



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS
JOURNALS + DIGITAL PUBLISHING



Chronology, 16 February-15 May 1994

Source: *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Vol. 23, No. 4 (Summer, 1994), pp. 154-175

Published by: [University of California Press](#) on behalf of the [Institute for Palestine Studies](#)

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2538222>

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16 FEBRUARY-15 MAY 1994

This section is part forty-two of a chronology begun in *JPS* XIII, no. 3 (Spring 1984).

16 FEBRUARY

Israeli-PLO security, civilian affairs comm. negotiations continue in Taba. Security comm. discusses release of Palestinian prisoners, establishment of police. Civilian Affairs comm. divides into subcoms. on electricity and civil planning, communications. (MENA 2/16 in FBIS 2/16, 2/17; MM 2/16)

Bilateral Arab-Israeli talks resume in Washington. (Qol Yisra'el 2/16 in FBIS 2/16)

Egyptian State Broadcasting Authority renews official contact with Israeli Broadcasting Authority, broken during 1982 Lebanon war. (MM 2/17; JP 2/26)

Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Comm. completes 2 days of mtgs. in Amman. Jordanian Information M. Jawad al-Anani says PLO and Jordan agree on joint strategy in economic talks with Israel set for Paris. Israel-Jordan joint economic comm. meets in Washington with U.S. participation. (RJ 2/16 in FBIS 2/16, 2/17; MM 2/16, 2/17)

AFP reports 1st all-Palestinian bank in o.t., "**Commercial Bank of Palestine,**" to start operations 3/15 in Ramallah with capital of \$14 m. (AFP 2/16 in FBIS 2/17)

IDF kills purported PFLP mbr. in Halhul, West Bank. (MM 2/17)

122-mm. katyusha rocket fired on northern Israel fr. southern Lebanon in 1st incident in 6 mos. IDF tanks, artillery come to aid of SLA patrol ambushed by Hizballah. Hizballah claims 12 SLA mbrs. killed or wounded. (NYT, MM, WT 2/17; MM 2/18)

Israeli cabinet extends term of IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak to 1/95. Barak had been set to retire 4/94. (MM 2/16)

Pres. Clinton, Saudi amb. Prince Bandar announce **Saudia Airlines will purchase 50 U.S.-made Boeing 747 and McDonnell Douglas MD-11, MD-80, and MD-90 commercial aircraft worth \$6 b.** (CSM, NYT, MM, WT 2/17)

17 FEBRUARY

Israel-PLO talks in Taba end, both sides reporting progress. Security comm. divides into subcomms. on police, prisoners. (MENA, IDF Radio 2/17 in FBIS 2/18; MM 2/17)

During 2d day of bilateral Arab-Israeli talks in Washington, Israeli negotiators Uri Lubrani, Itamar Rabinovich complain to Lebanese delegate Suhail Shammās, Syrian amb. Muwaffaq al-Allaf over 2/16 katyusha incident. Meanwhile, **Lebanese Pres. al-Hirawi, Syrian Pres. al-Asad meet in Damascus** to discuss tensions in southern Lebanon. (Qol Yisra'el 2/17 in FBIS 2/17; MM 2/17; SARR 2/17 in FBIS 2/18)

Israel-Jordan-U.S. economic talks in Washington end, Jordanian side expressing reluctance to pursue joint projects with Israel until Israel-Syria talks achieve progress, bilateral disputes resolved. (Qol Yisra'el 2/18 in FBIS 2/18)

24-yr.-old Palestinian killed by IDF at checkpoint in Siris village, nr. Janin in West

Bank, when he makes a "threatening gesture." In Halhul, **IDF shoots and seriously wounds at least 4 Palestinians** protesting 2/16 killing of PFLP mbr. (MM 2/17; IDF Radio 2/17 in FBIS 2/17)

Israeli stabbed in Hebron 12/29/93 by Palestinian dies of wounds, becoming **201st Israeli killed by Palestinians during intifada** according to AFP figures. (AFP 2/17 in FBIS 2/18)

MK 'Abd al-Wahab Darawsha (Arab Democratic party) announces Syrian govt. has allowed him to **visit Damascus** at head of 31-mbr. delegation to pay condolences on death of Basil al-Asad. Visit will be **1st official trip by Israeli Arab allowed by Syria**. PM Rabin calls trip a "positive step." (MM, WP 2/18; WT 2/19; NYT 2/20)

18 FEBRUARY

Pregnant settler fr. Ariel settlement, West Bank, killed in gun attack claimed by Hamas on Trans-Samarian Highway. Settlers block roads to protest killing. (Qol Yisra'el 2/19 in FBIS 2/22; WP, WT 2/20; CSM 2/22; JP 2/26)

19 FEBRUARY

NYT reports **Israeli govt. planning up to 15,000 new apartments in "Greater Jerusalem."** (NYT 2/19)

20 FEBRUARY

Mourners at **Ashkelon funeral of settler killed 2/18** chant "death to Arabs!" Israeli cabinet discusses closure of o.t. as possible response to killing, but **FM Peres** rules against it. (MM, NYT, WT 2/21)

Police M Moshe Shahal announces **plans to deploy Civil Guard units in all major settlements** in o.t. as part of IDF redeployment plans. (MM 2/21)

Associated Press reports **Israel preparing to evacuate Palestinian informers and their families** to Israel fr. villages of Dahaniya in Gaza Strip and Fahmi in West Bank in anticipation of Palestinian autonomy. Report says 13 of 100 families in Dahaniya and 24 of 105 in Fahmi have received Israeli i.d.s. (WT 2/20)

Jordan arrests 15 FRC ("Abu Nidal") mbrs. in raid on Amman office posing as trading company. Move follows arrests in Lebanon of FRC mbrs. for murder of

Jordanian diplomat, Jordanian accusations of Libyan complicity. (MM, WP 2/23)(see *JPS* 91, 1/29, 2/11)

King Fahd announces Saudi fund-raising drive for restoration of Islamic holy places in Jerusalem. (MM 2/24)

21 FEBRUARY

PLO-Israel security comm. resumes talks in Cairo to settle details of Gaza-Jericho autonomy plan. (MENA 2/21 in FBIS 2/22; CSM 2/23)

UN holds talks in Geneva with France, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, and **UK on training Palestinian police force.** (MM 2/24)

FM Peres, speaking to Knesset Economics Comm., **names Egypt, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, and Tunisia** as Arab countries **working to end Arab boycott of Israel.** (MM 2/21; Qol Yisra'el 2/21 in FBIS 2/24)

Settlers block West Bank roads during Palestinian "rush hour" of workers into Israel in continuing protests over 2/18 killing of settler. IDF prevents clashes by turning away Palestinian cars before they reach settler road-blocks. (MM 2/21; CSM 2/22)

Hamas issues leaflet warning **Druze, Bedouin** citizens of Israel to leave IDF "which has killed the sons of your people." Hamas claims IDF replacing Jewish units in Gaza with Druze- and Bedouin-manned units. (MM 2/21)

22 FEBRUARY

15 settler families, most fr. Ariel, **sign petition for Knesset assistance to help them leave o.t.** MKs Yossi Katz (Labor) and Avraham Poraz (Meretz) submit Knesset bills calling for comprehensive compensation plan for settlers leaving o.t., while **Labor MKs Haggai Merom and Avraham Burg set up "hot line" for settlers who wish to leave.** (MM 2/23)

Lebanese govt., responding to U.S. concerns over violence in southern Lebanon, **agrees to restrain actions of guerrilla groups in south.** (NYT 2/25)

Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) puts **Israeli population at end 1993 at 5.325 m.**, compared to 5.196 m. in 1992. CBS says **settlements' population at 115,000** compared to 105,000 in 1992, **Palestinian population in o.t. 1.9 m.** (MM 2/23)

Senate confirms Strobe Talbott as dep. secy. of state by 66-31 vote. Opponents had

charged Talbot was overly critical of Israel while a journalist for *Time* magazine, Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) calling Talbot's articles "insulting, immature and incorrect," **Sen. Minority Leader Robert Dole (R-KS) accusing Talbot of "clear anti-Israel bias."** (MM, NYT, WP, WT 2/23)(see *JPS* 91, 2/7, 2/10)

23 FEBRUARY

Paris economic talks btwn. Israeli Finance M Avraham Shohat, PECJAR head Ahmad Qurai' resume. (MM 2/23, 2/24; Qol Yisra'el 2/24 in FBIS 2/24)

Cairo talks btwn. PLO and Israel on **Gaza-Jericho autonomy end.** (MENA 2/23 in FBIS 2/24; MM 2/24)

Secy. of State Christopher, testifying to Senate Foreign Relations Comm., **says U.S. would provide peacekeepers for Golan Heights** if Israel and Syria "consider it crucial to their reaching an agreement." (MM 2/24)

24 FEBRUARY

PLO condemns 2/18 killing of settler. Hamas spokesman Ibrahim Ghawsha denounces PLO statement, says killing was unintentional. (MM 2/25)

IDF attacks house in Abu Dis, West Bank, with anti-tank rockets in 7-hr. standoff with Hamas militants, kills 23-yr.-old Palestinian, arrests another. IDF claims the 2 Khan Yunis r.c. residents part of Hamas cell that killed 8 Israelis, including Shin Bet agent Noam Cohen, killed 2/13. (MM 2/25)

Syrian Dep. Chief Rabbi Yusuf Jajati announces **all 1,000 remaining Syrian Jews have been given exit visas**, fulfilling commitment made by Pres. al-Asad. Jajati notes most of est. 4,000 Syrian Jews had moved to U.S., but 3-4 families had returned due to language, financial problems. (MM 2/24; WP 2/25)

Beirut's *al-Nahar* reports **U.S. selling 175 used M-113 APCs to Lebanese army** for \$35 m. (MM 2/24)

25 FEBRUARY

Hebron Massacre. 29 Palestinians killed when American-born settler, IDF reservist, and Kach mbr. Dr. Baruch Goldstein opens fire with IDF-issued Galil assault rifle on Muslim worshippers at **Haram al-Ibrahimi in Hebron ("Cave of the Patriarchs")** before being bludgeoned to death by survivors. **6 more**

Palestinians killed in clashes with IDF outside main Hebron hospital, 5 others shot dead elsewhere in o.t. Hundreds wounded in **bloodiest single day in o.t. since 1967 war.** Palestinians riot throughout o.t., including at Haram al-Sharif in Jerusalem. Gaza Strip closed off fr. Israel. (MENA, SPA 2/25 in FBIS 2/28; MM 2/25; WP 2/26, 2/27)

PFLP, PFLP-GC, Hamas, and Islamic Jihad issue statements vowing revenge for massacre. (AFP 2/25, QPAR 2/25, *al-Ra'y* 2/26 in FBIS 2/28)

Unidentified Palestinians axe to death 79-year-old Israeli at Kfar Sava bus station. (JP 3/5)

26 FEBRUARY

IDF kills 3 Palestinians—1 each in Jerusalem, Tulkarm, and Gaza Strip—protesting Hebron massacre. **50 Palestinians wounded. Demonstrations throughout o.t. and in Israeli-Arab towns** of Jaffa, Ramla, and Nazareth and in Galilee villages. **40 Israeli Arabs arrested in Nazareth, 10 in Ramla.** Closure imposed on West Bank Palestinians and total curfew on Hebron; IDF guards posted at entrance to Qiryat Arba settlement. Qiryat Arba settlers travel under IDF escort. (Qol Yisra'el 2/26 in FBIS 2/28; NYT, WP, WT 2/27; WP 2/28)

PLO Chmn. Arafat demands international protection for Palestinians in o.t. Israel-PLO talks in Cairo, Taba postponed pending decision of PLO leaders. Arafat recalls PLO negotiators fr. Cairo, Paris, and Washington for consultations, **emergency mtg. of PLO Exec. Comm.** Israeli FM Peres accepts Pres. Clinton's invitation to shift talks to Washington, but rejects international presence in o.t. (MENA 2/26, 2/27 in FBIS 2/28; NYT, WP, WT 2/27)

UNSC debates Hebron massacre for 5 hours, takes no action. PLO, Organization of the Islamic Conference request international protection for Palestinians. U.S. delegation opposes monitors. (NYT, WP 2/27; NYT 2/28)

Demonstrations against Hebron massacre in Palestinian r.c.s throughout Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. King Hussein declares 3 days of mourning. (NYT 2/27)

27 FEBRUARY

Israeli cabinet orders some settlers disarmed, 1,000 Palestinian prisoners released in response to Hebron massacre, **establishes**

commission of inquiry to investigate massacre. Govt. **orders administrative detention of 5 Kach mbrs.**, but apprehends only 1 as well as 2 low-level activists. PLO Chmn. **Arafat calls Israeli moves "hollow and superficial,"** reiterates demand for international protection of Palestinians in o.t. Settlers' council "rejects out of hand the proposals . . . to confiscate the weapons of Jews." (CSM, NYT, WP, WT 2/28)

Rioting against Hebron massacre continues in o.t., Israel, spreading to Negev. 3 Palestinians killed in demonstrations, including 1 Israeli Arab, bringing casualty totals to 65 dead, 360 wounded since 2/25. (WP, WT 2/28; CSM, NYT 3/1)

PLO Chmn. **Arafat charges that "some elements of the Israeli army" assisted Baruch Goldstein** in Hebron massacre. IDF Central Command chief Maj. Gen. Dani Yatom counters that soldiers fired into air, all 111 cartridge cases recovered at crime scene fired fr. Goldstein's rifle. (NYT, WP, WT 2/28)

Funeral of Hebron attacker Baruch Goldstein draws 300 mourners for procession fr. Jerusalem to Qiryat Arba. Mourners denounce journalists covering event as "Nazis"; **Rabbi Yaacov Perrin, giving eulogy, proclaims "1 m. Arabs are not worth a Jewish fingernail."** (NYT, WP, WT 2/28)

Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria withdraw negotiators fr. Washington talks with Israel in solidarity with PLO. (RMC 2/28 in FBIS 2/28; NYT, WP, WT 2/28)

UN Sec. Gen. **Butrus Butrus-Ghali suggests sending international monitors to protect Palestinians in o.t.** U.S. mission to UN calls offer not "particularly helpful or useful." Statement notes DoP provides for "temporary" international presence, but says UN should not "prejudge" Israel-PLO discussions. Russia supports Butrus-Ghali's position. (NYT 2/28)

Bomb made of 2 82mm mortar shells explodes in Sayyida al-Naja Maronite Church in Zuq Mika'il, nr. Juniya, Lebanon, killing 9 and wounding 60. PM Hariri calls bombing "a plot ordered fr. abroad." Info M Michel Samaha, Damascus Radio, and Maronite Bishop Bishara Rai blame Israel. (RL 2/27 in FBIS 2/28; SARR 2/27 in FBIS 3/1; CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 2/28)

28 FEBRUARY

2 Palestinians shot dead by IDF during protests against Hebron massacre. (NYT, WP 3/1)

PM Rabin calls on PLO to return to talks, hints he would allow an "international presence" in Gaza and Jericho. PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh says PLO sending 2 envoys to Washington to discuss talks' resumption. **PLO demands international presence in o.t. to protect Palestinians, disarmament of all settlers,** barring settlers fr. Palestinian cities and population centers, dismantling some settlements, including Qiryat Arba. U.S. rejects adding restrictions on settlers to negotiating agenda, but is willing to discuss international presence. (Tunisian TV 2/28 in FBIS 3/1; NYT, WP 3/1; NYT 3/2)

PM Rabin denounces extremist settlers in speech to Knesset, saying "You are not part of the community of Israel. . . . You are not partners in the Zionist enterprise. You are a foreign implant. . . . a shame on Zionism and an embarrassment to Judaism." State Dept. spokesman Michael McCurry calls Israeli measures against settlers "unprecedented," says U.S. govt. "commended" steps. (MM 2/28; MM, NYT 3/1) **Mbrs. of Israeli commission of inquiry to investigate Hebron massacre named.** Panel is chaired by Chief Justice Meir Shamgar and includes 1 Palestinian, Israeli-Arab Judge 'Abd al-Rahman Zuabi of the Nazareth district court. (MM 2/28; NYT 3/1)

UNSC continues debate on Hebron massacre, fails to agree on resolution because of differences on "international presence," reference to Jerusalem. (NYT 3/1)

Syria, Jordan confirm delegations not returning to Washington talks with Israel, but govts. say they are still committed to peace process, Syrian FMin. spokesman saying boycott "applies only to this session." (NYT, CSM 3/1)

1 MARCH

Israel releases 500 Palestinian prisoners in gesture to bring PLO back to negotiations. PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. Samir Ghawsha calls action "cosmetic surgery." Exec. Comm., Palestinian negotiators continue consultations for 3d day. (CSM, NYT, WP, WT 3/2)

Israeli govt. says it will pay compensation to families of victims, but that final amount will be less than that paid to families of Israelis killed by Palestinians. Social security official Yosef Tamir says discrepancy due to lower standard of living in o.t. as compared to Israel. (NYT 3/2)

Israeli Police M Moshe Shahal says "less than 100" settlers targeted for disarming, ad-

ministrative detention. (NYT, WP, WT 3/2)

IDF accidentally shoots dead Ariel settler nr. West Bank town of Bidya. (MM, NYT 3/2; CSM 3/4)

Secy. of State Warren Christopher, testifying to House Appropriations Comm. subcomm. on foreign operations, **says PLO Chmn. Arafat "indispensable" to peace process**, calls him "the flag and 'The Star-Spangled Banner' all wrapped up into 1 person" for Palestinians. **Asst Secy. of State for Near Eastern Affairs Robert Pelletreau** tells House Foreign Affairs Comm. subcomm. on Europe and Middle East **Israel must go "beyond tokenism"** in restraining militant settlers, terms settlements "a complicating factor," not "an obstacle to peace." (NYT, WP, WT 3/2)(see Doc. D1.)

PLO Chmn. Arafat meets Greek FM Karolos Papoulias, Russian Dep. FM Igor Ivanov to discuss international response to Hebron massacre. (MM, NYT 3/2)

2 MARCH

Protests against Hebron massacre continue throughout o.t. after curfew lifted. 17-yr.-old shot dead by IDF in Jericho; 2 Palestinians, 19 and 18, killed in Hebron, 13 Palestinians wounded by gunfire. Among those wounded in Jericho is frmr. negotiator Sa'eb Erakat. (MM 3/2; NYT, WP, WT 3/3)

IDF orders 18 settlers to stay out of specified Palestinian towns, surrender army-issued weapons. (NYT 3/3)

Russian Dep. FM Igor Ivanov arrives in Israel to discuss resumption of Arab-Israeli peace talks. Move marks resumption of activist role by Madrid conference co-sponsor. (CSM, NYT, WP 3/3)

3 MARCH

Israeli human-rights org. **B'Tselem criticizes IDF action in wake of Hebron massacre**, charging that in none of 12 cases in which Palestinians killed by IDF "were soldiers or police in life-threatening circumstances." Group condemns "frequent use of live fire in situations that were not life-threatening." (WP 3/4)

PLO establishes investigative comm. into Hebron massacre. (MENA 3/3 in FBIS 3/4)

Israel releases another 400 Palestinian prisoners in gesture to restart peace talks. Palestinian negotiator Ghassan al-Khatib dismisses release as "a cosmetic measure," noting "500 or 600 new prisoners have been ar-

rested since the massacre." (MM 3/3; Qol Yisra'el 3/3 in FBIS 3/3; NYT, WP, WT 3/4)

27 Palestinians in West Bank, 7 in Gaza Strip wounded by IDF gunfire during demonstrations. (AFP 3/3 in FBIS 3/4)

Alleged collaborator killed in Gaza. Fateh claims responsibility. (AFP 3/3 in FBIS 3/4)

PLO official Nabil Shaath holds talks in Washington with Asst. Secy. of State Robert Pelletreau, State Dept. Middle East talks coordinator Dennis Ross, and NSC Middle East director Martin Indyk on resumption of Israel-PLO negotiations in wake of Hebron massacre. Shaath says PLO wants further steps by Israel to restrain settlers, protect Palestinians, "we want the peace process to continue and succeed." (MM, NYT, WP 3/3; NYT 3/4)

Vatican and Jordan establish diplomatic relations. (RJ 3/3 in FBIS 3/4; NYT 3/4)

4 MARCH

Israeli police close off Western ("Wailing") Wall to Jewish worshippers for 1 hour, deny entry to Haram al-Sharif to Muslims btwn. 14 and 40 to prevent Jewish-Muslim clashes during Friday prayers. Prayers take place without incident, but attendance 20,000, as against usual 200,000. **2 Palestinians shot dead during demonstrations at Balata r.c. in Nablus.** In Gaza Strip, 2 other Palestinians shot dead in separate stabbing attacks on settlers, IDF soldiers. (MM 3/4; Qol Yisra'el 3/4 in FBIS 3/4; NYT, WP, WT 3/5)

PLO official Shaath meets Secy. of State Christopher, seeking U.S. support for international protection of Palestinians in o.t. (NYT, WP 3/5)

State Dept. spokeswoman Christine Shelley says State Dept. has asked **Justice Dept. to look into restricting U.S. donations to Israeli extremist groups.** PLO had asked U.S. to ban such donations. (NYT 3/5)

5 MARCH

Peace Now and 4 Israeli-Arab groups hold **demonstration against settlements in Tel Aviv attended by 40,000, largest Israeli protest since 1982 war in Lebanon.** 5,000 Israeli Arabs participate. Clashes in East Jerusalem btwn. protestors and border police wound 20. Fighting also takes place in Hebron, Bethlehem. (NYT, WP, WT 3/6)

Maj. Gen. Walter Morland Hutton, chief

of staff of Jordan Arab Legion 1953-56, dies in Cornwall, England, at age 81. Hutton dismissed by King Hussein along with Arab Legion commander Lt. Gen John Bagot Glubb ("Glubb Pasha") in nationalization of Jordanian armed forces. (NYT 3/14)

6 MARCH

Israeli cabinet discusses removing settlers fr. Hebron. Frmr. Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren issues ruling saying ending Jewish presence in Hebron "requires us to resist it to the death, all of us, every Jew." FM Peres says closing Hebron settlement "not necessary," but tells CNN curfews will be applied to Jewish settlers as well as to Palestinians. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/7)

British Foreign Secy. Douglas Hurd, after mtg. with PLO official Nabil Shaath, says **Britain agrees to take part in "international presence" to protect Palestinians in o.t.** Foreign Office later says UK contingent would be civilian, not military. **Norway also agrees to participate.** EU Commissioner Hans van den Broeck calls for prompt Israeli action to enhance Palestinians' security. PLO "FM" Faruq Qaddumi says PLO still insisting on international protection, but not necessarily as part of UNSC resolution. (WP, WT 3/7)

7 MARCH

IDF kills 2 Palestinians, 25 and 16, in Hebron after army jeep stoned. 4 other Palestinians wounded in separate clashes in o.t. IDF soldier, police officer wounded in Gaza by Palestinian gunman. (MM, WP, WT 3/8)

Hamas threatens suicide attacks on settlements of Qiryat Arba, Gush Qatif, Qadumin, Taqua, and Ariel (total population 24,000) if not evacuated by 3/15. Israeli Housing Min. reports 10 families have left Qiryat Arba. (NYT, WP, WT 3/8)

7 SLA mbrs. killed in 3 Hizballah bomb explosions in southern Lebanon. At least 2 SLA officers, 4 soldiers wounded. 2 other Lebanese kidnapped, killed by Hizballah. (NYT, WP, WT 3/8)

PLO Chmn. Arafat meets Israeli PM Rabin's advisers Jacques Neriah and Amos Gilad in Cairo to discuss resumption of peace talks, 1st such mtg. since Hebron massacre. (NYT, WP, WT 3/8)

57-mbr. Israeli-Arab delegation led by MK 'Abd al-Wahhab Darawsha arrives in Damascus in 1st visit by Israeli elected offi-

cial. Group travels on Egyptian documents obtained in Cairo. Delegation met by Damascus Mayor Maj. Gen. Walid Hammamiya and PSF head Khalid al-Fahum. (MM 3/7)

8 MARCH

Israeli commission of inquiry into Hebron massacre opens hearings in Jerusalem. IDF Central Command head Maj. Gen. Dani Yatom, local cmndr. Maj. Dov Stellman testify. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/9)

Israeli police report 3/7 arrests of 2 Kach leaders. 2 other Kach figures sentenced previous week to 3 mos.' administrative detention, leaving only 1 of 5 targeted Kach figures at large. (WT 3/9)

IAF bombs southern Lebanon in retaliation for 3/7 attacks on SLA. (WT 3/9)

IDF shoots dead 2 mbrs. of Hamas's 'Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades at Erez checkpoint, Gaza Strip when 1 pulls a gun. (MM 3/8; WP, WT 3/9)

Curfew on Jericho lifted, but 4 West Bank towns remain under total curfew. (NYT, WT 3/9)

Jordan's King Hussein arrives in Jeddah for 'umra pilgrimage to Mecca in **1st visit to Saudi Arabia since 1990-91 Gulf crisis.** (MM 3/8)

9 MARCH

IDF guards at Haram al-Ibrahimi tell Israeli commission of inquiry **Baruch Goldstein was wearing his army uniform** and shooter's ear protectors when he entered shrine 2/25. During commission tour of massacre site, Hebron Muslim leader Shaykh Salih Natsha complains that IDF cleanup after attack destroyed important evidence. (MM 3/9; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 3/10)

400 Palestinians, including 135 PNC mbrs., and 5 PLO Exec. Comm. mbrs., sign petition demanding Israel-PLO negotiations remain suspended until Israel agrees to provide better protection for Palestinians in o.t. 100 PLO officials in Tunis issue separate, similar petition. (MM, NYT 3/11)

MK 'Abd al-Wahhab Darawsha and Israeli-Arab delegation meet in Damascus with Syrian Pres. Hafiz al-Asad. Asad tells delegates he regards them as part of Arab nation, that Syria will pursue negotiations until it is convinced "there is no room for a just peace." Delegation supports Syrian peace policy, criticizes Israel's. (MM 3/10)

Israeli PM Rabin visits "security zone" in

southern Lebanon, assures SLA cmndr. Antoine Lahd of continued Israeli support of SLA against Hizballah, Palestinian groups. (MM 3/9)

UN Human Rights Commission includes for 1st time, at U.S. urging, anti-Semitism in its annual condemnation of racism. Resolution also condemns anti-Arab, anti-Muslim prejudice. Commission also passes 5 resolutions criticizing Israeli policies in o.t. (NYT 3/10)

King Hussein departs Saudi Arabia after being denied mtg. with Saudi King Fahd. (MM 3/9)

10 MARCH

Cmndr. of border police in Hebron tells Israeli commission of inquiry "it's forbidden to shoot" at settlers, even when they are firing on Palestinians. West Bank IDF cmndr. Maj. Gen. Shaul Mofaz denies testimony, saying order applies only to IDF-settler or Palestinian-settler clashes, not cases of murder. Witnesses also tell commission TV surveillance system malfunctioned on day of massacre. (MM 3/10; NYT, WP, WT 3/11)

Reuter reports 11-mbr. **PLO commission** also investigating Hebron massacre **has interviewed 25 witnesses** and is examining medical records, complaints against settlers. (WT 3/11)

Palestinians attack Beit Hadassah settler enclave in Hebron when curfew lifted. IDF responds with bullets and tear gas, wounding 16 Palestinians. 2 dozen others treated for tear-gas inhalation. In Gaza Strip, 15-yr.-old shot dead by IDF in Dayr al-Balah r.c. (MM 3/10; NYT, WP, WT 3/11)

Kahane Chai leader Binyamin Kahane sentenced to 9 mos. in prison, 9 mos. suspended for assaulting police in 1991. (MM 3/11)

French DM François Leotard and PM Rabin sign military technology research and development cooperation agreement. Accord, covering lasers, drones, and other high-tech items, is 1st Franco-Israeli defense pact since 1967. (MM 3/11; MEI 4/15)

11 MARCH

Israeli police restrict Palestinian access to Jerusalem on last Friday in Ramadan. **Only 20,000 attend Friday prayers at al-Aqsa mosque.** Jewish extremists announce demonstration at Western Wall, but only 250 show up. Police force settlers to check their

weapons before entering site. Clashes in East Jerusalem btwn. Palestinians and IDF leave 4 Palestinians wounded. (NYT, WP, WT 3/12)

Russian FM Andrei Kozyrev, mtg. in Jerusalem with PM Rabin, FM Peres, proposes international force for o.t., multinational Middle East peace conference, says PLO ready to resume negotiations with Israel. Rabin says he hopes U.S. and Russia "will coordinate better" their efforts to restart talks. (MM 3/11; NYT, WP, WT 3/12)

Hizballah bomb set off in "security zone" of southern Lebanon, triggering exchange of rocket, artillery fire that wounds 11, including Fijian UNIFIL soldier. (WT 3/12)

12 MARCH

Russian FM Kozyrev meets PLO Chmn. Arafat in Tunis, says PLO willing to return to peace talks. Arafat says PLO will await results of 3/14 mtg. btwn. Kozyrev and U.S. Secy. of State Christopher, hopes for "superpower guarantees." (MM 3/14)

SLA clashes with Palestinian guerrillas in Mt. Hermon region of southern Lebanon. 2 guerrillas killed. Another surrenders to SLA, 4th to Norwegian UNIFIL troops. (WT 3/13)

13 MARCH

Israeli cabinet unanimously declares Kach and Kahane Chai movements "terrorist," bans them under 1948 Prevention of Terrorism Act. Kach issues statement denouncing ban but suspends operations pending judicial appeal. "Yesha" settlers' council accuses govt. of "arrogant and dangerous double standard." (CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/14)

IDF clarifies regulations on firing at settlers, saying directives barring firing at settlers "did not apply to cases of murder" and that soldiers must fire back in life-threatening situations even if assailants are Israelis. (NYT 3/14)

UNSC deadlock over resolution on Hebron continues, U.S. seeking separate vote on paragraph referring to Jerusalem. **VP Gore,** addressing AIPAC annual convention, **says Clinton admin. trying "to preserve our position on Jerusalem."** (WP 3/14)

U.S. Pres. Clinton telephones Syrian Pres. al-Asad to urge resumption of Israeli-Syrian negotiations. Al-Asad reaffirms commitment to peace process. (MM, WT 3/14)

14 MARCH

Israeli police detain Rabbi Moshe Levinger, leader of Hebron settlers, then release him on \$1,700 bond after questioning him about 11/93 incident in which he intruded into Haram al-Ibrahimi and threatened mosque official. Also questioned is his wife, Miriam, for 10/93 rampage through Palestinian market in Hebron. (CSM, NYT, WT 3/15)

Israeli police seek to confiscate 23 IDF-issued submachine guns fr. settlers, out of 9,000 distributed. (NYT, WT 3/15)

Kach destroys mbrship. lists, other evidence in Jerusalem offices after being banned by 3/13 cabinet decision. **Kahane Chai**, also banned, **closes its Jerusalem office**. (NYT, WT 3/15)

Peace Now issues report estimating cost of relocating settlers in Israel proper at \$2.5 b. (MM 3/15)(see Doc. C1.)

Israeli officials, **U.S. Middle East talks coordinator Dennis Ross** meet PLO Chmn. **Arafat** in Tunis to discuss resuming Israel-PLO negotiations. (CSM, NYT, WP, WT 3/15; WP, WT 3/16)

Secy. of State Warren Christopher meets **Russian FM Andrei Kozyrev** in Vladivostok, urges Russia to coordinate its efforts on Middle East peace with U.S. (CSM, WP 3/15)

15 MARCH

PM Rabin, speaking to AIPAC annual conference in Washington, asserts "Jerusalem will remain united under Israel's sovereignty." **Rabin meets Secy. of State Christopher**, proposes to speed up transfer of administrative powers to Palestinians in o.t. Christopher reportedly urges Rabin to consider PLO proposals for Palestinian police presence in Hebron. Admin. sources say Christopher did not endorse PLO proposals but that U.S. is not adverse to them. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/16)

40,000 Israelis demonstrate in Tel Aviv for retention of o.t. settlements. Moleket leader **Rehavim Zeevi**, frmr. **PM Yitzhak Shamir**, **Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu**, and Hebron settlement leader **Rabbi Moshe Levinger** address rally. (MM, WP, WT 3/16)

Police chain shut Jerusalem offices of Kach and Kahane Chai, order them sealed for 6 mos. (MM 3/16)

4 Gaza Fateh officials meet Labor MKs in Jerusalem to discuss restarting Israel-PLO talks. (MM, WT 3/16)

Israeli human-rights group B'Tselem issues report charging that IDF, police, and courts have failed to enforce law on crimes committed by settlers against Palestinians. Report notes that 62 Palestinians were killed by settlers between 1988 and 1993 but only 1 settler convicted of murder and in only 7 cases were settlers' lives threatened. IDF does not dispute report. (MM 3/15; CSM, NYT, WP 3/16)

Border Police shoot dead Palestinian, later identified as PFLP mbr., in Gaza after he fires at patrol. (WP 3/16; MEI 4/15)

16 MARCH

PM Rabin and Pres. Clinton, at joint news conference in Washington, call on PLO to return to negotiations immediately. Rabin says he will consider Palestinian police force in o.t., but only under Israeli control, suggesting Israel might rehire 900 Palestinian police officers who resigned during intifada. Rabin says an international force would be limited to monitors, not armed peacekeepers. Both leaders say they want comprehensive Arab-Israeli settlement in 1994, Rabin saying "painful decisions" must be made over Golan Heights. (NYT, WP, WT 3/17)

Haram al-Ibrahimi officials, other Hebron Palestinians **refuse to testify to Israeli commission of inquiry** investigating Hebron massacre. (NYT 3/17)

Demonstrations throughout West Bank and in Jabaliya r.c., Gaza, to protest 3/15 killing of PFLP mbr. 2 Palestinians killed, 50 wounded by IDF. (WP, WT 3/18; MEI 4/15)

17 MARCH

2 IDF guards at Haram al-Ibrahimi tell commission of inquiry they fired into door leading to mosque, contradicting officers' testimony and confirming accounts by Palestinians that soldiers fired on worshippers fleeing massacre. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/18)

Dep. DM Mordechai Gur visits Beit Hadassah, Qiryat Arba settlements to reassure Hebron settlers of govt. commitment to their safety. (CSM 3/18)

PLO accepts U.S. proposal, made in a telephone call by talks coordinator **Dennis Ross**, for 3/19 mtg. btwn. PLO Chmn. **Arafat** and Israeli FM **Peres** to explore resumption of negotiations. **Arafat**, PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. **Samir Ghawsha** say talks' resumption contingent on passage of UNSC resolution condemning Hebron massacre. (MM 3/17; WP,

WT 3/18)

Pres. Clinton telephones Egyptian Pres. Mubarak, Syrian Pres. al-Asad to brief them on his talks with Israeli PM Rabin. Clinton seeks Syrian commitment to rejoin Arab-Israeli peace talks even if PLO stays out. (NYT, WP 3/18)

Senate passes "**sense of the Senate**" amendment to banking bill urging Clinton admin. to veto any UNSC resolution that "states or implies that Jerusalem is 'occupied' territory." Resolution follows **letter to Pres. Clinton** signed by 82 senators **criticizing UNSC draft resolution** on Hebron massacre. (NYT 3/19)

PM Rabin meets Pope John Paul II in Rome as Vatican special envoy Archbishop Jean-Louis Tauran meets PLO Chmn. Arafat in Tunis. (MM, NYT 3/18)

IDF kills 3 Hizballah guerrillas infiltrating "security zone" in southern Lebanon; later, 2 IAF planes rocket Hizballah base at Mlita, killing 2 guerrillas. (MM 3/17; MEI 4/15)

18 MARCH

UNSC passes Resolution 904 condemning Hebron massacre. U.S. abstains on "objectionable" passages in preamble. U.S. Amb. to UN Albright says U.S. allowed resolution to pass "with great reluctance" due to importance of restarting peace process. PLO Exec. Comm. mbr. Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh calls resolution "an important step," but declines to commit to resumption of peace talks. (NYT, WP, WT 3/19)(see Docs. A3., D4.)

Secy. of State Christopher announces that **Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria have agreed to resume negotiations with Israel**. Talks to resume 4/94 in Washington, D.C. Arab decision follows telephone lobbying with King Hussein, Pres. al-Hirawi, Pres. al-Asad by Pres. Clinton. (NYT, WP, WT 3/19)

Rachel Manning, 54, awaiting extradition to U.S. in 1980 bombing case, dies in prison nr. Tel Aviv. Manning and husband Robert, 43, were JDL/Kach mbrs. and prime suspects in 1985 bombing death of ADC Regional Director Alex Odeh. Robert Manning was extradited 7/93 and sentenced to life 2/7/94. (NYT 3/20; JWJW 3/24)

19 MARCH

Israeli PM Rabin telephones PLO Chmn.

Arafat and pledges to "give protection to the Palestinians against terrible murders." (NYT, WP, WT 3/20)

15 Palestinians wounded by Israeli forces in clashes in o.t. (NYT, WP 3/20)

20 MARCH

Israel-PLO "exploratory" talks on security for Palestinians in o.t., Palestinian police force in Hebron open in Tunis. Mediator Norwegian Dep. FM Terje Rød Larsen offers proposals on joint Israeli-Palestinian security patrols, ICRC observers. (CSM, NYT, WT 3/21)

Saudi Arabia announces it will pay \$20 m. to UNRWA to help establish development, health, and social facilities in o.t. Donation is part of \$100 m. pledged by Saudis in support of DoP. (MM 3/21)

21 MARCH

U.S. Middle East peace talks coordinator **Dennis Ross arrives in Tunis** for 2 mtgs. with PLO Chmn. Arafat. Ross joins Norwegian Dep. FM Terje Rød Larsen and Israeli delegation seeking Israel-PLO agreement on security for Palestinians in o.t. Palestinian officials say they are "refining" Norwegian proposal on security force. U.S. role in talks is described as marginal. (MM 3/21; NYT 3/22)

IDF Brig. Gen. Moshe Yaalon, West Bank cmdr. 1992-93, tells commission of inquiry into Hebron massacre of "**absolute prohibition**" on using live ammunition against settlers. Israeli press reports that PM Rabin told Israeli cabinet 3/20 that commission's hearings were causing "incalculable" damage to Israel's reputation. (NYT 3/22)

Settler bus ambushed nr. Ateret, 14 mi. north of Jerusalem, in apparent revenge attack for Hebron massacre. 1 Israeli killed and at least 1 wounded. (NYT 3/22)

Hizballah ambush kills 2 IDF soldiers, roadside bombs kill 2 SLA mbrs. Israeli shelling kills 12-yr.-old schoolgirl in Nabatiya, wounds 22 others. (MM 3/21)

Al-Safir reports **arrests of 5 suspects in 2/27 church bombing** in Zuq Mika'il, Lebanon. Suspects, including 1 monk, are reportedly affiliated with Lebanese Forces (LF) and "Guardians of the Cedar" factions, had sought refuge in Israeli-controlled "security zone." (MM 3/21)

22 MARCH

Israeli commission of inquiry into Hebron massacre hears **testimony fr. 12 Palestinian witnesses**. Hebron waqf officials continue to boycott hearings. (NYT, WP, WT 3/23)

34-yr.-old pregnant Palestinian woman killed by IDF besieging house in Hebron occupied by Hamas militants. Elsewhere in o.t., **2 UNRWA officials detained by Israelis** at Nur Shams r.c. nr. Tulkarm, 6 Palestinian children wounded by IDF in stone-throwing clashes in Nablus, and 2 Israelis stabbed by Palestinians in Gaza Strip. (MM, NYT 3/23)

4 Golan Druze, mbrs. of "Young Nationalist Group," **arrested** for campaigning to expose collaborators with Israeli authorities. (WJW 3/24)

AG Janet Reno sends **recommendation to Pres. Clinton on clemency for convicted Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard**. Reportedly, Justice Dept., Defense Dept., CIA unanimously against leniency for Pollard. (NYT 3/23)

23 MARCH

22-hr. siege of house in Hebron, including firing of over 100 antitank rockets, **ends with deaths of 4 Hamas militants** (added to death previous day of pregnant woman). IDF use of roof of neighboring Mohtasseb Children's Hospital as firing position protested by residents, ICRC, human rights orgs. 18 Palestinians wounded by IDF in protests against siege. PLO Chmn. Arafat calls Secy. of State Christopher to demand end of IDF "aggression" against Palestinians. State Dept. expresses "concern" at incident. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/24)

IDF Chief of Staff Ehud Barak testifies to commission of inquiry on Hebron massacre, saying "it is reasonable to assume" that a settler firing a weapon is doing so in self-defense, but adds "In no case is there, nor can there be, an army order that says it is forbidden to shoot at a settler even if he is shooting at others or at you." (MM, NYT, WP 3/24)

Israel-PLO talks on deployment of international force in Hebron resume in Cairo. (MM 3/23; NYT, WP 3/24)

U.S. envoy **Dennis Ross meets for 3 hrs. in Damascus with Pres. Hafiz al-Asad**, delivers message fr. Pres. Clinton. (MM 3/23)

20 katushas fired into "security zone," killing 1 Lebanese woman in village of Rihan. (MM 3/23)

"**Palestine Development and Investment Inc.**" launched at Amman ceremony. \$200

m. company made up of 141 investors will invest in o.t. housing and industry. (MM 3/24)

Pres. Clinton refuses clemency for convicted Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard. (NYT, WP, WT 3/24)

Lebanese police issue warrants for arrest of 7 men, 2 women—including 4 mbrs. of **LF elite assault unit**—in 2/27 bombing of Maronite church in Zuq Mika'il. Police detain Fuad Malek, dep. leader of LF. **Govt. issues decree dissolving party** despite LF chief Samir Ja'ja's denial of involvement. 5 of the suspects already arrested, including 3 LF security officers. (MM 3/23; NYT, WT 3/24; CSM 4/8)

24 MARCH

At least 35 Palestinians wounded by IDF in protests throughout o.t. against siege of house in Hebron that killed 5 Palestinians. At least 5 wounded in Hebron, 15 in Nablus, and 13 in Gaza Strip. Settlers attack Palestinian homes in Hebron, which is declared closed military zone. (MM 3/24; NYT, WP, WT 3/25)

Pres. Clinton meets Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, offers "**personal**" **commitment to unified Jerusalem under Israeli control**; later tells reporters that "my position has not changed." (WJW 3/31)

Fateh, Hamas activists in Rafah, Gaza Strip, clash. 20 Palestinians wounded by gunfire before faction leaders stop fight. (WP 3/31)

Israeli security guard shot 3/23 in Jerusalem dies of wounds. PFLP-GC claims responsibility for attack. (MM 3/24)

FRC ("Abu Nidal" group) officially accused of involvement in 1/29 assassination of Jordanian diplomat in Beirut. Indictment names 3 FRC mbrs. already in custody, 13 others at large. (MM 3/24; see also MM 3/17)

25 MARCH

PLO-Israel draft agreement on deployment of international force in Hebron reached after 14-hr. session. (MM 3/25; NYT, WP, WT 3/26)

International donors conference in Cairo, including reps. of UN, EU, and World Bank, pledges support to Palestinian police. U.S. to provide 200 trucks, spare parts; Norway, uniforms; Japan, housing. (WP 3/26)

Curfew lifted in Hebron, but 2,000

soldiers sent in to protect settlers. Main mosques closed after arrest of settler for killing Palestinian in incident nr. Ashkelon. Palestinian shot in head and 2 others wounded by IDF during stone-throwing clashes in Gaza Strip. 3-day general strike begins in o.t. to mark 1 mo. since Hebron massacre. (NYT, WP, WT 3/26; MM 3/28)

26 MARCH

IDF, settlers fire on Palestinian demonstrators in Hebron, Nablus, and Tulkarm, wounding at least 25. In Gaza City, Hamas guerrillas shoot and wound Israeli officer on patrol. (NYT, WP, WT 3/27)

IDF disarms and detains 10 settlers in confrontation at Cave of the Patriarchs (Haram al-Ibrahimi) in Hebron. (NYT 3/27, 3/29)

27 MARCH

Arab League FMs end mtg. in Cairo without discussing end to boycott of Israel, Syrian FM al-Shara' saying issue not discussed because reasons for boycott persist. Communique condemns Israeli settlements in East Jerusalem, calls for international observers in o.t. (MM, WT 3/28)

28 MARCH

6 Fateh Hawks killed by 7 mbrs. of IDF undercover unit disguised as Palestinians while distributing leaflets after rally in Jabaliya r.c., Gaza Strip. At least 2 of the Hawks shot point-blank, according to witnesses. Jabaliya placed under curfew following incident. Fateh Gaza leadership calls for 3-day strike. PLO Chmn. Arafat calls emergency mtg. of leadership. (NYT, WP, WT 3/29)

Curfew imposed on Nablus and surrounding r.c.s. (MM 3/28)

Yediot Aharonot reports IMI, German companies Preusag, Kaiser, unnamed Jordanian company cooperating on **10-yr., \$10 b. plan for digging "new" Jordan River** to supply desalinated Mediterranean Sea water to Israel and Jordan. (WT 3/30)

King Hussein, speaking to ambassadors of permanent UNSC mbrs., **conditions Jordanian return to Arab-Israeli peace talks on end to searches** (part of international embargo on Iraq) of ships bound for Jordan's

Red Sea port of Aqaba. (MM 3/28; NYT 3/29)

29 MARCH

Israeli officials say 6 **Fateh Hawks** killed by IDF undercover unit 3/28 **killed in error**. Officials say the 6 were not fugitives and did not fire on Israeli soldiers, and were part of security apparatus being established by Fateh in anticipation of IDF withdrawal. Witnesses tell press, B'Tselem Palestinians shot in the head at close range after being wounded. (MM 3/29; CSM, NYT, WP 3/30)

Riots erupt in o.t. in response to 3/28 killings. 17-yr.-old killed by IDF, 70 Palestinians, 4 IDF soldiers wounded in al-Burayj r.c. 70-yr.-old Israeli attacked nr. Tel Aviv by 2 Palestinians with axes. Army closes o.t. schools for 2 days in response to violence. (MM 3/29, 3/30; WP 3/30)

International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) issues report on 2/25 Hebron massacre, **urges Israel to investigate its arming of settlers** and commission of inquiry to charge all culpable in massacre and to appoint counsel for victims. (MM 3/29)

Conference of 200 rabbis in Qiryat Arba, including frmr. Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapira, **decides IDF soldiers should defy any orders to evacuate settlements**, threatens to mobilize resistance to any evacuation moves. (MM 3/30; WT 3/31; NYT 4/1)

30 MARCH

Land Day, commemorating deaths of 6 Israeli Arabs in 1976 demonstrations against land confiscation, observed throughout Palestinian areas of Israel and in o.t. Israel's 800,000 Palestinian citizens observe general strike; observances dedicated to victims of Hebron massacre, 6 Fateh Hawks killed 3/28. Curfew imposed on Nablus, Tulkarm, Ramallah, Hebron, and 9 r.c.s. including Jabaliya. Largest demonstration held in Rahat in the Negev, where 22-yr.-old Bedouin killed by police 2/27. (MM 3/30, 3/31; NYT 3/31)

Jordan's **King Hussein receives PLO envoy Hakam Bal'awi**, bearing message fr. PLO Chmn. Arafat on coordinating policy on Jerusalem. (MM 3/31)

Jordanian delegate to multilateral talks on water sharing Munther Haddadin rejects Israeli proposals for "new Jordan River," saying "It is purely a unilateral project proposed by a group of academics financed by a Ger-

man company. Jordan has nothing to do with it." (MM 3/31)(see 3/28)

IAF planes and IDF helicopters attack Hizballah targets in Iqlim al-Tuffah, Lebanon. (MM 3/30)

31 MARCH

Israel-PLO agreement on international presence in Hebron reached in early morning. 160 observers fr. Denmark (35), Italy (35), and Norway (90) armed with pistols "for self-defense" to deploy in city for 3 mos., report to joint Palestinian-Israeli comm. Observers lack military or police powers, but will "promote stability" and "monitor the efforts to restore the safety of the Palestinians." PLO gives up demand for deployment of Palestinian police in Hebron in exchange. Israeli PM Rabin calls observer force "an exceptional case" in defending agreement against opposition criticism. FM Peres notes "the collective responsibility will remain always in the hands of the legal govt., and we are the legal govt." (MM, NYT 3/31; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/1)(see Special Doc. A.)

Negotiations on Gaza-Jericho autonomy resume. IDF officials say 70% of army equipment already removed fr. Gaza. (CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/1)

300 Palestinian youths clash with Israeli police in Hebron, destroying bank facade. No injuries reported. In Gaza Strip, 1 Palestinian wounded in gun battle btwn. IDF, Palestinian guerrillas. Israeli stabbed to death in Israel, and Israeli attacked with axes 3/29 dies. (WP, WT 4/1)

10,000 settlers hold rally to mark 26th anniversary of Qiryat Arba settlement, denounce Rabin govt. Hundreds gather at tomb of Hebron attacker Baruch Goldstein, some calling him a "hero" and a "saint." (NYT, WP, WT 4/1)

1 APRIL

Islamic Jihad warns Norway not to send observers to Hebron, saying in a statement "because our priority will be to kill them." Statement also warns Palestinians against joining Palestinian police force to be deployed in Gaza, Jericho. (NYT, WT 4/2)

2 APRIL

Pres. Clinton accepts State Dept. recommendation to retain **Syria on U.S. list of na-**

tions involved in drug trade, citing Damascus's tolerance of opium growing in Lebanon's Biqa' valley. Syrian F Min. spokesman says decision part of U.S. pressure for Syrian concessions to Israel in peace talks. Lower-ranking NSC, State Dept. officials had reportedly recommended waiver for Damascus's participation in peace talks. (WP 3/31; NYT 4/1; CSM 4/4)

3 APRIL

Israeli police arrest fugitive Kach leader Baruch Marzel in Pnei Hever settlement, West Bank, last of 5 Kach/Kahane Chai leaders sought. Marzel is sentenced to 3 mos.' administrative detention. (CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/4)

Fmr. **Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natsha,** deposed a decade earlier at settler demand, **resumes post.** (CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/4; CSM 4/5)

"Ansar 2" prison in Gaza evacuated, transferring its 600 inmates to Qetziot ("Ansar 3") in Israel. Prison site is to become Palestinian police training camp. Also, **18 Israeli families leave Dugit settlement** in northern Gaza Strip. (WP 4/4, 4/5; MM 4/5)

Clashes btwn. Palestinians, IDF in Hebron, Gaza leave 10 Palestinians, 2 soldiers wounded. Meanwhile, Fateh mbr. Kamal 'Abd al-Majid kidnapped fr. Gaza City home by Hamas for "collaboration"; Hamas figure Khalid Hindi, director of Islamic University pres.' office, kidnapped by Fateh but later released. (WP, WT 4/4)

4 APRIL

IDF begins evacuation of HQ in Jericho, Gaza Strip as withdrawal starts. Troops in Gaza redeploy to guard Gush Qatif bloc of settlements. 2 Palestinians wounded by IDF while stoning departing troops. (CSM, WT 4/5)

Bank of Jordan opens 1st West Bank branch, in Ramallah. (MM 4/5)

Syrian Pres. Hafiz **al-Asad** flies to Cairo, meets twice with Pres. Husni **Mubarak.** (MM 4/5)

Israeli police **ballistics expert testifies to Israeli commission of inquiry,** says police have identified all but 1 of 115 shell casings recovered at Haram al-Ibrahimi in Hebron. 109 shells traced to attacker Baruch Goldstein's weapon, 5 to those of IDF guards. (NYT, WT 4/5)

5 APRIL

23 Palestinians expelled by Israel for resistance activities **return to Gaza Strip** fr. Egypt via Rafah crossing, **27 others to West Bank** at Allenby Bridge. (NYT, WP, WT 4/6)

9 Palestinians wounded by IDF in clashes as Israelis continue evacuation of Jericho, Gaza IDF HQs. 3 of the wounded are in Jericho. (WT 4/6)

Danish, Italian, and Norwegian officials go to Israel from Cairo to discuss role of Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH) contingents. (MM 4/5)

Pres. **al-Asad holds 3d mtg. with Pres. Mubarak** in Cairo, returns to Syria. (MM 4/5)

6 APRIL

Car bomb explodes at bus stop in **Afula, northern Israel, killing 8**, including bomber, and wounding 44. **Hamas** claims responsibility in calls to news agencies, announcements on Gaza Strip mosque loudspeakers. Demonstrations against attack erupt in Afula and other towns; Israeli police deploy in Israeli-Arab villages to protect Palestinian citizens of Israel. Complete closure imposed on o.t. Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu demands govt. suspend talks with PLO. PLO Chmn. **Arafat**, asked by State Dept. to condemn bombing, **refuses comment** when asked about it at Cairo news conference. (MM 4/6; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/7)

6 IDF soldiers wounded, none seriously, in grenade attack on patrol in Shatti r.c., Gaza Strip. (NYT 4/7)

Israeli delegation to talks with PLO in Cairo takes 3-day break to observe Holocaust Day. PLO officials decline to take over Gaza police station evacuated by Israel, postpone entry of Palestinian police into Gaza, Jericho. (MM 4/6; NYT, WP, WT 4/7)

PM **Rabin testifies** to closed session of commission of inquiry into Hebron massacre, last of 94 witnesses. Rabin's testimony not made public. (MM 4/6; NYT 4/7, 4/9)

7 APRIL

19-yr-old Palestinian fr. Shatti r.c., Gaza Strip, **attacks Israeli bus** with stolen Uzi sub-machine gun **nr. Ashdod, killing 1 passenger and wounding 4**. IDF, Israeli civilian shoot him dead. **Islamic Jihad** claims responsibility.

(MM, WP 4/7; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/8)

2 Israelis stabbed and wounded at Gaza Strip entrances. Hamas claims responsibility, threatens series of attacks on Israelis in reprisal for Hebron massacre. Leaflet says Afula bombing 1st of 5 attacks to come. (MM 4/7; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/8)

Total closure imposed on o.t. for 1 week in response to Afula, Ashdod attacks. (MM 4/7; NYT, WP, WT 4/8)

5,000 attend funeral of 4 victims of Afula bombing, broadcast nationwide. Dep. Education M Micha Goldman, representing Rabin govt., booed by mourners. Funeral coincides with observances of Holocaust Day. 300 Israeli youths clash with police in tire-burning incidents. **PLO in Cairo issues statement expressing regret** over Afula bombing, but U.S. State Dept. spokesman Michael McCurry says U.S. wants stronger condemnation. (CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/8)

IDF denies permit to conference scheduled 4/9-10 at which **Jesse Jackson** was to have spoken to 100s of Palestinian academics. IDF says conference, marking 30th anniversary of PLO and organized by Hebron Islamic University, cannot be held in Hebron or Jerusalem but could be held in Nablus or Ramallah. (WP, WT 4/8)

8 APRIL

Israeli security cabinet endorses IDF closure of o.t. All permits allowing Palestinians to work in Israel revoked. (NYT, WP, WT 4/9)

Rev. **Jesse Jackson**, Imam Taysir Tamimi lead **prayer mtg. nr. Haram al-Ibrahimi in Hebron**, attempt march to mosque closed to Muslims since 2/25 massacre. Fighting breaks out btwn. Palestinians attending mtg. and IDF. **At least 8 Palestinians wounded** by IDF gunfire, rubber bullets. Others treated for tear-gas inhalation. (NYT, WP, WT 4/9)

9 APRIL

Conference marking 30th anniversary of PLO held in Jerusalem despite Israeli ban. IDF prohibits mtg. fr. convening at Ambassador Hotel, site of 1964 PLO founding conference. Participants led by Rev. Jesse Jackson march to Orient House to hold session. (NYT, WT 4/10)

Palestinian opposition factions attack 2 SLA posts nr. 'Ali Tahir, southern Lebanon; IDF/SLA kill 3, wound 3. IDF, SLA casualties not reported. (WT 4/10)

Fmr. Melkite (Greek Catholic) Archbishop of Jerusalem **Hilarion Capucci**, expelled by Israel in 1977 for 1974 arms-smuggling charge, **claims Israel offered to allow him to return** but he rejected offer because "it was tied to me not saying anything regarding the Palestinian cause or giving my opinion when I return." (NYT 4/10)

10 APRIL

Full **Israeli cabinet approves extension of o.t. closure** for at least 1 week, decides to import 15,000 foreign construction workers, 3,200 farmhands for 6 mos. to make up for loss of Palestinian labor. Cabinet will decide on further extension of closure at next weekly mtg. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/11)

11 APRIL

17-mbr. **advance TIPH team arrives in Hebron**, meets Mayor Mustafa al-Natsha, local IDF cmdrs. Opposition to Danish-Italian-Norwegian force expressed by Hamas spokesman Taysir Tamimi, settler spokesman Yehiel Leiter. Center Hebron opened to Palestinians for 6 hours while team visits, but curfew reimposed afterward. Clashes break out btwn. Palestinians, IDF after curfew restored; 4 Palestinians wounded. (MM 4/11; WP, WT 4/12)

PLO negotiator **Nabil Shaath** says in Cairo mtg. 4/13 deadline for Israel-PLO autonomy agreement, IDF withdrawal fr. Gaza and Jericho will be "impossible," **accepts proposal by FM Peres** to set target date at end 4/94. (CSM, NYT, WT 4/12)

"Security sources" report **killing in 'Ayn al-Hilwa r.c.**, Lebanon, of Lt. Col. Husayn Abu Zayd, **4th Fateh loyalist to be killed in Lebanon since 9/13/93.** (CSM 4/12)

U.S. Defense Dept. notifies Congress of **plans to sell 25 McDonnell Douglas F-151 fighter-bombers to Israel** for \$2.4 b. Initially, deal announced 1/94 had involved 20 planes, valued at \$2 b. Package includes 25 Martin Marietta Corp.-manufactured LAN-TIRN navigation and targeting pods, 11 spare Pratt & Whitney engines. DoD also announces sale of 70 MK-46 torpedoes worth \$40 m., 32 Harpoon missiles worth \$57 m. to Egypt. (NYT, WT 4/12; DoD releases)(see *JPS* 91, 1/27)

12 APRIL

Israeli and Palestinian negotiators in Cairo announce **agreement on Palestinian police force**, release of prisoners. Police force set at 9,000, with 2,000 recruited fr. o.t. and 7,000 fr. outside. Police will be armed with automatic rifles, handguns, and be equipped with 45 APCs and 120 medium MGs. U.S. to supply 200 jeeps and other vehicles; Saudi Arabia loans C-130 aircraft to transport police. Israel agrees to release 5,000 Palestinian prisoners—2,500 after signing of accord, 2,500 when Palestinian police take over, according to PLO official Nabil Shaath and Israeli negotiator Amnon Shahak. Hamas prisoners will not be released. Negotiations on remaining issues to resume 4/17. (NYT, WP 4/13)

Israel-PLO economic talks in Paris achieve "very significant progress" according to Israeli Finance M Avraham Shohat. Agreement reportedly close on direct and indirect taxation and financial affairs, "except for currency." Sides also divided on trade and labor. (MM 4/12, 4/13)

Settler fr. Shiloh fires at stone-throwers in al-Jib village, West Bank, **kills 18-yr-old Palestinian, 4 mos.' pregnant**, in nearby house. Settler arrested, curfew imposed on al-Jib. (MM 4/12, 4/13; WP, WT 4/13)

IDF kills 1 Palestinian, wounds another during stone-throwing clashes in Jalazun r.c., West Bank. In Jericho, 5 high-school students wounded by Border Police rubber bullets. (MM, NYT 4/13)

Ramallah placed under curfew as IDF searches for Palestinian fugitives; house of Dr. Muhammad Wahidi, Fateh supporter whose daughter Abir was sentenced to 17 yrs.' imprisonment for mbrship. in Fateh cell that killed a settler, attacked with gunfire and anti-tank rockets before being bulldozed. (NYT, WT 4/13)

13 APRIL

Suicide bomb explodes in bus in Hadera, Israel, killing 6, including bomber, and wounding 28, including 2 Israeli Arabs and 18 IDF soldiers. **Hamas** claims responsibility. PM Rabin redeploys IDF to protect Israeli cities, rejects opposition calls to end talks with PLO. PLO Chmn. **Arafat**, speaking to Council of Europe in Strasbourg, **condemns violence**, faults Israeli collective punishments against Palestinians as contributing to violent atmosphere. U.S. State Dept. receives Arafat letter in which he "regretted and strongly re-

jected" violence against Israel. (MM 4/13; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/14; WP 4/17)

Maj. Gen. Ilan Biran named officer in command of **IDF Central Command**, including West Bank. Biran to take office 4/17, replacing Acting OC Central Command Maj. Gen. Dani Yatom, appointed temporarily to replace Maj. Gen. Nehemia Tamari, killed in helicopter crash 1/94. (MM 4/13)

14 APRIL

Hamas issues leaflet saying **Hadera bombing "2d in a series of 5 attacks"** on Israelis, warning Palestinians to avoid "crowded Israeli areas." Leaflet also criticizes PLO Chmn. Arafat's denunciation of violence, asking, "Has appeasing America and Israel become more important to you than pleasing your own people and telling the word of truth?" Arafat calls PM Rabin to reject violence; FM Peres says "we appreciate the call. We would like to see some more definite language." (MM 4/14; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/15)

PM Rabin accuses Jordan of sheltering Hamas, calling Amman "a paradise for the activities of Hamas." Rabin says Israel has contacted Jordan over issue, alleges "direct contact" btwn. Hamas spokesmen in Amman, 'Izz al-Din al-Qassam militants in o.t. Jordanian Interior Min. summons Hamas rep. Muhammad Nazzal and spokesman Ibrahim Ghawsha, withdraws their passports and tells them to curb activities, reportedly before Rabin speaks. (MM 4/15, 4/18; NYT 4/15)

IDF arrests 18 Hamas mbrs. suspected of attacks on soldiers in Gaza; Hamas activist Mahmud Zahar says at least 40 Hamas mbrs. arrested since 4/11. (WT 4/15)

Roadside bomb nr. Rihan, southern Lebanon, kills 5 SLA mbrs. No group claims responsibility. IDF, SLA shell Sidon and 'Ayn al-Hilwa r.c. in retaliation, killing 3, wounding 12 in heaviest shelling since 7/93. (WP 4/15)

15 APRIL

Jordanian official calls **PM Rabin's comments on Jordanian sheltering of Hamas "rash, baseless, and not conducive to the peace process."** Official says all Hamas attacks "conceived, planned and executed" in Israel and o.t. (MM 4/15; WP 4/16; NYT 4/17)

Israeli delegation led by Dep. FM Yossi Beilin arrives in Muscat, Oman for multilat-

eral negotiations on sharing Middle East water. (MM 4/15; WT 4/17)

16 APRIL

Jordan's **King Hussein**, reacting to Israeli accusations of Jordanian support for Hamas, tells press conference **PLO is only legal Palestinian body in kingdom.** (CSM 4/18)

17 APRIL

Israel-PLO talks on Gaza-Jericho self-rule reconvene in Cairo. (NYT, WT 4/17; MM, WP 4/18)

Israeli cabinet eases closure of o.t., allowing 4,500 Palestinians over 35 to return to agricultural jobs, 16,000 others to cross "Green Line" regularly for business reasons. Move follows Shin Bet report that none of the Palestinians who killed Israelis inside Israel entered under work permits. (MM 4/18)

Hamas issues statement to media in Jordan saying a "correct start" to peace process would be Israeli withdrawal fr. o.t., dismantling of settlements, and free Palestinian elections. Statement 1st sign of softening of Hamas attitude toward Israel. (MM 4/18)

3-day multilateral conference on Middle East water opens in Muscat, Oman. Attended by delegates fr. 41 countries, including 26 Israeli negotiators accompanied by 19 journalists, session is boycotted by Syria and Lebanon. Jordan sends observer, not negotiator, due to dispute with U.S. over UN searches of vessels docking at Aqaba. Event marks 1st time Israeli officials allowed in a Gulf Arab country. (WT 4/17, 4/18)

18 APRIL

Palestinian armed with axe and 2 firebombs **wounds 2 Israelis** on bus in Neve Yaacov neighborhood, Jerusalem. IDF soldier shoots attacker in legs to subdue him, wounds 2 other Israelis. Hamas claims responsibility. (NYT, WP, WT 4/19)

Ceremony in Amman marks **completion of renovations to Jerusalem's Dome of the Rock**, \$6.3 m. project financed by King Hussein. Hussein declares on TV "We say no to any peace formula that does not restore Arab sovereignty to Arab Jerusalem." (MM 4/18; WP 4/19; WT 4/17, 4/20)

Lebanese FM Faris Buwayz tells *al-Safir* that **govt. discussing relocating Lebanon's 400,000-strong Palestinian community** in

other Arab countries. (MM 4/20)

Lebanon breaks off diplomatic relations with Iraq and orders Iraqi diplomats to leave within 72 hours. Move follows confessions by 2 Iraqi diplomats arrested for murder of Iraqi dissident Shaykh Talib 'Ali Suhail. (MM, WP, WT 4/19)

19 APRIL

Israeli authorities arrest more than 300 Hamas and Islamic Jihad mbrs. in o.t. in crackdown ordered by PM Rabin. Rabin says govt. will fight terrorism "with all the means available to us." (MM 4/19; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/20)

6 Fateh mbrs., fugitives fr. Gaza Strip, allowed to return fr. Egypt. Among those returned is "Black Panther" leader Salim Shurafa, 28. PM Rabin pledges to allow return of 20-30,000 Palestinians, mostly relatives of Palestinian police, after agreement with PLO reached. (WP, WT 4/20)

Israeli AG Michael Ben-Yair tells Jerusalem Bar Assoc. that **Israeli law does not apply in o.t.** "unless the Knesset expressly states this," and that settlers are as subject to military law as Palestinians. Ben-Yair says that in criminal cases "parallel" authority applies to settlers, so they are tried by Israeli law in Israeli courts, not military courts. Settlers' council criticizes Ben-Yair remarks, calls for mtg. (MM 4/20)

Hamas Damascus political office head Musa Abu Marzuq, in interview with Jordanian Islamist weekly *al-Sabil*, says **Hamas would make peace with Israel** in return for complete Israeli withdrawal fr. o.t., dismantlement of all settlements. Statement expands on hint of compromise in 4/17 statements by Hamas reps. in Jordan. (WT 4/20; CSM 4/21)

20 APRIL

Iraqi embassy staff in Lebanon expelled in connection with 4/12 murder of Iraqi opposition figure. (MM 4/21)

Lebanese Chief Prosecutor Munif 'Uwaydat releases statement accusing LF of responsibility for 10/21/90 murder of Dany Sham'un, his wife, and 2 sons. Later, **army arrests LF head Dr. Samir Ja'ja'**, questions him in Sham'un case, 2/27 church bombing. (MM 4/21, 4/22)

21 APRIL

PM Rabin, speaking to United Kibbutz Movement leaders in Jerusalem, says **"if we need to evacuate settlements [on the Golan Heights] for the sake of peace, I was in favor of that and I will be in favor of it,"** adding, "for me, peace is a more important value for the future of Israel's security than one group of settlements or another." Rabin argues "whoever says 'peace with the whole Golan' says 'no' to peace." Committee of Golan Settlements criticizes Rabin's remarks, leader Eli Malka calling speech "a terrorist attack." (MM 4/21; MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/22)

Current round of **Israel-PLO talks in Cairo ends.** (WP 4/22)

PLO Chmn. **Arafat** and Israeli FM **Peres** meet in Bucharest, Romania. Arafat tells Crans Montana Forum conference on Middle East economic prospects Palestinians "need a Marshall Plan." (MM 4/21; NYT, WT 4/22)

11 Fateh activists, fugitives fr. Gaza Strip, return fr. exile, some fr. Libya. (WP 4/22)

4 Palestinians wounded in clashes with IDF during demonstrations in Gaza Strip. (WP 4/22)

IDF soldier reported missing 4/20, **found dead** in abandoned car in garbage dump in Hizmeh, nr. Jerusalem. (WP, WT 4/22)

Israeli-Arab community starts general strike to protest NIS 450 m. budget deficit of the 56 Arab local councils. (JP 4/23)

22 APRIL

'Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades of **Hamas** claim responsibility in call to Israel Radio for killing of IDF soldier. (MM 4/22)

Gaza **Fateh and Hamas leaders reportedly reach agreement** to settle disputes peacefully, suspend killing of collaborators for 1 month. (MM 4/25)

23 APRIL

Damascus newspaper Tishrin welcomes Israeli PM Rabin's "step" on dismantling Golan settlements, but insists "Rabin knows full well that peace with Syria is impossible without the return of the whole Golan." (NYT, WT 4/24)

24 APRIL

PLO-Israel talks resume in Cairo. (NYT,

WT 4/25)

Jerusalem Dep. Mayor Shmuel Meir announces **liens placed on bank accounts of Orient House**, de facto PLO HQ in East Jerusalem, to recover \$300,000 in overdue property taxes and garbage fees. (MM 4/25; WT 4/27)

Secy. of State **Christopher** leaves U.S. for 1-week Middle East tour in preparation for 5/94 round of Arab-Israeli talks. (NYT 4/25)

Arriving in Moscow for 4 days of talks with Russian leaders, Israeli PM **Rabin** is greeted by Russian PM Viktor Chernomyrdin. Rabin, **1st Israeli PM to visit Russia**, addresses Jews at Moscow's Akripova Synagogue. 2,000 attend Rabin speech and another 1,000 listen outside. Lubavitcher Hasidim demonstrate against Rabin's peace policy. (MM, WT 4/25; NYT 4/26)

25 APRIL

Secy. of State **Christopher** meets **Jordan's King Hussein** at latter's home at Ascot, nr. London. Sides reach **compromise on UN searches of Aqaba-bound shipping**. Under tentative accord, Lloyd's Register of Ships would search cargos for Iraq-bound contraband after they are landed at Aqaba. Jordan had threatened to boycott Arab-Israeli talks unless inspection issue resolved. (MM, NYT, WP 4/26; CSM 4/27)

Fmr. Palestinian negotiators **Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi**, **Ghassan al-Khatib**, and 21 other prominent Palestinians **sign petition** saying if PLO-Israel agreement permits continued expansion of settlements they will declare it "lacks legitimacy" and not binding on Palestinians. Petition says such an agreement would "not prevent the continued struggle of our people against the illegal actions of the Israeli occupier." (MM 4/25; NYT 4/26)

Israeli PM **Rabin** meets for 2 hours with **Russian PM Viktor Chernomyrdin**, signs economic and tax agreements. 2 leaders also discuss anti-Semitism, Russian aid to Syria, Iran. (MM, NYT, WT 4/26)

26 APRIL

35-yr.-old Palestinian killed by IDF in Hebron. IDF claims he tried to stab soldiers; Palestinian witnesses call killing an execution. Demonstrations erupt. (WT 4/27)

Kahane Chai leader Binyamin Kahane and **Kach** 2d in command Michael Ben-Ari, recently released fr. prison, hold Jerusalem press conference to **announce cooperation**

agreement btwn. 2 Kahanist groups. Police observe mtg. but make no arrests although both groups outlawed. (MM 4/27)

Israeli PM **Rabin** meets **Russian Pres. Boris Yeltsin** in Moscow. Yeltsin suggests Israel-Russia defense cooperation, but Rabin defers issue. (MM 4/26, 4/27)

27 APRIL

Secy. of State **Christopher** meets **Saudi FM Prince Saud** and other GCC FMs, **Saudi King Fahd** in Riyadh. Christopher thanks Saudis for "firm support" of peace process; Saud condemns terrorism, extremism. U.S. and GCC states reaffirm commitment to sanctions against Iraq. Christopher also mentions lifting tertiary Arab boycott, delivers letter to King Fahd fr. Pres. Clinton asking Saudi consideration of AT&T bid for updating Saudi telephone system. (NYT, WP, WT 4/28)

Russian Dep. PM Oleg Soskovets, **Syrian DM Mustafa Tlas** sign **agreement on military cooperation**, 1st by Russia with any state since collapse of Soviet Union in 1991. Agreement covers "defensive weapons and spare parts," training. Interfax news agency reports Moscow had assured Israeli PM Rabin any deal with Syria would exclude advanced military technology. Syrian debt for previous arms purchases put at \$10 b. Other accords reached on trade, economic and scientific cooperation. (CSM 4/28; NYT, WP 4/29)

28 APRIL

U.S. Secy. of State **Christopher**, Egyptian Pres. **Mubarak**, Israeli FM **Peres**, and PLO Chmn. **Arafat** meet in Cairo, **announce breakthrough on Gaza-Jericho agreement**. Reportedly size of Jericho, duties of Palestinian police at border crossings, telephone and postal service remain to be resolved. Arafat and PM Rabin are to meet in Cairo 5/3 to resolve outstanding issues, sign self-rule accord 5/4. Christopher agrees to extend stay in region until signing, proceeds to Tel Aviv to discuss Israeli negotiations with Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria with PM Rabin. (MM 4/28; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 4/29)

Jerusalem District **Court** finds **settler guilty of premeditated murder** in 3/93 killing in Susia settlement nr. Hebron of Palestinian. Victim was bound hand and foot; settler shot him 9 times at point-blank range. Settler is sentenced to life in prison. (NYT 4/29, WT 5/4)

PFLP-GC figure **Mustafa Khamis** an-

nounces formation of "PFLP-Islamic General Command." (*al-Sharq al-Awsat* 4/28 in FBIS 4/29)

29 APRIL

Israeli Finance M Avraham Shohat and PLO chief economic negotiator Ahmad Qurai' sign agreement on economic relations btwn. Israel and Gaza-Jericho self-rule area in Paris. Accord provides for Palestinian central monetary authority, independent tax authority and rebate to Palestinian authority of 75% of income tax levied on Palestinians working in Israel, coordination of tariffs, free movement of goods and services, free importation into Israel of Palestinian produce, establishment of Palestinian tourism authority. Agreement facilitates international assistance to Palestinian entity. (MM 4/29; NYT, WP, WT 4/30)(see Special Doc. B.)

Israeli PM Rabin gives U.S. Secy. of State Christopher proposals for accord with Syria, reportedly including phased withdrawal fr. Golan Heights, after 2 90-minute mtgs. Senior U.S. official calls proposals "basket of ideas." (MM 4/29; NYT, WP, WT 4/30)

30 APRIL

U.S. Secy. of State **Christopher arrives in Damascus**, meets for 4 hours with Pres. al-Asad, FM al-Shara'. Topics include Israeli proposals for Golan withdrawal, U.S. concerns over drug trafficking, counterfeiting, terrorism, and human rights. U.S. also seeks clarifications on recent Syrian-Russian arms agreement. Christopher reportedly tells Syrians of U.S. pleasure with Syrian moves to curb terrorism, including closing 2 FRC ("Abu Nidal") camps in Lebanon. (NYT, WP, WT 5/1)

1 MAY

Israeli cabinet, PLO Exec. Comm. approve tentative Israel-PLO accord reached 4/28; Israeli and PLO negotiators return to talks in Cairo to finalize details for 5/4 signing. Disputes remain on control of territorial waters and beaches, prisoner releases, and legal jurisdiction. PLO Chmn. Arafat, Israeli PM Rabin to settle disputes over size of Jericho area, Palestinian police presence on Allenby Bridge. (CSM, NYT, WT 5/2)

Syrian FM Faruq al-Shara', after mtg. Secy. of State Christopher, says **Syria rejects**

Israeli proposals on phased withdrawal fr. Golan Heights. Shara' says Pres. al-Asad asked Christopher "essential questions" for Israel to answer. (NYT, WP, WT 5/2)

Jordanian govt. decides to permit Palestinians free entry and exit, unlimited residency. Move comes after 6 years of tightened travel restrictions. (CSM 5/4)

2 MAY

Secy. of State **Christopher presents Syrian counterproposals to Israeli PM Rabin**. FM Peres says Syrian ideas received "with great interest." Christopher calls progress "significant," plans to return to region later in month. (CSM, MM, WP, WT 5/3)

Knesset defeats 3 motions of no confidence in Rabin govt. Rabin opens Labor party mtg. on negotiations to public. Opposition posters throughout Israel declare "The nation is with the Golan." Rabin, defending withdrawal proposals in Knesset, observes "Tanks, not settlements, provide security. If people want to rule over a foreign nation, they must know it is going to cost them blood." (MM, NYT, WT 5/3)

Israel and PLO sign formal agreement on TIPH at Danish FMin. TIPH force—90 Norwegians, 35 Danes, and 35 Italians—to deploy in Hebron 5/8. (MM 5/3; CSM 5/4)(see 3/31)

World Bank releases 3-yr., \$1.2 b. Emergency Assistance Program for the Occupied Territories. Plan is to be undertaken by PECRAR in coordination with Israel, World Bank, and donor nations. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 5/3)(see Doc. A4.)

International Labor Organization releases report stating overall o.t. unemployment rate at least 25%, over 40% in Gaza. ILO seeks \$135 m. for programs to help 12,000 frmr. political prisoners get work, provide 15,000 temporary jobs per month. (MM 5/3; CSM 5/4)

IDF Central Command issues orders restricting use of live ammunition against Palestinians, Maj. Gen. Ilan Biran saying "a new era and a new approach begins." (MM 5/3)

Hamas gunmen attack Ganei Tal in Gush Qatif settlement bloc, Gaza Strip, wounding 2 IDF soldiers. (MM 5/3)

IDF soldier shot dead at Gaza Strip base by fellow soldier who mistakes him for Palestinian assailant. (MM 5/3)

Israel sends 16 delegates, 12 journalists to **multilateral Middle East peace talks on arms control in Doha, Qatar**, via Cairo.

Other delegations only 6 mbrs. (MM 5/3)

3 MAY

PLO Chmn. **Arafat** and Israeli PM **Rabin** meet in Cairo for final negotiations on Gaza-Jericho self-rule agreement. Egyptian FM 'Amr Musa mediates. (NYT, WP, WT 5/4)

Qatari FM Shaykh Hamad bin Jasim bin Jabr al-Thani, in opening remarks to 5th round of multilateral Middle East peace talks on arms control in Doha attended by 43 countries, **rules out normal diplomatic or economic relations with Israel** pending comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace. (WT 5/4)

Rabbinical Conference of the Religious Zionist Rabbis Association issues halachic ruling saying Israeli govt. "not empowered by Jewish law, tradition or heritage to relinquish the rights of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel," calling Gaza-Jericho agreement "not recognized as binding." (MM 5/4)

4 MAY

PLO Chmn. **Arafat** and Israeli PM **Rabin** sign 186-page Gaza-Jericho self-rule accord after 6-hr. negotiating session. Cairo ceremony presided over by Egyptian Pres. **Husni Mubarak**; 2,500 attendees include Secy. of State **Christopher**, Russian FM **Andrei Kozyrev**, Norwegian FM **Bjørn Tore Godal**, FMs of Japan, South Korea, Morocco, and Jordan. **Arafat balks at signing maps** accompanying accord, saying size of Jericho area not agreed upon, and ceremony stops for 35 minutes until Arafat reassured issue subject to further negotiation. Arafat asks for 3-week delay in withdrawal to allow PLO to prepare for taking power. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 5/4, 5/5; CSM 5/5)(see Special Doc. C.)

Simultaneous with signing, **Israel permits return of 15 Palestinian exiles, releases over 200 Palestinian prisoners**, and allows entry into Gaza of 19 PLO police cmndrs. (MM 5/4; NYT, WP, WT 5/5)

Settlers attempt to occupy Shalom Al Yisrael synagogue in Jericho, staging prayer vigil. IDF removes settlers, detains 400 at Jericho base. Palestinian celebration in Jericho broken up by IDF with tear gas, percussion grenades. PLO officials arriving in Jericho in IDF jeeps stoned by local youths. (MM 5/4; NYT, WT 5/5; NYT 5/6)

Hamas spokesman Ibrahim Ghawsha says group will not use force against Palestinian supporters of Gaza-Jericho agreement, but says Palestinian police should not try to stop

attacks by opposition factions on settlers, IDF. (MM 5/4)

DFLP head Nayif Hawatmah, PFLP chief George Habash issue statements rejecting Gaza-Jericho accord, calling for continued resistance to occupation and new elections to PNC. (MM 5/4)

5 MAY

Central Gaza Prison closed down, 500 of its inmates transferred to other prisons and 200 released. IDF dismantles Gaza army bases but does not withdraw. (CSM, NYT, WT 5/6)

PLO Chmn. **Arafat visits Amman to brief King Hussein** on Gaza-Jericho agreement after Cairo mtg. with top aides to discuss appointment of 24 mbrs. of Palestinian National Authority. (MM 5/5; WP, WT 5/6)

Japanese FM Koji Kakizawa visits Jericho, pledges \$200 m. to Palestinian National Authority. Settlers attempt for 2d day to occupy Shalom Al Yisrael synagogue in Jericho. (CSM, WT 5/6)

Norwegian Middle East mediator **Terje Rød Larsen** says **Palestinian police force has received \$20 m. in international donations**, less than 1/2 of estimated \$47 m. budget for 1st 6 months. Larsen says U.S. has pledged additional \$5 m. PLO negotiator **Nabil Shaath** says there will be overlap btwn. IDF presence and police. (NYT, WP 5/6)

PFLP, DFLP announce attacks on Israel will continue but that forces will avoid clashes with Palestinian police, according to statement by PFLP SG Dr. **George Habash**. Syrian media, including party paper *al-Ba'th*, join Palestinian factions in condemning Gaza-Jericho agreement. (MM 5/5; CSM, WP 5/6)

Al-Hayat reports **Russia has agreed to write off 90% of Syria's \$10 b. debt to Moscow**. Syria will purchase \$500 m. in Russian weapons in deal reached during Russian Dep. PM **Oleg Soskovets's** visit to Damascus previous week. (MM 5/5; WT 5/11)

6 MAY

PLO Exec. Comm. meets in Tunis to discuss appointment of 24-mbr. Palestinian National Authority. (WP 5/7)

Israeli officials confirm *Ha'Aretz* report that **Israel has asked U.S. for \$1.5 b. in pre-positioned arms and munitions** as well as greater access to U.S. intelligence as offsets

for risks of withdrawing fr. Golan Heights. (WT 5/7)

7 MAY

330 Palestinian police leave staging area nr. Cairo for Rafah, on Sinai-Gaza border. 270 others make camp at Jordanian side of Allenby Bridge, awaiting deployment in Jericho. (NYT, WT 5/8; NYT 5/9)

Haim Bar-Lev, IDF chief of staff 1968-71 after whom "Bar-Lev Line" of Sinai fortifications named, dies at 69 in Tel Aviv. (NYT, WT 5/8)

8 MAY

Weapons for Gaza police force brought in fr. Egypt at Rafah crossing, but officers remain on Egyptian side of border. Police also wait at Jordanian side of Allenby Bridge. (MM, NYT, WP 5/9)

TIPH force of 117 arrives in Hebron, does not intervene in clashes btwn. IDF, local students. (MM, NYT, WP 5/9)

Aharon Yariv, chief of IDF intelligence in 1967 war, dies at 74. Yariv also founded and directed Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University. (NYT, WP, WT 5/9)

U.S. officially informs Jordan of decision to end naval inspections of Aqaba-bound shipping. (MM 5/9)

9 MAY

Crowds in Gaza, Jericho awaiting arrival of PLO police clash with settlers, IDF. In Gaza, **settlers kill 16-year-old Palestinian** during stone-throwing at Neve Deqalim settlement. 2,000 Palestinians awaiting police nr. Rafah crossing stone IDF. Over 40 wounded by IDF stun grenades and rubber bullets. (CSM, NYT, WP, WT 5/10)

Rightist settlers led by NRP MK Hanan Porat stage **sit-in protest at Jericho's Shalom Al Yisrael synagogue** despite IDF closure of Jericho area. Porat says group will establish yeshiva, settlement in Jericho. (MM 5/10)

Israeli Brig. Gen. Yom Tov Samia and PLO police cmndr. Maj. Gen. Nasr Yusuf announce **agreement on arrival of police contingent in Gaza**. (NYT, WP, WT 5/10)

"Jerusalem Day," marking capture of East Jerusalem by IDF in 1967 war, observed by c. 50,000 participants. 2,000 police, Border Police deployed to provide security. (MM 5/9)

PLO, UNDP sign agreement on develop-

ment in o.t. (*Jerusalem Times* 5/20)

10 MAY

157 Palestinian police cross into Gaza Strip fr. Egypt at Rafah crossing, greeted by 1,000s of Gaza residents. IDF uses water cannon, rubber bullets to restrain crowds. PLO and Israeli officials meet in Jericho to discuss entrance of police, transfer of power. Israeli National Parks Authority instructed to turn over 3 Jericho archaeological sites to Palestinians, including Hisham Palace and Shalom Al Yisrael synagogue. (MM 5/10; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 5/11)

PLO, Jordan open economic talks in Amman to reconcile 1/7 PLO-Jordan "letter of intent" with 4/29 Israel-PLO economic protocol. PLO delegation led by Ahmad Qurai'. (MM 5/10)

Gunmen attack settler bus nr. Beit El settlement, West Bank, wounding 3. (WT 5/11)

IAF fires rockets on PFLP-GC bases nr. Naamah, Lebanon. Lebanese police say at least 2 killed, 8 wounded. (MM 5/10; NYT, WT 5/11)

11 MAY

Palestinian police take over Dayr al-Balah town and al-Maghazi police station in Gaza Strip. Police cmdr. Maj. Gen. Nasr Yusuf says priority of Gaza force will be disarming Palestinian civilians. 2d group of 150 officers later crosses into Gaza fr. Egypt. (MM 5/11; NYT, WP, WT 5/12)

PLO police cmndrs. tour Jericho with IDF officers to prepare for next day's initial deployment. IDF closes Jericho to journalists, fires rubber bullets and tear gas at demonstrating Palestinians. (NYT 5/12)

Knesset approves Gaza-Jericho agreement by vote of 52-0 after stormy debate in which 2 Likud MKs ejected fr. chamber for interrupting FM Peres. (MM 5/11; MM, NYT, WP, WT 5/12)

Israeli govt. agrees to **guarantee Gaza municipality's \$12 m. debt** to Israel's electric company. Power authority had threatened to cut off Gaza's power. (CSM 5/11; MM, WP 5/12)

Asst. Secy of State Robert Pelletreau, in Bahrain, says U.S. **has pledged \$500 m. to Palestinian National Authority** and is providing Palestinian police with vehicles. Later in Kuwait, reasserts U.S. opposition to Arab boycott of Israel and says he is "satisfied" with Gulf response to his efforts on boycott.

(MM 5/11, 5/12)

12 MAY

Palestinian police vanguard of 20 officers enters Jericho fr. Jordan. PLO and Israeli officials in Jericho and Gaza discuss transfer of powers. PLO official Khalid Qudra says after Gaza mtg. he expects full Palestinian takeover to occur 5/17. (MM 5/12; NYT, WP, WT 5/13)

IDF evacuates Rafah, Gaza Strip, turning over police station and military govt. HQ to 40 locally recruited Palestinian police. IDF also leaves bases in Khan Yunis and Maghazi, al-Burayj, and Nusayrat r.c.s. (NYT, WP, WT 5/13)

Israeli AG Michael Ben-Yair tells Knesset that **parliamentary immunity no longer applies in Palestinian autonomous areas**. Remark is directed at 3 Likud and NRP MKs staging sit-in at Jericho's Shalom Al Yisrael synagogue. (MM 5/12)

Israeli truck driver ambushed nr. Mogaz settlement, Gaza Strip, in attack claimed by Hamas. 1 Palestinian arrested. In Jabaliya r.c., Palestinian gunmen shoot at IDF soldiers, who return fire, wounding 1 Palestinian. (WP 5/13)

PLO official Nabil Shaath announces **appointment of 15 mbrs. of Palestinian National Authority**. 2 women are among appointees. Israeli PM Rabin says naming of 15 of 24 mbrs. sufficient to proceed with transition to self-rule. (NYT, WP, WT 5/13)

Dep. Asst. Secy of State Daniel Kurtzer, in Cairo, states **U.S. has pledged \$10.1 m.** toward job creation, construction, and training for **Palestinian refugees**. Kurtzer in Cairo for 3-day mtg. of multilateral working group on refugees. (MM 5/12)

13 MAY

PLA's al-Aqsa Brigade takes up duties as Palestinian police in Jericho, ending Israeli occupation. Joint Israeli-Palestinian patrols commence immediately, 1 stopping Kach sympathizers trying to enter Shalom Al Yis-

rael synagogue. 9-yr.-old Palestinian killed when his brother accidentally fires a police officer's rifle. Officer whose weapon fired arrested, to be court-martialled for negligence. (MM 5/13; NYT, WP, WT 5/14; NYT 5/15)

IDF leaves another base in Khan Yunis, turning it over to Palestinian police. (WP 5/14)

Hamas-led marches in Gaza Strip clash with IDF. 2 Palestinians wounded by IDF gunfire. (WP 5/14)

Informal talks on final status of o.t. open at Bruno Kreisky Forum in Vienna, grouping MKs led by Eli Dayan (Labor), PLO delegation under Ahmad Tibi. (MM 5/13)

14 MAY

IDF completes withdrawal fr. Jabaliya r.c., Gaza Strip, turning over positions to 100 Palestinian police. 220 Palestinian police officers take up positions in Gaza City. Total police deployment in Gaza Strip around 1,800. (NYT, WT 5/15)

PLO names 3 more mbrs. of Palestinian National Authority. Hanan Ashrawi, who was named earlier, says she is not interested in appointment, calls confusion "an honest misunderstanding." (NYT 5/15)

U.S. provides PLO with \$5 m. donation to help cover Palestinian police salaries, expenses. (NYT 5/15; CSM 5/16)

15 MAY

Secy. of State **Christopher meets Syrian Pres. Hafiz al-Asad** for 3 hours but details of talks not made public. (WP, WT 5/16)

60 settlers escorted by IDF visit Shalom Al Yisrael synagogue in Jericho, refusing to show Palestinian police i.d.s or obey their orders. (WT 5/16)

32-yr.-old Gaza City resident killed by a stray bullet as gunmen attack IDF post next to his home. (NYT 5/16)

Israeli PM Rabin's office announces **U.S. agreement to sell Tel Aviv 21 advanced F-15I fighter aircraft**. (CSM 5/16)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP (Agence France Presse, Paris)

CSM (*Christian Science Monitor*, Boston)

FBIS (Foreign Broadcast Information Service *Daily Report, Near East & South Asia*)

JP (*Jerusalem Post International Edition*, Jerusalem)

MEI (*Middle East International*, London)

MENA (Middle East News Agency, Cairo)
MM (*Mideast Mirror*, London)
NYT (*New York Times*, New York)
QPAR (Al-Quds Palestinian Radio, clandestine)
RJ (Radio Jordan, Amman)
RL (Radio Lebanon, Beirut)
RMC (Radio Monte Carlo, Paris)
SARR (Syrian Arab Republic Radio, Damascus)
SPA (Saudi Press Agency)
WJW (*Washington Jewish Week*, Rockville, MD)
WP (*Washington Post*, Washington, D.C.)
WT (*Washington Times*, Washington, D.C.)

Chronology compiled by Geoffrey D. Schad