16 AUGUST-15 NOVEMBER 1995

This section is part forty-eight of a chronology begun in JPS 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect Eastern Standard Time. For more detail on events related to the peace process, see the "Peace Monitor" in this issue.

16 AUGUST

PA cabinet approves draft interim agmt. with Israel. (CSM 8/17; JP 8/26) (see 8/11)

In Gaza, Egypt-Israel-Jordan-PA technical comm. on refugees opens 2-day mtg. on 1967 displaced persons. (HA 8/16 in FBIS 8/16; QY 8/16 in FBIS 8/17)

In Damascus, PLO's Faruq al-Qadumi begins 3 days of mtgs with Syrian officials (incl. FM Faruq al-Shara'), Palestinian opposition leaders fr. DFLP (Nayif Hawatmeh), Fatah (Hani al-Hassan), Hamas (Abu-Muhammad Mustafa), PFLP (George Habash), PFLP-GC, Saqqa; briefs them on his blueprint for political change (see JPS 97, Doc. B1); discusses rejuvenating the PLO, rallying the PA's opposition in light of the 8/11 agmt. (SARR 8/16 in FBIS 8/17; MM 8/17; Al-Hayat 8/17 in FBIS 8/18; MM 8/18; Al-Hayat 8/18, 8/20 in FBIS 8/25; MM 8/22)

Swedish Dep. FM Mona Sahlin postpones return visit to Israel after Israel again refuses her request to meet with Palestinians in Orient House. (JP 8/26; WT 8/30) (see 5/15)

IDF soldier is court-martialed, jailed for refusing to evict Jewish settlers fr. illegal West Bank camp. (QY 8/16 in FBIS 8/16)

Israeli Atty. Gen. Mikhael Ben-Ya'ir approves regulation giving responsibility for security inside settlements to Israeli police only, leaving IDF to handle security around settlements and intervene inside only in emergencies. (MA 8/16 in FBIS 8/16) (see 8/6)

Special Israeli ministerial comm. (led by PM Yitzhak Rabin, Police M Moshe Shahal) overrides the orders of Atty. Gen. Ben-Ya'ir, Justice M David Liba'i, extends Shin Bet's authority to use physical force on Palestinian suspects during interrogation for 2 mos. (HA 8/16 in FBIS 8/17; NYT 8/17; JP 8/19, 8/26)

2 Israeli historians announce findings that Israeli troops carried out several mass killings in the Sinai in 1967 in which about 1,000 Egyptian prisoners were killed. (WP, WT 8/18; WP, WT 8/19; NYT, WT 8/21; JP 8/26)

In Gaza, PA arrests 4 Hamas mbrs. on charge of plotting an attack inside Israel. IDF extends closure of o.t. begun 8/9 to 8/18. (QY 8/16, IDF Radio 8/17 in FBIS 8/17; MA 8/18 in IL 8/18)

17 AUGUST

Jordanian FM 'Abd al-Karim Kabariti returns from 3-day visit to Saudi Arabia, reports a "new phase" of warmer Saudi-Jordanian relations is at hand. (Al-Ra'y 8/18 in FBIS 8/22)

18 AUGUST

U.S. Asst. Secy. of State Robert Pelle- treating, National Security Council (NSC) adviser Mark Parriss make 1-day trip to Jordan for consultations with Jordanian officials on recent Iraqi defections; leaves for Saudi Arabia, Kuwait. PM Sharif Zaid Bin Shakir says U.S. is putting no pressure on Jordan to sever ties with Iraq. (Al-Dustur 8/19, Al-Ra'y in FBIS 8/21; RJ 8/18, AFP 8/22 in FBIS 8/22)

Israeli police continue to search Palestinian offices in East Jerusalem, searching for proof that they are official PA organs operating illegally in the city. 13 organizations have been searched since 8/17. More checks are expected in coming days. (JP 8/18 in FBIS 8/18)

Arafat orders closure of Al-Quds newspaper for running a story in which his opponent Faruq al-Qaddumi criticized the PA. Preventive Security Force (PSF) men threaten editors. (QY 8/19 in FBIS 8/22; ITV, QY 8/20 in FBIS 8/23; MM 8/21, 8/29)

PA PSF mbrs. detain 20 PFLP mbrs. in Jericho, 3 DFLP mbrs. in Gaza on suspicion of writing, circulating leaflets condemning the 8/11 agmt. (QY 8/18 in FBIS 8/18)

In Gaza City, PA police exchange gunfire with 3 Hamas mbrs. (incl. Wa'il Nasir) wanted for planning suicide bombings; 8 Palestinians are injured. After 5 hrs. the 3 surrender. IDF immediately lifts closure. (QY, VOP 8/18 in FBIS 8/21; WP 8/19; QY 8/19 in FBIS 8/22; MM 8/21; NYT, WP 8/22; NYT 8/25; JP 8/26) (see 8/17)

21 AUGUST

Palestinian detonates suicide bomb on bus in Jerusalem, killing self, 1 American, 3 others, wounding 106. Hamas takes responsibility, saying primary aim is to bring down Rabin government. PM Rabin announces suspension of talks with PA, 3-day closure of West Bank, Gaza. At site of attack, Kach mbrs. throw stones at Israeli Police M. Shahal, Pres. Ezer Weizman. (MM 8/21; IDF Radio, ITV, QPAR, QY, SARR, VOP 8/21 in FBIS 8/21; VOP 8/21
22 AUGUST


U.S. Asst. Secy. of State Pelletreau makes 2d visit to Jordan in less than 1 wk., briefs King Hussein on talks with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, Kuwaiti officials; leaves for Washington. (AFP 8/22 in FBIS 8/22; JT 8/23 in FBIS 8/24)

Based on information received fr. 'Abd al-Nasir Issa, a wanted Hamas mbr. arrested 8/19, Shin Bet uncovers "bomb-making factory" in West Bank, arrests 29 Hamas suspects, charges Issa as "mastermind" of 7/24, 8/21 bombings. Shin Bet says Issa confessed within hours of the 8/21 attack, after agents were permitted to use "exaggerated physical force" during interrogation. In hunt for other Hamas mbrs., Israel seals off Jericho, closes Allenby bridge crossing. (QY 8/23, 8/24 in FBIS 8/24; CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 8/24; MM 8/25; WT 8/29; WJW 8/31; JP 9/9)

23 AUGUST

At Orient House, German delegation reaffirms to Faisal Husseini Germany's position that East Jerusalem is part of the Palestinian territories. (VOP 8/23, 8/24 in FBIS 8/25)

In response to news reports 8/18 showing settlers' flowering gardens in Kiryat Arba and dried-up Palestinian fields in neighboring Hebron, Israeli Agriculture Min. orders Efrat settlement to temporarily divert 1,000 cu.m./day of water to Hebron to ease the severe water shortage. (MM 8/21; JP, QY 8/20, QY 8/23 in FBIS 8/24)

Israeli military court sentences Hamas's 'Abd al-'Aziz Rantisi, arrested after his return fr. exile in Lebanon 12/15/93, to 42 mos. in jail, plus 28 mos. suspended for being a mbr. of an illegal organization. (MM 8/24)

IDF lifts closure on Gaza, extends closure on West Bank to 8/27. 6,000 Palestinian workers are allowed to enter Israel fr. Gaza. (QY, VOP 8/23 in FBIS 8/23; QY 8/23 in FBIS 8/24)

24 AUGUST

In light of Hamas's claim of responsibility for 7/24, 8/21 attacks, PA halts talks with the group about its participation in elections. (WT 8/25)

Throughout Jerusalem, 1,000s of right-wing Jewish protesters calling for PM Rabin's resignation clash with Israeli police. 3 police, 3 demonstrators are injured, 14 arrested. (ITV 8/24 in FBIS 8/25; JP 9/2)

PA police arrest 'Abd al-Majid Dudin, Rashid Khatib after the pair flees to Jericho to evade IDF troops intent on arresting them as Hamas attackers. IDF demands they be returned to Israel; PA refuses. (WT 8/27; CSM 8/28; JP 9/2)

Islamic National Path Movement, a newly formed Hamas breakaway group which accepts the DOP as a fait accompli, calls on Hamas to end attacks, gives the PA a chance. The party is the 17th to be formed this yr. (JP 8/24 in FBIS 8/24) (see "Peace Monitor" in JPS 97)

1 IDF soldier is wounded, 3 Hizballah mbrs. killed in IDF attack on Hizballah base in s. Lebanon. (QY 8/25 in FBIS 8/28)

25 AUGUST

After Egyptian Pres. Husni Mubarak calls on Israel to prosecute soldiers accused of killing Egyptian POWs during the 1956, 1967 wars, Israeli historian accuses Egypt of killing 200 Israeli POWs during 1973 war. (MM 8/23; WT 8/26; MM 8/29) (see 8/16)

The Sha'ar Hanegev Regional Council reports that about 500 new water wells have been dug in Gaza since the IDF withdrew, causing salinization to increase in the southern coastal aquifer. (HA 8/25 in FBIS 8/25)
In Hebron, IDF kills 2 Hamas mbrs. in gunfight, then razes house in which they were trapped, puts curfew on residents. (MM 8/25; QY 8/23 in FBIS 8/25; NYT, WP, WT 8/26; JP 9/2)

**26 AUGUST**

Arab League says it strongly opposes Israeli efforts to resettle Palestinian refugees in host countries, attempts to transfer functions of the UNRWA to the PA so as to distance the UN from the refugee problem. (RE 8/26 in FBIS 8/29)

In 1st military court trial in Jericho, PA convicts pair arrested 8/24 of "carrying out activities which harm general security...and the peace process"; gives Duddin 12 yrs, Khatib 7 yrs. (QY, VOP 8/26 in FBIS 8/28; NYT, WT 8/27)

As the IDF, Hizballah continue to exchange artillery fire, Lebanese Speaker Nabih Birri calls on U.S. to pressure Israel to stop attacks on s. Lebanon. (RL, SARR 8/26 in FBIS 8/28) (see 8/24)

**27 AUGUST**

In Cairo, Israel, PA sign pact, giving PA control over 8 spheres of West Bank administration. (VOP 8/20 in FBIS 8/21; MM 8/21; QY 8/20 in FBIS 8/22; MENA, VOP 8/27 in FBIS 8/28; WP, WT 8/28; CSM, MM 8/29; JP 9/2; WJW 9/7)

Jordan’s King Hussein meets with Israeli PM Rabin, FM Peres in Aqaba to discuss Iraqi defections. (IL 8/28; Al-Aswaq 8/28 in FBIS 8/28)

In Damascus, German Economics M Spranger meets with Pres. Asad. (SANA, SATN 8/27 in FBIS 8/28)

Israel demands extradition of Dudin, Khatib in connection with 12/24/94 Jerusalem bombing, vows to keep closure on Jericho (begun 8/22) in place until pair is turned over. For 1st time, IDF stops journalists fr. entering Jericho while under closure. In continuing crackdown in the West Bank, IDF arrests 12 alleged Hamas mbrs., says recent arrests have prevented 2 bombings, a plan to kidnap IDF soldiers. (QY 8/27, JP 8/28 in FBIS 8/28; MM, NYT, WP, WT 8/28) (see 8/25)

Israeli police release Fatah’s Ghunaym. (Al-Quds 8/28 in FBIS 8/30) (see 8/21)

IDF lifts closure on West Bank, but says closure on Jericho will remain in place through 8/30. (QY, VOP 8/27 in FBIS 8/28)

**28 AUGUST**

In Elat, PA suspends negotiations for several hours in protest over Jericho closure. Israeli delay in letting PSF head Col. Jibril Rajub leave Jericho to attend negotiations. Israeli FMmin. criticizes closure, urges IDF to lift it. IDF agrees to ease it. (MM 9/28; IDF Radio, ITV, QY, VOP 8/28 in FBIS 8/28)

In Jericho, 100s of Palestinians riot in protest of closure, temporarily take over IDF command post, wounding 3 border policemen. PA police quell riot, make no arrests. (QY 8/28 in FBIS 8/28; MM 8/29; WJW 9/7)

Israel, Jordan sign cooperation agmt. on health. (RJ, QY 8/28 in FBIS 8/29)

PLO’s Qaddumi arrives in Amman for talks with PM Kabariti regarding Jordanian-Palestinian relations, peace process, upcoming Arab League mtg. (RJ 8/28 in FBIS 8/29; RJ 8/30 in FBIS 8/31)

Knesset holds special plenum to discuss security situation in wake of 8/21 bombing, large-scale protests by right-wing settlers. (QY 8/28 in FBIS 8/29)

In reaction to Pres. Mubarak’s demand 8/25, Israeli Atty. Gen. Ben-Ya’ir expresses regret for IDF soldiers alleged killing of Egyptian POWs during 1956, 1967 wars but says Israeli law does not permit a person to be prosecuted for a crime committed more than 20 yrs before. (ITV 8/28 in FBIS 8/29; MM, WT 8/29; MA 8/29 in FBIS 8/31; CSM 8/30; JP 9/2)

**29 AUGUST**

U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross (on personal visit to the region) discusses PA-Israeli negotiations with Arafat in Gaza, then with FM Peres in Jerusalem. (QY, VOP 8/29 in FBIS 8/30; CSM 8/30; PWR 9/4)

In Damascus, Pres. Asad, FM Shara’ receive U.S. Senators Arlen Spector, Hank Brown; discuss Syrian-U.S. relations, peace process. (SARR 8/29 in FBIS 8/30; MM 8/30; MM 9/5)

U.S. State Dept. says it warned Syria (8/11) to do “everything in its power” to curb threats against the U.S. and its citizens by Syrian-based Palestinian-Islamic rejectionist groups; U.S. reserves the right
to respond to attacks “in any way it deems necessary.” (MM, WP 8/30; WJW 9/7)

PA says that, in past 2 days, based on Israeli information, it has arrested over 30 Hamas mbrrs., foiling 2 planned attacks on Israeli, PA targets. (ITV, QPAR, QY 8/29 in FBIS 8/30; NYT 8/30; CSM 8/31)

30 AUGUST

In Gaza, Arafat receives 3 mbrrs. of the New York Board of Rabbis; then meets with Brazilian FM Lampreia on bilateral ties, enhancing cooperation, aid Brazil can provide in economic, agricultural spheres. (VOP 8/30 in FBIS 8/31; MM 8/31)

PA police detain 3 Palestinian journalists who reside in Gaza, work for Al-Nahar, and are suspected of working for Hamas. (MM 8/31; QY 8/31 in FBIS 8/31)

Suspected Hamas mbr. Tawfiq Subay Sawarqa (arrested 8/27) dies while in PA custody. Arafat suspends PSF officers in charge, orders inquiry. (QY 8/30 in FBIS 8/30; MM 8/31; AFP 8/31 in FBIS 9/1)

In Nablus, IDF soldiers clash with large crowd of Palestinians, fire tear gas, injuring 3. (ITV 8/30)

Israel lifts closure on Jericho though PA still refuses to turn over Dusun, Khattib. (NYT, WP 8/31) (see 8/27)

In s. Lebanon, an explosion during training maneuvers destroys PFLP-GC camp, killing 10 top commanders, seriously wounding 17, incl. Ahmad Jibril’s son. (AFP 8/31, AFP, QY 9/1 in FBIS 9/1; HA 9/3 in FBIS 9/5)

31 AUGUST

Arafat endorses agmt. reached by Israeli Police M Shahal, PA Economics M Ahmad Qurait 8/30 on maintaining the status quo in Jerusalem. PA promises not to do anything to alter the status quo, particularly in its use of Orient House. Both sides agree to improve the economic lot of Arabs in the city, ease entry requirements for residents of the o.t. into the town to pray at holy sites. (QY 8/30 in FBIS 8/31; IDF Radio 9/1 in FBIS 9/1)

In Beirut, Arafat meets with Pres. Hrawi, FM Faris Buwayz. (VOP 8/31 in FBIS 9/1)

In s. Lebanon, IDF, SLA trade fire with Amal troops. No injuries reported. (RL 8/31 in FBIS 8/31)

1 SEPTEMBER

In Italy, Arafat meets with PM Lamberto Dini, Pres. Oscar Luigi Scalfaro. Then on sidelines of a private business conference in Cernobbio, Italy, FM Peres, Arafat hold brief, informal mtg. to discuss unresolved issues. Peres confirms that secret Israeli-PA talks were held in Italy in 6/95. (MM 9/1; VOP 9/1 in FBIS 9/6; QY 9/2 in FBIS 9/5; WJW 9/7)

Israel asks U.S. to withdraw a travel warning recommending Americans avoid using Israeli busses, which have been targets of Palestinian suicide bombers. (QY 9/1 in FBIS 9/1; WT 9/2)

2 SEPTEMBER

In 1st mtg. since the Vatican established ties with the PA, Arafat meets with Pope John Paul II at Castelgandolfo, Italy; also confirms secret negotiations were held in Italy before, after Oslo agmt. (VOP 9/2 in FBIS 9/5; WP 9/3; WJW 9/7; RAI Radio [Rome] 92 in FBIS 9/8)

In Damascus, PLO’s Qaddumi meets with FM Sharaf to discuss recent developments in the peace process. (SATN 9/2 in FBIS 9/5)

In apparent suicide, Israeli motorist speeds through Israeli, PA roadblocks at entrance to Gaza, is shot, killed by Palestinian police. (AFP, QY 9/2 in FBIS 9/6; NYT, WP, WT 9/3)

3 SEPTEMBER

PA police say they have conducted 10s of raids in Gaza over the past few days in an attempt to capture Yahya Ayyash, thought to be the mastermind behind Hamas’s bombings. (QY 9/3 in FBIS 9/5)

Arab parents in Jaffa call school strike, demanding that children of relocated Palestinian informers be expelled fr. class, saying “If they betrayed their people... we don’t want them.” (WT 9/4)
4 SEPTEMBER

PA Justice M Frayh Abu-Madayn is denied entry to Israel for talks on judicial affairs, misses scheduled mtg. with Israeli Justice M Liba'i. (MM 9/4, 9/6; QY 9/4 in FBIS 9/6; Hatzofe 9/8 in FBIS 9/8)

PM Rabin, FM Peres make surprise visit to Hebron to view conditions, examine security options for themselves. (MM 9/4; QY 9/4 in FBIS 9/5; CSM 9/5; WJW 9/7)

Israel's Jerusalem 3000 celebration, marking the anniversary of King David's capture of the city, begins. Of 70 ambms. invited, 53—incl. U.S. Amb. Indyk and 15 EU ambms.—stay away fr. the opening ceremony. (WT 9/4; QY 9/4, 9/5 in FBIS 9/5; MM, NYT 9/5; ITV, QY 9/5, JP 9/6 in FBIS 9/6; CSM, WJW, WT 9/7; WT 9/10; JP 9/16) (see 8/15)

Israeli Dep. FM Eli Dayan travels to Cairo to discuss POW issue with Egyptian FM Musa. (MENA, QY 9/4 in FBIS 9/5; MENA, QY 9/5 in FBIS 9/6; MM 9/7) (see 8/28)

5 SEPTEMBER

U.S. Amb. to Israel Indyk says he did not attend Jerusalem 3000 celebration because of prior engagements; U.S. is not boycotting the festivities. (ITV, QY 9/5 in FBIS 9/6)

In an attempt to limit the damage to relations with Egypt, PM Rabin asks the media to limit its reports on the POW issue. (HA 9/8 in FBIS 9/15) (see 9/4)

In Beirut, PLO mburs. Faruq al-Qadumi, Sulayman al-Najjab, Muhammad Jihad al-Amoudi, Shafiq al-Hut meet with Lebanese FM. Min. officials (incl. FM Buwayz) to discuss alternatives to the Oslo process. (VOL 9/5 in FBIS 9/5; VOL 9/5 in FBIS 9/6; WT 9/6; MM 9/11) (see 8/16)

Palestinian enters Ma'ale Michmash settlement nr. Ramallah, kills 1 settler, wounds another. PFLP claims responsibility. (MM, WT 9/5; AFP, QY 9/5 in FBIS 9/6; WJW 9/7)

Russia signs 2 contracts to build 3 nuclear reactors for Iran, claims reactors are for nonmilitary purposes. U.S., Israel protest. (WT 9/6, 9/15)

6 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, Israeli, PA justice discuss Israeli plans to grant citizenship to collaborators, other justice issues; PA demands Israel look into claims that the IDF murdered 450 Palestinians in Khan Yunis b/wn. 11/6-8/56, during the Sinai campaign. Israel denies event took place. (QY, VOP 9/6 in FBIS 9/7)

In Jerusalem, PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. and Arafat critic Mahmud Abbas meets with Israeli Economic M Bellin to discuss status of Jerusalem. (VOP 9/6 in FBIS 9/7)

1,000 mburs. of the Action Comm. for the Abolition of the Autonomy Plan, a group of IDF reservists, send petition to PM Rabin, saying they will not obey orders to remove West Bank settlers. (MM 9/7)

Continuing the naval blockade begun in 2/96, Israeli gunboats off the coast of Tyre fired on Lebanese fishermen. (RL 9/6 in FBIS 9/6) (see 5/10)

7 SEPTEMBER

Syria says it will accept Israel positioning tethered balloons containing early-warning gear in the Golan to monitor security arrangements following an agmt. Israel rejects the offer. (JP 9/8 in FBIS 9/8; HA 9/8 in FBIS 9/11)

In Aqaba, Israel, Jordan sign environmental cooperation agmt. (QY 7/7 in FBIS 9/8; JP 9/16)

Fatah Central Comm. mbr. 'Abbas Zaki takes up residence in the self-rule areas, says he supports the PA. He will oversee Fatah operations. (VOP 9/7 in FBIS 9/8) (see 6/2)

In Hebron, settlers break windows, burn Palestinian flag, paint anti-Arab slogans on new Islamic court building; some throw 4 Molotov cocktails out of cars at Palestinians. (AFP 9/7 in FBIS 9/7)

8 SEPTEMBER

In an attempt to get the parties back to the table, the U.S. offers Syria, Israel a compromise proposal on monitoring security arrangements. (MM 9/8; JP 9/8 in FBIS 9/8)

In apparent retaliation for 9/5 attack, 5 armed men in IDF uniforms, some masked, force their way into private
homes in Halhul nr. Hebron; bind and interrogate Palestinians, killing 1. IDF claims it was not operating in the area. Kach takes responsibility. (ITV, VOP 9/8 in FBIS 9/11; WP 9/9; WT 9/10; CSM, MM 9/11; JP 9/16)

PA agrees to give asylum to 14 of 32 Iraqi defectors currently detained in Israeli jails. Israeli Police M Shahal says Israel is not prepared to take in the defectors—mostly young, educated men who requested political asylum in Israel; the remaining 18, who did not want to go to Gaza, probably will be deported to 3d countries. (JP 9/8 in FBIS 9/12)

9 SEPTEMBER

Arafat gives representatives to the PA fr. Egypt, Japan, Jordan, Morocco, Russia letters to their heads of state asking them to pressure Israel on Hebron. (VOP 9/9 in FBIS 9/11)

In Gaza, PA Local Government M Saeb Erakat meets with British police officials. Sides agree to form joint comm. to train PA security mbrs. in proper ways to operate during elections to assure elections are fair, democratic. (VOP 9/9 in FBIS 9/12)

In Halhul, 1,000 Palestinians march in protest over apparent IDF killing 9/8, demand dismantling of settlements. (CSM, MM 9/11)

10 SEPTEMBER

Israeli FMin. says it is having trouble planning a speaking tour of U.S. for a group of senior IDF reserve officers. PM Rabin is dispatching the delegation to encourage U.S. Jews to support the peace process, explain the Israeli government’s positions; however, many Jewish conservative, reform groups are refusing to meet. (HA 9/11 in FBIS 9/12)

Reacting to the expulsion 9/8 of 350 Palestinian refugees with Lebanese laissez-passer, Lebanon closes sea routes with Libya, says Palestinians wishing to return must obtain entry visas fr. Lebanese embassy, but orders embassies not to issue new documents or visas without case-by-case approval by the Interior Min. Libya sends 10s of busses carrying 50 Palestinians each to Egypt, prompting Egypt to stop allowing in Palestinians without permits to enter Gaza, leaving 100s stranded on the border. (Vol 9/7, MENA, Vol 9/8 in FBIS 9/8; NYT, WP, WT 9/10; MBC, RL 9/8, AFP, RL, VOL 9/9, AFP, RL, VOL 10/10 in FBIS 9/11; MM 9/11; NYT 9/13)

FMr. Israeli Islamic Movement mbrs. cfn led by Shaykh Atif Khatib announce they will present an Islamic list for 10/96 Knesset elections that will incl. a candidate for PM. It would be the 1st time an Arab would run for PM. Shaykh Khatib says the new party, Islamic Arab Faction, will be left leaning, pro-peace process, for Arab equality. (YA 9/10 in FBIS 9/12; HA 9/18 in FBIS 9/21)

In Hebron, Jewish settlers storm Palestinian girls school, beat headmistress, injure 4 girls (aged 6-10) who took part in street protest. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 9/11; NYT 9/13)

In Nablus, armed men kidnap Fatah Hawk official Na'il Shubaytah. 25 Fatah Hawks march through city armed with grenades, pistols, machine guns in protest; accuse supporters of Issam Abu Bakr, who was suspended fr. the group 1 mo. ago. (AFP 9/10 in FBIS 9/11)

At Tel Ashqelon prison in Israel, 20 Palestinian prisoners beat to death their Hamas cell mate ‘Abd al-Fatah al-Rantisi, who was serving a 15-yr. sentence as a collaborator. (AFP 9/10 in FBIS 9/11)

11 SEPTEMBER

New EU rotating head, Spanish PM Felipe Gonzalez, arrives in Jerusalem on 1st leg of regional tour to show EU political, economic support of the peace process; meets with PM Rabin, then with Arafat. (MM 9/12; JP 9/12 in FBIS 9/13; JP 9/23)

Lebanese M Michel al-Murr travels to Damascus to ask Pres. Assad to forbid entry to Palestinians deported fr. Libya unless they have visas to continue on to Lebanon. PM Hariri stresses that Lebanon is fully coordinating its position on the deportees with Syria. (MM 9/12)

PFLP mbrs. Shabir and Yusuf Ra'i, wanted by Israel for killing 2 Israelis 7/18, are sentenced by the PA military court in Jericho to 7 yrs each. Israeli Justice M Liba'i calls trials a violation of the Oslo agmt. meant to avoid extraditing the pair. FM Peres says PA is not violating the DOP. (MM 9/12; IDF Radio, QY 9/12, QY 9/13 in FBIS 9/13; NYT 9/13) (see 8/27)

Likud party defector David Levy releases his new party’s political platform, calling for secure peace; terming itself a “national-social centrist party” filling a
CHRONOLOGY

12 SEPTEMBER

In Amman, technical comm. on refugees opens 2 days of talks. (WT 9/13; CSM 9/15)

PM Rabin arrives in Moscow for 3-day visit. (MM 9/9/12; QY, YA 9/12 in FBIS 9/12; Davar 9/17 in FBIS 9/20)

Arafat holds emergency mtg. in Alexandria with Pres. Mubarak, FM Musa to discuss Libyan expulsions, peace process. (VOP 9/12 in FBIS 9/13; NYT 9/13; CSM 9/15) (see 9/10)


In Amman, Spain’s PM Gonzalez meets with Jordan’s King Hussein, PM Bin Shakir, heads to Damascus to meet with Pres. Asad. (RJ, RNE-1 Radio [Madrid], SARR 9/12, SARR 9/13 in FBIS 9/13; MM 9/13; RJ 9/12 in FBIS 9/15)

In Washington, Pres. Clinton awards Rabbi Abraham Shemtov, acting on behalf of the late Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the Congressional Gold Medal, honoring moral and educational inspiration. Congress mbrs. voted unanimously to award the medal (one of only 100 ever bestowed) to the late rabbi. (WJW 9/21; JP 9/26)

13 SEPTEMBER

On 2d anniversary of DOP, Israeli police use water cannons to disperse 100s of Israelis protesting the accord outside PM Rabin’s Jerusalem residence; 9 police, 20 protesters injured, 22 arrested. Also in Jerusalem, Palestinians clash with IDF. In Hebron, IDF attempts to disperse settlers outside nursery school, fires tear gas, in-juring 11 toddlers. (MM 9/13; QY 9/13, QY 9/14 in FBIS 9/14; NYT, WP 9/14; MM 9/14; NYT 9/17; PR 8/22; JP 9/23)

In Beirut, Spanish PM Gonzalez meets with Pres. Hrawi, FM Hariri, FM Buwayz. (RL 9/13 in FBIS 9/14)

In Amman, King Hussein receives Qatari FM Shaykh Hamad Bin Jasim al-Thani, who expresses Qatar’s warm feelings for Jordan, desire to “heal the rift in Arab ranks.” (PETRA-JNA 9/13 in FBIS 9/15)

Israel appoints Ali Yahya as its 1st Arab amb. He will be posted to Finland. (MA 9/13 in FBIS 9/14; WT 9/14; MM 9/18; JP 9/26; WJW 10/19)

1 man killed, 1 woman injured in an explosion in Gaza City. PA police say the man, a Hamas mbr., was preparing a bomb for an anti-Israeli attack when it accidentally exploded. (QY 9/13 in FBIS 9/14; QPAR 9/15 in FBIS 9/19)

Palestinians in the ‘Ayn al-Hilwa refugee camp in s. Lebanon hold general strike to protest Libya expulsion of Palestinians, Lebanon’s barriers to their return to Lebanon. (RL 9/13 in FBIS 9/13; MM 9/14)

14 SEPTEMBER

U.S. Consul Gen. Abington, Mubarak advisor Osama Baz encourage Arafat to accept a compromise proposal on Hebron to complete Oslo II negotiations. (RE, VOP 9/14 in FBIS 9/15; WT 9/16)

In Gaza, Arafat meets with ‘Abd al-Majid Shuman, the chmn. of the Arab Bank board of directors, and a number of Palestinian investors interested in participating in infrastructure building. (VOP 9/14 in FBIS 9/15)

In Amman, PM Bin Shakir, Oman’s FM Yusuf Bin‘Alawi discuss improving Omani-Jordanian ties, importance of cooperation, consultation. (RJ 9/14 in FBIS 9/15)

In Gaza, PA military court convicts 2 Hamas mbrs. to 12 yrs each for carrying out attacks with automatic weapons outside the self-rule areas. (MM 9/14; QY 9/14 in FBIS 9/14; Davar, HA, VOP 9/14 in FBIS 9/15)

In Hebron, 2,000 Palestinians protest West Bank settlements, clash with IDF. IDF throws stun grenades into crowd, arrests 2. (MM 9/14; CSM, WT 9/15)
15 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, Arafat meets with South African FM Alfred Nzo, asks South Africa to pressure Israel on Palestinians' right to self-determination, signs cooperation agmt. (VOP 9/15 in FBIS 9/18)

Widespread clashes between Palestinians, IDF continue in Hebron. (NYT, WT 9/16; CSM 9/18)

16 SEPTEMBER

After 2 postponements, FM Peres, Arafat meet in Taba to resolve deadlock over Hebron, electricity, water, prisoners; say they will meet without break until they come to an agmt. (MENA, VOP 9/15, MENA 9/16 in FBIS 9/18)

Despite FM Peres's protests, South African FM Nzo meets with Faisal Husseini at Orient House, discusses status of Jerusalem. (VOP 9/16 in FBIS 9/18)

In Damascus, Japanese PM Tomichi Murayama, 60 Japanese officials meet with Pres. Asad. Delegation then leaves for 2-day official visit to Israel and the self-rule areas. (JP 9/16; KYODO [Tokyo], QY 9/17, JP 9/18 in FBIS 9/18; KYODO [Tokyo] 9/16 in FBIS 9/19)

Israeli police arrest 3 Palestinians in connection with Halhul attack 9/8; say motive was criminal, not political. They also detain Ayshah Ayyash in attempt to coerce her son, most wanted Hamas mbr. Yahya Ayyash, to surrender. (IDF Radio, QY 9/16 in FBIS 9/18; WP, NYT 9/17; CSM, MM 9/18; JP 9/23; QY 10/7 in FBIS 10/10)

17 SEPTEMBER

The UN High Commission for Refugees decides to provide food, humanitarian aid to Palestinian deportees stranded on the Libyan-Egyptian border. (MENA 9/17 in FBIS 9/19; VOP 9/22 in FBIS 9/22) (see 9/13)

Lebanese Speaker Birri returns to Beirut fr. talks with Pres. Asad 9/16 in Damascus; says Lebanon will hold elections in November as required by the constitution, but the Chamber of Deputies has the right to amend the constitution with regard to electing a new president. (RL 9/16, VOL 9/19 in FBIS 9/18) (see 5/17)

In s. Lebanon, Amal detonates roadside bomb, injuring 2 IDF soldiers, narrowly missing Israeli Army Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Amnon Shahak. (AFP, RL 9/17 in FBIS 9/18)

18 SEPTEMBER

Clinton administration eases travel ban on Lebanon, allowing citizens, noncitizens to travel on indirect flights b/w Lebanon, U.S. Direct flights on U.S. carriers are still prohibited. (Washington Report Oct./Nov. 1995) (see 8/6)

In Amman, unidentified assailants open fire on the Forte Grand Hotel, which houses the Israeli embassy. (Al-Urdun 9/23 in FBIS 9/25)

19 SEPTEMBER

After Saudi Arabia, Jordan refuse landing privileges, hijacked Iranian jet is forced to land in Israel. Under pressure fr. right-wing MKs, family of missing IAF flyer Ron Arad (suspected to be held in Iran or by Hizballah), PM Rabin considers detaining plane, 174 passengers until Iran gives information on Arad's fate. (MM 9/19; IRNA [Tehran], QY, RMC 9/19 in FBIS 9/19; IRNA [Tehran], QY 9/19, 9/20 in FBIS 9/20; NYT, WP, WT 9/20)

Following the 9/18 attack, the Israeli embassy in Amman buys a 4-story building in the al-Rabiyah neighborhood nr. the Chinese embassy. (Al-Urdun 9/23 in FBIS 9/25)

In the 1st such case, Hugo Prinzip, 10 other American Holocaust survivors win $2.1 m. reparations package from Germany. Others who were Americans at the time they were imprisoned by the Nazis may claim part of the compensation package. (WJW 9/21)

In s. Lebanon, Hizballah detonates roadside bomb, killing 1 IDF soldier, wounding another. (RL, VOL 9/19 in FBIS 9/21)

20 SEPTEMBER

Knesset holds extraordinary session to discuss PA's refusal to extradite Palestinians wanted for crimes in Israel, esp. murders. (MM 9/20) (see 9/13)

On sidelines of a FM's mtg. in Cairo, Arab League representatives discuss Lib-
yan deportations of Palestinians. Secy. Gen. of the Libyan General People’s Comm. for Unity Jum’ah al-Fazzani claims Palestinians are not being deported but are leaving of their own free will out of a desire to return to their homeland. Lebanese Tourism M Nicholas Fattush calls the Palestinians “human waste being dumped in Lebanon.” (MM 9/19; MENA 9/19, 9/20 in FBIS 9/21; MM 9/22) (see 9/17)

In Nablus, 20 Palestinian youths throw stones at Israeli police car. Police open fire on group, killing 1, then leave scene. Palestinians spontaneously rally in protest. IDF intervenes to disperse the crowd, sparking riot, killing 2, wounding 9. Clashes continue on and off all day. (ITV, QY, 9/20, QY, VOP 9/21 in FBIS 9/21; MM, WT 9/21; NYT 9/22; ITV 9/21 in FBIS 9/22)

Egypt says it has discovered 2 mass graves in the Sinai containing remains of 30-60 Egyptian POWs killed by the IDF during the 1967 war. (NYT 9/21)

Iranian jet is allowed to leave Israel with its 174 passengers. Hijacker is detained, will not be extradited to Iran. (MM 9/20; IDF Radio, QY 9/20 in FBIS 9/20; MM, NYT 9/21) (see 9/19)

IDF imposes indefinite closure on Gaza, citing “terror alert.” Goods will still be allowed through the Qarni crossing point. (QY, VOP 9/20 in FBIS 9/20)

21 SEPTEMBER

In Amman, 2-day mtg. of the multilateral working group on arms control closes. (JT 9/23 in FBIS 9/26)

In Nablus, Palestinians hold general strike in memory of those killed in clashes with the IDF 9/20. IDF uses rubber bullets, tear gas to disperse groups of demonstrators, seriously wounding 1; detains 4 Palestinian journalists. (MM 9/21; QY 9/21 in FBIS 9/21; ITV 9/21 in FBIS 9/22)

Nr. Yoqne’am settlement nr. Haifa, 2 Arabs attempt to kidnap an IDF soldier. Soldier overpowers, wounds 1 kidnapper; the other flees. (ITV 9/21 in FBIS 9/22)

Palestinians at al-Barid, Baddawi camps in s. Lebanon hold general strikes to protest Libya’s expulsion of Palestinians. (RL 9/21 in FBIS 9/21) (see 9/13)

22 SEPTEMBER

In Tabo, Arafat, FM Peres estimate they need only 3 more hrs. to finalize 18 outstanding points. PA’s head negotiator Economics M Qurai’ collapses fr. severe exhaustion, is taken to the hospital by FM Peres. (MM 9/22; MENA, QY, VOP 9/22 in FBIS 9/22; NYT 9/23)

Lebanese Interior Min. issues decree regulating entry, exit of Palestinians. (RL 9/22 in FBIS 9/25) (See Doc. B1)

PA says U.S. has given initial approval to its request for exemption fr. the UN blockade on Iraq so it may import oil (35,000 bpd) to the self-rule areas. (Al-Dustur 9/22 in FBIS 9/22)

Palestinians hold demonstrations in Hebron as warning to PA not to compromise in negotiations. IDF arrests some demonstrators, leading to small rock-throwing clashes. Israeli settlers shoot, wound 1 Palestinian. IDF soldiers intervene. (ITV 9/22 in FBIS 9/25; NYT, WP, WT 9/23)

23 SEPTEMBER

Although minor points regarding jurisdiction, prisoners remain outstanding, Arafat, FM Peres announce they have reached a final interim agmt., plan to initial it in Tabo 9/24, sign agmt. and annexes in Washington 9/28. (MENA, VOP 9/23 in FBIS 9/25; NYT, WP, WT 9/24)

In Hebron, 4 Palestinians are injured when IDF soldiers break up demonstrations against the Oslo II accord. 3 Palestinians are injured during similar demonstrations in Nablus. (QY 9/23 in FBIS 9/24)

24 SEPTEMBER

Despite Peres’s last-minute insertion of clauses concerning PA police movement, redeployment prompting Arafat to temporarily walk out of the talks, Israel, PA initial Oslo II agmt. Arafat immediately departs for a tour to discuss the agmt. with Arab leaders. (ITV, MBC, QY, RE, VOP 9/24 in FBIS 9/25; CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 9/25; NYT, WP 9/26; WJW 9/28; JP 9/30)

In protest over the initialling of the accord, Palestinians throw stones at IDF soldiers in Hebron, Nablus. In Nablus,
soldiers shoot, kill 1 Palestinian. Right-wing settlers call on soldiers to ignore redeployment orders. (ITV, QY 9/24 in FBIS 9/25; WT 9/25, 9/26)


Israeli security detains 2 leading Hamas mbrs., Shaykh Jamal Abu Hayja and Bassam Abu Shamla; places them in 4-mo. administrative detention. (QY 9/24 in FBIS 9/26)


25 SEPTEMBER

PA cabinet approves Oslo II agmt., with Labor M Samir Ghawashah, Telecommunications M 'Abd al-Hafiz al-Asbah abstaining over Hebron clauses. (CSM, MM 9/26; VOP 9/26 in FBIS 9/26)

DFLP, Hamas, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria issue statements denouncing Oslo II agmt. (SANA 9/25, INRA [Tehran], The Times [London] 9/26 in FBIS 9/26)

PSF cmdr. Maj. Gen. Nasr Yusuf says he has 6,000 policemen, security personnel ready to assume duties in the West Bank; expects 4,000-5,000 additional men to come fr. outside the territories to assume duties. (VOP 9/25 in FBIS 9/26)

In Amman, Jordanian security forces arrest 3 Fatah-Uprising mbrs., charge them with attacking the Israeli embassy 9/18. (Al-Bilad 10/4 in FBIS 10/3 [dates as published])

In s. Lebanon, Hizballah shells IDF post, killing 2, wounding 2. (MM, NYT 9/26)

26 SEPTEMBER

In Tunis, the PLO Exec. Comm. approves Oslo II. (VOP 9/26 in FBIS 9/26; VOP 9/27 in FBIS 9/27)

PFLP-GC denounces the Oslo II agmt. (QPAR 9/26 in FBIS 9/27)

Libya gives all its 30,000 Palestinians 24 hrs. to evacuate their homes, arrive in camps in preparation for their expulsion; says it has already sent the 1st batch of 1,500 Palestinians to the Egyptian border. (AFP, VOP 9/26 in FBIS 9/27; MBC, MENA 9/26 in FBIS 9/28; WT 9/27; CSM, NYT 9/28; NYT 9/30) (see 9/20)

In s. Lebanon, 2 SLA soldiers are killed, several wounded when Hizballah detonates roadside bomb. (RL, VOL 9/26 in FBIS 9/26)

27 SEPTEMBER


In Washington, 2-day Ad Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC) donor mtg. to reassess the aid process in light of Oslo II begins. (JP 10/7)


Arafat appeals to Qaddafi to stop the expulsions, allow the deportees to return. 177 Palestinians expelled by Libya, stranded at border btw. Libya, Egypt for weeks are allowed to enter Gaza. 7 more families remain stranded at the Rafah checkpoint. (MM 9/27; VOP 9/27 in FBIS 9/28; CSM, NYT, WT 9/28) (see 9/26)

Palestinian Information Bureau stages march through Hebron, prayer vigil at Cave of the Patriarchs/al-Ibrahimi Mosque in protest over the Oslo II provisions for Hebron. PA officials, West Bank notables, Israeli Arab leaders, school children participate. (QY 9/27 in FBIS 9/29)

28 SEPTEMBER

In Washington, Arafat, PM Rabin sign the Oslo II agmt. Syria, Lebanon send no representatives. (BT, CSM, MM, WJW 9/28; VOP 9/28 in FBIS 9/28; CSM, FT, MM, NYT, WP, WT 9/29; WJW 10/5; JP 10/7) (See “Special Document File”)

Israeli FM Peres, Jordan's King Hussein, Arafat confirm that they have been discussing establishment of a confederation btw. Jordan, self-rule areas. (IL 10/2)

Israel, EU initial cooperation and commerce agmt. (IL 10/2)

PM Rabin meets with representatives of American Jewish groups, warns them that lobbying against Israeli government policies would cause a serious rift in Israel's relations with the American Jewish
community. (QY 9/29, 9/30 in FBIS 10/2; NYT 9/30; WJW 10/5; JP 10/7)
Israel closes borders with West Bank, Gaza until 10/1 to curb any Palestinian attacks on Israel in protest over Oslo II signing. In Hebron, 1,000 Jewish settlers protest the accord. (CSM, NYT 9/29)

29 SEPTEMBER

Jordanian opposition parties, independents attend antinormalization conference in Amman. Mtg. was originally scheduled for 5/29, but was banned by the government hours before it occurred. Organizers skirted the ban by holding the mtg. in private offices, rather than in a public forum. (JT 9/30, SARR 10/1, JT 10/2 in FBIS 10/2) (see 5/18, 5/29)
Kiryat Arba leader Zvi Katzover says he is forming a settler militia to take over IDF posts as IDF withdraws fr. Hebron, says 100s of settlers have already signed up. (WT 9/30)
2 days after he was arrested by 4 PSF mbrs., Palestinian-American Azzam Muhammad Ibrahim Muslih becomes the 4th to die in PA custody. (QY, VOP 9/29 in FBIS 10/2; NYT 10/1, 10/2; JP 10/7)
The Maronite Bishopric in Tyre lodges complaint with the UN observers in s. Lebanon, saying IDF forces confiscated and levelled 20,000 sq. m. of its olive groves nr. al-Duhayra. UN confirms the IDF has cordoned off the land with barbed wire. (RL 9/29 in FBIS 10/2)

30 SEPTEMBER

Israeli FM Peres, Omani FM Bin-Alawi discuss economic issues on the sidelines of the UN mtg. (MM 10/2; QY 10/2 in FBIS 10/4; MEI 10/6; JP 10/14)
100s of settlers rampage through Hebron, damage Palestinian cars and homes, beat up 2 American pro-Palestinian peace activists. Israeli police intervene, arrest 2 settlers. (QY 9/30 in FBIS 10/2; NYT, WP 10/1; JP 10/7)
IDF extends West Bank, Gaza closure to 10/5, puts forces on alert after receiving information regarding a planned Islamic Jihad attack. (QY 9/30, ITV 10/1, QY 10/2 in FBIS 10/2) (see 9/24)

1 OCTOBER

UN opens its 50th session in New York. On sidelines of the mtgs., FM Peres meets with local rabbis; discusses settler issue, future amendments to PLO covenant. (QY 10/2 in FBIS 10/4)
Before leaving the U.S., PM Rabin tells reporters American Jews are not giving Israel sufficient financial assistance to help absorb immigrants, criticizes "fringe groups" which lobby Congress against official Israeli policy. (MM 10/3) (see 9/28)
106 more Palestinian families arrive at detention camps on the Libyan-Egyptian border, joining 300 Palestinians awaiting their deportation. United Nations Human Rights Comm. calls on Libya to halt the expulsions. (MBC, MENA, VOP 10/1, MENA 10/2 in FBIS 10/2)
Likud submits bill calling for territorial continuity in the Jordan Valley fr. Beit She'an to the Dead Sea. (QY 10/1 in FBIS 10/2; MM 10/2)
In Nablus, Palestinian nationalist, Islamist personalities (incl. PA officials) hold conference, ratify a national honor charter to build civil society, avoid militarization of the society and national institutions. (PR 10/13)
100 settlers march across Israeli border into Jordan in protest of Oslo II, ask King Hussein to prevent the enlargement of the Jericho enclave, show support for Likud bill submitted 10/1. IDF does not stop them. (QY 10/1, JP, QY 10/2, JT 10/3 in FBIS 10/3; CSM 10/2; WP, WT 10/3; JP 10/7; JP 10/24)
In New York, jury convicts Egyptian cleric Shaykh Omar 'Abd al-Rahman, 9 others on 48 of 50 charges of conspiring to carry out a terrorist campaign of bombings, assassinations intended to destroy New York landmarks and force the U.S. to abandon its support of Israel, Egypt. (MENA 10/1 in FBIS 10/2, MM, NYT, WT 10/2)

2 OCTOBER

Israeli Supreme Court blocks the government fr. releasing Palestinian prisoners until Knesset approves Oslo II. (QY, VOP 10/2 in FBIS 10/3; MM 10/3)
IDF Central Commander Ilan Biran briefs settler leaders on Oslo II accord; tells them IDF will close off some major West Bank roads to Israelis during the 1st 3 mos. of the interim period. If settlers try to use the roads, IDF will arrest them. (QY 10/3 in FBIS 10/4)

Israel Housing M Binyamin Ben-Elizer announces plans to confiscate 380 dunums of Palestinian land in East Jerusalem, demolish 16 houses on that land for road construction. (Davar 10/2 in FBIS 10/4)

3 OCTOBER

Israel circulates a memorandum to UN General Assembly mbrs., proposing the UN cancel the international resolutions on Jerusalem. (VOP 10/5 in FBIS 10/6)

Hizballah mbrs. bomb car carrying SLA administrators, killing 3. (VOL 10/3 in FBIS 10/4)

4 OCTOBER

Syrian FM Shara' meets with Egyptian FM Musa, Lebanese FM Buwayz, Saudi FM Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal on the sidelines of the UN mtgs. (RL, SARR 10/4 in FBIS 10/5)

On the sidelines of the UN mtgs., Arab FM's agree to support Libya's nomination for the rotating position on the UN Security Council. (MENA 10/5 in FBIS 10/6)


Visiting Palestinians detained in camp on Egypt's border, Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qaddafi calls on Arab leaders to "send home" all Palestinians in protest over the Oslo II agmt. Islamists, national-ist Palestinians jointly condemn the call. (NYT, WP, 10/5) (see 9/27)

Al-Watan publisher Imad al-Faluj signs PA pledge to respect the press and publication law, allowing publication of his pro-Hamas paper to resume. (Al-Nahar 10/5 in FBIS 10/6) (see 8/6)

In Gaza, Israeli policeman is wounded by shots fired at a joint Israeli-PA patrol. Group calling itself the Islamic Salvation Front takes responsibility. (ITV 10/4 in FBIS 10/5)

IDF extends closure on West Bank, Gaza to 10/8. (QY 10/4 in FBIS 10/5) (see 9/30)

5 OCTOBER

At the invitation of Secy. of State Christopher, Syrian FM Shara' arrives in Washington for 2-day working visit. (MM 10/5; RMC, SARR 10/5, SARR 10/6 in FBIS 10/6; MM 10/5; SARR 10/6 in FBIS 10/6; WJW 10/12)

In Jerusalem, 20,000-30,000 Israelis gather in Zion Square to urge MKs to vote against the Oslo II accord. (NYT 10/6; JP 10/6 in FBIS 10/6; JP 10/14)

PM Rabin opens the Knesset debate on the Oslo II agmt., for the 1st time outlining his vision of a final settlement. Labor coalition MKs vote unanimously for resolution calling the vote on the interim agmt. binding on all faction, coalition mbrs. (MM 10/5; QY 10/5 in FBIS 10/5) (see Special Doc. B)

Arab FM's meet at the UN to discuss Israeli memorandum circulated 10/3, issuance their own memorandum calling on the UN committees dealing with Palestine, particularly the UNRWA, to continue their work until Palestinians regain their national rights, Israel completes its withdrawal fr. the o.t., the issue of settlements is solved. (VOP 10/5 in FBIS 10/6)

PA police arrest 20 Hamas mbrs. in connection with 10/4 shooting of Israeli policeman. (JP 10/6 in FBIS 10/6)

In s. Lebanon, Hizballah attacks 2 SLA convoys, killing or wounded 6. (VOL 10/5 in FBIS 10/6)

6 OCTOBER

Knesset approves Oslo II accord. (MM 10/6; NYT, WP 10/6; QY 10/6 in FBIS 10/6; WJW 10/12; JP 10/14)

Outside the Knesset, Israeli protesters attack car of Housing M Ben-Elizer and his aides, yelling "Get them! Kill them!"; do not injure the group but badly damage the car. (MM 10/6)

Israeli Pres. Weizman refuses to sign the releases of 2 Palestinian female prisoners convicted of murder. (QY 10/6 in FBIS
CHRONOLOGY

10/6; WP 10/7; MM 10/9, 10/12; MEI 10/20

Egyptian FM Musa, Libyan Col. Qaddafi meet at border, discuss expulsions; Musa gives Qaddafi letter fr. Mubarak. 900 Palestinians stranded in the border camp burn tires, stone passing cars, demand they be allowed into the Palestinian self-rule areas. (MENA 10/5, 10/6, 10/7, 10/8, VOP 10/9 in FBIS 10/10; WT 10/8) (see 10/4)

Israel allows 4 Hamas mbrs. (Isma'il Hanniyya, Khalid al-Hindi, 'Abdallah Muhanna, Sa'id al-Naruti) to leave the West Bank for Jordan, then Sudan to consult with exiled Hamas leaders (incl. Imad al-Alami, Muhammad Nazzal, Munir al-Sa'id) regarding forming a political party. (QY 10/6 in FBIS 10/6; ITV 10/6 in FBIS 10/10; MM 10/11)

7 OCTOBER


PA cabinet approves new budget for the authority in the West Bank. (VOP 10/7 in FBIS 10/10)

In Khartoum, Hamas delegation fr. the o.t. presents exiled Hamas mbrs. with drafts for PA-Hamas reconciliation agmt. Hamas spokesman Ibrahim Ghawshah says the mbrs. abroad feel the agmt. is too concessionary, are threatening to secede fr. Hamas if it is signed. (VOP 10/7, Al-Dustur, JP 10/8 in FBIS 10/10; Al-Sharq Al-Awsat 10/8 in FBIS 10/11; MM 10/11; AFP, Al-Hayat 10/11 in FBIS 11/12; MM 10/12) (see 10/6)

On the Egyptian-Libyan border, 200-300 Palestinians block road outside customs depot in protest over their planned expulsion. (WT 10/8) (see 10/6)

At Israel's Qetzioth prison (Ansar 3) in the Negev, Palestinian administrative detainee Muhammad 'Abd al-Raziq Abu Shaqra is found dead. Officials say he might have been beaten to death, will investigate. (AFP 10/9, JP 10/10 in FBIS 10/10) (see 9/10)

Israeli security extends Ayshah Ayash's detention to 10/13. (QY 10/7 in FBIS 10/10) (see 9/16)

8 OCTOBER

Jordanian Interior Min. approves formation of the Jordanian Unionist Democratic Party. (JTV 10/8 in FBIS 10/11) (see 8/4)

IDF extends closure of West Bank, Gaza until 10/17, fearing attacks during the Sukkoth holiday. (QY 10/8 in FBIS 10/9) (see 10/4)

9 OCTOBER

In Gaza, Hamas, PA representatives discuss reconciliation agmt. (QY 10/11 in FBIS 10/11) (see 10/7)

At funeral of Abu Shaqra in Ramallah, IDF clashes with 2,000 mourners, arrests 5 Palestinians. (AFP 10/9 in FBIS 10/10) (see 10/7)

SLA allows delegation fr. the International Comm. of the Red Cross to visit al-Khiyam prison in s. Lebanon for 1st time since it was built in 1984. (VOL 10/8, AFP, RL 10/9 in FBIS 10/10)

In s. Lebanon, Hizballah attacks IDF convoy, killing 3 IDF troops. (RL 10/9 in FBIS 10/10)

Based on complaints of conflict of interest presented by the pro-Israeli activist group CAMERA (Comm. for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America), National Public Radio fires its Middle East correspondent Maureen Meehan because she is married to PA official Jiryis Atrash. CAMERA says it will now try to have Meehan removed from her second job as a stringer for Newsday. (WJW 10/12; JP 11/4)

10 OCTOBER

Donors' Joint Liaison Comm. (JLC) convenes in Gaza. (VOP 10/10 in FBIS 10/12; PWR 10/16)

IDF withdraws fr. 1st West Bank village, Salhh; starts dismantling training camp in Dotan, nr. Janin. (MM 10/10; VOP 10/10 in FBIS 10/10; MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/11; VOP 10/10, QY 10/11 in FBIS 10/11; MM 10/16; BT 10/19; JP 10/21)

Israel begins releasing Palestinian prisoners. 20 Iraqi defectors (see 9/8) are also turned over to PA custody. (MM 10/10; QY 10/10 in FBIS 10/10; IDF Radio, ITV 10/10, QY 10/11 in FBIS 10/11; PR 10/13) (see 10/8)
At a gathering in their honor, immigrants fr. the U.S., other English-speaking countries shout down PM Rabin, prevent him fr. giving his keynote speech for 10 minutes, in protest over his peace policies. (MM 10/11; WT 11/9)


10 IDF reserve soldiers say they will refuse to respond to their call-up orders because the Oslo II agmt. is against their moral beliefs. IDF says refusing to serve is crime, those who ignore their orders will be charged. (QY 10/10 in FBIS 10/10)

Off the coast of s. Lebanon, IDF gunboats fire on Lebanese fishing vessels. (RL 10/10 in FBIS 10/10) (see 9/6)

11 OCTOBER

PM Rabin is put under tighter security following events at 10/10 speech, arrest of 2 Kach mbrs. for damaging his car in attack similar to that against Housing M Ben-Eliezer 10/6. Shin Bet worries that Kach activists are too well acquainted with Rabin's schedule. (ITV 10/11 in FBIS 10/12)

IDF withdraws fr. West Bank villages of Qabatiyya, Yatta, Kharbata. (MM 10/11; QY, VOP 10/11 in FBIS 10/12; WP, WT 10/12; JP 10/21)

Zalman Shoval, director of Likud foreign relations, initiates campaign to have 100,000 Israelis sign a petition calling on Pres. Clinton to support Dole bill on moving the U.S. embassy fr. Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. (MA 10/11 in FBIS 10/11)

PSF sentences 6 security agents to jail terms btwn. 2 wks and 6 mos. for mistreating prisoners in PA custody. (VOP 10/12 in FBIS 10/13; JP 10/21)

Immediately after his release fr. prison, Palestinian Sa'id Kalbani is detained, shot in the knees by a group of Fatah Hawks. (JP 10/21)

In s. Lebanon, Hizbullah attacks IDF position, wounding 1 IDF soldier. IDF, SLA retaliate, killing 1 Hizbullah mbr., wounding 2. (MM 10/11; QY, VOL 10/11 in FBIS 10/11; RL 10/11 in FBIS 10/12; JP 10/21)

12 OCTOBER

In Gaza, Arafat meets with Hamas delegation that returned fr. the Sudan 10/7. (NYT 10/13; Al-Hayat, VOP 10/13, MENA 10/15 in FBIS 10/16)

Palestinian People's Party (PPP), formerly the Palestinian Communist party, says it will take part in elections. (QY 10/13 in FBIS 10/16)

Following events 10/10, 10/11, PM Rabin cancels appearance at Saharena celebrations in Ashqelon, fearing he would be prevented fr. speaking by hecklers. Shin Bet notes increasing number of attempts to attack ministers by extreme right-wingers; says it has increased its VIP detail to offer more protection. (YA 10/12 in FBIS 10/13)

Egyptian FM Musa says Libya's Col. Qaddafi has agreed to stop expelling Palestinians, only final details of an agmt. of understanding need to be worked out. (NYT 10/13; VOP 10/13 in FBIS 10/16; BT 10/19) (see 10/6)

In Damascus, PLO's Qaddumi meets with FM Shara', then with Palestinian opposition leaders to discuss implications of the Oslo II agmt., conditions of refugees in Libya, Lebanon. (SARR 10/12 in FBIS 10/13; Al-Hayat, RMC 10/13 in FBIS 10/16)

Peace Now releases figures for Israel's 1995 West Bank housing starts, showing the highest rate of construction since PM Rabin took office in 1992. So far this year there have been 1,398 starts compared with 1,290 for 1994, 980 for 1993, and 6,210 in 1992. Most of the 6,000 West Bank settler homes under construction are nr. Jerusalem. (WT 10/13)

2 Fatah Hawks handuff, blindfold journalist Samir Al-Kurdi, lead him to the courtyard of Nablus mosque, shoot and wound him, citing "moral offenses." (JP 10/21, 10/28) (see 10/11)

PA arrests 5 Palestinians, incl. security agents, in connection with American Azam Muhammad Ibrahim Musligh's death in custody 9/29. (WP 10/13; JP 10/21)

In s. Lebanon, Hizbullah detonates roadside bomb, killing 3 IDF soldiers, wounding 6. (MM 10/13; RL 10/13 in FBIS 10/13; VOL 10/13 in FBIS 10/16; WT 10/16; MM 10/18; JP 10/21, 10/28)
13 OCTOBER

Donors' Local Aid Coordinating Comm. (LACC), JLC hold joint mtg. in Gaza. (VOP 10/13 in FBIS 10/16)
Arafat holds follow-up mtg. with Hamas delegation. (VOP 10/13, MENA 10/15 in FBIS 10/16) (see 10/12)

14 OCTOBER

In Janin, Israeli security forces close down 5 PSF offices, interrogate staffs, saying under the Oslo agmts. the PA may open police stations in rural areas, but not official PSF offices. (QY 10/14 in FBIS 10/16)

In the West Bank, Palestinians observe a commercial strike in protest over Israel's refusal to pardon all female prisoners. (QY 10/14 in FBIS 10/17)
Arafat accuses Hamas leaders abroad of blocking Hamas-PA reconciliation. (AFP 10/14 in FBIS 10/16)
While in Malta to receive peace award, Arafat's car is broadsided by a van, damaging the car but causing no injuries. Maltese authorities cannot explain how the van bypassed security measures set up for the motorcade. (WT 10/15)

15 OCTOBER

Shoval sends petition signed by 1,000s of Israelis to Clinton, Congress. (QY 10/15 in FBIS 10/16) (see 10/11)

In 2d attack in s. Lebanon in 3 days, Hizbollah detonates land mine as IDF patrol passes, killing 6 soldiers, seriously wounding 1. Israeli ships shell Hizbollah targets, IDF reinforcements move in fr. n. Israel. (IDF Radio, ITV, QY, RL, SARR, VOL 10/15 in FBIS 10/16; MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/16; QY 10/15 in FBIS 10/17; WT 10/17; MM, NYT 10/18; JP, WP 10/28)

In Iraq's national referendum, Saddam Hussein wins 99.96% of the vote. (NYT, WP 10/15; CSM 10/16, 10/17)

16 OCTOBER

PM Rabin travels to Marja'uyun to survey conditions, meet with SLA cmdr. Antoine Lahd; returns to Israel, convenes emergency cabinet mtg. to discuss recent attacks in s. Lebanon, but decides against large-scale retaliatory strike. (RL 10/16 in FBIS 10/17; CSM 10/17)
Fatah Central Comm. convenes its 6th congress—the 1st held in Gaza. 469 brs. attend, elect 11 to the regional comm. (Al-Sharq Al-Awsat 10/17 in FBIS 10/19)

Lebanese government, parliament petition Pres. Hrawi to stay on past the 11/24 end of his term due to "national need," paving the way for an extension of his term despite constitutional barriers. (MM 10/16; RL, VOL 10/16 in FBIS 10/16; RL, VOL 10/16 in FBIS 10/17; WT 10/17) (see 9/17)

IDF eases closure on West Bank, Gaza. Individuals may cross border, but Palestinian vehicles may not enter. (MM 10/16; CSM 10/16) (see 10/4)

17 OCTOBER

In Jericho, Palestinian-Israeli Steering and Monitoring Comm. holds its 1st mtg. (VOP 10/17 in FBIS 10/18; VOP 10/17 in FBIS 10/19)

IDF lifts closure on Gaza, but says it will allow only 26,600 Palestinian laborers into Israel, as compared to 35,000 before the closure. (VOP 10/17 in FBIS 10/17; IDF Radio 10/18 in FBIS 10/19)

100s of relatives of Palestinian prisoners rally in Ramallah. IDF disperses them with stun grenades, injuring 1. (QY 10/17 in FBIS 10/19)

Despite Qaddafi's promises to stop the expulsions, 650 Palestinians (incl. 332 children) forced to leave Libya 10/13 remain stranded on a ferry off the coast of Cyprus. Cyprus denies the passengers entry, but allows the ferry to anchor off Larnaca, take on food, fuel. (AFP 10/18 in FBIS 10/18; Cyprus Broadcasting Corp. Radio 10/18 in FBIS 10/19; NYT, WT 10/19) (see 10/12)

Lebanese security forces break up counterfeiting ring in Biqa' Valley responsible for circulating $50 m. in U.S. $20 bills. (Al-Nahhar 10/17 in FBIS 10/25)

18 OCTOBER

2-day Consultative Group donor mtg. opens. (PR 10/27)

Syria allows into the country 590 of the Palestinians stranded on the Libyan ferry off Cyprus. All 590 are either Syrian nationals or have Syrian travel documents.
Biannual 2-day U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation mtg. opens in Washington. Talks focus on security implications of Oslo II agmt., arms control, status of multilateral arms control working group. Israel gives the U.S. progress reports on Arrow-2 missile, Ofek-3 satellite projects. (MM 10/9/ IL 10/20)

IDF moves reinforcements into s. Lebanon fr. n. Israel. (RL 10/19; in FBIS 10/19)

19 OCTOBER

On his way to prisoners talks, PSF head Col. Rajub is detained by Israeli border police, who confiscate his identity card, order him back to Jericho. (QY 10/19 in FBIS 10/19; QY 10/19 in FBIS 10/20)

Lebanese parliament approves (110-11, 6 abstentions) constitutional amendment, allowing Pres. Hrawi to extend his term for 3 yrs. (MM 10/19; RL 10/19, SARR 10/20 in FBIS 10/20; MM, WT 10/20; MEI 11/3)

20 OCTOBER

New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani orders the UN to rescind its invitation to Arafat (sent 9/27) to attend a Lincoln Center concert marking the UN's 50th anniversary. (NYT 10/26)

Special Israeli ministerial comm. extends for 3 mos. Shin Bet's authority to use physical force on Palestinian suspects during interrogation. (WP 10/21; WJW 10/26) (see 8/16)

PA approves formation of new Islamic National Union party in Gaza, to be headed by 3 fmr. Hamas mbrs. (PR 10/27) (see 8/13)

21 OCTOBER

As part of a 5-day series of mtgs. with world leaders on the sidelines of the UN 50th anniversary celebration, Arafat meets with Czech Pres. Vaclav Havel, Jordanian King Hussein, Saudi Defense M Prince Sultan, a group of American business executives, Palestinian-American leaders. (NYT 10/23)


In Bethlehem, 100s of Palestinians rally, demanding release of prisoners. (ITV 10/21 in FBIS 10/23)

22 OCTOBER


Israeli Industry and Trade M Mikha Harish says he will encourage the business sector to significantly increase imports fr. the U.S. while cutting back on imports fr. the EU because of the large trade deficit Israel has with the EU. EC representative to Israel Albert Maes accuses Israel of “applying a discriminatory economic policy that harms the trade agmt. with Europe.” (MA 10/22 in FBIS 10/23) (see 7/5)

Palestinian Popular Struggle Front (PPSF) says it will participate in January elections. (VOP 10/22 in FBIS 10/23)

IDF shells Hizballah positions in s. Lebanon, killing 1 Lebanese boy. (CSM 10/23)

23 OCTOBER

At the opening of the Knesset’s winter session, FM Peres submits a political statement outlining the Rabin government’s position on the Oslo II agmt., the peace process. MKs approve it by vote of 50-40, with 1 abstention. (ITV 10/23 in FBIS 10/24; MM 10/24)

Arafat shows up at Lincoln Center concert. Mayor Giuliani has him ejected fr. the concert hall, saying “When we’re having . . . a celebration, I would rather not have someone who was implicated in the murder of Americans.” State Dept., fmr. New York City mayors Edward Koch, David Dinkins criticize Giuliani for not showing Arafat the proper respect. (MM 10/25; MM, WP 10/25; NYT, WP 10/26; MEI 11/3) (see 10/20)
24 OCTOBER

In New York, Syrian FM Shara' meets with the State Dept. peace team. U.S. special envoy Ross gives Shara' U.S. ideas for resuming negotiations to transmit to Pres. Asad. (SATN 10/24 in FBIS 10/25; MM 11/26)

Israel, Jordan sign agmt. on cooperation b/wn. police forces. (QY 10/24 in FBIS 10/24)


1st UN convoy arrives in Libyan-Egyptian border camp to deliver food, clothing, blankets to 1,036 Palestinians detained there. (WT 10/25)

In s. Lebanon, PFLP-GC loses 2 mbrs. in attack on SLA outpost. (VOL 10/24 in FBIS 10/25)

25 OCTOBER


1st of 7 new West Bank district liaison and coordinating offices begins operating in Janin. (HA 10/27 in FBIS 11/1)

In Washington, PM Rabin meets with Pres. Clinton, Defense Secy. Perry. Later in the day, Congress holds official reception on Capitol Hill to mark Israel's Jerusalem 3000 celebration, commemorating the establishment by King David of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. PM Rabin, Jerusalem Mayor Olmert, Senate Majority Leader Dole (R-KS), Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD), House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-GA), House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-M) attend. Knesset sends Congress telegram congratulating them on the U.S. embassy vote. (QY 9/5 in FBIS 9/5; MM, NYT 10/25; MM, WT 10/26; MM 10/27)

Jordan, Israel sign trade agmt. (QY 10/25 in FBIS 10/26)

Libya's Qaddafi temporarily halts expulsion of Palestinians for 3-6 mos. to allow Arab states time to prepare for the eventual deportation of all Palestinians to the self-rule areas. (NYT, WT 10/26)

IAF begins using infrared night-vision security system on the border with Lebanon. (JP 10/25 in FBIS 10/27)

26 OCTOBER

Israel, Jordan sign agricultural agmt. (IL 10/26; JP 11/4)

PA submits request to Arab League for summit to discuss U.S. embassy issue. Secy. Gen. 'Abd al-Majid rules out possibility, says Arab FMs can discuss matter on sidelines of Amman economic summit. (MENA, VOP 10/26, VOA 10/27 in FBIS 10/27)

In Jerusalem, Jewish Agency's Board of Governors meets to discuss its "most severe fiscal crisis to date," plans to cut $110 m. in social services, educational projects in the next 2 yrs. Board chmn. Charles Goodman says restructuring is needed, fears irrelevancy. Pres. of the United Israel Appeal (UIA), which funnels money fr. United Jewish Appeal to the agency, says UIA is facing "monumental debt," must make "massive, massive cuts." (WJW 10/26; JP 11/11)

Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shiqaqi is assassinated in Malta, en route to Damascus fr. a mtg. in Libya to persuade Qaddafi fr. deporting more Palestinians. Islamic Jihad blames Mossad. (WT 10/29; AFP 10/29, QY 10/30 in FBIS 10/30; MM, WP, WT 10/30; WP 11/1; MEI 11/3; JP 11/4)

27 OCTOBER

In Gaza, Arafat, EU delegation, World Bank VP Yenne Obolensky sign agmt. extending $300 m. in EU soft loans to the PA. Despite official Israeli protests, the delegation then meets U.S. Consul Gen. Abington, Arafat adviser Faisal Husseini at Orient House. (VOP 10/27, JP 10/31 in FBIS 10/31)

Russian Dep. FM Posuvalyuk arrives in Damascus for 2-day visit, discusses peace process with FM Shara', criticizes U.S. em-
bassy legislation. (SANA 10/27, SATN 10/28 in FBIS 10/31)

Nr. Sidon, Lebanon, a bomb goes off in the car of an UNRWA employee, causing material damage but no injury. (VOL 10/27 in FBIS 10/27)

28 OCTOBER


IDF is put on alert in wake of Shiqaqi assassination. PM Rabin, Israeli officials do not affirm, deny Mossad responsibility, but welcome killing; say they hope the disarray within Islamic Jihad will last through Palestinian elections, perhaps Israeli elections. (QY 10/29 in FBIS 10/30; MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/30)

29 OCTOBER

Amman economic summit opens. (JT, JTV, MENA, QY, VOA 10/29 in FBIS 10/30; NYT 10/30; WP 11/1; MEI 11/3)

In Amman, Secy. of State Christopher meets with PM Rabin, FM Peres to discuss Syrian-Israeli negotiations. (SARR 10/30 in FBIS 10/31)

In Amman, King Hussein meets with Secy. of State Christopher, Russian FM Kozyrev, Israeli PM Rabin, FM Peres. (JTV 10/29 in FBIS 10/30; JTV 10/30 in FBIS 10/31)

Islamic Jihad selects new head—Ramadan Abdullah Shahall, 40-yr-old religious speaker, who received economics and political science degrees in England, U.S. In Gaza, Hebron Palestinians protest Shiqaqi assassination. (QPAR, QY 10/29 in FBIS 10/30; NYT, WP, WT 10/30; MM, WT 10/31; CSM, WP, WT 11/1; WJW 11/2)

Israeli navy fires on 5 fishing boats operating off the coast of Tyre, Lebanon; abducts 3 fishermen fr. 1 boat, interrogates them for several hours. (RL, VOL 10/29 in FBIS 10/30) (see 10/10)

30 OCTOBER

IDF Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Shahak authorizes the IDF to redraw redeployment maps. (JP 10/31 in FBIS 10/31)

On sidelines of Amman summit, Arafat meets with Swiss Economics M Franz Blancard, Chinese 1st Dep. FM Vian Tenri Pe. (VOP 10/30 in FBIS 10/30)

On his return fr. the summit, Secy. of State Christopher stops in Damascus to meet with Pres. Asad. (MM 10/30; SARR 10/30 in FBIS 10/30; SARR 10/30 in FBIS 10/31; CSM, MM, WT 10/31; QY 10/31 in FBIS 11/1)

In response to threats fr. Islamic Jihad following Shiqaqi’s assassination 10/26, IDF raises the age limit for Palestinians entering Israel to 35 yrs; bars entry to all students, vehicles. Meanwhile, 1,000s of Islamic Jihad supporters hold protest at Netzarim junction. (VOP 10/30 in FBIS 10/31; MM, WT 10/31; WP 11/1)

Following Qadaa’s temporary halt to expulsions (announced 10/25), around 750 Palestinians are allowed to return to Libya fr. Egypt. (AFP 10/30 in FBIS 10/31)

31 OCTOBER

Israel proposes compensating Palestinians for land to be confiscated for building bypass roads in hopes of minimizing protests. PA protest, saying Oslo II does not approve confiscation of any lands. (QY 10/31 in FBIS 11/1)

Amman economic summit closes; issues formal declaration. (MM 10/31; JTV, Wakh [Manama] 10/31 in FBIS 11/1; MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/1; Al-Aswaq, JT 11/1 in FBIS 11/2; MEI 11/3; JP 11/11) (see Doc. A2)

1 NOVEMBER

DFLP, Fatah, PFLP, PPSF, FIDA, PPP, Arab Liberation Front form permanent committee on Jerusalem to pressure Pres. Clinton to block embassy move. (VOP 11/1 in FBIS 11/2)

In Ramallah, settler rabbi is shot, seriously wounded when his car is ambushed. DFLP claims responsibility. IDF closes Jericho area. (AFP, QY, VOP 11/1 in FBIS 11/2; CSM 11/2)

In retaliation for Islamic Jihad leader Shiqaqi’s assassination 10/26, Hizballah strikes IDF, SLA convoy in s. Lebanon, killing 2 SLA mbrs., wounding 3 SLA mbrs. and 5 IDF soldiers. Meanwhile, 40,000 mourners attend Shiqaqi’s funeral in Damascus; 1,000s more hold memorial
rally in Tehran. (MM 11/1; QY 11/1 in FBIS 11/1; QPAR, RMC, SANA, SARR 11/1 in FBIS 11/2; CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/2)

2 NOVEMBER

In Janin, Israeli police turn over their station to 24 Palestinian policemen to use as a temporary headquarters. (VOP 11/2 in FBIS 11/3)

In 2 incidents in Gaza, car bombs explode nr. Israeli busses, killing 2 Palestinian drivers, wounding 11 Israelis. Islamic Jihad claims responsibility. IDF closes all Gaza roads to Palestinian traffic. (MM 11/2; AFP, IDF Radio, QPAR, QY, VOP 11/2 in FBIS 11/2; CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/3; JP 11/11)

Bronze bust of Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, famous for helping Jews escape Nazi-occupied Hungary, is placed in the Capitol Rotunda. (WJW 11/2)

3 NOVEMBER

PA bans distribution of the Jordanian weekly paper Al-Bilad because it does not have a PA distribution license as required by the 7/18 media law. Others say ban is in retaliation for editorial accusing the PA of being behind Shiqaqi slaying. (RMC 11/3 in FBIS 11/3; HA 11/5 in FBIS 11/7)

Based on complaints of conflict of interest presented by CAMERA, Newsday fires Middle East stringer Maureen Meehan, wife of PA official Jirjis Atrash. Christian Science Monitor, NBC Radio decide to keep her on their staffs. (JP 11/4) (see 10/9)

4 NOVEMBER

PM Rabin is assassinated by an Israeli Jew while leaving peace rally attended by 100,000 in Tel Aviv. The gunman, Yigal Amir, a 25-yr.-old law student fr. Bar-Ilan University, is captured, admits to shooting, says he acted alone. Amir is also a reserve soldier in the elite Golani brigade, fmr. emissary to Russia for immigration affairs at the Jewish Agency, and a mbr. of Eyal—a right-wing settler group, known for violence against Arabs, protesting expanded Palestinian self-rule by setting up makeshift encampments in the West Bank. Security officials say Rabin's bodyguards mistook Amir for a limousine driver. (NYT, WP, WT 11/5; FBIS special supplement, NYT, MM, WP, WT 11/6; WJW 11/9; JP 11/11)

Arab leaders (excl. Libya's Qaddafi, Iran's Pres. Hashemi Rafsanjani) condemn Rabin's assassination. In the territories, Palestinians generally express respect for Rabin, concern over his death, fear for the future of the peace process and their safety fr. settlers. In s. Lebanon, Palestinian refugees, Hizbollah mbrs. celebrate Rabin's death. (WT 11/5; CSM, FBIS supplement, MM, NYT, WT 11/6)

In the West Bank, Palestinians clash with IDF troops after Jewish settler apparently kills a Palestinian boy. (NYT 11/5)

In Gaza, 1,000s of Palestinians stage rally in commemoration of Shiqaqi. (HA 11/5 in FBIS 11/7)

Following the assassination, IDF order the closure of the West Bank, Gaza. (QY 11/5 in FBIS 11/6; NYT 11/7)


5 NOVEMBER

IDF announces 2-day halt to redeployment during mourning period for Rabin. (QY 11/5 in FBIS 11/6)

Israeli police arrest Hagai Amir, Yigal Amir's brother, on suspicion of complicity in Rabin's assassination. Hagai admits giving his brother the illegal hollow point bullets fired at Rabin but denies he knew of Yigal's plans. (NYT, WP 11/7; CSM 11/10)

6 NOVEMBER

World leaders, incl. Egyptian Pres. Mubarak, Jordanian King Hussein, Omani FM Bin-'Alawi, Qatari Culture M Hamad Bin 'Abd al-Aziz al-Kuvari, attend PM Rabin's funeral. Arafat—who Israeli officials stressed was "not welcome" at the funeral, held in Jerusalem—does not go. (CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/6; FBIS supplement, MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/7; CSM 11/8)

After Rabin's funeral, Pres. Clinton holds separate mtgs. about continuing the peace process with Mubarak, King Hussein, Acting PM Peres, Pres. Weizman.
Peres holds private mts. with King Hussein, Pres. Mubarak, Omani FM Bin ‘Alawi to discuss bilateral relations, peace process. (IDF Radio, QY 11/6; RJ, QY 11/7 in FBIS 11/7; WP 11/7; MM 11/8; HA 11/8 in FBIS 11/9)

After repeated requests fr. the PA, the Arab League permanent representatives hold a discussion on the congressional decision to move the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem; consider convening mtg. of all Arab FMs. (MENA 11/6 in FBIS 11/8) (see 10/26)

7 NOVEMBER

In Jerusalem, Acting PM Peres says he will not call early elections. (CSM, NYT, WP, WT 11/8)

Shin Bet gives cabinet a preliminary report on security guarding PM Rabin at the peace rally; says there were not enough bodyguards, guards failed to form a phalanx around Rabin, intelligence had inadequate information on Jewish extremists. (WP, WT 11/8; MM, NYT, WT 11/9)

In television, press interviews, Leah Rabin, Rabin’s widow, accuses Netanyahu, Likud of inciting violence; blames them for Rabin’s death. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/8)

Justice M Liba’i says the government is writing legislation to crack down on militants, tightening restrictions against inciting violence and perhaps banning demonstrations outside elected officials’ homes. (IDF Radio, YA 11/7 in FBIS 11/8; WP 11/7/8)

Israeli police search Kfar Tapuah, a settlement nr. Nablus which has a large Kahane Chai following, looking for links b/wn. the Amir brothers and the banned movements Kahane Chai, Kach. 4 rightist nationalists who praised Rabin’s assassination are arrested, questioned, but released for lack of evidence. (MM 11/7; IDF Radio, QY 11/7 in FBIS 11/8; NYT, WP, WT 11/8)

Eyal, Kach leaders go underground, fearing their arrest by the IDF. Eyal head Avishai Raviv admits Yigal Amir was a mbr. of his organization. (NYT, WP 11/8) (see 11/4)

IDF eases closure, allowing Gaza laborers over 35 yrs old, West Bank laborers over 30 yrs old into Israel. (IDF Radio 11/7 in FBIS 11/7; NYT, WT 11/8) (see 11/4)

8 NOVEMBER

Israel turns over post and telecommunications sphere to the PA. (VOP 11/8 in FBIS 11/8; VOP 11/8 in FBIS 11/9)

Acting PM Peres opens a commission of inquiry into Rabin’s assassination. Chief Justice Aharon Barak will head the comm., which will limit its probe to the act itself, not investigate Jewish extremism. The comm. will have subpoena powers. (NYT, WP, WT 11/9; CSM 11/10)

As a result of the 11/7 Shin Bet report presented to the cabinet today, head of Israel’s bodyguard unit resigns; head of the VIP security unit is fired; 2 bodyguards are suspended. (MM 11/8; QY 11/8 in FBIS 11/8; WP, WT 11/9; CSM 11/10)

Israeli police arrest Eyal’s Raviv on charges of failing to prevent a crime and conspiracy in Rabin’s assassination. Raviv admits he heard Yigal Amir speak of killing Rabin but did not take him seriously. (NYT, WP, WT 11/9; CSM 11/10)

In Jerusalem, Israeli religious, settler, Yishuv leaders hold public mtg. to discuss whether or not the religious right, settlers movement, or religious schools bear responsibility for Rabin’s assassination. (NYT 11/9; WP 11/10)

Calling him a “great Jewish hero,” a group of Orthodox Jews in New York sets up hot line to raise funds for Amir’s legal defense. Hot line director Moshe Gross says his 20 volunteers are receiving 60–70 calls an hour. Asked if his group is connected with Kahane Chai, Gross says: “We [believe] he [Kahane] wasn’t religious enough.” (NYT 11/10; CSM 11/14)

9 NOVEMBER

In his 1st visit to Israel, Arafat flies to Tel Aviv to pay his condolences to Leah Rabin. (MM, NYT, WP 11/10; QY 11/10 in FBIS 11/13; WT 11/11; CSM 11/13)

British Foreign Secy. Malcolm Rifkind meets with PM Peres in Israel; then meets with Arafat. (ITV, VOP 11/9; JTV, RJ 11/10 in FBIS 11/13; NYT 11/11)

Israeli police arrest 3 friends of Yigal Amir—Dror Adani, Michael Epstein, Ohad Skornik—in connection with Rabin’s assassination; say they believe Amir did not act alone. In the yard of the nursery school in Herzliya run by Amir’s mother, police uncover crates of arms, grenades,
CHRONOLOGY

explosives, detonators, fuses. Of the 5 arrested thus far, all are native-born religious nationalists, in their 20s, fr. middle-class backgrounds; all completed military service, 2 in elite brigades; 4 attended Bar-Ilan University. (MM 11/9; QY 11/9 in FBIS 11/9; CSM, NYT, WP 11/10; NYT, WT 11/11)

10 NOVEMBER

Israeli police arrest IDF soldier fr. elite unit, his father in connection with Rabin's assassination. Police also say they believe Yigal Amir began mobilizing a group of young religious nationalists, mbrs. of Eyal, nearly 2 yrs ago, with plans of attacking Palestinians, preventing redeployment; claim to have found rabbi who acted as their spiritual leader; say Rabin had been targeted on at least 3 other occasions. (MM 11/10; NYT, WP, WT 11/11; NYT 11/12; CSM 11/13)


Civil rights groups criticize letter issued by Israeli Atty. Gen. Ben-Ya'ir, saying media could be prosecuted in connection with Rabin assassination for publishing statements seen as inciting violence. (WT 11/11)

11 NOVEMBER


12 NOVEMBER

Official mourning period for Rabin ends. Labor party central comm. unanimously confirms Peres as their new head, clearing the way for Pres. Weizman to ask him to form a new govt. (QY 11/12 in FBIS 11/13; NYT, WP, WT 11/13; CSM, NYT 11/14)

PA's 3-wk. voter registration campaign begins. (VOP 11/12 in FBIS 11/13; WP 11/13)

Israeli Housing Min. approves plans to build new 132-unit Jewish neighborhood on 15 dunams of land in East Jerusalem owned by an Israeli developer. (VOP 11/12 in FBIS 11/13)

Shin Bet says a friend of Yigal Amir, Shlomo Haleyev, told them in June that someone fitting Amir's description was plotting an assassination. In a court appearance, Amir's brother Hagai admits he received weapons from the IDF soldier arrested 11/10. (NYT, WP, WT 11/13; NYT 11/14; WJW 11/16)

13 NOVEMBER


PA receives control over transportation, communications, meteorological spheres for Nablus, Tulkarm. (VOP 11/12 in FBIS 11/13)

Israel allows Fatah rejectionist Hani al-Hassan into Gaza. (QY 11/13 in FBIS 11/14)

In gesture to Hamas, PA releases 24 Hamas mbrs. fr. PA prisons. (AFP, QY 11/13 in FBIS 11/14)

Over 1,000 Labor party mbrs. vote to support the party's central comm. decision to make Peres party head, form government. (ITV, QY 11/13 in FBIS 11/14; NYT, WT 11/14)

Israeli police indict 24 Jewish settlers—incl. head of Hebron settlers Rabbi Moshe Levinger, head of Kach Baruch Marzel, spokesman for Eyal Itamar Ben-Gvir—on charges of disturbing the peace, assaulting police, attacking Palestinians over the last 2 yrs. (WP, WT 11/15)

Israeli Atty. Gen. Ben-Ya'ir meets with immigration officials to discuss banning entry, citizenship to some radical American Jews; notes that Jewish groups in the U.S. have raised over $100,000 for Yigal Amir's defense fund. (CSM, WT 11/14) (see 11/8)

14 NOVEMBER

First joint IDF-PA patrols of Janin area begin. Israel gives PA control over the empty al-Fara'a prison nr. Nablus. (QY 11/13 in FBIS 11/13)

In continuing crackdown on right-wing extremists, Israeli police indict 29 more Jewish settlers, say 50 other indictments will be issued soon. (WP, WT 11/15) (see 11/13)
In Nablus, fmr. Fatah Hawks mbrs. shoot, wound 4 Palestinians in 2 separate incidents. Fmr. Fatah Hawks have acted as self-styled custodians of moral standards in Nablus since May, killing 2, wounding at least 22 for such offenses as running lotteries. (AFP 11/14 in FBIS 11/15) (see 10/12)

15 NOVEMBER

On the recommendation of 111 of 120 MKs, Israeli Pres. Weizman gives Peres 21 days to form a new government as PM. (NYT, WP, WT 11/16)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP (Agence France Presse, Paris)
BT (Beirut Times, Beirut)
CSM (Christian Science Monitor, Boston)
FBIS (Foreign Broadcast Information Service Daily Report, Near East & South Asia)
FT (Financial Times, London)
HA (Ha'aretz, Tel Aviv)
IL (Israel Line, New York)
ITV (Israel Television Network, Jerusalem)
JT (Jordan Times, Amman)
JTV (Jordan Television Network, Amman)
MA (Ma'ariv, Tel Aviv)
MBC (Middle East Broadcasting Centre, London)
MEI (Middle East International, London)
MENA (Middle East News Agency, Cairo)
MM (Mideast Mirror, London)
NYT (New York Times, New York)
PR (Palestine Report, Jerusalem)
PWR (Palestine Weekly Review, Gaza)
QP21 (Al-Quds Palestinian Radio, clandestine)
QY (Qol Yisra'el Radio, Tel Aviv)
RE (Republic of Egypt Radio, Cairo)
RJ (Radio Jordan, Amman)
RL (Radio Lebanon, Beirut)
RMC (Radio Monte Carlo, Paris)
SARR (Syrian Arab Republic Radio, Damascus)
SATN (Syrian Arab Television Network, Damascus)
VOA (Voice of the Arabs, Cairo)
VOL (Voice of Lebanon, Beirut)
VOP (Voice of Palestine, Jericho)
WJW (Washington Jewish Week, Rockville, MD)
WP (Washington Post, Washington, DC)
WT (Washington Times, Washington, DC)
YA (Yedi'ot Aharonot, Tel Aviv)

Chronology compiled by Michele L. Kjorlien