December:** A 13 year-old Palestinian girl from Farún village (Tulkarm) was killed when the IDF opened fire at two girls near the Barrier. The IDF have reportedly suspended the two IDF soldiers involved and opened an investigation into the incident.

2. Palestinian internal violence and other incidents

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

Gaza Strip:

- **13 December:** A 28 year-old Palestinian Civil Court Judge was killed when a group of armed men opened fire in his direction the village of Bani Suhailah, Khan Younis.

- **13 December:** A Palestinian girl was injured during armed clashes between the Hamas-dominated Executive Support Force (ESF) and Fatah-dominated PA Security Forces in Gaza City.
- **14 December:** Israel requested the closure of Rafah crossing to prevent the Palestinian PM from entering Gaza with a reported US\$35 million in cash. EUBAM observers suspended their operations to clarify the situation. Approximately ten hours later the PM crossed into the Gaza Strip without the money. A 19 year-old bodyguard of the PM was killed and 18 other Palestinians injured when armed clashes erupted between the ESF and the Presidential Guards in Rafah Crossing as the PM was crossing into Gaza.
- **16 December:** Eleven Palestinians were injured during clashes between Hamas and Fatah supporters in Khan Younis.
- **16 December:** A 12-year-old Palestinian boy was accidentally killed by a relative who was mishandling his weapon in Gaza City.
- **17 December:** A 24 year-old Presidential Guard member was killed and four others injured when unknown gunmen attacked a Presidential Guard training base in the Sheikh Ejleen area, west of Gaza City.
- **17 December:** Two Palestinians were injured during an armed family feud in Bureij Camp.
- **17 December:** Eleven Palestinians were injured in Jabalia in armed clashes between Fatah and Hamas supporters during a demonstration in support of PA President Abbas call for early elections.
- **17 December:** A 45 year-old PA Security Forces Colonel was killed when a group of armed men opened fire at his car in Jabalia.
- **17 December:** A 19 year-old Palestinian woman was killed and ten others injured – including a French photographer – during armed clashes between the ESF and PA Security Forces in and around the Presidential Compound area in Gaza City.
- **17 December:** A Palestinian kidnapped and injured by a group of armed men in Khan Younis. He was later released.
- **18 December:** A Palestinian was injured during armed clashes between Hamas and Fatah members on Salah Ed-Din road in Gaza City.
- **18 December:** A 37 year-old Palestinian was killed in Khan Younis. The circumstances surrounding the incident remain unclear.
- **18 December:** An UNRWA teacher was injured during armed clashes between Hamas and Fatah supporters in Gaza City.
- **18 December:** A Palestinian was injured when a group of armed men opened fire at a car carrying Fatah members in Gaza City.
- **18 December:** A 21 year-old Fatah member was killed and 12 others injured during armed clashes between Hamas and Fatah members in Jabalia Camp.
- **19 December:** A 22 year-old member of the ESF was killed and ten others injured during armed clashes between ESF and PA intelligence forces in and around Shifa Hospital in Gaza City.
- **19 December:** Two Fatah members, aged 23 and 25 years, were killed and twelve others – including three children – injured during armed clashes between PA intelligence forces and the ESF in Gaza City.
- **19 December:** A 23 year-old Palestinian was killed during armed clashes between ESF and PA intelligence forces in and around Shifa Hospital in Gaza City.
- **19 December:** A 24 year-old Palestinian was killed during armed clashes between PA intelligence forces and ESF in Gaza City.
- **19 December:** A 24 year-old Hamas member was killed during armed clashes between PA Intelligence Forces and ESF on Jalla' street in Gaza City.
- **19 December:** Two Palestinians, both aged 25 years, were killed, and eight others were injured in an armed family feud on Sabra Street in Gaza City.
- **19 December:** Two Palestinian UNRWA staff members in a UN office in Khan Younis were beaten by a group of Palestinians (two members from the same family and three others). The two family members fired a weapon in the air whilst inside the office. Work resumed after the two family members left the office

West Bank:

- **13 December:** A 34 year-old Palestinian man was killed in Jenin city (Jenin) when the PA police opened fire at the driver of a stolen vehicle. Later, Palestinian gunmen from the Al Aqsa brigade opened fire at the Governorate building, set fire to the apartment of the director of the Police forces and attacked the Police station in protest. Exchanges of fire erupted between the Palestinian gunmen and Police injuring a 14 year-old boy.

- **14 December:** Four Palestinian men, aged 20, 22, 27 and 37 years, were injured by live ammunition in Balata camp (Nablus) when a group of armed masked men opened fire at a march celebrating the 19th anniversary of the establishment of Hamas.
- **15 December:** A 23 year-old Palestinian man was injured in Nablus city (Nablus) when a group of armed masked men opened fire at him while he was standing in front of his house in Rafideya Street.
- **15 December:** The 14 year-old boy injured on 13 December during confrontations between Palestinian gunmen and Police in Jenin city (Jenin) died of his injuries.
- **15 December:** A 14 year-old Palestinian boy was killed and another 32 Palestinians injured in Ramallah city (Ramallah) during violent clashes between supporters of Hamas and PA security forces. Four of the Palestinians were injured by live bullets while the rest were injured by Police using batons during the clashes. Members of Force 17 and the Palestinian had deployed in Ramallah to prevent the celebrations surrounding the 19th anniversary of the establishment of Hamas.

Other incidents:

- **16 December:** Palestinian gunmen kidnapped the son of a PA official in Jenin city (Jenin) following the death of a 14 year-old boy from confrontations between Al Asqa brigade members and Palestinian police. He was released an hour later unhurt.
- **14 December:** Hamas held rallies in Qalqiliya, Tulkarm and Balata camp (Nablus) commemorating the 19th anniversary of the establishment of Hamas.
- **16 December:** Rallies were held by Fatah supporters in Ramallah, Nablus, Qalqiliya, Tulkarm, Tubas and Jenin in support of the PA President following his call for early Presidential and Parliamentary elections. Several people were injured during the demonstrations. Members of Force 17 and the Presidential Guard established checkpoints at the entrances to Ramallah and at the President's residence.
- **17 December:** Palestinian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Al Zahar was uninjured during clashes near his convoy as it traveled through Gaza City (Gaza Strip).
- **17 December:** Fatah gunmen abducted two Hamas members in Khan Younis (Gaza Strip). Hamas gunmen responded by abducting one Fatah member. All hostages were released after the Fatah-Hamas ceasefire was announced the same day.
- **18 December:** Hamas militants abducted the former Prisoners' Minister, Sufiyan Abu Zaydah, in Jabalia (Gaza Strip). He was released unharmed some hours later.
- **18 December:** Unknown gunmen opened fire on the vehicle carrying northern area Governor Ismail Abu Shamala while he was travelling to the governorate (Gaza Strip). He was unharmed in the incident.

3. Shelter and Property

- **14 December:** The Israeli High Court ruled that the IDF within six months must dismantle the road barrier along Roads 317 and Road 60 in south Hebron governorate. The concrete barrier separated farmers and herders from their land must be dismantled. The court allowed for the IDF to erect an alternative but less intrusive barrier.
- **16 December:** A group of Israeli settlers entered Madama village (Nablus). The settlers fired in the air and clashes took place with the Palestinian residents. The IDF later evacuated the settlers.
- **16 December:** Armed settlers, from the outpost of Avi Agil, raided the village of Am Fagarah (Hebron) and intimidated the community. Similar activities have taken place the last two weeks.
- **17 December:** A group of Israeli settlers reoccupied the evacuated settlement of Homesh (Nablus) for a few hours (this settlement had been one of four evacuated during Israel's disengagement in 2005 from parts of the northern West Bank). The settlers were subsequently evacuated by the IDF.
- **18 December:** The IDF occupied a Palestinian house in Salim village (Nablus) and converted it into an observation post. The IDF held the family in one room for 19 hours.

4. Natural Resources

Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting²

Nablus Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

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

Jenin Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Tubas Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Tulkarm Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

Qalqiliya Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

Salfit Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

13 December: Construction of the Barrier in Deir Qaddis, between the village and Modi'in Ilit settlement stopped due to technical problems related to the building contractors.

Ongoing incidents:

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

Jerusalem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
 - Construction continues along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate. Exceptions to this are northeast of Al 'Eizariya towards Ma'ale Adummim settlement. Construction continues along 3 km stretch of the Barrier south of Ma'ale Adummim and Kedar but has stopped since 3 March pending a court case.
 - Construction continues near Ar Ram checkpoint between Dahiyat Al Bareed and Atarot. Detours through the neighbourhoods of Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed continue and changes are experienced on a daily basis. The previous gate in the area is now sealed off by an iron wall. Vehicles are currently using a dirt road a few metres beyond the gate. Construction of the Barrier is progressing rapidly in this area.

- Construction of a road barrier continues on Road 1, east of Az Za'ayem. Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards driving to Jerusalem, now have to drive south to Ma'ale Adummim and then return through Az Za'ayem checkpoint.
- Construction of an Israeli police station in E1 continues (any update on the status of construction?).
- The road between Anata and Al 'Eizariya is under construction (Road 70). Another road (Road 80) is planned that will link Abu Dis to Road 1 east of the planned Barrier around Ma'ale Adummim. The road will be open for Palestinians only.

Jericho Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Bethlehem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
 - Construction continues next to Al Khadr Boys School along the eastern side of Road 60 adjacent to the school playground. This week contractors uprooted approximately 100 grape and almond trees in the construction area west of the tunnels, close to Al Khadr.
 - Land levelling continues in the section of Road 60 between the Palestinian village of Al Khadr and Al Nashshash (southern entrance of the city of Bethlehem).
 - Land levelling continues in the vicinity of the settlement of Har Gilo continues.
 - Land levelling continues in the vicinity of the settlement of Efrat, near Artas village, continues.
- Land levelling and digging for the construction of the tunnel near Al Khadr village has been accelerated. Levelling is also taking place along the western side of Road 60.
- Paving continues on the side of Tunnels checkpoint to expand the site. Six lanes have been paved so far and four inspection cabins were installed. This is only open for Israelis and foreigners.
- Work continues on the road leading to the Talita Khoumy School. A one-metre high road barrier was installed and land levelling has continued on both sides of the road.
- Land levelling for the construction of the new terminal next to Al Jab'a checkpoint continues.
- Construction work at Nu'man terminal is ongoing.

Hebron Governorate:

13 December: 13 dunums of agricultural land belonging to Palestinian farmers from Al Dahariya was levelled and marked with large stones by settlers from the settlement of Tene. The owners, believing that this is a preparation for an outpost, filed a complaint with the Israeli DCL and the Police.

15 December: 70 olive trees belonging to a Palestinian farmer from Samoa' were uprooted by Israeli settlers from the settlement of Susiya. The previous day, settlers from Susiya attempted to deny access to the farmer and a group of international volunteers who were planting the trees. The owner filed a complaint with the Israeli Police.

17 December: 200 olive and almond trees belonging to a Palestinian farmer from Bani Na'eem, were burned by settlers from the Pnei Hever settlement. The land owners filed a complaint with the Israeli Police.

Ongoing incidents:

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

Gaza Strip:

No incidents to report.

a) Curfew

No incidents to report.

b) Access to education

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

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

During the reporting period: Many UNRWA and PA schools in the Gaza Strip were closed or evacuated during due to the internal Palestinian fighting.

18 December: The IDF prevented the teachers and students of Burqa Boys High school in Burqa village (Nablus) from leaving the school for one hour after accusing the children of throwing stones at the IDF. The IDF also fired tear gas canisters into the school yard.

c) Access to employment

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

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

d) Closures/movement restrictions**Gaza Strip:**

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

Nablus Governorate:

14 December: The IDF closed Al Badhan checkpoint for six hours due to a security alert.

Ongoing incidents:

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

Jenin Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

Tubas Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Tulkarm Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

Qalqiliya Governorate:

16 December: The IDF closed the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya DCO with a flying checkpoint for five hours for security reasons.

Ongoing incidents:

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

Salfit Governorates:

13 December: The IDF removed the three earth mounds which have closed access between Bruqin and Barqan Industrial Area and Road 5.

19 December: The IDF installed an observation tower north of Salfit city.

Ongoing incidents:

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

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

During the reporting period: Delays of up to one hour were reported during morning and evening rush hours at Atara checkpoint. Detention of Palestinian males at the checkpoint and verbal harassment towards Palestinians by the Israeli Border Police manning the checkpoint were reported. In one case, Border Police officers manning the checkpoint detained five Palestinian men for more than two hours before they were released.

13 December: The IDF closed Qalandiya checkpoint following a stabbing of an Israeli private security guard by a Palestinian man. The Palestinian man was detained by the IDF. The checkpoint opened the following morning with very long delays for Palestinians going to Jerusalem.

Bethlehem Governorate:

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

Hebron Governorate:

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

Jerusalem Governorate:

13 December: Following the stabbing of an Israeli security guard at the Qalandiya checkpoint, the IDF closed both Qalandiya and Hizma checkpoints for several hours preventing Palestinians from crossing in and out of Jerusalem.

18 December: The Wadi Nar checkpoint, connecting the northern and southern part of the West Bank, was closed completely for one and a half hours at 6:30pm. West Bank Palestinian vehicles are allowed to cross the checkpoint without permits. However, the addition of private vehicles without easing the checkpoint has created long queues.

Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:

During the reporting period: Delays of up to one hour were reported at Tayasir checkpoint (Tubas), especially during morning and evening hours.

Ongoing incidents:

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

Gaza Strip**During the reporting period:**

- Karni crossing was open for four days.
- Rafah Passengers' terminal was open for six days this week, primarily for Hajj pilgrims leaving the Gaza Strip.
- Erez crossing was partially open for the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, critical medical cases and Palestinian 'senior' traders. (Non-diplomats require prior coordination with the IDF which is being decided on a case-by-case basis).
- Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open for five days.
- Sufa crossing was open for four days.

- Kerem Shalom crossing was open for one day.
- Gaza fishermen are permitted to fish up to six nautical miles off the coastline. On 15 December, IDF vessels fired machine-guns for 15 minutes at Palestinian fishing boats west of Gaza City. The fishing boats returned to shore. No injuries were reported.

13 December: Two IDF tanks and four bulldozers moved from the border fence and entered about 500 meters into an area northeast of Beit Hanoun. On 14 December the IDF were still present 50 to 100 meters into the area.

Ongoing incidents:

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

Reported flying (random) checkpoints – West Bank

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Jammi'n (1), An Naqura (1), Askar camp (1), Zawata (1), Al Badhan (6)	10
Jenin	'Arraba (7), Az Zababida (5), Sanur (7), Qabatiya (1), Kafr Rai (1), Ajja (1), Ash Shuhada (1), Al Kufeir (2), Al Jalama (1), Zabda (1)	27
Tubas	Tubas (2), Tammun (2), Aqqaba (2)	6
Tulkarm	Kafr Sur (1), Balá' (2), Deir al Ghusun (1), Al Jarushiya (1)	5
Qalqiliya	Entrance Qalqiliya – DCO (7), Ázzun (1), Wadi Qana (7), Habla tunnel (1), 'Azzun tunnel (2), An Nabi Elyas (2), Al Funduq (1), Ras 'Atyia (2), Kafr Thulth (4), Immatin (1), Kafr Laqif (1), Jayyus (2), Izbat at Tabib (1), Deir Istiya (1)	33
Salfit	Iskaka (2), Bruqin (2)	4
Ramallah and Al Bireh	Bypass Road 60 (11)	11
Jericho	-	-
Jerusalem	-	-
Bethlehem	Al 'Ubeidiya (2), Za'tara (1), Bethlehem city (2), 'Ayda refuge camp (1), Al Khadr (2), Dar Salah (1), Beit Jala (1), Ad Duheisha (1), Beit Sahur (1), Tuqu (1)	13
Hebron	Yatta (1), Dura (1), Hebron city - H1 (2), Halhul (4), Al Arrub refugee camp (2), Ar Ramadin (2), Sa'ir (1), Surif (1), Karma (1), Beit Kahil (1), Al Fawwar refugee camp (1), Kurza (1)	18
Total West Bank		127

6. Additional Protection Issues

Searches/Arrests/Detentions

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention, number of searches noted at locations with brackets	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus city (4), Balata RC (2), Askar RC (1), Camp No.1 (1), Kafr Qalil (1), Huwwara CP, Al Badhan CP	9	11
Jenin	Jenin city (5), Jenin RC (4), Kafr Dan (2), Az Zababida (1), Anza (1), Arraba (1), Flying CP Al Kufeir, Flying CP Sanur	14	15
Tubas	Tubas (1), Tammun (1)	2	-
Tulkarm	Tulkarm city (4), Tulkarm RC (3), Kafr Sur (1), Anabta (1)	9	11
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya city (7), 'Azzun (3), Kafr Qaddum (1), Izbat at Tabib (1), Jit CP, Flying CP Ras Atiya.	12	8
Salfit	Salfit city (1), Kafr ad Dik (1), Kifl Haris (1)	3	-
Ramallah/Al Bireh	Ramallah (2), Yabrud (1), Ni'lin (1), Qalandiya camp (1), Al Jalazun refugee camp (1)	6	11
Jericho Jordan Valley	Jericho (1)	1	1
Jerusalem	Jaba', Abu Did (1), Hizma (1)	2	7
Bethlehem	Beit Sahur (1), Al 'Aza refugee camp (1), Dar Salah (1), Al 'Ubeidiya (1), 'Ayda refuge camp (2), Al Khadr (4), Beit Jala (2), Za'tara (2), Bethlehem (5), Ad Duheisha Camp (1), Tuqu (2), Ash Shawawra (1), Al 'Asakira(1), Beit Fajjar (1), Nahhalin(1), Al Walaja (1), Jurat Sham'a (1)	28	18
Hebron	Hebron City (4), Al 'Arrub Camp (3), Dura (1), Tarqumiya (1), Beit Awwa (1), Surif (1), Yatta (4), Adh Dhahiriya (2), Sa'ir (2), As Samu (3), Taffuh (2), Bani Na'eem (1), Beit Kahil (1), Dura (1), Kreisa (1), Karma (1)	29	18
Total Week West Bank		115	100
Gaza Strip		-	-
Total Week oPt		115	100

7. Olive Harvest

- **16, 17 and 18 December:** The IDF prevented Palestinian farmers from Jit village (Qalqiliya) to pick their olives near the settlement of Qedumim.

Appendix: Checkpoints: 13 – 19 December 2006

Checkpoint	Status
Tulkarm:	
Taybeh	Open between 5.30am to 8pm Sunday to Thursday and 5.30am to 12 am on Fridays for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians with permits. The checkpoint leads to the back-to-back checkpoint.
Efrayim	Open from 4am to 7pm Sunday to Thursday and 4am to 12pm on Fridays for Palestinian workers and traders.
Kafriat	Open 24 hours. The checkpoint is manned and physically divided into three parts: one that controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one that controls movement to Israel proper; and one that controls movement to and from Jbara.
Kafriat Tunnel	The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin.
'Anabta	The checkpoint is located on the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. Long queues and delays were reported.
Qalqiliya:	
Jaljoulia	Open 24 hours. Access through this checkpoint is only granted for holders of permits into Israel and residents of Ras Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi Ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda. Ambulances from Qalqiliya town to these five villages need prior coordination with DCL. Only vehicles leaving the West Bank are subjects to security checks.
Qalqiliya North	Open from 4am to 7pm Sunday to Thursday and from 4am to 12am on Fridays for Palestinian permit holders.
Jit junction partial checkpoint	Partial checkpoint at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.
Salfit:	
Deir Ballut	Open from 6am and 6pm. The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western part of Salfit governorate.
Kafr Qasem (Road 5)	Open 24 hours for UN, international organisations and Palestinians with permits.
Nablus:	
Huwwara Southern main entrance	Open from 6am to 11pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only after prior liaison with the IDF. Public transportation and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint between 6am and 9pm. Commercial trucks are not allowed to pass. Long delays and queues were reported. No age restrictions but all males between 16 and 35 years were subject to full body search.
Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade	Open from 5am to 7.30pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only following prior liaison with the IDF. Long delays and queues. Public transportation, commercial trucks carrying aggregates and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint. No age restrictions but all males between 16 and 35 years were subject to full body search.
Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area of Jarzim with Nablus City	Open 6am to 6pm from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritans families living east of the checkpoint.
Beit Furik Eastern gate and checkpoint. After the closure regime main gateway between Nablus and the Jordan Valley	Open 5:30am to 9pm for villagers from Beit Furik, Beit Dajan. All residents heading south have to enter Nablus and cross through Nablus checkpoints.
Shave Shomeron Northwest, main road to Jenin	Closed since 28 March for all traffic.
Zaatara (Tappouah) South, main road to Ramallah	Open 24 hours. The checkpoint controls Palestinian movement on Road 60 and 505 southwards and no need for permits.

17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed) Road to the north villages of Nablus	The checkpoint is now only open for humanitarian organisations and humanitarian emergency cases.
Yizhar partial checkpoint	Partial check point north of Huwwara village on Road 60. Men from Nablus between 18 and 25 years are not allowed to go south through the checkpoint.
Aqraba partial checkpoint	Partial check point on the junction to Aqraba village with Road 505.
Al Badhan checkpoint	Presently unmanned.
Jenin:	
Al Jalama Main entrance to Israel	Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Thursday. And 7am to 12am on Fridays.
Imreiha (Reikhan) Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave	Open between 7am to 9pm. Open for all goods from Israel into West Bank. 40 vehicles with their plate numbers on a list at the checkpoint are allowed to transport foodstuff into the closed area behind the Barrier. Other materials need prior coordination.
Mevo Dotan (New) on road 585 near Ya'bad	Open from 7am to 7pm for all Palestinians
Tubas:	
Bisan Main entrance to Israel	Open 24 hours for Israeli ID card holders and internationals. Palestinians with West Bank IDs are no longer allowed access regardless having a permit to enter Israel and/or working with International organisations. Israeli plated trucks are not allowed through if Palestinian agricultural produces are on board.
Tayasir Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley.	Officially open between 5am-10pm. Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Very long delays are reported on daily basis.
Maale Efrayim Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus	Officially open between 6am-10pm. Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Delays are reported.
Hamra East, before closure regime main road to Jordan, Tubas, Jenin	Officially open between 3am-10pm. Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Delays for Palestinian commercial vehicles crossing the checkpoint are reported on a daily basis. Some delays were reported.
Ramallah/Al Bireh:	
Qalandiya	Open for internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Only drivers of vehicles and their family members are allowed through inside the vehicle. Passengers, both West Bank ID holders and Jerusalemites, have to cross through the pedestrian lanes. As of 10 December, Israeli private security guards are present at the checkpoint at a second line behind the IDF for extra random security checks. Long delays are being reported on daily basis following a stabbing of an Israeli private security guard by a Palestinian on 12 December.
Bet El/DCO	From 20 August the checkpoint has been in operation from 6 am to 8pm. Access in vehicles reserved only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, and Palestinians with special work permits.
Atara Bridge	Manned by Border Police. No permits required to cross the checkpoint. Delays are experienced on daily basis. During peak travelling times, commuters report delays of up to 50 minutes.
An Nabi Salih gate (partial)	Open. Delays up to 20 minutes were reported on daily basis during travelling rush hours.
At Tayba (partial)	Open. Some delays reported.
Makkabim On Highway 443	Usually open for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders and foreign passport holders. Road 443 is off-limits to West Bank Palestinians, except those with permits to enter Israel/Jerusalem.
Ni'lin	Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders. Palestinians with West Bank IDs not allowed through regardless of any valid permits to enter Israel.
Rantis	Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.

Jerusalem:	
Hizma Eastern entrance of junction Road 437/Psigat Ze'ev settlement	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross, with exceptions only for West Bank Palestinians working in international organisations.
Az Za'ayyem North eastern entrance on Road 1.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem, West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross.
Ar Ram Northern entrance on Road 60 north.	Open for internationals, diplomats, Palestinians working with international organisations and residents of the southern part of Dahiyat al Bareed (soon to be within the Barrier) with their names and ID numbers registered on a list held at the checkpoint. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross.
Bir Nabala / Atarot Northern entrance on Road 404 /45 Road Atarot Junction.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, and Palestinians with valid permits and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
Ramot Alon North western entrance on Road 436	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross.
Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint	Open 24 hours for Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and UN and international organisations; Palestinians from the West Bank need a permit. West Bank vehicles are not allowed. Commercial trucks are not allowed through this checkpoint unless the merchandise itself is from Shu'fat camp. All other commercial trucks from the West Bank must use Beituniya checkpoint.
Container ("Wadi nar") East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank	Open for all Palestinian vehicles without permits and for internationals. Israeli yellow-plated cars are not allowed to cross.
Ras Abu Sbeitan (Olive) North eastern entrance on Road 1	Open 24 hours, Palestinians pedestrians with West Bank ID cards with valid permits an use the checkpoint. No vehicles are allowed through this checkpoint.
Abu Dis Between Abu Dis and Ras al 'Amoud	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
Lazarus	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
Bir Nabala / Rafat At the new road between Rafat and Bir Nabala village	Delays are experienced on daily basis. Commuters report daily delays of 30 – 45 minutes.
Jaba' At the road between Jaba' Junction and Qalandiya checkpoint	Random checks by the IDF soldiers. Some delays were reported.
Jericho:	
DCO Main checkpoint off Road 1	Open daily 24 hours. No permits required for Jericho residents and foreign passports and Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards. As of 14 August, West Bank ID holders need permits to leave Jericho via the DCO. All vehicles including public taxis and commercial trucks have to have checkpoint permits to exit Jericho via this checkpoint unless they have Jericho or Jerusalem registration.
Al Auja (Yitav) On Road 90	Open 24 hours for Palestinians living in Jericho Governorate. Palestinians non-residents of Jericho and hold West Bank IDs going north towards al Auja and the Jordan Valley area are prohibited thought unless they hold Israeli permits to allow them access to the area. No permit required for those travelling to Ramallah. Long delays up to 40 minutes have been reported by people travelling to Ramallah and Al 'Auja.
Gate opposite Allenby Checkpoint off Road 90	Gate manned by the IDF. Closed at all times. Soldiers open the gate for shuttle busses taking Palestinians to Allenby Border Crossing to Jordan.
An Nwemeh (partial) North Jericho	Open. No soldiers present this week. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arrajjat road; the only road to Ramallah at the moment.
Bethlehem :	

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

Shohada street, H2 Western entrance to Shohada street	Open to Palestinians living beyond it and in the Tel Rumeida area in accordance with a list held by the IDF at the checkpoint. Access possible only on foot. Palestinians and internationals have to go through a mobile metal detector.
Ibrahimi Mosque, H2 Access to the Mosque	Worshippers and visitors are searched upon entry. Residents living in the vicinity of the Mosque must hold a special permit to gain access to their homes.
Bab Al Baladiyye , H2 Next to settlement of Beit Romano	The checkpoint is closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and a new gate has been installed across the road blocking physical access towards it. A mobile metal detector unit was occasionally in use during the reporting period, as IDF soldiers were searching Palestinians trying to access the Old City and the Ibrahimi Mosque.
Qarantina, H2 Junction with Shohada Street	Closed to Palestinians. Entry point for Palestinian fire trucks and ambulances. No longer allowed for the use of international humanitarian organisations.
Bab Al-Khan, H2 Entrance to Avraham Avinu settlement	Closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and north toward the market.
Tel Rumeida, H2 Beginning of street leading to settlement	Open only to Palestinians travelling on foot living between it and the settlement. A military order was issued on 17 July that declared the area beyond the checkpoint as a "Closed Area" barring the entry of anyone beyond the checkpoint except Israeli citizens, IDF and Israeli Police or those who have an IDF-issued permit.
Al Kasaba, H2 Exit from the Kasaba, old city (Tomb of the Patriarchs)	Permanent checkpoint which filters Palestinian movement from the Kasaba area directed to the Tomb of the Patriarchs. Movement is segregated for incoming and outgoing movement. Palestinians exiting Kasaba are processed through a combination of turnstiles, allowing one person at a time to pass, and a metal detector. The process is slow and problematic during Friday prayers. During the reporting period long queues of Palestinians wanting to access the Ibrahimi Mosque for prayers were formed as IDF soldiers checked their IDs.
Abu Rish, H2 Near the Abu Rish Mosque at the end of Al Shohada St.	Manned by the IDF. The only access point for international organizations into Hebron Old City. Palestinians have to go through a mobile metal detector.
Ar Ramadin At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. All Palestinians are allowed after an ID check. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325. Harassment and long search process took place during the reporting period
"Nabi Younis" Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint at the entrance to Halhul, monitored by the nearby observation tower.
Al Fawwar Al Fawwar-Dura junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint monitored from the nearby observation tower.
Tarqumiya – Idhna The junction between the two towns on Road 35	Partial checkpoint. Manned on a temporary basis by the Israeli Border Police.
Ras Al Joura Near the junction between Road 35 and Road 60	Partial checkpoint; Manned on a temporary basis by the IDF.
Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints	
Erez crossing	Closed for Palestinian labourers since 12 March. Open for internationals and Palestinian humanitarian cases. On 12 September, a number of Palestinian traders started to enter inside Israel. Trader should be 'senior', 35+ years old, married, with children.
Rafah Passenger Terminal	13 December: Rafah Crossing was open in both directions 14 December: Rafah Crossing was closed but was briefly opened to facilitate the Prime Ministers' entry to Gaza. 15 December: Rafah Crossing was open in both directions. 16 - 18 December: Rafah Crossing was open mainly for departure of pilgrims. 18 December: Rafah Crossing was open 5pm-8pm in both directions. 19 December: Rafah Crossing was closed.

Commercial checkpoints:

Tulkarm/Qalqiliya	
Taybeh	An Israeli private has the responsibility of controlling the checkpoint. The back-to-back system has been operational from 9am to 6:30pm Sunday to Thursday and 9am to 12pm on Fridays.
Nablus	
Awarta checkpoint Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003.	Open from 6am to 5pm, Sunday to Thursday, Friday from 6am to 2pm and closed on Saturday. Commercial trucks need permits to pass the checkpoint.
Jenin	
Al Jalama Northern entrance/ main commercial check point.	Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Thursday and 7am to 12pm on Fridays.
Ramallah/AI Bireh	
Beituniya Back-to-back checkpoint	Officially open between 7am to 5pm Sunday to Thursday, 7am to 1pm on Fridays and closed Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for commercial goods and a back-to-back system is in operation. Only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to pass through this checkpoint without using the back-to-back system. Palestinians holding Israeli IDs and drive Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed through without using the back –to-back system only if bill lading stipulates Kafr 'Aqab and /or Sameeramees offloading destination. This checkpoint is not open for private cars or pedestrians. UN staff is allowed through with prior coordination with the Israeli DCL.
Gaza Strip	
Sufa	13, 14 and 15 December: Sufa was open for construction materials. 16, 17 and 18 December: Sufa was closed. 19 December: Sufa was open for construction materials.
Karni	13 – 14 and 18 – 19 December: Karni was open 15, 16 and 17 December: Karni was closed.
Kerem Shalom	Kerem Shalom was closed all the week except 17 December.
Nahal OZ Energy Pipelines	Nahal Oz crossing was open all the week except on 15 and 16 December.

– 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.