



CHRONOLOGY

16 MAY–15 AUGUST 2015

COMPILED BY PAUL KAROLYI

This is part 127 of a chronology begun in *Journal of Palestine Studies (JPS)* 13, no. 3, (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect North American Eastern Standard Time. For a more comprehensive overview of regional and international developments related to the peace process, see the Update on Conflict and Diplomacy in *JPS* 45(1).

16 MAY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israel Defense Forces (IDF) troops** violently disperse hundreds of Palestinian and international activists marching through a village nr. Nablus to commemorate Nakba Day, injuring 2 international journalists and 1 Palestinian. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids and house searches in Hebron, Bethlehem, and 1 village nr. Jenin, arresting 1 Palestinian and issuing arrest summons to 2; patrols in 2 villages and al-Fawar refugee camp (r.c.) nr. Hebron, 3 nr. Ramallah, and 1 each nr. Tulkarm and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** raid a home in Issawiyya late at night, arresting 2 Palestinians. Earlier in the day, 2 synagogues in Pisgat Ze'ev are damaged in suspected arson attacks by Palestinians. A Palestinian throws a molotov cocktail at **Israeli settlers** in Ras al-Amud, causing no injuries. **Israeli settler youths** then throw stones at Palestinians in the area. (MNA, WAFA 5/16; TOI 5/17; PCHR 5/21)

17 MAY 2015

In **Gaza**, **Hamas police** assault a Palestinian journalist, lightly injuring him. **IDF troops** on

the Gaza border e. of Jabaliya open fire on Palestinian farmers on 2 occasions, causing no injuries or damage. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts house searches and raids in 1 village each nr. Tulkarm, Jenin, and Bethlehem, arresting 6 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 4; patrols in 2 villages each nr. Hebron and Tulkarm. **Israeli settlers** uproot around 800 olive trees in a village nr. Hebron. An **Israeli settler** assaults a Palestinian in c. Hebron, causing severe bleeding. In **East Jerusalem**, over 160 right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif** as a part of Jerusalem Day celebrations. Dozens of Palestinian youths throw stones and bottles at thousands of Israelis parading through the Old City; 2 policemen and 19 Palestinians are injured, and at least 5 Palestinians are arrested. Separately, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian at **Haram al-Sharif**. They also conduct house searches and raids in Silwan, al-Tur, Ras al-Amud, and Sur al-Bahir, arresting 7 Palestinians. (HA, JP, MNA, NYT, WAFA, YA 5/17; MNA 5/18; JP 5/19; PCHR 5/21)

At a **Jerusalem Day** ceremony, **Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu** says that his govt. will

keep building in East Jerusalem and pledges to never let the city be divided. (YA 5/17)

18 MAY 2015

In **n. Gaza**, a mbr. of Hamas's armed wing, Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades (IQB), dies in a tunnel collapse nr. Bayt Lahiya. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts house searches and raids in and around Hebron, al-'Arub r.c., 2 villages nr. Jenin, 1 nr. Bethlehem, and al-Fara'a r. c. near Tubas, arresting 15 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1. **Israeli settlers** set fire to Palestinian agricultural lands nr. Hebron, destroying 250 olive trees. Meanwhile, the Palestinian Authority security forces (**PASF**) conduct raids in and around Hebron, Nablus, Bethlehem, and Tubas, arresting 4 Palestinians affiliated with Hamas and issuing arrest summons to 3 others. In **East Jerusalem**, an **Israeli police officer** assaults a Palestinian tour guide after an argument at **Haram al-Sharif**. Late at night, **Israeli forces** demolish 3 Palestinian-owned stores and a home under construction in Silwan. (MNA 5/18; JP 5/19; PCHR 5/21)

The Israeli PM's office confirms that **Dep. PM Silvan Shalom** has been appointed to oversee any resumption of negotiations with the **Palestinians** (see Update for more). Former justice min. Tzipi Livni (Zionist Union) filled this role in the previous govt. (AFP, HA, JP, TOI 5/18; AFP 5/19)

PA pres. Mahmoud Abbas's spokesperson calls PM Netanyahu's 5/17 remarks about Jerusalem a clear violation of UN res. and states that there will be no peace in the Middle East unless the Palestinians have a capital in East Jerusalem. (HA, TOI 5/18)

After a meeting of the European Union (EU) FMs in Brussels, **EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini** says that the EU is "ready

and willing" to play a major role in a new round of peace negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians. Mogherini will be traveling to the region to meet with Netanyahu and Abbas on 5/20–21. (JP, REU 5/18; TOI 5/19; HA 6/7)

19 MAY 2015

Off Gaza's coast nr. Jabaliya and later nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, damaging 1 in the earlier incident. **IDF troops** on the Gaza border e. of Jabaliya open fire on Palestinian farmers on multiple occasions, causing no damage or injuries. **Israeli forces** level land in a late-night incursion across the border fence e. of al-Maghazi r.c. In the **West Bank**, an **Israeli settler** assaults a Palestinian boy in c. Hebron, lightly injuring him. The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids in 2 villages nr. Hebron, 1 nr. Bethlehem, and 2 nr. Ramallah, arresting 11 Palestinians and confiscating property. In **East Jerusalem**, Palestinian security guards at **Haram al-Sharif** intervene when a group of right-wing Jewish activists provokes a group of Palestinians nr. the sanctuary's gates. The Jewish activists then assault the guards, causing no serious injuries. **Israeli forces** conduct house searches and raids in al-Tur and Bayt Safafa, arresting 6 Palestinians after assaulting 3 of them. (JP, MNA, WAFA 5/19; PCHR 5/21)

Jordanian newspaper *ad-Dustour* reports that **Hamas** and **Israel** have been involved in **secret talks** in Israel and in Europe in recent mos. over outstanding issues from the 8/26/2014 cease-fire that ended Operation Protective Edge (OPE), quoting unnamed "Western diplomatic sources" (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more). Neither Hamas nor Israel confirm the reports. (HA, JP, MNA 5/19)

Israel's Civil Admin. initiates a 3-mo. pilot project of new regulations on **Palestinian** travel

in the West Bank, requiring Palestinian workers to return to the West Bank through the same checkpoint they entered Israel and banning them from Israeli bus lines. Several human rights organizations plan to appeal the new regulations. (HA 5/20)

UN special coordinator Nickolay Mladenov briefs the **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** on the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt). He urges Israel to freeze **settlement construction**, saying “there should be no illusions about the impact of these unilateral actions.” He also says that he and Secy.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon will engage with the new **Israeli govt.** to explore “realistic options” for a return to peace negotiations with the Palestinians “within a reasonable timeframe.” (MNA, REU 5/20)

20 MAY 2015

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** shoot and kill a Palestinian man in al-Tur after he drives his car into a crowd, injuring 2 border police guards. **Israeli forces** demolish a 3-story building in Ras al-Amud claiming it was built without a license. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** close the entrance to a village nr. Nablus after a Palestinian throws a Molotov cocktail at a settler’s car. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids in and around Hebron, Jenin, and Nablus, and in Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah, arresting 14 Palestinians; patrols in 1 village nr. Ramallah during the day. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA, YA 5/20; MNA, PCHR, WAFA 5/21; PCHR 5/28)

Following public criticism and consultation with DM Moshe Ya’alon, **Israeli PM Netanyahu** orders the suspension of the new 3-mo. pilot project restricting Palestinian travel, initiated on 5/19. Ya’alon says he will continue his efforts to reduce the number of Palestinians entering Israel illegally. (HA, MNA, NYT, TOI, YA 5/20)

EU foreign policy chief Mogherini meets with **Netanyahu** in Israel, who says he is still committed to the 2-state solution and he proposes a new round of peace negotiations with the Palestinians with the specific goal of establishing borders for Israel’s West Bank settlement blocs (the news of his proposal will not break until 5/26). Also, Mogherini reportedly tells Netanyahu that the European campaign calling for labeling of products from Israeli settlements is unstoppable. The PM’s office will deny that they discussed the labeling campaign when the news breaks on 6/2. Mogherini also meets with **PA pres. Abbas** and **chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat** in Ramallah. (HA, JP, YA 5/20; WAFA 5/21; HA, REU, TOI 5/26; HA 6/2)

Norwegian FM Børge Brende meets with **Netanyahu** in Jerusalem and tells him that international pressure on Israel regarding its treatment of the Palestinians will likely resume after the P5+1 (the 5 permanent mbrs. of the UN Security Council plus Germany) reach a comprehensive agreement with Iran by their 6/30 deadline. (LF 5/19; EI, HA, 5/20; HA, YA 5/21)

21 MAY 2015

IDF troops stationed on the Gaza border e. of Jabaliya shoot firebombs into agricultural lands nr. the border fence, causing a large fire. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** detain a Palestinian soccer player as the national team travels to Tunisia. The Palestinian Football Association (PFA) then lodges a complaint with international soccer’s governing body, FIFA (the Fédération Internationale de Football Association). **IDF troops** violently disperse dozens of Palestinians protesting outside an Israeli settlement nr. Ramallah, injuring 1 with live ammunition. The **IDF** patrols in a

village nr. Hebron, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; there are no serious injuries. The **IDF** also patrols during the day in Tulkarm, 1 village each nr. Ramallah and Qalqilya, al-Fawar r.c. and 1 village nr. Hebron, and 3 villages nr. Jericho. **Israeli forces** demolish 3 grocery stalls in a village nr. Jericho. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli border police** fire rubber-coated metal bullets and critically injure a Palestinian child outside Shu'fat r.c. after a group of young Palestinians allegedly threw stones at the officers; **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians on a late-night raid in al-Qarmi. In **Israel**, **Israeli forces** demolish 12 homes in the unrecognized Negev bedouin village of al-'Araqib. It is the 84th time since 2010 that homes in the village have been demolished. (HA, MNA, REU 5/21; EI 5/22; MNA 5/26; PCHR 5/28)

22 MAY 2015

Off the coast of **Gaza** nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, Jalazun r.c., and outside Ofer Prison), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 5 are injured and 2 are arrested. The **IDF** conducts a late-night raid nr. Jenin, arresting 1 Palestinian; patrols during the day in 2 villages each nr. Ramallah and Jericho. Late at night, **Israeli settlers** steal sheep-farming equipment from a bedouin village nr. Ramallah. (MNA 5/22; PCHR 5/28)

The month-long **Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Conference** concludes today in New York. Egypt's proposal for a conference on nonproliferation in the Middle East, focused

on Israel's nuclear program, failed to garner enough support after opposition from the U.S., Canada, and the UK (see Update in JPS 45[1] for details). (HA, REU, TOI 5/22; HA, MNA, TOI 5/23)

U.S. pres. Barack Obama signs the **Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act** into law (see H.R. 1191 and S. 615 at congressionalmonitor.org), giving Congress the opportunity to disapprove of any agreement made by the P5+1 and Iran (see Update in JPS 45[1] for more). Speaking at a Washington synagogue, **Obama** reaffirms his support for Israel, but says that he refuses to "paper over our differences." Referring to the **P5+1's** ongoing negotiations with **Iran**, he says, "Our commitment to Israel's security, and my commitment to Israel's security is, and always will be, unshakable." (JP, NYT, TOI 5/22)

23 MAY 2015

Off the coast of **c. Gaza** and later nr. Jabaliya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage. **IDF troops** on the Gaza border e. of Bayt Hanun repeatedly fire warning shots at Palestinian farmers nr. the border fence, causing no injuries. Meanwhile, Hamas forces begin constructing a road less than 300 m from the Israeli border fence. (Hamas leaders will later verify, on 5/26, construction of the road, which they call Jakar Street, saying it will stretch 25 mi. long and 35 ft. wide when complete.) In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** break down the doors of several Palestinian-owned shops in c. Hebron. The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids in Bethlehem, and 1 village each nr. Jenin and Hebron, arresting 3 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1; patrols nr. Ramallah, and in and around Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, a Palestinian youth stabs 2 Israeli teenagers

nr. the Old City, moderately injuring them. (MNA, WAFA 5/23; HA, MNA, TOI 5/24; PCHR 5/28; ALM 6/8)

24 MAY 2015

Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the **Gaza coast** on 3 occasions, causing no damage. **IDF troops** on the Gaza border e. of Jabaliya fire warning shots at Palestinian farmers on 3 occasions, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts late-night patrols in Hebron and a nearby village, arresting 2 Palestinians; patrols in 3 villages nr. Ramallah and 2 nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** deliver a stop-work notice to a Palestinian home under construction nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, around 50 right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif**, and **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Jewish activist and 6 Palestinians. **Israeli forces** also conduct house searches and raids in Issawiyya, Silwan, and the Old City, arresting 13 Palestinians. (HA, MNA, WAFA 5/24; PCHR 5/28)

PA PM Rami Hamdallah pledges \$50,000 to the bedouin community of Abu Nawwar nr. East Jerusalem, which is 1 of 46 bedouin communities in the E1 area that the Israelis plan to relocate to 3 planned townships nr. Jericho to expand Israeli settlements. (MNA 5/24)

25 MAY 2015

On 3 occasions, **Israeli and Egyptian naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of Gaza: Israeli forces open fire twice nr. Jabaliya, injuring 2 fishermen; and, Egyptian forces open fire nr. Rafah, injuring 1 fisherman. In the **West Bank**, 2 **PA security troops** stab and kill a Palestinian teenager during a confrontation in Nablus. Outside Ramallah, **Israeli authorities** say they are opening a major

road e. of the city, having kept it closed since 2001 (residents were informed of the plans to reopen the road on 3/16, and the authorities will actually open it on 9/9 after more than 3 mos. of unspecified maintenance). The **IDF** patrols in Tulkarm, 1 village each nr. Hebron and Qalqilya; arrest 1 Palestinian and issue an arrest summons to another in late-night raids and house searches in Nablus and a village nr. Ramallah, where troops also assault a Palestinian man and sic a dog on his mother. Separately, **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian man nr. Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** stop a Palestinian car nr. the Old City, then detain and assault the 4 Palestinians riding in it. They also arrest 4 Palestinians as they exit **Haram al-Sharif**. (HA, MNA, WAFA 5/25; MNA 5/26; PCHR 5/28; MNA 9/9)

26 MAY 2015

In **Gaza**, a group claiming affiliation with the Islamic State in Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) fires a rocket into Israel nr. Ashdod, causing no damage or injuries (the group will not take credit until 6/1). Holding Hamas responsible for any projectile fire from Gaza and asserting that Islamic Jihad was the culprit, **Israeli Air Force (IAF)** jets strike 4 Islamic Jihad, Popular Resistance Comms. (PRC), and Hamas training sites in Rafah, Khan Yunis, and Bayt Lahiya late at night, causing damage but no casualties (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). Off the coast nr. Khan Yunis and then nr. Gaza City, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, injuring a fisherman in the later incident. **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for passage into Gaza only (they will keep it open through 5/28; see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** chase down, shoot, and injure 4 Palestinian

workers nr. Qalqilya. Separately, 4 Israeli soldiers detain and assault a Palestinian trying to cross over the separation wall nr. Qalqilya. Unidentified gunmen shoot and injure a Palestinian man in s. Hebron. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids and house searches late at night in and around Hebron, and in 1 village nr. Nablus, arresting 9 Palestinians; patrols during the day nr. Jericho and Hebron. **Israeli forces** photograph an electricity network nr. Hebron, then deliver a notice demanding its operations be suspended. They also deliver a stop-work notice for a water well under construction nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** conduct a late-night raid in Jabal Mukabir, arresting 1 Palestinian. (AP, HA, MNA, WAFA 5/26; HA, JP, MNA, WAFA 5/27; PCHR 5/28; JP 6/10)

27 MAY 2015

In Gaza, **Hamas security forces** arrest 3 **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. allegedly connected to the rocket fire that targeted Israel on 5/26. Off the coast nr. Jabaliya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids in Jenin, 1 village nr. Tulkarm, and al-‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, arresting 2 Palestinians. **Israeli settlers** take over 10 dunams (around 2.5 acres) of land nr. Nablus, planting grapevines on the land. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** demolish a newly built home in Silwan; arrest 1 Palestinian on a late-night raid in Bayt Hanina. (HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 5/27; MNA, PCHR 5/28; PCHR 6/4; NYT 8/4)

The **Union of European Football Associations’ (UEFA)** exec. comm. agrees to oppose the Palestinians’ bid to suspend Israel from **FIFA** via a res. at the body’s 5/29 congress.

Meanwhile, **PFA chair Jibril Rajoub** says, “The vote is still on the agenda,” following talks with FIFA pres. Sepp Blatter. (See the Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more.) (HA 5/27; JP, MNA, WAFA 5/28)

Middle East Quartet envoy Tony Blair announces his resignation after 8 years in the post. He will step down next mo., but continue working with the U.S., EU, and others to support a 2-state solution. (AFP, statement from Blair’s office 5/27)

28 MAY 2015

In **Gaza**, a Palestinian man from Jabaliya succumbs to injuries sustained on 7/28/2014 during OPE. In the **West Bank, the IDF** conducts a late-night raid nr. Hebron, issuing an arrest summons to 1 Palestinian and sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; patrols in 2 villages each nr. Ramallah and Hebron, as well as ‘Ayn al-Sultan r.c. and 1 village nr. Jericho, and also violently disperses dozens of Palestinians protesting outside Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah, causing no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** conduct raids and house searches in Silwan and Bayt Hanina, arresting 7 Palestinians. In **s. Israel** nr. Beersheba, **Israeli forces** demolish a bedouin-owned home. (MNA 5/28; MNA 5/29; PCHR 6/4)

French FM Laurent Fabius says that he will travel to Israel and the oPt in 6/2015 to try to persuade the Israelis, Palestinians, and the Arab states to accept a French-drafted **UNSC** res. setting parameters for a new round of peace negotiations between the parties. (HA, REU, TOI 5/28)

In Egypt, the **Sinai Province of the Islamic State (SPIS)** says on its Facebook page that it plans to attack Eilat, **Israel**, “in the coming days.” (SPIS will launch a rocket into Israel on 7/3.) According to Egyptian media reports,

SPIS also threatens to “begin operations against **Hamas** positions” in Gaza. The threat comes amid escalating tension between Hamas and Islamist groups in Gaza. (JP, TOI 5/28)

29 MAY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation, and in favor of the PFA’s bid to suspend Israel from FIFA, in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil’in, Ni’lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, outside Ofer Prison, and Jalazun r.c.), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 4 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids and house searches in 1 village nr. Hebron and al-Azza r.c. nr. Bethlehem, arresting 1 Palestinian and issuing 1 arrest summons; patrols during the day in 2 villages nr. Ramallah, al-Fawar r.c. and 1 village nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** assault and arrest 3 Palestinians at an entrance to Issawiyya, sparking clashes with residents and injuring 5 Palestinians. (MNA, TOI 5/29; PCHR 6/4)

PFA chair Rajoub amends the PFA’s res. to suspend **Israel** from international soccer in the hours before a scheduled vote on the measure at the annual **FIFA** congress in Zurich. Instead, the delegates approve, 165–18, a modified measure establishing a comm. to monitor movement restrictions on Palestinian soccer players, Israeli racism, and the status of teams based in Israeli settlements (see the Update for details). (HA 5/13; NYT 5/28; EI, HA, JP, MNA, NYT, TOI 5/29)

According to an **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)** report, Iran continues to withhold key information about the alleged military dimensions of its past nuclear activity. Sanctions relief for Iran in its ongoing negotiations with the P5+1 depends on the

IAEA’s ability to complete the investigation. (AP, JP 5/29)

30 MAY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** violently disperse Palestinian and international activists conducting a sit-in on a road nr. Hebron in protest of Israeli settlement growth in the area; 1 Palestinian and 3 internationals are arrested. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids and house searches in Hebron and al-‘Arub r.c. nearby, 2 villages nr. Jenin, and 1 nr. Ramallah, arresting 6 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 1; patrols in 1 village each nr. Jericho and Hebron. (MNA 5/30; PCHR 6/4)

31 MAY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** raid Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah and arrest 1 Palestinian, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids and house searches in Balata r.c. and 1 village nr. Nablus, Jenin, and 2 villages nr. Bethlehem, arresting 9 Palestinians, including 1 journalist; patrols in 1 village nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** throw stones and set fire to a Palestinian home in c. Hebron, causing damage. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct raids in Ras al-Amud and al-Tur, arresting 5 Palestinians. (WAFA 5/31; PCHR 6/4)

In a *Washington Post* interview, **PA PM Hamdallah** says the Palestinians have “received assurances” from the **U.S.** that it will “resume negotiations” between Israel and the Palestinians once the P5+1 and Iran reach a final nuclear agreement (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). He adds that the Palestinians are interested in a “new framework” for negotiations, including talks sponsored by the **U.S.**, **EU**, and **UN**. (WP 5/31; JP, TOI 6/1)

The **Knesset's Ministerial Comm. for Legislation** unanimously approves an amendment to the penal code allowing convicted stone-throwers to be sentenced to 10–20 years in prison and reducing the govt.'s burden of proof for obtaining such convictions (the Knesset will pass it into law on 7/20). (See Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details.) (HA 5/31; MNA 6/1)

German FM Frank-Walter Steinmeier meets with **Israeli PM Netanyahu, Pres. Reuven Rivlin**, and other officials in Israel. **Israeli Dep. FM Tzipi Hotovely** tells Steinmeier that Israel expects Germany to lead the fight against labeling of settlement produce in the EU. (TOI 5/29; JP 5/31)

1 JUNE 2015

Off the coast of Gaza City, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, injuring 2 Palestinian fishermen. Later, **Israeli naval forces** arrest 5 fishermen in the same area. **IDF troops** stationed on the border e. of Khan Yunis open fire on agricultural lands. In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** order residents of a village nr. Nablus to remove their tent homes. **IDF troops** arrest a leader of Islamic Jihad and 2 other Palestinians in late-night raids in Jenin, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths. The **IDF** also conducts raids in 2 villages nr. Hebron, 1 nr. Ramallah, and 'Ayn al-Sultan r.c. nr. Jericho, arresting 6 Palestinians; patrols in Tulkarm, 3 villages nr. Jericho, 2 nr. Hebron, and 1 nr. Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** conduct house searches and raids in Silwan and the Old City, arresting 3 Palestinians; demolish 2 homes in Silwan, assaulting 4 of the residents. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 6/1; HA 6/2; PCHR 6/4)

German FM Steinmeier arrives in Gaza with a 60-mbr. German delegation and calls for Israel

to lift the blockade. Both Israel and Hamas deny rumors that Steinmeier is in Gaza to mediate negotiations on a prisoner swap. (HA, MNA, REU, WAFA, YA 6/1)

2 JUNE 2015

In **Gaza City, Hamas security forces** shoot and kill the leader of a small Islamist group during an arrest raid on his home. He was allegedly involved in recent explosions throughout Gaza. **IDF troops** on the Gaza border e. of Khan Yunis open fire on agricultural lands for the 2d day in a row. In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** deliver stop-work orders to 4 homes under construction nr. Bethlehem. **IDF troops** on a late-night raid nr. Ramallah issue 1 Palestinian an arrest summons, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids in and around Qalqilya and Hebron, 3 villages nr. Nablus, and 2 nr. Tulkarm, arresting 2 Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) leaders and 7 other Palestinians, issuing an arrest summons to another, and confiscating various personal effects; patrols in 1 village each nr. Ramallah and Jenin, and 2 nr. Jericho. An **Israeli settler** throws stones at a Palestinian-owned vehicle nr. Nablus, causing damage. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** demolish 3 Palestinian residences in Silwan overnight, claiming that they were built without licenses. (JP, MNA, WAFA 6/2; JP 6/3; PCHR 6/4)

In an interview with Israel's Channel 2, **U.S. pres. Obama** says that **Israeli PM Netanyahu's** position on the 2-state solution puts Israel's international credibility in jeopardy because it "has so many caveats, so many conditions that it is not realistic to think that those conditions would be met at any time in the near future." (HA, REU 6/2; WAFA 6/3)

3 JUNE 2015

Saray al-Shaykh Umar Hadid, a small armed group in Gaza, fires 2 rockets into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In a Twitter post, the group claims that the attack was revenge for Hamas's killing of the leader of a small Islamist group on 6/2. Hours later, **IAF jets** launch air strikes on 3 or 4 vacant Hamas military sites nr. Gaza City and Khan Yunis (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). Earlier, **IDF troops** stationed on the border e. of Khan Yunis fire warning shots at a group of Palestinian farmers, moderately injuring 1. Off the coast nr. Gaza City, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on 2 Palestinian fishing boats, arrest 5 fishermen, and confiscate 1 boat. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 2 leaders of the PFLP and confiscate several computers from a govt. office during raids in Tulkarm and a nearby village. Late at night, the **IDF** conducts house searches and raids in Hebron and 1 nearby village, Tulkarm, 2 villages nr. Nablus, and 1 nr. Ramallah, arresting 10 Palestinians; patrols during the day in Tulkarm, 1 village and al-ʿArub r.c. nr. Hebron, and 1 village each nr. Jericho and Qalqilya. **Israeli forces** bulldoze 30 dunams (around 7.5 acres) of land nr. Hebron and uproot 400 almond and olive trees. An **Israeli settler** rams a Palestinian with a car nr. Salfit, causing minor bruising. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli police** violently disperse hundreds of Palestinians protesting at the annual Israeli Lights Festival in the Old City; 4 Palestinians are arrested and there are no serious injuries. (MNA, NYT, TOI, Wafa 6/3; HA, MEE, MNA, PCHR, REU, Wafa, YA 6/4; JP 6/5; PCHR 6/11)

4 JUNE 2015

Off the n. coast of **Gaza**, **Israeli naval forces** detain 5 Palestinian fishermen (they will be

released in the evening). In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish around 30 agricultural structures in the n. Jordan Valley. An elderly Palestinian woman suffers a heart attack when **Israeli forces** raid her home nr. Hebron (she is later stabilized). The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids in Ramallah and a village nr. Tulkarm, arresting 1 Palestinian; patrols in 2 villages each nr. Ramallah and Hebron, and 1 village each nr. Jenin and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct raids in Jabal Mukabir and Silwan, arresting 4 Palestinians. (MNA, Wafa 6/4; PCHR 6/11)

Chief Palestinian negotiator Erakat says that there have been no secret or public negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians since talks broke down in 4/2014, responding to reports in the Arab media. (JP 6/4)

5 JUNE 2015

In **Gaza**, an IQB fighter dies in a tunnel collapse and 2 others are injured. **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion e. of Shuja'iya, searching the area for undisclosed reasons; level land e. of Jabaliya nr. the border fence. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at demonstrations commemorating the 48th anniversary of the 1967 war in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, Jalazun r.c., and outside Ofer Prison), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 6 are seriously injured with live ammunition. The **IDF** patrols in 'Ayn al-Sultan r.c. and 1 village nr. Jericho, 3 villages nr. Ramallah, 2 nr. Hebron, and 1 nr. Jenin. In **East Jerusalem**, dozens of Palestinian and international activists gather at **Haram al-Sharif** and in Shaykh Jarrah to commemorate the anniversary of the 1967 war and support Palestinian prisoner Khader Adnan's hunger strike (since 5/5) and other hunger-striking

prisoners; 1 Palestinian and 2 internationals are arrested. **Israeli forces** clash with Palestinians in Abu Dis, Issawiyya, and al-‘Izzariya, injuring 10 Palestinians with rubber-coated metal bullets. (HA, MNA 6/5; MNA 6/6; PCHR 6/11)

For the 1st time since 2007, **Israeli authorities** grant 90 Palestinian businessmen in Gaza “BMG” permits to enter Israel and stay for up to 6 mos. Israel had previously only granted “BMC” permits, which allow Gazans to stay in Israel for a few days. (MNA, YA 6/5; HA 6/7)

Reps. of the **Middle East Quartet** meet at the Russian Mission to the UN in Geneva and discuss reviving negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, according to a statement released after the meeting. (SI 6/6)

6 JUNE 2015

In **Gaza**, Sarayat al-Shaykh Umar Hadid fire a Katyusha 130 rocket into Israel and it lands nr. Ashqelon, causing no serious damage or injuries. The group says that the recent rocket attacks (today and 6/3) are meant to remind **Hamas** that Israel is the enemy. In response, **IAF jets** launch air strikes on a vacant Hamas military base in n. Gaza, causing severe damage. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** fire warning shots at Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian and international activists nonviolently commemorating the 48th anniversary of al-Naksa nr. Jerusalem; there are no serious injuries. The **IDF** also conducts house searches and raids in 2 villages each nr. Hebron and Qalqilya, arresting 4 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 3 others; patrols in 2 villages each nr. Ramallah and Tulkarm, and 1 each nr. Hebron, Qalqilya, and Jericho. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians on raids in Issawiyya and

the Old City. (MNA, WAFA 6/6; HA, MNA, REU 6/7; PCHR 6/11)

An **Egyptian appeals court** overturns a lower court’s 2/28 designation of **Hamas** as a terrorist organization, following an appeal from the State Litigation Authority. A court official says the previous ruling is thrown out because the lower court did not have the proper jurisdiction. Hamas welcomes the new decision. (AHR, MNA, YA 6/6)

On the 2d day of billionaire Sheldon Adelson’s summit for pro-Israel U.S. megadonors in Las Vegas, a letter is read aloud from **Israeli PM Netanyahu** announcing that the Israeli govt. will begin expanding its efforts to counter the growing **Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement**. The same day, Netanyahu announces that **Strategic Affairs Min. Gilad Erdan’s** office will receive NIS 100 m. (around \$25.4 m.) to escalate its anti-BDS efforts, including hiring 10 new employees to deal solely with “delegitimization” activities worldwide. (See the Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more on anti-BDS initiatives.) (FWD 6/4; TOI, YA 6/7; HA [Beinart Analysis], JTA 6/10)

7 JUNE 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure 2 Palestinian men after they throw a pipe bomb at an IDF site nr. Bethlehem, and the **IDF** consequently conducts raids in the area and temporarily closes a nearby road. Separately, **IDF troops** patrol in a village nr. Qalqilya, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 1 Palestinian is arrested and there are no serious injuries. **IDF troops** on a late-night arrest raid in Ramallah disperse stone-throwing Palestinian youths. The **IDF** conducts further raids and house searches in Tulkarm, 3 villages nr. Hebron, and 1 village each nr. Nablus and Bethlehem, arresting

6 Palestinians; patrols in al-Fawar r.c. and 1 village nr. Hebron, 2 villages nr. Jenin, and 1 village each nr. Jericho and Ramallah.

In East Jerusalem, Israeli forces arrest 3 Palestinians exiting Haram al-Sharif.

(MNA, WAFA 6/7; MNA 6/8; PCHR 6/11)

IDF maj.-gen. Sami Turgeman, cmdr. of the IDF's s. operations, says that the recent rockets fired from Gaza "are isolated incidents" and that the IDF will not launch "an operation in the Strip because of them." He reaffirms that Israel holds **Hamas** responsible for all rockets from Gaza, but notes that it is making efforts to stop the small Salafist groups from launching the attacks. (HA, JP, TOI 6/7)

According to a **senior Israeli official**, **China** recently informed Israel that it will not allow any of its citizens to work on Israel's West Bank **settlements**. The restriction comes in the context of bilateral trade negotiations, which Israeli finance min. Moshe Kahlon initiated to facilitate his broader push to expedite construction of housing across Israel. Kahlon is hoping to have thousands of foreign workers come, replacing the current system of private construction firms hiring foreign workers as needed, which has resulted in a series of labor law violations and international criticism. Since 2011, Israel has signed similar agreements with Thailand, Sri Lanka, Bulgaria, Moldova, and Romania, bringing more than 12,000 foreign workers to Israel. (HA, TOI 6/7; AFP 6/8)

8 JUNE 2015

On 2 occasions off Gaza's coast nr. Jabaliya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, damaging 1. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** assault and moderately injure a Palestinian man nr. Bethlehem and assault another Palestinian attempting to cross into Israel nr. Jerusalem. The **IDF** conducts house

searches and raids in and around Ramallah, and in Nablus, 'Aqabat Jabir r.c. nr. Jericho, and 1 village each nr. Hebron and Tulkarm, arresting 10 Palestinians, issuing arrest summons to 1, confiscating around NIS 4,300 (around \$1,100), and destroying a door. The **IDF** patrols during the day in 1 village each nr. Jenin and Hebron. An **Israeli settler** rams a Palestinian man with a car nr. Nablus, injuring him. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinian youths on late-night raids in Bayt Hanina. (AFP, MNA, WAFA 6/8; PCHR 6/11)

PA PM Hamdallah and **EU rep. to the PA John Gatt-Rutter**, along with a delegation of EU officials, visit **Susiya village** in the s.

Hebron hills to show support for the village's 340 residents. On 5/4, Israel's Supreme Court upheld the govt.'s plans to evacuate and demolish the village, denying a petition from activists and residents. Gatt-Rutter calls on Israel to reverse its demolition plans. Meanwhile, the **bedouin** residents of Umm al-Hiran, a village in the Negev, file another petition to Israel's Supreme Court, appealing the court's 5-4 rejection of their previous petition that called for a reprieve from the state's planned evacuation and demolition of their village. (JP 6/8; JP, JTA, HA 6/9)

The **UN** releases its "List of Shame," or blacklist, documenting known violators of children's rights but excluding **Israel** and **Hamas**. Secy.-Gen. Ban excluded Israel and Hamas despite official requests from the PA, in the case of the former, and various international organizations, the U.S., and Israel, in the case of the latter (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (EI, NYT 6/8; HA, MNA 6/9)

9 JUNE 2015

In **Gaza**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion along the border fence nr. Khan Yunis

to level lands and perform “routine maintenance,” according to the IDF. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts late-night raids and house searches in Hebron, Jenin, and 1 village nr. Qalqilya, arresting 3 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to another; patrols in 2 villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish 3 unlicensed Palestinian-owned structures late at night in a village nr. the city. (Wafa 6/9; JP 6/10; PCHR 6/11)

At the annual Herzliya Conference, **Israeli PM Netanyahu** calls on the Palestinians to return to peace negotiations with Israel “without preconditions,” and he says that he will not require them to recognize Israel as a Jewish state as a precondition, though he would require it in a final deal. (JP, REU, TOI 6/9)

Senior Hamas officials confirm a recent meeting with **Egyptian intelligence officers** to discuss their poor relations. Hamas reportedly pushed for Egypt to reopen the **Rafah border crossing** and the Egyptians pushed for several undisclosed “confidence-building” measures, some of which Hamas agreed to (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (HA 6/10)

EU officials confirm that the bloc is preparing new guidelines requiring Israel to label produce made in its West Bank **settlements** if it is to be exported to Europe (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (JP, TOI 6/9; MNA 6/10)

10 JUNE 2015

Overnight in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian man during clashes in Jenin r.c. sparked by a pre-dawn raid. An IDF spokesperson says the man was shot because he was preparing to throw a pipe bomb at the soldiers. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Jenin and 1 village nr. Hebron, arresting 3 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons

to 1; patrol in Tulkarm and 2 villages nr. Hebron during the day. **Israeli forces** demolish a residential tent and shut down a market in villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian-owned well, fence, small room, and several trees in Issawiyya; conduct late-night raids in Issawiyya, arresting 5 Palestinians. (HA, MNA, REU, Wafa 6/10; MNA, PCHR 6/11; PCHR 6/18)

Following 2 days of talks in Amman, **Palestinian, Israeli, and Jordanian** activists and officials announce a 35-year **Regional NGO Master Plan for Sustainable Development in the Jordan Valley** to govern admin. of the Jordan River and pollution-combating efforts (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (JP 6/11)

11 JUNE 2015

In **Gaza**, a group claiming affiliation with ISIS launches a single rocket toward s. Israel, but it lands inside Gaza. The group will claim responsibility on 6/12, citing Israel’s treatment of Palestinian prisoners and the 6/10 killing of a Palestinian in Jenin r.c. as motivation. Off the coast nr. Dayr al-Balah, **Israeli naval forces** fire warning shots at Palestinian fishing boats, then destroy 8 nets and confiscate private property. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** level at least 17 dunams (around 4 acres) of agricultural land nr. Bethlehem to make room for settlement expansion; order 30 Palestinian families to leave their homes in the n. Jordan Valley for 6 hours to conduct military drills in the area; close the c. market in a village nr. Hebron for the 2d day in a row. **IDF troops** patrol in a village nr. Hebron, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing youths and arresting 1 Palestinian. They also conduct a late-night raid in al-‘Azza r.c. nr. Bethlehem, issuing an arrest summons to 1 Palestinian, and patrol in 2 villages each nr. Hebron and Ramallah.

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** detain and interrogate 3 Palestinian children who allegedly threw rocks at an Israeli settler in Silwan. **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian man from Jabal Mukabir on his way to work. In **s. Israel**, around 400 Palestinians march in Beersheba to protest the planned evacuation of the nearby bedouin village **Umm al-Hiran**. (HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 6/11; MNA, TOI 6/12; PCHR 6/18)

The **IDF's Military Advocate Gen.** concludes his internal investigation into its 7/16/2014 air strike that killed 4 children on a Gaza beach during **OPE**, determining that the "incident took place in an area that had long been known as a compound belonging to Hamas's Naval Police and Naval Force," which made it a "lawful target" by IDF regulations. No criminal or disciplinary action will be taken. The IDF also closes 2 other internal investigations into similar incidents during **OPE**, issuing indictments to 3 soldiers for looting, and opens 3 more. (See Doc. C1 in *JPS* 45[1] for more.) (HA, MNA, NYT 6/12)

12 JUNE 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, Jalazun r.c., and outside Ofer Prison), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 1 IDF officer and 5 Palestinians are injured, including 2 seriously in Jalazun r.c. IDF troops on a late-night raid in Silwad clash with Palestinians, injuring 2 Palestinians. Overnight, **Israeli forces** allow hundreds of **Israeli settlers** to access a holy site nr. e. Salfit, blocking Palestinians from the area; patrol during the day in 2 villages and al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, 2 villages nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Jericho. (MNA, TOI 6/12; WAFA 6/13)

13 JUNE 2015

Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for passage in and out of Gaza, as the PA announced they would on 6/10. They will keep the crossing open through 6/19. **IDF troops** stationed nr. the inactive Sufa border crossing nr. Rafah shoot and injure a mentally handicapped Palestinian man approaching the border fence. In the **West Bank**, Palestinians shoot and damage Israeli cars nr. Nablus, according to the **IDF**. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids in c. Hebron, 1 village and al-'Arub r.c. near the city, and 1 village nr. Ramallah, arresting 3 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 2 others; patrol in 1 village nr. Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** clash with Palestinians in Silwan and the Old City; no Palestinians are seriously injured. (MNA 6/10; MNA 6/13; WAFA 6/14; PCHR 6/18)

Dep. chief of Hamas's political bureau Musa Abu Marzuq flies from Gaza to Doha, Qatar, to put "final touches" on a **long-term cease-fire proposal** with **Hamas leader Khalid Mishal**, according to Egyptian officials (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (MNA 6/15; JP, YA 6/16)

14 JUNE 2015

Overnight in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 1 Palestinian on a raid nr. Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 1 Palestinian is killed when Israeli soldiers shoot and wound him, then ram him with a jeep. The **IDF** closes a market nr. Nablus in response to reported shooting at Israeli vehicles in the area on 6/13. **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids in Hebron and al-'Arub r.c. and 1 village nearby, arresting 2 Palestinians; patrol in 2 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** level over 10 dunams (around 2.5 acres) of Palestinian land nr. Nablus.

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct a raid in Silwan, assaulting 1 Palestinian and arresting another. (HA, MNA, Wafa, YA 6/14; PCHR 6/18)

The **Israeli cabinet** approves a bill that would allow hunger-striking prisoners to be force-fed if their lives are determined to be in danger (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). The Palestinian Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs Comm., Israeli Medical Association, and Physicians for Human Rights–Israel all criticize the approval. (HA, JP, MNA, REU, Wafa 6/14; HA, MNA 6/15)

The **IDF** publishes a 275-page report on OPE, concluding that Israeli forces did not commit war crimes, but that Hamas and other armed Palestinian groups did, and that at least 44% of the over 2,000 Palestinians killed in OPE were armed fighters (see Doc. R2 in *JPS* 45[1]). Separately, **Israeli PM Netanyahu** says that the UNHRC commission's report on alleged war crimes during OPE, to be released on 6/22, is a "waste of time" and a "baseless and political attack." (HA, JP, NYT, YA 6/14; JP, YA 6/15)

15 JUNE 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** uproot olive trees and demolish a car wash on about 20 dunams (around 5 acres) of Palestinian land nr. Bethlehem; confiscate grocery stalls along bypass road Route 60. **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in Jenin, Qalqilya, and 1 village nearby, and 1 village each nr. Ramallah and Bethlehem, arresting 8 Palestinians and assaulting 1; patrols in 2 villages nr. Jericho and 1 nr. Hebron. In **n. Israel**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian home in Kafr Kanna claiming that it was built without a permit. Palestinians in the village recently rebuilt the home after Israeli forces demolished it in 4/2015. (HA, MNA, REU, Wafa 6/15; PCHR 6/18)

Hebron mayor Dawud al-Zaatari announces that **Israel's Coordinator for Govt. Activities in the Territories (COGAT) office** has approved the reopening of around 70 Palestinian shops in c. Hebron on 6/19. The IDF closed over 500 Palestinian shops in Hebron at the beginning of the 2d intifada in 2000. Meanwhile, the **Knesset** votes to extend for another year a law that allows the govt. to withhold citizenship or residency from Palestinians from the oPt who are married to Palestinian citizens of Israel (PCI). Originally passed in 2003, its authority has been extended every year since. (AFP 6/15; HA 6/17)

UNRWA comm.-gen. Pierre Krähenbühl reiterates that the agency is operating with a \$101 m. deficit for core programs, and says that it might be forced to suspend all activities by 9/2015 unless donors give more money. UNRWA's operating costs run at around \$35 m. per mo. (MNA, UNRWA 6/15)

Cypriot pres. Nicos Anastasiades and **Israeli PM Netanyahu** meet in Israel and discuss the possibility of Netanyahu addressing the EU at an upcoming meeting in Brussels. The news of Anastasiades's proposal to invite Netanyahu to Brussels will break on 6/29. (HA 6/19)

An **Israeli delegation** headed by **National Security Adviser Yossi Cohen** arrives in Washington, for talks with U.S. officials on the **P5+1's** ongoing negotiations with **Iran** ahead of the 6/30 final agreement deadline. According to the Israeli official who announced the trip on 6/11, it is part of the effort to improve U.S.-Israeli communication surrounding the deal. (HA 6/11; JP 6/16)

16 JUNE 2015

Off **Gaza's** coast nr. Dayr al-Balah, **Israeli naval forces** fire warning shots at 1 Palestinian fishing boat, then confiscate 8 nets. In the

West Bank, Israeli forces destroy hundreds of trees in a nature reserve nr. Tubas; demolish the remaining grocery stands set up along bypass road Route 60 (several stands were confiscated on 6/15). **IDF troops** conduct 3 raids in Jenin r.c., arresting 1 Palestinian on each and destroying their property. They also conduct raids in Aida r.c. and 1 village nr. Bethlehem, and 2 villages each nr. Hebron, Qalqilya, Ramallah, and Nablus, arresting 12 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 3; patrol in 4 villages nr. Hebron, 2 nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Jericho. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli police** arrest 5 Palestinians as they exit **Haram al-Sharif**, and more than **50 right-wing Jewish activists** tour the sanctuary. **Israeli forces** conduct a late-night raid in Issawiyya, sparking clashes with stone- and firework-throwing residents; 5 Palestinians are injured. **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian on a night raid in al-'Izzariya. In **n. Israel**, the IDF declares a section of the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights** a closed military zone to nonresidents in response to recent fighting on the Syrian side of the border. (JP, MNA, WAFA, YA 6/16; PCHR 6/18)

Hamas sources say that **Israel** and **Hamas** have been holding an indirect exchange through various Arab, Turkish, and European channels about the prospect of agreeing to a 5–10-year cease-fire, and that elements under discussion relate to easing the blockade, including the possible construction of a seaport, and the entry of materials into Gaza in exchange for quiet (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (AFP, HA, MNA, TOI 6/16; MNA 6/17)

At a meeting of the **Fatah Revolutionary Council** in Ramallah, **PA pres. Abbas** says that he intends to dissolve the **PA consensus govt.** and form an entirely new cabinet within the next few days. **Hamas official Basem Naim** speculates that Abbas was caught “off guard” by today’s reports of indirect talks between Hamas

and Israel, and they prompted him to make this decision. However, other reports say that conversations about dissolution have been going on for mos. (See Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details.) (HA, MNA, NYT 6/16)

Israel’s Defense Ministry announces a series of loosened restrictions on Palestinians’ movement during Ramadan this year (the holy mo. begins the evening of 6/17; see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). The **Israeli High Court of Justice** rules to seal the East Jerusalem room of the man accused of shooting right-wing Jewish activist Yehuda Glick on 10/29/2014. The State’s prosecutors argued for the court to approve the punitive demolition of the whole home, as was initially ordered in the wake of the shooting. (JP, MNA, TOI, YA 6/16; HA 6/17)

17 JUNE 2015

In the **West Bank, IDF troops** patrol in 1 village nr. Hebron during the day, and later escort dozens of **Israeli settlers** into Nablus, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 2 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids in 1 village each nr. Nablus and Tulkarm, arresting 2 Palestinians. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** seize a stockpile of explosives and fireworks during a raid on a Palestinian-owned home in Jabal Mukabir; demolish a home in Bayt Hanina; assault a Palestinian in Silwan. Overnight in **n. Israel, 16 Israeli settlers** from the West Bank set fire to a Christian church on the Sea of Galilee, causing extensive damage (see Photos in *JPS* 45[1]). (JP 6/17; AFP, JP, MNA, PCHR, YA 6/18; PCHR 6/25)

In response to **PA pres. Abbas’s** 6/16 announcement that he would dissolve the **PA consensus govt.**, **Hamas spokesperson Sami Abu Zuhri** says that “no one consulted with us about any change in the consensus govt. Fatah

acted on its own in all regards.” **Hamas official Ziad al-Zaza** calls on Abbas to form a new govt. “with all national and Islamic factions.” Later, **Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine,** and the **Palestinian People’s Party** meet in Gaza to discuss the consensus govt.’s dissolution. (AFP, HA, JP, MNA 6/17; YA 6/18)

Iranian lawmakers introduce a bill that would establish parliament’s formal advisory role and set out 3 criteria for any final agreement between Iran and the P5+1, including “complete and unified lifting” of sanctions on the day of the agreement. The bill has 225 signatories out of the 290-mbr. parliament. It is set for a vote on 6/21, and needs **Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei’s** approval before it becomes law. (AFP 6/17)

18 JUNE 2015

In **Gaza,** an **UNRWA official** confirms that the agency has shut down its last shelter for Palestinians displaced during OPE. The shelter will return to use as a school. UNRWA gives the 30 families who were forced to leave the shelter between \$800 and \$1,000 for temporary housing. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** patrol in 3 villages nr. Hebron and 1 each nr. Tulkarm and Jenin. (AFP, MNA 6/18; PCHR 6/25)

PLO chief negotiator Erakat publishes a 56-page report on Palestinian-Israeli relations, titled *Determining Palestinian-Israeli Relations: Changing, Not Merely Improving, the Situation*, calling for a complete review of the current status. Among the report’s conclusions, Erakat recommends that the PLO consider retracting recognition of Israel until Israel recognizes the State of Palestine. (JP, MNA 6/18)

Israel’s Joint List calls for the dismissal of Israel’s police chief Yohanan Danino and for

select right-wing organizations to be designated terrorist groups in response to the arson attack on a Christian church late at night on 6/17. (HA 6/19)

19 JUNE 2015

In **Gaza, Egyptian authorities** close the Rafah border crossing after keeping it open since 6/13. **IDF troops** on the border e. of Khan Yunis open fire on 3 Palestinians nr. the border fence, injuring 1. In the **West Bank, a Palestinian man** shoots and wounds **2 Israelis** from Lydda who are traveling nr. an Israeli settlement outside Ramallah; 1 of the Israelis succumbs to his injuries later in the day. (The IDF will arrest 5 Palestinians allegedly responsible for the shooting attack on 7/15, including 3 mbrs. of Fatah’s military wing.) Later, the **IDF** conducts a violent raid in a village nr. Ramallah, destroying personal property, detaining several Palestinians, and confiscating recording equipment. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil’in, Nílin, and Nabi Salih) and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 3 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** patrols in 1 village nr. Jenin and 2 each nr. Ramallah and Jericho. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian-owned vehicles nr. the Beit El settlement, breaking 1 windshield. (HA, JP, MNA, NYT 6/19; MNA, NYT 6/20; PCHR 6/25; NYT 7/15)

Cypriot pres. Anastasiades calls **PA pres. Abbas** to discuss the possibility of Abbas addressing an upcoming EU meeting in Brussels in an effort to restart the peace negotiations with Israel. Anastasiades discussed a similar possibility with **Israeli PM Netanyahu** on 6/15. (See Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more.) (HA 6/29)

20 JUNE 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids in 1 village each nr. Hebron, Qalqilya, and Ramallah, arresting 4 Palestinians, assaulting 2, and issuing an arrest summons to 1; patrol in 3 villages and al-‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, as well as 1 village each nr. Qalqilya, Ramallah, and Jericho during the day. An **Israeli settler** shoots and injures a Palestinian youth nr. Ramallah. **Unknown assailants** throw stones at a Palestinian nr. the same West Bank settlement where 2 Israeli settlers were shot on 6/19; she is lightly injured. In **East Jerusalem**, **Palestinian youths** throw stones at Israeli-owned vehicles nr. the Old City, lightly injuring 1 driver. **Israeli forces** conduct a late-night raid in Issawiyya, arresting 2 Palestinians. (HA, MNA 6/21; PCHR 6/25)

Fatah spokesperson Ahmad Assaf responds to reports of **Hamas** conducting **long-term cease-fire** negotiations with **Israel**, saying “ Hamas aims, through these talks, to dedicate its rule to the Gaza Strip, protect its leaders and stick to the instructions of its regional donors, even if at the expense of the Palestinian cause, national unity and suffering of Gazans.” **PA pres. Abbas** says, “I can confidently say that there are direct negotiations between Hamas and Israel aimed at establishing a state in [the] Gaza region.” **Hamas dep. chief Abu Marzuq** responds to the comments, saying that Hamas wants “a state not just in Gaza, but in all of Palestine” and that Hamas is not coordinating with Israel on the formation of a state in Gaza. (See Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more.) (HA, MNA 6/20)

In **Egypt**, **French FM Fabius** calls for a return to **Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations** after conducting a series of meetings with Egyptian officials. Fabius says he will be advocating for a return to peace negotiations in meetings with

Abbas and Israeli PM Netanyahu on 6/21. (MNA 6/20).

21 JUNE 2015

In **Gaza**, the **IDF** bars a Palestinian journalist from passing through the Erez border crossing, despite the fact that he was issued a permit on 6/20. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish 2 Palestinian structures nr. Salfit. **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in 2 villages nr. Ramallah, confiscating property and arresting 3 Palestinians. **Israeli settlers** spray price-tag graffiti on walls in Tiberius; assault Palestinians in c. Hebron; cut down 70 olive trees nr. Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, a **Palestinian** stabs and seriously injures an Israeli border policeman nr. Damascus Gate of the Old City. The policeman then shoots the Palestinian man multiple times, leaving him in critical condition. **Israeli forces** consequently raid the Palestinian man’s home nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** later clash with Palestinians gathering nr. Damascus Gate and separately with Palestinians leaving **Haram al-Sharif**; 4 Palestinians are injured. They conduct late-night raids in Silwan, Jabal Mukabir, and Issawiyya, arresting 3 Palestinians. In **n. Israel**, **thousands of Christians** attend a protest rally to condemn the 6/17 arson attack on a nearby church. (HA, MNA, Wafa, YA 6/21; MNA 6/22)

In response to the 6/19 shooting nr. Ramallah and today’s stabbing in East Jerusalem, **Israeli PM Netanyahu** and **DM Ya’alon** annul the 6/16 announcement permitting 500 Palestinians to fly abroad via Ben Gurion Airport during Ramadan. Additionally, they instruct the Defense Ministry to revoke the work permits of all Palestinian residents of the village nr. Hebron where today’s perpetrator is from, and say they will consider further punitive restrictions. (HA, TOI 6/22)

In Ramallah, **French FM Fabius** meets with **PA pres. Abbas** to discuss the **French initiative** to restart the Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations, including a French-drafted **UNSC res.** Fabius then meets with **Netanyahu** in Israel to discuss the same issues. Ahead of the meeting, **Netanyahu** opposes the **French initiative**, saying “we will forcibly reject any attempt to force upon us international dictates” (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (JP 6/17; HA, MNA, NYT, TOI, WAFA 6/21)

The **Egyptian govt.** announces the appointment of a **new amb. to Israel, Hazem Khairat**, who will travel to Tel Aviv in the coming mos. Egypt has not had an amb. to Israel since 2012, when Atef Salem was recalled in the midst of Israel’s Operation Pillar of Defense (see *JPS* 42[3]). (HA, YA 6/21)

Israeli mbr. of Knesset (MK) Basel Ghattas (Joint List) announces his plans to join the **Freedom Flotilla III**, an international activist effort to deliver aid to Gaza and call attention to the Israeli blockade (the flotilla will set sail on 6/25). He calls on **Netanyahu** and the **IDF** to allow the flotilla to reach Gaza without their interference. (HA 6/21; MEE, MNA, WAFA 6/22)

Iranian parliamentarians approve amendments to the bill introduced on 6/17 to increase oversight on implementation of any agreement made with the P5+1. The amendments shift oversight responsibilities, and the power to end the deal, from parliamentarians to the Supreme National Security Council, which is chaired by **Pres. Hassan Rouhani** and controlled by **Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei**. The bill must still be approved by the parliament and ratified by the Khamenei-controlled Guardian Council to become law. (AFP, REU 6/21)

22 JUNE 2015

Off the coast of **Gaza** nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** fire warning shots at Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. Earlier, **Israeli authorities** return 19 confiscated fishing boats to Palestinian fishermen. **IDF troops** on the border e. of Khuza’a open fire on 4 Palestinian children approaching the border fence, injuring 2. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** fire percussion grenades and tear gas canisters at a Palestinian funeral procession nr. Hebron, causing no serious injuries; conduct late-night raids in Aida r.c. nr. Bethlehem and 1 village nr. Ramallah, assaulting several Palestinians, arresting 6, and confiscating property; patrol in 2 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** confiscate property and demolish Palestinian fruit stands along bypass road Route 60 nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** set up a mobile checkpoint in al-Suwana, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 3 Palestinians are arrested. In the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights**, **more than 100 Druze protesters** block and attack an ambulance with stones, then assault the 2 injured Syrian rebels and 2 Israeli soldiers who were transferring them to hospital; 1 of the Syrian men is killed. Druze protesters stop another ambulance carrying wounded Syrians to hospital earlier in the day, but there are no injuries (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (MNA, NYT 6/22; AFP, HA, MNA 6/23; PCHR 6/25)

The **UNHRC’s commission of inquiry** into alleged war crimes committed during **OPE** publishes its report, finding “substantial information pointing to the possible commission of war crimes by both Israel and Palestinian armed groups” (see Update and Doc. A3 in *JPS* 45[1] for more). The report is set to be officially filed with the UNHRC on 6/29.

(AFP, HA, NYT, TOI, UNHRC, Wafa, YA 6/22; YA 6/23; HA 6/24)

The **Israeli atty. gen.'s office** announces that the state will amend the proposed bill allowing the **force-feeding of hunger-striking prisoners** that was approved by the Israeli cabinet on 6/14. In response to complaints from civil society organizations, the softer version of the bill only allows force-feeding if “there is a real possibility that within a short time the prisoner is at risk of death or irreversible disability.” (HA 6/23)

23 JUNE 2015

Saray al-Shaykh Umar Hadid fires a rocket from **Gaza** into s. Israel nr. Ashqelon, causing no damage. The **IAF** responds by firing at the rocket's launch site nr. Bayt Hanun in n. Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. Earlier, **IDF troops** on the border e. of Khan Yunis open fire on agricultural lands nr. the border fence, causing no serious damage. **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for passage in both directions, and the entry of construction materials (they will keep it open through 6/25; see Update in *JPS* 45[1]). In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** patrol in 2 villages nr. Jericho and 1 nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 7 Palestinian youths in Bayt Hanina after assaulting several. (AFP, MNA, Wafa 6/23; HA, MNA, YA 6/24; PCHR 6/25)

Despite the 6/16 announcement of its dissolution within 24 hours, the **PA consensus govt.** will continue working while the **PLO Exec. Comm.** consults with the PLO factions about the structure of a new govt. (the Exec. Comm. will form a new comm. to conduct a week of consultations on 6/27). (HA, JP, MNA 6/23)

Israel's Knesset House Comm. votes, 10–2, to strip **MK Ghattas (Joint List)** of his

parliamentary immunity from prosecution in response to his 6/21 announcement of participation in the Freedom Flotilla III. The comm.'s decision is transferred to the Ethics Comm. for approval, and Joint List MKs vow to appeal the decision to the High Court of Justice. **Israel's High Court of Justice** orders the state to demolish 2 residential buildings under construction in the **Beit El settlement** in the West Bank by 7/30 (see Update in *JPS* 45[1]). The court also orders the demolition of 17 residences in the Derech Ha'avot settlement outpost. (JP, TOI 6/23; JP 6/24)

Iran's parliament passes the bill amended on 6/21 that would establish criteria for any final agreement made in the negotiations with the **P5+1** and increase oversight of the implementation of such an agreement (see Update in *JPS* 45[1]). Of the 244 lawmakers present, 214 support the bill. (AFP, TOI 6/23; AP, FNA 6/24)

24 JUNE 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** patrol in 2 villages and al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, and in Tulkarm; conduct late-night house searches and raids in 2 villages nr. Ramallah and 1 nr. Hebron, arresting 5 Palestinians and assaulting 1. On raids in **n. Israel**, **Israeli police** arrest 9 Druze allegedly responsible for the 6/22 attacks on ambulances in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights. (HA, MNA, TOI 6/24; PCHR 6/25; PCHR 7/2)

In response to the rocket fire on 6/23, **Israel's COGAT office** announces that Palestinians will be barred from exiting Gaza on 6/25 to pray at **Haram al-Sharif**. (HA, JTA, MNA, NYT, TOI, Wafa, YA 6/24)

Israeli PM Netanyahu meets with several leaders of the Druze community in Israel in an effort to ease tensions surrounding the 6/22

Druze attack on IDF ambulances carrying Syrian fighters to hospital. (HA 6/25)

Cypriot pres. Anastasiades meets with EU pres. Donald Tusk to discuss his idea of inviting **Netanyahu** and **PA pres. Abbas** to separately address upcoming EU meetings in Brussels. Tusk reportedly agrees to the deal in advance (see Update in *JPS* 45[1]). (HA 6/29)

25 JUNE 2015

Nr. **Gaza**, **Israeli military radar** spots a **small drone** flying from Gaza across the border into Israel. **IAF jets** are deployed to monitor its activity, then the drone falls to the ground on the Israeli side of the border fence. **Hamas** later claims responsibility. **IDF troops** on the border e. of Jabaliya open fire on agricultural lands along the border fence, causing no injuries. After its opening on 6/23, **Egyptian authorities** close the **Rafah border crossing** (see Update in *JPS* 45[1]). In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts late-night house searches and raids in al-‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron and 1 village nr. Ramallah, arresting 3 Palestinians; patrols during the day in 1 village nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** destroy a water well nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** detain 6 Palestinian women, including 1 journalist, at **Haram al-Sharif**; conduct late-night raids and house searches in Bayt Hanina, Ras al-Amud, and al-Khalla, arresting 5 Palestinians. (HA, MNA, TOI, YA 6/25; PCHR 7/2)

In The Hague, **PA FM Riyad al-Maliki** presents an extensive file of case material to the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** supporting the Palestinians’ allegations that Israelis are responsible for 23 criminal counts in the oPt (see Update in *JPS* 45[1]). **PA amb. to the Netherlands Nabil Abu Zneid** says, “It will take the ICC a long time to take action, possibly 5–10 years as this is 1 out of 100 steps.”

(HA, NYT, YA 6/24; AFP, MNA, MDW, REU, TOI 6/25)

The **Freedom Flotilla III** sets sail for Gaza today from Greece, with 4 ships laden with humanitarian supplies. Last-minute repairs were made to 1 ship after “unknown forces” damaged the propeller in a way “only professionals could do,” Israeli-born activist Dror Feiler reported. **Israeli MK Ghattas (Joint List)** joins the activists today. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI 6/25; MNA, YA 6/26)

26 JUNE 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli soldiers** shoot and kill a Palestinian man with live ammunition at a checkpoint in the n. Jordan Valley after the man opens fire on Israeli forces; no Israeli soldiers are injured. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil’in, Ni’lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, Jalazun r.c., and outside Ofer Prison), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; no Palestinians are seriously injured. The **IDF** conducts late-night house searches and raids in 1 village nr. Jericho, including the home of the Palestinian killed this morning, arresting 2 Palestinians; patrols in 3 villages nr. Hebron and 1 nr. Ramallah. (HA, MNA, NYT, YA 6/26; PCHR 7/2)

Hamas authorities order Gaza’s only mobile phone company, Jawwal, to shut down, accusing it of dodging taxes (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (AFP 6/26; HA 6/29)

The **Vatican** signs a treaty officially recognizing the **State of Palestine**. Archbishop Paul Gallagher, the Vatican’s equivalent to a FM, says that he hopes the treaty might “in some way be a stimulus to bringing a definitive end to the long-standing Israeli-Palestinian conflict.” (The Vatican will deny Israel’s

requests to review the treaty.) (AFP, MNA, NYT, REU 6/26; HA 7/7)

27 JUNE 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians protesting the Israeli occupation in Kafr Qaddum village nr. Qalqilya and outside al-‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, injuring 1 with live ammunition in the former. **Unknown assailants** open fire on an Israeli ambulance on a road nr. the Beit El settlement outside Ramallah, causing damage but no injuries. **IDF troops** then conduct raids in a nearby village. The **IDF** patrols in 3 villages and al-Fawar r.c. nr. Hebron; conducts a late-night raid in a village nr. Hebron, arresting 2 Palestinians and sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing youths. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at a Palestinian man nr. Hebron, moderately injuring him. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian man in Bayt Hanina, moderately injuring him. **Israeli forces** conduct raids in the Old City, arresting 3 Palestinian youths. (HA, MNA 6/27; MNA, YA 6/28; PCHR 7/2)

The **PLO Exec. Comm.** appoints senior Fatah official Azzam al-Ahmad to lead a comm. to consult with the various Palestinian factions and determine a more representative structure for a new consensus govt. The comm. begins talks with both **Hamas** and **Islamic Jihad**. A senior Palestinian official says that Hamas has placed impossible conditions on its participation in the govt. (YA 6/27; MNA 6/28)

28 JUNE 2015

Off the coast of **Gaza** nr. Dayr al-Balah, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian woman attempting to cross into Israel with a rifle

nr. Qalqilya. **IDF troops** patrol in a village nr. Hebron, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 2 of the Palestinians are arrested. The **IDF** conducts late-night house searches and raids in Hebron, 1 village and al-Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah, and 1 village each nr. Jericho, Qalqilya, Jenin, and Nablus, arresting 7 Palestinians and confiscating property; patrols during the day in 2 more villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** raid the Jabal Mukabir homes belonging to the family mbrs. of the 2 Palestinian men who attacked a West Jerusalem synagogue on 11/18/2014. They take pictures and make notes of the contents of the homes (they will seal 1 home with cement on 7/1). (JP, MNA 6/28; PCHR 7/2)

Chair of the consultative comm. for reforming the consensus govt., al-Ahmad, canceled his 6/29 trip to Gaza reportedly due to Hamas’s negative response. (MNA 6/28; JP 6/29)

Israeli MK Ghattas (Joint List) sends a statement to **PM Netanyahu** and **DM Ya’alon** calling for them to keep Israeli forces away from the **Freedom Flotilla III**. As the flotilla makes its way from Greece to Gaza, **Netanyahu’s office** releases a letter in which he told the activists, “Perhaps you meant to set sail for a place not far from here—Syria. There the Asad regime is slaughtering its own people every day with the support of the murderous regime in Iran.” (JP, MNA, YA 6/28; MEMO 6/29)

Israel’s FM dir.-gen. Dore Gold meets with **Egyptian officials** in Cairo to discuss ways to relaunch peace negotiations with the Palestinians. It is the 1st visit to Cairo of a high-ranking Israeli official since 2011. (JP, YA 6/28)

29 JUNE 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Palestinian assailants** shoot and injure 4 Israeli settlers in a vehicle

outside an Israeli settlement nr. Nablus; 1 will succumb to his injuries on 6/30. **IDF troops** impose a curfew on a nearby village, search the area, and conduct a series of raids. Dozens of **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian vehicles on the Ramallah-Nablus road. Earlier, a **Palestinian woman** stabs an Israeli soldier at a military checkpoint in Bethlehem, moderately injuring her. **Israeli forces** arrest the Palestinian. The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids in 4 villages nr. Ramallah, confiscating surveillance and recording equipment; patrols in 2 villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli police** arrest a Muslim worshipper at **Haram al-Sharif** after he throws rocks and shoes at Jewish visitors. (HA, JP, MNA, YA 6/29; AFP, HA, MNA, WAFA 6/30; PCHR 7/2; NYT 7/19)

Palestinian prisoner Adnan ends his hunger strike overnight after making an agreement with the **Israeli authorities** to release him on 7/12. An Israeli official says that the deal was made after Adnan withdrew his demand that Israel never again administratively detain him. Beginning on 5/5, Adnan's hunger strike lasted 55 days. (AP, HA, MNA 6/29)

More than 100 mi. off the coast of Gaza, **Israeli naval forces** board, search, and escort the *Marianne of Gothenburg*, the flagship of the **Freedom Flotilla III**, toward the port at Ashdod overnight (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). Prior to the boarding, the other 3 ships of the flotilla turned around, sailing away from Gaza and back to their ports of origin. (AFP, EL, HA, JP, NYT, YA 6/29; TOI 6/30)

Hamas calls for an emergency meeting of the various Palestinian factions, finding it "unacceptable" that the **PLO Exec. Comm.** appointed a comm. on 6/27 to consult with the various PLO factions about the composition of a new consensus govt. (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (MNA 6/29)

French FM Fabius proposes the formation of a new international group with a mandate of supporting peace negotiations between **Israel** and the **Palestinians**. He describes the group as "a kind of Quartet plus," referring to the **Middle East Quartet**, which has been relatively inactive since former Quartet rep. Blair's resignation. Fabius's comments are interpreted as a shift in French strategy away from the UNSC (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more). (NYT, TOI 6/29)

U.S. pres. Obama signs the **Defending Public Safety Employees' Retirement Act** into law, renewing his authority to "fast track" approval of trade agreements in Congress (see H.R. 2146 at congressionalmonitor.org). The new law includes an **American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC)**-backed provision establishing a series of **anti-BDS** objectives to be pursued in all trade negotiations (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more). (HA 6/30; PNN 7/1)

30 JUNE 2015

In **Gaza**, **Hamas police** shut down the offices of **mobile phone company Jawwal** (Hamas ordered the company to close on 6/26; see Update in *JPS* 45[1]). **Israeli forces** on the Gaza border e. of Khan Yunis conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. the border fence. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian man at the Qalandia checkpoint. **IDF troops** later conduct a raid in a nearby village, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths. The **IDF** conducts a late-night raid on offices of the Palestinian Water Authority in a village nr. Ramallah, confiscating 2 computers; patrols during the day in 2 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian man with sticks and stones nr. Ramallah, moderately injuring him. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** spray price-tag

graffiti on a wall in Bayt Safafa. **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian man on a raid nr. the Old City. (MNA, REU, WAFA, YA 6/30; MNA 7/1; PCHR 7/2)

Following Palestinian attacks on 6/29, **Israeli authorities** set new restrictions on Palestinians entering Jerusalem, rolling back some of the restrictions loosened for Ramadan on 6/16 (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). Specifically, women between 16 and 30 and men under 50 will need a permit to enter the city on Fridays. (HA, MNA 7/1)

Following a meeting of senior PLO officials in Ramallah, **PA pres. Abbas fires PLO secy.-gen. Yasser Abed Rabbo**, citing his absence from recent meetings. Abed Rabbo responds to the announcement of his firing by saying, “Abbas does not have the authority to fire me. The only party that is authorized to do so is the PLO Exec. Comm., which has to hold a general meeting.” Senior PLO officials also approve a temporary cabinet “shuffle” as negotiations continue on the formation of a new consensus govt. Abbas assigns PM Hamdallah to make “slight changes” to the govt., reportedly shifting 5 ministers. (JP, MNA, TOI 7/1)

The **U.S. State Dept.** issues a special statement clarifying that, while the Obama admin. “strongly opposes” **BDS** efforts targeting Israel, it does not have a similar stance regarding “Israeli-controlled territories,” referring to the anti-BDS provision that became law as part of the **Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015** on 6/29 (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] and H.R. 2146 at congressionalmonitor.org for details). (HA, JTA, MDW, PNN 7/1)

In Vienna, **reps. of the P5+1 and Iran** agree on a 7-day extension to today’s deadline for a final agreement on Iran’s nuclear program. (BB 6/26; JP, NYT, TOI 6/30)

1 JULY 2015

IDF troops on the Gaza border e. of Gaza City open fire on agricultural lands nr. the border fence, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** block off a road nr. Jalazun r.c. outside Ramallah following a series of Palestinian attacks in the area. The **IDF** patrols in 3 villages nr. Hebron during the day. **IDF troops** conduct a late-night raid in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem, arresting 1 Palestinian and sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 1 Palestinian is injured. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids in 1 village each nr. Tulkarm and Hebron, arresting 1 Palestinian and issuing arrest summons to 2 others. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** seal with cement the Jabal Mukabir home of 1 of the Palestinian men who attacked a synagogue in West Jerusalem on 11/18/2014 (they raided and inspected the home on 6/28). (MNA, TOI 7/1; PCHR 7/2; PCHR 7/9)

2 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse hundreds of Palestinians marching nr. Jerusalem in commemoration of the 1-year anniversary of the killing of Mohammed Abu Khdeir; 11 Palestinians are injured. They also violently disperse dozens of Palestinians outside Jalazun r.c. protesting Israeli attacks against Palestinians; 1 Palestinian is injured. The **IDF** conducts a late-night raid in 1 village nr. Nablus, arresting 2 Palestinians; patrols during the day in 2 villages nr. Hebron and 1 nr. Ramallah. **Israeli forces** raze 4 dunams (1 acre) of Palestinian land nr. Hebron. The **PASF** conducts a series of raids in Hebron, Nablus, and Bethlehem, arresting 108 Hamas mbrs. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli police** ban a Palestinian from entering **Haram al-Sharif** and assault a Palestinian girl in the sanctuary. Both incidents were in response to the individuals protesting the presence of Israeli

settler groups at the compound. **Palestinians** throw Molotov cocktails at 2 Israeli police squads in Ma'ale HaZeitim. (MNA, WAFA 7/2; JP, TOI, YA 7/3; PCHR 7/9)

3 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank**, an **Israeli officer** shoots and kills a stone-throwing Palestinian youth during clashes nr. the Qalandia checkpoint s. of Ramallah. There are no other serious injuries. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, Jalazun r.c., and outside Ofer Prison), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian is seriously injured. The **IDF** also patrols in 4 villages nr. Ramallah, 'Ayn al-Sultan r.c., and 1 village nr. Jericho. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian vehicles nr. Nablus, causing damage. Following yesterday's crackdown on Hamas mbrs., the **PASF** arrests 21 Palestinian youths affiliated with Hamas's student organization at an-Najah National University nr. Nablus. (MNA 7/2; HA, MNA, NYT 7/3; TOI, WAFA 7/4; PCHR 7/9; EI [video] 7/13)

In Egypt, **SPIS** fires 3 Grad rockets into **Israel**, causing no damage or injuries. (AFP, MNA 7/3; HA 7/4)

The **UNHRC** votes, 41–1, with 5 abstentions, to adopt a res. welcoming the report produced by the Council's commission of inquiry, which was published on 6/22 (see Doc. A3). The U.S. casts the lone vote in opposition and India, Kenya, Ethiopia, Paraguay, and Macedonia abstain. (HA, JTA, MEE, MNA, REU, YA 7/3; JP 7/4; YA 7/5; TOI 7/6; JTA 7/7)

4 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** shut down a major checkpoint nr. Nablus; patrol during

the day in 3 villages nr. Hebron, 2 nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Jericho; conduct late-night raids in Hebron and 1 nearby village, as well as 1 village nr. Bethlehem, arresting 4 Palestinians. **IDF troops** also violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists gathering in Kafr Qaddum village nr. Qalqilya to protest the Israeli occupation; there are no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, right-wing Jewish activists throw stones at Palestinian vehicles, injuring 1 woman. Palestinian youths in the area clash with the Jewish activists; there are no serious injuries. (MNA 7/4; JP, MNA 7/5; PCHR 7/9)

PA pres. Abbas appoints **Saeb Erakat** secy.-gen. of the PLO, replacing Yasser Abed Rabbo, who Abbas fired on 6/30. The secy.-gen. is the 2d most powerful position in the PLO. Erakat will take office on 7/13. (JP 7/4)

5 JULY 2015

In **Gaza**, telecom operator **Jawwal** reopens following an agreement with Hamas; there are no details released (see Update in *JPS* 45[1]). In the **West Bank**, **Palestinian assailants** shoot and injure an Israeli settler nr. Qalqilya. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in 2 villages nr. Hebron, arresting 2 Palestinians; patrol during the day in 2 villages nr. Hebron, 'Ayn al-Sultan r.c. and 1 village nr. Jericho. In **East Jerusalem**, an **Israeli police jeep** rams a Palestinian girl, moderately injuring her. **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians on a late-night raid in Bayt Sahur in addition to 5 youths on their way home from al-Aqsa Mosque in Ras al-Amud. (MNA, REU 7/5; PCHR 7/9)

Senior Fatah official Amin Maqboul says that the PLO's talks on forming a **new consensus govt.** continue, despite **Hamas's**

objections to the process. Maqboul says that Hamas has demanded that any new govt. pay the salaries of all employees of the Hamas-run govt. in Gaza and describes the demand as among several “preconditions that widen the gap between the Gaza Strip and West Bank.” (MNA 7/6)

6 JULY 2015

In **Gaza, Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians attempting to pass into Israel nr. the Kerem Shalom crossing. Off the n. coast late at night, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on 2 Palestinian fishing boats, then arrest 4 fishermen. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** assault and arrest a Palestinian man on a late-night raid in al-‘Arub r.c.; conduct an arrest raid in Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths (1 Palestinian is injured). They also conduct late-night raids in Hebron and 1 village each nr. Tulkarm, Ramallah, and Bethlehem, arresting 6 Palestinians; patrol during the day in 3 villages nr. Ramallah, and al-Fawar r.c. and 2 villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** raid the Silwan home of the Palestinian who was suspected of attempting to assassinate a right-wing Jewish activist on 10/29/2014 then shot and killed by undercover Israeli officers on 10/30/2014, and the Jabal Mukabir home of the Palestinian who was shot and killed on 8/4/2014 after he drove a bulldozer into a bus in Shaykh Jarrah. They take photos and notes about the homes on both raids. They also arrest 2 Palestinians on late-night raids in al-Tur and Shu‘fat. **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian family on their way home to Bethlehem; a pregnant Palestinian woman miscarries as a result of the attack. Settlers also assault 3 Palestinians nr. the Old City, injuring 1; **Israeli police** arrest the other 2. (HA, MNA 7/6; MNA, SLW 7/7; PCHR 7/9)

7 JULY 2015

Off **Gaza’s** coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on a Palestinian fishing boat, then they arrest the 2 fishermen on board and confiscate the boat. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct late-night raids in 2 villages nr. Nablus and 1 nr. Bethlehem, and in and around Hebron, arresting 8 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 2 others; patrol during the day in 2 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** demolish fruit and vegetable stands alongside a road nr. Hebron, confiscate some of the produce, then arrest 1 Palestinian merchant. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli settlers** assault 3 Palestinians in the Old City, injuring 1; assault a Palestinian youth nearby. **Israeli forces** continue punitive measures against the families of the 2 Palestinian men who attacked a synagogue in West Jerusalem on 11/18/2014. Forces dismantle and confiscate a residential tent in Jabal Mukabir that 1 of the families has been living in since their home was sealed on 7/1; raid the Jabal Mukabir home of the other attacker’s family overnight. (MNA, WAFA 7/7; MNA 7/8; PCHR 7/9)

Israeli police announce that **Haram al-Sharif** will be closed to all non-Muslim visitors for the last 10 days of Ramadan (today through 7/17). Spokesperson Micky Rosenfeld says that “this is a standard procedure for safety reasons” and that the same measure was taken last year. (JP, TOI 7/7)

EU foreign policy chief Mogherini says that Iran and the P5+1 will continue negotiating for the next few days, hours ahead of today’s extended deadline for a final agreement. Later, the **U.S. State Dept.** announces that the interim agreement governing the negotiations will be extended, setting midnight on 7/9 as the new deadline (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (HA, JP 7/7; HA 7/8)

8 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in Bethlehem and nr. Tulkarm, arresting 3 Palestinians. Meanwhile nr. Tulkarm, **PASF troops** unknowingly try to apprehend undercover Israeli officers. The Israelis attempt to drive away and crash into a PASF car, prompting the PASF troops to fire warning shots. Later, **IDF troops** conduct a raid nearby, arresting a Palestinian police officer. **Israeli settlers** obstruct Palestinian workers from getting to their road work site nr. Nablus. **Palestinian assailants** throw a Molotov cocktail at an Israeli bus nr. Ramallah, causing damage but no injuries. (Wafa 7/7; MNA, TOI 7/8; MNA 7/9; PCHR 7/15)

9 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian late at night after he allegedly attempts to stab an Israeli soldier at Qalandia checkpoint nr. Jerusalem. During the day, the **IDF** patrols in Yatta and 1 village each nr. Ramallah and Hebron. (MNA 7/10; PCHR 7/15)

Israel's Defense Ministry lifts its gag order on the news of **2 Israeli civilians**—a Palestinian bedouin and a Jewish Ethiopian—allegedly being held in Gaza. The Israeli govt. holds Hamas responsible for the men and reportedly lifts the order in the hope that it might lead to negotiations over their release. Hamas does not confirm it is holding the men (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (HA, JP, MNA, NYT, TOI, YA 7/9; TOI, YA 7/10)

A **senior Israeli official** says that the Israeli govt. has changed its position on cooperating with the **ICC's preliminary examination** on alleged war crimes committed in the oPt. The govt. will now begin opening contacts with **ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda** to make its

position clear to the court, but only on the subject of jurisdiction. (HA 7/9; AFP 7/10)

U.S. secy. of state John Kerry delivers a statement on the status of the **P5+1/Iran negotiations** in Vienna. He says that the negotiations will continue, but does not set a new deadline. **U.S. chief negotiator Wendy Sherman** briefs Israel's national security adviser Cohen on the talks. Sherman last briefed Cohen at the end of 6/2015. (HA 7/9; AP, HA 7/10; JP 7/11)

10 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian is seriously injured. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids in Hebron and 1 nearby village, arresting 2 Palestinians; patrols during the day in 2 villages each nr. Ramallah and Hebron, and 1 nr. Jericho. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** assault 1 Palestinian at a checkpoint in Ras al-Amud and another n. of the city. Later, a Palestinian attempts to stab Israeli soldiers at a different checkpoint n. of Ras al-Amud; he is arrested. (MNA 7/10; MNA 7/11; PCHR 7/15)

The **EU** and **U.S. State Dept.** announce that the P5+1 and Iran have extended their deadline for reaching a final agreement on Iran's nuclear program to 7/13 (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (AP, HA, REU, TOI 7/10)

11 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** shuts down a major checkpoint nr. Nablus for "security reasons." **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian activists demonstrating nr. al-'Arub

r.c. and in Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; several Palestinians are lightly injured. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids and house searches in Nablus and 1 village nr. Hebron, arresting 4 Palestinians; patrols during the day in 4 villages nr. Ramallah. **Israeli forces** confiscate 2 construction vehicles Palestinians are using to build a road nr. Salfit. (MNA, Wafa 7/11; PCHR 7/15)

PA pres. Abbas meets with **PM Hamdallah** to discuss the proposed **new consensus govt.**, and specifically to weigh candidates for various portfolios. They make no final decisions and delay the formation of a govt. until at least after the end of Ramadan on 7/17. (MNA 7/11)

The **Lebanese military** says that an Israeli drone crashed in the sea nr. the port of Tripoli. (AFP, HA, YA 7/11)

12 JULY 2015

Off the coast of **Gaza** nr. Gaza City, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing neither damage nor injuries. In the **West Bank**, the IDF issues an arrest summons to a Palestinian on a late-night raid in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem, sparking light clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths. IDF troops also conduct late-night raids and house searches in and around Hebron, al-Fawar r.c., and Bethlehem, arresting 8 Palestinians; patrols during the day in 1 village and al-‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, 2 villages nr. Ramallah, and ‘Aqabat Jabir r.c. nr. Jericho. **Israeli settlers** set fire to dozens of olive trees outside Bethlehem. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** raid a Palestinian clothing store in Shu‘fat r.c., sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 2 Palestinians are injured (1 of them will lose an eye after being struck by a sponge-tipped bullet). **Israeli forces** arrest 6 Palestinians on late-night raids in the Old City, Qalandia r.c., and Issawiyya. (MNA,

Wafa 7/12; HA, MNA, TOI 7/13; MNA 7/14; PCHR 7/15)

A **senior Hamas official** tells a Russian media outlet that **former Quartet envoy Blair** is mediating talks between Israel and Hamas over the 2 Israeli civilians who are allegedly being held in Gaza. Blair reportedly met with Hamas leader Mishal in Doha 3 times, both before and after Blair resigned as Middle East Quartet envoy on 5/27, to discuss the issue. On 7/16, a senior Palestinian source will confirm that these talks took place. (TOI, YA 7/12)

PA pres. Abbas forms a national comm. to investigate alleged Israeli war crimes committed in Gaza during **OPE**. He appoints **Farid al-Jallad** to head the comm., which will begin its work after *‘Id al-Fitr* concludes on 7/20. (JP 7/12; MNA 7/13)

13 JULY 2015

IDF troops stationed on the Gaza border arrest a Palestinian attempting to cross into Israel e. of al-Bureij r.c. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct raids n. of the city and in al-‘Izzariya, arresting 1 Palestinian and issuing an arrest summons to another. (EI, MNA, NYT 7/13; HA, MNA 7/14; PCHR 7/15)

The **Knesset Ethics Comm.** reprimands **MK Ghattas (Joint List)** for his participation in the Freedom Flotilla III, rejecting his freedom-of-speech-based argument. The comm. does not punish him in any other way because this is his 1st ethics offense. (JP 7/16)

In **Jordan**, envoys of the **Middle East Quartet** meet with Jordanian FM Nasser Judeh and National Security Authority Abdullah Wreikat to discuss “how to preserve the 2-state solution, and how to create conditions that will enable the parties to return to meaningful negotiations,” according to a joint statement. They will meet again on 7/14. (JP 7/16)

Israel's Military Police begins questioning **Lt.-Col. Neria Yeshurun** who ordered his IDF battalion to fire at a Shuja'iya hospital on 7/23/2014. It is the 1st Israeli criminal investigation into alleged war crimes committed during OPE. (JP, YA 7/12; TOI 7/13; HA 7/14)

14 JULY 2015

Off **Gaza's coast** nr. Gaza City, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing damage to 1 boat. **IDF troops** on the Gaza border e. of al-Bureij r.c. open fire on nearby agricultural land. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** confiscate and damage property on late-night raids and house searches in a village nr. Ramallah, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 1 Palestinian is injured. In **East Jerusalem**, **right-wing Jewish activist Glick** leads a protest in the Old City against the closure of **Haram al-Sharif** to non-Muslims during the final 10 days of Ramadan. (MNA, WAFA 7/14; PCHR 7/30)

The **Israeli NGO Peace Now** reports that Israel's Civil Admin. recently allocated 300 dunams (around 75 acres) of land for the expansion of a **settlement** s. of Bethlehem. Meanwhile, 3 Palestinians who work in an **Israeli industrial zone** nr. Tulkarm file a complaint with the **Israeli National Labor Court** to recognize their right to share equal working conditions. The court will deny their request on 7/19. Currently Palestinians working in Israeli-controlled areas are subject to 1967 Jordanian law while their Israeli counterparts are subject to different labor laws. (MNA 7/14; JP 7/15)

Israeli PM Netanyahu reportedly says, "We cannot develop the settlements further, but rather need to preserve what we have," in comments to a settler organization called the West Bank Regional Council (WBRC).

The **Yesha Council**, a settler umbrella group including the WBRC, responds, saying "a govt. that does not build in Judea and Samaria loses its right to exist." The **Likud Party** then denies that Netanyahu made any statement of policy regarding a settlement freeze. (TOI, YA 7/14)

In Vienna, the **P5+1** and **Iran** reach a final, comprehensive agreement to limit **Iran's nuclear program** in exchange for sanctions relief (see Doc. A1 and Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). U.S. pres. Obama calls Netanyahu to discuss the agreement, and he reportedly offers to hold talks on increasing military aid to Israel. Netanyahu refuses "at this juncture." (AP, HA, JP, JTA, MNA, NYT, REU, TOI 7/14; HA, NYT 7/15)

15 JULY 2015

Late at night in **Gaza**, an **armed group** fires a rocket into s. Israel nr. Ashqelon, causing no damage. The **IAF** then launches air strikes on 2 "terrorist infrastructure" targets in c. and n. Gaza, according to the IDF; 1 Palestinian woman is lightly injured. Earlier in the day, **Dutch FM Bert Koenders** visits Gaza to inaugurate a new Dutch scanning machine donated to Israel for use at the **Kerem Shalom border crossing**. He says the scanner will allow for an increase in the amount of materials that can be shipped into Gaza for reconstruction purposes. Koenders also tours several UNRWA sites throughout Gaza. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian woman after she stabs and lightly injures an Israeli soldier in n. Ramallah. Later, they raid her home nr. Ramallah. The **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Hebron and 1 nr. Ramallah during the day. Along the **Syria-Israel border**, **IDF troops** raid the al-Shahar r.c., which houses internally displaced Syrians in the UN-administered buffer zone. They evacuate the camp and

demolish several tents. (HA, MNA 7/15; HA, MNA, TOI, YA 7/16; AP 7/17; EI 7/20; PCHR 7/30)

U.S. national security advisor Susan Rice says that the U.S. is looking forward to discussing with Israel possible ways of increasing Israeli security, following the P5+1's deal with Iran on 7/14. (JP, JTA, REU 7/16)

16 JULY 2015

IDF troops on the Gaza border e. of Khan Yunis open fire on 3 Palestinian youths walking nr. the border fence, seriously injuring 1. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** arrest and assault a Palestinian man on a raid in a village nr. Hebron, moderately injuring him and sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 2 Palestinians are injured. During the day, the IDF patrols in 3 villages nr. Hebron and 2 nr. Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem, around 20 Palestinians** throw stones and Molotov cocktails in an Israeli settlement nr. Ras al-Amud, lightly injuring 1 settler. **Israeli forces** conduct a raid in Silwan, arresting 4 Palestinians and sparking minor clashes with residents; 5 Palestinians are lightly injured. Israeli security officers detain and assault 2 Palestinian youths at a light rail station in Shu'fat, moderately injuring 1. (MNA, YA 7/17; PCHR 7/30)

A special panel of the ICC orders **chief prosecutor Bensouda** to reconsider "as soon as possible" her 11/2014 decision not to investigate Israel's 5/2010 raid on the flagship of the Gaza Freedom Flotilla, the *Mavi Marmara* (see quarterly Update in *JPS* 40[1] and 45[1] for more). (AP, HA, ICC, MNA, NYT 7/16)

U.S. State Dept. spokesperson John Kirby comments on the Israeli govt.'s planned demolition of Palestinian homes in Susiya village nr. Hebron, saying "we strongly urge the

Israeli authorities to refrain from carrying out any demolitions." (TOI, USSD 7/17; JP 7/19)

17 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank, IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian is injured. (MNA, WAFA 7/18; PCHR 7/30)

In Saudi Arabia, **Hamas leader Mishal** meets with **Saudi king Salman bin Abdulaziz**, and they discuss "Palestinian unity and the political situation in the region," according to a Hamas source. (NYT, REU, TOI 7/17; MNA 7/18; JP 7/19)

18 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** defuse a piece of unexploded ordnance in a village nr. Jenin; patrol in 2 villages nr. Ramallah and 1 nr. Jericho. Overnight, **Israeli forces** uproot 150 olive tree seedlings outside Ramallah. (WAFA 7/18; PCHR 7/30)

19 JULY 2015

Overnight in **Gaza**, purported ISIS affiliates blow up cars belonging to mbrs. of Hamas and Islamic Jihad's military wings in 5-6 simultaneously timed blasts in c. and s. Gaza City, lightly injuring 2 people and damaging several homes. No armed group claims responsibility. In the **West Bank, Israeli authorities** deliver stop-work orders to 3 homes under construction in a village nr. Hebron. **IDF troops** conduct a late-night raid in a village nr. Hebron; patrol in 1 village and al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, and 'Aqabat Jabir r.c. and 1 village nr. Jericho. **Israeli settlers** fire 2 shots toward

Palestinian farmers working nr. Ramallah, causing no injuries; conduct 3 demonstrations nr. Ramallah and Bethlehem calling for increased settlement construction. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians on raids in Ras al-Amud. (JP, MNA, NYT, YA 7/19; MNA, WAFA 7/20; MNA 7/21; PCHR 7/30)

Israel's National Labor Court rejects a complaint filed by **3 Palestinian laborers** on 7/14 calling for recognition of their rights to the same working conditions as Israelis in special industrial zones in Israeli settlements. (JP 7/19)

The *Financial Times* reports that "senior levels" of the **European Commission** have approved the preparation of a technical guidance document to facilitate the labeling of goods produced in the **Israeli settlements** (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (FT 7/19)

The **Obama admin.** formally delivers the **nuclear deal** reached with Iran on 7/14 to **Congress**, which begins the legislature's mandated 60-day review period (it will end on 9/17). (NYT, REU 7/19)

20 JULY 2015

IDF troops on the **Gaza** border e. of Gaza City open fire on agricultural lands along the border fence, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in 2 villages nr. Hebron and 1 nr. Nablus, arresting 3 Palestinians; patrol during the day in 2 villages nr. Hebron and 1 nr. Jenin. **Israeli forces** demolish a scrap-selling facility nr. Hebron and another structure nr. al-Jalaita. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians on late-night raids in the Old City, Silwan, and Kafr 'Aqab, as well as 1 Palestinian as he is exiting **Haram al-Sharif**. (MNA, WAFA 7/20; PCHR 7/30)

Israel's **Knesset** passes into a law an amendment to the penal code that will allow

convicted **stone-throwers** to be sentenced to 10–20 years in prison. Furthermore, state prosecutors will no longer have to prove that those accused were trying to damage cars or harm people in order to secure convictions (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (HA, TOI, YA 7/21)

The **EU Council** reaffirms its commitment to the **Middle East peace process** and the 2-state solution, saying in a statement that it now depends on a "fundamental change" in Israeli policy. The council also calls on the **Israeli govt.** to "halt plans" to evacuate and relocate the Palestinian village **Susiya** nr. Hebron, for the **PA** to take "greater responsibility" in Gaza, and for the EU to fully implement its policies regarding Israel's settlements. (AFP, EU press release, MEMO, YA 7/20; JP, MNA 7/21)

The **UNSC** unanimously approves a res. endorsing the nuclear deal announced by the **P5+1** and **Iran** on 7/14. The UN, U.S., and EU will begin preparing to lift sanctions, so they can do so immediately when the IAEA reports that Iran has, by the end of 2015, accounted for its past and present nuclear activities and undertaken steps to constrain its nuclear program. (AFP, HA, REU, TOI, WAFA, YA 7/20)

21 JULY 2015

In **Gaza, several small Islamist groups** threaten to fire rockets into Israel in response to " Hamas's crimes and conspiracies." The threat follows the arrest of 12 Palestinians accused of blowing up cars on 7/19. Off the coast nr. Gaza City, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, critically injuring 1 fisherman with live ammunition. In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** demolish 3 Palestinian stores in a village nr. Hebron; raze an agricultural road in a village e. of Salfit;

patrol in 3 villages nr. Jenin, 2 nr. Jericho, and 1 each nr. Hebron, Ramallah, and Tulkarm. Late at night, the **IDF** detains 120 Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel s. of Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem, right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif** while **Israeli forces** restrict access to Palestinian visitors; 1 Palestinian man is detained. **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians on late-night raids in Qalandia r.c. and the Old City. (JP, MNA, WAFA 7/21; JP, TOI 7/22; MNA 7/23; PCHR 7/30)

22 JULY 2015

Overnight in the **West Bank, IDF troops** shoot and critically injure a Palestinian man with live ammunition during clashes sparked by a raid in a village nr. Jenin; he will succumb to his injuries later in the day. Late at night, **IDF troops** shoot and kill another Palestinian during a raid of his home in a village nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** destroy 450 olive trees, a Roman-era well, and level land outside Hebron; deliver stop-work orders to 5 Palestinian homes under construction in a village nr. Qalqilya; patrol in 2 villages nr. Tulkarm and 1 nr. Ramallah during the day. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids in 2 villages nr. Hebron, Tulkarm and 1 nearby village, 2 villages nr. Nablus, and in Qalqilya and Jenin, arresting 11 Palestinians and assaulting 1. In **East Jerusalem, dozens of right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif** under an **Israeli police** escort; 3 Palestinians are detained at exits to the sanctuary. In **s. Israel, Israeli forces** demolish 2 homes in bedouin villages in the Negev. (AFP, HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 7/22; PCHR 7/30)

The **European Council on Foreign Relations**, an influential think tank, publishes a report on EU policy toward **Israel** (see Doc. R4). It proposes **labeling of settlement produce** in addition to other measures meant

to discourage settlement growth, including sanctions against Israeli banks. After the report is published, the stock prices of **4 major Israeli banks** drop in value, leading a **senior EU official** to say, “We have no intention of imposing restrictions on Israeli banks.” (+972, ECFR, HA, JP, MNA, REU, TOI 7/22; MEMO, REU, TOI, YA 7/23)

23 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank, IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian during a raid in c. Nablus. Less than an hour later, they shoot and injure a Palestinian photojournalist attempting to cover the story. The **IDF** also conducts raids in a village nr. Jenin, confiscating property and arresting 2 Palestinians; patrols in 2 villages nr. Jericho and 1 nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 13 Palestinians on raids in the Old City and Ras al-Amud. (HA, MNA, WAFA 7/23; PCHR 7/30)

Israeli chief negotiator, Dep. PM Shalom meets with **PLO secy.-gen. Erakat** for “trust-building” talks in Amman. They present initial proposals for restarting peace negotiations. The meeting will be 1st reported on 7/26 (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (MNA, TOI 7/26; HA, MNA 7/28)

Israel’s Civil Admin. grants permits for the construction of 1,065 new residences in various **settlements** around the West Bank, including infrastructure developments that will connect 296 residences to utilities in the Beit El settlement (see Update, *JPS* 45[1]). (HA, TOI, YA 7/22; PCN 7/23; MNA 7/24)

UNRWA issues an urgent appeal for contributions, reaffirming that it is running at a budget deficit of around \$100 m. and that if it does not receive sufficient pledges, UNRWA schools will be forced to close throughout the

Middle East (see Update, *JPS* 45[1]). (AFP, UNRWA 7/23)

24 JULY 2015

Late at night in the **West Bank, Israeli soldiers** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. the separation wall n. of Tulkarm, injuring 2. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids and house searches in 2 villages each nr. Qalqilya and Bethlehem, issuing arrest summons to 10 Palestinians; patrols during the day in al-‘Arub r.c. and 1 village nr. Hebron, 2 villages nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Jenin. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 5 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil’in, Ni’lin, Nabi Salih, Silwad, and outside Ofer Prison) and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 2 Palestinians are injured with live ammunition. **Israeli settlers** attempt to attack al-Ibrahimi Mosque in c. Hebron, but Israeli soldiers intervene and secure the site. (MNA 7/24; WAFA 7/26; PCHR 7/30)

U.S. officials say that they do not plan on opposing **convicted Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard’s** scheduled parole in 11/2015, denying recent reports that some Obama admin. officials have been pushing for his early release as a means of improving relations with Israel. (HA, NYT 7/24; MNA 7/25)

25 JULY 2015

IDF troops on the **Gaza** border e. of al-Bureij r.c. fire warning shots at Palestinian farmers approaching the border fence, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct late-night raids in Hebron and 1 village each nr. Bethlehem, Ramallah, and Jenin, arresting 5 Palestinians and issuing arrest summons to 3; patrol during the day in 3 villages nr. Ramallah,

2 nr. Jericho, and 1 nr. Jenin. They also violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli and international activists at a demonstration against the Israeli occupation in Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, injuring 2 Palestinians. **Israeli settlers** fill an agricultural well with stones and earth nr. Salfit. In **East Jerusalem, right-wing Jewish activists** assault a Palestinian child outside **Haram al-Sharif**. A **group of Palestinians** intervenes and the activists flee the scene. (MNA, WAFA 7/25; MNA 7/26; PCHR 7/30)

Israel’s Justice Min. Ayelet Shaked says that the proposed release of **Israeli spy Pollard** from U.S. prison in 11/2015 is not connected to Israel’s complaints about the nuclear deal announced by Iran and the P5+1 on 7/14. Meanwhile, **U.S. atty. gen. Loretta Lynch** says that the Justice Dept. “will not interfere” in Pollard’s case, meaning that she will not seek to accelerate or delay his release beyond the standard parole procedures. (HA, MNA 7/26; TOI 7/27)

26 JULY 2015

In **Gaza**, hundreds of Palestinians gather outside the **UNRWA** office in Gaza City to protest the agency’s reduction of services. Off the n. coast, **Israeli naval forces** fire warning shots at Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and searches in 1 village each nr. Nablus, Ramallah, and Salfit, confiscating property and arresting 2 Palestinians; patrol during the day in 1 village nr. Ramallah, 3 nr. Hebron, and Tulkarm. **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians allegedly selling fireworks in a village nr. Qalqilya claiming that they were to be used in attacks on IDF troops. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinians nr. Nablus, then **Israeli forces** intervene and arrest 1 Palestinian. In **East Jerusalem**, stone-throwing Palestinian

worshippers who spent the night in al-Aqsa Mosque clash with Israeli police at **Haram al-Sharif**; 10 Palestinians are injured and 6 are arrested. The Palestinians spent the night in the sanctuary in order to circumvent Israeli restrictions on their access today, a Jewish holiday. Later, around 850 Jewish visitors tour the sanctuary under an Israeli police escort. Clashes continue later in the day when as many as 150 Israeli special forces escort 70 right-wing Jewish activists on a tour of the sanctuary; 19 guards from the Islamic Waqf, 2 Palestinian journalists, and 4 Israeli police officers are injured, and 5 Palestinians are detained. Separately, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians on raids in Silwan. (HA, JP, MNA, NYT, TOI, YA 7/26; MNA 7/27; PCHR 7/30)

Israel's High Court of Justice orders an immediate halt to the construction of 296 settler residences in the **Beit El settlement** and upholds its order for the demolition of 2 residential buildings in Beit El by the end of 7/2015. Meanwhile, *Haaretz* reports on an **internal IDF document** apparently showing that Palestinian residents of **Susiya** village nr. Hebron have legitimate ownership claims to their village's land, which supports their efforts to stop the planned evacuation and demolition of their village (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (HA, JP, MDW, TOI, WAFA 7/26; YA 7/27)

27 JULY 2015

In **East Jerusalem**, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian teenager during an arrest raid in Qalandia r.c. Later, **thousands of Palestinians** march in a funeral procession for the teenager in Qalandia; **Israeli forces** stationed in the area clash with a number of stone-throwing mourners; 14 Palestinians and 3 Israeli troops are injured. **Israeli forces** also arrest 11 Palestinians during raids in Issawiyya; arrest

and assault a Palestinian in the Old City. **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian bus driver with pepper spray in Shaykh Jarrah. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts raids and house searches in 2 villages nr. Hebron, 3 nr. Ramallah, 1 each nr. Jenin, Qalqilya, and Tulkarm, as well as Bethlehem and a nearby area, arresting 16 Palestinians, issuing an arrest summons to 1, and confiscating a tractor; patrols in 1 village nr. Hebron, and Salfit and a nearby village. Meanwhile, **hundreds of Israeli settlers** set up a tent camp in and around the **Beit El settlement** to protest the **Israeli High Court's** 7/26 injunction against building in the settlement and its order for 2 residential buildings to be demolished by 7/30. Minor clashes break out when **Israeli forces** attempt to disperse the settlers; around 50 settlers are arrested. (DPA, HA, MNA, NYT, WAFA, YA 7/27; HA, MNA, YA 7/28; EI 7/29; PCHR 7/30)

ICC prosecutor Bensouda files an appeal challenging the 7/16 ruling issued by a special panel ordering her to reconsider her 11/2014 decision not to investigate Israel's deadly raid on the *Mavi Marmara* in 5/2010 (see Update in *JPS* 40[1] and 45[1] for more). (HA 7/27)

Cypriot pres. Anastasiades discusses a new Israeli-Palestinian peace initiative with **PA pres. Abbas**, according to PA sources, which reportedly includes invitations for Abbas and **Israeli PM Netanyahu** to address EU leaders at a future summit in Brussels (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). They say it is not intended to replace the French initiative. The Cypriot pres. will discuss the initiative with **Netanyahu** on 7/28. (JP, MNA, REU, TOI 7/28)

28 JULY 2015

Off the n. **Gaza** coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces**

violently disperse **around 300 Israeli settlers** in the Beit El settlement protesting the High Court's 7/26 injunction on building in the settlement and its order for 2 residential buildings to be demolished by 7/30; 2 settlers are arrested. The settlers throw stones at empty Palestinian vehicles in the area. A **separate group of over 200 Israeli settlers** reoccupies the Sa-Nur settlement outpost nr. Jenin that was evacuated in 2005, calling for the govt. to approve the return of settlers to the site. Overnight in **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** demolish 2 Palestinian stores, 2 warehouses, and 3 residences in Silwan; assault and arrest 2 Palestinians during a raid in Ras al-Amud. **Israeli settlers** assault an elderly Palestinian in Ras al-Amud, lightly injuring her. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 7/28; HA, PCHR 7/30)

Israeli PM Netanyahu says that his govt. is taking "legal action" against the High Court's 7/26 demolition order for the 2 residences in the **Beit El settlement**. His comments follow 2 days of minor clashes between settlers and Israeli troops in and around Beit El. (HA, JP, TOI 7/28)

Netanyahu meets with **Cypriot pres. Anastasiades** in Cyprus and, according to **PA sources**, Anastasiades reportedly outlines a new **European and Cypriot initiative** to restart the Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). The PA sources say that Anastasiades discussed the initiative with PA pres. Abbas on 7/27, and it includes an invitation for Netanyahu and Abbas to separately address EU leaders in Brussels at a future summit. (JP 7/27; JP, MNA, REU, TOI 7/28)

The **U.S. Parole Commission** announces that **imprisoned Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard's** parole has been approved and that he will be released from prison on 11/21, having completed a 30-year sentence after being convicted of passing military intelligence to

Israel in 1985. Pollard will be required to stay in the U.S. for 5 years after his release. **Secy. of State Kerry** reiterates that Pollard's release is not connected to the tension surrounding the nuclear deal reached by the P5+1 and Iran on 7/14. (EI, HA, MNA 7/28; HA 7/29)

29 JULY 2015

In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** demolish 2 residential buildings in the Beit El settlement, despite the govt.-backed petition from the developer. **Around 200 Israeli settlers** gather in Beit El to protest the demolition, throwing stones at the Israeli troops and setting small fires. For the 2d day in a row, **settlers** also gather in the Sa-Nur settlement outpost that was evacuated in 2005, and they verbally assault Palestinians in the area. Late at night, **IDF troops** evacuate the outpost and the surrounding area; no violence is reported. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids in Aida r.c. nr. Bethlehem, arresting 3 Palestinians. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** demolish a wedding hall and several other Palestinian buildings in Bayt Hanina. They also patrol in Issawiyya, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 3 Palestinians are arrested. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 7/29; HA, JP, PCHR, YA 7/30; PCHR 8/6)

Israeli PM Netanyahu approves the "immediate" construction of 296 settler residences in Beit El, and 500 in East Jerusalem. Israel's COGAT Mordechai signs a permit to immediately sell land for the construction, and the municipality will be allowed to issue construction permits within 15 days (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). The **UN, EU, U.S. State Dept., Egyptian Foreign Ministry, and PLO** all criticize the settlement announcement. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 7/29; MNA, WAFA, YA 7/30)

In **Syria**, an **IAF drone** launches an air strike nr. the border with Israel, killing 2 Hizballah fighters and 3 Syrian soldiers. The **IDF** does not comment on the incident, and reports differ on the nature of the attack. Separately, according to the PFLP-Gen. Command, an ally of the Syrian govt., Israeli jets strike an arms depot used by the group in Lebanon nr. the border with Syria, injuring 6. (HA, JP, YA 7/29; HA 7/30)

30 JULY 2015

In **Gaza**, **IDF troops** level land e. of the Gaza Valley along the border fence. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** issue a stop-work order to Palestinians constructing a UN Development Programme-funded well in a village nr. Tubas; patrol in al-'Arub r.c. and 2 villages nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** bar Palestinian children from entering **Haram al-Sharif** while a group of right-wing Jewish activists tours the sanctuary; arrest a Palestinian on a raid nr. the Old City. (MNA, WAFA 7/30; PCHR 8/6)

The **PA** announces that 5 new ministers will be sworn in on 7/31, implementing the cabinet "reshuffle" that the PLO leadership approved on 6/30. Hussein al-Araj will serve as min. of local governance; Sabri Saydam will serve as min. of education; Samih al-Abed will serve as min. of transportation; Sufian Sultan will serve as min. of agriculture; and Abeer Odeh will serve as min. of national economy. **Hamas** calls the move "unconstitutional and outside consensus" (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (MNA 7/30)

After an all-night session, **Israel's Knesset** passes, 46-40, the 2d and 3d readings of a bill to allow force-feeding of prisoners on hunger strike that was approved by the Israeli cabinet on 6/14. The new law will allow judges to approve force-feeding if there is a clear threat to an inmate's life (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (AFP, AP, HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 7/30)

31 JULY 2015

Overnight in the **West Bank**, **4 Jewish extremists** set fire to 2 Palestinian family homes in the village of Duma, nr. Nablus, killing an 18-mo.-old child and severely injuring the 3 other mbrs. of his family (the father and mother will succumb to their injuries on 8/8 and 9/7, respectively). The extremists leave price-tag graffiti nr. the site of the attack. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at demonstrations against the Israeli occupation and the morning's arson attack in 6 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, Jalazun r.c., Silwad, and outside Ofer Prison) and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 4 Palestinians are injured. They also violently disperse Palestinians gathering in Hebron and 1 village nearby to protest the morning's arson attack, injuring 6. In the evening, clashes break out at Atara checkpoint nr. Ramallah, and **Israeli soldiers** shoot a Palestinian in the back, critically injuring him (he will succumb to his injuries on 8/1).

During the day, **Israeli forces** patrol in 5 villages nr. Hebron and 1 each nr. Qalqilya and Ramallah; assault a Palestinian driver at a checkpoint nr. Nablus. An **Israeli settler** rams a Palestinian firefighter with a car while he is putting out a fire nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** also damage 35 olive tree seedlings nr. Ramallah. Elsewhere, a Palestinian opens fire on an Israeli vehicle nr. Ramallah, causing damage. Late at night, unknown assailants throw a molotov cocktail at a **Hamas** leader's car in Jenin. **IDF troops** on the **Gaza border** e. of Bayt Lahiya open fire on a small group of Palestinians approaching the border fence to protest the morning's arson attack nr. Jenin, killing 1 and moderately wounding another.

In **East Jerusalem**, the **Israeli authorities** bar men under 50 from entering **Haram al-Sharif**

in the wake of the morning arson attack. Clashes break out across the city, with **Israeli forces** firing rubber-coated metal bullets at Palestinian protesters in Shu'fat r.c., Issawiyya, Bayt Hanina, al-Suwana, al-Tur, and Silwan; 2 Israeli police officers and 13 Palestinians are injured, including 1 seriously. Meanwhile, unknown assailants throw rocks and firebombs in the Old City, injuring 1 Israeli police officer. An **Israeli settler** rams a Palestinian with a car in Ras al-Amud, injuring him. During the day, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians on raids and patrols in the Old City and Silwan. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 7/31; HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 8/1; PCHR 8/6)

In Ramallah, **5 new ministers** are sworn into the **PA consensus govt.** after being announced on 7/30 (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (MNA 7/30; HA, YA 8/4; MNA 8/5)

1 AUGUST 2015

Off **Gaza's** coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse stone-throwing Palestinians nr. Jalazun r.c. outside Ramallah after the funeral for the Palestinian who was shot nr. Atara checkpoint on 7/31; 8 Palestinians are injured. Further clashes break out between stone-throwing Palestinians and **IDF troops** nr. the site of the 7/31 arson attack in Duma and in 1 village each nr. Nablus, Jenin, and Qalqilya; there are no serious injuries. **Israeli settlers** assault Palestinian farmers working nr. Nablus; **IDF troops** nonviolently disperse the settlers and farmers, and declare the area a closed military zone. Later, **settlers and IDF troops** attack a Palestinian farmer working s. of Nablus, injuring him. A separate group of settlers sets fire to agricultural lands nr. Ramallah, then **IDF troops** violently disperse

Palestinians who attempt to extinguish it, injuring 2. **IDF troops** fire rubber-coated metal bullets at Palestinians nr. the separation wall outside Qalqilya and in a nearby village, causing no injuries.

Overnight and into the morning, **Palestinians** gather at Joseph's Tomb outside Nablus to protest the 7/31 arson attack; **PASF** troops disperse the protesters, blocking them from setting the Jewish holy site on fire. The **IDF** also conducts late-night house searches and raids in Hebron and 3 villages nr. Ramallah, arresting 7 Palestinians, assaulting 2, and confiscating property; patrols in 2 villages nr. Jericho and 1 nr. Jenin; assaults a Palestinian at a checkpoint nr. Bethlehem, causing moderate injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians during raids in and around the Old City. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA, YA 8/1; PCHR 8/6)

2 AUGUST 2015

In **Gaza**, 2 rockets are fired toward Israel, with 1 falling short of the n. border and the other exploding in open land on the Israeli side of the border fence; neither cause major damage. Off the n. coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries. Meanwhile, **hundreds of Palestinian refugees** gather in front of **UNRWA's** headquarters in Gaza City for the 2d Sunday in a row to protest the agency's recent reduction in services. In the **West Bank**, **thousands of Palestinians** march in Duma, nr. Nablus, in solidarity with the victims of the 7/31 arson attack in the village. **Israeli forces** erect mobile checkpoints outside the village to stop the march, sparking clashes in the evening; there are no serious injuries. **IDF troops** assault 1 Palestinian each in c. Hebron and Bethlehem; conduct late-night raids and house searches in

2 villages nr. Nablus, arresting 2 Palestinians; patrol during the day in 3 villages nr. Hebron.

Israeli settlers return to the evacuated Sa-Nur settlement, harassing Palestinians in the area; throw rocks at a Palestinian bus s. of Hebron, causing minor damage. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli authorities** increase restrictions on Palestinians' access to **Haram al-Sharif**, barring all Palestinian women and men under the age of 30 from entering between 7:00 and 11:00 A.M. **Israeli forces** detain 5 Palestinians as they leave the sanctuary. Later, minor clashes break out when 30 **right-wing Jewish activists** tour the sanctuary; there are no serious injuries.

Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** also set up mobile checkpoints at 5 entrances to the Old City. In **c. Israel**, 3 Jewish Israelis assault a Palestinian in Lydda, shouting that he should be forced out of the city. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 8/2; MNA, TOI 8/3; PCHR 8/6)

U.S. and Egyptian officials, including U.S. secy. of state Kerry, meet in Cairo for a Egypt-U.S. strategic dialogue, the 1st such meeting since 12/2009 (See Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (SIS 7/17; AHR 7/27; AP, NYT, REU 8/2)

3 AUGUST 2015

In **Gaza**, **Israeli forces** level land e. of Khan Yunis along the border fence. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian man at a checkpoint s. of Nablus when he refuses to undergo a security check. **Israeli forces** conduct a raid in a village nr. Jenin, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian residents. According to the village residents, errant tear gas canisters fired by the Israeli soldiers landed in a nearby agricultural area, setting a number of olive trees on fire. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids in Hebron and nearby al-'Arub r.c., as well as Aida r.c. and 1 village nr. Bethlehem, arresting 7 Palestinians, assaulting 2, and

issuing an arrest summons to 1. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** demolish a home and part of another in an outpost nr. the Eli settlement. **Israeli settlers** throw rocks at Palestinian cars nr. Ramallah, causing damage; set fire to 10 olive trees nr. Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, **unknown assailants** throw a firebomb at an Israeli car in Bayt Hanina, causing an accident and injuring 3 Jewish Israelis (9 Palestinians will be arrested in connection with this attack and indicted on 8/23). Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinian children accused of stone-throwing and 5 Palestinians on raids in Silwan. (HA, MNA, WAFA 8/3; JP 8/4; PCHR 8/6; HA 8/23)

PA FM al-Maliki meets with ICC prosecutor Bensouda in The Hague and files a report on Israeli settler violence with the ICC. Meanwhile, **Palestinian amb. to Jordan Atallah Khairi** says that the **Jordanian govt.** and **Palestinian leadership** have agreed to submit a draft res. to the UNSC calling for international defense of Palestinian civilians following the 7/31 arson attack. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 8/3; MNA 8/4)

On behalf of the State of Palestine, **PA PM Hamdallah** signs a formal request to join **Interpol**, an intergovernmental organization that facilitates police cooperation across borders. The PA plans to use membership to prosecute Palestinians living abroad on corruption charges. (TOI 8/3)

4 AUGUST 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a home and several agricultural buildings in villages nr. Hebron; raze 2 dunams (0.5 acre) of agricultural land s. of Hebron; assault and detain a Palestinian man in c. Hebron. They also violently disperse Palestinians gathering in a village nr. Salfit to protest the IDF's recent closure of the village's water well; there are no serious injuries. **IDF troops** escort

archaeologists into a village nr. Jenin to photograph ruins in the area, sparking clashes with local residents; conduct late-night raids and house searches in Bayt Jala, Jalazun r.c. and 1 village nr. Ramallah, and 1 village nr. Jenin, arresting 5 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1; patrol during the day in 2 villages nr. Hebron and 1 nr. Salfit. **Around 200 Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian homes in a village s. of Jenin late at night, sparking minor clashes with local residents. In **East Jerusalem**, a **French Christian tourist** attempts to raise the Israeli flag at **Haram al-Sharif**, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; at least 7 are arrested, including a number of **Islamic Waqf** employees. Later, **Israeli forces** nonviolently disperse a demonstration organized by the **Islamic Waqf** in protest of the detention of their colleagues earlier in the day; 2 Palestinians are arrested, including 1 journalist. In **c. Israel**, **Israeli forces** demolish 3 Palestinian homes in an unrecognized village nr. Tel Aviv. (AFP, JP, MNA, Wafa 8/4; Wafa 8/5; PCHR 8/6)

Hamas dep. chief Abu Marzuq says that Hamas will not work with the 5 new ministers sworn in to the **PA consensus govt.** on 7/31 and calls for **PM Hamdallah** to be removed from office. (MNA 8/5)

5 AUGUST 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish 18 Palestinian homes and agricultural stores in 3 villages in the n. Jordan Valley and another home nr. Hebron. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in 2 villages nr. Nablus, Hebron and nearby villages, and 1 village nr. Jenin, arresting 7 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1. They also conduct raids in a village nr. Ramallah, issuing arrest summons to 3 Palestinians and sparking

minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 5 Palestinians are arrested. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli officials** order 2 Palestinians to vacate their homes before 8/11 on the grounds of “absentee ownership.” Similarly, the extended Abu Nab family is ordered to vacate their Silwan homes before 8/11 following a court ruling in favor of Israeli settlers’ ownership claims (the Israeli police will forcibly remove the Abu Nab family from their homes on 10/19). In **East Jerusalem**, an **Israeli court** orders the release of the **Islamic Waqf employees** that were detained on 8/4. (MNA, Wafa 8/5; HA, PCHR 8/6; PCHR 8/13)

Around 120 Palestinian prisoners in Israel’s Nafha Prison start an open-ended hunger strike in protest of solitary confinement, the recent ban on family visits, and other violations. The prisoners will continue their strike until the Israeli authorities end the “rabid attack against them,” according to **PA Prisoners’ Affairs Comm. head Issa Qaraqe**. (MEMO 8/6; MNA 8/8)

In Cairo, the Arab League’s **Arab Peace Initiative follow-up comm.** agrees to hold “Arab and international consultations” to draft a **UNSC res.** condemning Israeli settler violence against Palestinians. **PA pres. Abbas** attends and says that “if the Israeli govt. does not take steps to catch the perpetrators of the [7/31 arson attack], it will be a partner of these crimes.” (MNA 8/5; JP, MNA 8/6)

6 AUGUST 2015

In **Gaza**, 4 Palestinians are killed and over 30 are injured when a piece of **unexploded Israeli ordnance** is accidentally detonated in Rafah (a 5th Palestinian will succumb to her injuries on 8/16; see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). In the **West Bank**, a **Palestinian driver** rams 3 Israeli settlers hitchhiking between

Nablus and Ramallah, injuring 2 seriously. **IDF troops** open fire on the driver, critically injuring him. **IDF troops** then raid the driver's home in a village n. of Jerusalem, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 3 Palestinians are injured. **IDF troops** also conduct late-night raids and house searches in 1 village each nr. Bethlehem and Hebron, issuing arrest summons to 4 Palestinians; patrol during the day in 2 villages and al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, and 1 village each nr. Jericho and Ramallah. **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian tire repair store and another structure nr. Bethlehem. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian youth accused of stone-throwing and confiscate a Palestinian's donkey in al-Tur, after **Israeli settlers** in the area reportedly complain that the donkey is a nuisance. (HA, JP, MNA, NYT, TOI, WAFA, YA 8/6; MNA 8/7; PCHR 8/13)

Hamas and PFLP officials meet in Gaza and condemn the PA's 7/31 appointment of 5 new ministers. (MNA 8/7)

The **Israeli govt.** approves its budget for 2015–16, including a NIS 340 m. (\$90 m.) special grant to develop infrastructure in Israel's **West Bank settlements**. The grant was included in the budget in obligation of **Likud's** coalition agreement with the **Jewish Home Party**. (HA, JP 8/6)

7 AUGUST 2015

In **Gaza**, a small group claiming affiliation with ISIS fires 3 rockets toward Israel, with 1 landing in an open area nr. the Kissufim kibbutz on the Israeli side of the border, causing no injuries or damage. The IAF launches air strikes on a Hamas military site in c. Gaza in response; 4 Palestinians are injured. **IDF troops** on the Gaza border e. of Bayt Hanun shoot and injure a Palestinian teenager approaching the

border fence. They also fire warning shots at Palestinian farmers nearby, causing no injuries. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** fire warning shots at Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian is seriously injured. The **IDF** also patrols in a village nr. Bethlehem, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths (3 are arrested), as well as in 2 villages nr. Hebron and 1 each nr. Ramallah and Jenin. (HA, JP, MNA, REU, TOI, YA 8/7; MNA, WAFA 8/8; AFP 8/9; PCHR 8/13)

PA Prisoners' Affairs Comm. head Qaraqe says that the IDF prosecutor intends to request permission from the courts to begin force-feeding Muhammad Allan, a Palestinian prisoner who has been on hunger strike since 6/16. The International Comm. of the Red Cross says that Allan's life is "at immediate risk" and calls for the Israeli authorities to allow his family to visit him. (See Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more.) (EI 8/7; AFP, HA, WAFA 8/8)

8 AUGUST 2015

On the **Gaza** border, **IDF troops** e. of the Gaza Valley arrest 3 Palestinian youths attempting to cross into Israel for work. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** throw firebombs and stones at a home in Duma, the same village where settlers set fire to a home on 7/31, killing an 18-mo.-old Palestinian child; there are no serious injuries. Later, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters marching in a village nr. Nablus, another nr. Qalqilya, and outside al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron in solidarity with the victims of the

7/31 arson attack, after a 2d victim succumbs to his injuries; there are no serious injuries. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids and house searches in Hebron, arresting 1 Palestinian; patrols during the day in 2 villages each nr. Ramallah and Hebron, and 1 nr. Jericho. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 6 Palestinians on raids in al-Tur, Issawiyya, and Bayt Hanina. (HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 8/8; PCHR 8/13)

In response to poor conditions, **28 Palestinian prisoners** in Israel's Ramon and Eshel Prisons join the mass open-ended hunger strike that began on 8/5, bringing the number of participants to 148. Meanwhile, the **UN** releases a statement expressing concern over the new Israeli law, adopted on 7/30, that allows for the force-feeding of Palestinian prisoners on hunger strike. (HA, JP 8/8; TOI, WAFA 8/9)

9 AUGUST 2015

In the **West Bank, IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian man after he allegedly participates in a group stabbing of an **Israeli settler** nr. Ramallah. The Israeli settler is moderately injured. On a series of raids of Israeli settlement outposts nr. Nablus, **Israeli forces** arrest as many as 9 Israeli settlers suspected of recent attacks and perpetrating the 7/31 arson attack in Duma, nr. Nablus, that led to the death of 3 Palestinians; 2 of the suspects are placed in administrative detention; they also deliver stop-work orders to 2 EU-funded water tanks under construction nr. Hebron. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids and house searches in Hebron and 1 nearby village, Jenin, and Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem, arresting 6 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1; patrols during the day in al-Fawar r.c. and 2 villages nr. Hebron, 4 villages nr. Jenin, and 1 nr. Qalqilya. **Israeli forces** demolish 3 dirt roads and 3 olive trees nr. Qalqilya and a livestock building in a

village nr. Salfit; deliver a notice to a water tank operator in a village nr. Hebron, requiring him to halt operations. A **Palestinian child** is seriously injured when he accidentally triggers a piece of unexploded Israeli ordnance nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** set fire to Palestinian agricultural land nr. Nablus, burning hundreds of acres. Off the coast of **Gaza** nr. Dayr al-Balah, **Israeli naval forces** fire warning shots at Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries, then arrest 2 fishermen. Outside **UNRWA headquarters** in Gaza City, **hundreds of Palestinians** gather to protest the agency's proposed cuts in services for the 3d Sunday in a row. In **East Jerusalem**, around 30 right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif**. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 8/9; YA 8/10; HA 8/12; PCHR 8/13)

After **around 32 Palestinian prisoners** join the mass open-ended hunger strike in Israel's Nafha and Ramon Prisons, bringing the number of total participants to 180, the prisoners decide to end their strike, which began on 8/5. The **Israel Prison Service (IPS)** says no deal was made, but **Palestinian Prisoners Society chair Qadura Fares** says that IPS agreed to several concessions on terms of cell searches and other issues. Meanwhile, **Israeli doctors** at Soroka Medical Center in Beersheba say they will refuse to force-feed **hunger-striking Palestinian prisoner Allan** (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more). (MNA, TOI 8/9; HA, MNA, TOI 8/10)

10 AUGUST 2015

In the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in Jenin, and Hebron and 1 village nearby, arresting 4 Palestinians and issuing 1 arrest summons. **Israeli forces** demolish an agricultural room in a village nr. Qalqilya, 4 stores on a road outside

Jenin, and 2 tents and a barn in a village nr. Hebron; confiscate raw materials being used to build a road nr. Nablus. Late at night, **Israeli settlers** throw molotov cocktails at a park in a village nr. Nablus, causing no damage or injuries. A **small group of Palestinians** reportedly chases the settlers away from the park before they can do any serious damage. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** deny a group of Palestinian youths entrance to **Haram al-Sharif**, sparking minor clashes; 1 Palestinian guard is detained. **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians on raids in Shaykh Jarrah. (MNA 8/10; MNA 8/11; PCHR 8/13)

The **Israeli authorities** transfer **Palestinian prisoner Allan** from Soroka Medical Center in Beersheba to Barzilai Medical Center in Ashqelon. Barzilai's director Chezy Levy's position was that force-feeding was "unacceptable," but the center would consider the practice to save a life (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for more). Meanwhile in the Nafha and Ramon Prisons, where 180 Palestinians ended a 5-day hunger strike on 8/9, **around 560 prisoners** declare a campaign of "complete disobedience" in protest of poor conditions in the prisons. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI 8/10; MNA, TOI 8/11)

11 AUGUST 2015

In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** orders temporary alterations to its rules of engagement, responding to the increased tensions since the 7/31 arson attack. Israeli soldiers are now required to hold their fire unless their lives are in immediate danger, and are only permitted to fire shots in the air toward a fleeing suspect rather than at the lower body. **Israeli forces** demolish multiple residential units in the n. Jordan Valley overnight. **IDF troops** conduct raids in c. Hebron and a nearby village, arresting 1 Palestinian and assaulting and lightly injuring 2;

patrol in 1 village each nr. Hebron, Qalqilya, and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** deny a group of Palestinian youths entrance to **Haram al-Sharif** for the 2d day in a row, then they detain a Palestinian woman and youth suspected of assaulting Israeli officers in the sanctuary. **Israeli forces** also demolish a store in al-Tur and a commercial building in the Qalandia industrial zone n. of the city; patrol in Silwan and Issawiyya, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 8/11; HA, JP, TOI 8/12; PCHR 8/13)

The **IPS** says talks broke down today with the Palestinian prisoners who declared a campaign of disobedience in the Nafha and Ramon Prisons on 8/10. IPS reportedly offered to lift the restrictions after 6 mos. while the prisoners demanded they be lifted immediately. (MNA 8/11)

12 AUGUST 2015

Off **Gaza's** coast nr. Gaza City, **Israeli naval forces** fire warning shots at Palestinian fishing boats, causing damage to several. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts late-night raids in 2 villages nr. Hebron, 1 nr. Nablus, and Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem, arresting 6 Palestinians; patrols in al-'Arub r.c. and 1 village nr. Hebron, and 1 village nr. Nablus. **Israeli water company Mekorot** cuts off the water supply to a number of areas in the n. West Bank. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** assault and detain a Palestinian at **Haram al-Sharif** after the man is pushed by a right-wing Jewish activist; 1 other Palestinian is arrested after the confrontation. They also arrest 1 Palestinian on a late-night raid in Qalandia r.c. In **Israel**, **around 100 PCI** gather outside the Barzilai Medical Center to protest the proposed force-feeding of **Palestinian prisoner Allan**, and they

clash with **around 50 Jewish Israeli counterprotesters**, who threw stones and bottles. Israeli forces break up the protests with a water cannon; a number of Israeli and Palestinian protesters are arrested. (HA, MNA, YA 8/12; PCHR 8/13; PCHR 8/20)

Hamas leader Mishal leads a delegation to Turkey and meets with Turkish pres. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and PM Ahmet Davutoğlu about “activating the Palestinian cause on the regional and international levels,” according to Hamas sources. Meanwhile, Palestinians and Arab media outlets report that **Mishal** recently met with **former Quartet envoy Blair** for the 2d time in 6 weeks to discuss the prospects for Israel and Hamas reaching a **long-term cease-fire** (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (HA, JP, MNA, TOI 8/12; MEMO 8/13)

13 AUGUST 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** raze 6 dunams (1.5 acres) of land, demolish 2 Palestinian buildings under construction, and seize building materials in Bethlehem. **IDF troops** raid Jenin r.c. and 1 village nr. Jenin, as well as 1 village nr. Hebron, issuing arrest summons to 1 Palestinian and confiscating property; patrol during the day in 3 villages nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** set fire to a bedouin storage tent nr. Ramallah overnight, causing substantial damage and leaving price-tag graffiti. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** fire sound bombs at a group of Palestinian children in Silwan accused of throwing stones; establish road blocks at the e. entrance to Issawiyya. (HA, MNA, WAFA 8/13; PCHR 8/20)

14 AUGUST 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international

protesters at weekly demonstrations against the Israeli occupation in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 3 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** also conducts house searches and raids in Tulkarm and 1 village nr. Hebron, issuing an arrest summons to 1 Palestinian; patrols during the day in 3 villages nr. Ramallah, 2 nr. Hebron, and 1 nr. Jericho. **Unidentified assailants** set fire to a gas station nr. the Israeli settlement Eli, causing damage. (AFP, MNA, TOI 8/14; NYT 8/16; PCHR 8/20)

Hunger-striking Palestinian prisoner Allan is placed in a medically induced coma after his condition deteriorates. Later, **Islamic Jihad's military wing, Sarayat al-Quds Brigades**, says that if Allan dies, they will not continue upholding the cease-fire with Israel. (HA, JP, MNA, NYT, YA 8/14)

The **Arab Bank** reaches a settlement in a case brought by hundreds of U.S. citizens accusing the bank of facilitating **Hamas** attacks in Israel. The terms of the settlement are not disclosed. A U.S. court ruled in 9/2014 that the Jordan-based Arab Bank was liable for knowingly supporting Hamas in its attacks (see *JPS* 44[2]). (TOI 8/14; JP 8/15)

15 AUGUST 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian after he stabs and lightly injures an Israeli soldier nr. Nablus. Earlier, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian after he stabs and lightly injures an Israeli soldier nr. Ramallah. The **IDF** violently disperses Palestinian and international activists gathering in 2 villages nr. Hebron and 1 nr. Qalqilya to protest recent Israeli settlement activity in the area and the 7/31 arson attack in Duma; there are no serious injuries. **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids in 1 village nr. Bethlehem;

patrol during the day in 4 villages nr. Jenin, 2 each nr. Jericho and Ramallah, and 1 each nr. Tulkarm and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian journalist at a checkpoint s. of the city. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 8/15; PCHR 8/20)

The **IAEA** confirms that **Iran** has passed along key documentation of past and present issues relating to its nuclear program, meeting a deadline set in their 7/14 agreement with the **P5+1** (see Update in *JPS* 45[1] for details). (REU, TOI 8/15)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

+972	<i>+972 Magazine</i>	JP	<i>Jerusalem Post</i>
AFP	Agence France-Presse	FWD	<i>Forward</i>
AHR	<i>al-Ahram</i>	JTA	Jewish Telegraphic Agency
ALM	Al-Monitor	LF	<i>Le Figaro</i>
AP	Associated Press	MEE	Middle East Eye
BB	<i>Bloomberg Businessweek</i>	MEMO	Middle East Monitor
DPA	Deutsche-Presse Agentur	MNA	Ma'an News Agency
ECFR	European Council on Foreign Relations	MDW	<i>Mondoweiss</i>
EI	Electronic Intifada	NYT	<i>New York Times</i>
FNA	Fars News Agency	PCN	Peace Now
FT	<i>Financial Times</i>	PCHR	Palestinian Centre for Human Rights
HA	<i>Haaretz</i>	PNN	Palestine News Network
ICC	International Criminal Court	REU	Reuters
		SI	Sputnik International
		SIS	State Information Service, Egypt
		SLW	Wadi Hilweh Information Center—Silwan
		TOI	<i>Times of Israel</i>
		UNHRC	United Nations Human Rights Council
		UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency
		USSD	United States State Department
		WAFA	Palestine News Agency
		WP	<i>Washington Post</i>
		YA	<i>Yedioth Ahronoth</i>