



Chronology

16 FEBRUARY–15 MAY 2016

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This is part 130 of a chronology begun in *Journal of Palestine Studies (JPS)* 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect North American Eastern Standard Time. For a more comprehensive overview of regional and international developments related to the peace process, see the Update on Conflict and Diplomacy in *JPS* 45 (4).

16 FEBRUARY 2016

In the **West Bank**, **Israel Defense Forces (IDF) troops** violently disperse Palestinians demonstrating in solidarity with hunger-striking Palestinian prisoner **Muhammad al-Qiq**, in Ramallah and in 1 nearby village, as well as in 2 areas nr. Bethlehem; 1 Palestinian is injured (see Update for more on al-Qiq). They also conduct raids and house searches in 1 village each nr. Salfit and Jenin, and in Nablus, arresting 7 Palestinians; patrol in 6 villages nr. Hebron and 2 nr. Salfit. **Israeli forces** uproot 100 olive trees nr. Salfit. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** arrest 3 Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel nr. Rafah. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 7 Palestinians in late-night raids in Shu'fat refugee camp (r.c.), al-Tur, and Issawiyya. (MNA 2/16; MNA, Wafa 2/17; PCHR 2/18)

French amb. to Israel Patrick Maisonnave meets with an **Israeli Foreign Ministry (FM) official** and formally presents, for the 1st time, details of the **French peace initiative** (see Update). Hours later, **Israeli prime minister (PM) Benjamin Netanyahu** calls the proposal “puzzling,” saying that the French promise to

recognize Palestinian statehood should the initiative fail encourages the Palestinians not to take it seriously. (HA, JP, TOI 2/16)

17 FEBRUARY 2016

In **Gaza**, a 10-year-old Palestinian girl dies of kidney failure. Her father says she was on the list of infirm Palestinians waiting to travel to Egypt or Israel for treatment, and that a Palestinian in Jenin offered to donate a kidney to her, but the Palestinian Authority (PA) delayed and blocked the transfer. He specifically blames the minister of health, saying he “killed her when he refused their request to transfer the girl to a hospital in Israel to get a transplant.” Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. al-Bureij r.c. overnight. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in Tulkarm and 1 nearby village, 2 villages nr. Hebron, and 1 each nr. Jenin and Bethlehem, arresting 7 Palestinians and confiscating NIS 15,000 (around \$3,935). In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** level 5 acres of land nr. Issawiyya, uprooting a number of cypress and olive trees

and demolishing several agricultural buildings in the process. In the morning, **Israeli forces** escort **133 right-wing Jewish activists** as they tour **Haram al-Sharif**. Palestinian youths reportedly block some of them from performing prayers at the sanctuary, and a small fight breaks out between an Israeli police officer and 1 of the guards at al-Aqsa Mosque. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 2/17; JP, PCHR 2/18; PCHR 2/25)

18 FEBRUARY 2016

IDF troops and an Israeli settler shoot and critically injure 2 Palestinian youths in a supermarket nr. Jerusalem after they attacked 2 settlers, killing 1 and injuring the other. The **IDF** then closes down a main road nearby, and bars Palestinians from entering the settlement where the alleged stabbing occurred, excluding certain laborers. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids nr. Tulkarm and Ramallah, arresting 1 Palestinian; patrol during the day in 3 villages nr. Jenin, 6 nr. Hebron, and 4 nr. Ramallah. **Israeli forces** assault and injure a Palestinian worker at a checkpoint nr. Bethlehem and deliver stop-work orders to 6 Palestinian buildings under construction nr. Hebron. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion across the border fence to level land nr. Rafah. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest a former Palestinian prisoner from a bus e. of the city. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/18; MNA 2/19, 2/20; PCHR 2/25)

19 FEBRUARY 2016

Israeli forces shoot and kill a Palestinian just east of the Old City of Jerusalem after he allegedly stabs and lightly injures 2 Israeli

police. A Palestinian bystander is injured in the crossfire. A video of the incident later broadcast by Al Jazeera shows that the Palestinian did not pose an immediate threat to the Israeli forces that killed him. Later, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian driver outside a village nr. Ramallah after he allegedly attempts to ram them. No Israelis are injured in the incident. The IDF says that the alleged ramming occurred amid clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths, but Palestinian witnesses deny the claim. In the evening, the **IDF** returns the body of the Palestinian to his family. (AJ, HA, JP, MNA, TOI, YA 2/19; HA 2/21; PCHR 2/25)

Across the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt), **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists at Friday demonstrations in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (al-Masara, Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, Jalazun r.c., and outside Ofer Prison), 1 village each nr. Qalqilya and Bethlehem, and along Gaza's border e. of Gaza City; 1 Palestinian is killed (nr. Bethlehem), 9 are injured, and 1 is arrested. Meanwhile, the **IDF** continues its closure of a road nr. Ramallah where a settler was stabbed on 1/18. **IDF troops** also conduct late-night house searches and raids in 1 village nr. Hebron, arresting 1 Palestinian; patrol in and around Hebron, Tulkarm, Jenin, Qalqilya, and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** assault a Palestinian at a mobile checkpoint in Silwan and arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in al-Tur and the Old City. (HA, MNA 2/19; MNA 2/20; PCHR 2/25)

20 FEBRUARY 2016

In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** keeps closed, for a 3d day, a road nr. Ramallah where a settler was stabbed on 1/18. The **IDF** expels Palestinian farmers from their land nr. Hebron.

IDF troops disperse 200 Israeli settlers demonstrating in c. Hebron during the commemoration of the 1994 massacre of 29 Palestinians at al-Ibrahimi Mosque; 12 settlers are arrested. **IDF troops** also conduct late-night house searches and raids nr. Jenin, Hebron, Bethlehem, and Ramallah, arresting 7 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 1; patrol in al-Fawar r.c., 1 village nr. Hebron, and 1 village nr. Jenin. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian who they see “moving suspiciously” outside the Old City, according to a police spokesperson. They also arrest 7 Palestinians during raids and patrols in and around the Old City and Silwan. Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. the border fence, causing no injuries. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 2/20; PCHR 2/25)

21 FEBRUARY 2016

Stabbing and alleged stabbing attacks continue in the **West Bank**: **Israeli troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian youth at a checkpoint nr. Nablus after he allegedly attempts to stab a soldier. After the incident, the **IDF** blocks the roads leading to and from the alleged assailant’s village nr. Jenin; conducts a series of raids in the village, preparing for possible punitive demolitions, arrests 2 Palestinians, and issues an arrest summons to 1. Stone-throwing Palestinian youths clash with IDF troops deployed around the village late at night; a number of Palestinians are injured. Separately, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian at a checkpoint nr. Nablus after they see her holding a knife, according to an IDF spokesperson, and shoot and injure another Palestinian youth nr. Hebron after he allegedly attempts to stab them. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** demolish the sole elementary

school in a bedouin community nr. Jerusalem overnight and deliver stop-work orders to 13 buildings under construction nr. Hebron. Throughout the day, **IDF troops** conduct house searches and raids in and around Salfit, Hebron, Jenin, Bethlehem, and Ramallah, arresting 13 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1; patrol in 2 villages nr. Salfit, 4 nr. Hebron, and 1 each nr. Tulkarm and Jenin. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians on late-night raids in Issawiyya and the Old City. Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers nr. Gaza City, causing no injuries. (HA, JP, MNA, PNN, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/21; WAFA 2/22; PCHR 2/25)

22 FEBRUARY 2016

Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian nr. Gaza City. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** return the bodies of 3 Palestinians killed in confrontations with the IDF in the last week. Late at night, they carry out the **punitive demolition** of 2 Hebron-area homes belonging to Palestinians who were arrested by IDF troops after allegedly carrying out serious crimes against Israelis on 11/19/2015. **IDF troops** carry out a large-scale search operation in Nablus, arresting 2 Palestinians, damaging 6 shops in nearby Balata r.c., and sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; 7 Palestinians are injured. They conduct further raids and house searches nr. Nablus, Bethlehem, Jenin, and Ramallah, arresting 13 Palestinians and confiscating 1 car; patrol in 2 villages and al-‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron. Meanwhile, the **IDF** maintains, for a 2d day in a row, the closure of the Jenin-area village where the Palestinian who allegedly attempted to stab an Israeli soldier

on 2/21 was from. (MNA 2/22; HA, MNA, YA 2/23; PCHR 2/25)

23 FEBRUARY 2016

In the **West Bank**, an **Israeli settler driver** allegedly rams 2 Palestinians nr. Jericho, killing 1 and injuring the other. It is unclear if the collision was the result of an accident or homicidal intent. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in 2 villages nr. Ramallah and 1 nr. Nablus, arresting 5 Palestinians. Meanwhile, the **IDF** maintains, for a 3d day in a row, the closure of the Jenin-area village where the Palestinian who allegedly attempted to stab an Israeli soldier on 2/21 was from. There are intermittent clashes in the village; 3 Palestinians are injured. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Rafah, causing minor damage. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. the border fence, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians on raids in Issawiyya. (MNA, WAFA 2/23; MNA 2/24; PCHR 2/25)

24 FEBRUARY 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops and settlers** shoot and injure a Palestinian outside the Gush Etzion settlement bloc nr. Bethlehem after he allegedly attempts to stab an Israeli settler. An IDF soldier is killed in the crossfire. Late at night, **Israeli forces** take measurements and photographs of the alleged Palestinian attacker's home nr. Hebron, preparing for possible punitive demolition. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** raid a village nr. Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 2 Palestinians are injured and 1 is arrested. The **IDF** conducts further late-night raids

in and around Hebron, Nablus, Jenin, Bethlehem, Tubas, and Ramallah, arresting 21 Palestinians. **Israeli settlers** assault several Palestinians in c. Hebron, causing no serious injuries. Also, the **IDF** maintains, for a 4th day in a row, the closure of the Jenin-area village where the Palestinian who allegedly attempted to stab an Israeli soldier on 2/21 was from. **Israeli forces** deliver 3 punitive demolition notices to Palestinians in the village. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinian merchants outside the Old City when explosives are found in their food stand and arrest 6 Palestinians on late-night raids in Shu'fat, Silwan, Jabal Mukabir, and Issawiyya. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/24; PCHR, WAFA 2/25; PCHR 3/3)

25 FEBRUARY 2016

In **Gaza**, a Palestinian child is killed and a 2d is injured when they accidentally detonate a piece of **unexploded Israeli ordnance** nr. Jabaliya r.c. Off the coast late at night, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Rafah, causing no damage or injuries. Meanwhile, employees of the **Hamas-run govt.** go on strike to protest unpaid salaries (they have not been regularly paid since 6/2/2014, when the PA consensus govt. was sworn in). In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish 8 Palestinian agricultural structures nr. Ramallah early in the morning; prevent Palestinian laborers from carrying out renovations at a home in the Old City of Hebron; take measurements and photographs of a Palestinian home nr. Jenin, threatening punitive demolition. **IDF troops** conduct raids in a village nr. Hebron,

sparkling clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 2 Palestinians are injured. They conduct further raids and house searches nr. Jenin, Bethlehem, and Hebron, arresting 2 Palestinians, issuing an arrest summons to 1, and confiscating a vehicle; patrol in 1 village nr. Qalqilya and 4 nr. Hebron. Late at night, a **Palestinian** stabs and critically injures an Israeli security guard at the Ma'ale Adumim settlement nr. Jerusalem. The **IDF** then bars Palestinian workers from the settlement until at least 2/28 (the same day the alleged attacker will be arrested). In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians and issue 1 an arrest summons on raids in and around the Old City. (MNA, WAFA 2/25; HA, JP, MNA, YA 2/26; MNA 2/28; PCHR 3/3)

26 FEBRUARY 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian at a checkpoint nr. Ramallah after he allegedly attempts to stab them. The IDF later returns the body of the alleged Palestinian attacker to his family. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 5 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, al-Masara, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, Hebron, and along Gaza's border nr. Khan Yunis and al-Bureij r.c.; 5 Palestinians are injured. They also conduct raids and house searches nr. Salfit, Hebron, and Bethlehem, arresting 1 Palestinian and issuing arrest summons to 6; patrol in Tulkarm, 1 village nr. Salfit, and nr. Hebron. Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** open fire on 3 Palestinians walking nr. Khan Yunis, moderately injuring 1; arrest 3 Palestinians attempting to cross the border nr. Rafah to work

in Israel. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI 2/26; MNA 2/27; PCHR 3/3)

Following weeks of reports on back-channel economic talks, the Israeli press reports that **Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon** has decided to take steps to help improve the PA's economic situation, including a transfer of NIS 500 m. (around \$131 m.) in withheld tax revenues (see Update for details). PM Netanyahu reportedly approved Kahlon's proposals after they met on 2/24. (YA 2/26; JP 2/29)

A **Palestinian** is found mortally wounded on the grounds of the Palestinian Embassy in Bulgaria and succumbs to his injuries in an ambulance on the way to hospital. He is later identified as Omar Nayef Zayed, who was wanted by Israel for his alleged killing of an Israeli in 1986. (EI, HA, MNA 2/26)

27 FEBRUARY 2016

Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City, causing damage. In the **West Bank, Israeli settlers** enter a village nr. Salfit, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and stone-throwing Palestinian residents; there are no serious injuries. **IDF troops** also clash with Palestinian protesters and stone-throwers nr. Nablus, Bethlehem, Qalqilya, and Jenin; 5 Palestinians are arrested, 1 is injured, and a Palestinian vehicle is damaged. **Israeli soldiers** assault and moderately injure 2 Palestinians at a checkpoint nr. Tulkarm. The **IDF** raids a Palestinian construction company nr. Hebron, seizing machinery and materials worth around NIS 1 m. (around \$262,450). Israeli soldiers conduct further raids and house searches in Nablus and 1 village nr. Ramallah, arresting 4 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 1; patrol in

Hebron and 4 villages nearby, and 1 village nr. Salfit. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI 2/27; PCHR 3/3)

28 FEBRUARY 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in 1 village each nr. Bethlehem and Jenin, arresting 1 Palestinian and sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths; 2 Palestinians are critically injured. They also conduct late-night raids and house searches in and around Jenin, Qalqilya, Nablus, and Hebron, arresting 16 Palestinians, and assault and injure a Palestinian at a checkpoint nr. Jenin. **Israeli forces** demolish 4 residential and agricultural structures in the n. Jordan Valley. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian farmer working nr. Khan Yunis. Off Gaza's n. coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **dozens of right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif**. **Israeli forces** carry out an unspecified operation in Issawiyya, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 1 Israeli police officer is injured and 1 Palestinian is injured and then arrested. Late at night, **Israeli forces** raid a home in Issawiyya, assaulting and arresting 6 mbrs. of a single family. They also assault and arrest 2 Palestinians, 1 at a checkpoint in Silwad and 1 on a patrol in Silwan. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 2/28; MNA 2/29; PCHR 3/3)

29 FEBRUARY 2016

IDF activity centers on Qalandia r.c. nr. Ramallah. After Palestinians throw stones and a firebomb at an IDF vehicle in the camp (the IDF says 2 soldiers drove into the camp by accident), the Israeli army implements its **Hannibal Directive**, an order authorizing

overwhelming force to stop a soldier from being taken captive. The ensuing major IDF operation sparks clashes and a brief firefight with armed Palestinians; 1 Palestinian is killed and at least 12 are injured; a 2d Palestinian will succumb to his injuries on 3/15 (at least 10 Israeli soldiers are injured). Earlier, **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in Qalqilya and 2 villages nr. Jenin, arresting 5 Palestinians and sparking minor clashes (there are no injuries); patrols in 5 villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, the **Israeli authorities** return to his family the body of a Palestinian killed in a confrontation with Israeli forces in 12/2015. It is the 2d body they have returned to East Jerusalem since the wave of violence began in 10/2015 (see Update for details). **Israeli forces** conduct a raid in Abu Dis, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; there are no serious injuries. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** arrest 9 Palestinian fishermen and confiscate 2 boats nr. Gaza City. Along Gaza's border, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian gravel worker nr. Bayt Hanun. (JP, MNA, WAFA 2/29; EI, HA, JP, MNA, NYT, TOI, YA 3/1; MNA 3/15)

Over the complaints of the **Joint List**, the **Knesset's Law, Constitution, and Justice Comm.** approves, with 7 of 15 mbrs. in favor, the "**Suspension Bill**," which would allow a member of Knesset (MK) to be suspended by a 3/4ths vote from his or her colleagues. Joint List chair Ayman Odeh says he may resign from the Knesset if the bill is passed into law. The bill goes to a 1st reading in the full plenum, where it will pass on 3/28. **Israeli atty.-gen. Avichai Mandelblit** tentatively approves the bill as well, though he expresses reservations about its potential to facilitate discrimination. (JP, MNA 2/29; HA, YA 3/1)

1 MARCH 2016

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** raid a construction materials shop in Nablus, seizing materials and arresting 2 Palestinians; raid a home in Jenin, assaulting and moderately injuring 1 Palestinian. **IDF troops** conduct further late-night raids and house searches nr. Ramallah, Hebron, Jenin, and Tulkarm, arresting 7 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 2. In separate incidents, **Israeli settlers** assault 2 Palestinians nr. Nablus, causing minor injuries to both. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a home under construction in Silwan, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians in the area; 2 Palestinians are injured. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers nr. Rafah, causing no injuries. Off the coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries or damage. (MNA, Wafa, YA 3/1; MNA 3/2; PCHR 3/3)

2 MARCH 2016

Random attacks continue in the **West Bank**: **Israeli forces** shoot and kill 2 Palestinians in a settlement nr. Nablus after they allegedly attack and lightly injure an Israeli settler. Later, 2 Palestinian youths allegedly stab and lightly injure 2 Israeli soldiers at a settlement nr. Nablus. After the 2d incident, the IDF shuts down all roads leading from Nablus except 1; closes the entrances to nearby villages (they will keep the roads sealed through 3/4). Meanwhile, **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in and around Jenin, Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and Nablus, arresting 20 Palestinians. **Israeli forces** demolish 12 residential, educational, and agricultural structures in a village nr. Nablus, and a home under construction nr. Tulkarm, and deliver stop-work

orders to 3 homes under construction nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a 3-story building in al-Tur. **Dozens of right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif**. (HA, JP, MNA, Wafa, YA 3/2; MNA, PCHR 3/3; PCHR 3/10)

Israel's High Court of Justice rules that the govt. must return 1,700 dunams (around 420 acres) of unused land nr. Ramallah to its Palestinian owners (see Update). (JP, MNA 3/2)

3 MARCH 2016

In **Gaza**, a **Hamas mbr.** is killed in a tunnel collapse nr. Khan Yunis. Meanwhile, the *Jerusalem Post* reports that some Hamas mbrs. fear that Israel is responsible for the recent tunnel collapses. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian soccer player as he attempts to cross through the Erez border crossing. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian youth nr. Jericho after he allegedly stabs and lightly injures an Israeli officer; demolish a fuel station in a village nr. Jerusalem. They also patrol nr. Ramallah, Tulkarm, and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** smash the windshield of a Palestinian car nr. Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** seal off Issawiyya for 3 hours after some police officers on patrol in the neighborhood come under gunfire. They also conduct raids in the neighborhood, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; there are no injuries and 2 Palestinians are arrested. In **Israel**, **around 300 residents** of 2 bedouin villages slated for destruction—Atir and Umm al-Hiran—demonstrate in Beersheba, calling for the govt. to avert its plan to displace them and build a new Jewish Israeli town on their land. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa, YA 3/3; PCHR 3/10; EI 3/18)

4 MARCH 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian driver at the Gush Etzion junction nr. Bethlehem after she allegedly attempts to ram an Israeli soldier (the soldier is injured in the collision). In the evening, a verbal argument between small groups of Palestinians and Israelis in the Old City of Jerusalem turns violent; 1 Israeli is stabbed and lightly injured. Meanwhile, the **IDF** violently disperses Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, Jalazun r.c., and outside a settlement nr. al-Bireh), 1 nr. Qalqilya, in n. Bethlehem, and 2 areas along Gaza's border; 7 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids nr. Bethlehem, arresting 7 Palestinians; patrols nr. Ramallah, Hebron, and Tulkarm. **Israeli forces** level 2 small swaths of land nr. Salfit. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian workers nr. Gaza City, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians in the Old City and 2 on raids in Silwan, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; there are no serious injuries. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, YA 3/4; PCHR 3/10)

5 MARCH 2016

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** reopen a road in Hebron's Old City after 4 mos. of closure. Palestinians' movement and access remains restricted in large portions of the H2 zone, which is under full Israeli control. **Israeli troops** arrest a Palestinian youth in c. Hebron after he is allegedly found to be

carrying a knife. The **IDF** also conducts raids and house searches nr. Jenin, Qalqilya, Ramallah, Bethlehem, and Hebron, arresting 7 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 3; patrols nr. Hebron and Salfit. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Gaza City, causing no injuries. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/5; PCHR 3/10)

6 MARCH 2016

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli police** violently disperse Palestinian women conducting a sit-in protesting the ban on their entry to **Haram al-Sharif**; 1 Palestinian is arrested and there are no serious injuries. Late at night, police arrest 10 Palestinians during raids in Qalandia r.c., Jabal Mukabir, and Sur al-Bahir. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** raid a village nr. Bethlehem overnight, issuing 3 Palestinians arrest summons and sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; 1 Palestinian is injured. They conduct further raids and house searches in and around Hebron, Ramallah, Bethlehem, and Jenin, arresting 7 Palestinians (including a prominent soccer player), and issue arrest summons to 2; patrol during the day in Qalqilya and 5 villages nr. Hebron. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/6; PCHR 3/10; EI 3/18)

7 MARCH 2016

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** shoot and moderately injure a Palestinian nr. al-Maghazi. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli police** arrest a Palestinian at a checkpoint e. of Jerusalem on suspicion that she was planning a stabbing attack. **IDF troops** conduct raids in 2 villages nr. Hebron, damaging property and sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths in both; there are no serious injuries. They conduct further raids and house searches in

and around Hebron, Jenin, Nablus, Bethlehem, and Ramallah, arresting 10 Palestinians.

Israeli forces demolish an animal barn nr. Hebron and erect concrete barriers nr. the Gush Etzion junction s. of Bethlehem, where 10 Palestinians have been killed in alleged attacks since 10/2015. Late at night, they carry out the **punitive demolition** of the Hebron home of the Palestinian driver who was killed on 11/4/2015 after allegedly ramming 2 Israeli soldiers. In **East Jerusalem**, an **Islamic Waqf guard** intervenes to stop a **Jewish Israeli tour guide** from performing prayers at **Haram al-Sharif**. **Israeli police** then escort the guide out of the sanctuary. **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Abu Dis. (MNA, WAFA 3/7, 3/8; PCHR 3/10)

Citing senior U.S. officials, the *Wall Street Journal* reports that the **Obama admin.** is working on a final push toward a 2-state solution before **Pres. Barack Obama** leaves office in 1/2017, which might include U.S. support for a new **United Nations Security Council (UNSC) res.** Obama has not, however, made a final decision on the matter (see Update for details). Meanwhile, **Israeli PM Netanyahu** cancels his trip to the U.S. to attend the **annual American Israel Public Affairs Comm. (AIPAC) conference** later this mo. Initial press reports speculate that Netanyahu's cancellation is a response to the Obama admin.'s neglect to schedule a meeting for him with Obama (see Update for details). (NYT, REU, WSJ, YA 3/7; HA, JP, NYT, TOI 3/8)

8 MARCH 2016

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** shoot and kill a Palestinian in the Old City after she allegedly draws a knife with the intent to stab 1 of them. **Israeli police** shoot and kill a 2d

Palestinian nr. the Old City after he opens fire on them with an automatic weapon, injuring 2 (1 seriously). Israeli forces then raid the alleged attacker's home in Issawiyya, issue arrest summons to his father and uncle, take measurements in preparation for possible punitive demolition, and spark minor clashes with stone-throwing youths. In **Israel**, **Israeli police** shoot and kill a 3d Palestinian nr. Petah Tikva after he allegedly stabs and moderately injures an Israeli; shoot and kill a 4th Palestinian in Jaffa after he stabs several people, killing 1 U.S. citizen and injuring at least 10 Israelis (5 seriously). Later, a video of the incident in Jaffa circulates on social media, apparently showing an Israeli police officer shooting the Palestinian attacker execution-style. After the attacks in Petah Tikva and Jaffa, the **IDF** seals the Qalqilya and Salfit-area villages of the alleged attackers, blocking residents from entering or exiting. (HA, INT, JP, MNA, NYT 3/8; PCHR 3/10)

Elsewhere, **Israeli forces** confiscate a tractor from a village nr. Nablus and level farmland outside a bedouin village in the Negev. They also conduct raids nr. Hebron, Qalqilya, Bethlehem, Jericho, Tulkarm, and Jenin, as well as in 1 neighborhood in East Jerusalem, arresting 16 Palestinians and demolishing some property; patrol in 4 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** raze a large area of land nr. Bethlehem. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 3/8; PCHR 3/10)

U.S. VP Joe Biden arrives in Israel, meets with former Israeli pres. Shimon Peres in Jaffa, and pledges "total, unvarnished commitment" to Israel. Meanwhile, a **White House official** denies a 3/7 *Wall Street Journal* report that the Obama admin. plans to change policy toward the **Israeli-Palestinian conflict**: "There has been no change to our policy or

strategy with regard to this issue.” (HA, JTA, TOI 3/8; JP 3/9)

9 MARCH 2016

Uncoordinated stabbing and alleged stabbing attacks continue in the West Bank and Jerusalem, resulting in the deaths of 3 Palestinians. **Two Palestinians** open fire on an Israeli bus in Ramot, causing no damage. **Israeli police** then chase the shooters into the Old City, where they shoot and kill the 2 men after they allegedly attempt to ram their car into a Jewish Israeli pedestrian, causing no serious injuries. A 3d Palestinian is critically injured in the crossfire. The **IDF** maintains, for a 2d day, the closure of 1 village each nr. Qalqilya and Salfit. On the outskirts of the village nr. Salfit, **Israeli soldiers** open fire on 2 Palestinian youths as they approach an IDF checkpoint, killing 1 and critically injuring the other. An IDF spokesperson says that one of the youths was armed with a knife and intended to attack the soldiers. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 3/9; PCHR 3/10)

Elsewhere in the oPt, **Hamas** announces that 1 of its fighters died earlier in the day during unspecified training exercises. **IDF troops** raid a village nr. Jenin, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; there are no serious injuries. They conduct further raids in and around Nablus, Qalqilya, Bethlehem, and Hebron, arresting 18 Palestinians. An **Israeli settler** stabs and injures a Palestinian nr. Nablus. Late at night, **Israeli settlers** spray price-tag graffiti on the walls of a Palestinian home in a village nr. Bethlehem. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/9; MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/10; PCHR 3/17)

In response to the string of attacks on 3/8 and after conferring with senior security officials, **Israeli PM Netanyahu** announces

that Israel will complete the construction of the separation wall in the s. Hebron Hills. He also states that his govt. proposes new legislation to deter and punish Palestinians who enter Israel illegally, close Palestinian media outlets responsible for alleged incitement, and deny work permits to the families of Palestinians who commit serious crimes against Israelis. Israeli police immediately arrest 10s of Palestinians in raids across Israel, targeting those who entered the country without proper permits. (HA, JP, TOI 3/9)

The **Israeli authorities** inform **5 Palestinian food companies** that their goods will no longer be permitted to pass through the Beitunia crossing for sale in Jerusalem (see Update). Israel last barred West Bank food products from entering East Jerusalem for a brief period in 2010. (TOI 3/13)

In Cairo, **French FM Jean-Marc Ayrault** says that France will not recognize the State of Palestine if the planned French peace initiative fails, effectively retracting his predecessor’s 1/29 pledge. “There is never anything automatic,” he says, adding that “France will present its initiative to its partners. It will be the first step, there is no prerequisite.” (TOI 3/9; JTA 3/10)

10 MARCH 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** raid a Palestinian media company’s offices in Ramallah late at night, confiscating property and ordering the company to shut down. They also conduct raids and house searches nr. Ramallah and Qalqilya, arresting 5 Palestinians, including 3 journalists, and issuing arrest summons to 1; patrol in 5 villages nr. Hebron. Along **Gaza’s border**, **Egyptian authorities** flood a smuggling tunnel nr. Rafah, causing 7 Palestinian workers to go missing; most

are quickly recovered, but the bodies of 2 Palestinians will be found in the tunnel on 3/12. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** raid the Issawiyya home and workplace of the Palestinian killed on 3/8 after allegedly shooting and injuring 2 Israeli police officers; they issue an arrest summons to his father and interrogate his mother. In Israel, **Israeli forces** conduct raids across the country, arresting over 250 Palestinians who are in Israel illegally, and 27 Israelis suspected of helping them enter without permits. (HA, MNA 3/10; HA, MNA, YA 3/11; PCHR 3/17)

Following up on PM Netanyahu's 3/9 announcement, **Israel's security cabinet** approves a proposal to resume construction of the separation wall in Jerusalem and the s. Hebron Hills. Work on the wall has been largely suspended since 2007. (JP, MNA, TOI 3/10; HA, TOI, YA 3/11)

11 MARCH 2016

Unknown Gazans fire a number of rockets into Israel, and at least 3 land nr. Sderot, causing no injuries or damage. **Israel Air Force jets** launch retaliatory air strikes on 4 Hamas sites in n. Gaza, killing 1 Palestinian child, injuring 4, and causing substantial damage (a 2d Palestinian child will succumb to her injuries on 3/12). Meanwhile, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the coast, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian outside the Old City after he allegedly stabs and injures an Israeli, and arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in the Old City. In the **West Bank, unidentified assailants** throw a firebomb at an Israeli settler's vehicle nr. Hebron, causing damage, and open fire on Israeli soldiers at a checkpoint nr. Ramallah, injuring 2. After

the 2d attack, the IDF closes several roads and conducts raids in a nearby village. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, separation wall, and settlements in 5 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, and outside Ofer Prison), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, along Gaza's border, and in 1 neighborhood in East Jerusalem (Abu Dis); 5 Palestinians are injured. They also conduct raids and house searches in 2 villages nr. Bethlehem, arresting 1 Palestinian and issuing an arrest summons to another; patrol nr. Qalqilya, Ramallah and Salfit, and Hebron. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, YA 3/11; HA, MNA, NYT, YA 3/12; PCHR 3/17; EI 3/18)

12 MARCH 2016

In **Gaza**, the bodies of 2 Palestinians are found in a smuggling tunnel nr. Rafah that Egyptian forces flooded on 3/10. Off **Gaza's n. coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches nr. Jenin, Hebron, and Bethlehem, arresting 9 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1; patrols in 2 villages each nr. Tulkarm and Jericho, and 1 nr. Ramallah. (MNA 3/13; PCHR 3/17)

13 MARCH 2016

Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** shoot and moderately injure a Palestinian collecting gravel. Off the coast nr. Gaza City, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishermen, damaging 3 of their boats. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** violently disperse a demonstration nr. Ramallah organized by 5 Palestinian food

companies protesting the 3/9 Israeli decision to bar their products from Jerusalem markets; there are no serious injuries. IDF troops also patrol in a village nr. Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths; 1 Palestinian is injured. The **IDF** conducts raids and house searches in and around Jenin, Bethlehem, and Qalqilya, arresting 5 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1; patrols further nr. Hebron and Ramallah. Late at night in **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 8 Palestinians on raids in Qalandia r.c. and Issawiyya. (HA, MNA, Wafa 3/13; HA 3/16; PCHR 3/17)

14 MARCH 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill 2 Palestinians outside a settlement nr. Hebron after they allegedly open fire on a group of Israeli soldiers at a bus stop, injuring 1. The IDF then raids the 2 Hebron-area homes of the alleged attackers, damaging doors and interrogating their families; and closes a road leading to a village nearby (it will be reopened on 4/12). **IDF troops** also shoot and kill a Palestinian driver nr. the same settlement after he allegedly rams and injures 2 Israeli soldiers. Another IDF soldier is injured by friendly fire. Elsewhere in the oPt, a **Hamas mbr.** dies in a tunnel collapse e. of Gaza City. An **armed group** fires a rocket from Gaza into s. Israel, which lands in an open area along the border, causing no injuries or damage. **IDF troops** arrest 16 Palestinians during late-night raids and house searches in and around Tulkarm, Hebron, Bethlehem, Nablus, Jenin, and Ramallah; patrol during the day nr. Hebron and Qalqilya. **Israeli forces** deliver a stop-work order to a construction site nr. Bethlehem. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians allegedly planning a stabbing attack in Abu Dis and 2 Palestinians in

late-night raids in Jabal Mukabir. In **Israel, the Israeli authorities** order the closure of a construction site in Haifa for 21 days for harboring Palestinian workers who entered Israel illegally. (HA, MNA, Wafa, YA 3/14; HA, JP, Wafa 3/15; PCHR 3/17)

Citing senior Israeli officials, *Haaretz* reports that the **Israeli govt.** and the **PA** have been holding secret negotiations over the past mo. with the goal of gradually restoring PA security control over cities in the West Bank and ensuring continued security coordination (see Update for details). In response, 2 mbrs. of Netanyahu's cabinet—Education Minister Naftali Bennett and Immigration Absorption Minister Zeev Elkin—say they had not been informed of the talks and that they oppose them. (HA, TOI 3/14)

Israel's Knesset passes the 2d and 3d readings of an amendment designed to deter Israelis who transport, employ, or otherwise accommodate Palestinians who work in Israel illegally (see Update). The measure, advanced by Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan, passes by a vote of 44–16. (TOI 3/14)

15 MARCH 2016

An **unidentified assailant** allegedly attempts to stab an Israeli soldier in **Tel Aviv**. He then flees the area. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian youth at a checkpoint nr. Nablus on suspicion that she was planning to carry out an attack, and fire tear gas canisters at Palestinian students in a village nr. Bethlehem, causing a number of injuries. Late at night, they conduct a raid on an alleged weapons manufacturing workshop in a village nr. Bethlehem, arresting 3 Palestinians and confiscating a number of weapons. They conduct further raids nr. Tulkarm, Hebron,

and Nablus, arresting 3 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 2; patrol in 5 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** demolish a motorcycle repair shop outside Qalandia r.c. Meanwhile, a **Palestinian** succumbs to injuries sustained in clashes with the IDF on 2/29. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish 4 stores in Bayt Hanina. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Khan Yunis. (HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 3/15; MNA 3/16; PCHR 3/17)

Israeli nongovernmental organization Peace Now reports that the Israeli govt. has reinstated its policy of confiscating large swaths of Palestinian land, specifying that the Israeli govt. declared 2,342 dunams (580 acres) nr. Jericho "state land" on 3/10. After the report, both the **UN secy.-gen.** and the **U.S. State Dept.** criticize the Israeli govt.'s settlement expansion policy. (MNA, PCN, REU, TOI 3/15; REU, WAFA 3/16; EI 3/30)

16 MARCH 2016

Israeli forces demolish a 2-story home in a village nr. Bethlehem, an agricultural building nearby, and a clothing warehouse and 2 homes in **East Jerusalem**. Also in East Jerusalem, they arrest a Palestinian youth who was allegedly planning to conduct a stabbing attack in Shu'fat r.c., and arrest 5 Palestinians on late-night raids in Bayt Hanina and Bayt Duqqu. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** raid a village nr. Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths; there are no serious injuries. They conduct further house searches and raids nr. Ramallah, Nablus, and Hebron, arresting 7 Palestinians and ordering several shops to close; patrol in 6 villages nr. Hebron during the day. **Israeli forces** demolish 6 stores in s. Nablus late at night. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 3/16; MNA, PCHR 3/17; PCHR 3/24)

The **Israeli authorities** announce that, beginning 3/18, they are temporarily suspending elderly Gazans' weekly visits to **Haram al-Sharif**, citing recent alleged violations (see Update). Since the cease-fire that ended Israel's summer 2014 assault on Gaza, Israel has permitted as many as 200 Gazans over the age of 60 to travel weekly to Jerusalem for Friday prayers. (MNA 3/16; TOI 3/17)

17 MARCH 2016

Stabbing and alleged stabbing attacks continue today as **IDF troops** shoot and fatally injure 2 Palestinians outside Ariel settlement nr. Salfit. The 2 men had allegedly stabbed and injured an Israeli soldier. After the incident, **Israeli forces** close roads nr. the alleged attackers' Bethlehem-area village, barring exit and entry except in humanitarian cases. They also conduct raids in the village, arresting 1 Palestinian. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** conduct house searches and raids nr. Bethlehem, Qalqilya, and Jenin, arresting 5 Palestinians; patrol nr. Ramallah, Salfit, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid in Issawiyya. (EI, HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 3/17; PCHR 3/24)

18 MARCH 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian after he allegedly attempts to stab an Israeli soldier at the Gush Etzion junction nr. Bethlehem. Palestinian witnesses say that the alleged attacker got out of his car without anything in his hands when the Israeli soldiers opened fire, unprovoked. Israeli soldiers also arrest a journalist documenting the incident. Separately, **Israeli soldiers** arrest 2 Palestinians

accused of preparing to carry out a stabbing attack outside a settlement nr. Jerusalem. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 3 areas along Gaza's border, 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 3 Palestinians are injured. They also conduct late-night raids and house searches in and around Bethlehem, arresting 3 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 9; patrol in Hebron and 8 nearby villages, as well as 3 villages nr. Ramallah. Meanwhile, the **IDF** maintains, for a 2d day, the closure of the Bethlehem-area village of the 2 Palestinians suspected of carrying out a stabbing attack on 3/17, blocking both entrances and exits except for humanitarian cases. **Israeli soldiers** also conduct raids in the village, arresting at least 1 Palestinian. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian shepherd working nr. Khan Yunis. (HA, MNA, TOI 3/18; PCHR 3/24)

Following mos. of stalled talks, **Jordan's Minister of State for Media Affairs and Communications Mohammad Momani** says that cameras will be installed at Haram al-Sharif in the coming days, implementing the 10/24/2015 Israeli-Jordanian agreement. The Israeli govt. does not comment on the reports, leading to speculation that Al Momani was merely restating Jordan's position in the ongoing negotiations (see Update). (JP 3/19; AP 3/20)

19 MARCH 2016

For the 3d day in a row, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a young Palestinian man after he allegedly draws a knife on them while being temporarily detained. After the incident,

Israeli forces close down several roads in the area. Separately, **IDF troops** conduct raids nr. Jenin and Bethlehem, sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths and confiscating 1 vehicle (2 Palestinians are injured). **IDF troops** conduct further house searches and raids in 2 villages nr. Hebron, arresting 2 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 2; patrol nr. Ramallah, Salfit, and Hebron. Late at night, **unidentified assailants** set fire and cause damage to a Palestinian home in Duma village nr. Nablus, where Israeli settlers killed 3 Palestinians in a similar attack on 7/30/2015. A PA official later confirms that the owner of the home was the only witness of the 7/30 attack. Elsewhere, **IDF troops** stationed along Gaza's border open fire on Palestinian shepherds and farmers working nr. Khan Yunis; there are no injuries. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa 3/19; HA, MNA, Wafa, YA 3/20; PCHR 3/24)

20 MARCH 2016

In **Gaza**, dozens of Palestinians gather outside the Ministry of Public Works and Housing offices to protest the PA's alleged postponement of disbursements of money donated by Kuwait for the **reconstruction of Gaza**. The protesters call on Kuwait's govt. to make the PA distribute the funds. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches nr. Hebron and Bethlehem, arresting 3 Palestinians; patrol nr. Tulkarm, Salfit, Qalqilya, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 6 Palestinians during late-night raids in the Old City and al-'Izzariya. (JP 3/20; PCHR 3/24)

Jordan's Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Hayel Dawood clarifies plans to establish surveillance infrastructure at **Haram al-Sharif**, stating that Jordan will install

55 cameras to monitor the outdoor areas at the sanctuary, and that the video feed will be broadcast live over the Internet. His statement comes after a 3/18 report clarifying Jordan's plans to implement the 10/24/2015 Israeli-Jordanian agreement to install cameras at the sanctuary. (See Update.) (HA 3/20)

21 MARCH 2016

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** carry out the **punitive demolition** of the Jabal Mukabir home of an imprisoned Palestinian accused of attacking Israeli soldiers on 10/10/2015, and also demolish a half-built home in Ras al-Amud. Also in Ras al-Amud, a Palestinian family demolishes their own home on Israeli orders. Later, the **Israeli authorities** return **2 bodies** of Palestinians killed in confrontations with Israeli forces since the beginning of the *habba* ("surge" or "revolt" in English) in the oPt in 10/2015. One family rejects the body of their relative when they discover it is frozen, allegedly in violation of the deal they made with the Israelis (they had agreed to limit the size of the funeral and deposited a NIS 20,000 [around \$5,250] guarantee). (See Update.)

Israeli forces arrest a Palestinian woman at **Haram al-Sharif** after she confronts Jewish Israeli MK Shuli Mualem-Rafa'eli. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** raid a number of quarries nr. Qalqilya, confiscating millions of dollars' worth of equipment. They also raid a number of chicken farms and erect a mobile checkpoint outside a village nr. Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 1 Palestinian is injured. The **IDF** violently disperses stone-throwing Palestinians in a village nr. Tulkarm, causing no serious injuries; raids a village council's office in a village nr. Bethlehem, destroying property and breaking its main doors; conducts further

raids and house searches nr. Tulkarm, Jenin, Nablus, and Bethlehem, arresting 4 Palestinians, issuing arrest summons to 2, and confiscating property; and patrols nr. Tulkarm, Jenin, and Hebron. **Israeli forces** begin razing 650 dunams (around 160 acres) of Islamic Waqf-owned land nr. Jericho, and confiscate heavy equipment from a factory nr. Bethlehem. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct limited incursions to level land nr. Bayt Lahiya and Dayr al-Balah. (MNA, WAFA 3/21; MNA 3/22; PCHR 3/24)

A **PA official** who monitors settlement growth in the West Bank reveals that Israeli officials recently informed Palestinians in villages nr. Nablus of their intention to confiscate 1,200 dunams (around 300 acres) of nearby land. The IDF's **Coordinator of Govt. Activities in the Territories Unit (COGAT)** disputes this figure, saying that only 612 dunams will be seized and incorporated into the nearby settlement of Eli. (MNA, WAFA 3/21; EI 3/30)

At the annual **AIPAC** conference in Washington, leading presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump present their foreign policy ideas and pro-Israel credentials. All the remaining candidates, except Sen. Bernie Sanders, are set to address the conferees (AIPAC rejected Sanders's offer to give a speech via satellite after he declined to attend; see Update for details). (HA, JP, YA 3/21; JP 3/22)

22 MARCH 2016

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian shepherds nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. Also, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Khan Yunis. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli soldiers** on patrol in a village nr. Bethlehem open fire

on Palestinian students returning home, injuring 1. **IDF troops** raid a PA-run charity in Tulkarm and a university in Jenin, destroying and confiscating equipment, and conduct further raids and house searches in and around Jenin, Bethlehem, and Tulkarm, arresting 8 Palestinians. **Israeli forces** begin razing 40 dunams (around 9.8 acres) of Palestinian land nr. Hebron; destroy 3 residential structures and a number of health facilities, tents, and an animal barn nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian man nr. Nablus with sticks and stones, inflicting moderate injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a store in Jabal Mukabir and a small mobile home in Bayt Hanina, and arrest 17 Palestinians during raids in the Old City. Also, a Palestinian shopkeeper demolishes his own store in Jabal Mukabir after Israeli forces surround it (he says he carried out the demolition himself because he did not want them to damage the adjacent store). Meanwhile, the **Israeli authorities** bar all Palestinian men under the age of 50 from entering **Haram al-Sharif** today, ahead of the Jewish Purim holiday on 3/24. Later, they close al-Aqsa Mosque after detaining 17 Palestinians attempting to enter the sanctuary. (MNA, Wafa 3/22; MNA 3/23; PCHR 3/24)

Israel's political leadership decides to bar West Bank Palestinians from entering or exiting Israel, except in humanitarian cases, during the **Jewish Purim** festivities. (See Update.) The ban begins late tonight and extends through midnight on 3/26 local time. In recent years, the Israeli govt. has not imposed a ban on Palestinian movement during Purim. (TOI 3/22; HA, JP 3/23)

The **PA cabinet** decides to ban the products of 5 Israeli food companies—Tnuva, Strauss, Tara, Soglowek, and Tapuzina—from

entering the West Bank in response to Israel's 3/9 order to ban 5 Palestinian food companies from distributing their products in East Jerusalem. Although the order is effective today, it will take some time for the Israeli products to be cleared from shelves (see Update). (HA, JP, MNA, Wafa 3/22)

23 MARCH 2016

In the **West Bank**, **hundreds of Jewish Israelis** visit religious sites across the West Bank in the morning, including al-Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron, ahead of **Purim** on 3/24. When around 500 Israelis arrive at Joseph's Tomb outside Nablus under an IDF escort, clashes break out with stone-throwing Palestinians from nearby Balata r.c.; there are no serious injuries. Meanwhile, the **Israeli authorities** shut down all checkpoints leading out of the West Bank as well as the Erez and Kerem Shalom crossings along Gaza's border overnight, barring all Palestinians from crossing, except for humanitarian cases. A COGAT spokesperson confirms that the closure of the West Bank is set to extend through 3/26; the Erez border crossing is set to stay closed through 3/25. **Israeli forces** also erect a number of flying checkpoints around Hebron and close the w. entrance to the city. **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids in Nablus and nr. Ramallah, Jenin, and Hebron, arresting 8 Palestinians, issuing arrest summons to 3, and confiscating some electronics. In **East Jerusalem**, **right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif** in the morning. Meanwhile, Palestinian men under the age of 50 continue to be barred from the sanctuary. Along **Gaza's n. border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land. The **Israeli authorities**, meanwhile, return the engines of 59 previously confiscated

fishing boats and release an injured Palestinian fisherman who has been detained for 4 mos. (MNA, WAFA 3/23; PCHR 3/24, 3/31)

The **Israeli National Council for Planning and Building** approves a plan proposed by the settler organization Elad to build a 16,000 m² archaeological center in the City of David National Park adjacent to the Old City. This approval reverses an earlier ruling restricting the size of the proposed center to 10,000 m². (MNA 3/23; HA 3/25, 3/26)

24 MARCH 2016

A violent outburst in Hebron punctuates a period of relative calm in the **West Bank**. **IDF troops** shoot and kill 2 Palestinians in Hebron's Old City after they allegedly stab and moderately injure an Israeli soldier. A video of the incident later shows that an IDF soldier killed 1 of the alleged assailants after he had been detained and disarmed (see Update for details). Meanwhile, the **Israeli authorities** keep the Erez border crossing closed for the 2d of 3 planned days, and maintain the closure of the West Bank, as decided on 3/22. **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids nr. Ramallah, Jenin, and Bethlehem, arresting 2 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to another 2; patrol nr. Tulkarm and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, over **50 right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif** while 4 Palestinians are detained outside the sanctuary. Palestinian men under 50 are still banned from entering. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA, YA 3/24; HA, TOI 3/25; HA 3/27; HA 3/29; PCHR 3/31; VN 4/28)

Jordan's FM Nasser Judeh meets with **PA pres. Mahmoud Abbas** in Ramallah to discuss the ongoing Jordanian-Israeli negotiations on new surveillance infrastructure

at **Haram al-Sharif**. Judeh relays a message to Abbas that Jordan plans to go ahead with the 10/24/2015 agreement to do so (see Update). (JP, TOI 3/24)

The **UN Human Rights Council** approves a res., 32–0, with 15 abstentions, condemning **Israel's settlements** and calling for the creation of a "**blacklist**" of all Israeli and international firms operating directly or indirectly in Gaza, the West Bank, and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights (see Update). (HA, JP, TOI, YA 3/24; HA 3/25)

25 MARCH 2016

Alleged stabbing attacks continue across the oPt. **Israeli soldiers** detain a Palestinian youth in c. Hebron when a knife is found on her person, and arrest another Palestinian youth after she allegedly attempts to stab Israeli police officers in Issawiyya, East Jerusalem. **Israeli forces** also assault and arrest 4 Palestinian youths nr. the Old City of Jerusalem. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, separation wall, and settlement in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and 2 areas along Gaza's border; 5 Palestinians are injured. **Israeli authorities** keep the Erez border crossing closed for the 3d of 3 planned days and maintain the closure of the West Bank, as decided on 3/22. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers and bird hunters nr. Jabaliya, causing no injuries. Separately, **Israeli settlers** in c. Hebron verbally assault the human rights worker who captured video of the unprovoked killing nearby on 3/24. **IDF troops** conduct raids nr. Jenin, Tubas, and Bethlehem, arresting 1 Palestinian and

issuing arrest summons to 5; patrol in Tulkarm and nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** shut down a checkpoint nr. Nablus, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 2 Palestinians are injured. (MNA, TOI 3/25; MNA 3/26; PCHR 3/31)

At the Jaffa Military Court, **IDF prosecutors** formally charge with murder the Israeli soldier who shot and killed an incapacitated Palestinian in c. Hebron on 3/24. (TOI 3/27)

26 MARCH 2016

At midnight, the **Israeli authorities** lift the Purim-related closure of the West Bank. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem and Qalqilya, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians in both locales; 4 Palestinians are injured and 2 are arrested. They also raid the Hebron-area home of a Palestinian killed in Hebron on 3/24; 2 Palestinians are arrested. The IDF conducts further raids and house searches in Hebron and nr. Tulkarm and Bethlehem, arresting 5 Palestinians, violently disperses Palestinians demonstrating in Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, causing no injuries; and patrols nr. Salfit, Tulkarm, and Hebron. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers and shepherds working nr. Gaza City, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in Silwan and Hizma. (MNA 3/26; MNA, WAFA 3/27; PCHR 3/31)

Fatah and Hamas officials meet in Doha for the 1st of 2 days of **Palestinian national reconciliation talks**. (See Update.) (MNA 3/27)

27 MARCH 2016

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers and shepherds working

nr. Rafah, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct house searches and arrest raids in and around Qalqilya, Hebron, Jenin, Nablus, Ramallah, and Bethlehem, arresting 8 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 2; patrols in 3 villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians on late-night raids in Bayt Duqqu. (WAFA 3/27; PCHR 3/31)

Hamas and Fatah officials meet in Doha for the 2d of 2 planned days of **Palestinian national reconciliation talks**. (MNA 3/27)

28 MARCH 2016

An **Islamic Jihad** fighter in Gaza succumbs to injuries sustained while fighting the IDF in 2006. Meanwhile, **dozens of Gazans** gather in front of **UNRWA's** offices in Rafah to protest a perceived lack of support. In **s. Israel**, **Israeli police** raid a slaughterhouse in a village nr. Beersheba, arresting more than 100 Palestinians from the West Bank working without proper permits. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** deliver a stop-work order to a workshop under construction nr. Hebron. **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids in and around Ramallah, Qalqilya, Hebron, Nablus, and Jenin, arresting 19 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 2; patrol nr. Hebron, Salfit, and Ramallah. (MNA, WAFA 3/28; PCHR 3/31)

Israeli PM Netanyahu instructs Defense Minister (**DM**) **Moshe Ya'alon** to stop returning to the PA or their families bodies of Palestinians killed after committing serious crimes against Israelis. Sources in Netanyahu's office refuse to comment on his motivation. (See Update.) (ALM, JP 3/28; HA, TOI 3/29)

A **senior Fatah official** reported on the **Hamas and Fatah** national reconciliation efforts following 2 days of talks in Doha

on 3/26–27. He says they agreed to form a national unity govt. comprising Hamas, Fatah, and other factions, and to hold legislative and presidential elections within 6 mos. In addition, they agreed that a new unity govt. would work according to the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) guidelines (i.e., pursuing a 2-state solution by way of negotiations). Other reports say that the talks produced only 1 agreement: to not discuss the talks with the media. (TOI 3/28; JP 3/29)

29 MARCH 2016

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian agricultural land nr. Rafah and Palestinian farmers working nr. Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. Off Gaza's coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem** overnight, **Israeli forces** demolish a playground and uproot a number of trees in Silwan, and arrest 3 Palestinians during late-night raids in al-Tur and Bayt Hanina. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a home, a farm, a water network, and some trees outside a village nr. Bethlehem, as well as 2 homes, a large barn, and a playground in n. Bethlehem. **IDF troops** conduct a raid on the Hebron home of the Palestinian activist who captured the video of the Israeli soldier shooting and killing an incapacitated Palestinian on 3/24. The **IDF** conducts further raids and house searches nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, and Jenin, as well as in Jenin itself, arresting 11 Palestinians; patrols nr. Hebron, Ramallah, and Jenin. Palestinian Authority Security Forces (**PASF**) **troops** conduct a raid in c. Nablus, sparking armed clashes with Palestinian youths; 13 Palestinians are injured (5 of whom are PASF). (MNA, TOI, Wafa 3/29; Wafa 3/30; PCHR 3/31)

Politico publishes a 2/17 letter signed by **11 mbrs. of the U.S. Congress**, including Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT), addressed to Secy. of State John Kerry and calling for investigations into the “disturbing number of reports of possible gross violations of human rights by security forces in Israel and Egypt.” The letter highlights “what may be extrajudicial killings” by Israeli forces in Israel and the oPt. (POL 3/29; HA, JP, MNA, TOI 3/30)

Israel's Knesset passes a 1st reading of 2 bills that would create economic incentives for **settlement growth**. The 1st would reduce bureaucratic restrictions on home purchases in settlements, preventing settlers from paying taxes to both the govt. and the Civil Admin. The 2d would entitle settlers to tax breaks as long as they are eligible for a grant promoting capital investment. (HA 3/29)

30 MARCH 2016

Marking the 40th anniversary of **Land Day**, Palestinian citizens of Israel (PCI) conduct a general strike throughout the Galilee and Negev, and hold a protest in the bedouin village Umm al-Hiran, which the Israeli govt. is planning to raze. **IDF troops** violently disperse demonstrations commemorating Land Day in Ramallah, Jenin, and along Gaza's border nr. the Erez border crossing; there are no serious injuries. They also shoot tear gas canisters at Palestinian mourners marching in a funeral procession in Aida r.c. nr. Bethlehem; conduct a late-night house search in al-Am'ari r.c. nr. Ramallah, arresting 2 Palestinians; and patrol during the day in 4 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** carry out a partial **punitive demolition** of the interior walls of the Hebron home of a Palestinian killed on 12/7/2015 in a confrontation with Israeli troops. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest

a Palestinian youth at **Haram al-Sharif** after he raises a Palestinian flag at the sanctuary. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 3/30; JP, MNA, PCHR, WAFA 3/31; PCHR 4/7)

The **head of Gaza's fishermen's union** says that the Israeli authorities recently agreed to expand the unilaterally defined fishing zone allotted for Gazans by 3 mi. in some places, starting in 4/2016. An IDF spokesperson does not comment on the report. (MNA 3/30)

31 MARCH 2016

The **Israel Electric Corporation (IEC)** cuts the power supply to 2/3 of the Jericho district because of alleged unpaid debts on the part of the PA and the Jerusalem District Electricity Corp. (JDECO). A JDECO official says that his org., the PA, and the IEC have a disagreement over rate calculation and interest rates, and that a lawsuit is pending. (See Update.) Meanwhile, **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches nr. Bethlehem and Nablus, arresting 8 Palestinians, and patrol during the day nr. Salfit and Hebron. In **Israel, Israeli forces** shut down a poultry factory in the Negev as punishment for employing Palestinians working in Israel illegally. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. Along **Gaza's border, Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Khan Yunis, and violently disperse Palestinian protesters nr. Jabaliya r.c., injuring 1 Palestinian. (HA, MNA 3/31; AFP 4/3; PCHR 4/7)

An **IDF military tribunal** downgrades the charges facing Elor Azaria, the soldier who killed the supine Palestinian in Hebron on 3/24, from "murder" to "manslaughter."

The soldier will be released on bail on 4/1. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA 3/31)

1 APRIL 2016

In the **West Bank**, thousands of Palestinians participate in the **Palestine Marathon** in Bethlehem (the Israeli authorities barred all 103 Gazan hopefuls from participating). Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, separation wall, and settlements in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, in the Silwan neighborhood of East Jerusalem, and in 3 areas along Gaza's border; 6 Palestinians are injured. In and around Hebron, **IDF troops** arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid and patrol in 3 villages. Elsewhere in **East Jerusalem, Palestinians** stage a sit-in protest at **Haram al-Sharif** calling for national reconciliation. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on a Palestinian fishing boat nr. Rafah, causing it to catch fire and sink. (WAFA 3/31; HA, MNA 4/1; MNA 4/2; PCHR 4/7)

2 APRIL 2016

In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in Salfit, Ramallah, Nablus, Hebron, and Bethlehem, arresting 7 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 4; and patrol during the day nr. Hebron, Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and Salfit. They also violently disperse Palestinian and international activists at an anti-occupation demonstration in Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian is injured. Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers and land nr. Rafah, injuring 2 Palestinians.

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** shoot and injure a Palestinian youth on his way to school in Silwan. They physically assault the youth after he is shot, then call an ambulance for him. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/2; PCHR 4/7)

3 APRIL 2016

Amid deescalating violence in Israel and the West Bank, an **Israeli security guard** detains a Palestinian woman after she allegedly stabs and injures an Israeli woman in a small city nr. Tel Aviv. Later, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian man at a checkpoint nr. Nablus as he walks toward a group of **Israeli settlers**, alleging that he was planning a stabbing attack. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** carry out punitive demolitions of the 3 Jenin-area homes of Palestinians killed on 2/3 in a confrontation with Israeli forces in East Jerusalem, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians in the village; there are no serious injuries. Israeli forces also shut down a number of Palestinian shops in a village nr. Nablus and erect several mobile checkpoints around the village. **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches nr. Bethlehem, Salfit, Hebron, Ramallah, Nablus, and Qalqilya, arresting 12 Palestinians, issuing arrest summons to 1, and confiscating a vehicle and surveillance tapes; patrol nr. Qalqilya and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** raze a small swath of Palestinian land nr. Nablus. Off **Gaza's c. coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 4/3; PCHR 4/7)

Early in the morning, the **Israeli authorities** put into effect their decision to extend the fishing zone off the s. Gaza coast to 9 naut. mi. The Israeli-enforced fishing zone remains

6 naut. mi. off the n. coast. (See Update for details.) (MNA 4/3)

4 APRIL 2016

For the 2d time in a week, the **IEC** cuts power to a major West Bank city, this time affecting large areas of Bethlehem between 2:00 and 6:00 P.M. The cuts are part of a broader punitive effort to disrupt power supplies to the West Bank in response to the PA and JDECO alleged failure to pay their bills. (See Update for details.) (HA, MNA, TOI 4/4; EI 4/7)

In Gaza, **Hamas** says 1 of its fighters died today during an unspecified military exercise. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish 2 homes and a livestock building in a village nr. Nablus, as well as a home and a store late at night in villages nr. Hebron. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids in and around Hebron, Tulkarm, Salfit, Jenin, and Bethlehem, arresting 8 Palestinians, issuing arrest summons to 3, and confiscating a vehicle; patrol during the day nr. Qalqilya and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian vehicles on the road between Nablus and Ramallah, causing damage to 1 car. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a home in Jabal Mukabir overnight, injure 1 Palestinian youth amid clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians in Issawiyya, and arrest 12 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya, Jabal Mukabir, Abu Dis, and Hizma. (HA, MNA, WAFA 4/4; MNA 4/5; PCHR 4/7)

COGAT suspends cement imports to the Gaza Strip for private use “until further notice,” accusing Hamas of diverting construction materials for its own purposes. Imports for large international projects will continue (see Update). (HA, JP, TOI 4/4; MNA 4/5)

Israeli PM Netanyahu invites **PA pres. Abbas** to meet with him in Jerusalem, responding to Abbas's recent claim that he would accept such an invite (see Update for details). Netanyahu adds, "I'm clearing my schedule this week. Any day he can come, I'll be here." Later **Netanyahu's Twitter account** sends this message: "I heard [Pres.] Abbas say that if I invite him to meet, he'll come. So I'm inviting him. I've cleared my schedule"; the PLO's Negotiations Affairs Dept. account responds: "Negotiate what exactly?" (JP, YA 4/4)

5 APRIL 2016

For the 2d day in a row, the **IEC** cuts off power to a major West Bank city, this time affecting parts of Hebron from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. It is the 3d time the IEC has implemented its plan to intermittently and punitively disrupt power supplies to areas of the West Bank in response to unpaid debts. (HA, JP, MNA 4/5)

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Rafah, causing no injuries. **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nearby. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a slaughterhouse, a balcony, and a water well in a village nr. Bethlehem and force a number of Palestinian shops to close in a village nr. Nablus, arresting 2 Palestinians who allegedly threw stones at them. **IDF troops** also conduct late-night raids and house searches in Nablus and nr. Hebron arresting 9 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 2; take measurements and photographs of a home nr. Hebron, threatening punitive demolition; and patrol nr. Qalqilya, Jenin, and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** enter a village nr. Nablus late at night, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 1 Palestinian

is injured. Meanwhile, **Palestinian youths** throw Molotov cocktails at Israeli forces on a patrol nr. Ramallah; there are no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** raid al-Quds University in Abu Dis, destroying and confiscating property, and issue an arrest summons for a Palestinian journalist during a raid in al-Thawri. **Israeli police** arrest 2 right-wing Jewish activists attempting to sneak into **Haram al-Sharif** disguised as Muslims. (MNA, WAFA 4/5; MNA 4/6; PCHR 4/7)

The day after Israeli PM Netanyahu invited him to Jerusalem for a face-to-face meeting, **PA pres. Abbas** says that he is prepared to work with Israel to stop and monitor "mutual incitement," calling for the reinstatement of the joint Palestinian-Israeli-U.S. comm. for monitoring incitement, which was established as part of the Wye River Memorandum in 1998 and met regularly until 9/2000. (JP 4/5; TOI 4/6)

6 APRIL 2016

In the **West Bank**, around 1,000 right-wing **Jewish activists** visit Joseph's Tomb nr. Nablus late at night, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and stone-throwing Palestinians; at least 3 Palestinians are injured. Earlier, an **Israeli settler driver** rams a Palestinian youth in Hebron, moderately injuring her. **Israeli forces** demolish 6 residential structures and an animal barn in a village s. of Hebron early in the morning, displacing 35 Palestinians. They also close a checkpoint nr. Ramallah for several hours in the afternoon, and demolish a poultry slaughterhouse and automobile workshop in a village nr. Ramallah late at night. **IDF troops** raid a printing house in a village nr. Bethlehem, damaging property; conduct late-night raids

and house searches in and around Hebron and nr. Ramallah and Jenin, arresting 7 Palestinians, issuing an arrest summons to 1, and destroying some property; patrol nr. Hebron and Jenin, as well as in Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** uproot and burn 47 olive tree saplings in Silwan. A **Palestinian family** demolishes part of its own apartment in Bayt Hanina to avoid paying the municipality's demolition fees. (MNA, WAFA 4/6; MNA, PCHR, WAFA 4/7; PCHR 4/14)

The **Israeli govt.** announces that the IEC's power cuts in the West Bank will end indefinitely. Earlier in the day, the PA, IEC, JDECO, and MK Odeh (Joint List) reached a temporary agreement that will see JDECO pay NIS 60 m. (\$15.7 m.) to the IEC by 4/12, the PA transfer NIS 20 m. (\$5.2 m.) immediately, and govern negotiations to resolve further disputes over tariffs and interest rates. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI 4/6)

7 APRIL 2016

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli authorities** reopen a road in e. Hebron 5 mos. after sealing it behind earth mounds. **Israeli forces** confiscate 4 water tanks and 2 cars, and demolish 16 residential tents and 15 livestock barracks in a village nr. Nablus, displacing 117 Palestinians. **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches nr. Jenin, Ramallah, and Hebron, arresting 5 Palestinians; patrol nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** uproot trees and level land nr. Ramallah, sparking minor clashes with Palestinians in the area; there are no injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. al-Bureij r.c., arrest a Palestinian attempting to cross into Israel for work nr. Jabaliya r.c., and open fire on Palestinian picnickers nearby, causing no injuries or damage. Off **Gaza's coast**,

Israeli naval forces detain 2 Palestinian fishermen nr. Khan Yunis. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in the Old City. (MNA, WAFA 4/7; MNA 4/8; PCHR 4/14)

Western diplomats and senior Palestinian officials say that the Palestinian leadership informally circulated a draft res. to UNSC mbrs. this week condemning Israel's settlements and calling for a 1-year time frame on a 2-state solution (see Update). They say **PA pres. Abbas** hopes to have it brought for a vote while he is in New York for a climate conference at the end of 4/2016 (he is set to arrive on 4/22). (HA, TOI 4/7; HA, JP, MNA, TOI, YA 4/8; TOI 4/10)

In Gaza City, **senior Hamas and Fatah officials** meet for national reconciliation talks, continuing the process begun in Doha on 3/26–27. There are no major announcements of progress. (MNA 4/8)

Israeli and Turkish officials meet in London for another round of reconciliation talks. Turkey's FM will say, on 4/8, that progress was made today and that an agreement is due "very soon." The Israeli govt. does not comment. (HA, JP, TOI, YA 4/8; ECO 4/12)

8 APRIL 2016

Across the oPt, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, separation wall, and settlements in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and 2 areas along Gaza's border; 7 Palestinians are injured and at least 4 are arrested. On **Gaza's border**, an explosive device detonates under an armored Israeli bulldozer, causing damage but no injuries. Off Gaza's coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on 2 Palestinian fishing boats

nr. Rafah, injuring 2 fishermen, arresting 4, and then confiscating the boats. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct house searches and raids nr. Hebron and Bethlehem, arresting 2 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 4; patrols in 3 villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** disperse Palestinians conducting a sit-in in Silwan in protest of Israeli efforts to Judaize the city; 6 Palestinians are arrested and a tent is confiscated. **Israeli police** arrest a Palestinian for allegedly planning a stabbing attack outside the Old City, and temporarily detain a shaykh at **Haram al-Sharif**, accusing him of “incitement.” (JP, MNA, TOI, YA 4/8; PCHR 4/14)

A **U.S. State Dept. spokesperson** says that the **Obama admin.** has not decided whether or not to support the **draft UNSC res.** condemning Israel’s settlements that the Palestinians circulated earlier in the week (a U.S. veto would scuttle the effort; see Update). Separately, 394 mbrs., or 90%, of the **House of Representatives** sign onto a letter calling on U.S. pres. Obama to “oppose and, if need be, veto one-sided UNSC resolutions,” inter alia. (USSD 4/8; TOI 4/9; JP 4/10; JTA 4/15)

9 APRIL 2016

Off **Gaza’s coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya in the morning and again in the evening, causing no injuries or damage. Along **Gaza’s border, IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian shepherds nr. Rafah, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank, PASF troops** arrest 3 Palestinians found with weapons in a village nr. Ramallah, and turn them over to the IDF. The men were allegedly on their way to attack Israeli targets. The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids nr. Hebron and Salfit, arresting 3 Palestinians

and issuing arrest summons to another 3; patrols nr. Hebron. (JP, MNA, Wafa 4/9; PCHR 4/14)

10 APRIL 2016

In **Gaza, at least 2 Palestinians** die in a smuggling tunnel collapse nr. Rafah, according to Palestinian sources. Along **Gaza’s border, Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Gaza City. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct raids in Aida r.c. and al-Azza r.c. nr. Bethlehem late at night, sparking clashes with armed and stone-throwing Palestinian youths in both; there are no serious injuries. They conduct further raids in Salfit and nr. Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah, and Tulkarm, arresting 13 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 3; patrol nr. Hebron, Tulkarm, and Jenin. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** confiscate property and arrest 1 Palestinian during raids in the Old City. In **Israel, right-wing Jewish activists** spray paint racist graffiti on the walls of a synagogue in Safed. (JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa 4/10; MNA 4/11; TOI 4/12; PCHR 4/14)

Israeli PM Netanyahu says that there has been a “significant decline” in the number of serious Palestinian crimes against Israelis. He also reaffirms his ban on MKs and other elected officials visiting **Haram al-Sharif** ahead of the Jewish holiday Passover. (TOI 4/10)

11 APRIL 2016

Along **Gaza’s border, IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian youth herding cattle nr. Gaza City. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in Tulkarm and Bethlehem, as well as nr. Jenin, Hebron, and Salfit, arresting 10 Palestinians and threatening the family of another (an

11th Palestinian turns himself in hours later); patrol nr. Hebron, Qalqilya, and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, a number of **right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif** in the morning, leading to minor verbal confrontations with Palestinian worshippers. **Israeli forces** punitively seal the home of a Palestinian prisoner in Sur al-Bahir (he is awaiting trial on manslaughter charges related to a stone-throwing incident on 9/13/2015). They also arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids in Qalandia r.c., Ras al-Amud, and Qatanna. (JP, MNA, WAFA 4/11; PCHR 4/14)

PLO secy.-gen. Saeb Erekat says that the Palestinians have begun consultations with various Arab nations on the **draft UNSC res.** they informally circulated last week, as was reported on 4/7. Egypt is reportedly overseeing the consultations, aimed at finalizing the draft ahead of **PA pres. Abbas's** visit to the UN in New York at the end of this mo. (MNA 4/13)

12 APRIL 2016

Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Khan Yunis. Early in the morning in the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish 3 Palestinian homes under construction in a village nr. Bethlehem and a playground in a village nr. Nablus. They also reopen a road e. of Hebron that they closed on 3/14, following a formal request from the PA. **IDF troops** patrol in a village nr. Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 2 Palestinians are arrested and there are no serious injuries. They conduct further raids and house searches nr. Nablus, Jericho, and in Tulkarm, arresting 4 Palestinians; patrol nr. Qalqilya, Jericho, Ramallah, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, the **Jerusalem Municipality** prepares to

demolish a Palestinian home in Wadi al-Juz, but **Israeli PM Netanyahu's office** intervenes, canceling the demolition to avoid increasing tensions in the city ahead of Passover.

Meanwhile, the **extreme messianic group Temple Institute** says that it conducted a secret Jewish wedding at **Haram al-Sharif**, violating the ban on Jewish religious ceremonies at the sanctuary. (MNA, WAFA 4/12; MNA, TOI, YA 4/13; PCHR 4/14)

COGAT announces that the Israeli govt. has given approval, in principle, to a Palestinian request to build a **power plant** nr. Jenin (see Update for details). (YA, 4/12; MNA, YA 4/13)

A **U.S. State Dept. spokesperson** says that the U.S. opposes a **UNSC res.** censuring Israel's settlements, such as the one the Palestinian leadership is currently circulating. He adds, "I can firmly shut the door," ending all speculation about U.S. support for the effort (see Update). (USSD 4/12; JP 4/13)

13 APRIL 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** detain a Palestinian youth after arguing with her at a checkpoint nr. Bethlehem, and conduct raids in a village nr. Nablus, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians. Amid the clashes, Israeli soldiers fire tear gas canisters at a girls' school, causing many students to choke. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids in and around Jenin, Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah, and Tubas, arresting 16 Palestinians and confiscating and damaging property; patrols nr. Jenin and Nablus.

Israeli soldiers set fire to a Palestinian flag at a checkpoint nr. Nablus. **Israeli settlers** steal a Palestinian's horse from a village nr. Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish 2 residential structures in Kafr Walaja

early in the morning, and arrest 18 Palestinians during raids in Silwan, the Old City, and Bayt Hanina. In **West Jerusalem, Jewish Israelis** assault and moderately injure a Palestinian bus driver nr. the Central Bus Station. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/13; HA, PCHR, WAFA 4/14; HA 4/15; PCHR 4/21)

The Israeli press reports that **PM Netanyahu and DM Ya'alon** recently gave their approval for the construction of **267 settler residences** in the West Bank, including in a number of outposts. (HA 4/13; PCN 4/14)

A Palestinian lawyer says that an **Israeli court** has rescinded the ban on products of 5 Palestinian food companies entering Jerusalem, which was issued by Israel's Ministry of Agriculture on 3/9. (MNA 4/13)

14 APRIL 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian at an entrance to al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron as he allegedly attempts to attack a soldier with an ax. Elsewhere in the **West Bank, IDF troops** raid a money exchange office in Ramallah early in the morning. They detonate a small explosive in an attempt to open a safe, which causes a large fire and major damage. In the Hebron area, IDF troops shut down a number of Palestinian stores, and assault and arrest a Palestinian taxi driver outside al-'Arub r.c. **Israeli forces** destroy a charcoal facility, an agricultural structure, and a number of solar cells nr. Jenin, sparking minor clashes with Palestinians (there are no injuries). They also demolish a rainwater harvesting well nr. Hebron and conduct late night raids nr. Nablus, arresting 4 Palestinians; patrol during the day nr. Hebron.

In **East Jerusalem, Israeli police** arrest 2 Palestinian youths carrying knives, and order

the Palestinian National Theater to close for 1 day as punishment for organizing an event sponsored by the PA. **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in the Old City.

Along **Gaza's border, Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Rafah. Separately, **Hamas forces** establish 3 new bases and a number of temporary structures along the border with Egypt in an attempt to strengthen border security and improve ties with the Egyptian govt. (AFP, EI, HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 4/14; PCHR 4/21)

Israeli PM Netanyahu's office denies that the PM recently approved the construction of over 200 new settler residences in the West Bank, contrary to Israeli press reports on 4/13. "Almost all of the permits are intended for the upgrading of existing buildings," the office's statement reads. **Peace Now** rejects the PM's statement, offering photographic evidence showing that the permits are for new residences. (HA, TOI 4/14; JP 4/15)

15 APRIL 2016

Across the oPt, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), 1 each nr. Qalqilya and Salfit, al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, and in 2 areas along Gaza's border; 3 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, the **Israeli authorities** return the body of the Palestinian killed nr. Hebron on 4/14, despite PM Netanyahu's reported order to hold the body indefinitely. **Israeli forces** patrol in 3 villages nr. Hebron, and arrest 4 Palestinians during raids in East Jerusalem. (MNA, TOI 4/15; MNA 4/16; PCHR 4/21)

16 APRIL 2016

In the **West Bank**, **Palestinians** hold a funeral in al-‘Arub r.c. for the Palestinian killed on 4/14. Some mourners clash with IDF troops in the area; there are no injuries. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in and around Hebron, Bethlehem, and Ramallah, arresting 8 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 1; patrol nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** prevent a Palestinian farmer from accessing his land nr. Bethlehem. Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers nr. Khan Yunis. Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Rafah. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli soldiers** assault and interrogate a Palestinian in Sur al-Bahir, causing light injuries. **Israeli forces** raid Silwan and deliver 2 demolition orders to Palestinian-owned buildings. (MNA, WAFA 4/16; WAFA, YA 4/17; PCHR 4/21)

17 APRIL 2016

Commemorating **Palestinian Prisoners’ Day**, hundreds of Palestinians gather at rallies across the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** patrol in 5 villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif** with an Israeli police escort, sparking a verbal exchange with Muslim worshippers. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/17; PCHR 4/21)

18 APRIL 2016

An explosive device detonates on a bus in **s. Jerusalem**, injuring at least 20 Israelis (2 seriously). A Palestinian injured in the blast will succumb to his wounds on 4/20. Israeli officials treat it as a terrorist attack, and the

Israeli police and security services begin investigations. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinian youths after they allegedly assault an Israeli youth in the Old City; arrest 7 Palestinian youths and confiscate some property during raids in Shu‘fat r.c., Qalandia r.c., Ras al-Amud, and the Old City; and shoot tear gas canisters at Palestinian schoolchildren in Ras al-Amud, causing no serious injuries. Israeli forces also raid and search a newspaper company’s offices. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot tear gas canisters at a school nr. Hebron, causing minor injuries; conduct raids and house searches nr. Bethlehem, Ramallah, Qalqilya, and in and around Hebron, arresting 10 Palestinians, issuing arrest summons to 4, and confiscating some property; patrol nr. Ramallah and Jericho.

Along **Gaza’s border**, **Egyptian forces** flood and partially destroy a smuggling tunnel leading into the n. Sinai Peninsula. A **military court in Gaza** sentences 5 Palestinians to death on charges related to collaborating with Israel. A Palestinian woman is injured when she accidentally detonates a piece of **unexploded Israeli ordnance** in Gaza City. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 4/18; JP, MNA, TOI 4/19; HA, MNA 4/20; PCHR 4/21)

The **IDF** lifts a gag order on the news that it discovered a **tunnel** leading from s. Gaza into Israel earlier this week (they will demolish it on 4/19). **Hamas’s military wing** says “this tunnel is just a drop in the ocean of what the resistance has prepared for the defense of its people and the liberation of holy places, land, and prisoners.” (See Update.) (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, YA 4/18; JP 4/19)

Citing Palestinian complaints and reservations, **Jordan’s PM Abdullah Ensour** says that Jordan has decided to halt the process of installing cameras at **Haram al-Sharif**

following mos. of stalled negotiations with Israeli officials (see Update for details). (JP, MNA, TOI, YA 4/18; HA 4/19, 4/27)

19 APRIL 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids nr. Tulkarm, Ramallah, and Jericho, arresting 4 Palestinians, and patrol during the day in Tulkarm, nr. Jericho, Qalqilya, and Hebron. Off **Gaza's s. coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats overnight, injuring 1 fisherman (3 others are arrested and 2 boats are confiscated). In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** assault a group of Palestinian youths in Ras al-Amud, injuring 1. In **Israel**, **Israeli forces** destroy the bedouin village al-'Araqib in the Negev for the 97th time. Meanwhile, **around 2,000 Israelis** gather in Rabin Square in Tel Aviv to demonstrate in support of Azaria, the Israeli soldier who shot and killed a detained Palestinian on 3/24. (EI, MNA, WAFA 4/19; PCHR 4/21)

Following Jordan's 4/18 announcement that it is no longer planning to support the installation of cameras at **Haram al-Sharif**, an **Israeli official** says that "Israel's support [for the initiative] remains unchanged." (TOI 4/19)

20 APRIL 2016

The **IDF** conducts a major campaign of raids and house searches in the Issawiyya neighborhood of **East Jerusalem** overnight, arresting 31 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to another 18. They also set up flying checkpoints around the neighborhood and verbally abuse a number of residents. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** enter the nearby Qalandia r.c. and punitively demolish the interior walls of the home of a Palestinian killed on 1/25 after he, along with another youth,

stabbed and killed an Israeli settler. The demolition sparks major clashes with residents of the camp; 8 Palestinians and 2 Israeli soldiers are injured. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** detain and assault a Palestinian nr. Qalqilya who is attempting to cross into Israel for work. **IDF troops** conduct house searches and raids in Hebron and nr. Ramallah, arresting 4 Palestinians and damaging some property. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 4/20; MNA, PCHR, WAFA 4/21; PCHR 4/28)

21 APRIL 2016

For the 2d day in a row, **Israeli forces** conduct major raids across **East Jerusalem** overnight, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian in Abu Dis and al-'Izzariya; 16 Palestinians are injured and 1 is arrested. In the **West Bank**, an **Israeli settler driver** rams a Palestinian youth in Hebron, causing moderate injuries. **IDF troops** conduct 8 patrols nr. Hebron. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian attempting to cross into Israel illegally nr. Bayt Hanun. **Hamas** redeploys its forces to improve security along the border with Egypt. A Hamas official describes the move as a confidence-building measure requested by the Egyptian govt. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 4/21; PCHR 4/28)

Peace Now reports that the Israeli govt. has declared 115 dunams (28 acres) nr. Salfit as "state land." Israel reportedly plans to build a new industrial zone in the area. (PCN 4/21; MNA 4/22)

22 APRIL 2016

For the 3d day in a row, **Israeli forces** conduct widespread raids across **East Jerusalem**, arresting at least 20 Palestinians

ahead of the Passover holiday and threatening demolitions in Silwan. Additional Israeli police are deployed in the city. Israeli authorities suspend Gazans' weekly visit to Jerusalem, and completely close down crossings in the West Bank and Gaza, with exceptions for humanitarian and medical cases (the closure began at midnight on 4/21 and will last through midnight on 4/23, unless the IDF decides the security situation requires its continuation). At **Haram al-Sharif**, 29 Palestinians are barred from the sanctuary and 10 right-wing Jewish activists are detained as they carry baby goats to the sanctuary for Passover sacrifices (Jewish religious rites are prohibited at Haram al-Sharif).

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Silwad, Nabi Salih, Jalazun r.c., and outside Ofer Prison), 1 village nr. Qalqilya, and 2 areas along Gaza's border; 6 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** also patrols during the day in 4 villages nr. Qalqilya and 2 nr. Ramallah. (JP, MNA 4/22; MNA 4/23; HA 4/24; PCHR 4/28)

In a speech to the UN General Assembly in New York, **PA pres. Abbas** encourages gathered world leaders to support the French peace initiative, saying, "We are deliberating with international parties and relevant Arab ministerial committee to examine the content and timing for proposing a [UNSC] res. against settlement activity." The **Palestinian leadership** had planned to have their anti-settlement res. introduced in the **UNSC** during Abbas's trip to New York; press reports say that they have decided to postpone the initiative at France's request to give breathing room to the French peace initiative (see Update). (HA, MNA 4/22; JP 4/23)

23 APRIL 2016

Israeli authorities maintain high security at **Haram al-Sharif** during the weekend's Passover activities. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** violently disperses Palestinians demonstrating against the Israeli occupation in Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, injuring 1 Palestinian. **IDF troops** raid a village nr. Ramallah late at night, issuing arrest summons to 1 Palestinian and sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths; there are no serious injuries. They conduct further raids nr. Qalqilya, Bethlehem, and in East Jerusalem, arresting 4 Palestinians; patrol nr. Ramallah, Qalqilya, and Jericho. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian cars nr. Qalqilya, damaging 1. (MNA 4/23, 4/24; PCHR 4/28)

The **Israeli authorities** deliver notices to a Palestinian village nr. Nablus informing residents of their intention to confiscate 5,000 dunams (1,250 acres) of land in the area. (MNA, WAFA 4/23)

24 APRIL 2016

Tensions heighten at **Haram al-Sharif** during Passover as 115 right-wing Jewish activists tour the sanctuary; 2 Palestinians are detained and 13 right-wing Jewish activists are removed from the site after a verbal altercation. The Israeli authorities also inform administrators at al-Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron that the mosque will be closed on 4/25 and 4/26. Meanwhile, off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on a Palestinian fishing boat, causing no damage, arrest 2 fishermen, and confiscate their boat. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** reopen an entrance to a village nr. Hebron that has been closed since 10/2015. **IDF troops** conduct late-night

raids in Hebron, arresting 1 Palestinian and confiscating property; patrols nr. Qalqilya, Ramallah, and Jericho. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct raids in Silwan, arresting 2 Palestinians, issuing arrest summons to 2, and sparking minor clashes with residents of the area; there are no serious injuries. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/24; HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/25; PCHR 4/28)

25 APRIL 2016

As announced on 4/24, the **Israeli authorities** close down al-Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron for the 1st of 2 planned days during Passover. **IDF troops** conduct a series of raids, house searches, and patrols around the city, arresting at least 2 Palestinians. Also in Hebron, **hundreds of Israeli settlers and officials** hold a ceremony marking the upcoming 50-yr. anniversary of the IDF's capture of the city. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** patrol nr. Salfit and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Issawiyya. (TOI, WAFA 4/25; PCHR 4/28)

26 APRIL 2016

Tension remains high at **Haram al-Sharif** in Jerusalem during the ongoing Passover activities. **Around 130 right-wing Jewish activists** tour the sanctuary throughout the day; Israeli police remove 8 of them after they spark verbal and physical confrontations with Palestinians by performing religious rituals (4 Palestinians are arrested and there are no serious injuries). Elsewhere in **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians during raids and patrols in Issawiyya and Ras al-Amud. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** order some

Palestinians to close their shops in c. Hebron ahead of Israeli settlers' visits to the city; close al-Ibrahimi Mosque for the 2d day in a row; and conduct house searches and patrols in the area, arresting 2 Palestinians. They also escort dozens of **Israeli settlers** as they perform religious rituals at a park in a Palestinian village nr. Hebron.

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinian journalists demonstrating outside Ofer Prison nr. Ramallah in solidarity with an imprisoned colleague; 2 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** patrols in 1 village nr. Salfit. Meanwhile, off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City and later nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries (2 fishermen are detained and their boats are confiscated). Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Gaza City. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA, YA 4/26; PCHR 4/28)

27 APRIL 2016

In the 1st such attack in 2 weeks, **Israeli forces** shoot and kill a Palestinian woman and her young brother at the Qalandia checkpoint nr. Ramallah after they allegedly attempt to stab Israeli border police. Elsewhere in the West Bank, **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches nr. Ramallah, arresting 4 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1, and patrol nr. Hebron. **Israeli police** remove 5 right-wing Jewish activists from **Haram al-Sharif** when they attempt to pray and sing at the sanctuary, increasing Passover-related tensions.

Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. al-Bureij r.c. Off the coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, destroying 1 and

causing no injuries. (EI, HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 4/27; PCHR 4/28, 5/5)

28 APRIL 2016

Amid continuing heightened tension across the oPt during Passover, **Israeli forces** escort hundreds of **Israeli settlers** to Joseph's Tomb outside Nablus and to Solomon's Pools outside Bethlehem in the morning, sparking clashes in Nablus with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 1 Palestinian is injured. Also, **around 200 right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif**; 5 are removed from the area when they attempt to perform religious rites.

Israeli authorities close the Kerem Shalom crossing with Gaza, indicating that they plan to keep it closed through 4/30. Elsewhere along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian at a checkpoint nr. Ramallah after he and another Palestinian allegedly attempt to stab an Israeli soldier. They also conduct raids nr. Bethlehem, issuing arrest summons to 3 Palestinians; patrol nr. Hebron, Salfit, and Jericho. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 4/28; PCHR 5/5)

Israeli PM Netanyahu's office releases a statement formally rejecting the **French peace initiative**, including the peace conference planned for 5/30 in Paris. "Israel is ready immediately to begin direct negotiations with the Palestinians without any preconditions," it reads, adding that "any other diplomatic initiative distances the Palestinians from the table of direct negotiations" (see Update). Meanwhile, a **U.S. State Dept. spokesperson** reiterates

that the Obama admin. has not yet taken a position on the French initiative. (HA, TOI, USSD 4/28; MNA 4/29)

29 APRIL 2016

For the 2d week in a row, **Israeli authorities** bar Gazans from traveling to **Haram al-Sharif**. Tensions at the sanctuary remain high: **Israeli forces** detain dozens of Palestinian youths at 1 entrance on suspicion that they were throwing stones in the area. Some Palestinians briefly clash with Israeli forces at another gate; there are no serious injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's settlements, separation wall, and occupation in 5 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, and Jalazun r.c.), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and 2 areas along Gaza's border; 4 Palestinians are injured. They also conduct raids and house searches in Hebron, arresting 3 Palestinians; patrol in and around Hebron and nr. Jericho. (MNA, TOI 4/29; PCHR 5/5)

30 APRIL 2016

Tensions remain high at **Haram al-Sharif** in **East Jerusalem**, as **Israeli forces** violently disperse a Palestinian funeral procession; 2 Palestinians are arrested. Late at night, they arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Issawiyya. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Rafah, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian outside a village nr. Bethlehem. They also conduct a late-night raid in al-Azza r.c. nr. Bethlehem, arresting 3 Palestinians and injuring 1. They conduct

further raids in 1 village each nr. Bethlehem and Hebron, arresting 4 Palestinians; patrol in and around Hebron and nr. Ramallah. (MNA 4/30; Wafa 5/1; PCHR 5/5)

1 MAY 2016

Off Gaza's coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Khan Yunis, causing damage to 1. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct house searches and raids in 4 villages nr. Hebron and 1 nr. Nablus, arresting 5 Palestinians and confiscating some property; patrol in 4 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** assault an Israeli border security officer when he attempts to inspect an illegal structure in a settlement nr. Hebron. (MNA, TOI, Wafa 5/1; PCHR 5/5)

2 MAY 2016

An Israeli is stabbed and injured in the Old City. **Israeli police** later arrest a Palestinian youth who allegedly admits to carrying out the attack (they will arrest another Palestinian in connection to the attack later that night), and temporarily close all entrances to the Old City. Elsewhere in **East Jerusalem**, the **Israeli authorities** announce that they will be reopening a gate along the separation wall for the 1st time in 7 years, allowing Palestinian residents of al-Ram village access to the city. **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during raids and patrols in the Old City and Issawiyya. A Palestinian family demolishes their own 3 stores in Silwan, to avoid paying for the Jerusalem Municipality's demolition crew. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Gaza City; open fire on Palestinian farmers working in the area. Off the coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya,

causing no damage. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish an agricultural structure nr. Qalqilya. **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in Tulkarm, nr. Ramallah, Hebron, and Jenin, arresting 5 Palestinians; patrol nr. Ramallah, Hebron, and Qalqilya. (MNA, Wafa 5/2; JP, TOI 5/3; PCHR 5/5)

3 MAY 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian driver after he allegedly rams a group of Israeli soldiers nr. Ramallah, injuring 3 (1 seriously). Palestinian witnesses say the crash was an accident. In the evening, the **IDF** returns the body of the Palestinian driver. Overnight, **Israeli forces** carry out the **punitive demolition** of the doors and windows of an apartment in Nablus, where a Palestinian deemed complicit in the 10/1/2015 killing of 2 Israeli settlers lived. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian journalists conducting a sit-in nr. Ramallah marking World Press Freedom Day; there are no serious injuries. They also conduct late-night raids and house searches nr. Jenin, Ramallah, and Bethlehem, arresting 8 Palestinians; patrol nr. Hebron and Nablus.

More than 2,000 Israeli settlers, along with an IDF escort, perform religious rites in a Palestinian village nr. Salfit late at night. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian on a patrol in the Old City and a 2d during a raid in al-Tur. Along **Gaza's border**, **armed Palestinians** open fire on **IDF vehicles** patrolling nr. Jabaliya r.c., causing damage. The cross-border shooting comes shortly after Israeli PM Netanyahu toured the area this morning. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa, YA 5/3; MNA 5/4; PCHR 5/5; OCHA 5/6; PCHR 5/12)

4 MAY 2016

In a 2d day of cross-border violence, **Palestinians** fire mortar shells at Israeli patrols along Gaza's s. and n. borders in 3 separate incidents, causing no injuries or damage. Hamas will take credit for at least 1 of the shellings. **Israeli forces** launch artillery shells at the 3 sources of shelling and conduct at least 5 air strikes in s. Gaza, causing damage and no injuries. After the day's violence, the IDF declares a region nr. the border a closed military zone and, according to Palestinian sources, **IDF troops** conduct unspecified operations along the border in Rafah and nr. Jabaliya r.c.

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in and around Hebron and nr. Bethlehem, arresting 6 Palestinians; patrols nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** deliver a stop-work order to a Palestinian home under construction in Hebron. **Israeli settlers** attack a group of Palestinian schoolchildren in c. Hebron, causing no injuries, and assault a Palestinian activist nr. al-Ibrahimi Mosque, causing moderate injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during raids and patrols in Issawiyya and al-Tur. In **Israel**, **Israeli forces** demolish 2 homes in bedouin communities in the Negev and nr. Lydda. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa, YA 5/4; MNA, TOI 5/5; OCHA 5/6; PCHR 5/12)

Israeli PM Netanyahu's office says that DM Ya'alon and Public Security Minister Erdan have been authorized, as of 5/1, to decide whether or not to return the bodies of Palestinians killed in confrontations with the IDF and Israeli police. This statement reverses Netanyahu's decision, on 3/27, ordering Ya'alon not to return any bodies. (HA, YA 5/4)

The **PLO Exec. Comm.** decides to start implementing the PA's threat to limit security coordination with the IDF if the "current situation" continues (see Update). **PASF troops** are instructed to implement the decision "under supervision of the Palestinian political echelon" and security agencies will decide how quickly to implement it. (MNA 5/7)

5 MAY 2016

In a 3d day of cross-border violence, **Israeli forces** launch a number of air strikes on 4 Hamas sites in n. Gaza overnight; fire artillery shells at Palestinians along the border in multiple locations throughout the day, and launch a 2d round of air strikes in s. Gaza in the evening. 1 Palestinian is killed, 4 are injured, and significant damage is incurred. Meanwhile, **Palestinian fighters** fire mortar shells at IDF troops along the border, causing some damage. Amid the violence, **Israeli authorities** announce that the IDF has uncovered another **tunnel** leading from s. Gaza into the area along Israel's side of the border (it is set for demolition in the coming days), lift a gag order on the news that Israeli forces arrested a **Hamas operative** in early 4/2016 who, after interrogation, divulged key information about Hamas's tunnel operations. Separately, **Hamas officials** say they have contacted Egypt, Qatar, and the UN to request mediation, and that Egyptian officials "immediately and seriously acted to restore the situation to the status quo ante." The IDF then confirms that the Egyptians are mediating to restore calm. However, cross-border violence erupts again later in the day (see above). (HA, TOI, YA 5/5; OCHA 5/6)

Elsewhere in the oPt, **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in 1 village nr. Jenin and in al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, arresting 2 Palestinians and sparking brief clashes; there

are no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct raids in the Old City and Ras al-Amud, arresting 5 Palestinians and deporting 1 to the West Bank. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 5/5; PCHR 5/12)

6 MAY 2016

Cross-border violence in **Gaza** continues for a 4th day. **Hamas forces** fire at least 2 mortar shells at an IDF position overnight nr. Rafah, causing no injuries. **Israeli forces** then shell **Hamas positions** in e. Rafah and an **Islamic Jihad position** nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. Also in Gaza, **3 Palestinian children** die in a house fire sparked by a candle they were using because power outages have lasted 18 hours per day. **Hamas officials** will blame the Israeli blockade for their deaths. Across the oPt, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, separation wall, and settlements in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), 1 nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border nr. the Erez crossing; 4 Palestinians are injured. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids nr. Jenin and Hebron, arresting 3 Palestinians; patrol nr. Tulkarm and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, around 300 elderly Gazans visit **Haram al-Sharif** after the Israeli authorities lift a 2-week ban on Gazans' Friday visits to the sanctuary. (BBC, HA, JP, MNA, OCHA, TOI, YA 5/6; HA 5/7; PCHR 5/12)

7 MAY 2016

In a 5th day of cross-border violence in Gaza, **Palestinian fighters** fire 2 mortar shells into s. Israel overnight, causing damage and no injuries; **Israeli forces** respond with air

strikes on 2 Hamas targets nr. Khan Yunis and artillery fire on areas nr. Rafah, causing damage. Following the morning's violence, **Israel** and **Hamas** agree to deescalate tensions along Gaza's border. **Israeli forces** pull back from the so-called Access Restricted Areas along the border fence and Hamas fighters maintain a cease-fire. Qatar, Egypt, and the UN were reportedly involved in the deescalation talks. Meanwhile, **Israeli officials** say they plan to continue anti-tunnel operations in the coming weeks. (JP, TOI 5/7; YA 5/8; PCHR 5/12)

IDF troops stationed along the border nr. Gaza City open fire on Palestinian farmers, causing no injuries. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** confront Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, arresting 2 fishermen and confiscating their boat. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian attempting to climb the separation wall and enter Jerusalem, causing minor injuries; and arrest a Palestinian at a checkpoint in Jericho when they find he is carrying a knife. They also conduct raids and house searches in Hebron, and 1 village each nr. Tulkarm and Bethlehem, arresting 3 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 1; patrol in and around Tulkarm and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** assault 2 Palestinian human rights activists in Hebron, destroying some of their personal property. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** violently disperse stone-throwing Palestinians in Silwan, arresting 3. (EI, HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 5/7; PCHR 5/12)

8 MAY 2016

Late at night in **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** return the body of a Palestinian killed in a confrontation with Israeli border police in 11/2015. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** arrest

4 Palestinians during late-night raids in Jabal Mukabir, Qalandia r.c., and Issawiyya; and assault and arrest a Palestinian in the Old City. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** raze 50 dunams (around 12.3 acres) of Palestinian land nr. Qalqilya, uprooting 50 olive trees; and issue a stop-work order to a water pipeline under construction in the Jordan Valley. **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids nr. Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem, and Nablus, arresting 10 Palestinians and confiscating some property; patrol nr. Hebron, Ramallah, Salfit, and Tulkarm. (MNA, WAFA 5/8; MNA 5/9; PCHR 5/12)

9 MAY 2016

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches nr. Tulkarm, Ramallah, Hebron, Qalqilya, Nablus, and Bethlehem, arresting 7 Palestinians, assaulting 1, and confiscating some property; patrol in 4 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian home under construction in a village nr. Bethlehem in the morning. In **East Jerusalem**, around **40 Israeli settlers** storm a Palestinian-owned building in the Old City, performing prayers and claiming ownership of the property. **Israeli forces** confiscate a small swath of land in Shaykh Jarrah and turn it over to a private settler organization, and arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in al-'Izzariya and Qatanna. (MNA, WAFA 5/9; PCHR 5/12)

At the Jaffa Military Court, the manslaughter trial of the **Israeli soldier** who shot and killed

a prone and detained Palestinian in Hebron on 3/24 begins. (HA, TOI, YA 5/9)

Israel's consul-gen. in Istanbul Shai Cohen says that **Israeli-Turkish reconciliation** will have to wait for the formation of a new govt. in Ankara. Turkish PM Ahmet Davutoğlu is set to step down on 5/22 following a dispute with Pres. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. (REU, TOI 5/10)

10 MAY 2016

Two Palestinians stab and injure **2 Israeli women** in an Israeli settlement in East Jerusalem in the morning. The assailants flee the scene. In the evening, an **Israeli soldier** is seriously injured when he accidentally detonates an improvised explosive device (IED) planted at a checkpoint n. of the city. After the blast, the IDF discovers and safely detonates several other IEDs planted in the area. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** deliver stop-work orders to 5 homes and a water pipeline under construction in the Jordan Valley. **IDF troops** patrol in 3 villages nr. Hebron and 2 each nr. Jericho and Ramallah. **Israeli settlers** steal 3 Palestinian-owned sheep nr. Nablus. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 5/10; PCHR 5/12)

The **Israeli govt.** lifts its gag order on the news that the IDF has arrested a 2d Hamas operative in 2 mos. attempting to cross into Israel. The young Gazan attempted to cross into Israel on 4/6. The IDF says that he has already given up valuable information related to Hamas's tunnels. (JP, MNA, YA 5/10)

11 MAY 2016

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 1st of 2 planned days, allowing Palestinians to enter and exit Egypt

for the 1st time since 2/2016. Elsewhere in the oPt, the **IDF** implements a “general closure” of the West Bank and Gaza ahead of Israel’s so-called Independence Day. Only humanitarian and medical cases are permitted to use border crossings. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** raid a village n. of Jerusalem overnight, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 2 Palestinians are injured (1 seriously). They also confiscate surveillance tapes during a raid of a supermarket nr. Bethlehem; conduct further raids and house searches nr. Ramallah and Salfit, arresting 2 Palestinians; patrol nr. Hebron. (JP, MNA, WAFA 5/11; MNA 5/13; PCHR 5/19)

12 MAY 2016

For a 2d day in a row, the **IDF** maintains its “general closure” of the West Bank and Gaza surrounding Israel’s Independence Day. **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border** crossing for passage in both directions for the 2d of 2 planned days (see Update). Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. Off Gaza’s coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishermen working nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli border police** arrest 6 Palestinian youths throwing stones and setting fires nr. the separation wall outside Jerusalem. **IDF troops** patrol in 2 villages nr. Hebron and 1 nr. Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli police disperse **right-wing Jewish activists** marching toward **Haram al-Sharif** in commemoration of Israeli Independence Day; 5 activists are arrested. They also arrest 10 right-wing Jewish activists after they assault Palestinians nr. Haram al-Sharif; there are no serious injuries. In **Israel**, **thousands of PCI** march through Rahat in the Negev calling

for Palestinian refugees to be afforded their right of return. (HA, MNA, OCHA, TOI 5/12; PCHR 5/19)

13 MAY 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel’s occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil’in, Ni’lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), 1 nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza’s border nr. al-Bureij r.c.; 6 Palestinians are injured. They also patrol in 3 villages nr. Hebron, 2 nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Salfit. Meanwhile, **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian and her child in c. Hebron, causing no serious injuries. (MNA 5/13, 5/14; PCHR 5/19)

14 MAY 2016

Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. Elsewhere in the oPt, **Israeli forces** violently disperse Palestinian youths throwing stones in al-Fawar r.c. nr. Hebron and in a village nr. Qalqilya, causing no serious injuries and leading to the destruction of 3 olive trees. **IDF troops** also arrest 2 Palestinians during raids nr. Hebron and in East Jerusalem; patrol nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** break into a Palestinian home in Hebron and assault a resident, causing moderate injuries. In **Israel**, **hundreds of PCI** march through Haifa to the site of a Palestinian village destroyed in 1948 in commemoration of the Nakba. (MNA, WAFA 5/14; PCHR 5/19)

15 MAY 2016

Thousands of Palestinians gather at demonstrations across Gaza and the West Bank

in commemoration of **Nakba Day**. Reps. of several political factions use the Gaza City rally to call for national reconciliation. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** violently suppresses a protest in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem, causing no major injuries. **PASF troops** prevent dozens of Palestinian demonstrators from reaching an Israeli checkpoint nr. Ramallah. Separately, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian attempting to cross into Jerusalem for work, and conduct raids and house searches in and around Qalqilya, Tulkarm, Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem, Jenin, and Nablus, arresting 16 Palestinians and damaging some property. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** detain 10 Palestinian fishermen working nr. Gaza City, confiscating 2 of their boats, and open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Dayr al-Balah, causing no damage. (MNA 5/15; MNA, WAFA 5/16; PCHR 5/19)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP	Agence France-Presse
AJ	Al Jazeera
ALM	Al-Monitor
AP	Associated Press

BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation World Service
ECO	<i>Economist</i>
EI	Electronic Intifada
HA	<i>Haaretz</i>
INT	Intercept
JP	<i>Jerusalem Post</i>
JTA	Jewish Telegraphic Agency
MNA	Ma'an News Agency
NYT	<i>New York Times</i>
OCHA	UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes
PCHR	Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza
PNN	Palestine News Network
PCN	Peace Now
POL	<i>Politico</i>
REU	Reuters
TOI	<i>Times of Israel</i>
USSD	U.S. State Department
VN	VICE News
WAFA	Palestine News Agency
WSJ	<i>Wall Street Journal</i>
YA	<i>Yedioth Ahronoth</i>