16 FEBRUARY–15 MAY 1993

This section is part thirty-eight of a chronology begun in *JPS XIII*, no. 3 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect *Eastern Standard Time*.

16 FEBRUARY

PLO announces that **Palestinians will not participate** in negotiations until **UNSCR 799** is implemented in full, regardless of Arab states’ participation. (MM 2/16)


Speaking in Washington, FM **Peres** says he sees no reason why Jews cannot "lead normal lives under non-Jewish sovereignty" in addressing permanent arrangements with the Palestinians. (Ha'aretz 2/17 in FBIS 2/17)

Arab League Council holds emergency meeting in Cairo, issues statement strongly condemning **repressive Israeli measures** in o.t. (MENA 2/16 in FBIS 2/17)

Israel grants temporary visas to arriving group of **84 Bosnian Muslims**. Palestinian **Israelis** at first welcomed the idea and agreed to **settle the refugees** in their villages, but now see their arrival as an attempt by Israel to **improve its image** in the wake of the Palestinian deportations, and have withdrawn their offer. (MM 2/16, 2/17; NYT 2/18)

Hizballah fires rockets at SLA post in southern Lebanon; **Israel, SLA shell target villages** north of "security zone." (NYT 2/17)

17 FEBRUARY

**Faisal Husseini** and 40 delegation associ-
18 FEBRUARY

Chmn. Arafat, Palestinian delegation mbrs. arrive in Amman for "Jordanian-Palestinian summit." (Radio Jordan, al-Dustur 2/18 in FBIS 2/18)

Ambs. of EC, Belgium, Denmark, and UK meet with Dep. FM Beilin in Jerusalem, express concern over human rights in o.t. (Qol Visra'el 2/18 in FBIS 2/19)

IDF shoots Palestinian youth dead in West Bank. (NYT 2/19)

Former U.S. atty. gen. Ramsey Clark calls on UN to end its sanctions against Iraq. (MM 2/19)

19 FEBRUARY

Secy. of State Christopher meets with Pres. Mubarak, FM 'Amr Musa in Cairo. Mubarak accepts Christopher's invitation to meet with Pres. Clinton in April. Christopher appeals to Israel to speed up the review process for deportees' individual cases. (NYT, WT 2/19, 2/20; MENA 2/19 in FBIS 2/19)

Chmn. Arafat meets with Pres. Hussein in Baghdad, delivers message from Pres. Mubarak. Egypt and the PLO are leading the effort to bring Iraq back into the "Arab fold." (Jordan Times 2/18-19)

IDF shoots Palestinian youth dead near Tulkarm. (MM 2/19)

20 FEBRUARY

Secy. of State Christopher meets with King Hussein in Amman. No invitation to visit Washington emerges. (NYT, WT 2/21)

21 FEBRUARY

Secy. of State Christopher meets with Pres. Asad in Damascus, telling him the U.S. will play an "active role" as a "full partner" perhaps lending "some ideas of its own" in upcoming peace talks. FM Shara' says the deportees issue is "a thorn in resuming the peace process," which is "more important." Christopher then meets with King Fahd in Riyadh. (MM, NYT 2/22)

Jerusalem Center for Media and Communications poll of o.t. Palestinians finds 83.7% oppose resuming peace talks without "settlement" of deportees issue; 61% favor talks after deportees settlement, 35% oppose. 32% feel talks will "never bring anything good for the Palestinians"; 50% feel they will bring some good. 58% regard PLO as the Palestinians' representative. 12.4% feel it is the Islamic movement. (MM 2/22, NYT 2/23, al-Sharq 2/25 in FBIS 3/8)

22 FEBRUARY

Palestinian delegation announces their participation in next round of talks requires Israeli commitment to never again deport o.t. Palestinians. Timetable for return of current deportees is negotiable. (NYT 2/23)

In Kuwait, Secy. of State Christopher asks Shaykh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah to lift the Arab boycott of Israel. He then flies to Cyprus and on to Beirut by helicopter in first senior official visit to the city since 1983, meets with PM Hariri, FM Buwayz. He calls for speedy Syrian redeployment to the east in compliance with 1989 Taef accord, and disarming of southern Lebanese resistance as prelude to pressing Israeli compliance with UNSCR 425. (MM, NYT 2/23)

Israel, SLA clash with Islamic Resistance in "security zone," exchange artillery fire, killing 1 resistance fighter, 1 UNIFIL peacekeeper. (MM 2/23)

23 FEBRUARY

Secy. of State Christopher meets in Israel with PM Rabin, FM Peres, then with Palestinians led by Faisal Husseini, who tell him that all deportees must be returned for talks to resume. Palestinians read the secy. a letter from Chmn. Arafat, present 5-point memo assessing peace process. (NYT 2/24; Sanaa VOP 2/25 in FBIS 2/26)

Some 7,000 march against territorial compromise on the Golan Heights in Jerusalem. (MM 2/24)

Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies (Tel Aviv U.) publishes poll of non-settler, non-kibbutz mbrs. Israeli Jewish pop. showing 58% believe the Arabs want peace, 95% of Israelis want peace; 29% favor Palestinian autonomy, 20% favor returning o.t. to Jordan; favor of a Palestinian state, annexation, and annexation with transfer each garnered 13%. 46% refuse to give back any of the Golan Heights, 33% would give back a small part. 75% believe military action can stop the intifada and terrorism, 60% feel the govt. has been too soft on this. (Davar 2/23 in FBIS 2/25)

Police Min. Moshe Shahal has set up
team of jurists to work out a plan for o.t. police force to operate under the autonomy, one which will be a “clear expression of Palestinian self-rule.” Historical models include British-French policing of the Hebrides. (Davar 2/23 in FBIS 2/26)

Israeli National Planning and Building Council subcomms. approve plan to build school for handicapped children in East Jerusalem, ending former Housing Min. Ariel Sharon’s plan to build 200 Jewish housing units on the site. (Qol Yisra’el 2/26 in FBIS 2/26)

IDF shoots dead UN nurse watching demonstrations from his roof in Rafah, Gaza Strip—50th Palestinian killed by IDF since 12/17/92. (WT 2/24)

U.S. House Republican Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare releases “The New Islamist International,” a report asserting Iranian backing of attacks on UN and Muslims in Bosnia while throwing blame on the Serbs, as well as other actions of int’l. radical Islamist agenda. Report follows up similar 10/3/92 report. (WJW 4/22)

24 FEBRUARY

Seyc. of State Christopher meets with Palestinian officials, presents 6-point plan to resume peace talks: (1) U.S. statement calling expulsions illegal and pressing UNSCR 799; (2) 242 and 338 are bases for talks and Jerusalem can be discussed; (3) binding Israeli commitment against expulsions; (4) speedy return of current deportees; (5) return of many post-1967 deportees; (6) Israeli commitment to stop human rights violations in o.t. Palestinians welcome the plan. Christopher tells them the U.S. has no current intention of resuming dialogue with the PLO. (NYT 2/25; Qol Yisra’el 2/24, 2/25 in FBIS 2/25; JTV 2/27 in FBIS 3/1; MEI 3/5)

PM Rabin meets again with Secy. Christopher, handing him a letter to deliver to Pres. Clinton calling for main effort on an Israeli-Syrian accord with resumption of talks. (Yedio’t Aharonot 2/25 in FBIS 2/25)

IDF searches, closes Islamic and al-Azhar Universities in Gaza Strip for 1 week. (MM 2/25; Qol Yisra’el 2/24 in FBIS 2/25)

Sen. John Glenn (D-OH) distributes recent Russian intelligence report stating Israel may have 100-200 nuclear weapons (see docs. A1, D3). (MM 2/25)

25 FEBRUARY

Seyc. of State Christopher and Russian FM Kozyrev announce they will invite the parties to resume Middle East peace talks in April; co-sponsors will step up their roles as honest brokers. Russia will invite a PLO delegation to Moscow. (NYT 2/26)

Faisal Husseini receives “encouraging” letters of assurances, responses from Pres. Clinton and Secy. of State Christopher: commitment to process based on 242, 338, land for peace; assurance of progress this year; opposition to deportations, which are illegal; U.S. to be full partner; appreciation of Palestinian positions and encouragement to participate, support of previous U.S. commitments and documents. (Qol Yisra’el 2/25 in FBIS 2/26; MM 2/26; MEI 3/5)

U.S. tells PLO it has withdrawn its 6-point plan to end the deportee issue because Israel has not accepted major parts of it (specifically, points 1 and 2; see 2/24). (RMC, Moroccan Kingdom Radio 2/25 in FBIS 2/26)

Israel offers to reconfirm that 12/17/92 deportations were “exceptional,” not permanent policy, pledges to allow back “many” Palestinians deported since 1967 if the Palestinians agree to resume peace talks in April. Israel also offers 2 proposals of tax relief to Palestinians. Offers fall short of Palestinian demand that Israel never deport o.t. Palestinians again. (MM 2/25; WT 2/26)

Hamas rep. in Amman Muhammad Nazzal reports that U.S. embassy official in Jordan has held 2 meetings with Hamas spokesman Ibrahim Ghawshah since the 12/17 deportations. Hamas reps. also met recently with ambs. from UK, France, Germany and Italy. (MM 2/26, 3/2; RMC 2/25 in FBIS 2/26)

Anti-peace process rally held at Birzeit U., West Bank. (ITV 2/25 in FBIS 2/26)

Jaffa Research Center releases poll of 773 Palestinian Israelis: 49% support resumption of talks before solving deportee issue; 71.5% feel Israel is “serious” in its talks with the Palestinians, but fewer than half feel talks will result in a solution to the problem. (ITV 2/25 in FBIS 2/26)

Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) circulates letter signed by 58 senators urging Secy. of State Christopher to include Hamas in annual report on terrorism. (MM 3/31)

26 FEBRUARY

PLO and Hamas reps. meet in Amman,
discuss Palestinian meetings with Secy. of State Christopher, other issues such as Hamas inclusion in PLO. (al-Dustur 2/27 in FBIS 3/2)

PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh says he and the PLO were "surprised" that U.S. would initiate dialogue with Hamas while refusing to talk to the PLO, but hoped that this dialogue would help to solve the deportees issue. (MENA 2/26 in FBIS 3/1)

Palestinian youth stabs Border Policeman in East Jerusalem, causing light wounds, and is caught. (Qol Yisra'el' 2/26 in FBIS 3/1)

Car bomb explodes in garage under World Trade Center, New York, killing at least 5, wounding 1,000. (NYT 2/27)

27 FEBRUARY

Civil Administration (CIVAD) budget for o.t. is made public for 1st time: NIS 827m (c. $300m), of which 722m comes from taxes and fees on Palestinians, 105m from state treasury. (Ha'Aretz 2/28 in FBIS 3/1; MM 3/1)

Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanon into northern Israel; Israel shells targets north of "security zone." (Qol Yisra'el' 2/27 in FBIS 2/28)

28 FEBRUARY

Egyptian pol. advisor 'Usama al-Baz meets with PM Rabin, delivers message from Pres. Mubarak with proposal for Mubarak-Rabin summit. Message also reiterates Egyptian plan for deportees acceptable to Chmn. Arafat. (MENA, Qol Yisra'el' 2/28, Ha'Aretz 3/1 in FBIS 3/1)

Palestinian economist Ibrahim Matar says CIVAD budget publicized 2/27 should be 3 times bigger, and ignores many taxes o.t. Palestinians pay to the Israeli treasury. (MM 3/1)

PM Rabin tells Conf. of Presidents of Major American Jewish Orgs. that Israel will "try [its] best" not to give up the entire Golan Heights. (MM 3/1)

Israel arrests 4th Palestinian-American on charges of aiding Islamic groups. (Yediot Ahamarot 3/7 in FBIS 3/8; NYT, WT 3/8)

Israel successfully tests Arrow anti-missile system, 80% of which is financed by the U.S. (MM 3/1)

1 MARCH

Hamas rep. in Amman Muhammad Nazzal reseesures PLO that its diplomatic contacts (with U.S., among others) are not meant to establish Hamas as an alternative leadership. (Jordan Times 3/2 in FBIS 3/2)

MK Benyamin Netanyah, other Likud MKs, tour Golan Heights, brief Jewish mayors on 2-stage Israeli withdrawal "plan." (Ha'Aretz 3/1 in FBIS 3/1)

West Bank settlement guards have been granted "limited policing powers" allowing them to search, detain, and arrest any Palestinian on specified grounds of suspicion—a "far-reaching amendment" to existing laws. Agreement is result of appeal by Ariel "mayor" Ron Nachman to the High Court against the IDF. (Yediot Ahamarot 3/1 in FBIS 3/3)

Kuwaiti FM Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad "rules out" restoration of ties with Arab states that opposed the war against Iraq, singling out Jordan and the PLO, who still support "false claims." (MM 3/1)

Italian TV runs interview (taped 2/13) with Pres. Saddam Hussein, who says if an Israeli-Palestinian settlement is "arrived at that satisfies the Palestinians, I will accept it," and recognize Israel. He is doubtful of such a settlement, though. (MM 3/1; Baghdad INA 3/4 in FBIS 3/5)

U.S. issues warning to travelers of a "heightened threat of terrorism" in Jordan. Jordanian ministers are "astonished" by the warning, asserting that Americans are safer in Jordan than back home. (MM 3/2, 3/3)

Pres. Mubarak meets with Conf. of Presidents of Major American Jewish Orgs. in Cairo. (MM 3/2, 3/5)

Gaza Islamic Jihad mbr. stabs 2 Israelis to death, wounds 9, in Tel Aviv. Israeli seals Gaza Strip. (WP 3/2; NYT 3/3; AFP, Qol Yisra'el, IDF Radio 3/1 in FBIS 3/2)

2 MARCH

Faisal Husseini and Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi condemn 3/1 killings in Tel Aviv. Husseini receives letter from Secy. of State Christopher through U.S. consul-general in Jerusalem. (Qol Yisra'el', Ha'Aretz 3/2 in FBIS 3/2; al-Quds 3/5 in FBIS 3/8)

U.S. severs contacts with Hamas, saying they were cultivated to keep up with "developments in the Islamic world," denying any "political dialogue." Hamas will for the first time appear in the State Dept.'s annual report

Israeli Health Min. Haim Ramon (Labor) and Interior Min. Aryeh Deri (SHAS) urge govt. to consider unilateral withdrawal from the Gaza Strip. (NYT 3/3; Qol Yisra'el 3/2 in FBIS 3/2)

Council of Jewish Settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza calls on settlers to open fire if attacked with stones (first in air to derter, then at body if endangered). IDF strongly rebukes 1st-ever such call by settlers. (Ha'aretz 3/3 in FBIS 3/3)

Peace Now reports settlement expansion in at least 8 sites. (Al Hamishmar 3/2 in FBIS 3/3)

Israeli driver stoned and shot dead by Palestinians in Rafah, Gaza Strip. Shots fired from an Israeli car being stoned in East Jerusalem kill 1 Palestinian. (MM 3/2; NYT 3/3; IDF Radio, Qol Yisra'el 3/2 in FBIS 3/3)

3 MARCH

PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. Mahmud 'Abbas outlines new PLO 4-point plan to solve the deportee issue and resume talks (see 2/24, 2/25): (1) Israeli commitment against expulsion; (2) increase in no. of immediate returnees (from the 101 offered 2/1) and timetable for rest; (3) return of many post-1967 deportees; (4) Israeli commitment on o.t. human rights. (MM 3/4)

Faisal Husseini sends memo to Secy. of State Christopher. (al-Quds 3/5 in FBIS 3/8)

IDF arrests some 200 Palestinians in Rafah, Gaza Strip, in wake of attacks in Israel. (MM 3/4)

Ramallah woman stabs, injures Ataret Cohanim yeshiva guard in Old City. (Qol Yisra'el 3/3 in FBIS 3/3)

SLA kills 1 Hizballah fighter in clash in “security zone.” Amal has criticized Hizballah's firing of rockets into Israel and attacks on personnel later, as they are unsuccessful in evicting the IDF from the "security zone." (Qol Yisra'el 3/3 in FBIS 3/4)

4 MARCH

U.S. amb. to Israel William Harrop criticizes pace of economic reform in Israel, and warns of possible U.S. aid cuts. (WT 3/5)

New York Times op-ed says Pres. Asad told Secy. of State Christopher that he would agree to implement a peace agreement "gradually" (see 2/21). (NYT 3/4; MM 3/5)

Hamas spokesman in Amman Ibrahim Ghashah says it was Hamas that suspended talks with U.S. when the latter did not agree to a 3rd meeting with its amb. in Amman, and that the 2 meetings with lower diplomats focused on the deportees (see 3/2). (Sawt al-Sha'b 3/5 in FBIS 3/5)

Belgium raises status of the PLO mission in Brussels, still short of full diplomatic recognition; Israel protests. (Algiers VOP 3/4 in FBIS 3/5; MM 3/5)

Yeshiva student stabbed in Jerusalem's Old City. (Qol Yisra'el 3/4 in FBIS 3/5)

Palestinian-born Muhammad Salameh is arrested and charged in connection with 2/26 World Trade Center bombing. Also arrested is Ibrahim al-Gabrowni, a relative of Sayyid Nusayr (imprisoned on crimes connected with assassination of Rabbi Meir Kahane 2 years ago) and an official at Egyptian Islamic leader Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd al-Rahman's mosque in Brooklyn. 'Abd al-Rahman was tried in connection with Pres. Sadat's assassination in 1981. (WT 3/5; NYT 3/8)

5 MARCH

Ma'Ariv poll of Israeli Jews shows 33% favor immediate unilateral withdrawal from Gaza; 34% favor withdrawal in framework of peace talks; 23% says Israel should remain there. (MM 3/5)

IDF seals home of man accused of killing 2 in Tel Aviv 3/2. (Qol Yisra'el 3/5 in FBIS 3/8)

6 MARCH

PLO Exec. Comm. ends 4-day meeting, issues statement. (Algiers VOP 3/6 in FBIS 3/8)

Expressing his "joy" over PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. Mahmud 'Abbas' visit to Saudi Arabia 1/9-11 (when he "apologized" for PLO stance during Gulf war), Chmn. Arafat says "we view this event with great satisfaction because it was a Palestinian decision" in interview with al-Hayat. (MENA 3/6 in FBIS 3/8)

Israeli embassy officials in London reveal U.S. is encouraging U.K. to upgrade its PLO contacts, reportedly so that U.S. can receive reliable info. on the PLO from friendly sources (see 3/7-9). (Ha'aretz 3/7 in FBIS 3/8)

Israel charges UNRWA official with failing
to alert IDF soldiers after seeing an Israeli stone and shot to death in the Gaza Strip 3/2. UNRWA denies the charge. (Qol Yisra'el 3/6 in FBIS 3/8; NYT 3/8)


U.S. State Dept. issues statement describing Iran as the world's "most dangerous state sponsor of terrorism." (NYT 3/7)

7 MARCH

U.K. resumes top-level contacts with PLO (see 3/6). (IDF Radio 3/8 in FBIS 3/8; WP 3/10)

In interview taped 2/28 and broadcast today, King Hussein says if Palestinians boycott upcoming peace talks, Jordan will also boycott. (WT 3/8; MM 3/11)

Hamas and Islamic Jihad clash in a mosque in Gaza City, apparently over "control" of the mosque (one of the biggest in the Gaza Strip), wounding 10. (Ha'aretz 3/8 in FBIS 3/8)

8 MARCH

Rep. David Obey (R-WI), chmn. of House appropriations subcomm., suggests that Israel and Egypt may "one day" see their aid cut, as Pres. Clinton seeks to cut foreign aid by $2b over 5 years while increasing aid to Russia next year by $300m. Clinton has pledged to maintain current levels. (WT 3/9)

Israeli Dep. FM Yossi Beilin protests to British amb. in Israel over UK decision to upgrade PLO contacts. (IDF Radio 3/8 in FBIS 3/8)

Haydar Abd al-Shafi calls on Hamas and Islamic Jihad to behave "in a responsible way" after 3/7 clash inside Gaza mosque. (al-Fajr 3/9 in FBIS 3/9)

Jerusalem Post reports on quota for Arab pop. of Jerusalem set by govt. in 1973, consistently enforced through housing plans—in 1967, Arab pop. was 26% of total, today is 27%. City council may appeal the legality of the discriminatory quota to the High Court. (MM 3/8)

Elections at Hebron U. are postponed because of Ramadan and IDF's impeding access to campus (acc. to PLO supporters), or because PLO was afraid of defeat and wants more of its supporters in the admin. (acc. to Islamists). PLO-Islamist fights ensue. Islamists have consistently won past elections. (MM 3/9)

Israel reopens Gaza checkpoints to Palestinian workers; 30,000 travel to jobs (see 3/2). Two Palestinians kill settler as he was driving them to work; Fateh Eagles claim responsibility. Settlers angrily protest, killing 1 Palestinian. (Qol Yisra'el 3/8 in FBIS 3/8; MM 3/8; WP 3/9)

IDF shoots Palestinian youth dead near Tulkarm. (ITV 3/8 in FBIS 3/9)

PLO official Khalid Muhammad al-Jassem is convicted of attempting to bomb three Israeli targets in New York City in 1973. (NYT 3/9)

9 MARCH

British Dep. FM Douglas Hogg meets with Faisal Husseini, PLO reps. in London, says Israel should make concessions on deportees to jump-start talks. (MM 3/9; WP 3/10; IDF Radio 3/8 in FBIS 3/8)

10 MARCH


Hamas and Fateh agree to establish intifada "joint command," other committees to enhance cooperation. (WT 3/11)

Israel lodges formal complaint with UNRWA over an official's alleged negligence during 3/2 incident in Gaza Strip (see 3/6). (Qol Yisra'el 3/10 in FBIS 3/11)

IDF shoots Palestinian youth dead near Jerusalem. IDF soldier stabbed, critically wounded in Nazareth. (Qol Yisra'el 3/11 in FBIS 3/11; WT 3/11)

Fateh official assassinated in Tyre, Lebanon. (Radio Lebanon 3/10 in FBIS 3/11)

New Jersey resident and chemical engineer Nidal Ayyad is arrested in connection with 2/26 World Trade Center bombing. (WP 3/11)
11 MARCH

Speaking in Germany, FM Peres says Israel will stop deportations if Palestinians renounce and halt violence. (Qol Yisra’el 3/11 in FBIS 3/12)

Jordanian paper reports that Fateh Cent. Comm. mbrr Naṣūf recently presented Syria with 111-page memo from PLO leadership seeking to restore Syrian-PLO relations. (al-Dustur 3/11 in FBIS 3/11)


Angering the Kuwaiti govt., opposition-affiliated Kuwaiti Assn. for the Defense of War Victims has enlisted PLO help to account for 600 persons missing since the Gulf war. (MM 3/11)

Israeli for. min. announces Kyrgyzstan will not open an embassy in Jerusalem (as was announced 1/20/93), or anywhere in Israel, for the time being. Ministry blames the diplomatic muddle on Israel’s amb. to Kazakhstan, a Labor political appointee. (Qol Yisra’el 3/11 in FBIS 3/12)

12 MARCH

PM Rabin meets with Secy. of State Christopher in Washington. (Yedioth Ahronot 3/14 in FBIS 3/15)

PLO Exec. Comm. mbrrs. say PLO does not accept any timetable for return of deportees that extends beyond June. (RMC 3/12 in FBIS 3/12)

Hamas Amman rep. Muhammad Nazzal says talks in Amman with PLO this week covered Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, deportations, cooperation. (Jordan Times 3/13 in FBIS 3/15)

Gaza settlers announce they will no longer employ Palestinian workers. (Qol Yisra’el 3/12 in FBIS 3/12)

IDF shoots Palestinian youth dead in Hebron. IDF soldier is found shot dead near Jerusalem, and Palestinians stab female settler to death in Gaza Strip. (MM 3/12; MM, WT 3/15)

13 MARCH


Fateh issues statement accusing Fateh Revolutionary Council (Abu Nidal) of carrying out assassinations in southern Lebanon and promoting intra-Palestinian discord. Fateh “will not allow this to happen.” (RMC, VOL 3/13 in FBIS 3/16)


PM Hariri says Lebanon will not disarm resistance groups fighting Israel in the south until Israel withdraws from Lebanese territory. (Radio Lebanon 3/13 in FBIS 3/16)

IDF fires at car in Hebron, killing 3-year-old Palestinian girl. (Qol Yisra’el 3/14 in FBIS 3/15; WT 3/15)

14 MARCH


Israeli Env. Min. Yossi Sarid calls for PLO-led Palestinian state in the Gaza Strip. (IDF Radio, Qol Yisra’el 3/14 in FBIS 3/15)

Israeli National Police Commissioner Yaacov Terner calls on Israelis to carry handguns for self-defense, to increase public security. Police Min. Moshe Shahal criticizes the appeal. (Qol Yisra’el 3/14 in FBIS 3/15; WP 3/15)


15 MARCH

Pres. Clinton meets with PM Rabin in Washington, pledges to maintain aid to Israel at current levels for “years to come.” Rabin is forthcoming on withdrawal in return
for peace with Syria. Asked about the deportations, Clinton says “we did not discuss that” (see doc. A2). (NYT, WT 3/16)

PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. Mahmud ‘Abbas says Palestinians will boycott talks as long as the deportees issue is unresolved, even if all other parties attend. (al-Sharq al-Awsat in MM 3/15)

Golan settlers riot at Qunaytra border crossing with Syria, setting tires on fire and exchanging blows with border guards. Settler shoots, wounds Druze resident of Buqa’aya. (Qol Yisra’el 3/15 in FBIS 3/15)

Palestinian driver runs over, kills 2 settlers near Nablus. Settlers shoot 1 Palestinian dead, stone Palestinian cars, smash windshields, clash with IDF. Since 12/17/92 deportations, 10 Israelis have been killed by Palestinians, 57 Palestinians have been killed by Israelis. (MM 3/15, 3/16; Qol Yisra’el 3/15 in FBIS 3/16; NYT 3/18)

PFLP-GC claim abduction, killing of IDF soldier found dead 3/12. (QPAR 3/15 in FBIS 3/16)

16 MARCH

PM Rabin announces he will cut short his visit to the U.S., leaving 3/18, to deal with wave of violence at home. He meets with U.S. congress mbrs., asks them to ask Pres. Asad if he is willing to meet when they travel to Syria. (NYT 3/16; IDF Radio 3/18 in FBIS 3/18)


Over 1,000 Golan Druze demonstrate in reaction to 3/15 shooting, criticizing Israel and asserting Syrian character of Golan. (IDF Radio 3/16 in FBIS 3/17)

Palestinian reporter Taher Shriteh receives 1993 Freedom of the Press award by the U.S. National Press Club. Shriteh reports from Gaza under constant Israeli harassment, and was 1 of 415 deported 12/17/92, though he was quickly allowed to return. (MM 3/18)

17 MARCH

Speaking to Muslim clerics in Damascus, Pres. Asad says he seeks comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace, not a separate deal. (SARR 3/18 in FBIS 3/18; MM 3/18; NYT 3/19)

IDF kills 2, wounds up to 90 Palestinians in Khan Yunis, Gaza Strip. Settlers rampage near Nablus, setting fire to Palestinian-owned gas station, to avenge 3/15 killings. (MM 3/17; NYT 3/18)

Federal grand jury indicts Muhammad Salameh and Nidal Ayyad on charge of carrying out 2/26 World Trade Center bombing. Ibrahim al-Gabrowni is charged with obstruction of justice and fraud. (WP, WT 3/18)

18 MARCH


Gunfire erupts near Palestinian negotiator Haydar ‘Abd al-Shafi in Rafah, Gaza, killing 52-year-old schoolteacher within 10 feet of him. IDF and Israeli TV says PFLP gunmen tried to shoot the delegate (PFLP denies); ‘Abd al-Shafi says bullets came from IDF firing on stonethrowers. IDF kills 1, wounds over 50 Palestinians in Khan Yunis. (Qol Yisra’el 3/18, 3/19 in FBIS 3/19; MM, NYT 3/18, 3/19)

Hamas spokesman in Amman Ibrahim Ghawshah announces the group will escalate attacks in the West Bank to make conditions there similar to Gaza, to force Israel to withdraw. (MM 3/18)

Last Friday of Ramadan passes peacefully in Jerusalem, where over 200,000 Palestinians prayed at al-Aqsa Mosque, watched over by scores of Israeli police. (MM 3/19)

Joint PFLP-Fatah unit attacks Israeli, SLA forces in “security zone.” (VOL 3/19 in FBIS 3/22)

19 MARCH

PM Rabin calls for stricter controls on the approx. 120,000 Palestinians who travel to work in Israel each day from the o.t., saying he would prefer a lower number. (NYT 3/20)

Poll shows 53% of Israeli Jews favor unilateral withdrawal from Gaza, 34% against. (Yedio’t Aharonot 3/19 in FBIS 3/19)

Iranians celebrate Quds Day in support of the Palestinians, protesting the peace process. Deportees in southern Lebanon are divided; 35, mostly Islamic Jihad mbrs., heed Iran’s call for protest against Israel. Ten Palestinian rejectionist factions issue statement hon-
oring the occasion. (QPAR 3/18 in FBIS 3/19; MM 3/18, 3/19)

Al-Hayat reports that surprise U.S. warning to tourists in Jordan announced 3/1 was prompted by a Syrian-based Jihad al-Islami attack on U.S. tourists planned for 2/19, but thwarted 2/2 by Jordanian security. (MM 3/19)

20 MARCH

Two IDF jeeps are ambushed separately in Gaza Strip and West Bank, killing 2 soldiers. IDF shoots 2 dead, wounds 20 Palestinians in Khan Yunis. IDF destroys up to 20 houses in Dayr al-Balah camp. (Qol Yisra’el 3/21 in FBIS 3/22; MM 3/22; WM, WT 3/23; MM 3/30)

Joint Amal-Hizballah unit attacks Israeli, SLA positions just north of “security zone.” Israel shells targets north of zone. (VOM, VOL 3/20 in FBIS 3/22)

21 MARCH

Egypt, PLO request UNSC meeting to consider “the serious situation in the o.t.” (Qol Yisra’el 3/23 in FBIS 3/23; MM 3/23)

Israel expands police force from 18,000 to over 20,000, tightens security at o.t. checkpoints. (NYT 3/22, MM 3/23)

Pres. Mubarak concludes 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia. (SPA 3/21 in FBIS 3/22)

 Fateh Hawks fire on IDF in Khan Yunis. IDF shoots 2 dead, wound 15 Palestinians in Gaza Strip. (MM. WT 3/22)

22 MARCH

Knesset rejects no-confidence motions submitted by Tsomet, NRP, and Likud, 50-41. All SHAS MKs voted against the motions, all HADASH MKs abstained. (IDF Radio 3/22 in FBIS 3/23)

Settlers and right-wingers stage demonstration against govt. in Jerusalem, setting fire on fire and throwing objects at policemen. (Qol Yisra’el 3/22 in FBIS 3/23)

IDF shoots 4 Palestinians dead, among them a 12-year-old retarded boy, in Gaza Strip. Palestinian stabs 5 students, principal in Jerusalem high school. IDF seals appellant’s home. Students, other Israelis riot, damaging West Bank cars, wounding 2. (Qol Yisra’el 3/22, 3/23 in FBIS 3/23; NYT, WT 3/23)


23 MARCH

PNC Secy. Muhammad Subayh says PLO is prepared to establish national authority in Gaza Strip, on the basis of a 1974 PNC decision calling for such establishment on any part of o.t. to be liberated. Hanan Ashrawi echoes the statement. (Ha’aretz, MENA 3/23 in FBIS 3/24)

Meron faction approves plan for Gaza withdrawal drawn up by Energy Min. Amnon Rubinstein. (Qol Yisra’el 3/23 in FBIS 3/23)

Palestinian stabs settler in West Bank, is shot 10 times and killed by settler after being bound hand and foot. (MM 3/23; NYT, WT 3/24)

24 MARCH

Knesset elects Ezer Weizman president of Israel, 66 to 53. (Qol Yisra’el 3/24 in FBIS 3/24; NYT, WP 3/25)

Egypt turns over Mahmud Abu Halima (arrested 3/14 in roundup of Islamic militants) to U.S. officials. The 4th suspect in 2/26 World Trade Center bombing is then flown to New York. Bilal al-Kaist, Jordanian national living in New Jersey, turns himself in and is charged with aiding and abetting the bombing. (MM 3/24, 3/26; NYT 3/25)


IDF soldier who shot boy 3/22 receives 14-day jail sentence pending further investigation. (MM 3/25; WT 3/31)

Israeli planes raid Hizballah target north of “security zone” in first such air raid of the year. (Radio Lebanon 3/24 in FBIS 3/25)

25 MARCH

FM Peres calls for negotiated withdrawal from Gaza Strip. (IDF Radio 3/25 in FBIS 3/26)

Benyamin Netanyahu wins leadership of Likud with 52.1% of the vote. Closest rival David Levy wins 26.3%. (MM 3/25; NYT, WP 3/26)

Dahaf Inst. poll (conducted before Likud primaries) shows that were elections held today, Labor would lose 7 seats to Likud, from
current 44-32 to 37-39. Meretz would lose 1 (from 12 to 11), and Tsoumet would gain 1 (from 8 to 9). (Ma'ariv 3/25 in MM 3/26)

Court orders 10-day detention of settler
who killed an apprehended Palestinian 3/23. Police are seeking murder charges. (WT 3/26)

IDF shoots Palestinian youth dead in Gaza. (WT 3/26)

26 MARCH

Five-mbr. Palestinian delegation led by Faisal Husseini meets with Secy. of State Christopher in Washington. U.S. offers package of assurances, based on earlier diplomacy, if Palestinians resume talks (see 2/24, 2/25, 3/3). (WT 3/26; MM 3/29)

IDF destroy 9 buildings in Gaza Strip with anti-tank missiles, leaving 194 homeless. (WT 3/27; Qol Yisr'el 3/26 in FBIS 3/30; MM 3/30)

27 MARCH


Israel/SLA shell villages north of “security zone,” killing 1. SLA lose 1 in clashes/roadside bombing near Jezzin. (AFP, VOS 3/27 in FBIS 3/30)

28 MARCH

Pres. Mubarak meets with Chmn. Arafat in Cairo. (MM 3/29)

Two Palestinians stab Gaza settler to death, settlers riot; Israel seals Strip as of 3/29. Palestinians fire on IDF from car in Gaza City; IDF shoots 1 dead, wounds 2. (Qol Yisr'el 3/28 in FBIS 3/29; MM 3/29; WP 3/29)

New York Times prints letter from the “Liberation Army Fifth Battalion” claiming responsibility for 2/26 World Trade Center bombing. The letter, received by the Times 4 days after the bombing, says U.S. aid to Israel is the bombers’ main grievance. (NYT 3/28)

29 MARCH

FM's of Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and the PLO end 2-day meeting in Damascus, delay decision on resuming talks with Israel 4/20 in their final statement. (Radio Lebanon 3/29 in FBIS 3/30; NYT, WP 3/30)

Hanan Ashrawi says Palestinians rejected 3/26 U.S. offers, adds that such assurances are basic rights, “not issues for blackmail, negotiations, or pressure.” (MM 3/30)


Jordanian PM Sharif Bin-Shakir tells MPs that his govt. does not accept Israeli-Jordanian draft agenda negotiated by the respective delegations and publicized 10/27/92 (see JPS 86, doc. A1). It is missing some key points, particularly on Jerusalem. (MM 3/30)


30 MARCH

PLO leadership meets in Tunis to discuss 3/29 FM's meeting. (al-Nahar 3/23 in FBIS 3/24)

Hamas mbrs. shoot 2 traffic policemen dead north of Tel Aviv. Israel decides to seal o.t. indefinitely, starting 3/31. (MM 3/30; NYT, 3/31, 4/1)

Testifying before Senate appropriations subcomm., Secy. of State Christopher identifies Iran, Iraq, Libya, and Hamas as “sponsors of terrorism.” (MM 3/30)

31 MARCH

Four-mbr. EC delegation meets with PLO pol. dept. head Faruq al-Qaddumi, Palestinian delegation head Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi in Amman, then with Syrian officials in Damascus. (MM 3/30, 4/1)

U.S. lifts Jordanian travel warning (see 3/1, 3/19). (MM 4/1)

Two Hizballah gunmen die in clash with IDF north of “security zone.” Israel, SLA shell Shiite target villages north of "security zone." (WP 4/4; VOL 3/31 in FBIS 3/31)
1 APRIL

Meeting with EC delegation in Jerusalem, Faisal Husseini says Israel has created a new obstacle to resuming talks by turning the o.t. into a “massive collective prison” (sealed 3/31). EC reps. then meet with Israeli officials. (ITV 4/1 in FBIS 4/2; NYT 4/2)

Responding to an agricul. min. request, IDF orders 1,500 soldiers to work on farms hit hard by lack of Palestinian workers from o.t. (MM 4/2)

IDF gunboats, helicopters attack PFLP-GC, Islamic Jihad bases in Nahr al-Bared refugee camp, Tripoli, Lebanon, wounding 3. Palestinians repel Israeli troop landing at the coastal bases with heavy gunfire. Bomb inside “security zone” kills 2 SLA soldiers; Israel shells targets north. Fatah blames Israel for assassination of its top security official in Beirut. (AFP, RFL 4/1 in FBIS 4/1; IDF Radio 4/1 in FBIS 4/2; Aliggers VOP 4/3 in FBIS 4/7; MM 4/1)

Four Palestinian suspected Abu Nidal mbrs. living in the U.S. are indicted on charges of conspiracy to smuggle money and weapons, and plan attacks on Jews and the Israeli embassy. (MM, NYT 4/2)

3 APRIL

IDF mistakenly shoots Israeli policeman dead, wounds 2 others, as their car avoids 2 roadblocks in West Bank. (MM 4/26)

Two Hizballah fighters die in attack on Israeli position in Marjayun, inside the “security zone”; Israel shells villages. (AFP 4/3 in FBIS 4/5)

4 APRIL

PM Rabin receives, accepts invitation to meet with Pres. Mubarak “anytime”—the two will probably meet in Egypt before the scheduled 4/20 resumption of talks. (IDF Radio, Qol Yisra’el 4/5 in FBIS 4/5)

Israel cabinet sets up special comm. to suggest ways to “radically” reduce the number of Palestinians working in Israel. Env. Min. Yossi Sarid says Israel should increase investment in o.t. and pay unemployment benefits to o.t. workers. Tourism Min. Uzi Baram says Israelis realize that political solution is needed to separate Israel from the o.t. (Qol Yisra’el 4/4 in FBIS 4/5)

5 APRIL

Extended Palestinian leadership suspends 4 days of meetings in Tunis, postpones decision on resumption of talks until 4/18-19 FM’s meeting in Amman. Hamas declined invitation to attend. (RMC 4/3 in FBIS 4/5; Radio Algiers 4/5 in FBIS 4/6)

Palestinian Christians demand access to East Jerusalem on Easter. O.t. have been sealed since 3/31. (WT 4/6)

Fatah commander in Lebanon accuses Lebanon and Syria of aiding Fateh Revolutionary Council (Abu Nidal) to force Palestinians to resume talks with Israel, declares open war on FRC. Fateh fires rockets at Israel, landing harmlessly in “security zone,” in retaliation for 4/1 assassination—1st Fateh attacks on Israel since 10/91. (WT 4/6; AFP, VOL. 4/6 in FBIS 4/7)

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) labor. mins. meet in Amman, first such meeting in Jordan since the Gulf war. Kuwait announces it will honor its compensation pledges to Jordanians and Palestinians who lost their jobs after the war. (MM 4/2, 4/14)

6 APRIL

Pres. Clinton meets with Pres. Mubarak in Washington. In news conf., Clinton says Israel has done enough to coax Palestinians to the table, U.S. will not seek further Israeli concessions. Mubarak says the “Palestinians will come,” and will appeal to Chmn. Arafat to resume talks (see doc. A4). (MM, WP, WT 4/7)

UNLU issues call no. 94. (Aliggers VOP 4/6 in FBIS 4/7)

IDF shoots Palestinian dead in West Bank. (Qol Yisra’el 4/6 in FBIS 4/7)

7 APRIL

Housing Min. begins selling 250 apartments in large Golan Heights settlement Qatrin at greatly reduced prices. 1,500 other units on the Golan are to be sold by govt. soon. (Qol Yisra’el 4/7 in FBIS 4/7)

Al-Hayat reports that Hamas’s 1988 charter is being revised. (MM 4/7)

8 APRIL

About 3,000 o.t. Palestinian workers are allowed to enter Israel. (Qol Yisra’el 4/8 in
FBIS 4/8)
IDF shoots 13-year-old Palestinian girl dead in Gaza Strip. (Qol Yisra'el 4/8 in FBIS 4/9)
Syrian FM Faruq al-Shara' meets with U.S. congressional delegation. (Syrian TV 4/8 in FBIS 4/12)

9 APRIL

At U.S. urging, FM Peres says Israel will allow East Jerusalemite Faisal Husseini to become head of Palestinian delegation. (Davar 4/7 in FBIS 4/7; NYT 4/8; WP 4/10)

10 APRIL

Faisal Husseini says immediate return of all deportees is no longer a condition for Palestinian participation in next round of talks. (AFP 4/11 in FBIS 4/12; NYT, WT 4/12)

11 APRIL

Israel cabinet endorses PM Rabin's 3/30 decision to seal o.t. indefinitely and sharply reduce number of Palestinian workers in Israel, deciding weekly how many to admit (7,000 "essential" permits approved today). Training programs are approved to replace 20,000 Palestinians with Israelis. (Qol Yisra'el 4/11 in FBIS 4/12; WP 4/12; MM 4/13)

Israel approves 1993 o.t. development budget of NIS 450m ($164m), nearly 4 times the 1992 budget. NIS 140m will be spent immediately, with new work starting 4/18. CIVAD demands yearly increase of NIS 300m. (Al Hamishmar 4/13 in FBIS 4/13; JP 4/24)

Deportees spokesman 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rantisi calls Faisal Husseini an "outright traitor" for his 4/10 statement on deportees issue. (WT 4/12)

Davar reports EC has approved Israel's "observer" status. (FBIS 4/13)

12 APRIL

Hamas issues statement in Amman denouncing "behind-the-scenes moves" by Palestinian negotiators: "chosen by Rabin and Christopher" in "flagrant violation of the national will," regarding efforts to resume peace talks. (MM 4/13)

In interview with al-Hayat, Kuwaiti FM Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah says that Kuwait can not mend fences with the PLO, differentiating between the Palestine cause and Yasar Arafat, "whose name the people of Kuwait can't bear to hear." Reconciliation with Jordan will be easier; hints at possible lifting of parts of Arab boycott of Israel. (MM 4/13)

Israeli shoots Palestinian dead near Jerusalem. (Qol Yisra'el 4/12 in FBIS 4/12)

13 APRIL

Pres. Mubarak meets with, receives list of demands from Chmn. Arafat, Faisal Husseini in Cairo. Meeting with PM Rabin 4/14, Mubarak hopes to "shore up gaps" between Israel and Palestinians as 4/20 date for talks nears. (NYT 4/14, 4/15)

Hizballah roadside bomb kills 3 IDF soldiers on northern edge of "security zone"—heaviest IDF casualties in Lebanon since 10/25/92. Israel unleashes up to 200 shells on villages north of zone. (VOL 4/13 in FBIS 4/13; IDF Radio 4/13 in FBIS 4/14; MM 4/13, 4/14)

14 APRIL

Pres. Mubarak meets with PM Rabin in Ismayliya, Egypt. In news conf., Rabin says Palestinians have already decided to resume talks, conflict will ultimately be settled through land for peace. (MM 4/14; ARER, MENA 4/14 in FBIS 4/15; NYT, WT 4/15)

Head of Palestinian negotiating team Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi leads Palestinian delegation in meetings with State Dept. officials in Washington. (RJN 4/15 in FBIS 4/15; WP 4/17)

Jerusalem Post reports concessions worked out between Israel and U.S., to be announced if Palestinians agree to resume talks: (1) over 101 12/17/92 deportees returned immediately, (2) up to 100 (of 1,200) post-1967 deportees allowed to return; (3) Israeli statement against deportations except in "extraordinary" cases; (4) Faisal Husseini to head Palestinian delegation; (5) liberalize o.t. financial/building restrictions (see 2/24, 3/3, 3/26). (MM 4/14)

IDF opens fire in crowded Nablus market, wounding 4. Target was 3 masked men reading statement on 5th anniv. of Israeli assassination of Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad). (IDF Radio 4/14 in FBIS 4/15; WT 4/15)

Fatah gunmen assassinate FRC official
and 6-month-old son in Sidon, Lebanon. (RMC, VOL 4/15 in FBIS 4/15)

15 APRIL

British Foreign Office Min. Douglas Hogg calls on Arab states to lift tertiary boycott of Israel. (MM 4/15)

16 APRIL

PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. Yasir 'Abd-Rabuh, delegation spokesperson Hanan Ashrawi say some obstacles to Palestinian participation in 4/20 talks remain; Palestinians will seek delay to resumption. (MM 4/16; NYT, WP 4/17)

Southern Lebanon deportees sign wills, don funeral shrouds, stage "death march" toward Israel, are driven back by over 20 Israeli shells. (VOM 4/15, IDF Radio 4/16 in FBIS 4/16; MM 4/16)

Hamas car bomb near West Bank Israeli settlement kills the driver and 1 other Palestinian, wounds 8 IDF soldiers. (MM 4/16; IDF Radio 4/17 in FBIS 4/20; NYT, WP 4/17)

IDF helicopters attack PFLP cmdr. Samir Suwaydan's motorcade, killing his wife and daughter, 1 other civilian, just north of the "security zone." (NYT 4/18; AFP 4/16, Haaretz 4/18 in FBIS 4/19)

Former Pres. Bush ends 3-day visit to Kuwait, where he received an honorary Ph.D. and standing ovations for defending Kuwait. (MM 4/15; NYT 4/16)

17 APRIL

At Arab FM's meeting in Damascus, Syrian FM Faruq al-Shara receives call from Secy. of State Christopher. FM's delay decision on resuming talks until after Arab League meeting 4/20. PM Rabin tells Israeli delegation to delay departure for Washington. (AFP, MENA, SANA 4/17 in FBIS 4/19; NYT, WP 4/18)

"Hundreds" of Druze in Majdal Shams, Golan Heights, demonstrate on Syrian independence day. Stonethrowers wound 11 Israeli police, dispersing the crowd with tear gas. (Qol Yisrael 4/17 in FBIS 4/20)

Hizballah, Amal shell SLA positions in "security zone," killing 1 SLA soldier. Israel, SLA shell villages. (NYT 4/18)

18 APRIL

PFLP Red Eagles, in retaliation for 4/16 IDF attack on leader's car in Lebanon, kill Israeli lawyer and EC consultant in Gaza City, 1st Israeli killed since o.t. were sealed 3/31. Govt. votes to maintain closure; about 9,000 Palestinians are being allowed in daily. (Qol Yisrael 4/18 in FBIS 4/19; MM, NYT, WP 4/19)

19 APRIL

Pres. Asad meets with Chmn. Arafat, PLO officials, and delegation mbrs. in Latakia—first Asad-Arafat meeting in over a year. PLO group then travels to Amman. (WP, WT 4/20; RJN, SARR 4/20 in FBIS 4/20)

Peace Now calls on PM Rabin to seize the moment for peace, presents 10 principles. (MM 4/19)

Ten Palestinian rejectionist factions issue statement condemning current diplomacy seeking to resume peace talks. (QPAR 4/19 in FBIS 4/20)

Palestinian dentist, an UNRWA and Red Crescent official, is assassinated in Sidon, Lebanon. Fateh blames FRC, Mossad. Two FRC mbrs. are found dead in Sidon. (RFL 4/19 in FBIS 4/20; Voice of the PLO [Baghdad] 4/20 in FBIS 4/21)

Saudi FM Prince Saud Faisal calls on Gulf states to release funds to PLO, including the 5% "PLO tax" on Palestinian workers halted after the Gulf war. King Fahd pledges a contribution to the Jerusalem Fund. (MM 4/20; WT 4/20; SPA 4/19 in FBIS 4/20)

IDF undercover units shoot 1 Palestinian dead in West Bank, 1 in Gaza Strip. (MM 4/20)

20 APRIL

Chmn. Arafat meets with advisors, PNC and delegation mbrs. in Amman to decide on resumption of talks. (MM, WP 4/21)

Arab League Ministerial Council ends 2-day meeting in Cairo. (MENA 4/18 in FBIS 4/20)

IDF destroys 4 houses, shoots armed Palestinian dead in Gaza Strip. (MM 4/20; NYT 4/21; WP 4/22)

Islamic Resistance clash with IDF, SLA in 4 separate attacks, killing 2 and kidnapping 2 SLA gunmen in "security zone." Israel, SLA shell villages north of zone. (Radio Lebanon, VOL 4/20 in FBIS 4/21)
21 APRIL

FMs of Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and the PLO end 6 days of meetings in Damascus, agree to resume talks 4/27, a 1-week delay (see 4/17). Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi is "surprised" by the PLO decision to resume. (SARR 4/21 in FBIS 4/21; JTV 4/21 in FBIS 4/22; MM 4/21; NYT, WP 4/22)

Isreal announces it has "no plans" to deport Palestinians, while reserving the right to do so, allows East Jerusalemite Faisal Husseini to head Palestinian delegation (see doc. C2). (NYT, WP 4/22)

Palestinian Peoples' Party mbr. and delegate Ghassan al-Khatib announces he and fellow PPP mbr. Samir Abdullah will boycott the next round of talks. (RMC 4/21 in FBIS 4/22; WT 4/22)

At news conf., Secy. of State Christopher calls Palestinian decision to resume talks "courageous"; through negotiations, Palestinians "can see occupation give way to self-government." (MM, NYT, WP 4/22)

Fateh issues warning against attacks on Palestinian negotiators. (Jordan Times 4/24 in FBIS 4/26)

Hamas' spokesman Ibrahim Ghowshah rules out violence against Palestinian negotiators, calls resumption of talks a "cheap sellout," the PLO's "biggest historic mistake" which will have to be corrected because of popular opposition; because of its stand, Hamas is gaining popularity in o.t. (MM 4/21; Jordan Times 4/24 in FBIS 4/26)

IDF shoots 2 Palestinians dead, wounds over 50 in Gaza Strip in worst clashes since o.t. were sealed 3/31. (MM 4/21; WP 4/22; Qol Yisra'el 4/21, 4/22 in FBIS 4/22)

Arab Monetary Fund reports Arab states lost $676 billion during Gulf crisis and war. (MM 4/21)

U.S. State Dept. sends letter to Int'l. Steering Comm. on Freedom of Trade with Israel stating that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have pledged to lift their boycott of companies doing business with Israel. (MM 4/30; WT 5/5)

IDF rains over 100 shells on villages north of "security zone" as resistance fighters launch over 50 rockets into northern Israel from Lebanon. (MM 4/21, 4/22; Qol Yisra'el 4/21, 4/22 in FBIS 4/22)

22 APRIL

Hanan Ashrawi says Israel will allow 30 post-1967 deportees to return following revocation of talks 4/27. (AFP 4/22 in FBIS 4/22; MM 4/26)

PM Rabin meets with Egyptian pol. adv. 'Usama al-Baz, hands him message to deliver to Pres. Mubarak. (IDF Radio 4/22 In FBIS 4/23)

Hizballah, Palestinian groups fire rockets from southern Lebanon into Israel (largest barrage in 6 months), wounding 2 Israeli women. Israel, SLA shell villages north of "security zone." (NYT 4/23)

Washington Jewish Week reports that 4 U.S. congressional reps. have resigned from 15-mbr. task force that published report on terrorism 3/23, questioning the quality of the research. (WJW 4/22)

23 APRIL

FM Peres announces proposal to establish Palestinian police force, talks of "full self-government" for Palestinians. (MM 4/23)

Israel imposes total closure of o.t., allowing in no Palestinians until 4/27, after 2 holidays. (Qol Yisra'el 4/23 in FBIS 4/23)

U.S. announces amb. to Israel William Harrop has resigned. He will be replaced "for an interim period" by former amb. to Israel William Brown (see 3/4). (MM 4/28)

IDF shoots 1 Palestinian dead, wounds 65, in Gaza Strip. (NYT 4/24)

24 APRIL

Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi resigns from Palestinian delegation, but is coaxed back by other delegates and Gaza supporters. 'Abd al-Shafi disagrees with PLO decision to resume talks. (Qol Yisra'el 4/24 in FBIS 4/26)

IDF shoot dead unarmed Iraqi infiltrator just north of Aqaba. (MM 4/26)

25 APRIL


IDF open fire on car ignoring orders to stop in West Bank, wounding 2 Israeli children. (MM 4/26)

Hizballah fires 6 rockets into "security zone"; IDF shells villages north of zone. SLA kill 2 DFLP gunmen in clash inside zone. (APF 4/25, VOL 4/26 in FBIS 4/27; NYT 4/26)
26 APRIL

Head of U.S. State Dept. Policy Planning Samuel Lewis meets with PM Rabin, FM Peres in Jerusalem. (MM 4/27)

Deportees march to Zumayriyya crossing-point in southern Lebanon, stage sit-in. (Qol Yisra’el, QPAR 4/28 in FBIS 4/29)

IDF shoot Palestinian boy dead in Gaza Strip. (Qol Yisra’el 4/26 in FBIS 4/27)

Sidon personalities call for end to intra-Palestinian fighting. (VOO 4/27 in FBIS 4/27)

27 APRIL

Secy. of State Christopher opens ninth round of peace talks in Washington, urging parties to focus on substance, not procedure. Syrian delegation head Muwaffaq al-’Allaf and Palestinian delegate Haydar Abd al-Shafi say separately that Israel presented nothing new to their respective delegations. (SARR 4/27, Qol Yisra’el 4/28 in FBIS 4/28; WT 4/28).

Israel proposes transferring some powers, including budgetary and police, to o.t. authority as talks proceed, to demonstrate to Palestinians that talks produce tangible results. (MM 4/29)

Two-day UN-supervised Israeli-Palestinian conf. on status of Jerusalem ends in Athens. Labor MK Ya’el Dayan and PLO official Sami Musallam were among the participants. (Qol Yisra’el 4/28 in FBIS 4/28)

Strike in o.t., Palestinian camps called by 10 Palestinian rejectionist factions is widely observed (see 4/25). (RFL 4/27 in FBIS 4/27; WT 4/28)

28 APRIL

Israel allows 5,000 diaspora Palestinians to reunite with their o.t. families. Due soon for their summer visits, they will be allowed to stay on. (Qol Yisra’el 4/29 in FBIS 4/29; MM 4/29, 4/30)

IDF shoots 5 Palestinians dead in o.t. (NYT 4/29)

29 APRIL

Israeli and Palestinian delegations agree to form 3 working groups to explore land and water, self-rule, and human rights. Two diaspora Palestinians—Ahmad Khalidi and Camille Mansour—will be present at main bilateral negotiations. (ITV 4/30 in FBIS 5/3)

Saudi interior min. bans Islamic groups from soliciting funds unless specifically authorized, to stave use of Saudi money for political violence in other countries. (NYT 5/1)

Islamic Conference Org. (ICO) FM’s end 5-day meeting in Karachi, form working group to define terrorism and call for UN conf. on the issue. PLO is “disappointed” over ICO grants of $90m to Bosnia, $10m to Palestinians. (MM 4/29, 4/30)

30 APRIL

Five thousand Palestinians celebrate the return of 15 post-1967 deportees and their families, among them former Birzeit U. pres. Hanna Nasir (see doc. 84) (NYT, WP 5/1; MM 4/29, 4/30)

B’Tselem calls on Israeli govt. to compensate Palestinians unemployed because of o.t. closure, allow freedom of movement in o.t. (MM 4/30)

Ten Palestinian rejectionist orgs. end 4-day meeting in Tehran. Iran is reportedly disappointed that it could not motivate the factions to set up an anti-PLO leadership. (al-Sharq al-Awsat 5/1, Sawt al-Sha’b 5/5 in FBIS 5/5)


U.S. State Dept. releases annual report on terrorism, with Hamas included on “major groups” list for 1st time. (DOS)

1 MAY

Palestinian delegation announces it has received an Israeli pledge to cancel several demolition orders against o.t. houses, and to approve c. 10,000 houses built without licenses, as well as a U.S. pledge to brief them on Israeli settlement construction in o.t. (WP 5/1; ITV 5/1 in FBIS 5/3)

Hizballah roadside bomb kills 1 IDF soldier north of “security zone,” Lebanon. (Qol Yisra’el 4/1 in FBIS 4/3; VOO 5/2 in FBIS 5/4)

2 MAY

Israeli cabinet approves 33,000 permits for o.t. workers to enter Israel. (IDF Radio
CHRONOLOGY

5/2 in FBIS 5/3)

3 MAY

In the working group on self-rule, Palestinian delegation proposes to discuss formulation of joint statement of principles on the substance of self-rule. (Qol Yisra’el 5/3 in FBIS 5/4)


Some 13,000 Russian immigrants outside Knesset protest absorption conditions. (ITV 5/4 in FBIS 5/5)

Israeli Border Police open fire on car running a roadblock, killing all 4 “wanted” Palestinian men inside, in the Gaza Strip. (Qol Yisra’el 5/4 in FBIS 5/6; NYT 5/5)

IDF kills 2 Hizballah gunmen in clash inside “security zone.” (RFL 5/4 in FBIS 5/4)

4 MAY

U.S. State Dept. announces plans to fund $14m o.t. job-creation program. (MM, WT 5/5; WP 5/6)

At econ. devt. multilateral meeting in Rome, Palestinian delegate Samir Halayleh says World Bank is studying a $1b o.t. aid package, to be implemented as part of autonomy agreement. (MM 5/4, 5/5; Ha’aretz 5/5 in FBIS 5/6)

Israel presents Palestinians with proposal for mutual water usage, which head delegate Haydar ‘Abd al-Shafi terms “an encouraging opening.” (MM 5/5)

Four Nablus notables close to Fatah meet with Israeli Police Min. Moshe Shahal to discuss o.t. police force, recommend Jordanian-based Palestine Liberation Army for the job. (IDF Radio 5/4, Hadashot 5/5 in FBIS 5/5)

Israel presents Lebanon with first-ever proposal linking withdrawal according to UNSCR 425 with a peace treaty. Political powers are proposed for the joint military working group (a long-standing Israeli request) (see doc. C3). (MM 5/5; Davor 5/12 in FBIS 5/12; al-Safa’ir 5/11 in FBIS 5/17)

UNLU calls on Palestinians to seal off o.t. from Israelis and settlers in retaliation for the unilateral closure, in call no. 95. (Al Hamishmar 5/5 in FBIS 5/6)

DFLP chief Nayif Hawatima and Pres. Saddam Hussein meet in Baghdad, discuss opposition to Arab-Israeli peace talks. (RMC 5/5 in FBIS 5/6; Sawt al-Sha’b 5/9 in FBIS 5/10)

IDF shoots 3 Palestinians dead, wounds over 40, in the Gaza Strip. (MM 5/4; NYT, WP 5/5)

Israel, SLA shell Lebanese villages. (RFL, VOM 5/4 in FBIS 5/4)

5 MAY

Arab delegations announce decision to extend ninth round of talks with Israel through 5/14. (SANA 5/5 in FBIS 5/5, 5/6; NYT, WT 5/6)

Palestinians suspend meetings of human rights working group for 1 week, to protest Israeli delays in implementing promises, among them hastening the return of 396 Lebanese deportees. (MM 5/6; Qol Yisra’el 5/6 in FBIS 5/6)

Econ. devt. multilateral working group ends 2-day session in Rome. (Ha’aretz, Qol Yisra’el 5/5 in FBIS 5/6)

Defense lawyers announce that a Palestinian, Ahmad Ajaj, is being held in New York as a 6th suspect in the 2/26/93 World Trade Center bombing. (WP 5/6)

6 MAY

Israel presents Palestinians with draft joint declaration of principles on the substance of autonomy (see doc. C4). Palestinian mini-delegation travels to Tunis for consultations; PLO rejects it. (ITV, JTV 5/7 in FBIS 5/10; MM 5/11)

Syrian delegation head Muwaffaq al-Al ish calls on Arabs to reconsider participation in multilateral talks, saying progress must be made in the bilaterals first. (al-Dustur 5/7 in FBIS 5/10)

Ten Palestinian rejectionist orgs. issue statement calling for immediate withdrawal from peace talks, strike days in May. (QPAR 5/6 in FBIS 5/7)

Last of 30 post-1967 Palestinian deportees returns to o.t. (Qol Yisra’el 5/6 in FBIS 5/6)

Israeli policeman is shot, seriously wounded near Rehovot, south of Tel Aviv. (Qol Yisra’el 5/6 in FBIS 5/6)

IDF shells Lebanese villages in response to Amal roadside bombing attempt. (Qol Yisra’el, VOL 5/6 in FBIS 5/6)
7 MAY

Israeli delegation spokesman Yossi Gal says Israel now accepts int'l., but not UN, monitoring of o.t. elections, a long-standing Palestinian request. (AFP 5/7, 5/8 in FBIS 5/10)

DFLP-Red Star battalion claims 5/6 attack on Israeli policeman. (AFP 5/7 in FBIS 5/10)

8 MAY

Palestinian radio reads letter from Chmn. Arafat to Islamic Jordanian MPs, "regretting" their "interference in national Palestinian affairs" in criticizing PLO return to peace talks in earlier letter to him. (Sanaa VOP 5/8 in FBIS 5/10)

IDF shoots dead 3 Hamas mbrs. at Gaza-Egypt border, as well as 1 Palestinian youth near Ramallah, West Bank. (WT 5/9; MM 5/12; Qol Yisrael 5/12 in FBIS 5/12)

9 MAY

Israeli Int. Min. Aryeh Deri (SHAS) resigns from governing coalition, imperiling the ruling majority. Meretz mins. reject PM Rabin’s proposal to change Ed. Min. Shulamit Aloni’s portfolio. (NYT, WT 5/10; Qol Yisrael 5/9 in FBIS 5/10)

Dep. Def. Min. Mordechai Gur says govt. has no plans to disarm settlers, although some weapons have been confiscated recently. Settlers are training the “Judea Police” to counter any Palestinian police force; Shin Bet is moving to contain development of radical paramilitary Jewish underground. (ITV 5/7; Qol Yisrael 5/9 in FBIS 5/10)

Israeli cabinet approves 38,000 permits for o.t. workers. (MM 5/10)

10 MAY

Palestinians protest Israeli delays in fulfilling promises by cutting its delegation to 3 and suspending 3 working groups (see 4/29). Faisal Husseini and Haydar ‘Abd al-Shafi both boycott talks. Palestinians present U.S. with 10-point draft joint statement of principles on self-rule (see doc. B5). Israel allows immediate return of 25 more Lebanese deportees, for a total of 126 (see IPS 87, 2/1); Palestinians reject offer. PLO is also displeased that Saudi Arabia has not yet honored its recent financial promises (see 4/19). (RMC, AFP 5/10 in FBIS 5/11; MM, WP 5/11; NYT 5/12; RJN 5/12 in FBIS 5/12)

UN Devt. Program (UNDP) releases report citing grave environmental damage in West Bank and Gaza Strip (MM 5/11)

Kuwait announces it is holding 16 suspects, mostly Iraqis, charged with attempting to assassinate former Pres. Bush during his visit 4/14-16. (MM 4/11)

IDF shoots 3 Hamas mbrs. dead in same Gaza-Egypt border region as those killed 4/8. (Qol Yisrael 5/12 in FBIS 5/12; MM 5/12)

11 MAY

Palestinian delegation presents Israel with 10-point draft joint statement of principles on self-rule (see doc. B5). (MM 5/12)

Lebanese delegation presents 1st official peace talks document to Israel rejecting Israel’s 5/4 proposal for joint military working group, demanding timetable for withdrawal before consideration of peace treaty. (Davar 5/12 in FBIS 5/12)

Israeli Int. Min. Aryeh Deri (SHAS) withdraws his letter of resignation just before it would have gone into effect, giving PM Rabin 1 week to replace Ed. Min. Shulamit Aloni (Meretz) with a Laborite. The two mins. relinquish duties of their posts to Rabin for 1 week. (Qol Yisrael 5/11 in FBIS 5/12; MM, NYT 5/12)

Hamas supporters prevent voting in Hebron U. campus elections. Minor scuffles end when trustees agree to hear grievances about Fatah’s tactics in getting out the vote. Fatah supporters win by default in first victory at this Islamist stronghold. (MM, WP 5/12)

12 MAY

U.S. presents 2-page draft joint statement of principles on self-rule to Israeli and Palestinian delegations (see doc. D5). Palestinians criticize U.S. for consulting Israel before presenting them with the draft, do not attend informal trilateral meeting to accept the document. (MM 5/13; IDF Radio, MENA, Qol Yisrael 5/13 in FBIS 5/13; NYT 5/14)

Israelis and Palestinians agree to put family reunification at top of agenda during 2-day multilateral meeting on refugees in Oslo. (MM 5/13)

IDF shoots dead 2 Palestinians, 1 of them handicapped since being wounded early in
intifada, in **Gaza Strip.** Two Palestinians stab, seriously wound 2 IDF soldiers in Nablus. (MM 5/12, 5/13)

**Lebanon** orders daily *al-Safir closed* for 1 week for printing the **Israeli proposal** in its 5/11 edition (see 5/4). (MM 5/12; VOL 5/12 in FBIS 5/12)

**Hizballah** kills 2 SLA militiamen in string of clashes inside "security zone." **Israel** unleashes up to 300 shells on **Lebanese** villages. (AFP, VOL, VOO 5/12 in FBIS 5/12)

### 13 MAY

**PLO** rejects U.S. draft joint statement as "a copy of the Israeli plan"; **Palestinian delegation** meets with U.S. **State Dept.** officials, **Israelis** to discuss changes to it. Arab delegations hold joint news conf., reporting no progress in talks. **Ninth round ends.** (IDF Radio, RMC, SARR 5/13 in FBIS 5/14; MM, WP 5/14)

**Ten Palestinian rejectionist factions** issue statement denouncing talks. (QPAR 5/13 in FBIS 5/14)

**Ezer Weizman** is sworn in as Israel's 7th president. (MM 5/13; WP 5/14)

### 14 MAY

Joint **Fateh-PFLP** force clashes with **SLA** inside "security zone," killing 1 SLA, 2 Fateh, 1 PFLP gunman. (RFL 5/13, VOL 5/14 in FBIS 5/17)

### 15 MAY

**Palestinian** negotiators and PLO officials gather in **Tunis** to discuss 9th round of talks. (AFP 5/15 in FBIS 5/17)

**IDF** wounds up to 50 Palestinians in clashes in **Gaza Strip.** (Qol Yisra'el 5/15 in FBIS 5/17)

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**CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS**

- AFP (Agence France Presse, Paris)
- CSM (Christian Science Monitor, Boston)
- FBIS (Foreign Broadcast Information Service Daily Report, Near East and South Asia)
- GPO (Government Press Office, Jerusalem)
- ITV (Israel Television Network, Jerusalem)
- JTV (Jordan Television Network, Amman)
- MEI (Middle East International, London)
- MENA (Middle East News Agency, Cairo)
- MEPARC (Middle East Policy and Research Center, Washington, D.C.)
- MET (Middle East Times, Nicosia)
- MM (MidEast Mirror, London)
- NYT (New York Times, New York)
- QPAR (al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio, clandestine)
- RFL (Radio Free Lebanon, clandestine)
- RMC (Radio Monte Carlo, Paris)
- SANA (Syrian Arab News Agency, Damascus)
- SARR (Syrian Arab Republic Radio, Damascus)
- SPA (Saudi Press Agency, Riyadh)
- VOL (Voice of Lebanon, Beirut)
- VOM (Voice of the Mountain, Shaynayh)
- VOO (Voice of the Oppressed, Ba'labakk)
- VOP (Voice of Palestine, Algiers or Sanaa)
- VOS (Voice of the South, clandestine)
- WJW (Washington Jewish Week, Washington, D.C.)
- WSJ (Wall Street Journal, New York)
- WP (Washington Post, Washington, D.C.)
- WT (Washington Times, Washington, D.C.)

Chronology compiled by Charles U. Zenzie