



CHRONOLOGY

16 NOVEMBER 2014–15 FEBRUARY 2015

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16 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Israel Defense Forces (IDF) troops** stationed nr. the border open fire on an unarmed 10-year-old Palestinian boy, critically injuring him. Later, the **IDF** arrests 3 Palestinians who cross the border fence into Israel nr. the Kerem Shalom crossing. In the **West Bank**, Palestinians gather nr. 'Askar refugee camp (r.c.) to throw stones at Israeli military vehicles, sparking clashes with the IDF that leave 1 Palestinian injured. **IDF troops** deliver demolition orders to 5 Palestinian families n. of Qalqilya and temporarily seal all entrances to 'Azun village e. of Qalqilya; patrol nr. Bethlehem and Hebron. Late in the evening, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches in Bil'in, detaining mayor Basil Mansur, sparking clashes with stone-throwing local residents; conducts arrest raids nr. Hebron and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, **10s of Palestinian women** refuse to submit their ID cards to **Israeli security officers** outside **Haram al-Sharif**, defying a new Israeli access restriction; **Israeli security forces** beat several of the women with rifle butts to disperse them. Meanwhile, **Israeli security forces** escort

30 right-wing Jewish activists into **Haram al-Sharif**. Separately, **IDF troops** conduct arrest raids and house searches in 3 other areas of East Jerusalem. At an Israeli cabinet meeting, **Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu** reiterates his pledge to maintain the status quo at **Haram al-Sharif**, meaning that he intends to respect Jordan's custody of the area.

In **West Jerusalem**, a **Palestinian** stabs a **Jewish Israeli** with a screwdriver, injuring him; Israeli police set up roadblocks around the area in effort to capture the assailant, but he escapes. Late at night, a **Palestinian bus driver** is found hanged in his bus in West Jerusalem. Israeli authorities allege suicide, but the man's family believes that Israeli settlers killed him in retaliation for the earlier stabbing. Clashes between Palestinians and Israeli security forces break out in al-Tur, East Jerusalem, in response to the bus driver's death. (HA, MNA, TOI, Wafa 11/16; AFP, IMEMC, JP, MNA 11/17; PCHR 11/20)

U.S. Secy. of State John Kerry calls **Palestinian Authority (PA) Pres. Mahmoud Abbas** and tells him the U.S. will veto any UN Security Council (UNSC) res. on ending the

Israeli occupation within 2 years. Abbas has been circulating such a res. since his speech at the UN General Assembly (UNGA) on 9/26/2014. (AP 11/18)

Israeli justice minister Tzipi Livni postpones until 11/23 a debate in her comm. over a new “**nation-state**” bill, which would enshrine Israel’s status as the national homeland of the Jewish people in the Basic Laws. Netanyahu says that he may sidestep the comm. debate and introduce the bill in the Israeli cabinet. (JTA, REU 11/16)

17 NOVEMBER 2014

Off the coast of the **Gaza Strip**, nr. Rafah, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on 2 Palestinian fishing boats, damaging 1 and sinking the other. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** enter Bil’in at dawn and deliver warnings about the weekly, nonviolent protests. Clashes break out between stone-throwing Palestinian residents and the Israeli soldiers, and several Palestinians are injured by concussion bombs, tear gas, and rubber-coated metal bullets. Clashes erupt after **IDF troops** raid 2 villages nr. Ramallah, injuring an IDF soldier. Elsewhere, **Israeli settlers** bulldoze farmlands w. of Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces clash with a group of Palestinian women outside **Haram al-Sharif** who are protesting the ID card restrictions that sparked a similar incident on 11/16; 2 women are arrested. In the **Negev**, Israeli military and police enter the bedouin village al-‘Araqib and demolish 3 homes, as well as several other structures. (IMEMC 11/17; MNA 11/18; PCHR 11/20)

Egyptian officials announce that the width of the **buffer zone** being constructed on the border with the Gaza Strip is to be doubled to 1,000 m, and as many as 2,000 in some places along the 13 km border. The announcement comes after

the discovery and demolition of 12 tunnels. (MEE, REU 11/17; HA 11/18; TOI 1/6)

European Union (EU) foreign ministers express concern in a press statement about the recent tension in East Jerusalem and formally condemn recent Israeli settlement developments. EU foreign affairs chief Federica Mogherini describes a **leaked EU doc.** proposing new sanctions against Israeli settlements as “hypothetical and internal.” (See Doc. A2 for more.) (HA, JP 11/17)

18 NOVEMBER 2014

Two Palestinian men attack a synagogue in **West Jerusalem**, killing 4 rabbis and 1 Druze policeman, and injuring around 8 others. Policemen shoot and kill the 2 men. Later in the day, Israeli security forces raid the men’s homes in **Jabal Mukabir**, East Jerusalem, and arrest 12 of their relatives. Clashes break out between Palestinians and Israeli officers in the neighborhood, injuring 22 Palestinians with tear gas and rubber-coated metal bullets. More clashes erupt in Sur al-Bahir, Wadi al-Juz, and al-Tur. **Israeli PM Netanyahu** orders the punitive demolition of the 2 men’s homes, and adds additional border police in Jerusalem. (HA, JP, MNA, NYT 11/18; MNA 11/19, 11/20; ALM 11/21)

A 15-year-old Palestinian **dies** in a hospital in Turkey, succumbing to injuries sustained on 7/21 in Gaza during Israel’s **Operation Protective Edge (OPE)**. (PCHR 11/20)

In the **Gaza Strip**, public servants in ministry offices, schools, and public universities begin a general strike, protesting the fact that their full salaries haven’t been paid for over a year. In the **West Bank**, Palestinians nr. Tulkarm protest the recent Israeli violence in Jerusalem, sparking clashes with **IDF soldiers**. Dozens of **Israeli settlers** attack a Palestinian school in ‘Urif

village nr. Nablus in response to the killing of the 4 rabbis, and **IDF troops** injure 6 Palestinians with rubber-coated metal bullets, including a Reuters cameraman. Meanwhile, an **Israeli settler** shoots and seriously injures a Palestinian youth after a settler demonstration e. of Ramallah and Israeli **settlers** attack a Palestinian home s. of Nablus. Separately, **settlers** throw rocks at Palestinian vehicles nr. Nablus and Hebron. **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian in Baytin village nr. Ramallah. Also, **IDF troops** search the Hebron homes of 2 of the Palestinian men accused of kidnapping and killing 3 Israeli settler teenagers on 6/12; and raid Bayt Umar village. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** stab a Palestinian man on the street in Kafr 'Aqab, moderately injuring him. Separately, **Israeli minister of internal security Yitzhak Aharonovitch** enters Shu'fat r.c. and Palestinian youth throw stones and bottles at him. In the ensuing clashes with Israeli security forces, several Palestinians suffer from tear gas inhalation. **Israeli forces** demolish the home of the Palestinian man who was killed by police after driving a vehicle into a group of pedestrians on 10/22. Also, **Israeli police** arrest a Palestinian man on the charge of incitement after he posts videos and images to a Facebook page supporting violence against Israelis. (MNA, SAFA, WAFA 11/18; MNA 11/19; PCHR 11/20; JP 11/24)

Palestinian bus drivers working for the Israeli bus company Egged go on strike in protest of the death of their colleague on 11/16. Over 40 of them quit after Egged decides not to provide additional security. (IMEMC 11/19; AFP 12/4)

Reps. of **Iran** and the **P5+1** (U.S., UK, China, France, Russia, and Germany) resume negotiations in Vienna over Iran's disputed nuclear program, aiming to meet the Joint Plan of Action's extended deadline of 11/24. In London,

U.S. Secy. of State Kerry meets with **Oman's FM Yusuf bin Alawi**, a mediator in the talks with Iran. (GDN, HA 11/18; AP 11/19; NYT 11/20)

The **Spanish parliament** passes a symbolic res. urging recognition of Palestine as a state after Israel and the Palestinians negotiate a res. to their conflict. (IHY, REU 11/18)

19 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, unknown Palestinians fire shots toward **IDF troops** nr. the Erez crossing, causing no injuries. In 2 separate incidents, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers nr. the border fence, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** informs residents nr. Jenin that 1,000s of dunams of land in the area will be seized; delivers demolition orders for 8 structures to Palestinians in a village nr. Hebron. Elsewhere, a Palestinian throws a Molotov cocktail at a **settler** nr. Hawara village s. of Nablus, and **IDF troops** impose a curfew on the village. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches nr. Hebron, Nablus, Qalqilya, and in Jenin r.c. Clashes break out with residents nr. Nablus, injuring 4 Palestinians in 'Askar r.c. Late at night, a group of **settlers**, accompanied by **IDF troops**, enters a village e. of Ramallah and tries to burn a Palestinian's home, but residents stop them. An **Israeli settler** attempts to run over 3 Palestinians with his car s. of Hebron, causing no injuries or damage. In **East Jerusalem**, **municipal authorities** and **IDF troops** deliver a demolition order to the Silwan home of the Palestinian who was suspected of shooting **right-wing Jewish activist Yehuda Glick** on 10/29 and was killed hours later by Israeli security forces. (See QU in *JPS* 174 for more.) In **Israel**, police arrest a **U.S. citizen**, saying that he has been living in Israel illegally for 18 mos., he possesses illegal weapons, and that he is planning attacks on **Haram al-Sharif** with his roommate, an IDF soldier.

(MNA, WAFA 11/19; IMEMC, MNA, PCHR 11/20; PCHR 11/27; AFP, JP, HA 12/9)

Israeli authorities announce that the bodies of the 2 Palestinians who attacked a synagogue in **West Jerusalem** on 11/18 will not be returned to their families. (See QU for more.) Following the announcement, **clashes** between Palestinians and Israeli security forces break out in the **East Jerusalem** neighborhoods of Jabal Mukabir, where the men were from, Sur al-Bahir, Silwan, Issawiyya, and al-Tur; 12 Palestinians are injured by rubber-coated metal bullets. (HA, TOI 11/19; MNA 11/20)

Palestinian bus drivers working for Egged continue their strike for a 2d day, protesting the death of a driver on 11/16. (IMEMC 11/19)

Israeli authorities approve the construction of 78 new homes in 2 **settlements in East Jerusalem**. (AA, REU 11/19)

For the 2d day in a row, **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** meets with **Oman's FM Alawi** in London to discuss the negotiations between reps. of Iran and the P5+1 over Iran's disputed nuclear program. (AP 11/19)

Jordan's govt. formally condemns the attack on the West Jerusalem synagogue on 11/18. The **Jordanian parliament** holds a moment of silence for the 2 Palestinians who were killed by Israeli police after perpetrating the attack, and **Jordanian PM Abdullah Ensour** sends a letter of condolence to the men's family. (TOI 11/21)

20 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** stationed along the border arrest 2 Palestinians attempting to enter Israel. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** enter e. Nablus on a raid and clash with Palestinians, injuring 3 with live ammunition and tear gas. **IDF troops** enter an area e. of Yatta nr. Hebron and seize a tractor and 4 water tanks; demolish several mobile homes in a

village e. of Ramallah; deliver stop-work notes to several construction sites nr. Jericho and demolition notices for 6 wells in Qusra village in the n. West Bank, where **Israeli settlers** later attack Palestinian property; 2 of the settlers are detained. Separately, around 100 **settlers** from Adi Ad gather nr. al-Mughir village, but **IDF troops** intervene before they can attack the residents. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli security forces enter **Jabal Mukabir** to deliver demolition orders to the homes of the Palestinians who attacked a synagogue and were killed on 11/18, then raid a mourning tent set up for them; 5 Palestinians are injured in the ensuing clashes. There are further clashes in Abu Dis, and 37 Palestinians are injured. In Sur al-Bahir, Silwan, and al-Tur, undercover Israeli military officers raid multiple homes, sparking more clashes; approximately 35 Palestinians suffer effects of tear gas inhalation and 12 are injured with rubber-coated metal bullets. Israeli security forces also conduct arrest raids on several homes in the Old City. Late at night, 4 Israeli girls from Yitzhar settlement in the West Bank attack a Palestinian taxi driver with pepper spray. (IMEMC, MNA, WAFA 11/20; MNA 11/21; PCHR 11/27)

Israel's FM announces that it will return its **amb. to Sweden** on 11/29, after Amb. Isaac Bachman was recalled in the wake of Sweden's recognition of Palestine as a state on 10/30. (JP, YA 11/20)

After meeting with **UK Foreign Secy. Philip Hammond** in London, **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** travels to Paris for meetings with **French FM Laurent Fabius** and **Saudi FM Saud al-Faisal**, then to Vienna to join the P5+1 negotiating team ahead of the 11/24 deadline. Meanwhile, the **head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Yukiya Amano**, calls on Iran to increase its cooperation with the agency, saying that the govt. has not

been transparent about some aspects of its research. (AP, NYT, REU, TOI 11/20)

21 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian as he approaches the border fence e. of Jabaliya. Later, **IDF troops** along the border fence arrest 2 Palestinians attempting to enter Israel. In the **West Bank**, an **Israeli settler** opens fire on a Palestinian taxi driver n. of Hebron, causing no injuries. **IDF troops** enter Yatta village s. of Hebron and deliver a summons to the home of a Palestinian who has been incarcerated for 3 years. Also, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation, as well as the recent violence in Jerusalem, in 5 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Nabi Salih, Ni'lin, Silwad, and outside Ofer prison), 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum), Qalandia r.c., and nr. al-Shuhada Street in Hebron, injuring 12 Palestinians. The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids nr. Tubas. In **East Jerusalem**, an Israeli man runs over a Palestinian woman with his car nr. Shu'fat r.c., seriously injuring her. After 3 **Israeli settlers** provoke local residents in al-Tur, 2 of the settlers are stabbed and 1 Palestinian is hospitalized with moderate injuries. Separately, Israeli settlers attack Ahmad al-Ghoul, the head of the Fatah Youth Movement in Jerusalem, nr. Damascus Gate, moderately injuring him. In **n. Israel**, an Israeli man threatens a group of Palestinian employees with a knife at a restaurant nr. Haifa. (MNA 11/21, 11/22; IMEMC 11/22, 11/23; PCHR 11/27)

22 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** stationed along the border arrest 2 Palestinians attempting to

enter Israel overnight. In the **West Bank**, 4 **Israeli settlers**, including 1 private security officer, assault a Palestinian shepherd nr. Tubas, seriously injuring him. They bring him back to the Messicot settlement and Israeli soldiers detain him for several hours. Nr. Ramallah, **Israeli settlers** set a Palestinian home on fire and leave racist graffiti on the walls. Palestinian youth set fire to the checkpoint at the entrance to al-Shuhada Street, prompting the **IDF** to close the checkpoint intermittently for 3 weeks. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches overnight nr. Hebron and Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli security forces fire a sound bomb at a Palestinian in Shu'fat r.c., moderately injuring him. (Wafa 11/22; IMEMC, MEMO 11/23; IMEMC 11/24; PCHR 11/27; B'Tselem 12/16)

Reps. of **Iran** and the **P5+1** continue negotiations in Vienna ahead of their 11/24 deadline. U.S. Secy. of State Kerry calls Israeli PM Netanyahu to discuss the negotiations with him. (HA 11/22)

23 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian farmer approaching the border fence e. of Jabaliya. Separately, **IDF troops** open fire on 3 Palestinians approaching the Kerem Shalom crossing, injuring 1 and arresting 5 in 2 separate incidents. In the **West Bank**, a Palestinian shepherd is seriously injured when he steps on an explosive left by the IDF. (He succumbs to his injuries on 11/24.) During a peaceful demonstration in Hebron, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian photojournalist. At a checkpoint outside al-'Arub r.c., **IDF troops** detain 1 Palestinian man and lightly injure him. **IDF troops** raid homes nr. Ramallah and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, an

Israeli woman breaks into a Silwan home and attacks a sleeping Palestinian woman with pepper spray. Separately, a Palestinian woman is arrested at the Shu'fat r.c. checkpoint after, according to Israeli police, attempting to stab an Israeli officer with a sharp object. Later in the evening, clashes break out in Shu'fat r.c. Seventeen Israelis attack a Palestinian taxi driver in the Bnei Brak neighborhood after 2 of them accuse the driver of trying to run them over. Israeli forces raid several homes and stores in al-Bustan, and they issue fines for violations of construction laws. Dozens of Israelis carrying Israeli flags and chanting "death to Arabs" gather in the Old City and demand that the Israeli govt. open **Haram al-Sharif**. (AnA, AJ, IMEMC, MEMO, MNA, REU, WAFA 11/23; IMEMC, MNA, WAFA, 11/24; PCHR 11/27)

Israeli settlers enter a village n. of Ramallah to set fire to a Palestinian home and to deface another with price-tag graffiti. In West Jerusalem, settlers attack several Palestinian workers at a vegetable stand. Nr. Nablus, settlers assault 3 Palestinian shepherds. A group of 3 **Israeli settlers** assaults a Palestinian youth in Bayt Hanina, moderately injuring him. (MNA 11/23; WAFA 11/24)

Following heated arguments between several ministers, **Israeli PM Netanyahu's cabinet** passes a preliminary reading of the controversial "**nation-state**" bill that would govern the reconciliation of competing drafts in the Knesset. (GDN, HA, WAFA 11/23; JP, NYT 11/24)

After a day of negotiations in Vienna between reps. of **Iran** and the **P5+1**, **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** urges **Iranian FM Mohammad Zarif** to consider an extension to the talks. A senior Iranian official says that Iran is open to extending the talks between 6 mos. and 1 year. (BBC, HA, MNA 11/23)

24 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, an **Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades** fighter is killed during a training exercise e. of Gaza City. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** throw rocks and glass bottles at Palestinian-owned vehicles nr. Nablus, causing damage. Overnight, a **mentally disabled Palestinian** enters a home in the Yitzhar settlement; Israeli settlers and settlement security officers beat the man, causing moderate injuries, before **IDF troops** arrive to detain him. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches nr. Jenin, Hebron, Ramallah, and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli security forces** raid the Jabal Mukabir homes of the 2 Palestinians who attacked a West Jerusalem synagogue on 11/18, sparking clashes. Israeli security forces also enter Silwan, where they arrest 3 Palestinians, including Fatah's secy.-gen. in Jerusalem; raid the Palestinian Football Association's offices in al-Ram. Elsewhere, 3 young Israelis attack a Palestinian youth, causing moderate injuries. During a separate brawl in the Old City between Israeli and Palestinian youth, 1 Israeli is stabbed, another is lightly injured, and the Palestinians are arrested. Late at night, 5 **Israeli settlers** attack a Palestinian nr. the French Hill settlement. In **West Jerusalem**, an Israeli driver hits a Palestinian youth with his car and drives away, leaving the Palestinian with a fractured foot. (HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 11/24; HA, IMEMC, MNA 11/25; HA 11/26; PCHR 11/27)

In response to the **Israel Prison Service's** increased restrictions on 11/23, **Palestinian prisoners** clash with Israeli prison guards at **Rimon prison**, and 6 prisoners are injured. (MNA, WAFA 11/24; PNN 11/25)

The Palestinian leadership has decided to postpone its submission of a **UNSC res.** calling for a timetable to end the Israeli occupation,

originally planned for late 11/2014. The decision is reportedly caused by a combination of strong U.S. opposition, threats of sanctions, and bad timing, with the UNSC largely focused on the negotiations over Iran's disputed nuclear program. **PA FM Riyad al-Maliki** also notes that the PA has failed to win the support of 9 UNSC mbrs. that would be needed for the res. to pass. (HA, JP, JTA, MNA, WAFA 11/24)

The **Israeli embassy in Amman** lodges a formal complaint with the Jordanian govt. about the letter of condolence that **PM Ensour** sent (11/19) to the family of the 2 Palestinian men who attacked a West Jerusalem synagogue on 11/18. (HA, TOI 11/24)

In Vienna, **reps. of Iran and the P5+1** agree on another extension to the Joint Plan of Action (signed on 11/24/2013). The talks, which began on 1/20/2014, will be extended 7 mos.; however, the negotiators plan to complete a political accord by the end of 3/2015, leaving final technical details for annexes to be agreed on by 7/1/2015. (AJ, BBC, HA, NBC, REU 11/24; ALM 12/1; ICG 12/10)

25 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **West Bank**, an Israeli bus driver runs over 2 Palestinians at al-Jalama checkpoint in Jenin, killing 1 and injuring the other. It has not been determined if the collision was intentional or accidental. **IDF troops** detain a Palestinian at a military checkpoint e. of Jerusalem, arrest 2 in Hebron, and arrest 1 at a checkpoint e. of Nablus. The **IDF** conducts raids and house searches in al-Fawar r.c. and nr. Ramallah, arresting 5, including a Hamas official; patrols nr. Hebron and Jenin. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli security officers** shoot tear gas canisters at 2 Palestinian men, moderately injuring them; arrest a young woman after she tries to stop the

soldiers from physically assaulting her disabled mother. Later in al-Tur, **Israeli security forces** violently disperse Palestinians gathered for a funeral, injuring 1 with a rubber-coated metal bullet. Additional clashes break out in Silwan. In **West Jerusalem**, a group of Israelis verbally and physically assaults a Palestinian. (AFP, IMEMC, MNA, WAFA 11/25; IMEMC, MNA 11/26; IMEMC, PCHR 11/27)

The **Palestine Liberation Organization** (PLO) releases a statement condemning the "**nation-state**" bill that Israel's cabinet passed on 11/23. **PA Pres. Abbas** and **Israeli pres. Reuven Rivlin** separately denounce the bill. (TOI, WAFA, YA 11/25; GDN 11/26)

The **Palestinian prisoner's club** at **Rimon prison** declares a state of emergency after clashes on 11/24 and increasing restrictions in the prison. (PNN 11/25)

Israeli fin. min. Yair Lapid blocks the transfer of NIS 70 m. (around \$17.8 m.) to fund the relocation of an army base in the **Beit El settlement**, which was ordered by **DM Moshe Ya'alon** and **PM Netanyahu**. Lapid says that a cabinet vote would be required for a transfer of this magnitude. (HA 11/25; IMEMC 11/26)

26 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing**, which has been closed since 10/25, the day after 30 Egyptian security troops were killed by **Sinai Province of the Islamic State** (then known as Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis). In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts house searches and raids in and around Hebron; closes the Hawara checkpoint at the s. entrance to Nablus; patrols nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, a mentally disabled Palestinian woman is detained and taken to the Russian compound detention center for questioning

during a court hearing for her daughter, who was arrested for defending her mother from Israeli security forces on 11/25. Israeli forces conduct raids in Shu'fat r.c. and Issawiyya. At a prison nr. Beersheba, **Israeli security forces** detain a Palestinian mother and her 2 infant children while they are visiting their incarcerated father. (The infants are released on 11/27 and their mother on 11/30.) (MNA, REU, WAFA, YA 11/26; MNA, PCHR 11/27; MNA 11/30; PCHR 12/4; OCHA 12/5)

Senior Hamas official Musa Abu Marzuq criticizes the **UN's Gaza reconstruction mechanism**, saying that its architect, UN Special Coordinator Robert Serry, did not reach out to confer with Hamas and that the group rejects the mechanism. Abu Marzuq also describes the mechanism as a way for **PA Pres. Abbas** to sidestep Hamas. (MEMO 11/26)

Israeli interior minister Gilad Erdan cancels the residency of the widow of 1 of the 2 Palestinians who attacked a West Jerusalem synagogue on 11/18, effectively deporting her and her 3 children back to the West Bank. The woman remains in East Jerusalem while she appeals the decision. (TOI 11/26, 12/3; PCHR 12/4)

The **UNGA** overwhelmingly approves 6 new res. relating to Palestinian rights, methods for achieving justice for the Palestinians, and Jerusalem. (IMEMC 11/26)

27 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (**UNRWA**) declares a state of emergency after heavy rains and flooding exacerbate the already dire humanitarian situation. **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah crossing** for the 2d day in a row, but at limited capacity. Separately, **unknown assailants** fire

shots in the direction of Israeli forces positioned along the border with e. Gaza, and **IDF troops** respond by firing a tank shell, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, the Judea Military Court finds a Palestinian man guilty of planning to assassinate Israeli FM Avigdor Lieberman during **OPE**. Nr. Qalqilya, **Israeli settlers** attempt to kidnap a Palestinian youth, but his family intervenes. Nearby, **Israeli settlers** attack a Palestinian-owned car shop and injure the owner. **IDF troops** violently disperse a protest in Dayr 'Ammar nr. Ramallah and injure 1 Palestinian with rubber-coated metal bullets. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Tulkarm, Hebron, and Nablus; patrols nr. Hebron, Ramallah, and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli soldiers** beat and arrest a Palestinian youth nr. the Old City. (AKH, IMEMC, MNA, YA 11/27; HA, MNA 11/28; PCHR 12/4; OCHA 12/5)

Israel's High Court of Justice decides to freeze the 11/20 demolition orders on the homes of the 2 Palestinian men who attacked a West Jerusalem synagogue on 11/18. (MNA 11/27)

Following Hamas official Abu Marzuq's comments about the **UN's Gaza reconstruction plan** on 11/26, another senior Hamas official says that the UN has amended its plan based on consultations with Hamas. (MNA 11/27)

28 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** on the border twice open fire on Palestinian homes, causing 1 injury. In 2 separate incidents off the coast nr. Rafah, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian woman at the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron after she refuses to undergo a security check. Nearby, **Israeli**

soldiers patrol nr. al-Shuhada Street, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youth; several Palestinians suffer from tear gas inhalation. Clashes break out in Tuqu' nr. Bethlehem when **IDF troops** raid the village and search several homes. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids and house searches nr. Jenin, Nablus, and Ramallah; patrols nr. Hebron, Birzeit, Ramallah, Jericho, Tulkarm, and Qalqilya; arrests 2 Hamas mbrs. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 8 locations nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Nabi Salih, Ni'lin, Qalandia checkpoint, outside Ofer prison, Jalazun r.c., and 2 other villages), and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum). There are 16 moderate injuries and 2 serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces conduct house searches and raids in Silwan. (AP, HA, JP, MNA 11/28; MNA 11/29; PCHR 12/4)

Ahead of the **French Parliament's** 12/2 vote on Palestinian statehood, **FM Fabius** presents a new diplomatic proposal for restarting peace negotiations. The proposal includes a UNSC res., currently being drafted by French officials as an alternative to a Palestinian-drafted text, which will provide a framework and a 2-year deadline for talks. He says that France is prepared to host a new round of peace negotiations. (AFP, HA 11/28)

In **Egypt**, Egyptian security officials shoot and kill a Palestinian security officer as he drives into an ambush meant for another nr. Shaykh Zuwayd in the n. Sinai. (AP, MNA 11/28)

29 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** along the n. border open fire on a group of Palestinian youth playing nr. the fence, seriously injuring 1. Later, a separate group of **Israeli soldiers** nearby

opens fire on a group of Palestinian men approaching the border to throw stones at the soldiers, causing no injuries. Off the coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**. In the **West Bank**, IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians gathered for a sit-in protest nr. al-Shuhada Street nr. Hebron; dozens suffer from tear gas inhalation. The Shuhada checkpoint has been closed since 11/22. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Nablus, Hebron, and Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem** late at night, **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in Ras al-Amud and Wadi al-Juz. In **West Jerusalem**, 3 mbrs. of the anti-Arab group Lehava torch 2 classrooms in a school where Arab and Jewish students study together and leave racist graffiti on the walls. (IMEMC, JP, MNA 11/29; HA, IMEMC, MEMO, REU 11/30; PCHR 12/4; HA 12/11)

In Cairo, the **Arab League** agrees to politically and financially back the Palestinians' **draft UNSC res.** The financial backing would come in the form of monthly \$100 m. cash donations to replace transfers of any tax revenues that Israel may punitively withhold. (AFP, HA 11/29; HA, WAFA 11/30; TOI 12/1; MDW 1/9)

30 NOVEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for 9 hours, only allowing Palestinians in Egypt to enter Gaza. Off the coast nr. Rafah on 2 occasions, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. **IDF troops** along the n. border of Gaza arrest a Palestinian youth attempting to enter Israel, his father, and 1 other family mbr. E. of Khan Yunis, **IDF troops** open fire on agricultural land nr. the border fence, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli troops** deliver stop-work orders to 2 Palestinians in Bayt Umar. The **IDF**

conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Ramallah, Salfit, Hebron, and Nablus; patrols nr. Ramallah, Jenin, Tulkarm, and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, around 50 right-wing Jewish activists, accompanied by dozens of Israeli security troops, tour **Haram al-Sharif**. Separately, **Israeli soldiers** detain a Palestinian woman nr. the Old City and arrest 1 Palestinian on a raid of his home in Jabal Mukabir. In **West Jerusalem**, a small group of Jewish Israelis assaults a Palestinian man nr. the Old City, leaving him moderately injured. (IMEMC, MNA, WAFA 11/30; MEMO, MNA 12/1; PCHR 12/4)

Israeli authorities decide to hold the **Fatah secy.-gen. in Jerusalem** in administrative detention for 5 mos. He and his brother were arrested on 11/24. (MNA 11/30)

At a press conference in Gaza City, **Hamis spokesperson Sami Abu Zuhri** says that the **PA unity govt.'s** 6-mo. interim term has expired and that a national dialogue should resume to determine the future of national unity. Senior Fatah official Faisal Abu Shahla disputes Abu Zuhri, saying that there never was an agreement that the unity govt. would only last 6 mos. (MNA 11/30; IMEMC 12/1)

1 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 2d day in a row. Off the coast nr. Rafah, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on a Palestinian fishing boat, causing no injuries or damage. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli soldiers** shoot and critically injure a Palestinian woman after she fights with an Israeli settler nr. Gush Etzion settlement, and they later raid the woman's home in Bayt Fajjar and arrest her father. Nr. the Jabara checkpoint s. of Tulkarm, **IDF troops** open fire on several Palestinians

attempting to climb the security fence and enter Israel. A Palestinian hits and critically injures an Israeli settler with his car nr. Nablus. The **IDF** closes the nearby Hawara and Zatarra checkpoints while they search for the driver. The **IDF** later conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Hebron, Nablus, and Bethlehem. Late at night, PA security forces clash with residents in al-Am'ari r.c. nr. Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces demolish a home under construction in Issawiyya. In **West Jerusalem**, a Jewish Israeli man attacks a Palestinian taxi driver with pepper spray, lightly injuring him. (HA, MNA, WAFA 12/1; IMEMC, MEMO, MNA 12/2; PCHR 12/4; MNA 12/16)

Israeli PM Netanyahu presents **fin. min. and leader of the Yesh Atid party Lapid** with 5 conditions to meet to stay in the ruling coalition, which include supporting Netanyahu's "**nation-state**" bill and continued construction in Jerusalem. Lapid rejects the terms. Earlier in the day, Netanyahu had warned if harmony within his ruling coalition was not preserved, he would hold new elections, 2 years ahead of schedule. (JP, TOI 12/1; HA, REU 12/2)

2 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** on the e. border fence twice open fire on Palestinian agricultural lands, causing no injuries. Late at night, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the coast nr. al-Sudaniyya, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **PA security forces** enter the H2 area of c. Hebron and arrest 2 Palestinians. **IDF troops** deliver demolition orders to several homes, tents, and other residential structures in 2 bedouin communities s. of Hebron. The **IDF** conducts house searches in Jalazun r.c., as well

as nr. Hebron and Bethlehem; patrols nr. Salfit, Hebron, Tulkarm, Jenin, and in al-‘Arub r.c. An IDF raid in ‘Askar r.c. nr. Nablus sparks clashes with stone-throwing residents; 1 Palestinian is injured. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli security forces enter Shu‘fat r.c. and clashes break out with residents, causing no injuries; conduct house searches in Ras al-Amud and Jabal Mukabir. An unknown assailant throws a firebomb at a bus nr. the Old City, causing some damage. (IMEMC, JP, MNA 12/2; MNA 12/3; PCHR 12/4)

Israeli PM Netanyahu fires **Fin. Min. Lapid** and **Justice Minister Livni** from his cabinet. Netanyahu criticizes the 2 ministers for disloyalty, citing their opposition to his “**nation-state**” bill, and tells the press that he will soon call for the 19th Knesset to be dissolved. Meanwhile, reps. of the 4 non-Zionist parties in the Knesset, **Balad**, **Hadash**, **Ra’am**, and **Ta’al**, meet to discuss running as a joint list in the upcoming elections. (AFP, FP, HA, JP 12/2; AFP, REU, YA 12/3)

U.S. Secy. of State Kerry holds talks with European FMs at a NATO meeting in Brussels. They discuss **France’s draft UNSC res.**, which sets a timetable on Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations. (AFP, REU 12/2; AFP, HA 12/3)

The **UNGA** passes a res. introduced by **Egypt**, which calls on **Israel** to give up its **nuclear weapons** and put its nuclear facilities under international oversight. (YA 12/2; EI 12/4)

The **French parliament** passes a symbolic res. that facilitates recognition of Palestinian statehood. The res. “invites the French govt. to use the recognition of the State of Palestine as an instrument to gain a definitive res. of the conflict,” and sets a 2-year deadline for the creation of an independent Palestinian state. (AFP, IMEMC, MEMO, REU, RT 12/2; Wafa 12/3)

3 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, the union of hospital sanitation workers goes on a full strike following weeks of partial strikes protesting the govt.’s failure to pay them since 6/2. Off the coast nr. **Gaza City**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on a Palestinian fishing boat, critically injuring 1 fisherman. **IDF troops** along the e. border open fire on agricultural lands, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, a Palestinian man enters a supermarket in Mishor Adumim, an Israeli industrial zone in the Ma’ale Adumim settlement bloc, and stabs 2 **Israeli settlers**, lightly injuring them. An **off-duty Israeli security officer** shoots him in the leg and the Israeli police detain him. Later, 2 Palestinian men are arrested in connection with the incident and **IDF troops** raid the injured man’s home in al-‘Izzariya. Separately, **IDF troops** shut down a secondary school nr. Nablus after a group of Palestinians throws stones at Israeli vehicles on a nearby road on 12/2. **IDF troops** patrol in ‘Askar r.c. nr. Nablus and 1 area in the e. part of the city, sparking clashes with residents and shooting 1 Palestinian in the foot. **Israeli forces** deliver demolition orders and stop-work notices to Palestinians in 2 villages nr. Bethlehem. The IDF conducts arrest raids and house searches nr. Nablus, Ramallah, and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli security forces** enter the **Jabal Mukabir** neighborhood, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians nr. the homes of the 2 Palestinian men who were killed after they attacked a West Jerusalem synagogue on 11/18. During the clashes, Israeli forces detain 1 Palestinian boy and injure others with tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets. Separately, **Israeli forces** arrest another Palestinian boy in **Silwan**. Meanwhile, around 300 **Israeli security officers** escort multiple construction vehicles into

Shu'fat r.c., and they demolish around 20 stores and the abandoned Cola building for the expansion of an Israeli checkpoint. None of the Palestinian proprietors were notified prior to the demolition. Also, **Israeli forces** raid the home of a **Palestinian reporter** with Ma'an News Agency. The soldiers detain his brother and father and tell the reporter that they will not be released until he turns himself in, which he does soon after. (AnA, AP, HA, JP, MNA, Wafa, YA 12/3; MEMO, MNA, PCHR 12/4; PCHR 12/11)

Reps. of all the parties in the **Knesset** meet and agree to hold elections on **3/17/2015**. Following the meeting, the full body votes in favor of dissolving the 19th Knesset. This vote constitutes a 1st reading, and like any bill it must pass 2 more (both scheduled for 12/8) before being implemented. (AFP, IHY, JP, TOI, YA 12/3)

The **Jerusalem City Council** announces its plans to use NIS 50 m. to fund new construction projects in the **Har Homa settlement** in **East Jerusalem**. (AFP 12/3; JP 12/4)

The **U.S. House of Reps.** passes the **U.S.-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014**, after the Senate passed it on 9/19. U.S. Pres. Barack Obama will sign it into law on 12/19. (See S. 2673 on congressionalmonitor.org.) (AFP 12/3)

4 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, hospital sanitation workers continue their strike for a 2d day. As a result, al-Shifa Hospital closes its emergency and operating rooms and the Health Ministry in Gaza announces a state of emergency. Meanwhile, a piece of Israeli ordnance explodes in a Palestinian family's home, injuring 4 women. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian girl at the **Qalandia checkpoint** nr. Ramallah after she pulls out a

knife while in line for the crossing. Separately, **IDF troops** clash with stone-throwing Palestinians who are protesting the week-long closure of their village w. of Ramallah; 1 Palestinian youth is shot and injured with live ammunition. Also, **IDF troops** conduct house searches and arrest raids in Jenin r.c., 4 villages nr. Hebron, and Nablus; deliver stop-work orders to a Palestinian school. Late at night, an **Israeli settler** hits a **Palestinian man** with his car nr. Hebron, moderately injuring him and the horse he was riding. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli border police** detain 1 Palestinian youth in Silwan after a small group throws firecrackers at the officers. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids in and around the Old City, Jabal Mukabir, and Silwan. (JP, MEE, MNA, TOI, Wafa 12/4; HA, MNA 12/5; PCHR 12/10)

5 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, IDF troops e. of Jabaliya r. c. open fire on 2 Palestinian youths approaching the border fence to throw stones, moderately injuring both. A **Palestinian teenager** is moderately injured nr. Rafah when he accidentally triggers a piece of **unexploded Israeli ordnance**. In the **West Bank**, several **Palestinian boys** throw stones at **IDF troops** who had set up a mobile checkpoint in c. Hebron. The soldiers fire sound bombs and tear gas in response, and later raid 1 of the boys' homes, arresting him. Also, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 7 villages, outside Ofer prison, Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah, and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum); 10 Palestinians are seriously injured with live ammunition (including a journalist). The **IDF** conducts

arrest raids and house searches nr. Hebron and Ramallah. **Israeli settlers** cut down over 50 olive trees nr. Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces patrol in Issawiyya, sparking clashes with residents; 2 Palestinians are injured and 1 is detained. (MNA 12/5; PCHR 12/10; HA 2/15)

In response to recent reports that the **Obama admin.** is considering sanctions against Israel for its recent **settlement activity**, 48 mbrs. of the **U.S. House of Reps.** send a letter to Pres. Obama asking him to explain his reasoning and to warn against the rumored effort. (HA 12/8)

6 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of al-Bureij r.c. arrest 2 Palestinians attempting to cross the fence into Israel after firing warning shots. Off the coast nr. al-Sudaniyya, **Israeli naval forces** detain 12 Palestinian fishermen and confiscate 5 of their boats. Around 20 Palestinian youth volunteer to help clean up the European Hospital in Khan Yunis as the **hospital sanitation workers** continue their strike for a 4th day. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian homes in Hebron while Israeli soldiers stand by. At the al-Karama crossing into Jordan, the **IDF** arrests a Palestinian Al-Quds University prof. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches nr. Hebron, Ramallah, and Bethlehem; patrols in Hebron and 1 village each nr. Jenin and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, **5 Israeli settlers** board an **Egged** bus and assault its **Palestinian driver**, causing him moderate injuries before Israeli police intervene. (MNA, Wafa 12/6; MNA 12/7; IMEMC 12/9; PCHR 12/10)

Palestinian prisoners threaten to go on a hunger strike if the Israeli Prison Service does not meet demands of a fellow prisoner, Nahar al-Sa'adi, who has been on hunger strike since 11/20 in protest of a lack of family visits and his

year-long solitary confinement; 70 of them begin a strike on 12/9. (MNA 12/6, 12/9)

7 DECEMBER 2014

Off the coast of the **Gaza Strip** nr. al-Waha, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries or damage. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli soldiers** at a checkpoint nr. Bethlehem detain a Palestinian man and woman, saying that the woman was planning to attack soldiers at a nearby checkpoint. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches in and around Jenin, Hebron, Nablus, Tulkarm, and Ramallah. Two **Palestinians** are arrested by **IDF** troops at checkpoints in c. Hebron and a village nr. Ramallah. The **IDF** also patrols in 1 village each nr. Salfit and Jericho. **Israeli settlers** level land around the Ahiya outpost nr. Nablus, clearing the area for expansion of the outpost. In **East Jerusalem**, **unknown assailants** throw a Molotov cocktail at an **Israeli settler** home in Silwan. Also, **2 Israeli settlers** assault Palestinian employees of a gas station in 'Ayn Karem, injuring 2. **Israeli forces** conduct arrest raids and house searches in Jabal Mukabir and Issawiyya. (MNA 12/7, 12/8; PCHR 12/10)

Nr. **Damascus**, **Israeli fighter jets** reportedly strike a convoy delivering S-300 missiles to **Hizballah** in Lebanon, killing **2 Hizballah fighters**. The **IDF** makes no comment about the strikes. (HA, JP, TOI 12/7; HA, JP, 12/8)

8 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, gas shipments are held as a result of a dispute between the Palestinian Ministry of Finance in Gaza and the Palestinian Gen. Directorate of Petroleum. In the **West Bank**, an **Israeli settler** stabs a Palestinian man e. of Hebron, causing moderate injuries. Hours later, **Israeli settlers** attack a 12-year-old

Palestinian in the H2 area of Hebron, causing major bruising. In response, the **IDF** sets up several mobile checkpoints around Hebron, and later detain and beat 1 Palestinian. Following the 3 incidents, hundreds of Israeli soldiers and a group of private settler security officers conduct military drills n. of Hebron. They also conduct house searches nr. Hebron and Salfit. Elsewhere, **Israeli settlers and soldiers** continue leveling land around the Ahiya outpost nr. Nablus. Unknown assailants throw stones at a bus full of Israeli settlers in the Gush Etzion settlement bloc nr. Jerusalem. **Right-wing Jewish activists** enter **Haram al-Sharif** with an escort of Israeli intelligence officers and soldiers. Meanwhile, Israeli police detain 1 Palestinian woman at an entrance to the compound. **Israeli forces** conduct arrest raids and house searches nr. Hebron and Salfit; patrol in Anata r.c., sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents. **Israeli security forces** also arrest an 11-year-old Palestinian for throwing stones at an Egged bus nr. the Old City, and later take him to al-Maskubiya prison. In the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights**, **Israeli police** arrest **9 Druze** for raising Hizballah flags at public events in recent mos. In the **Negev**, **Israeli forces** demolish several homes in the unrecognized bedouin village **al-'Araqib**. (JP, MNA, Wafa, YA 12/8; IMEMC, MEMO, MNA, Wafa 12/9; PCHR 12/10)

The **Knesset** approves a motion to dissolve itself, officially setting 3/17/2015 as the date for national **elections**. Israel's major parties begin discussions about potential coalitions, blocs, and joint lists. Before the vote, **PM Netanyahu**, in his capacity as acting fin. min., asks the Knesset Finance Comm. to allocate \$20 m. for **settlements** in the West Bank. (HA, JP, MEMO, NYT, TOI, YA 12/8; YA 12/9)

The 122 mbr. states of the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** grant **Palestine**

observer status, which is seen as symbolically advancing the Palestinians toward signing the Rome Statute and attaining full membership at the ICC. (AP, NYT 12/9)

A delegation of **Hamas officials** arrives in **Tehran** for talks on repairing ties with the Iranian govt. The visit is reportedly a prelude to a future visit of Hamas leader Khalid Mishal. (MEMO, Wafa, YA 12/9; TOI, YA 2/17)

9 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, the **Union of Civil Servants** announces that all govt. employees will go on strike on 12/11, and that school workers will strike on 12/14, in protest of the **PA unity govt.**'s failure to pay civil servants in Gaza who were hired after **Hamas** came to power in 2007. An **IDF tank** stationed along the border e. of al-Bureij r.c. fires on agricultural land, causing damage. Hours later, **4 IDF tanks and 3 armored bulldozers** cross the border fence in e. Gaza, leveling land and firing live ammunition toward Palestinian property. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** detain **2 Palestinians** as they approach the **Tekoa settlement** nr. Bethlehem. **Israeli forces** confiscate 3 Palestinian-owned tractors while patrolling in a bedouin village in the n. Jordan Valley. They also stop work on a **UN Development Program** project nr. Salfit, detain 2 Palestinian workers, and confiscate 1 tractor. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Ramallah, Hebron, Tulkarm, and Jenin. **Israeli settlers** cut the wires to 4 electricity poles and chop down several olive trees nr. Burin village s. of Nablus, clearing the area for the expansion of 2 nearby settlements. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli police** raid the Silwan home of Ahmad al-Ghoul, head of the **Fatah Youth Movement** in Jerusalem, and arrest him. He was recently attacked by Israeli settlers on 11/21. **Israeli authorities**

deliver demolition notices to several residences and commercial buildings in Silwan, al-Tur, Issawiyya, and Jabal Mukabir. **Israeli police** detain 2 Palestinian women at **Haram al-Sharif**. They also conduct arrest raids around East Jerusalem; deliver demolition notices in Silwan, al-Tur, Issawiyya, and Jabal Mukabir. (IMEMC, JP, MNA, WAFA 12/9; PCHR 12/10)

After threatening a mass action on 12/6, **70 Palestinian prisoners** in Israeli prisons launch a **hunger strike** in protest of Israel's treatment of a fellow prisoner and its use of solitary confinement. (MNA 12/9; WAFA 12/10)

The **Knesset Finance Comm.** approves a series of public funds transfers, including PM Netanyahu's 12/8 request for around \$20 m. to support the West Bank settlements. (AFP, TOI, YA 12/9)

The Lower House of the **Irish Parliament** unanimously passes a nonbinding res. calling on the Irish govt. to recognize **Palestinian statehood**, similar to the 1 passed by the Upper House on 10/23. (REU 12/9; HA 12/11)

10 DECEMBER 2014

In the **West Bank**, senior PA official **Ziad Abu Ein** dies hours after sustaining injuries in a confrontation with **IDF soldiers** at a nonviolent demonstration in Turmus 'Ayya village nr. Ramallah. (See QU for details.) **Palestinians** gather to protest Abu Ein's death, sparking further clashes with **IDF troops**; 1 Palestinian is seriously injured, several others are moderately injured from live ammunition, tear gas, and rubber-coated metal bullets, and 3 are arrested. Separately, **Israeli authorities** declare approximately **10,000 dunams of Palestinian land** in the n. Jordan Valley to be a closed military zone. In the morning, a unit of **Israeli soldiers** conducts military drills nr. a school in c. Hebron, then fires tear gas canisters at the

school, injuring dozens of Palestinian students and teachers. **Israeli settlers** attack several Palestinians nr. Bethlehem, causing no injuries. Then, s. of Nablus, **Israeli settlers** set fire to a Palestinian factory. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** set fire to a Palestinian's car in Silwan, completely destroying it. **Israeli settlers** attack an Egged bus driven by a **Palestinian**, breaking his windshield with a rock. Israeli police escort a group of right-wing Jewish activists into **Haram al-Sharif**. They also detain 1 Palestinian woman at a gate to the compound. Separately, **IDF troops** detain an 8-year-old Palestinian on his way home from school in Silwan and 4 Palestinians late at night during house searches and raids in al-Thawri. (AJ, HA, JP, MEMO, MNA, PCHR, WAFA 12/10; HA 12/11, 12/13; PCHR 12/18)

Labor Party leader Isaac Herzog and **Hatnua Party leader Livni** agree to run on a joint list in the 3/17/2015 election. Their agreement stipulates that, should they win, Herzog will serve as PM for 2 years, then Livni will take over for the next 2. (HA, JP 12/10)

11 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, a **bomb** explodes outside a **Fatah-affiliated charity**, lightly injuring 2 bystanders. Shipments of **domestic-use gas** into Gaza resume after a dispute between local officials and the PA unity govt. is resolved on 12/10. All public institutions, ministries, and charities go on **strike** in protest of the PA unity govt.'s failure to pay civil servants. Several civil society organizations coordinate cleaning campaigns in Gaza's hospitals, as the sanitation workers' strike continues for a 10th day. **IDF troops** stationed along the border e. of al-Bureij arrest 2 Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel. In the **West Bank**, 1,000s of Palestinians attend the funeral of **Ziad Abu Ein** in Ramallah.

Palestinians gathered for the funeral clash with IDF troops in al-Bireh; 19 are injured from rubber-coated metal bullets. Meanwhile, over 100 **Palestinians** gather in c. Hebron to protest Abu Ein's death, leading to 2 separate clashes with **IDF soldiers**. There are also demonstrations in Turmus 'Ayya. During the day, **Israeli soldiers** arrest Palestinians at a checkpoints nr. Ramallah and Hebron. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids nr. Jenin and Hebron; patrols in Tulkarm and n. of Jenin. Late at night, **unidentified assailants** open fire on the home of an imprisoned **Hamas MP** in Hebron, causing damage. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces violently disperse 100s of Palestinians gathered to protest Abu Ein's death in Shu'fat r.c., Issawiyya, al-'Izzariya, and Silwan. They conduct late-night arrest raids and house searches in Jabal Mukabir, Wadi al-Juz, Ras al-Amud, and Issawiyya. Meanwhile, **75 new security guards** are added to the security detail at **Haram al-Sharif** in response to King Abdullah of Jordan's request. (MNA 12/10; HA, JP, MNA, NYT 12/11; IMEMC, MNA 12/12; TOI 12/13; PCHR 12/18)

UN Special Coordinator Serry holds talks with **senior Hamas official Abu Marzuq** at the UN building in Gaza City. Serry calls on the PA unity govt. to take on its responsibilities stipulated in the cease-fire agreements, specifically staffing the border crossings. Outside the UN building, dozens of Palestinians gather for a sit-in protest in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners on hunger strike. (MNA, TOI 12/11)

Egyptian pres. Abdel Fattah al-Sisi travels to Jordan to hold talks with **Jordan's King Abdullah**. They discuss the **draft UNSC res.** that Jordan plans to introduce on behalf of the Palestinians before 12/25. Meanwhile, **Jordan's House of Deps.** votes to cancel its 9/2014 gas agreement with U.S. company Noble Energy. The MPs oppose increasing Jordan's economic

ties with Israel, despite Jordan's ongoing energy crisis. (JT, MNA 12/11; JP 12/12; NYT 12/14)

The **French Senate** passes a nonbinding res. inviting the govt. to recognize Palestinian statehood. The French parliament previously passed a similar res. on 12/2. Meanwhile, the **Swiss govt.** invites all states party to the **Fourth Geneva Convention**, which includes every UN mbr. and Palestine, to attend a summit on 12/17 to discuss the situation in the oPt. (AFP, AP, HA 12/11; WAFA 12/13)

12 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** stationed along the n. border open fire on a group of stone-throwing Palestinians, injuring 4. A Palestinian is injured in an explosion nr. the **French Cultural Center** in Gaza City. (A small armed group takes responsibility for the attack on 12/18.) In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse **Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters** at weekly demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation, as well as the recent death of a senior PA official on 12/10 nr. Ramallah, Nablus, Hebron, and 1 village nearby (Bayt Umar), and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum). Two Palestinians are hit by tear gas canisters in Bil'in and 7 are shot with rubber-coated metal bullets elsewhere. Meanwhile, a **Palestinian** man throws vinegar at a family of **5 Israeli settlers** nr. Bethlehem, lightly injuring all of them. (The Israeli press 1st reported the story as an acid attack.) Another Israeli settler hits the Palestinian man with his car and shoots him in the leg, moderately injuring him. Shin Bet officers arrive soon after to detain the Palestinian man. The **IDF** then conducts a raid of his home. Separately, **Palestinians** throw stones at **IDF troops** on a patrol of Bayt Umar nr. Hebron, sparking clashes in which 3

Palestinians are injured with rubber-coated metal bullets. The **IDF** also patrols in the n. Jordan Valley, where they assault a **Palestinian farmer** and lightly injure him. **IDF troops** fire tear gas at dozens of Palestinians throwing stones at the soldiers; 1 Palestinian youth and 1 Israeli officer are injured. **Israeli soldiers** also conduct a raid s. of Bethlehem; patrol in Tulkarm. Following a march marking Hamas's 27th anniversary, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, the Israeli police increase their patrols and deploy additional officers around **Haram al-Sharif**. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WP, YA 12/12; MNA, TOI 12/13; IMEMC 12/14; AFP, PCHR 12/18; EI 12/22)

The **Israel Prison Service** threatens to move the 70 Palestinian prisoners on hunger strike since 12/9 to criminal sections of their prisons, which would decrease their quality of life, if they continue their strike. (MNA 12/12)

U.S. Secy. of State Kerry phones **Russian FM Sergey Lavrov** and **PA Pres. Abbas** separately to discuss the **French and Palestinian draft UNSC res.** Kerry pressures Abbas not to end **security coordination** with Israel in response to the 12/10 death of senior PA official Ziad Abu Ein. Following the call, **senior PLO and Fatah officials** postpone their meeting to discuss a response until 12/14. (JP, MNA 12/13)

The **Portuguese parliament** adopts a recommendation calling on the govt. to recognize **Palestinian statehood** "in coordination with the EU." (AFP, TOI 12/12; HA, IMEMC, WAFA 12/13)

13 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Egyptian troops** on the border nr. Rafah shoot and injure a **Palestinian fisherman**. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** violently disperses Palestinian and international activists

gathering nr. Bethlehem to protest the death of the senior PA official on 12/10, injuring 1 Palestinian. **IDF troops** nr. Burin village s. of Nablus arrest **2 Palestinian men** who approach them with knives. Also, the **IDF** reopens the checkpoint nr. al-Shuhada Street, which has been closed intermittently since 11/22. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Tulkarm, Bethlehem, and Hebron. Elsewhere, unknown assailants throw a pipe bomb at an **IDF post** nr. Jenin. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces patrol in al-Tur, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; 2 Palestinian are detained. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/13; MNA 12/14; PCHR 12/18)

14 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, 1,000s of Palestinians attend a **Hamas** military parade through Gaza City to mark its **27th anniversary**. During the festivities, Hamas demonstrates a drone aircraft's capabilities, prompting the Israeli Air Force (IAF) to fly 2 jets over Gaza. Meanwhile, the **pharmacists' union** threatens to stop paying to import medicine after the **PA Ministry of Finance** decides to collect 2.5% of the total costs as a payment toward the Value Added Tax, which was recently raised from 14.5% to 16%. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli authorities** declare 100s of acres of land nr. Salfit as a nature reserve. The **IDF** delivers demolition notices to 6 Palestinians in a village s. of Hebron; conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Jenin, Tulkarm, and Salfit. Separately, Israeli troops arrest a Palestinian woman at Kisaout prison where she was visiting her incarcerated husband. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli police and municipal officials** deliver demolition notices to residences in Silwan and the Old City. Separately, **Israeli security forces** detain 2 Palestinians on raids in Shu'fat r.c. and

the Old City, as well as 3 Palestinian children for throwing stones at a bus. **Israeli troops** accompany a group of **right-wing Jewish activists** on a tour of **Haram al-Sharif**. (AP, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 12/14; MNA 12/15; PCHR 12/18)

Joining the 70 current participants, **30 Palestinian prisoners** in Israeli jails go on **hunger strike** against Israel's use of solitary confinement, its treatment of sick prisoners, and the treatment of Nahar al-Sa'adi, who has been in solitary confinement and on hunger strike for 1 mo. (IMEMC, WAFA 12/14)

Senior PLO and Fatah leaders meet in Ramallah to discuss possible responses to the death of a senior PA official on 12/10, including ending security coordination with Israel. After the meeting, **Pres. Abbas** says that reconstruction of Gaza is the PA unity govt.'s primary concern, and the PLO announces that the **Palestinian draft UNSC res.** will be submitted on 12/17. (JP, MNA 12/14; WAFA 12/15)

In Rome, **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** meets with **Russian FM Lavrov** about the **French and Palestinian draft UNSC res.** (MNA, REU 12/14)

15 DECEMBER 2014

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian man during a late-night arrest raid in Qalandia r.c. nr. Ramallah. Clashes then break out in the camp, with residents throwing stones and **Israeli soldiers** injuring around 30 Palestinians with rubber-coated metal bullets and stun grenades. In response to Palestinian youth who were throwing stones and empty bottles at Israeli settlers' vehicles nr. Nablus, **IDF troops** surround a school and fire tear gas into its yard, causing no injuries. **Israeli forces** deliver stop-work notices in 2 villages nr. Hebron, both of which are outside the Gush Etzion settlement bloc. Shortly after, the soldiers clash with stone-

throwing Palestinian youth in the area, dozens of whom suffer from tear gas inhalation. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Bethlehem, Jenin, Salfit, Tulkarm, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** deliver a demolition order to the Silwan home of the Palestinian man who is suspected of shooting right-wing Jewish activist Yehuda Glick on 10/29 and was killed on 10/30 by Israeli security forces. They had previously delivered an order to punitively demolish the home on 11/19, but the Israeli High Court of Justice froze the order. They also deliver a demolition order to a 19-person residence in the Old City. Separately, **Israeli police** detain 3 Palestinian children at **Haram al-Sharif**. (MNA, WAFA 12/15; HA, WAFA 12/16; PCHR 12/18)

Israeli PM Netanyahu meets with **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** in Rome to discuss the rival **draft UNSC res.** being prepared by the Palestinians and the French. Netanyahu opposes both, saying, "We will not accept attempts to dictate to us unilateral moves on a limited timetable." Kerry then meets with **French FM Fabius**, **UK Foreign Secy. Hammond**, **German FM Frank-Walter Steinmeier**, and **EU foreign affairs chief Mogherini** in Paris. Separately, **Arab League secy.-gen. Nabil Elaraby** meets with Fabius in Paris. Fabius hopes to persuade the Palestinians and the Arab League to back the French draft as a compromise, avoiding a U.S. veto. (AFP, HA, MNA, NYT, TOI, YA 12/15)

Iranian and U.S. diplomats hold bilateral talks over **Iran's disputed nuclear program** ahead of negotiations between Iran and the P5+1 on 12/17. The 2 sides agreed to a 7-mo. extension to the talks on 11/24. (AFP 12/15)

16 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion along the border fence

nr. Khan Yunis to level land. In the **West Bank**, over 10,000 people attend a funeral procession in Ramallah for the Palestinian killed by Israeli soldiers on 12/15, and a general strike is held in the surrounding villages. **IDF troops** clash with stone-throwing Palestinians during a raid of a village w. of Jenin, and several Palestinians suffer from tear gas inhalation. **Israeli soldiers** later detain a Palestinian at a mobile checkpoint nr. Jenin. Separately, **Israeli forces** deliver stop-work orders to 4 homes under construction nr. Bethlehem and patrol nr. Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 6 Palestinians in Silwan during raids and house searches, as well as 2 Palestinian youths on their way home from school. After the 12/15 killing of a Palestinian in Qalandia, **right-wing Jewish activists** enter **Haram al-Sharif** early in the morning. Also, clashes break out in various neighborhoods around East Jerusalem and 3 Palestinians are arrested. (MNA, WAFA 12/16; IMEMC 12/17; PCHR 12/18)

A day ahead of the Palestinians' promised submission of their draft res. to the UNSC, various Palestinian, U.S., EU, Arab, and Israeli officials meet to discuss their options. **PA FM al-Maliki** meets with **French FM Fabius**, and he offers to back the French draft UNSC res. if a couple of critical amendments are made. Separately, **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** flies to London to hold talks with **senior PLO official Saeb Erakat** and **PA intelligence chief Majid Faraj**, and later with an Arab League delegation. Kerry asks the Palestinians to delay submitting their draft so he can conduct further meetings with **PA Pres. Abbas**. (See QU for more.) **Russian Dep. FM Mikhail Bogdanov** reiterates Russia's support for the Palestinian UNSC res. during a meeting with **Palestine's Amb. to Russia Fayed Mustafa** in Moscow. (AFP, HA, MNA, NYT, TOI, WAFA 12/16)

The **Israeli Defense Ministry** and the U.S. military conduct a 2d test of the **Arrow-3** antiballistic missile system, designed to defend Israel from hypothetical Iranian nuclear weapons, but the test fails. (HA, TOI 12/16; AFP 12/17)

17 DECEMBER 2014

In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarm, Ramallah, and Hebron. During a raid in 'Askar r.c., residents throw stones at the Israeli soldiers, and 1 Palestinian is injured by rubber-coated metal bullets. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** raid the home of a former prisoner in Jabal Mukabir and arrest her. (MNA 12/17; PCHR 12/18, 12/25)

Following 2 rounds of negotiations with reps. of the Arab Group at the UN, Jordanian diplomats officially submit a **Palestinian-drafted res.** to the **UNSC**. It is based on the **French draft**, but with substantial changes based on the Palestinians' input, including the removal of a passage calling on the Palestinians to recognize Israel as a Jewish state. (See the QU for details.) (AFP, HA, MDW, MNA, NYT, TOI 12/17; AFP, HA 12/18)

After 3 days of negotiations, the **Israel Prison Service (IPS)** pledges to, among other things, phase out the use of solitary confinement "without cause," leading **over 100 Palestinian prisoners** to suspend their hunger strike started on 12/9. (MNA 12/17; EI 12/19)

Israeli DM Ya'alon orders the evacuation of 2 military bases to expand nearby settlements, a move delayed on 11/25 when then-Fin. Min. Lapid refused to authorize the funds. (PM Netanyahu authorizes funding for the relocation on 1/4.) (HA 12/17)

The **European Parliament** passes a nonbinding motion expressing support for the

recognition of Palestinian statehood “in principle,” which should complement a new round of peace talks. Meanwhile, **Luxembourg’s parliament** adopts a similar nonbinding motion calling on its govt. to recognize Palestine. (HA, MNA, WAFA 12/17) In Geneva, 126 of the 196 signatories of the **Fourth Geneva Convention** convene to discuss Israel’s noncompliance with its strictures. They adopt a declaration by consensus that calls for investigations into all serious violations of international humanitarian law, including Israel’s. (AP, TOI, WAFA 12/17)

The **Gen. Court of the EU**, the body’s 2d highest court, removes **Hamas** from the EU’s list of designated terrorist organizations on the procedural grounds that the status was determined by media reports rather than by “acts examined and confirmed in decisions of competent authorities.” (HA, JP, MEMO, MNA, NYT, REU, TOI 12/17)

18 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of al-Bureij arrest 3 Palestinians as they attempt to cross the border fence into Israel. Late at night, **Israeli soldiers** stationed nr. Jabaliya open fire on a group of stone-throwing Palestinians, injuring 5. Off the n. coast of Gaza, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on several **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing damage but no injuries. Meanwhile, the **union of hospital sanitation workers** suspends its strike after PA ministers agree to pay the salaries of 750 mbrs. who had not received full wages since 6/2. Overnight, 1 Palestinian is killed and 4 are injured in an explosion at a Hamas military facility in s. Gaza. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** clash with around **30 stone-throwing Palestinians** nr. Nablus, lightly injuring 1 with rubber-coated metal bullets. **Israeli soldiers** also assault and arrest 1 Palestinian at a checkpoint nr. Jenin. The **IDF**

conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Jenin and Hebron; patrols nr. Hebron and Tubas. Dozens of **Israeli settlers** clash with Palestinians nr. Burin village, s. of Nablus, after the settlers cut down an electricity line that leads to a Palestinian home. In **East Jerusalem**, municipal officials accompanied by security forces deliver 11 demolition orders to residences in Silwan. Elsewhere, 140 right-wing Jewish activists enter **Haram al-Sharif**, sparking verbal confrontations with Palestinian worshippers. **Israeli forces** detain 3 Palestinian photographers during the incident. (HA, MNA, WAFA 12/18; PCHR 12/25)

Reps. of the major **Palestinian political parties** meet in **Gaza** and discuss a 5-point initiative jointly presented by the PFLP and Islamic Jihad to kick-start the national reconciliation process. Meanwhile, 1,000s of supporters of **Mohammad Dahlan**, the exiled former PA and Fatah official, gather in a Hamas-approved demonstration as a corruption trial against him opens in the West Bank. **Pres. Abbas** orders several Fatah officials to be fired from the PA for helping organize the demonstration. (AHR, AP, MEMO, MNA 12/18; FT 2/4)

The **U.S.** announces that it will oppose the **proposed UNSC res.** submitted by the Palestinians on 12/17. Meanwhile, a senior Palestinian official says that the Palestinian res. lacks the support of 9 mbrs. of the UNSC, which would be required for the res. to pass, and is vulnerable to a veto by a permanent mbr. state. (AP, HA, MDW 12/18; AFP 12/19)

19 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, Palestinians fire a rocket into s. Israel in the Eshkol region. Israel holds Hamas responsible and the **IDF** launches a late-night **air strike** at a Hamas military training site

nr. Khan Yunis, causing damage to the site and a nearby UNRWA school. It is the 1st Israeli bombing in Gaza since the 8/26 cease-fire ended **OPE**. In the **West Bank**, Palestinians gather in Turmus 'Ayya, Silwad, and Ofer detention center to protest the death of a senior PA official on 12/10, sparking clashes with **IDF troops** in which 9 Palestinians are injured with rubber-coated metal bullets and 2 are detained. In Silwad, **Israeli soldiers** deliberately fire at electricity transformers, causing a power outage. Also, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Nabi Salih, and Ni'lin), Bethlehem, and Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum), shooting 1 in Bil'in with a rubber-coated metal bullet and 1 in Ni'lin. The **IDF** conducts an arrest raid nr. Qalqilya; patrols nr. Ramallah, Hebron, Jericho, Tulkarm, and Qalqilya. Meanwhile, dozens gather in Balata r.c. to celebrate the 47th anniversary of the PFLP. In **East Jerusalem**, nearly 60,000 Palestinians pray at **Haram al-Sharif**, then march through the streets of the Old City in protest of Israeli policies regarding the site. Later, **Israeli forces** conduct house searches and arrest raids in the Old City, al-Wad, Silwan, and al-Bustan. Clashes break out between Israeli police and stone-throwing Palestinians late at night in Wadi al-Juz, Anata, and Silwan. Police injure 3 Palestinians with rubber-coated metal bullets and arrest 5. (AP, HA, MNA, 12/19; AFP, HA, MNA, Wafa 12/20; PCHR 12/25)

U.S. Pres. Obama signs into law the **U.S.-Israel Strategic Partnership Act**, which includes increased intelligence and military cooperation and new congressional oversight procedures. (See S. 2673 on congressionalmonitor.org.) (TOI 12/20; IHY, JP, JTA 12/21)

The **UNGA** passes 2 nonbinding res. regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict and Palestinian affairs: the 1st calls on Israel to pay Lebanon \$856.4 m. in damages related to an oil spill Israeli forces caused during the 2006 war; the 2d recognizes Palestinian sovereignty over the natural resources in the oPt. (AFP, Wafa 12/20)

A leaked report from the **IAEA** concludes that Iran is upholding commitments made to the P5+1 related to its disputed nuclear program. (JP, REU 12/18)

20 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Hamis** arrests several mbrs. of a small jihadist organization, saying they were responsible for the 12/19 rocket fire into Israel. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli soldiers** in Bayt Umar nr. Hebron clash with stone-throwing Palestinians and arrest 1. The **IDF** conducts a late-night house search and raid in n. Hebron; patrols nr. Ramallah, Hebron, and Jericho. (IMEMC 12/20; JP 12/21; PCHR 12/25)

21 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing**, allowing infirm Palestinians to cross into Egypt, as well as foreign passport holders. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing damage but no injuries. **IDF troops** nr. the e. border of Gaza open fire on several Palestinian farmers, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, around 6,000 Palestinians go on strike in response to the overcrowding and poor conditions of a checkpoint nr. Tulkarm. **IDF troops** clash with stone-throwing residents of al-Fawar r.c., and dozens of Palestinians suffer from tear gas inhalation. The **IDF** also conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Hebron and

Ramallah; patrols nr. Ramallah and al-‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron; delivers demolition orders for 2 structures nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** accompanied by **IDF troops** enter Balata r.c. nr. Nablus, sparking clashes with residents in which 2 Palestinians are injured. At the Israeli settlement of Adam, **private settlement security officers** detain 2 Palestinians approaching the area with knives. Separately, Palestinian youth throw stones at cars nr. Bethlehem and injure a 4-year-old Israeli settler. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** deliver 10 demolition notices to residential buildings in al-Tur. (HA, IMEMC, MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/21; AFP, MNA, TOI, YA 12/22; PCHR 12/25)

PA FM al-Maliki says that the Palestinians will amend the res. they submitted to the UNSC on 12/17 in hopes of having a vote on it before the end of the year. (MNA 12/21)

22 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 2d day in a row, allowing students and around 220 tons of medical supplies to cross into Gaza. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats overnight, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers**, accompanied by **IDF troops**, attack around 30 Palestinian farmers nr. Bethlehem, causing no injuries. Meanwhile, the **IDF** improves conditions at the checkpoint nr. Tulkarm where thousands of Palestinians held an impromptu strike on 12/21. Separately, **IDF troops** detain Gideon Levy and Alex Levac, Israeli journalists with *Haaretz*, for entering Area A without a permit, as well as 2 Palestinians at a mobile checkpoint in al-Fawar r.c. The **IDF** also conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Nablus, Ramallah, and Hebron; patrols nr. Qalqilya and Hebron; delivers 2

demolition notices to a village w. of Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, around 68 right-wing Jewish activists enter **Haram al-Sharif** and tour the area. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** detain 3 Palestinians in the Old City. Later, they raid a Palestinian shop in the area and assault its employees. In response to the recent crackdown on Palestinian businesses in the area, several Palestinian shop owners go on strike and protest nr. Jaffa Gate. Israeli security forces conduct overnight arrest raids in the Old City. Separately, Israeli forces issue 5 demolition orders to Palestinian homes in al-Tur; demolish 4 Palestinian homes and 2 barns in al-‘Izzariya. (+972, AP, IHY, JP, MNA, REU, TOI, WAFA 12/22; MNA 12/23; PCHR 12/25)

PA PM Rami Hamdallah forms a comm. to administer Gaza’s border crossings, implementing an agreement made by reps. of all the Palestinian political factions at their 12/18 meeting in Gaza. (MNA, TOI 12/22)

Imprisoned Fatah leader Marwan Barghouti calls on the PA to drastically reword the UNSC res. proposed on 12/17. He says that Palestinian prisoners should be a principal issue covered by the measure. (MNA, TOI 12/23)

Overnight, the **Syrian army** shoots down a Skylark-1 **Israeli drone** flying nr. the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights. (IHY, JP, MNA, YA 12/22)

23 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for a 3d day in a row. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian’s workshop in Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah. Later, **Israeli soldiers** violently disperse Palestinians protesting the occupation and distributing Christmas gifts in Bethlehem. **IDF troops** also arrest 1 Palestinian youth n. of Hebron and fire tear gas canisters at Palestinian

students in c. Hebron, then close down a nearby checkpoint when the students throw stones. Meanwhile, the **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids in a village nr. Ramallah; patrols nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, dozens of right-wing Jewish activists enter **Haram al-Sharif** and tour the area. Meanwhile, the **Jerusalem Magistrate's Court** indicts 8 Palestinians on charges relating to incitement, quoting material from their personal Facebook pages. (IMEMC, MNA, WAFA 12/23; PCHR 12/25, 12/31)

A Palestinian prisoner in a **PA detention center** in Qalqilya dies of complications related to a heart condition. (MNA 12/23)

Pres. Abbas says that the PA will “no more deal with the Israeli govt.” if the UNSC fails to pass the res. proposed on 12/17. **Hamas** opposes the res. and calls for its withdrawal. (IMEMC, JP, MNA 12/23)

Revoking its 2011 approval of the Delek Group-Noble Energy alignment, the **Israeli Antitrust Authority** recommends that the 2 U.S. and Israeli energy companies either sell off their shared stake in offshore natural gas fields or end their cooperation agreement. (See QU for details.) (TOI 12/23; JP, JTA 1/4)

24 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Israeli forces** shoot and kill 1 Palestinian mbr. of Hamas's military wing and injure 2 others in a cross-border firefight nr. Khan Yunis. The **Palestinian fighters** shoot and severely injure an Israeli soldier during the exchange. In the **West Bank**, a Palestinian man is found dead in Jericho with several stab wounds. Clashes break out between stone-throwing Palestinian youth and **Israeli soldiers** at a checkpoint nr. Hebron; dozens of Palestinians suffer from tear gas inhalation. More clashes break out nr. Hebron and Nablus, where 2 Palestinians are moderately injured.

Israeli forces demolish 400 m of stone walls in a village nr. Nablus and 2 agricultural buildings nr. Hebron. **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians at a checkpoint nr. Jenin; conduct house searches and arrest raids in and around Nablus and Hebron, as well as nr. Ramallah. **Israeli settlers** enter Salfit to perform religious rites, and **settlers** separately open fire on PA police officers nearby. **Israeli settlers** attack a Palestinian construction worker in Hebron, lightly injuring him. **PA security forces** conduct raids across the West Bank and detain 14 mbrs. of Hamas. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli authorities** return the bodies of the 2 Palestinians who were killed after attacking a synagogue in West Jerusalem on 11/18. Israel punitively held the bodies for over a mo. **Israeli security forces** clash with stone-throwing Palestinians in Issawiyya, and 1 Palestinian child is injured with a rubber-coated metal bullet. **Israeli forces** conduct arrest raids in Issawiyya, Sur al-Bahir, and al-Tur, where they also demolish 2 residential structures and a barn. (AP, HA, IMEMC, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 12/24; HA, MEMO, WAFA 12/25; PCHR 12/31)

The **World Bank** transfers \$31.6 m. to the PA via the Palestinian Reform and Development Plan Trust Fund. The money was donated by Australia, the UK, and Norway and will fund, among other things, emergency needs in Gaza. (WAFA 12/24; MNA 12/25)

Israeli authorities approve the construction of 380 new residences in the East Jerusalem neighborhoods of Har Homa and Ramot, as well as a separate plan for 1,850 residences in Arnona. (AFP, HA, IMEMC, WAFA 12/24)

25 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, a 15-year-old Palestinian boy from Bayt Hanun succumbs to injuries

sustained in an Israeli air strike on 7/30, during **OPE**. Nr. al-Waha, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. Nr. **Gaza**, the **IDF** deploys **2 Iron Dome missile defense batteries** in response to the 12/24 cross-border violence. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a dairy factory and an animal barn nr. Hebron, as well as EU-funded irrigation pools in the n. Jordan Valley. Elsewhere, **IDF troops** conduct house searches and arrest raids nr. Qalqilya and Salfit; patrol nr. Hebron, Qalqilya, and Salfit; establish a checkpoint outside Bayt 'Amr village, where they arrest 1 Palestinian. **Unknown Palestinian assailants** throw Molotov cocktails at **2 Israeli settlers** driving nr. Qalqilya, seriously injuring 1. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct late-night arrest raids and house searches in Silwan. (MNA, WAFA, YA 12/25; JP, TOI, YA 12/26; PCHR 12/31)

Leaders of Hamas and other Palestinian factions in Gaza meet to discuss the 12/24 cross-border violence, and release a joint statement reaffirming their commitment to the 8/26 open-ended cease-fire. (JP 12/25)

The **Israeli High Court of Justice** orders the evacuation and demolition of the **Amona settlement outpost** nr. Ramallah, the largest outpost in the West Bank, within 2 years because it was built on privately-owned Palestinian land in 1997. (HA, TOI, YA 12/25; MNA 12/26)

26 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** on the n. border open fire on 2 Palestinian men trying to enter Israel, injuring and detaining 1. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** arrests 15 Palestinians nr. Qalqilya on charges relating to the 12/25 Molotov cocktail attack. **Israeli soldiers** shoot and injure 4 Palestinians with rubber-coated

metal bullets during clashes nr. Tulkarm and Hebron. Later, **Israeli settlers** clash with stone-throwing Palestinians in Bayt Umar, injuring 1 Israeli. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Nabi Salih, and Ni'lin) and Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum), injuring 4. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids in Jalazun r.c.; patrols nr. Ramallah, Hebron, Jericho, and Tulkarm. Elsewhere, **Israeli settlers** accompanied by **IDF troops** enter a village nr. Jenin to perform religious rites. **PA security forces** shoot and injure a Palestinian teenager during overnight clashes with stone-throwing residents in al-Fara'a r.c. nr. Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, a Palestinian man stabs **2 Israeli border police guards** nr. the Old City, injuring them both. Separately, **Israeli forces** arrest a Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) leader at a mobile checkpoint between Jerusalem and Jericho, and a Palestinian youth in Ras al-Amud. **Israeli forces** also conduct a raid in Wadi al-Juz, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; 1 Palestinian is injured and arrested. (JP, MNA, TOI, YA 12/26; IMEMC 12/27; PCHR 12/31)

In the **Sinai Peninsula**, **Egyptian authorities** complete a survey of the 1,200 homes between 500 and 1,000 m of the border with Gaza and prepare to begin demolitions, as announced on 11/17. (MNA 12/27; DNE 12/29; ALM 12/30)

27 DECEMBER 2014

In the **West Bank**, a **Palestinian infant** faints while his family waits in line at the Allenby border crossing. He is taken by helicopter to a Jerusalem hospital. The **IDF** detains 7 Palestinians, including 6 from 1 family, at a

mobile checkpoint nr. Bethlehem, then closes a checkpoint outside a village n. of Jerusalem, effectively barring its residents from leaving.

Israeli troops also conduct house searches and raids in a village n. of Hebron; patrol nr. Jericho, Ramallah, Salfit, al-Fawar r.c., Hebron, Jenin, and Tulkarm. Meanwhile, **Israeli settlers** destroy 8 dunams of agricultural land s. of Yatta village. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** clash with stone-throwing Palestinian youth in Wadi al-Juz, arresting 1 Palestinian; conduct house searches and arrest raids in Silwan and al-Tur. (HA, MNA, Wafa 12/27; PCHR 12/31)

Hamas leader Mishal travels to Turkey to appear alongside **PM Ahmet Davutoğlu** at the ruling Justice and Development Party's (AKP) annual congress in Konya. Mishal commends the Turkish govt. for its support of the Palestinian people. (HA, YA 12/27; TOI 12/28)

U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) meets with **Israeli PM Netanyahu** in Jerusalem and says that Congress plans to place restrictions on UN funding if the UNSC passes a res. setting a timetable for ending the Israeli occupation. (TOI 12/27)

28 DECEMBER 2014

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** violently disperse 2 separate groups of Palestinian protesters, injuring 3 with live ammunition nr. the Erez border crossing and 4 nr. Shuja'iya. Separately, **Israeli soldiers** fire live ammunition at Palestinian farmers approaching the border fence nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. Meanwhile, the **Gaza power plant** shuts down, having exhausted its fuel reserves. Scheduled power outages increase from 12 to 18 hours a day, on average, with all electricity consumed having been purchased from Israel and Egypt. Meanwhile, **Hamas** prevents 37 children orphaned during **OPE** from attending a 1-week

publicity tour to Israel and the West Bank sponsored by an Israeli nongovernmental organization, saying that the trip's goal was normalization. In the **West Bank**, an 8-year-old Palestinian from Nabi Salih is moderately injured when a leftover Israeli sound bomb explodes in his hand. **IDF troops** raid a school in a village s. of Bethlehem. Later, **Israeli forces** raze agricultural land in a village s. of Nablus, then set up earth mounds in the area in preparation for military exercises. The **IDF** also conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Nablus, Jenin, and Ramallah, as well as Askar r.c. and Jenin r.c.; patrols nr. Tulkarm, Hebron, Jenin, and Jericho. An **Israeli settler** hits a 7-year-old Palestinian boy with his car, moderately injuring him, before fleeing the area s. of Hebron. **PA security forces** conduct a late-night raid n. of Ramallah and arrest 1 Palestinian journalist. (MNA, NYT, Wafa 12/28; EI, MNA 12/29; YA 12/30; PCHR 12/31; OCHA 1/2)

Senior Hamas official Abu Marzuq criticizes the Palestinian leadership for amending the proposed UNSC res. without consulting Hamas. Meanwhile, **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** calls **PA Pres. Abbas** and asks him to delay the submission of the amended res. until after the Israeli elections on 3/17/2015. (MNA, TOI 12/28; HA, TOI 12/29; ALM 12/30)

29 DECEMBER 2014

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli soldiers** open fire on 2 Palestinian teenagers walking in a mountainous area s. of Nablus, killing 1 and seriously injuring the other. The **IDF** says they were throwing stones and ignored warning shots. Late at night, **IDF troops** open fire at a Palestinian vehicle outside Bayt Umar nr. Hebron, seriously injuring 2 men. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids

nr. Ramallah and Hebron; patrols nr. Jenin and Hebron. **Israeli soldiers** also arrest 1 Palestinian at a checkpoint outside Bayt ‘Amr village and construct a surveillance tower at a checkpoint nr. Tulkarm. **Private Israeli security guards** from the Ofra settlement assault and detain a Palestinian nr. Silwad. Off the coast of the n. **Gaza Strip, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats on 2 separate occasions, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** conduct house searches and arrest raids in Silwan. (JP, MNA, NYT, WAFA 12/29; JP, MNA, TOI 12/30; PCHR 12/31)

Jordan submits the Palestinians’ amended draft res. to the UNSC after the **Arab Group** at the UN approves the amendments. **PA Pres. Abbas** predicts a vote will be held on 12/30. **Secy. of State Kerry** calls 13 FMs from around the world to argue against the measure, then a **U.S. State Dept. spokesperson** says that the U.S. will not support it. (AFP, AP, HA, JP, TOI 12/29; MNA 12/30)

A **PA unity govt.** delegation arrives in Gaza City to coordinate reconstruction efforts, open the crossings, and deal with issues facing Gaza’s workers. It is the 2d meeting of the govt. in Gaza since its formation on 6/2 (the 1st was on 10/9). **Dozens of Palestinians** gather at the **Erez border crossing** to protest the unity govt.’s perceived inaction. Meanwhile, the **Palestinian Environmental Quality Authority** of Gaza announces that it will stop importing batteries and electrical appliances from Israel, citing their detrimental effects on the environment and the import fees collected by Israeli authorities. (HA, MNA, YA 12/29)

Egyptian security forces uncover and demolish 19 tunnels leading from Gaza under the border into Rafah, including 1 that led to a house 1,700 m from the border. (DNE 12/29; MNA 12/30)

30 DECEMBER 2014

In **West Jerusalem**, a Palestinian man succumbs to injuries sustained during a funeral procession on 9/7. Off the coast of the **Gaza Strip** nr. Rafah, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats** and detain 3 fishermen. In the **West Bank, Israeli soldiers** shoot and wound a Palestinian as they accompany **Israeli settlers** on an incursion nr. Nablus. The **IDF** patrols in Hebron, al-‘Arub r.c., and 1 village nearby; sets up 2 new checkpoints in a village nr. Bethlehem after raiding a school in the area on 12/28. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** detain 2 Palestinian women outside **Haram al-Sharif**; demolish 4 homes, a restaurant, and a butcher shop in Jabal Mukabir. (MNA, WAFA 12/30; PCHR 12/31; OCHA 1/15)

The **UNSC** rejects the **amended Palestinian draft res.**, submitted by Jordan on 12/29, with 8 mbrs. voting in favor, 2 opposing, and 5 abstaining. (See QU for more.) The **Palestinian leadership** announces an emergency session on 12/31 to discuss its next steps. (AP, HA, MNA, REU 12/30; TOI, YA 12/31)

The **PA unity govt. delegation** that traveled to Gaza on 12/29 meets with local officials in Gaza City and works out an agreement on the civil servant employment crisis. Spokesperson Ihab Bseiso says that the PA will guarantee the positions of all 70,000 employees who were laid off when the Hamas-run govt. came to power in 2007 and offer remaining positions to employees of the Hamas-run govt., effectively firing all 50,000 employees hired by Hamas. **Hamas** officials criticize the agreement and dozens of former govt. employees demonstrate outside the meetings. (MNA, WAFA 12/30)

The **U.S.** imposes sanctions on 9 new targets that the Treasury Dept. says are either facilitating Iran’s efforts to avoid sanctions or contributing to human rights abuses. (JP, REU 12/30)

31 DECEMBER 2014

In the **West Bank**, a Palestinian man is crushed to death in line at a checkpoint nr. Tulkarm, the same checkpoint where 1,000s of Palestinians protested poor conditions on 12/21. An **Israeli settler** hits a 10-year-old Palestinian boy with his car nr. Bethlehem, moderately injuring him. Overnight, 2 **Israeli settlers** throw Molotov cocktails at a Palestinian home nr. Hebron and leave racist price-tag graffiti. **Israeli forces** demolish a home nr. Hebron and raze a nearby agricultural area. **IDF troops** detain 8 Palestinian children outside Ofer prison nr. Ramallah, then fire tear gas canisters at their parents when they attempt to recover their children. They also arrest a **14-year-old Palestinian girl** after she throws stones at **Israeli settlers'** cars. **Israeli settlers** clash with Palestinians in Burin village, then **IDF troops** open fire on the Palestinians with live ammunition, injuring 4. Off the coast of the **Gaza Strip** nr. Rafah, **Israeli naval forces** arrest 3 Palestinian fishermen. In **East Jerusalem**, unknown assailants throw stones at a bus in Shaykh Jarrah, lightly injuring 1 Palestinian woman. A **Jewish Israeli** vandalizes the Dormition Abbey nr. the Old City. Then, a Palestinian man stabs an **Israeli settler** in the back with a screwdriver nearby, moderately injuring him. **Israeli police** arrest a Palestinian on charges related to violent threats against Likud MK Tzipi Hotovely. (JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa 12/31; Wafa 1/1; OCHA 1/15; DS 1/29)

Under the aegis of the State of Palestine, **Pres. Abbas** signs a request to join the ICC, and signs many other international treaties and conventions, at a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of Fatah at the presidential compound in Ramallah. The ICC will take up to 60 days to process the request. (MNA 12/30; AM, JP, MNA, NYT, 12/31; MNA, Wafa 1/1)

Hundreds of **employees of the Hamas-run govt.** in Gaza go on a 1-day strike, protesting the **PA unity govt.'**s decision on 12/30 to rehire civil servants who lost their jobs when Hamas came to power in 2007. (MNA 12/31; AFP 1/1)

Israel's High Court of Justice rejects a petition to ban all **punitive home demolitions**, a policy resurrected following the 6/2014 abduction and killing of 3 Israeli settler teenagers. The court also rejects a petition to block the demolition of the Jabal Mukabir homes of the 2 Palestinians who attacked a West Jerusalem synagogue on 11/18. (Israel's Supreme Court froze the demolition order for the synagogue attackers' homes on 11/27.) It also, however, freezes the 2d order to demolish the home of the Palestinian who allegedly attempted to assassinate right-wing Jewish activist Yehuda Glick on 10/29. (See the QU for more on punitive home demolitions.) (HA, JP, TOI 12/31; HA 1/1)

1 JANUARY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli soldiers** open fire on a Palestinian man nr. a checkpoint s. of Nablus late at night, critically injuring him. **Israeli forces** demolish around 25 structures owned by Palestinian bedouin in a village nr. Tubas and deliver stop-work notices to 3 Palestinian-owned buildings in a village nr. Hebron. The **IDF** conducts a raid in Ramallah, arresting a suspect in the stabbing of 2 Israeli border police guards on 12/26. Palestinian residents of Turmus 'Ayya nr. Ramallah discover that **Israeli settlers** uprooted around 5,000 olive trees planted nearby in the past week. In **East Jerusalem**, **Palestinians** throw 3 Molotov cocktails at an Israeli settler's home in Ras al-Amud, causing damage, and Israeli police arrive to search for the perpetrators. **Israeli security forces** accompany a group of right-wing Jewish activists on a tour of **Haram al-Sharif**, then arrest 5 Palestinian

women who verbally confront the activists. (MNA, WAFA 1/1; HA, MNA, TOI, YA 1/2; OCHA 1/15)

PA Pres. Abbas files a request with the Dutch embassy, asking the **ICC** to open investigations into suspected war crimes committed in the oPt since 6/2013. In response to the PA's accession to the ICC, the **Israeli cabinet** decides to freeze the transfer of NIS 500 m. (around \$127.6 m.) in **tax revenues** to the PA, half of the revenues collected on behalf of the PA in 12/2014, as well as future transfers. (HA, MDW 1/1; AP 1/2; HA 1/3; WAFA 1/4; AFP 1/22)

2 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Egyptian troops** open fire on Palestinian youth along the border e. of Rafah, killing 1 and arresting 3. In 2 separate incidents, **Israeli soldiers** stationed along the border fence (e. of Khan Yunis r.c. and e. of Jabaliya r.c.) open fire on stone-throwing Palestinians, moderately injuring 2. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** from the Adi Ad outpost throw stones outside Turmus 'Ayya at 2 vehicles from the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem, causing light damage. (See the QU for more.) **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Nabi Salih, and Ni'lin), and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum), where they arrest 1 Palestinian. In the evening, **Israeli troops** clash with stone-throwing Palestinians in a village nr. Ramallah, then impose a curfew on the village and arrest 1 resident. (AP, HA, MNA, TOI 1/2; IMEMC, MNA, YA 1/3; OCHA 1/15)

Senior Palestinian leaders meet in Ramallah and discuss resubmitting their res. to the **UNSC** since 5 new mbrs. joined the council on 1/1.

PA Pres. Abbas meets with Jordanian officials about the timing of the resubmission. (TOI 1/3; DS 1/4)

3 JANUARY 2015

Off the coast of the **Gaza Strip** nr. Rafah, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, seriously injuring 1 fisherman and destroying his boat. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** level land nr. the border fence e. of Bayt Lahiya. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli troops** detain a senior Fatah official at a checkpoint e. of Bethlehem. **Two Israeli settlers** report to local **IDF troops** that they are being assaulted by 4 Palestinians nr. the Itamar settlement, prompting the soldiers and private settlement security guards to arrest the alleged assailants. The arrest sparks clashes between around **50 settlers** and Palestinians from a nearby village; 2 of the Palestinians are shot and injured. (An internal IDF investigation will conclude that the initial call was erroneous.) (MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/3; OCHA 1/15; TOI, 1/20; WAFA 1/22)

4 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, the **Gaza power plant** resumes operation of 1 of its 4 turbines, having received new shipments of fuel after shutting down completely on 12/28. However, scheduled power outages stay at up to 18 hours per day. Off the coast nr. Gaza City, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. Also, the **IDF** begins pulling troops stationed nr. Gaza, as announced 12/28. In the **West Bank**, 1 Palestinian is injured during a clash in Hebron between stone-throwing Palestinians and **private Israeli settlement security guards**. **IDF troops** rebuild mounds of earth outside a village nr. Salfit,

closing the main entrance. The village's residents cleared the mounds on 12/31 during demonstrations marking Fatah's 50th anniversary. In **East Jerusalem**, an Israeli court bars 5 Palestinian women (arrested on 1/1) from entering **Haram al-Sharif** for 21 days. **Israeli forces** detain another Palestinian woman as she exits the sanctuary. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/4; OCHA 1/15)

A **senior Israeli FM** official says that Israel is not planning any new settlement construction in response to the Palestinians' accession to the ICC. Meanwhile, **PM Netanyahu** and **DM Ya'alon** agree to use NIS 70 m. (around \$17.8 m.) from the Defense Ministry's budget to strengthen infrastructure in the **Beit El settlement** and relocate an IDF base to make room for 300 new residences. Then-Fin. Min. Lapid blocked their prior attempt on 11/25. Separately, the **Israeli High Court of Justice** freezes construction on the separation wall in the Battir Valley of the West Bank, responding to complaints from the Palestinian residents and UNESCO's 6/20 decision to place Battir's terraces on its list of World Heritage sites. (JP, HA, MNA, TOI 1/4)

Egyptian authorities prepare for the demolitions and evictions required to expand the buffer zone along the Gaza border to 1 km. The 2,044 families that live in the 1,200 homes set to be demolished will receive 1,500 Egyptian pounds (approximately \$209) to pay for 3 mos. of housing, and 700–1,200 Egyptian pounds per sq. m of their house that is demolished. (JP, MNA 1/4)

Jordan suspends talks with **Israel** regarding the 9/2014 memorandum of understanding set to govern their \$15 b. joint gas deal with U.S. company Noble Energy. Israel's Antitrust Authority revoked its approval of the Delek Group-Noble Energy alignment on 12/23. (See the QU for more.) (JP, JTA, TOI 1/4)

5 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Israeli jets** conduct a series of mock raids. **IDF troops** along the s. border open fire on agricultural lands, causing damage but no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian-owned barn in Hebron and several shops in a village nr. Bethlehem. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids in Hebron. An **Israeli settler** kills 16 sheep owned by Palestinians in Aqraba village, s. of Nablus, by spraying pesticides in sheep-grazing areas. In **East Jerusalem**, **right-wing Jewish activists** enter **Haram al-Sharif** with an escort of Israeli security forces. (MNA, WAFA 1/5; AP, MNA 1/6)

In Gaza City, reps. of **Islamic Jihad** and **Hammas** discuss the PA's accession to the ICC, the failed UNSC res., and the conditions for Palestinians in Gaza. Later, **Hammas** condemns the possible resubmission of the failed res., with spokesperson Abu Zuhri saying, "such a step would be political foolishness." Meanwhile, the **U.S. State Dept.**, the **EU Delegation to the Palestinian Legislative Council**, and **Israeli pres. Rivlin** all criticize the Israeli govt.'s 1/1 decision to freeze the transfer of tax revenues in response to the PA's accession to the ICC. (AFP, AP, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/5)

6 JANUARY 2015

The **Gaza power plant** resumes operations of a 2d turbine (of 4 total), following the recent receipt of fuel shipments. The plant was shut down completely between 12/28 and 1/4. (WAFA 1/6; MEMO, MNA 1/7; OCHA 1/15)

UN Secy.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon confirms that the State of Palestine will become a mbr. of the ICC on 4/1, hours after the **ICC** acknowledges that **Palestinian authorities** have formally recognized the court's jurisdiction over the oPt starting retroactively on 6/13, a key legal

declaration. (MNA, WAFA 1/6; JP, RT, WAFA 1/7)

Hamas accuses the **PA unity govt.** of reallocating funds meant for the **reconstruction** of the Gaza Strip. Meanwhile, the **PA cabinet** condemns the 1/4 Israeli settlement announcement. (MNA, WAFA 1/6)

A **Hamas** delegation arrives in **Iran** to participate in the 28th International Conference on Islamic Unity. (AP, CNN, HA, JP, REU 1/6; IRNA 1/9; AP 1/12)

The **French govt.** denounces the Palestinian resubmission of their **UNSC** draft res., with **FM Fabius** saying, "We are against this spiraling out of control." (REU 1/6)

7 JANUARY 2015

In the **West Bank**, a winter storm causes the Red Cross to postpone family visits scheduled for today and 1/8 to Palestinians in Israeli prisons. The **IDF** installs an iron gate at the entrance of a village nr. Nablus, then bars Palestinians from crossing in or out. (MNA, WAFA 1/7; PCHR 1/15)

Hamas criticizes the **PA unity govt.**'s 12/30 decision to rehire civil servants who lost their jobs when Hamas came to power in 2007, with spokesperson Abu Zuhri saying, "We have endured a great deal from this govt., but it still enjoys the sufferings of Gaza. They had better stop testing our endurance." **PA PM Hamdallah** earlier suggests that the civil servants hired by the Hamas-run govt. should either be offered severance pay or small projects to work on. (MNA 1/9)

8 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Israeli authorities** close the **Erez border crossing** to all but foreigners and Gazans with medical emergencies after

Hamas officials set up a makeshift office for security personnel nr. the crossing earlier in the day. **IDF troops** open fire on a Palestinian attempting to cross the border fence into Israel, injuring and detaining him. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** uproot around 580 olive and almond trees outside 2 villages nr. Ramallah. The **IDF** patrols in villages nr. Qalqilya and Hebron, as well as al-'Arub r.c. In **East Jerusalem**, a Jewish Israeli man is stabbed with a screwdriver while walking nr. the Old City. Following the attack, the **IDF** conducts house searches and raids in the Old City, arresting 5 Palestinians. (HA, JP, MNA 1/8; MNA 1/9; OCHA, PCHR 1/15)

After beginning preparations on 1/4, **Egyptian forces** begin extending the **buffer zone** along the border with Gaza, demolishing structures and evicting families from their homes. (DNE, EN 1/8; AFP 1/9)

9 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, flooding caused by winter storm Huda forces 100s more Palestinians to leave their homes. A Palestinian infant, whose family's home was partially destroyed during OPE, dies from the cold weather in Khan Yunis. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts a raid on a home in c. Hebron and arrests a Palestinian suspected of throwing stones at soldiers; patrols in a village nr. Jericho. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 2 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in and Ni'lin), and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafir Qaddum). There are no serious injuries. Meanwhile, **Israeli settlers** chop down 345 olive trees in several locations s. of Hebron late at night. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians in the Old City, including 2 children playing in

the snow. (MNA 1/9; MNA, Wafa 1/10; PCHR 1/15)

A bipartisan group of 4 U.S. sens. releases a statement reaffirming their dedication to existing U.S. law that bars all U.S. aid to the PA if the Palestinians initiate an investigation of Israelis at the ICC, or support such an investigation. (JP 1/10)

10 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, 2 Palestinian infants and 1 young fisherman die from the effects of winter storm Huda. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian youth playing in the snow nr. Nablus, injuring 2 with live ammunition and several others with tear gas. The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids nr. Qalqilya and Ramallah; patrols nr. Tulkarm and Qalqilya. An **Israeli private settlement security officer** opens fire with live ammunition on another group of Palestinian youth playing in the snow nr. Hebron, injuring 1. Also nr. Hebron, an **Israeli settler** shoots and injures a Palestinian youth. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian cars nr. Nablus, injuring 1 Palestinian girl. Separately, **Israeli settlers** destroy 194 olive and almond trees outside Yatta village nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, an **Israeli settler** opens fire on Palestinian merchants in the Old City, sparking clashes wherein 1 Palestinian is arrested. **Israeli police** assault and arrest 2 Palestinian youth as they play in the snow in Ras al-Amud. **Israeli forces** conduct house searches and arrest raids in the Old City and Silwan. (AFP, JP, MNA, Wafa 1/10; IMEMC, MNA 1/11; OCHA, PCHR 1/15)

11 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** open fire on a Palestinian attempting to enter Israel, injuring,

then detaining him. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing damage but no injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct house searches and raids in 'Askar r.c. nr. Nablus, arresting a leader of Islamic Jihad, and in Yatta s. of Hebron, sparking serious clashes, in which 5 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** also conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Tulkarm, Jenin, Salfit, Nablus, Hebron, and Ramallah; patrols nr. Hebron, Jenin and Qalqilya. Early in the morning, **IDF troops** close all 4 entrances to a village nr. Nablus. **Israeli settlers** chop down around 170 olive trees nr. Nablus and 38 nr. Salfit. (MNA, Wafa 1/11, 1/12; OCHA, PCHR 1/15)

Reps. of all **PLO** factions meet to discuss recent criticism of the PA unity govt. from **Hamas**. They conclude that Hamas is responsible for hindering the unity govt.'s work in Gaza. At a meeting between **Hamas** and Palestinian factions in Gaza, Hamas calls for an emergency comm. to be formed to administer the territory, and the **PFLP** and **DFLP** oppose the proposal. Instead, they agree to form a comm. to follow up on the implementation of the 4/23 national reconciliation deal, which led to the formation of the unity govt. on 6/2. (MNA 1/11; JP 1/13)

12 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, employees of the **ministries of public works, labor, justice, and women's affairs**—those led by Gaza-based ministers of the PA unity govt.—go on strike, protesting unpaid salaries since 6/2. In the **West Bank**, Palestinians throw stones at **Israeli settlers'** vehicles nr. Sinjil, injuring 2 women. **Israeli police** arrest a settler in connection with the shooting of a Palestinian nr. Hebron on 1/10. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Jenin, Hebron, and Bethlehem;

patrols nr. Jericho, Qalqilya, Tulkarm, Hebron, and Jenin. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 6 Palestinians. (MNA 1/12; OCHA, PCHR 1/15)

Following up on the 1/11 meeting between political factions in Gaza, a **Hamas spokesperson** says that the group will make a political decision to quit the PA unity govt. if the crisis facing civil employees is not resolved. (MEMO 1/12; JP 1/13)

Egyptian authorities announce that they will not open the Rafah border crossing this week, reversing their 1/11 announcement. The decision comes after the **Sinai Province of the Islamic State** captures an Egyptian security officer nr. Shaykh Zuwayd. (MNA 1/12)

Israeli security forces shut down 3 Nazareth-based Muslim charities—Muslim Women for al-Aqsa, al-Fajr, and Ruad al-Aqsa—suspected of channeling funds to Hamas and inciting violence at **Haram al-Sharif**. (HA 1/12; AFP 1/13)

13 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip, IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis open fire on Palestinians as they approach the border fence, causing no injuries. Meanwhile, 100s of civil servants hired by the Hamas-run govt. protest the fact that they have not been paid since 6/2/2014. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids in Bayt Umar nr. Hebron, sparking clashes with residents; 5 Palestinians are injured with rubber-coated metal bullets. The **IDF** also patrols nr. Hebron, Ramallah, and Jenin. **Israeli settlers** vandalize Palestinian property in Turmus 'Ayya village nr. Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** conduct house searches and arrest raids in al-Tur. (MNA 1/13, 1/14; PCHR 1/15; OCHA 1/23)

Before departing Ankara for Cairo, **PA Pres. Abbas** confirms that the Palestinian leadership would like to resubmit their draft res. to the

UNSC after they refer the issue to the Arab Peace Initiative for approval. (JP, WAFA 1/14)

An official in the former **Hamas-run govt.** in Gaza says that some security personnel hired after 2007 will receive NIS 1,000 (around \$250) on 1/15, their 1st payment since 6/2. Civil servants employed by the Hamas-run govt. were paid a partial salary of around NIS 4,800 (around \$1,245) on 10/29. (AFP, MNA 1/13)

The **U.S. State Dept.** announces that any bill Congress passes regarding new **sanctions on Iran** will be vetoed by the pres. Meanwhile, **Pres. Obama** calls **Israeli PM Netanyahu** to brief him on the negotiations with Iran, ahead of the meeting between reps. of Iran and the P5+1 in Geneva set for 1/15. (JP 1/14)

14 JANUARY 2015

In the **West Bank, IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian at a junction between Bethlehem and Hebron, later alleging that the man was attempting to steal a car. The **IDF** raids the home of 2 PA security officers nr. Nablus, and Palestinian officials call it a provocative step. On a late-night arrest raid in Jenin r.c., **Israeli soldiers** shoot and injure a Palestinian man with rubber-coated metal bullets and arrest 4 others, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents and arresting 1 more. Hours after unknown assailants shoot at an **Israeli military vehicle** nr. Abud village n. of Ramallah, **Israeli forces** conduct house-to-house raids in the village, fire stun grenades and flares, and shut down a road leading to a nearby monastery. The **IDF** also conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Salfit and Hebron; demolishes 1 Palestinian home and 2 animal shelters in a village nr. Ramallah; arrests a Palestinian outside the Gush Etzion settlement nr. Bethlehem. Separately, an **Israeli settler** runs over with his car 2 sheep belonging to a

Palestinian nr. Nablus. In the **Gaza Strip, Israeli authorities** reopen the Erez border crossing, having closed it on 1/8. **IDF troops** e. of Rafah open fire on agricultural land nr. the border fence, causing damage. Dozens of employees of the **Hamas-run govt.** protest outside the PA unity govt.'s headquarters in Gaza City, calling for their full salaries to be paid for the 1st time since 6/2. In **East Jerusalem**, unknown Israelis vandalize 11 Palestinian-owned vehicles in Bayt Safafa, puncturing tires and leaving racist price-tag graffiti. **Israeli forces** conduct a house search in al-'Izzariya, arresting 2 Palestinians. In **s. Israel**, an **Israeli police officer** shoots and kills a 22-year-old Palestinian with live ammunition during an arrest raid in **Rahat** in the Negev, sparking clashes between the police and local Palestinians. Separately, **Israeli forces** demolish several steel structures in the nearby Palestinian bedouin village al-'Araqib. This is the 80th time Israeli authorities have ordered demolitions in the village since 2010, when it was 1st targeted. (JP, MEE, MNA, NYT, TOI, WAFA 1/14; MNA, PCHR, WAFA 1/15; EI 1/16; PCHR 1/22; OCHA 1/23)

Hamas reactivates **Gaza's separate Palestinian Legislative Council** and convenes a session of the body, a move that contravenes the national reconciliation deal that was announced on 4/23. No other parties attend the session. The decision comes after 2 weeks of increased tension between Hamas and the **PA unity govt.** (See the QU for more.) (AFP, MNA, NYT 1/14; MNA 1/15)

PA Pres. Abbas meets with **Egyptian pres. al-Sisi** in Cairo to discuss Abbas's proposed resubmission of the draft UNSC res. and the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip. (MNA, REU, WAFA 1/14)

U.S. Secy. of State Kerry meets with **Iranian FM Zarif** in Geneva to discuss the negotiations over Iran's disputed nuclear program. Kerry

says he is hoping to "accelerate the process to make greater progress," but he will not participate in the coming 3 days of bilateral talks or the broader talks between reps. of Iran and the full P5+1 on 1/18. (ALM 1/17)

In the Sinai Peninsula, the **Sinai Province of the Islamic State** kills 3 bedouins suspected of collaborating with Israel. (MNA 1/15)

15 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip, IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis detain 3 Palestinians as they attempt to cross the border fence into Israel. In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** conduct house searches and arrest raids nr. Ramallah and Jenin; patrol nr. Hebron and Salfit; demolish 30 dunams (around 7.4 acres) of wheat fields nr. Bethlehem; and deliver eviction orders to several Palestinian bedouin families in a village nr. Jericho. **Israeli settlers** level land so they can establish a road leading to an outpost s. of Bethlehem. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** fire sound bombs and tear gas at Palestinian students as they exit their elementary school in al-Tur, then arrest 1 of their parents. (MNA, WAFA 1/15; PCHR 1/22; OCHA 1/23)

In Cairo, the **Arab League** agrees to make the "necessary communications and consultations" with international partners to submit a new proposal on behalf of the Palestinians to the UNSC. Diplomats from 5 Arab countries will form a joint comm. to organize the resubmission, and **PA Pres. Abbas** agrees to respect the comm.'s decisions regarding timing. (AP, HA, JP, MNA, WAFA 1/15; TOI 1/17)

After meeting with the U.S. Consul Gen. to Israel and Palestine Michael Ratney in Ramallah, **PA PM Hamdallah** calls on the international community to pressure Israel into unfreezing its **tax revenue** transfers to the PA. (AJ, REU, WAFA, YA 1/15)

Iranian FM Zarif meets with **German FM Steinmeier** in Berlin, then with **EU foreign affairs chief Mogherini**, to discuss the ongoing negotiations over Iran's disputed nuclear program. In Geneva, reps. of Iran and the U.S. discuss the negotiations. (AFP 1/16; MNA 1/17)

16 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of Jabaliya r.c. open fire on a group of Palestinians, moderately injuring 1. Also, 100s of Palestinians pray outside the **Rafah border crossing**, protesting its closure since 12/23. Meanwhile, **police officers** dismantle a 1,000 kg piece of unexploded Israeli ordnance left in Gaza City after **OPE**. Late at night, unknown persons vandalize the **French Cultural Center**, leaving slogans criticizing French satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo's* recent publication of a cartoon featuring a likeness of the Prophet Muhammad. Also, the **Gaza power plant** resumes operation of a 3d turbine (out of 4 total), following the receipt of aid from the Qatari govt. for additional fuel. Daily scheduled power outages in Gaza decrease from 18 to 12 hours. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Nabi Salih, and Ni'lin), and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum), and nonweekly demonstrations in Surayf village nr. Hebron and outside Ofer detention center. In total, 10 Palestinians are seriously injured (2, Bil'in; 7, Kafr Qaddum; 1, Surayf). Also, **IDF troops** conduct house searches and arrest raids nr. Ramallah, Qalqilya, and in al-'Arub r.c.; patrol nr. Jenin; arrest a Palestinian man at a border crossing n. of Jenin. Separately, a Palestinian throws stones at **Israeli settlers'** vehicles between Jerusalem and

Ramallah, injuring 1. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian in al-'Izzariya. Meanwhile, 100s of Palestinians gather at **Haram al-Sharif** after Friday prayers to protest the *Charlie Hebdo* cartoon. In **s. Israel**, Palestinian bedouin residents of Rahat observe a general strike called for by the **Arab High Follow-Up Comm.** in protest of the 1/14 killing of Sami al-Ajar by Israeli police. The comm. also called for a strike on 1/18. (MNA 1/16; AFP, TOI 1/17; +972 1/19; PCHR 1/22; OCHA 1/23)

ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda opens a preliminary examination into the situation in Palestine to cover the time period since 6/13. Meanwhile, the **UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women Rashida Manjoo** cancels her fact-finding mission to the oPt because Israeli authorities refused to give her a visa. (MNA, TOI 1/16; EI, MNA, WAFA 1/17)

Speaking at a joint press conference, **U.S. Pres. Obama** affirms that he will veto any new sanctions legislation that the new Republican-led Congress may pass, and **UK PM David Cameron** criticizes the sanctions proposals. Meanwhile, **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** meets with **Iranian FM Zarif** in Paris and discusses the negotiations over Iran's disputed nuclear program, as U.S. and Iranian officials meet in Geneva for bilateral talks. Zarif also meets with **French FM Fabius**. (AFP, AP, MNA, TOI 1/16)

17 JANUARY 2015

Off the coast of the Gaza Strip nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing damage. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** punitively shut down a main road s. of Ramallah after Palestinians throw stones at Israeli settlers' cars. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Hebron and Ramallah, assaulting 1 to

the point of hospitalization; patrols nr. Qalqilya, Hebron, Tulkarm, Jericho, and Salfit. Also nr. Hebron, **IDF troops** violently disperse a peaceful demonstration with tear gas and stun grenades in Surayf village, injuring and detaining several Palestinians. **Israeli soldiers** also arrest a Palestinian at the separation wall nr. Jenin. **Israeli settlers** uproot 20 olive trees outside Turmus 'Ayya and Ramallah. (MNA, WAFA 1/17; MNA 1/18; PCHR 1/22)

Following Iranian officials' separate meetings with the U.S. and Russian delegations in Geneva, **Iran's Dep. FM Abbas Araghchi** says, "We remain hopeful and I think that if the other side has the necessary goodwill and determination, it will be possible to reach a deal," reflecting the optimistic atmosphere surrounding the upcoming round of negotiations. (MNA 1/17)

18 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **civil employees** in the **ministries of public works, labor, justice, and women's affairs** go on strike in protest of the fact that they haven't been paid a full salary since 6/2. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** assault Palestinian workers during a raid on a bakery in c. Nablus, injuring 3. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Tulkarm, Hebron, Nablus, and Ramallah; patrols in 1 village and al-Fawar r.c. nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** destroy 12 olive trees and saplings in a village nr. Nablus and leave racist price-tag graffiti. In **s. Israel**, **Israeli police** violently disperse around 10,000 Palestinians protesting after a funeral held in **Rahat** for Sami al-Ajar, the Palestinian bedouin killed by police on 1/14, killing another Palestinian bedouin with tear gas, injuring over 40, and detaining 5 for throwing stones. The **Arab High Follow-Up Comm.** calls for an extension of the general strike in Rahat began

after al-Ajar's killing, and for a general strike in all Palestinian areas of Israel on 1/20. (MNA 1/17, 1/18; +972, JP, MNA, WAFA 1/19; MNA, OCHA 1/23)

Following **Canadian FM John Baird's** meeting with **PA FM al-Maliki** in Ramallah, dozens of Palestinians throw shoes and eggs at Baird's vehicle, protesting Canada's recent pro-Israel positions. (MNA, WAFA 1/18)

The **PA unity govt.** announces that it will pay its civil servants 60% of their salaries for 12/2014 by the end of the week. The funds were reportedly collected through loans from banks, aid from Arab countries, and existing domestic resources. Around 200 PA employees loyal to **Mohammad Dahlan** will not receive paychecks. (MNA, WAFA 1/18; NYT 1/20; TOI 1/25)

In Syria, an Israeli helicopter fires 2 missiles at a 3-car convoy nr. Qunaytra in the Golan Heights, killing 6 **Hizballah** fighters and 6 mbrs. of the **Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps**. (AFP 1/18; JP, MNA 1/19; JP 1/20; YA 1/31)

Dep. ministers from **Iran and the P5+1** meet in Geneva for negotiations over Iran's disputed nuclear program. Earlier in the day, reps. of China and Iran conduct bilateral meetings. (ALM 1/18; AP 1/21)

19 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **civil employees** continue their strike for a 2d day, protesting the fact that they haven't been paid a full salary since 6/2. Separately, almost 200 Palestinians gather nr. the **French Cultural Center** in Gaza City to protest the recent publication of cartoons featuring the Prophet Muhammad by Paris-based satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo*. Gaza's police arrest 7 of the protesters. Late at night after the protests, unknown assailants set off a homemade bomb under the car of an administrative official with Hamas's military

police, which was parked outside his home in Shaykh Radwan. Off the coast nr. al-Sudaniyya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no injuries. Additionally, **Israeli naval forces** capture a boat sailing from the Sinai to Gaza with materials for building rockets and detain the 3 Palestinians aboard, according to the IDF. (The incident will not be reported until 2/11, due to an IDF gag order.) In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** expel 2 Palestinian women from their home in c. Hebron, then seal the property. In nearby villages, **Israeli forces** close 2 Palestinian-owned stores; destroy a well and an animal barn. They also deliver a stop-work order to a site nr. Jenin where Palestinians are building a new park. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Hebron, Ramallah, Qalqilya, Jenin, and at Nur Shams r.c. nr. Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem** neighborhoods, **Israeli forces** demolish 2 homes and a residential building. As a result, 1 Palestinian woman is injured with a rubber-coated metal bullet during clashes with **IDF troops** in Issawiyya. Nearby, **Israeli forces** arrest 9 Palestinians, including 1 pregnant Palestinian journalist and 4 other women at **Haram al-Sharif**. Across **Israel**, 100s of Palestinians gather to protest the killing of 2 Palestinian bedouins in **Rahat** on 1/14 and 1/18. After a funeral for the man killed on 1/18, clashes break out between residents of Rahat and **Israeli police**, but police refrain from using crowd-dispersal measures on orders from a district cmdr. Meanwhile, residents of Rahat continue their strike. (MNA, WAFA 1/19; JP, MNA, WAFA 1/20; HA, MEE 1/21; PCHR 1/22; OCHA 1/23; YA 2/11)

In Brussels, EU FMs agree to appeal the **Gen. Court of the EU's** 12/17 decision to remove Hamas from the body's list of foreign terrorist organizations. (AFP, JP 1/19)

20 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Egyptian authorities** open the Rafah border crossing for passage in both directions. **Civil employees** go on a 1-day **general strike** in protest of the fact that they haven't been paid a full salary since 6/2, and dozens stage a sit-in protest outside the **PA unity govt.'s** headquarters in Gaza City. Off the coast 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 a peaceful protest outside Ofer detention center nr. Ramallah, injuring 1 Palestinian with live ammunition. **Israeli forces** demolish 2 homes, a store, and a barn in a village s. of Hebron; deliver 34 evacuation notices to Palestinian families in 2 villages in the Jordan Valley. The **IDF** also conducts house searches and arrest raids in 'Askar r.c., Balata r.c., al-'Arub r.c., as well as nr. Ramallah and Hebron, where they arrest a journalist with al-Aqsa TV; patrols nr. Hebron, Qalqilya, and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** clash with stone-throwing Palestinians in al-Tur and Issawiyya, injuring 2 with rubber-coated metal bullets. They also arrest Palestinians in al-Tur, Issawiyya, and Bab Hettah. Meanwhile, around 40 officials from Israel's Foreign Affairs Ministry and 30 right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif** accompanied by **IDF troops**. In **Israel**, Palestinian citizens observe a **general strike** protesting the killing of 2 Palestinian bedouin men in Rahat by Israeli police. Residents of **Rahat** continue their strike, which they began on 1/18, and around 200 Palestinians throwing stones clash with Israeli police; 4 Palestinians are arrested. (MEE, MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/20; HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 1/21; PCHR 1/22; MNA 1/23)

In his annual State of the Union address, **U.S. Pres. Obama** reiterates his promise to veto any new legislation relating to the sanctions on Iran that would threaten the ongoing negotiations between Iran and the P5+1. (NYT 1/21; HA 1/23)

The **IAEA** publishes a report on **Iran's** adherence to the Joint Plan of Action, which governs its negotiations with the **P5+1**. It concludes that Iran has not enriched any uranium above 5% or made any "further advances" at the Natanz or Fordow plants, or the Arak reactor. (AP 1/21)

21 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Egyptian authorities** keep the **Rafah border crossing** open for a 2d day. Off the n. coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire with live ammunition on **Palestinian fishing boats**, moderately injuring 1 fisherman. Also, the **Gaza power plant** shuts down 1 of its 3 currently operating turbines due to lack of fuel imports, increasing the planned power outages from 12 to 18 hours per day. In the **West Bank**, the municipal govt. of the Kiryat Arba settlement delivers a notice of unpaid property taxes to a Palestinian on whose lands the settlement was built, which will reportedly force him and his family to leave their land. Separately, **Israeli forces** demolish 2 homes and 2 animal shelters in a village in the s. Hebron hills. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Nablus, Hebron, Jenin, as well as Tulkarm r.c.; patrols nr. Hebron and Tulkarm. They also arrest 1 Palestinian at a military checkpoint nr. Bethlehem. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a home in Jabal Mukabir and a building in Shu'fat; conduct house searches and arrest raids in Silwan. Meanwhile, security guards deny a group of

right-wing Jewish activists entry to **Haram al-Sharif**. In **Israel**, a Palestinian man from Tulkarm attacks Jewish Israelis on a bus in Tel Aviv, injuring 13 with a knife, before police shoot him in the leg and detain him. (AFP, HA, MDW, MNA, NPR, WAFA 1/21; MNA, PCHR 1/22; MNA 1/23; PCHR 1/29; OCHA 1/30)

The **PLO Exec. Comm.** meets in Ramallah to discuss the submission of a new draft res. to the UNSC. It would call for 1 year of negotiations sponsored by the UNSC's permanent mbrs., and a 2-year timetable for the end of the Israeli occupation. (MNA 1/20)

U.S. Speaker of the House of Reps. John Boehner (R-OH) announces that Israeli PM Netanyahu has accepted his invitation to come to Washington and address a special meeting of Congress on Iran. (See the QU for more.) The **Obama admin.** criticizes Boehner and Netanyahu for not informing the White House before today. Netanyahu will address Congress on 3/3. (HA, POL, REU, TOI 1/21; MDW 1/22)

22 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **Egyptian authorities** keep the **Rafah border crossing** open for a 3d day. Meanwhile, unknown assailants blow up the car of a local **Fatah** leader using a flammable liquid. Off the coast nr. al-Sudaniyya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing damage. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** e. of Rafah open fire on agricultural land along the border fence, causing damage. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish several residential and storage structures owned by Palestinians nr. Jerusalem and deliver a stop-work order to a construction site nr. Hebron. The **IDF** patrols nr. Hebron and Jenin; raids 3 homes in Tulkarm overnight belonging to friends and family of the Palestinian man who stabbed 13 Jewish Israelis

in Tel Aviv on 1/21, arresting 2. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** conduct arrest raids in al-Tur. In **West Jerusalem**, around **10 Jewish Israelis** attack a Palestinian Druze university student, severely injuring him, after they hear him speaking in Arabic. (MNA, WAFA 1/22; HA 1/23; PCHR 1/29)

PA PM Hamdallah meets with **Swedish consul-gen. Ann-Sofie Nilsson** in Ramallah. Hamdallah calls on the international community to pressure Israel into unfreezing the transfers of tax revenue to the PA, which have been held since 1/2. Meanwhile, **reps. of the PA and Russia** meet and sign 2 bilateral agreements, which will establish joint comms. to supervise economic cooperation between them. (MNA 1/22, 1/23)

In Israel, the major **non-Zionist parties**—Hadash, Balad, Ta'al, and Ra'am—announce that they have agreed to run on a **joint list** in the 3/17 election. Ayman Odeh, newly elected chair of Hadash, will lead the list. (See QU for more.) Earlier in the day, the **Knesset House Comm.** approved the request to split the Ra'am and Ta'al parties, which were joined at the United Arab List in the current Knesset under Ahmad Tibi's leadership. (HA, TOI 1/22; +972, HA, NYT 1/23)

The **State Dept.** announces that neither **Pres. Obama** nor **Secy. of State Kerry** will meet with **Israeli PM Netanyahu** when he visits Washington to address a special session of Congress on 3/3. A State Dept. spokesperson cites "long-standing practice and principle" when explaining why the pres. would not meet with another head of state 2 weeks ahead of his or her national election. (HA, JP 1/22; JTA 2/1)

Sixty-three of the 751 mbrs. of the **EU parliament** send a letter to **foreign affairs chief Mogherini** asking her to suspend the EU-Israel Association Agreement, which has governed the trade relationship since 2000. The 63 MEPs cite

serious violations of international law committed during OPE. (See Doc. A3.) (WAFA 1/27; EI 2/4)

23 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of Jabaliya open fire on a group of Palestinian youth nr. the border fence, injuring 1. Off the s. coast, **Egyptian naval forces** open fire on a **Palestinian fishing boat**, injuring 1 fisherman and arresting the other. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Nabi Salih, and Ni'lin), and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum), injuring 4 Palestinians with rubber-coated metal bullets and gas canisters in Bil'in. **Israeli soldiers** also violently disperse protests outside Ofer detention center and Silwad nr. Ramallah, injuring 4 Palestinians, as well as in Susiya village nr. Hebron, where they assault **Mustafa Barghouti**, secy.-gen. of the Palestinian National Initiative. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids in Ni'lin; patrols nr. Hebron, Ramallah, Tulkarm, Jenin, and Jericho. An **Israeli settler** attempts to hit a Palestinian child with his car nr. Tulkarm. Separately, unknown assailants throw stones at Israeli settlers' cars nr. the Ofra settlement, lightly injuring 2 women. In **East Jerusalem**, **IDF troops** clash with Palestinians in Wadi al-Juz, al-Tur, al-Izzariya, and Abu Tor, firing tear gas and stun grenades and detaining 5 Palestinian youths. The **Israeli police** arrest 3 Palestinian women as they exit **Haram al-Sharif** and ban 4 others from entering the area for 3 days, following their release from detention late on 1/22. (MNA, TOI 1/23; MNA, WAFA 1/24; PCHR 1/29)

24 JANUARY 2015

Off the coast of the **Gaza Strip** nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing damage. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct arrest raids and house searches nr. Hebron, Bethlehem, and Qalqilya; patrol in the same village nr. Qalqilya, as well as al-Fawar r.c. and nr. Hebron, Jenin, Salfit, Tulkarm, Jericho, and Ramallah. Meanwhile, **Israeli settlers** shoot and injure a Palestinian on his land nr. Bethlehem and, separately, throw stones at Palestinian vehicles nearby. Meanwhile, **1,000s of Palestinians** march in Hebron and Ramallah to protest French satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo*'s recent publication of a cartoon depicting Prophet Muhammad. Several Palestinians throw pipe bombs at a small **IDF** structure nr. the Beit El settlement, causing damage. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** shoot and injure a Palestinian with a rubber-coated metal bullet during clashes in al-Tur. They also conduct house searches and arrest raids in the Old City. (MNA, WAFA 1/24, 1/25; PCHR 1/29)

25 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis open fire on Palestinian homes nr. the border fence, causing no injuries. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Palestinian youths** in c. Hebron throw stones at **IDF troops**, sparking clashes; 2 Palestinians are arrested. The **IDF** arrests 1 Palestinian traveling to work in Israel from Qalqilya and another going to visit his brother in a hospital in Jerusalem. **IDF troops** also conduct house searches and arrest raids nr. Hebron and Qalqilya; patrol nr. Qalqilya, Jericho, Ramallah, Salfit, and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** chop down over 30 olive trees

outside a village nr. Hebron. **PA security forces** conduct an arrest raid in a village nr. Jerusalem. In **East Jerusalem**, **IDF troops** detain a 10-year-old Palestinian and his uncle in a park in al-Tur, sparking clashes with other residents. They also conduct house searches and arrest raids in the Old City. Right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif**; **IDF troops** arrest 3 Palestinian women who confront them. (MNA 1/25; MNA, WAFA 1/26; PCHR 1/29)

26 JANUARY 2015

Off the coast of the **Gaza Strip**, **Israeli naval forces** twice open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing damage and detaining 4 Palestinian fishermen. In the **West Bank**, 100s of Palestinians organized by Fatah gather in various locations to call for boycotts of Israeli products, an end to the Israeli occupation, and for the Israeli govt. to unfreeze transfers of tax revenues held since 1/2. Dozens of **Israeli settlers**, accompanied by **IDF troops** perform religious rites in a Palestinian village nr. Nablus, leading to clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians in nearby Balata r.c. and 'Askar r.c.; 1 Palestinian is moderately injured by live ammunition. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Qalqilya; patrols in al-'Arub r.c. and Nur Shams r.c., as well as nr. Hebron, Tulkarm, and Jenin. In **East Jerusalem**, an **undercover Israeli policeman** arrests a 10-year-old Palestinian in Shu'fat suspected of throwing stones at the light rail, sparking clashes in the area during which 1 Israeli officer is lightly injured. Meanwhile, **Israeli municipal officials** deliver a demolition notice to a Palestinian in Sur al-Bahir. **Israeli police** detain 3 Palestinian women as they exit **Haram al-Sharif**. (MNA 1/24; WAFA 1/25; HA, JP, MNA, WAFA 1/26; MNA, WAFA 1/27; PCHR 1/29)

Reps. of the **Middle East Quartet** (the U.S., EU, UN, and Russia) meet in Brussels to discuss methods of revitalizing the peace negotiations in the wake of the 12/30 UNSC vote rejecting a timetable for the Israeli occupation. (REU 1/27)

The **IDF** announces that it has dismissed 43 veterans and active reservists of Unit 8200, an intelligence gathering division, in response to their refusal of service, which they announced in a letter published by the *Guardian* and *Yedioth Ahronoth* on 9/12. (See Docs. C1 and C2 in *JPS* 174 for more.) (+972, HA, YA 1/26)

27 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis open fire on Palestinian farmers nr. the border fence, causing damage. Meanwhile, unknown assailants set fire to the Dept. of Prisoners Affairs building in Jabaliya r.c., causing moderate damage. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians protesting the closure of the entrance to their village nr. Ramallah. In the ensuing clashes, 3 Palestinians are injured with rubber-coated metal bullets. The **IDF** conducts house searches, arrest raids, and patrols nr. Jenin and Hebron. They also arrest 3 Palestinians at a checkpoint nr. Jenin. **Israeli authorities** deliver demolition notices to a village nr. Hebron for 2 animal barns and a residential building. Dozens of Palestinian youth throw stones at an IDF watchtower s. of Bethlehem, sparking clashes in which 1 Palestinian is moderately injured and detained. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct house searches and arrests in the Old City. (MNA, WAFA 1/27; PCHR 1/29)

UNRWA suspends the operation of its cash assistance program in Gaza, which provides aid for the 96,000 refugee families whose homes were partially or completely destroyed during OPE. (See Doc. A1 for more.) **Director of**

Operations Robert Turner says that the agency has received only \$135 m. of the \$720 m. pledged by international donors. (+972, AFP, REU 1/27)

From **Syria**, 4 rockets are fired into the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights** and 2 land nr. the Hermon ski resort, causing no injuries. The **IDF** responds by firing 20 artillery shells into Syria. Meanwhile, Iran sends a message to the U.S. govt. saying that Israel should expect retaliation for its 1/18 attack that killed 6 Hizballah fighters and 6 mbrs. of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps. (AFP, HA, JP 1/27; AFP 1/28)

In the U.S. Senate, **Robert Menendez (D-NJ)** and **Mark Kirk (R-IL)** introduce the **Nuclear Weapon Free Iran Act of 2015** after weeks of deliberation and debate. It would increase congressional oversight on the P5+1's negotiations with Iran and reinstate sanctions should the negotiations fail to culminate in a final agreement. (See S. 269 on congressionalmonitor.org.) Earlier in the day, Menendez and 9 other Democratic supporters of the bill send a letter to the White House saying that they will not push for a vote until after the end of 3/2015, the deadline that the P5+1 and Iranian negotiators have set to reach a political accord. (POL, REU 1/27; TOI 1/28)

28 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, around 200 Palestinians violently protest outside the UN's headquarters in Gaza City against UNRWA's 1/27 suspension of its cash assistance program. The protest was organized by a Hamas comm. **IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis open fire on agricultural lands, causing damage. Unknown assailants set fire to a **Fatah** official's car in **Gaza City**. Also, dozens of Palestinian health professionals gather outside the Ministry of

Health building to protest unpaid salaries. In the **West Bank**, a Palestinian youth is moderately injured when he sets off a piece of unexploded Israeli ordnance left over after recent **IDF** exercises nr. 'Ayn al-Hilwa in the Jordan Valley. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches nr. Hebron and Jenin. In **East Jerusalem**, **IDF troops** conduct house searches and arrest raids in the Old City. An **Israeli settler** attempts to kidnap a Palestinian youth in Silwan, moderately injuring him in the attack. (AFP, MNA, WAFA 1/28; HA, MNA, PCHR 1/29; HA 1/30; PCHR 2/5)

Hours after the **IDF** retaliated to projectile fire from Syria on 1/27, **Hizballah** fighters fire an antitank missile from inside Lebanon at an **IDF convoy** in a disputed area along the border nr. Shaba' Farms, killing 2 soldiers and injuring 7. The **IDF** responds with artillery fire, killing a Spanish peacekeeper with the **UN Interim Force in Lebanon** (UNIFIL). About an hour later, **Hizballah** fires mortars at several **IDF** positions in the area, causing no injuries. The **IDF** responds again by firing between 25 and 50 artillery shells and conducting **IAF** flyovers. Following the exchange, **Hizballah** and the Israeli govt. then exchange messages through UNIFIL expressing the desire to avoid further escalation. (AFP, BBC, HA, JP, MNA, TOI 1/28)

U.S. House of Reps. minority leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) calls **Israeli PM Netanyahu** and asks him to postpone or cancel his planned 3/3 congressional address. **Netanyahu** also speaks to Sens. Harry Reid (D-NV), the minority leader, and Chuck Schumer (D-NY), a prominent supporter of Israel. (RC 1/28; JP 1/29; HA 1/30)

29 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, unknown assailants throw a grenade into the home of **Fatah** Asst. Dep. of the Palestinian Civil Affairs Ministry Nasser

al-Sarraj. The grenade does not explode and no one is injured. In 2 separate incidents off the coast nr. Gaza City and Jabaliya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing damage to 1 boat. **IDF troops** e. of Rafah detain 2 armed Palestinians as they attempt to cross the border fence into Israel. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a water distribution network that services the n. Jordan Valley, as well as a house and a barn nr. Hebron. Sparked by an **IDF** raid in c. Bayt Umar nr. Hebron, Palestinian residents clash with the Israeli troops, lightly injuring 1 soldier. Nearby, **IDF troops** shoot tear gas canisters at Palestinian youth as they leave an UNRWA school. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids and house searches nr. Hebron and Ramallah; patrols nr. Hebron, Jenin, Qalqilya, Ramallah, and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, an **Israeli settler** attempts to kidnap a Palestinian child in Jabal Mukabir. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches in al-Tur, Ras al-Amud, and Ras Khamis. (MNA, WAFA 1/29; JTA 1/30; PCHR 2/5)

UN Special Coordinator Serry's office (UNSCO) releases a statement announcing that the UN is going to review its operations in Gaza after the violent, Hamas-organized protest outside its headquarters on 1/28. The statement also blames Hamas for not adequately providing security for the protest. The UNSCO has been principally in charge of facilitating the UN-administered reconstruction procedure and mediating between the Israeli authorities, Hamas, and Palestinians in need of support after OPE. (HA 1/30)

The **Israel Electric Corporation** announces that it will begin intermittently cutting power to the West Bank at the end of the mo. due to the PA's outstanding debts, which total around NIS 1.8 m. (around \$458 m.). (MEMO, YA 1/29)

Yisrael Beytenu delivers a petition to the **Central Elections Comm. (CEC)** calling for the disqualification of **MK Haneen Zoabi** from the 3/17 elections on the basis of her support for boycott and armed resistance against Israel. (HA, JP 1/29)

The **U.S. Senate Banking Comm.** votes, 18–4, to pass the **Nuclear Weapon Free Iran Act of 2015**, which Sens. Menendez (D-NJ) and Kirk (R-IL) introduced on 1/27. A White House spokesperson consequently reaffirms Pres. Obama’s pledge to veto the bill. (AFP, REU 1/28; AP, YA 1/29)

Seventy-five U.S. sens. sign on to a letter, initiated by **Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Marco Rubio (R-FL)**, to U.S. Secy. of State Kerry calling for a suspension of aid to the PA while the Obama admin. reviews the Palestinians’ accession to the **ICC**. (JTA 1/30)

30 JANUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis open fire on agricultural land nr. the border fence, causing no damage or injuries. Later, **Israeli soldiers** e. of Rafah arrest 3 Palestinians as they attempt to cross the border into Israel. Meanwhile, Palestinians gather outside **UNRWA’s** office in Gaza City in a sit-in protest organized by Hamas against the agency’s 1/27 suspension of its cash assistance program. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at weekly demonstrations against Israel’s separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil’in, Nabi Salih, and Ni’lin), and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum); 1 Palestinian in each Nabi Salih and Kafr Qaddum are moderately injured. The **IDF** also disperses stone-throwing Palestinian youth nr. Ramallah; conducts house searches and arrest

raids nr. Hebron; patrols nr. Hebron, Ramallah, and Tulkarm, as well as al-‘Arub r.c. (MNA 1/30; PCHR 2/5)

The **Israeli govt.** publishes tenders for the construction of a hotel and several offices in Ma’ale Adumim and 450 new homes in 4 other **settlements** in the West Bank. Also, the **Jerusalem Building and Planning Comm.** republishes a plan for 93 new housing units in s. Gilo in East Jerusalem. (HA, Peace Now 1/30)

Acting pres. of the **UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC)** Joachim R cker receives a letter of complaint from Israel’s permanent rep. to the UN in Geneva Eviatar Manor, alerting him to the previously unreported fact that the head of the UNHRC’s 3-mbr. commission currently investigating possible war crimes committed during OPE, **William Schabas**, was paid \$1,300 for a consulting job with the PLO in 2012. (HA 2/3)

31 JANUARY 2015

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** open fire with live ammunition on a group of young Palestinians throwing Molotov cocktails at Israeli settlers’ cars nr. Nablus, killing 1 and lightly injuring another. Later, **Israeli settlers** gather between Nablus and Ramallah to throw rocks at Palestinians’ cars. Also, **IDF troops** deploy heavily in the area, arresting 1 Palestinian at a mobile checkpoint and a relative of the deceased Palestinian on a raid in Burin village. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids in Hebron and nr. Salfit; patrols nr. Ramallah, Jericho, Qalqilya, and Jenin. **Israeli settlers** cut down a number of olive and almond trees outside Yatta nr. Hebron. **PA security forces** conduct house searches and raids in Nablus and nearby Balata r.c. In the Gaza Strip, **IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis open fire on agricultural land nr. the border fence, causing

damage. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli police** arrest 1 Palestinian youth for allegedly shooting fireworks at them while they patrol in al-Tur and, later, 2 other Palestinians on arrest raids in the neighborhood. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/31; PCHR 2/5)

A **Hamas** delegation meets with senior **Hizballah** officials in Beirut to discuss the recent tension on the Lebanon-Israel border and possible avenues for cooperation. (JP 2/1)

Egypt's Court of Urgent Matters designates **Hamas's** armed wing, Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades, as a terrorist organization. The court's ruling cites the armed wing's role in the 10/24 attack on Egyptian security forces in Sinai that was claimed by the group now known as the **Sinai Province of the Islamic State**. (AHR, MEE, REU, TOI 1/31)

1 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis shoot live ammunition and smoke bombs at Palestinians protesting the Israeli occupation and blockade nr. the border fence, causing no injuries. Late at night, **IDF troops** e. of al-Bureij arrest 3 Palestinians approaching the border fence to attempt to cross into Israel. In 3 separate incidents off the coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids in c. Hebron and nr. Bethlehem; patrols nr. Hebron and Qalqilya. **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian in c. Hebron on the suspicion that he was going to enter al-Ibrahimi Mosque with a knife. In 2 separate incidents nearby, **Israeli settlers** hit a Palestinian and an Israeli photographer for the human rights

organization B'Tselem with their cars, injuring both. **Israeli forces** deliver stop-work orders to Palestinians constructing 2 homes in Bayt Umar nr. Hebron and confiscate a tractor being used for the project; demolish 2 farmhouses, a well, 800 dunams of crops, and 500 m of stone walls in a village s. of Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian man at **Haram al-Sharif** and another on a raid in the Old City. An **Israeli settler** shoots and injures a Palestinian youth as he tends to a herd of sheep in Silwan. (MNA, WAFA 2/1; PCHR 2/5)

PM Hamdallah says that the PA will be paying its employees a portion of their salaries "soon," but that the Israeli govt. may be freezing transfers of tax revenues for the 2d mo. in a row. (MNA, WAFA 2/1; JP 2/2)

MK Masud Ghnaim (United Arab List) says that the **newly united list of non-Zionist parties** will not join a coalition formed by PM Netanyahu or his chief rivals, MKs Herzog and Livni, but that it would support a center-left bloc, confirming the stance presented by **MK Ahmad Tibi** on 1/17. (TOI 2/1)

2 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of c. Gaza arrest 4 Palestinians as they attempt to cross the border fence into Israel. In 4 separate incidents off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing damage. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse with tear gas and rubber-coated metal bullets dozens of Palestinians protesting **Israeli pres. Rivlin's** visit to c. Hebron, injuring 1. Rivlin gives an inauguration speech at a Jewish history museum. It is the 1st visit to Hebron for a sitting Israeli pres. since 1998. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Salfit, Hebron, Jenin, Jericho, and in 'Aqabat Jabir r.c; patrols nr. Qalqilya and

Hebron. They also arrest a Palestinian at a checkpoint nr. Bethlehem who is on his way to visit his brother in prison. An **Israeli settler** deliberately rams his car into a car full of **PA security forces** outside al-‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, injuring 7. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** patrol nr. a school in al-Tur, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youth; 4 of the Palestinians are arrested and dozens suffer from tear gas inhalation. An **Israeli settler** hits a Palestinian woman with his car nr. the Old City, moderately injuring her. (MNA, WAFA 2/2; AFP, WAFA 2/3; PCHR 2/5; EI 2/6)

The **Jordanian govt.** returns its amb. to Tel Aviv today after he was recalled on 11/5/2014 following serious clashes at the site that day and the Israeli govt.’s closing of **Haram al-Sharif** on 10/30. (AFP, HA, JP 2/2)

William Schabas resigns after 5 mos. as head of the 3-mbr. **UNHRC**’s commission investigating possible war crimes committed during OPE. In his resignation letter, Schabas cites Israeli allegations of bias and says he does not want to detract from the report’s findings. **Israeli PM Netanyahu** calls for the inquiry to be shelved, but UN officials say it will continue, as scheduled. (AJ, REU 2/2; AFP, WAFA 2/3)

3 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, a bomb explodes in an **Egyptian troop transport** in the n. Sinai Peninsula along the border with **Gaza**. Then, Egyptian soldiers open fire on 2 Palestinian military posts across the border nr. Rafah, causing no injuries. The **Hamas-run govt.** in Gaza says that it was not involved in the initial bombing, while Egyptian authorities blame Hamas for the bombing. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. Meanwhile, dozens of Palestinian

refugees gather in front of the **Ministry of Labor**, protesting the lack of jobs in the Strip. In the **West Bank**, around 250 Palestinian and international activists set up a **tent camp**, named “**Gate of Jerusalem**,” in Abu Dis to protest the Israeli govt.’s settlement policies and its plans to displace Palestinian bedouins in the E1 area. Late at night, **Israeli soldiers** raid the camp and later return to demolish it and forcibly remove the activists. (See the QU for more.) **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and arrest raids nr. Hebron and ‘Aqabat Jabir r.c.; patrols nr. Hebron, Jenin, Jericho, and Qalqilya. They also deliver demolition notices to the Palestinian owners of 3 tents and 2 barns nr. Ramallah. Meanwhile, **Israeli settlers**, accompanied by **IDF troops**, break into a Palestinian residential complex nr. Bethlehem and erect Israeli flags. In **East Jerusalem**, over 20 right-wing Jewish activists accompanied by 12 Israeli police enter **Haram al-Sharif** and tour the area. During a patrol in the Old City, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian. (AFP, REU, WAFA 2/3; MNA, WAFA 2/4; PCHR 2/5)

4 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis open fire on Palestinian farmers nr. the border fence, causing damage. In the **West Bank**, dozens of Palestinian and international activists rebuild the “**Gate of Jerusalem**” **tent camp** in Abu Dis, and the **IDF** tears it down hours later for the 2d time in 2 days. Meanwhile, **100s of Palestinians** march through Ramallah to the home of the Jordanian amb. following **ISIS**’s 2/3 video depicting its fighters killing a Jordanian hostage. In the morning, **IDF troops** raid a Palestinian high school in Nablus, evacuating it and detaining its principal and asst. principal. The **IDF** arrests a Palestinian

child at the Allenby border crossing with Jordan; conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Hebron, Ramallah, Salfit, and in Tulkarm. **Israeli forces** also deliver demolition orders to Palestinians in Silwan nr. Ramallah for several wells. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli police** arrest a 10-year-old Palestinian outside his home in al-Tur. In the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights**, an **IDF soldier** is moderately injured by a landmine nr. the border. (HA, MNA, WAFA 2/4; MNA, WAFA 2/5; PCHR 2/12)

The **Israeli govt.** continues **freezing transfers of tax revenues** to the PA in response to the Palestinians' accession to the ICC. Following the 1/2 freeze of NIS 500 m. (around \$127.6 m.) of revenues collected in 12/2014, Israel collected around \$100 m. worth of revenues in 1/2015. A senior Israeli official says that the freeze will continue until the govt. "finishes formulating its response to the PA's unilateral move to the ICC, a step that runs contrary to all previous agreements." (JP 2/4; MNA 2/11)

Israeli amb. to the U.S. Ron Dermer meets with **7 Jewish Democrats from the House of Reps.** to discuss PM Netanyahu's 3/3 speech to Congress. The mbrs. criticize the timing of the speech. (AP, POL 2/4)

5 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian man at the Erez border crossing. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian man in Hebron after he tries to grab a soldier's gun. The **IDF** patrols nr. Hebron and Jenin, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; 2 Palestinians are injured. At night, they conduct a raid in the village nr. Jenin and arrest 1 Palestinian. **Israeli forces** also detain 2

Palestinians collecting steel outside a settlement nr. Qalqilya. **Israeli settlers** spray olive trees nr. Qalqilya with chemicals, completely destroying 5; establish a new settlement outpost s. of Nablus, erecting movable houses, water tanks, and a fence. An **Israeli settler** hits a Palestinian youth with his car in s. Hebron, causing minor injuries, then flees the scene. **PA security forces** patrol in Balata r.c. nr. Nablus, sparking a firefight with armed Palestinian residents; 3 PA officers are injured. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli police** remove a prominent right-wing Jewish activist from **Haram al-Sharif** after he confronts a group of Muslim worshippers. In **n. Israel**, Jewish Israelis assault a Druze Palestinian IDF soldier in a nightclub nr. Haifa after they overhear him speaking Arabic. (JP, MNA, TOI 2/5; TOI 2/7; MNA 2/10)

6 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, unknown assailants destroy the car of a senior **Hamas** official with explosives in Nussayrat r.c. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, after Palestinian and international activists rebuild the "**Gate of Jerusalem**" tent camp in Abu Dis, **Israeli forces** return to the area and deliver a 24-hour eviction notice. Hours later, they demolish and evacuate the camp for a 3d time. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in Jalazun r.c. and 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Nabi Salih, Silwad, and Ni'lin), and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum), injuring 3 Palestinians with rubber-coated metal bullets and 1 with a tear gas canister. **IDF troops** also arrest 2 Palestinian boys tending sheep nr. Hebron and 3 others tending their

land nr. Qalqilya. The **IDF** patrols nr. Ramallah, Jenin, Hebron, as well as in al-‘Arub r.c. and Salfit. **Israeli settlers** open fire with live ammunition on Palestinians peacefully protesting nr. Bayt Umar, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct a house search in Ras al-Amud, arresting 1 Palestinian. (IMEMC, MNA 2/6; TOI 2/7; PCHR 2/12)

Israeli PM Netanyahu orders the implementation of a plan that will include the destruction of around 400 Palestinian-owned and EU-funded structures in the West Bank. The order follows the 2/5 publication of a report in the *Daily Mail* on EU funding of Palestinian projects that do not have the correct licenses under Israeli law. (DM 2/5; TOI 2/6; WAFA 2/8)

U.S. VP Joseph R. Biden announces that he will not attend Netanyahu’s speech to Congress on 3/3. (AP, JDF 2/6)

On the sidelines of a security conference in Munich, reps. of the **P5+1 and Iran** discuss Iran’s disputed nuclear program ahead of their end of 3/2015 political accord deadline. **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** and **Iranian FM Zarif** also meet to discuss how sanctions would be lifted under a possible deal and how many centrifuges Iran would be permitted to keep operational. (REU 2/6; JP, TOI 2/7; AFP 2/8)

7 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, a Palestinian man at the European Hospital in Khan Yunis succumbs to injuries sustained in an Israeli air strike on 8/3/2014 during **OPE**. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish and evacuate the tent camp “**Gate of Jerusalem**” after Palestinian and international activists rebuild it in Abu Dis for the 4th time. In separate incidents, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian and international activists protesting outside Ofer military prison

nr. Ramallah and in a village nr. Hebron, causing no injuries. The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids nr. Jenin and Hebron; patrols nr. Ramallah, Tulkarm, Hebron, and in al-Fawar r.c.; arrests 1 Palestinian outside al-Ibrahimi Mosque in c. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** park 5 mobile homes in a Palestinian village nr. Nablus, establishing a new outpost. Separately, an **Israeli settler** opens fire on Palestinian cars driving in the area, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in the Old City. (MNA, WAFA 2/7)

PA Pres. Abbas establishes a special comm. to oversee cases to bring to the ICC, and **senior PLO official Erakat** will serve as its chair. (AFP, HA, WAFA 2/7)

The **Jerusalem Planning and Construction Comm.** approves a call for bids to build 64 new residences in the Ramot settlement in East Jerusalem. (MNA 2/7)

8 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** e. of al-Maghazi open fire on a Palestinian tending to lemon trees nr. the border fence, causing a moderate injury and then arresting him. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians at a checkpoint nr. Jenin; assault a Palestinian university student nearby, causing moderate injuries. They also assault a group of Palestinians peacefully protesting outside an Israeli settlement nr. Bethlehem. **IDF troops** open fire on a Palestinian nr. Bethlehem after he drives his car toward them. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Bethlehem, Salfit, Hebron, and Tulkarm; patrols in al-Fawar r.c., as well as nr. Hebron and Qalqilya. **Palestinians** throw stones at **IDF troops** patrolling nr. Ramallah, injuring 1. In **East Jerusalem**, unknown assailants throw bottles at **Israeli settlers’** buildings in Shaykh Jarrah and

Ras al-Amud, causing damage but no injuries. Later, unknown assailants burn 6 Palestinian-owned cars in Silwan and Abu Tor. **Israeli forces** conduct arrest raids and house searches in Ras al-Amud. In **West Jerusalem**, dozens of Palestinians from al-Tur, East Jerusalem, gather outside the municipal govt. offices to protest the increased arrests of Palestinian children. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 2/8; HA, WAFA 2/9; PCHR 2/12)

UNRWA's office in Gaza announces that over the next week it will distribute \$1.1 m. in cash payments to around 800 families whose homes were partially or completely destroyed during OPE. On 1/27, the office suspended its cash assistance program, which served these same families. Meanwhile, the **PA Finance Ministry** announces that, for the 2d mo. in a row, PA employees whose monthly wage is NIS 2,000 (around \$520) or more will receive only 60% of their salary, and those with lower wages will receive their entire salary. (MNA, WAFA 2/8)

On the sidelines of the security conference in Munich, **U.S. Secy. of State Kerry** meets with reps. of the 3 other mbrs. of the **Middle East Quartet**. In a statement, they call for a resumption of peace negotiations and for all parties to avoid actions that may “prejudice final status issues.” (REU, TOI, YA 2/8)

Also at the Munich conference, **Kerry** and **Iranian FM Zarif** discuss the negotiations over Iran's disputed nuclear program. Both Kerry and Zarif affirm that they do not want to extend the negotiations again. Zarif also meets with FMs of the rest of the P5+1. (AFP, HA, REU, TOI 2/8; ALM 2/12)

9 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, **IDF troops** nr. the border fence e. of Gaza City open fire on dozens of Palestinians protesting the delay in reconstruction efforts following OPE, causing

no injuries. **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Bayt Hanun. Off the coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. Meanwhile, the **IAF** conducts mock air raids over the Strip. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** disperse a group of Palestinians ceremonially planting olive trees in Silwad nr. Ramallah, arresting a senior PA official. During the ensuing clashes, an Israeli settler attacks 2 Palestinian journalists covering the ceremony. The **IDF** also declares a swath of desert land e. of Jerusalem a closed military zone. **IDF troops** conduct house searches and arrest raids nr. Hebron, Jenin, and Ramallah; patrol nr. Hebron, Ramallah, Salfit, Qalqilya, and Tulkarm. Elsewhere, **Israeli settlers** chop down 70 olive trees nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, an **Israeli settler** and his lawyer attempt to evict a Palestinian family from their home in the Old City, which is the last Palestinian-owned home in this area. Meanwhile, 5 Palestinians from al-Tur are indicted on charges relating to a series of attacks on Israeli forces in the last 6 mos. of 2014, which the **Shin Bet** believes to be a neighborhood-wide conspiracy. Separately, **Israeli forces** fire tear gas canisters at Palestinian youth in Ras al-Amud; conduct house searches and raids in Jabal Mukabir. (MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/9; PCHR 2/12)

The Palestinian **National Comm. against Israeli Punitive Measures** announces a boycott of products manufactured by 6 major Israeli companies—Tnuva, Jafora-Tabori, Osem, Prigat, Strauss, and Elite. Comm. chair and Fatah Central Comm. mbr. Mahmoud al-Aloul says that merchants will have 2 weeks to remove the products from their shelves, then they will be subject to random checks from special inspectors. However, the boycott is not legally binding. (HA, JP, WAFA 2/9; MNA, YA 2/10; HA 3/9)

Haaretz reports that the Israeli govt. has marked around 3,740 dunams of the West Bank as state land, with the goal of expanding 4 existing **settlements**—Keddumim, Vered Yericho, Neve Tzuf, and Emmanuel. (HA, WAFA 2/9; YA 2/10)

10 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, Israeli authorities detain a Palestinian businessman as he is passing through the **Erez border crossing**. In the **West Bank**, after Palestinian and international activists rebuild the “**Gate of Jerusalem**” **protest camp** over the last few days, **IDF troops** raid the camp and pass along a 24-hour evacuation notice, demolishing the camp for a 5th time late at night. **IDF troops** raid the home of a deceased Palestinian in Hebron, confiscating NIS 50,000 (around \$13,000) and issuing a summons to his father. The man was killed in a firefight with Israeli soldiers on 9/22 after he and 2 others kidnapped and killed 3 Israeli settler teenagers in 6/2014. **Israeli forces** raze 30 dunams of land nr. Bethlehem, preparing the area for the expansion of nearby Efrat settlement. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches nr. Hebron, Jenin, and Bethlehem; patrols nr. Hebron, Tulkarm, and Jenin. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a home in Silwan, displacing 14 Palestinians; deliver 3 demolition orders to families in Silwan. They also arrest a Palestinian at the Shu‘fat checkpoint. In **c. Israel**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian family’s home in Lydda. (MNA, WAFA 2/10; EI, JP, MNA, WAFA 2/11; PCHR 2/12)

PA Pres. Abbas meets with the **Swedish PM Stefan Lofven** in Stockholm, then inaugurates a new Palestinian embassy. Lofven announces a new aid program that will see 1.5 b. kronor (around \$180 m.) spent on projects that help

fight corruption, promote gender equality and human rights under the PA. (AFP 2/9; REU, WAFA 2/10)

11 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts searches and raids in 1 village nr. Bethlehem, issuing a summons to 1 Palestinian. **Israeli forces** inform residents of a village nr. Hebron that around 2,000 dunams of their land will be seized in 45 days, barring a successful appeal. In **East Jerusalem**, 55 right-wing Jewish activists and Israeli forces enter **Haram al-Sharif** and Palestinian worshippers nonviolently confront them. Elsewhere, **Israeli forces** demolish a stone-cutting workshop in al-Tur after seizing the equipment inside. They also assault 2 Palestinians walking home in Silwan, detaining 1 and sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians in the area. Palestinians in Shu‘fat throw rocks at the **Jerusalem Light Rail**, causing damage. Meanwhile, **Jordan’s amb. to Israel** tours **Haram al-Sharif**. (JP, MNA, WAFA 2/11; MNA, PCHR 2/12)

12 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, dozens of Palestinian students gather in Gaza City to protest the killing of 3 U.S. Muslims in North Carolina on 2/11. In the **West Bank**, Palestinian and international activists rebuild the “**Gate of Jerusalem**” **tent camp** in Abu Dis after the **IDF** demolished and evacuated it for the 5th time on 2/10. Another group of Palestinian activists tears down an iron gate at the entrance of a village nr. Bethlehem that was installed by the **IDF** in 2001. The **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids in Nur Shams r.c.; patrols nr. Qalqilya and Hebron. **IDF troops** disperse Palestinian activists holding a sit-in protest at a checkpoint nr. Ramallah,

detaining dozens. Israeli forces level land outside a village nr. Qalqilya, clearing the area for settlement expansion. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** conduct vehicle searches in Silwan, sparking clashes with youth in the area; 3 Palestinians are assaulted and arrested. (MNA, WAFA 2/12; PCHR 2/19)

After a meeting between **PA PM Hamdallah** and **Nablus gov. Akram al-Rajub** about the recent PA security crackdown in Balata r.c., 7 wanted Palestinians from the camp turn themselves in to PA custody. (MNA 2/12)

Israel's CEC votes 27–6 to disqualify **MK Zoabi (Balad)** from the upcoming election on 3/17, responding to a petition alleging that Zoabi supports armed conflict against Israel. The petition was delivered to the CEC by the Yisrael Beytenu party on 1/29 with the support of the Likud, Shas, and Jewish Home parties. Prior to the vote, the joint list led by **MKs Herzog (Labor)** and **Livni (Hatnua)** ultimately decides to support the petition. (HA, JP, TOI 2/12; AFP 2/13)

13 FEBRUARY 2015

In 2 separate incidents in the **Gaza Strip, IDF troops** e. of Khan Yunis and along the n. border open fire with live ammunition on Palestinian farmers working nr. the fence, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank, Israeli authorities** release 14-year-old Palestinian Malak al-Khatib from prison after arresting her on 12/31 for throwing stones and possessing a knife, the latter being a charge added after the arrest. The **IDF** violently disperses Palestinian, Israeli, and international protesters at demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 5 areas nr. Ramallah (Jalazun r.c., Silwad, Bil'in, Nabi Salih, and Ni'lin), and 1 village nr. Qalqilya (Kafr Qaddum); 1 Palestinian is seriously injured with live ammunition in Kafr Qaddum and 1 is arrested

in Bil'in. The **IDF** also patrols nr. Qalqilya, Jericho, and Ramallah. **PA security forces** conduct raids and house searches in 2 villages around Hebron, detaining 27 people. (MEMO, MNA 2/13; AFP, HA, MNA 2/14; PCHR 2/19)

On a visit to Luxembourg, **PA Pres. Abbas** says that he will be forced to “take harsh steps” if Israel does not unfreeze the transfers of **tax revenues** collected on behalf of the PA for the last 2 mos., denying the PA over \$200 m. (MNA, WAFA 2/14)

14 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **West Bank, IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians protesting restrictions on freedom of movement in 'Azun village nr. Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian is shot in the head with live ammunition and critically injured. The **IDF** conducts house searches and raids nr. Tulkarm; patrols nr. Ramallah, Jericho, Hebron, Tulkarm, as well as al-Fawar r.c. and al-'Arub r.c. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** raid a home in Ras al-Amud, arresting 2 Palestinians. In **West Jerusalem, Jewish Israelis** assault a Palestinian taxi driver, causing moderate injuries. (MNA, WAFA 2/14; WAFA 2/15; PCHR 2/19)

15 FEBRUARY 2015

In the **Gaza Strip**, unknown assailants set fire to the cars of senior **Hamas** and **Fatah** officials in Jabaliya r.c. and Nussayrat r.c., respectively. Off the coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on **Palestinian fishing boats**, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts house searches and arrest raids nr. Jenin and Hebron; patrols nr. Hebron, Tulkarm, Jericho, Ramallah, and Jenin. **Israeli forces** accelerate their efforts at leveling land outside Dayr Istya nr. Salfit, clearing the area for a major settlement expansion. They also

Chronology

begin expanding a **settlement** nr. Bethlehem. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian woman nr. the Old City. (MNA, WAFA 2/15; PCHR 2/19)

In Gaza, **Middle East Quartet envoy Tony Blair** calls for international donors to fulfil their pledges and deliver the funds necessary for the **reconstruction** of the Strip. He also calls on Israel to make a “radical change of approach” and to lift restrictions on Gaza. While in Gaza, Blair meets with PA unity govt. ministers and UN officials. (AP, REU, TOI 2/15; MNA 2/18; HA 2/19)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

+972	(+972 Magazine)	GDN	(Guardian)
AA	(Al Arabiya)	HA	(Haaretz)
AFP	(Agence France-Presse)	ICG	(International Crisis Group)
AHR	(al-Ahram)	IHY	(Israel HaYom)
AJ	(Al Jazeera)	IMEMC	(International Middle East Media Center)
AKH	(al-Akhbar)	IRNA	(Islamic Republic News Agency)
ALM	(Al-Monitor)	JDF	(Jewish Daily Forward)
AM	(Atlantic)	JP	(Jerusalem Post)
AnA	(Anadolu Agency)	JT	(Jordan Times)
AP	(Associated Press)	JTA	(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)
BBC	(British Broadcasting Corporation)	MDW	(Mondoweiss)
B'Tselem	(B'Tselem – The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories)	MEE	(Middle East Eye)
CNN	(Cable News Network)	MEMO	(Middle East Monitor)
DM	(Daily Mail)	MNA	(Ma'an News Agency)
DNE	(Daily News Egypt)	NBC	(National Broadcasting Company)
EN	(Egypt Independent)	NPR	(National Public Radio)
EI	(Electronic Intifada)	NYT	(New York Times)
FP	(Foreign Policy)	OCHA	(United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes)
FT	(Financial Times)	PCHR	(Palestinian Center for Human Rights)
		Peace Now	(Peace Now)
		PNN	(Palestine News Network)
		POL	(Politico)
		RC	(Roll Call)
		REU	(Reuters)
		RT	(RT News)
		SAFA	(Palestinian Press Agency)
		TOI	(Times of Israel)
		WAFA	(Palestine News Agency)
		WP	(Washington Post)
		YA	(Yedioth Ahronoth)