



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS
JOURNALS + DIGITAL PUBLISHING



Chronology

Source: *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Vol. 30, No. 4 (Summer 2001), pp. 172-193

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

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1525/jps.2001.30.4.172>

Accessed: 06/03/2015 14:17

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CHRONOLOGY

16 FEBRUARY–15 MAY 2001

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

16 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes, which have left 365 Palestinians, 19 Israeli Arabs, and 58 Israeli soldiers, settlers, and civilians dead, stretch into their 5th mo. The most severe clashes are in Ramallah. **2 Palestinians** are killed by the **Israel Defense Forces (IDF)**. **Palestinian Authority (PA) General Intelligence Service (GIS) officer Anwar Mar'i** is stabbed to death by Palestinian assailants nr. Salfit; the PA claims it is an IDF-backed assassination. A **4th Palestinian** dies of a heart attack when the IDF delays his passage through a checkpoint to a hospital for over 1 hr. The **IDF** bulldozes Palestinian land nr. the Rafah border, demolishing **7 Palestinian homes**, 10 greenhouses; shells residential areas nr. al-Bireh. (WT 2/17; LAW 2/18; SA 2/19 in WNC 2/21; LAW 2/22)

Outgoing Israeli Labor PM Ehud Barak announces he will join a unity government with **Likud's PM-elect Ariel Sharon** as DM, pending finalization of the government guidelines and the coalition. (MM 2/16; WT 2/17; AYM 2/17 in WNC 2/22; AYM 2/18 in WNC 2/21; MM 2/19; NYT 2/20)

Hizballah fires mortars at an **IDF** convoy in the disputed Shaba' Farms area of the occupied Golan Heights, killing 1 soldier, wounding 2. In response, the IDF bombards **s. Lebanon**, using tanks, artillery, helicopter gunships. (NYT, WP, WT 2/17; MM 2/19–21; WJW 2/22)

The **U.S.**, **Britain** bomb **5 Iraqi** sites, marking the 1st strikes outside the no-fly zones since 12/98, signaling a more confrontational approach to Baghdad by the new administration of **U.S. Pres. George W. Bush**. **3 Iraqi** civilians are killed, 25 are injured. **France**, **Turkey**, the **Arab states** condemn the action. (ATL 2/16, ATL, MENA, MIL 2/17, ATL, HJ, JT, *al-Quds* 2/18, JT, MA, MENA 2/19 in WNC 2/20; NYT, WP, WT 2/17; MIL 2/17, 2/18 in WNC 2/21; NYT, WP, WT 2/18; MM, WP, WT 2/19; MM 2/20; HJ 2/20 in WNC 2/22; MM, WT 2/21; WP 2/22;

MIL 2/22 in WNC 2/23; MEI, MM 2/23; *al-Quds* 2/23 in WNC 2/27; AP, WP 2/25; JP 3/2)

17 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **2 Palestinians** dead. The **IDF** bulldozes Palestinian land nr. Miraj settlement in Gaza; shells residential areas of Hebron, Jinin, Khan Yunis, Rafah, Satih Marhaba, Tulkarm. **Jewish settlers** cut down Palestinian olive groves in Hawara. (HP, LAW 2/18; LAW 2/22)

18 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. **1 Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. The IDF directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Hebron, Khan Yunis (damaging the UNRWA headquarters). (HP, LAW 2/18; LAW 2/22)

19 FEBRUARY

As **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue, **Hamas activist Mahmud Madani** is assassinated by **IDF** soldiers in Balata. The **IDF** shells residential areas of Bayt Jala, al-Khadir, Tulkarm. (WP 2/20; LAW, WT 2/22; *al-Majd* 3/12 in WNC 3/13)

An **Israeli commission** begins public hearings into the death of **13 Israeli Arabs** at the hands of **Israeli police** during clashes in Israel in 10/00. (HA, NYT, WP 2/20; MM, WJW 2/22; WJW 3/1; *Newsweek* 3/5; WJW 3/15; MM 3/26)

Israel, the **U.S.** begin a 6-day air defense exercise in Israel, part of the joint military maneuvers that began in 1/01. (WT 2/19) (see Peace Monitor)

20 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead—a youth killed in his sleep when an **IDF** shell strikes his home in Bayt Jala. The IDF says the shelling was a “preventive” measure to discourage

Palestinian sniping at neighboring Gilo settlement. The **IDF** also demolishes 2 **Palestinian homes** in Bayt Umar; shells residential areas of Bayt Sahur, Bethlehem, al-Bireh (extensively damaging a school for the blind). **Jewish settlers** place caravans on a new site nr. Kafr Dik, which has been the target of repeated confiscation attempts since the 1980s, and begin bulldozing the area. **Israel** allows fuel, newspapers into the West Bank, Gaza for the 1st time since it completely sealed the territories on 2/14. (REU, NYT 2/21; HP, NYT 2/22)

Outgoing PM **Barak** pulls out of a coalition deal with PM-elect **Sharon**, officially resigns as Labor party head. Barak blames Sharon for "political intrigue and maneuvering" for allegedly discussing giving **Labor MK Shimon Peres** the DM position behind his back, but nonetheless advises Labor to join a unity government. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 2/21; MM, NYT, WJW 2/22; MA 2/22 in WNC 2/23; MM 2/23; WJW 3/2; MEI 3/9) (see 2/16)

21 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. The **IDF** conducts arrest sweeps in Shu'fat, Surif; bulldozes Palestinian land around Morag settlement. A mysterious car explosion in the PA-controlled section of Hebron causes no injuries. **Jewish settlers** attack, damage a Red Crescent ambulance nr. Ramallah. The **IDF** issues demolition orders for 20 **Palestinian homes** in Bayt Umar (see 2/20), Yafta. (HP 2/22)

22 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. Nr. Ma'ale Adumim settlement, 4 **Palestinian gunmen** ambush a **Jewish settler's** vehicle, seriously injuring 2 settlers. Palestinians also fire homemade mortars at Netzarim settlement, causing no damage. The **IDF** shells residential areas in Bayt Sahur; seals main roads leading to Dayr al-Balah (destroying a vocational school, a girls' school, 1 home), Jericho, Jinin, Nablus, Tulkarm; conducts arrest sweeps in East Jerusalem, Ras al-Amud; bulldozes Palestinian land nr. Nablus. Palestinians in Jinin, Nablus, Qalqilya note IDF reinforcements in their areas. The **IDF** issues a demolition order for a Palestinian clinic in Aqraba nr. Nablus, which 2 wks. prior treated 2 IDF soldiers injured in a car accident. (HP, MM 2/22; HP, WT 2/23; *al-Quds*, MA 2/23 in WNC 2/26; LAW 3/1)

23 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify, leaving 1 **Palestinian** dead. After Palestinians fire 4 homemade mortars at Dugit, Aley Sinai settlements in Gaza overnight, the **IDF** seals the Strip, blocks roads across Gaza to divide the Strip in half, punitively destroys 2 **PA Preventive Security Force (PSF)** outposts. Later in Gaza, 2 large roadside bombs explode on roads used by IDF convoys, lightly injuring 1 soldier. The **IDF** shells Palestinian residential areas in Bayt Lahia (destroying 1 PSF outpost, severely damaging a 2d), al-Bireh, Jinin; bulldozes Palestinian land nr. Bayt Lahia, Nablus, Netzarim Junction; conducts arrest sweeps in Surif. **Israel** says it plans to ease the closure on the West Bank, Gaza further (see 2/20) by allowing food and medicine in, letting agricultural goods out, facilitating the transportation of patients for medical care in Israel. **Israel**, however, denies exit visas to **several Palestinian Council (PC) mbrs.** who are scheduled to attend an Arab parliamentary conference in the UAE. (HA, HP 2/23; WP, WT 2/24; LAW 3/1)

24 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. The **IDF** shells residential areas of Brazil refugee camp, damaging a school. **Israel** says it will begin allowing Palestinians with VIP passes (e.g., PC mbrs.) to travel btwn. the West Bank and Gaza providing they request permission of the IDF in advance, submit to searches. The **PA** says **Israel** should honor the VIP passes without restrictions as per signed agmts. (MA 2/25 in WNC 2/26; HJ 2/26 in WNC 2/27; LAW 3/1)

U.S. Secy. of State Colin Powell arrives in **Egypt** on the 1st leg of a 3-day tour to meet regional leaders, to discuss the Bush administration's proposal to modify the sanctions regime on **Iraq** to eliminate many economic restrictions, refocus sanctions more narrowly on **Saddam Hussein's** military. After meeting with **Egyptian pres. Husni Mubarak**, Powell heads to **Israel**, where he confers with **Barak** on bilateral, Israeli-Palestinian relations. Powell will also visit **Ramallah, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Syria**. (NYT, WP, WT 2/25; *al-Ra'i* 2/25 in WNC 2/27; WP 2/27; MA 3/1 in WNC 3/5; MEI 3/9)

In Amman, **1,000 Jordanians** attend a rally organized by the Jordan professional associations to protest U.S. Secy. of State **Powell's** visit to the kingdom on 2/25 in light of the U.S. position toward the Palestinians,

Iraq. (JT 2/25 in WNC 2/26; JT 2/26 in WNC 2/27)

25 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. A **2d, ailing Palestinian** dies at an **IDF** checkpoint after soldiers bar him fr. crossing to reach a hospital in Ramallah. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire on residential areas of Hebron, Qalqilya, Tulkarm. **Jewish settlers** bulldoze Palestinian land around Ashkalot settlement, place new caravans on the site. Settlers are also reportedly moving boundary fences, adding trailers, bulldozing Palestinian land around Beit Hagay, Gush Etzion, Karme Tzur, Nahal Najhout, Tene **settlements**. (HP 2/26; HJ 2/26 in WNC 2/27; LAW 3/1)

U.S. Secy. of State **Powell** meets with **Sharon** in Israel, **PA head Yasir Arafat** in Ramallah (marking only the 2d time Israel has allowed Arafat into the West Bank since 9/28/00); urges them to halt violence, resume security cooperation, improve Palestinian economic conditions in the West Bank, Gaza; assures Sharon that the U.S. commitment to **Israel's** security will remain solid under the **Bush administration**. Powell then stops in Amman to meet **King Abdallah of Jordan**, heads on to **Kuwait** for celebrations marking the 10th anniversary of the end of the Gulf War. (AP, HA, REU 2/25; MM, NYT, WP 2/26; JT, MA 2/26 in WNC 2/27; AYM 2/26 in WNC 3/5; HA 2/27; MM 2/28; QA 2/28 in WNC 3/1; MA 3/1, SA 3/4 in WNC 3/5; JP, MEI 3/9)

26 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. A **2d, ailing Palestinian** dies at an **IDF** checkpoint that she was barred fr. crossing to reach a hospital in Nablus. **Palestinians** detonate 2 roadside bombs nr. **IDF** convoys in Gaza, wounding 1 soldier. The **IDF** shells residential areas nr. Bayt Hanun; bulldozes Palestinian land nr. Khan Yunis, Netzarim Junction, Shaykh Ajlin. **YESHA settlers council** calls on the government to assassinate or expel **Arafat**. (HP 2/26; NYT, WT 2/27; WT 2/28; WJW 3/1; AYM 3/3 in WNC 3/8; MEI 3/9)

The **Labor** party central comm. votes (67% to 32%, with more than half of the 1,675 mbrs. not voting) to join a unity government led by Likud's **Sharon**. Likud says it offered Labor 8 cabinet posts (including DM, FM), equal say in determining security and

diplomatic policy. (MM 2/26; HA, MM, NYT, WP, WT 2/27; HA, MM 2/28; *al-Ra'i* 2/28 in WNC 3/2; MEI 3/9)

U.S. Secy. of State **Powell** stops in **Saudi Arabia**, then heads to Damascus to meet **Pres. Hafiz al-Asad**, who agrees to funnel **Iraq's** revenues fr. oil transported through Syria's pipeline to the UN oil-for-food program. (MM 2/26; NYT, WP, WT 2/27; MM 2/28; SA 3/4 in WNC 3/5; MEI 3/9; JT 3/9 in WNC 3/11)

The **State Dept.**'s annual human rights report criticizes **Israel** for using "excessive force," committing "numerous serious human rights abuses" against Palestinians; faults **PA** forces for participating in, or at least failing to prevent, violence. (NYT, WP 2/26; WT 2/28; AYM 2/28 in WNC 3/5; WJW 3/1; MM 3/14)

27 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. The **IDF** shells residential areas of al-Bireh, Ramallah (damaging the PA Local Government Min., 3 homes, 1 apartment block). **Israeli police** tear down the Damascus Gate market in **East Jerusalem**, run and frequented mostly by Palestinians. The **PA** reports that the private office of **PLO Executive Comm. secy.-gen. and PA senior negotiator Mahmud Abbas** has been hit repeatedly by Israeli gunfire over the past few days. (SA 2/27 in WNC 2/28; LAW 3/1)

28 FEBRUARY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. **1 Palestinian** bleeds to death fr. a non-intifada related injury when the **IDF** blocks her transportation to a hospital at 2 checkpoints, forcing her to take a 3d route; at the 1st checkpoint, soldiers bar her family fr. walking her through the crossing to a waiting ambulance. In **Tel Aviv**, **Israeli police** find, defuse a bomb allegedly planted by a Palestinian. The **IDF** demolishes 2 **Palestinian homes** in Rafat. (UPMRC 2/28; Gush Shalom press release, MM 3/1; WP 3/2)

1 MARCH

A **Palestinian** detonates a bomb in a taxi-van in n. **Israel**, killing **1 Israeli**, wounding himself, 8 other passengers. **1 Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. (NYT, WP, WT 3/2; AYM 3/2 in WNC 3/5; HA 3/25)

2 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **3 Palestinians** dead, including a 9-year-old boy hit by **IDF** gunfire inside his home. A **4th Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. The **IDF** tightens the closure on al-Bireh, Ramallah; shells residential areas of Brazil, Tulkarm. (HP 3/2; LAW, NYT, WP 3/3; LAW, WT 3/4)

Labor selects **MK Benjamin Ben-Eliezer**, a hawkish fm. gen., as DM in a unity government with **Likud**. **MK Salah Tarif**, a Druze, is appointed minister without portfolio, becoming the 1st non-Jewish cabinet mbr. in Israeli history. PM-elect **Sharon** negotiates with smaller, right-wing parties to fill out the coalition. (NYT, WP, WT 3/3)

3 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **3 Palestinians** dead. Hamas's military wing, the **Izzeddine al-Qassam Brigades**, vow to step up suicide bombings in Israel. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of al-Bireh, damaging a school. The **IDF** confirms that it is "working to widen the margins of the settlement blocs in the Gaza Strip in order to bolster **settlers'** security." (JP [Internet] 3/3; LAW, WP, WT 3/4; MEI 3/9)

4 MARCH

In Netanya, a **Palestinian suicide bomber** kills himself and **3 Israelis**, injures 66. Afterward, Israelis seize, beat any Arabs they find, leaving 1 in serious condition. **Hamas** claims responsibility. **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue in the West Bank and Gaza, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. Palestinians fire 2 homemade mortars at Netzarim settlement, causing no injuries. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/5; AFP 3/5 in WNC 3/6; WT 3/6; JP [Internet], NYT, WT 3/7; MEI 3/9; MM 3/12; HA 3/13; JP 3/16; *Toronto Star* 4/30)

5 MARCH

Noting a 50% decline in sales to the PA since 10/00, the **Israel Manufacturers' Association (IMA)** warns that if the **PA** continues to "boycott" Israeli goods, it will stage a counterboycott. (MA 3/5 in WNC 3/6)

6 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. The **IDF** confiscates 10s of dunams of land nr. Nablus; in the preceding 2 wks. 300

dunams have been confiscated to expand Aley settlement. (HP 3/6)

7 MARCH

After the **Knesset** approves his 7-party coalition, **Sharon** is sworn in as PM of Israel. The **Knesset** also passes a preliminary budget for 2001, a measure switching back to the 1-ballot voting system. The 7 parties in the unity government are **Labor**, **Likud**, **One Nation**, **Shas**, **National Union Party**, **Yisrael Ba'Aliya**, **Yisrael Beitainu**. Sharon's cabinet is the largest in Israeli history. (HA, JP [Internet], MM 3/7; MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/8; MM 3/9; MA, SA 3/9 in WNC 3/13; WT 3/10; WP 4/1)

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. **Israel** seals the West Bank, Gaza. Hrs. after Sharon's swearing in, the **IDF** digs a trench, erects an earthen barrier on the Birzeit-Ramallah road, completely encircling **Ramallah**. Electricity, water lines to Birzeit University are cut. The **IDF** also tightens the closures on Bayt Lid, Bethlehem, al-Kifriyat, Nablus, Ramin, Safarin, Shufa, Tulkarm, Zayta; directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Rafah, Shaykh Ajlin; conducts arrest sweeps in Burqa. **Jewish settlers** establish a new settlement enclave on confiscated Palestinian land nr. Nablus. (HA, HP, LAW 3/7; HA 3/8; WP, *al-Quds* 3/12; JT 3/13 in WNC 3/14; HA 3/15; *al-Quds* 3/16 in WNC 3/20; MEI 3/23; *Middle East Report* 3/28; HJ 4/10 in WNC 4/18)

8 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. A **Palestinian woman** stabs, injures an **Israeli policeman** in Jerusalem. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire on residential areas of al-Bireh, Burqa, Hebron, Nablus, al-Zababdi; tightens closures on Anza, Aqaba, Hebron, Ramallah, Silat al-Dahir, Tulkarm, Yabad; bulldozes 117 dunams of Palestinian land along the Green Line nr. Rafah. **Jewish settlers** move 6 caravans onto a new site nr. Jinin; uproot an olive grove, bulldoze Palestinian land around Shaked settlement; open fire on Palestinians nr. Ariel, Susia settlements. (HP 3/8; LAW 3/17)

Arafat sends a letter to **Sharon** congratulating him on his swearing in on 3/7, urging him to resume negotiations. Sharon says he might agree to a face-to-face mtg. with Arafat if the relative calm of recent days holds. (MM, WT 3/9; NYT 3/10; JT 3/11, ITAR-TASS 3/12 in WNC 3/13)

9 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, killing **1 Palestinian**. The most severe fighting is around **Ramallah**, where Palestinians protesting the continued encirclement of Ramallah (see 3/7) clash with **IDF** soldiers. In Tulkarm, **15,000 Palestinians** attend a **Hamas** rally denouncing **Sharon's** inauguration, calling for more suicide bombings in Israel. **IDF** soldiers outside 'Ayn Arik nr. Ramallah bar Latin patriarch of Jerusalem Michael Sabbah, several priests fr. entering the village to perform mass. The **IDF** also shells residential areas of Nablus, Rafah; bulldozes 10 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Kefar Darom; detains several **Jewish settlers** suspected of shooting a Palestinian. (Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem press release 3/9; NYT, WT 3/10; MM 3/12; LAW 3/17)

10 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. The **IDF** shells residential areas of Bayt Hanun, Hebron, Nablus. Also in Hebron, **Jewish settlers** stone Palestinians, beat **3 Palestinian journalists** working for AFP. (WP, WT 3/11; LAW 3/17)

The **PC** holds its 1st full session since the al-Aqsa intifada began. **Arafat** appeals to the new **Israeli** government to resume peace talks, acknowledges Israel's "need for security and safety," but does not call for a halt to the clashes, as Israeli officials had hoped. (NYT, WP, WT 3/11; JT 3/11 in WNC 3/13; *al-Quds* 3/11 in WNC 3/15; HA, MM 3/12; MEI 3/23)

11 MARCH

As **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue, the **IDF** further restricts Palestinian movement along roads, especially around Hebron, Ramallah. The **IDF** demolishes 2 Palestinian cement factories btwn. Netzarim and Qarni crossing to make way for a new settler by-pass road. In Hebron, **Jewish settlers** fire in the air, attack Palestinians and their property. (LAW, MM 3/12; AYM 3/12 in WNC 3/15; MEI 3/23)

12 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. The largest demonstrations are in **Ramallah**, where **2,000 Palestinian artists, intellectuals** stage a nonviolent protest, and students attempt to open the road to Birzeit University, where spring registration begins today.

In the ensuing clash soldiers fatally shoot **1 Palestinian** who was standing next to **Fatah tanzim leader Marwan Barghouti**, raising speculation that Barghouti was the target. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Jinin, Rafah (severely damaging a mosque); bulldozes 4 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Rafah. A **Palestinian** assailant throws a hand grenade at an **IDF** post in Gaza, causing no injuries. **Israel** tightens the siege on Ramallah but eases blockades on Bethlehem, Hebron, Qalqilya, Tulkarm. Later in the day, after shooting nr. Qalqilya, the blockade on Qalqilya is reimposed. (HA 3/12; HA, JP [Internet], MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/13; Interfax, MA, MENA 3/13 in WNC 3/14; HA 3/14; WJW 3/15; CSM 3/16; LAW 3/17)

13 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. An **ailing Palestinian** dies en route to the hospital after being detained at an **IDF** checkpoint for 1 hr. **Israel** continues to ease the internal closure on some Gaza and West Bank cities, including opening 2 roads to Ramallah and allowing some Palestinians access to them. The **IDF** demolishes **2 Palestinian homes** in Bayt Umar; digs a 10-km. trench on Palestinian land in Bir al-Miyar nr. Jinin; confiscates 2 dunams of Palestinian land outside Bayt Jala for a new military post, 166 dunams of land in al-Qarara nr. Khan Yunis; conducts arrest raids in al-Khadir, detaining 3 Palestinians. **Jewish settlers** place 2 trailers on Palestinian land nr. Beitar. (HP, MM 3/13; HA, MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/14; *al-Quds* 3/14 in WNC 3/15; *al-Quds* 3/14, MA 3/16 in WNC 3/20; AFP [Internet], LAW, NYT, WJW 3/15; LAW 3/17)

14 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **2 Palestinians** dead. A **3d, ailing Palestinian** dies when the **IDF** detains her at a checkpoint for over 3 hrs. The **IDF** booby traps an unfinished Palestinian building nr. Psagot settlement to prevent Palestinian snipers fr. entering. A contractor discovers the trap when he arrives to inspect the site and warns the PA, which cannot disable the devices since the site is in area B, under Israeli security control. The **IDF** also bulldozes 59 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Netzarim settlement, 25 dunams nr. Nahal Oz crossing, 15 dunams nr. Dayr al-Balah; demolishes 16 greenhouses, building nr. Qarni

crossing. (AFP [Internet], AP, LAW 3/14; LAW 3/17; PMC 4/9)

15 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. In Hebron, **IDF** soldiers lob a stun grenade into a schoolyard to disperse a demonstration by elementary school students, injuring 7 children. The **IDF** detains **3 Force 17 mbrs.** on charges of plotting to bomb the IDF headquarters in Jerusalem; demolishes part of a brick factory nr. Qalqilya; bulldozes 61 dunams of land nr. Qarni crossing, 4 dunams nr. Dayr al-Balah. The **IDF** also removes more roadblocks in the West Bank and Gaza, allows fishermen back into the ocean. (AFP [Internet] 3/15; NYT, WP, WT 3/16; LAW 3/24)

16 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar attack a Palestinian taxi nr. Nablus, injuring 3 Palestinians. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Dayr al-Balah, Tulkarm; shuts the Waqf offices, a mosque in Hebron. This evening **Israeli, PA security officials** meet at Erez to discuss improving security coordination. (MM 3/16; NYT, WT 3/17; MA 3/18 in WNC 3/20; LAW 3/24)

17 MARCH

As **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue, a **10-yr.-old Palestinian boy** is found dead nr. Neve Ya'aqov settlement. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Bayt Hanun, Khan Yunis; conducts an arrest sweep in Ithna village nr. Hebron. **Israeli border police** in Jerusalem detain an **al-Ayyam journalist** on his way to cover clashes in Ramallah, interrogating him for 2 hrs., confiscating his film. (REU 3/19; MEI 3/23; LAW 3/24)

18 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify slightly. For the 1st time, **Palestinians** fire 3 mortars fr. Gaza into **Israel**, landing inside an army base nr. Nahal Oz kibbutz, lightly injuring 1 **IDF** soldier. **Sharon** reportedly orders the **IDF** not to respond in advance of his visit to the **U.S.** The **IDF** shells residential areas of Khan Yunis, damaging 3 homes. **Jewish settlers** move the boundary markers of Tal Rumayda settlement, confiscating 1

dunam of Palestinian land. (MM 3/19; WJW 3/22; LAW 3/24; MA 3/24 in WNC 3/26)

19 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **2 Palestinians** dead. A **Jewish settler** is killed in a drive-by shooting nr. Bethlehem; the **IDF** reseals the city. Some 600 mbrs. of the **Union of Palestinian Women's Comms.** hold a nonviolent march nr. the al-Ram checkpoint, where the **IDF** fires tear gas and percussion grenades, beating some with their rifles, injuring 15, including **Hanan Ashrawi**. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Brazil, Khan Yunis, Rafah (hitting an elementary school, injuring 8 children); bulldozes 50 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Bayt Hanun, destroying a PSF post. Nr. Jerusalem, **IDF** soldiers stop, arrest, beat 2 ambulance drivers returning from a call; the pair are freed after the **International Comm. of the Red Cross** intervenes. (MM, Palestinian Red Crescent Society press release, REU 3/19; HP, MM, WT 3/20; WJW 3/22; MEI 3/23; LAW 3/24; JP 4/6)

At **Manara kibbutz** on the Israeli-Lebanese border, residents find the **kibbutz's security head** murdered, the kibbutz's arsenal ransacked, 60 guns stolen. The border fence with Lebanon is intact, so Israel suspects **Palestinians** or **Israeli Arabs**. (MM 3/20; WJW 3/22; MA 3/24 in WNC 3/26)

Sharon arrives in Washington for his 1st mtg. with U.S. officials since his inauguration; also addresses the annual **American Israel Public Affairs Comm.** conference. (MM 3/19; WT 3/20; WJW 3/22; MM 3/23; JP 3/30; NYT 4/19; MEI, WP, WT 4/20; NYT 4/22; MM 4/24; WJW 4/26) (see Peace Monitor)

20 MARCH

In Washington, **Sharon** holds talks with **Bush** on bilateral and regional issues, outlines his peace ideas, reiterates that he will not negotiate with the PA until all Palestinian violence stops. Bush agrees that Israel cannot negotiate under threat of violence, says that the U.S. will not force peace in the Middle East and that **Arafat** will not be welcome at the White House until he halts clashes. U.S. officials urge Sharon against approving a plan passed by the Jerusalem municipal comm. today to expand **Har Homa/Jabal Abu Ghunaym settlement**. (HA, REU 3/20; AFP [Internet], MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/21; HJ 3/21, AYM, MENA 3/23 in WNC 3/26; WJW

3/22; *al-Quds* 3/22 in WNC 3/23; MM 3/23; HJ 3/24 in WNC 3/27; MEI 4/6; WJW 4/12; WP 4/16; HA 4/20)

21 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. The **IDF** shells a **Force 17** post nr. Netzarim settlement, killing 1 Force 17 mbr., wounding 3. Claiming retaliation, Hamas's **Izzeddine al-Qassam Brigades** fires mortars at Jewish settlements in Gaza today, causing no injuries. The **IDF** also bulldozes 3 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Kissufim settlement in Dayr al-Balah; begin work on a new settler bypass road to Talmon settlement nr. Ramallah, bulldozing Waqf land. **Jewish settlers** bulldoze an olive grove in Nazla. (WT 3/23; LAW 3/24)

In New York, **Sharon** warns **UN Secy.-Gen. Kofi Annan** that sending a UN observer force to the West Bank, Gaza could escalate violence. Annan urges Israel to ease restrictions on Palestinians, halt settlement expansion. (MM 3/21; MM, WT 3/22)

Bush ends the **CIA's** role as security mediator btwn. **Israel** and the **PA**, saying the sides should cooperate directly. (NYT, WP 3/22; HA 3/23; WJW 3/29) (see Peace Monitor)

The **Mitchell Comm.** begins a 5-day visit to **Israel**, the **West Bank**, **Gaza** to meet with Palestinian community representatives, Israeli intelligence analysts, doctors, politicians, statisticians. (NYT, WJW, WT 3/22; WT 3/23; NYT 3/26; ATL 3/26 in WNC 3/27; MM 3/27) (see Peace Monitor)

22 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. **Sharon** returns fr. his trip to the U.S., immediately goes into talks with his security cabinet. The **IDF** shells residential areas of Brazil, Khan Yunis. **Jewish settlers** bulldoze 2 olive groves nr. Elazar settlement. (AFP [Internet], HA, MM, WJW 3/22; WT 3/23)

Lebanon passes a law aimed at **Palestinian refugees** that forbids "anyone who does not have citizenship in a recognized state" from owning property. (*al-Safir* 3/23)

23 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. The **IDF** fires a stun grenade at an **Amnesty International** delegation examining damage nr. Salah al-Din Gate in Gaza. (al-Awda news group 3/24)

Israel reportedly completes plans for a new 6,000-unit **settlement** s. of Jerusalem, to be called Givaot. (NYT 3/24)

24 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. **100s of reps. of Palestinian NGOs, Arab MKs, and Palestinian solidarity groups fr. inside Israel** conduct a nonviolent march to the al-Ram checkpoint in the West Bank. **IDF** soldiers fire tear gas, percussion grenades, rubber bullets at the crowd; beat many with their rifles to break up the march, injuring 35. **Palestinian writers, journalists, Information Min. reps.** hold a smaller nonviolent march to Netzarim Junction in Gaza, where IDF soldiers fire tear gas, rubber bullets at them. The **IDF** bulldozes 30 dunams of land along the Green Line nr. Khaza. (HA, UPMRC 3/24; HP 3/26; MEI 4/6)

25 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, with the largest clashes in Hebron, Nablus. The **IDF** says several of its posts in Gaza are hit by homemade Palestinian mortars, causing no injuries. The **IDF** shells residential areas of Jinin. **Jewish settlers** attack Palestinians and their property in Hebron, bulldoze Palestinian land nr. Tulkarm to expand Avni Hefetz settlement. In Tulkarm, **tanzim mbrs.** kidnap an **Israeli civilian** at gunpoint fr. a local restaurant where he is dining with **3 Israeli Arab friends** (see 1/23); **PSF** officers intervene to free the man. (HP, MM, NYT 3/26)

In advance of the Arab summit (3/27–28), 1,000s of university students across **Egypt** demonstrate to demand that Arab governments do more to help the **Palestinians**. (NYT 3/26)

26 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify sharply after a **Palestinian sniper** fires on a group of **Jewish settlers** in Hebron, killing a 10-mo.-old girl, wounding her father, brother. In retaliation, Jewish settlers fire guns, the **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire on the residential area of Abu Sunayna, where the sniper fire originated, injuring 7 Palestinians. The **IDF** tells Palestinian residents to evacuate Abu Sunayna or risk a heavy attack. Shooting fr. the Jewish settlement continues, and the **IDF** clashes with settlers who attempt to occupy Abu Sunayna, but no major attack occurs, few

Palestinians leave. The **IDF** shoots dead **1 Palestinian** in a separate incident; directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Jericho, Gaza. **Israeli sappers** disarm a bomb in Petah Tikva, inside Israel. (HP 3/26; MM, NYT, WP 3/27; NYT 3/28; MEI 4/6; JP 4/13)

After 2 wks. of marathon negotiations, the **Palestinians** drop their call for a **UN** observer force in the West Bank, Gaza—opposed by the **U.S.**—in favor of a compromise proposal by the **EU and nonaligned mbrs.** calling for a “mechanism” to protect Palestinians. (WP 3/27; XIN 3/27 in WNC 3/28)

27 MARCH

2 bombs, the 4th and 5th since Sharon's 2/6 election, explode outside the **Jewish settlements** of Talpiot, French Hill in East Jerusalem, killing an apparent **Palestinian suicide bomber**, injuring **35 Israelis**. **Islamic Jihad** takes responsibility for both attacks. **Right-wing opposition MKs**, **Jewish settlers** accuse **Sharon** of not taking Israeli security seriously and demand retaliation, with **Likud Education M Limor Livnat** saying **Arafat** should be targeted. Sharon's office says Israel will respond “at the time and place we choose.” (AFP [Internet], MM 3/27; ITAR-TASS 3/27 in WNC 3/28; MM, NYT, WP 3/28; WJW 3/29; AFP 3/29 in WNC 3/30; JP, MEI 4/6)

In the West Bank and Gaza, **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. In Hebron, **Jewish settlers** attempt to storm Abu Sunayna for a 2d day, are pushed back by the **IDF** (which continues to urge Palestinian residents to evacuate the area). After dark, the settlers set fire to 5 Palestinian-owned stores, 7 cars, Waqf offices in the PA-controlled section of Hebron. **Jewish settlers** place caravans on confiscated Palestinian land on Mount Jarzim in Nablus. **Israel** arrests **2 Israeli border policemen** for beating, torturing a Palestinian at a checkpoint into Israel earlier today. (MM 3/27; HA, HP, NYT, WP 3/28; AFP [Internet], NYT 3/29; MEI 4/6)

The 1st full **Arab League** summit in 12 yrs. opens in Amman. The agenda covers the peace process, aid to the Palestinians, Arab solidarity, inter-Arab economic ties, sanctions on Iraq. (MM 3/27; AN, DUS, JT, SA 3/27 in WNC 3/28; AYM 3/27, HJ, JT, SA 3/28 in WNC 3/29; MM, WP, USIS Washington File 3/28; JP, MEI 4/6) (see Peace Monitor)

On the sidelines of the Arab summit, Syrian pres. **Asad** meets with **Arafat**, marking

the 1st senior-level Palestinian-Syrian mtg. since 1993. (JT 3/28 in WNC 3/29; MM, WP, USIS Washington File 3/28; JT, *al-Quds* 3/29 in WNC 3/30; DUS 3/30 in WNC 4/2; *al-Majd* 4/2 in WNC 4/3; AYM 4/2, HJ 4/3 in WNC 4/5; JP, MEI 4/6; MM 4/20) (see Peace Monitor)

After a week of negotiations on 2 compromise proposals fail, the **U.S.** vetoes a **UN Security Council (UNSC)** resolution backing a UN observer force to help protect the **Palestinians** in the West Bank, Gaza. (AP 3/27; XIN 3/27 in WNC 3/28; WP 3/28; MM, NYT, WJW, WT 3/29; *al-Quds* 3/29 in WNC 3/30; MM 3/30; *al-Quds* 4/3 in WNC 4/5) (see Peace Monitor)

28 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving a total of **6 Palestinians**, **2 Israelis** dead. A **Palestinian suicide bomber** detonates a nail bomb at a bus stop just inside Israel, nr. Qalqilya, killing **2 Israelis**, wounding 4. **Hamas**, and a previously unknown group named the **Popular Army Front-Return Battalions** claim responsibility. **Israeli sappers** disarm bombs in the Israeli cities of Petah Tikva, Netanya. This evening, after the Arab summit ends, **Sharon** orders air, land, sea strikes against **Force 17** targets in Dayr al-Balah, Jabaliya, Khan Yunis, Rafah, Ramallah, killing **3 Palestinians**, injuring 62. Nr. Beitunia, a **Palestinian woman** is shot dead by **IDF** troops. In Rafah, a **Palestinian boy** is killed when he triggers unexploded IDF ordnance. The **IDF** reinforces its troop presence around Abu Sunayna in Hebron with 8 tanks, 15 troop carriers, numerous military jeeps and 3 new outposts; shells residential areas in Nablus; confiscates 28 dunams of Palestinian land in Beitunia to expand an IDF post; bulldozes Palestinian land in Mount Jarzim, Wadi Silqa. **Israel** issues demolition orders for 19 **Palestinian homes** in East Jerusalem for construction of the “ring road” linking the Jewish settlements around Jerusalem; 658 dunams of Palestinian land is slated to be bulldozed for the project. **Jewish settlers** attack Palestinians and their property in Bayt Furik, Hebron, Silat Dahir. Settlers fr. Ma'ale Adumim, Kefar Atsion reportedly move into the Israeli controlled section of Hebron to reinforce settlers there. In Hebron, the **PSF** arrests a local **Fatah mbr.** for the 3/26 shooting that killed a settler baby. (BBC, CNN, HP, MM, REU 3/28; AFP, ATL 3/28 in WNC 3/29; MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/29; AFP, In-

terfax, MENA, *al-Quds* 3/29 in WNC 3/30; LAW, MM, WP 3/30; MA, MENA, *al-Safir* 3/30 in WNC 4/2; MM 4/3; JP, MEI 4/6; *al-Quds* 4/15 in WNC 4/16; WP 4/23; *al-Abram* [Internet] 4/26)

The **Arab League** summit closes. Arab states approve \$240 m. in emergency aid for the PA over the next 6 mos. (MM 3/28; HJ 3/28 in WNC 3/29; MM, NYT, WP 3/29; JT 3/29 in WNC 3/30; HJ 3/29 in WNC 4/3; *al-Ra'i* 3/30, *Star* 3/31, JT 4/1 in WNC 4/2; JP, MEI 4/6; *al-Quds* 4/10 in WNC 4/12) (see Peace Monitor)

29 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **3 Palestinians** dead. Israeli gunships hover over Palestinian territory but do not fire. The **IDF** directs shelling, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Hebron (especially Abu Sunayna). **Jewish settlers** in Hebron confiscate 200 dunams of Palestinian land in al-Buwayta, erect a tent; set fire to a Palestinian store in the central market area. (AFP [Internet] 3/29; HP, LAW, WP, WT 3/30)

30 MARCH

After **Israel** announces it is ending its "policy of restraint," **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** intensify sharply, leaving **6 Palestinians** dead, 136 wounded. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at PA-controlled areas in Hebron, in the heaviest barrage there since the beginning of the al-Aqsa intifada. Serious clashes are also reported in Gaza and in Nablus, where **10,000 Palestinians** rallying to mark Land Day clash with IDF troops, who shoot dead 5 Palestinians. The **IDF** also directs shelling, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of al-Bireh, Jinin, Rafah, Tulkarm; confiscates 100 dunams of land nr. Qalqilya for a new settlement bypass road. Frustrated with Israeli security checks, Palestinian workers at **Erez industrial zone** riot, prompting Israel to close the zone—an unprecedented move since the purpose of the zone is to make Palestinians who work there and the businesses that employ them (60% of which are Israeli-owned) immune to closures. (AP, HP, LAW 3/30; NYT, WP, WT 3/31; *Sunday Times* [London], WT 4/1; HJ 4/1 in WNC 4/5; Globes 4/2 in WNC 4/3)

In Sakhnin, **Israel**, **10,000 Israeli Arabs** participate in a peaceful Land Day rally—the 1st major protest since the 10/00 demonstrations, which were violently suppressed by Is-

raeli police, who, this time, are ordered to intervene only if protesters block major roads. Major Land Day commemorations are also held in **Jordan, Lebanon**. (HP, MM 3/30; NYT 3/31; JT 4/1 in WNC 4/2)

31 MARCH

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue at a high level. **1 Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. In Nablus, 1,000s of Palestinians attend the funeral for 5 Palestinians killed on 3/30. (NYT, WT 4/1)

1 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. **Israeli commandos** enter a PA-controlled area A for the 1st time, capture **6 Force 17 mbrs.**; Israel says more such raids could follow. The **PSF** reports that the **IDF** in Gaza has deployed additional tanks and numerous troops to 24 new posts along the length of the Green Line, at key intersections. In Nablus, a **Palestinian sniper** kills an **IDF soldier**. **1 Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. In Hebron, the **IDF** places a curfew on Palestinians as **Jewish settlers** hold the funeral for a 10-mo.-old baby killed on 3/26. The settlers, many of them armed, march through the city, attacking Palestinian property, calling on Sharon to declare war. They attempt to storm Abu Sunayna but are held back by IDF troops. When 1 settler opens fire, the IDF fires on Abu Sunayna, thinking the shots came fr. Palestinians. The **IDF** also shells residential areas of Aida refugee camp, Bayt Jala, Bayt Sahur, Nablus, Rafah; demolishes 5 **Palestinian homes** in Bayt Dajan; bulldozes an olive grove nr. a settler bypass road nr. Salfit, 10 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Qalqilya to expand Alfe Menashe settlement. Israel, however, reopens the Erez industrial zone (see 3/30), allowing 3,000–4,000 Palestinian workers to return to their jobs. (NYT, WP, WT 4/2; Globes, SA 4/2 in WNC 4/3; JP [Internet], MM, WP 4/3; SA 4/3 in WNC 4/5; LAW 4/4; AYM 4/5 in WNC 4/6; MEI 4/6; MM 4/12; JP 4/13)

Sharon secretly dispatches his son, **Omri Sharon**, and his adviser, **Yossi Ginossaur**, to Ramallah to discuss resuming security coordination, possible cease-fire arrangements with **Arafat**. (MA 4/3, 4/4 in WNC 4/5; MM 4/4; HA, MM, NYT 4/5; NYT, WP 4/6)

FM **Peres** arrives in Stockholm where he holds "quiet contacts" with senior PA officials, including **PA Planning M Nabil Shaath**, on a Jordanian-Egyptian proposal

(reportedly presented orally to Israel last wk.) for implementing a cease-fire and resuming political negotiations. (AFP, MA 4/3 in WNC 4/5; MM 4/4)

2 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue to escalate. In Rafah, the **IDF** assassinates **Islamic Jihad activist Muhammad 'Abd al-AI**, firing wire-guided missiles fr. helicopter gunships at his truck. (2,000 Palestinians attend his funeral later in the day.) After an **Islamic Jihad sniper** kills an **IDF soldier** nr. Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem in retaliation, the **IDF** fires missiles, tank shells, machine guns, grenades at Palestinian residential areas of the city, damaging 15 homes and wounding 8 Palestinians, including a 2-yr.-old girl, 3-mo.-old baby. The **IDF** also eases open-fire regulations; shells residential areas of Aida camp, Bayt Jala, Nablus; demolishes 1 **Palestinian home** in al-Khadir, 1 in al-Tur. The **Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)** detonates a **car bomb** nr. an IDF patrol outside Keddumim settlement, causing no injuries. In Hebron, **Jewish settlers** blow up 4 Palestinian shops; afterward, the **IDF** bulldozes the buildings, surrounding area to create a buffer around the Abraham Avino settlement. **Palestinians** fire homemade mortars at the Qarni industrial zone. In Jerusalem, a **Palestinian** attacks, injures an **IDF soldier**, steals her M-16. (JP [Internet] 4/2; AFP, MA 4/2 in WNC 4/3; MA 4/2, QA 4/4 in WNC 4/5; HP, JP [Internet], LAW, MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/3; NYT 4/4; MEI 4/6; NYT 4/7)

In Washington, **Mubarak** briefs **Bush** on the Jordanian-Egyptian "nonpaper" (see 4/1), urges him to support the proposal and to become more involved in the peace process. Bush says the nonpaper ideas should be discussed; the U.S. can "facilitate" talks btwn. **Israel**, the **PA**, but it "can't force a peace." Bush also urges Egypt to return its amb. to Israel. (MM 4/2; MENA 4/2, JT, MENA, *al-Quds* 4/3, MENA, *al-Ra'i* 4/4 in WNC 4/5; JP [Internet], MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/3; WJW 4/5; MEI 4/6; MENA 4/6 in WNC 4/9; MENA 4/11 in WNC 4/12; WJW 4/12) (see Peace Monitor)

The **State Dept.** certifies **PLO** compliance with the Oslo agmts. for the period 6/16/00–12/15/00, saying PA security coordination with Israel was very high prior to 9/28/00, it is uncertain to what degree PLO or PA officials were actively involved in starting or encouraging violence after 9/28. (JP

[Internet] 4/4; MM 4/10; MM 5/2) (see Doc. D1)

3 APRIL

Israel launches 1 of its most severe strikes since 9/28 after **Palestinians** fire 3 homemade mortars at a **Jewish settlement** in Gaza, wounding a 10-mo.-old boy. **IDF** helicopter gunships, tanks shell 4 **PA** targets in Gaza City and nr. Dayr al-Balah, Khan Yunis, and Rafah, injuring **70 Palestinians**, destroying the **Force 17** complex at the fmr. Ansar II Israeli prison. **Sharon** says the strike "exact[s] a price from those who were supposed to maintain security . . . and didn't." Elsewhere in the West Bank and Gaza, the IDF notes an increase in Palestinian drive-by shootings and sniper, grenade, and Molotov cocktail attacks. The **IDF** also demolishes 7 **Palestinian homes** in Anata; 2 homes, 1 shed in Azariyya; 1 in Zu'aym. **Israel** releases 3 Force 17 members abducted fr. area A on 4/1, saying they have no connection to "terrorism." (HP 4/3; LAW, MM, NYT, PMC, WP 4/4; Interfax 4/4 in WNC 4/5)

4 APRIL

In Athens, **Israel**, the **PA** hold their 1st public high-level talks since Sharon took office. Israeli FM **Peres**, PA Planning M **Shaath**, **PA Local Government M Saeb Erakat** discuss the Jordanian-Egyptian nonpaper, agree to resume security talks. Peres reiterates Sharon's position that negotiations cannot resume until all Palestinian violence ceases but does not reject the nonpaper outright. (BBC, HA, MM 4/4; QA 4/4 in WNC 4/5; HA, MM, NYT, REU, WP 4/5; AYM 4/5 in WNC 4/6; QA 4/5 in WNC 4/12; MEI, MM 4/6) (see Peace Monitor)

This evening, **senior PA, Israeli security officials** hold talks at the home of **U.S. Amb. Martin Indyk** in Herzilya, Israel; a **CIA official** sits in as a "nonparticipating observer" (see 3/21). When the PA team returns to Gaza, **IDF** troops fire on their convoy as it passes through the Erez crossing, injuring 2 bodyguards. The PA says the IDF attempted to assassinate the security chiefs; the IDF says troops thought they were being shot at fr. the convoy, "acted appropriately." (BBC, HA 4/4; HA, MM, NYT, REU, WP 4/5; AYM 4/5 in WNC 4/6; MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/6; *al-Quds* 4/6 in WNC 4/9; MM 4/9; MA 4/9 in WNC 4/10; AYM 4/9, XIN 4/10 in WNC 4/11; QA 4/11 in WNC 4/14; MEI 4/20; DUS 4/27 in WNC 4/30)

Meanwhile, **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue. **Palestinians** fire homemade mortars at Netzarim settlement, causing no damage. In return, the **IDF** fires mortars at a **PSF** post in Gaza. The IDF also directs heavy machine gun fire at Palestinian residential areas of al-Mughragha. Nr. Hebron, a tank overturns, killing **5 IDF soldiers**, injuring 1. The **IDF** bulldozes 4 more **Palestinian homes** in Anata; 4 in Hebron; 3 homes, a warehouse, an animal pen in Jinin; 1 home in Bethlehem. In Gaza, **Jewish settlers** fr. Gush Katif, Kefar Darom block Saladin Road, throw stones at Palestinian cars, threaten passengers with machine guns. (LAW, PMC 4/4; NYT 4/5; MM 4/6)

With the escalation of Israeli-Palestinian violence, **Jordan** bans all demonstrations, public rallies in Amman, the scene of pro-Palestinian protests in recent mos. (REU 4/4; JT 4/5 in WNC 4/6)

5 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue at a high level, leaving **2 Palestinians** dead. In Jinin, **senior Islamic Jihad mbr. Iyad Haradan**, wanted by **Israel**, is assassinated when a bomb planted in a public phone he frequently uses explodes. In response to Palestinian mortar fire nr. **Nahal Oz crossing** and nr. **Netiv Haasara kibbutz** inside the Green Line that causes no damage, the **IDF** fires rockets at **PSF** posts and a power station in Gaza, wounding at least 5 Palestinians, destroying 4 buildings, damaging 10 homes, causing blackouts. The **IDF** also bulldozes 100 dunams of Palestinian land in Shaykh Ajlin; begins work on a new settler bypass road linking Beit El settlement with Jerusalem; raids Burqa village, arrests 2 Palestinians. **Sharon** announces plans to build another 708 housing units in the **Jewish settlements** of Ma'ale Adumim, Alfe Menashe; the **State Dept.** criticizes the move as "provocative." Reportedly to ease tensions over the Erez shooting on 4/4, Israel reopens the Rafah border with Egypt, says it will allow 3,000 Palestinian workers into Israel. (LAW 4/5; AFP [Internet], MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/6; MENA, *al-Quds* 4/6, ITAR-TASS 4/7 in WNC 4/9; MM 4/9; AYM 4/9 in WNC 4/11; *al-Quds* 4/11 in WNC 4/12; LAW, WJW 4/12; MA 4/17 in WNC 4/18; MEI 4/20)

Sharon orders the **Israeli security services** to find ways to let Jews visit the **Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount**. (MENA 4/10 in WNC 4/11; WT 4/11)

Pres. Bush receives 2 letters signed by **87 senators, 209 House mbrs.** calling on him to reconsider U.S. ties with the **PLO**. (REU, WP 4/6; *al-Quds* 4/8, HJ, MENA 4/9 in WNC 4/10; MM 4/9; SA 4/13 in WNC 4/16; HA 4/16; MM 4/18; JP 4/20) (see Doc. D2)

6 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. After **Palestinians** fire mortars at Netzarim settlement in Gaza and across the Green Line into Israel, causing no damage, the **IDF** deploys tanks, helicopter gunships to shell 4 **PSF** posts in Gaza. The IDF also demolishes 3 **Palestinian homes**, damages 2 others, bulldozes more than 27 dunams of agricultural land in Shaykh Ajlin; shells residential areas of al-Aza refugee camp. **Israeli commandos** detain **2 Fatah mbrs.** in area C. (AFP [Internet] 4/6; NYT, WT 4/7; MM 4/9; LAW 4/12)

7 APRIL

Arafat phones **Sharon, Peres** to wish them happy Passover, to call on Israel to resume talks. Sharon again demands that Palestinians 1st halt all violence. Meanwhile, **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue, with a higher incidence of gunfire on both sides. (MENA 4/7 in WNC 4/9; WT 4/8)

Despite the ban on public gatherings, **200 Jordanians** stage a rally in Amman to mark the anniversary of the Dayr Yasin massacre, to reaffirm the Palestinians' right of return. Some 5,000 people attend a right of return rally in **New York**. Similar demonstrations are held in **Australia** (Melbourne, Perth, Sydney), **Canada, Holland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, the occupied territories, Spain, Syria**. (AP 4/7; JT 4/8 in WNC 4/9; JP [Internet] 4/9)

8 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. After **Palestinians** fire mortars at **Nahal Oz kibbutz** inside the Green Line, the IDF fires surface-to-surface rockets at Bayt Lahia, hitting a **PSF** post, a **Fatah** headquarters, **2 Palestinian homes**; injuring 4 passersby; damaging 20 Palestinian homes; causing blackouts. The **IDF** also shells residential areas of Dayr al-Balah, al-Bureij, Khan Yunis. (REU 4/8; HP, MM, PMC, WP 4/9; MEZ 4/10; LAW 4/12)

9 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. After **Palestinians** fire a mortar at Atzmona settlement in Gaza, causing no injuries, the **IDF** deploys helicopter gunships to hover over Gaza City. The **IDF** also directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Beitunia (hitting an elementary school occupied by over 700 students, causing damage but no injuries), al-Khadir, Khan Yunis. **Israel** partially lifts a ban on Palestinian laborers, issuing 3,200 entry permits; expects 1,000 Palestinians to resume jobs in Israel on 4/10. **Israel** also apologizes for the shooting incident at the Erez crossing on 4/4; however, a **U.S.-brokered mtg. btwn. Israeli, PA security officials**, planned early in the day, is canceled by the PA. (MM 4/9; WT 4/10; SA, XIN 4/10 in WNC 4/11; LAW 4/12)

10 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead; a **2d Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. After **Palestinians** fire 3 mortars at Gaza's **Gadid settlement**, causing no injuries, the **IDF** shells the **PA naval headquarters, military intelligence headquarters** in Gaza, killing **1 PSF** doctor at the naval clinic, wounding 18 **PSF** mbrs., destroying the clinic and an ambulance. Citing the rare daylight strikes on occupied buildings, the **PA** again refuses to attend a **U.S.-brokered security mtg.** with **Israeli** officials (rescheduled fr. 4/9). **Sharon** asks **Israelis** questioning his security strategy to trust him, saying, "We know exactly what we're doing. I have a very clear plan. The plan will be executed, and security will be restored." The **IDF** directs heavy machine gun fire at a Force 17 building in Jinin, destroying it. (AFP [Internet], AP, MM, PCHR 4/10; XIN 4/10 in WNC 4/11; HP, NYT, WP 4/11; MA 4/11 in WNC 4/12; QA 4/11 in WNC 4/16; LAW, WJW 4/12; JT 4/12 in WNC 4/13; NYT 4/13)

The **PA**, the **Organization of the Islamic Conference** warn **Sharon** not to allow Jews access to the **Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount**, saying it would be perceived as an attack on Islam and could precipitate a dangerous escalation in violence. **100 mbrs. of the Temple Mount Faithful**, an ultranationalist Jewish group, attempt to force their way into the site but are blocked by **Israeli police**. (AP 4/10; MENA 4/10 in WNC 4/11; WT 4/11; JT 4/12 in WNC

4/13; MENA 4/13 in WNC 4/16; QA 4/26 in WNC 4/30) (see 4/5)

In Washington, **Bush** receives **King Abdallah**, who urges the U.S. to become more involved in the peace process, to actively support the Jordanian-Egyptian nonpaper. **Bush** reiterates that the U.S. will not become more involved in the peace process, that **Israel** and the **PA** must take parallel, reciprocal steps to halt violence before negotiations can resume. (MM 4/10; MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/11; JT 4/11 in WNC 4/12; WJW 4/12; JT 4/13 in WNC 4/16)

11 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue at a high level, leaving a total of **4 Palestinians** dead; another **2 Palestinians** die of injuries received earlier. In the 1st major **Israeli** ground assault into **PA-controlled territory** since 9/28, **IDF** tanks, bulldozers enter Khan Yunis camp (see 12/13) to remove an embankment and structures that **Palestinian** gunmen allegedly use for cover when firing on adjacent Jewish settlements, demolishing **28 Palestinian homes**, part of an apartment building, and an olive grove. The operation clears a 400-yard strip of land, leaves over 360 **Palestinians** homeless, sparks fierce fighting in which **2 Palestinians** are killed, 25–50 are injured. **Arafat** calls for a halt to mortar attacks across the Green Line. At **U.S.'s** urging, **Israeli, PA** security teams meet this evening at the home of U.S. amb. **Indyk** to discuss a cease-fire. They make no progress but agree to meet again on 4/16. After dark, **Palestinians** fire 4 mortars into Nisanit settlement in Gaza, damaging 1 house, causing no injuries. The **IDF** shells residential areas of Abu Sunayna, Bayt Hanun, al-Haria Valley. (AFP [Internet], BBC, HP, LAW, MM, PCHR 4/11; AFP 4/11 in WNC 4/11; Interfax, MENA 4/11 in WNC 4/12; HP, JP [Internet], LAW, MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/12; JT, SA 4/12 in WNC 4/13; JP [Internet], NYT, WT 4/13; *al-Quds* 4/13 in WNC 4/16; MEI, WP 4/20; WP 4/21)

Donors hold an informal **Ad-Hoc Liaison Comm.** mtg. in Stockholm. The **EU** agrees to give the **PA** \$9 m./mo. for 6 mos., urges **Israel** to release \$120 m. in taxes owed the **PA**. (REU 4/13; see also AFP 4/2 in WNC 4/3; MM 4/6) (see Peace Monitor)

12 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **2 Palestinians** dead. In Ramallah,

the **PA** arrests **2 Palestinian collaborators** for allegedly working with **Israel** to assassinate **Fatah *tanzim* leader Nassir Abu Hmeid** with a car bomb. The PSF removes the car to its Ramallah headquarters where it blows up as an **IDF** helicopter hovers overhead. The **IDF** shells residential areas of Bayt Hanun, Rafah. **Jewish settlers** demolish part of a Palestinian store in Hebron, attack a school in Bayt Furik, beat senseless a Palestinian nr. Khan Yunis. (HP, REU 4/12; NYT, WP, WT 4/13; WP 4/15; LAW, MEI 4/20)

13 APRIL

Residents of the **Israeli Jewish town of Moshav Ahihud** begin digging in the cemetery of the **destroyed Palestinian village of al-Birwa** as part of a project to build a cattle pen linked to the town by a paved road. (MK Azmi Bishara press release 4/14)

In **Lebanon**, **1,500 Palestinian refugees** in al-Bas camp nr. Tyre, **100s of refugees** in 'Ayn al-Hilwa camp nr. Sidon hold demonstrations in support of the al-Aqsa intifada. (*Daily Star* [Internet] 4/14)

14 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue at a high level. In Gaza, **IDF** tanks, bulldozers enter Rafah; demolish the **PA military intelligence** headquarters, **17 Palestinian homes**, 40 stores; damage 13 stores. Over 160 Palestinians are left homeless, 43 are injured. An **Egyptian woman** on the Egyptian side of the Rafah border is wounded by gunfire. **Palestinians** fire 2 mortars at **Gush Katif settlement**, causing no damage. A bomb explodes in the Gaza City home of **Muhammad Nassar, a bodyguard for Hamas spiritual leader Shaykh Ahmad Yasin**, killing Nassar, injuring 4; the **PA** says Nassar was preparing a bomb. **Israel** admits that the car bomb incident in Ramallah on 4/12 was a "failed attempt" on Fatah's **Abu Hmeid**. Inside Israel, **2 bombs** explode in Kefar Saba, destroying 2 cars, injuring 1 Palestinian (the alleged assailant). (AFP, REU 4/14; LAW, NYT, WP, WT 4/15; MENA 4/15 in WNC 4/16; MM 4/17; LAW 4/20)

Hizballah fires a missile fr. s. **Lebanon** at an IDF tank in the **Shaba' Farms** area, killing **1 IDF soldier**. In retaliation, the **IDF** carries out air and artillery strikes on Hizballah targets in s. Lebanon. (AFP 4/14; RL 4/14 in WNC 4/16; NYT, WP 4/15; WP 4/16; HJ 4/19 in WNC 4/24; MEI 4/20, 5/4)

15 APRIL

Claiming **Syria** is responsible for allowing the 4/14 **Hizballah** attack, **Israel** conducts late-night air strikes against a Syrian radar station deep inside **Lebanon**, killing **3 Syrian soldiers**, wounding 4. The **State Dept.** urges all sides to exercise maximum restraint but refuses to condemn Israeli actions, saying "the primary event in this situation is the fact that Hizballah escalated the situation in what we think was a clear provocation." (BBC, CNN, NYT, USIS Washington File, WP, WT 4/16; JP [Internet], MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/17; AFP, Interfax, IRNA, MENA, RL 4/16 in WNC 4/17; MA 4/17 in WNC 4/18; MENA 4/17, IRNA, JT, QA 4/18 in WNC 4/19; MM, WT 4/18; WJW 4/19; MEI, WP 4/20; JP 4/27; MA 4/27 in WNC 4/30)

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. The **IDF** shells residential areas of Hebron, Khan Yunis, Rafah; bulldozes 22 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Qalqilya; conducts arrest raids in Jama'in, Sawahara al-Sharqiyya. (LAW 4/20)

To protest **Israeli raids on Lebanon**, **Jordanian FM 'Abd al-Ilah Khatib** cancels his planned visit to Tel Aviv on 4/16. (*al-Ra'i* 4/15 in WNC 4/16; WP 4/16; NYT, WP 4/17; MEI 4/20)

16 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue to escalate, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. 5 Palestinian mortars fr. Gaza land nr. the town of Sederot inside **Israel**, only 4 mi. fr. **Sharon's** farm, causing no damage. Although **Hamas** claims responsibility, Israel says the **PA** is "undoubtedly" behind the manufacture of homemade mortars, which Palestinians have increasingly used since late 1/01. After a mtg. of **Sharon's inner cabinet**, the **IDF** carries out 4 hrs. of land, sea, air strikes against **PA security posts** across the Gaza Strip, hitting Gaza City's main police headquarters, at least 7 Force 17 posts in Dayr al-Balah, Gaza City, Rafah; **1 PSF officer** is killed, 36 Palestinians are injured. IDF officials say they are preparing for a "rolling episode." The **IDF** sets up roadblocks dividing the Strip into 3 parts; closes the border with Egypt; bulldozes Palestinian land nr. Bayt Hanun (217 dunams destroying 11 **Palestinian homes**), Rafah; directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Bayt Jala, Bayt Sahur, al-Khadir; occupies **2 Palestinian homes** nr. Morag settlement as IDF posts. In the West Bank, the **IDF** shells residential areas in Aida

refugee camp, Bayt Jala, Bayt Sahur, al-Khadir. The PA cancels a security mtg. with Israel in protest (see 4/11). (AP, MEZ, MM, NYT, WP 4/17; MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/18; WJW 4/19; LAW, MEI, NYT 4/20; JP 4/27)

At Israeli FM **Peres's** urging, Jordanian FM **Khatib** comes to Tel Aviv as planned (see 4/15). He presents **Sharon**, Peres with a formal, written version of the Jordanian-Egyptian nonpaper. Sharon tells Khatib the proposal is a "nonstarter," but Peres says it will be studied. (AP, MM, NYT, WP 4/17; JT 4/17 in WNC 4/18; MM 4/19; MEI 4/20; *Economist* [Internet] 5/3; MEI 5/4) (see Peace Monitor; Doc. B1)

The **Israeli DMin.** asks the **Finance Min.** to release a \$936 m. supplement to the DMin. budget to cover the costs of the last 6 mos. of the al-Aqsa intifada. (HA 4/17)

17 APRIL

Overnight, the **IDF** sends tanks and bulldozers into **Gaza** to reoccupy a mile-wide strip of PA-controlled territory in the northeastern corner of Gaza, marking the 1st reoccupation of territory ceded to Palestinian rule under the 1993 Oslo accords. The **IDF** demolishes **PA** security sites targeted on 4/16, builds ramparts, sandbags positions around new tank outposts. **IDF** officials pledge to hold the land "as long as it takes—days, weeks, months"—to ensure Israeli security. Secy. of State **Powell** publicly rebukes **Israel** for taking "excessive and disproportionate" action, calls on Israel to withdraw immediately. **Bush** calls **Sharon** to urge restraint. Hrs. later, **Israel** announces that the IDF has completed its mission and is pulling out of area. (AP, LAW, MM, REU 4/17; JP [Internet], NYT, WP, WT 4/18; HJ 4/18, AYM, MENA, *al-Quds*, SA 4/19 in WNC 4/24; MM, WJW 4/19; JP, MEI, MM, NYT, WP 4/20; NYT 4/22; AYM 4/27 in WNC 4/30) (see Peace Monitor)

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue elsewhere in Gaza and the West Bank, leaving **3 Palestinians** dead. The **IDF** cuts a deep trench in the main north-south road in Gaza, rendering it impassable; shells residential areas of Aida and al-Aza refugee camps, Bayt Jala, Hebron, Rafah; bulldozes 30 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Qalqilya. (WT 4/18; JT 4/18 in WNC 4/19; WP 4/19; LAW 4/20)

18 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. Hrs. after the **IDF** completes its pullout of

PA-controlled areas of n. Gaza, **Palestinians** again fire 7 mortars fr. Bayt Hanun toward a Jewish settlement in Gaza and the Erez crossing, causing no damage. The **IDF** sends tanks, bulldozers back into Bayt Hanun to demolish a PSF post. **Bush** calls **Sharon** to urge restraint. Sharp clashes are reported in Bethlehem (where the IDF fires surface-to-surface missiles at a new conference center, a stone cutting factory), nr. Jerusalem. The IDF also bulldozes Palestinian land nr. Gaza airport. (MM 4/18; ATL, MENA 4/18 in WNC 4/19; MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/19; AYM, MENA, *al-Quds* 4/19 in WNC 4/24; WP 4/21)

Israeli FM **Peres** meets with **Arafat economic adviser Muhammad Rashid (Khalid Salam)** reportedly to discuss reducing violence, though no details are released. (EFE [Madrid] 4/19 in WNC 4/24; AYM 4/24 in WNC 4/25)

19 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. A mysterious explosion rips through a **Force 17** office in Ramallah, injuring 3 officers. **Israel** denies responsibility, though the attack comes within an hr. of an **Israeli inner cabinet** mtg. to discuss responses to recent Palestinian violence. The **PA** acknowledges the explosion came fr. inside the building. Reporters witness mbrs. of different **PA security forces** scuffling with each other; PA police confiscate reporters' film, videotape. Later, Palestinian mortars land on both sides of the Gaza-Israel border causing no damage. The **IDF** fires on several Palestinians suspected of firing mortars, injuring **senior Hamas mbr. Khalil Sakani**; Hamas admits its mbrs. fired mortars at Kefar Darom settlement. **Arafat** issues a 2d call to halt mortar attacks across the Green Line; sends a message to **Sharon** via a visiting U.S. congressional delegation suggesting that both leaders deliver simultaneous public calls for a halt to violence, a renewal of negotiations. Sharon says Arafat should issue cease-fire orders 1st. (AP 4/19; AFP [Internet], HA, WP, WT 4/20; NYT, WT 4/21; *al-Quds* 4/24 in WNC 4/26; MM 4/27; DUS 4/27 in WNC 4/30)

Israeli FM **Peres** meets with PA Local Government M **Erakat** to discuss ways of reducing violence. Later, Peres holds a 2d mtg. with Arafat economic adviser **Rashid** (see 4/18). (EFE [Madrid] 4/19 in WNC 4/24; AYM 4/24 in WNC 4/25)

20 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. After Friday prayers at **al-Aqsa Mosque**, **Palestinians** throw stones at an **Israeli police** station inside the mosque compound. Israel sends 10s of riot police into the compound for the 1st time since 9/00 to disperse the Palestinians, evacuate the officers; 2 officers are hurt, but rioters disperse without the police using force. The **IDF** removes road-blocks dividing Gaza into 3 sections. (AP, MM 4/20; NYT, WT 4/21; WT 4/22)

Commenting on **Powell's** statement on Israel's reoccupation of part of Gaza on 4/17, **Sharon** tells the French newspaper *Le Figaro* that he is "tired of always hearing people say that Israel uses excessive force," adding that foreign criticism only "encourages Arafat to start shooting at Israeli civilians again." (WP 4/21)

21 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. The **IDF** raids another **PA**-controlled area of Gaza, sending 3 tanks, 2 bulldozers into Rafah to raze a **PSF** post. Serious clashes are also reported in Qalqilya. At the **U.S.'s** urging, **Israeli, PA security officials** resume security talks at Erez, though only limited progress is made. (AP, NYT, WT 4/22; AYM 4/22 in WNC 4/25; NYT, WP 4/23; DUS 4/27 in WNC 4/30)

22 APRIL

A **Palestinian suicide bomber** kills himself, 1 **Israeli civilian** and wounds around 40 others at a bus stop in Kefar Saba, outside Tel Aviv. Though the **Popular Army Front-Return Battalions** claims responsibility, **Israel** blames the **PA** directly. Later, a bomb goes off in Haifa, slightly wounding 3 Israeli police officers. **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue in the West Bank and Gaza, leaving 1 **Palestinian**, 1 **Jewish settler** dead. A 3d **Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. The **IDF** takes over a **Palestinian home** in **PA**-controlled Dayr al-Balah for use as a new **IDF** post, displacing a family of 12. (AP 4/22; AP, MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/23; AN, JT, SA 4/23 in WNC 4/25; *al-Quds* 4/25 in WNC 4/30)

Israeli FM **Peres** confirms reports that he has been holding secret talks with **PA officials** with **Sharon's** permission, but he gives no details. **PC speaker and PA senior negotiator Ahmad Qurai'** says he and Peres have been discussing the Jordanian-Egyptian

nonpaper. (NYT 4/23; AYM 4/24 in WNC 4/25; NYT 4/25)

23 APRIL

A **car bomb** explodes in Or Yehuda, outside Tel Aviv, lightly injuring 4 **Israelis**. The **PFLP** claims responsibility (see 4/2). In the West Bank and Gaza, **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue, leaving 1 **Palestinian** dead; a 2d **Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. The **PSF** claims to fire antitank weapons at 7 **IDF** tanks, 2 bulldozers, foiling their attempt to reenter Rafah to demolish more homes (see 4/14). A roadside bomb explodes outside **Ariel settlement**, causing no damage. At a funeral for a **PSF** officer in Gaza, a 12-yr.-old **Palestinian boy** is shot dead, 14 Palestinians are wounded when **settlers, IDF soldiers** at a nearby settlement open fire thinking the **PA's** 21-gun salute is gunfire aimed at them. The **IDF** also directs heavy machine gun fire at Gaza airport. (AP 4/23; Interfax 4/23, MENA, *al-Quds* 4/24 in WNC 4/25; MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/24)

PA and Israeli security officials hold a round of "constructive" talks at the **U.S.** amb.'s residence in Israel, with **CIA** participation (see 4/4). **Arafat** makes a public statement in Arabic that he does not "agree to any form of attack on Israeli or Palestinian civilians." (AP 4/23; MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/24; AP, NYT 4/25; SA 4/25 in WNC 4/26; DUS 4/27 in WNC 4/30; WJW 5/3)

Iran sponsors an NGO conference in support of **Palestinian** human rights in Tehran. Attendees call on states to take actions in support of the Palestinians (such as providing aid, boycotting Israel) instead of making statements of support. (IRNA 4/23 in WNC 4/25) (see Peace Monitor)

24 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes abate slightly, though 2 **Palestinians** are killed. Observers note that Palestinian mortar attacks have tapered off since **Arafat's** 2d call for a halt on 2/19, though today **Palestinians** fire 5 mortars at **Neve Dekalim settlement** and 3 at **Gush Katif settlement**, causing no damage. The **IDF** raids the village of Wadi al-Silqa nr. Kefar Darom settlement, ransacks homes, harasses residents, demolishes 1 **Palestinian home**; directs heavy machine gun fire at al-Sudaniyya, Gaza City. **Israel** eases the border closing btwn. Egypt, Gaza temporarily but then imposes a 72-hr. closure on the West Bank and

Gaza, sealing crossings to Egypt, Jordan and tightening controls on Palestinian movement inside the territories, fearing attacks during Israeli memorial, "independence" days on 4/25–26. (MM, NYT, WT 4/25)

Iran convenes a 2-day conference in support of the al-Aqsa intifada, **Palestinians'** rights. Delegations fr. **35 Arab, Muslim countries** and senior mbrs. of **Hamas, Hizballah, Islamic Jihad** take part. (BBC 4/24; IRNA, TT 4/24 in WNC 4/25; MM, WT 4/25; *Iran Daily*, IRNA 4/25 in WNC 4/26; WJW 4/26; IRNA, VIRI 4/26 in WNC 4/27; HJ 4/27 in WNC 4/30; MM 5/2; IRNA 5/2 in WNC 5/3; *al-Nabarr* 5/4 in WNC 5/7) (see Peace Monitor)

25 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue to abate. In Rafah, **4 Fatah mbrs.** are killed, 5 are wounded in a mysterious explosion. Though some reports claim the men were assembling a bomb when it exploded, 1 of the 4 killed, **Ramadan Azzam**, is also head of Gaza's **popular resistance comms.**, raising speculation that the explosion was an IDF assassination. Arafat's **Fatah** organization denies its mbrs. are involved in bomb making. The **IDF** bulldozes 50–60 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Dugit settlement, 20 dunams nr. Rafah. (AP, WP 4/25; HJ 4/27 in WNC 4/30; MEI 5/4)

26 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue at a lower level, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. (AFP [Internet] 4/26; LAW 5/4)

The Israeli daily *Ha'Aretz* reports that last wk., **Israel** issued 2,000 eviction notices to **bedouins** living in **unrecognized villages** in the Negev, saying their homes are located in a closed military area. (HA 4/26)

1,000s of Israeli Arabs take part in right of return marches to their destroyed villages to protest Israel's "independence" day celebrations. (al-Awda news group 4/27)

27 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes escalate after several days of diminution, with the most severe exchanges nr. Qarni crossing and in Qalqilya, Ramallah. The **IDF** directs shelling, heavy machine gun fire residential areas nr. Khan Yunis, at **PSF** posts nr. Dayr al-Balah, Jabaliya; bulldozes 15 dunams of Palestinian land in Khan Yunis, 23 dunams in Rafah. **Jewish settlers** attack Palestinian property

in Haris. A roadside bomb explodes nr. a Jewish settlement in Gaza, injuring **1 IDF soldier, 1 settler**. The **IDF** says that in the coming days, it will ease the closure, allow 11,000 Palestinians to return to their jobs in Israel. **Israeli, PA security officials** hold a round of unproductive talks on halting violence. (*al-Quds* 4/27 in WNC 4/30; WP, WT 4/28; LAW 5/4)

Sharon, Peres meet to draft a formal response to the Jordanian-Egyptian initiative. Sharon says he has "serious reservations about almost every aspect" of the proposal and "substantial changes" must be made before Israel can accept it. (*al-Ra'i* 4/27 in WNC 4/30; NYT, WP, WT 4/28) (see Peace Monitor)

28 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue to escalate, leaving **1 Palestinian, 1 Jewish settler** dead in separate shooting incidents. Claiming revenge for the death of Fatah mbrs. on 4/25, a group calling itself the **Four Martyrs** fires mortars at a **Kefar Darom, Netzer Hazani, and Nisanit settlements** in Gaza, wounding 5 settlers (1 seriously) in Netzer Hazani. **Fatah** denies any connection to the group; **Israel** blames **Arafat** directly. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Khan Yunis; bulldozes 100s of dunams of Palestinian nr. Dugit settlement, Khan Yunis; detains 7 Palestinian fishermen at sea. Armed **Jewish settlers** bar the entrances of Haris, attempt to enter the village, but are blocked by international peace activists who hold them off until **Ariel settlement security officers** take them away. (NYT, WP, WT 4/29; International Solidarity Movement press release 5/1; LAW 5/4; MEI 5/4)

29 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. A **Palestinian suicide bomber** detonates a car bomb nr. a **Jewish settler** school bus in the West Bank, killing himself but causing no other injuries. **Palestinians** also fire 2 mortars at a **Kefar Darom settlement** in Gaza. Inside the Green Line, **Israeli police** find, safely detonate a bomb in Netanya. The **IDF** shells a **PSF** office in Gaza, residential areas of Khan Yunis; bulldozes Palestinian land in Khan Yunis; conducts an arrest sweep in Jalazun. **Jewish settlers** set fire to a Palestinian olive grove in Salfit, destroying 50 trees. (WP 4/30; LAW 5/4)

Arafat orders the **popular resistance comms.** to disband and their mbrs. (most of whom are Fatah mbrs., some of whom are PSF officers) to "return to their original security positions," calls **senior PSF officer Yasir Zanun (a Fatah mbr. and a leader of the resistance comms.)** in for questioning, has the **PSF** arrest **Hamas spokesman 'Abd al-'Aziz Rantisi** for statements accusing Arafat of treason for resuming security talks with Israel. Fatah *tanzim* leader **Barghouti, Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the PFLP** strongly oppose disbanding the resistance comms. (WP 4/30; AYM 5/1 in WNC 5/3; WJW 5/3; SA 5/3 in WNC 5/4; MEI 5/4 WP 5/7; MEI 5/18)

Israeli FM **Peres** presents Israel's response to the Jordanian-Egyptian proposal to **Mubarak** in Cairo, Jordanian FM **Khatib** in Amman. Egypt, Jordan say they will study Israel's reservations and proposed changes, but they are not willing to start a new process of "talks about talks." (MENA 4/29 in WNC 4/30; HA, NYT, WP 4/30; HA, MM 5/1; AYM 5/1 in WNC 5/3; MM 5/2; MEI, MM 5/4) (see Peace Monitor)

30 APRIL

Israeli-Palestinian clashes escalate, leaving a total of **7 Palestinians, 1 Jewish settler** dead. In Ramallah, an explosion destroys a home, wounding 5 Palestinians, killing 2 children and a Palestinian wanted by Israel for the 1/18 murder of an Israeli civilian in the West Bank. **Israel** claims the wanted Palestinian accidentally detonated a bomb he was building; the **PA** claims the IDF assassinated him. In Gaza, **2 Hamas** mbrs. are killed when a bomb in their car, parked in a garage, explodes, destroying the building, wounding 4 bystanders. Israel claims a car bomb exploded prematurely; Hamas, noting that 2 IDF helicopters were reported in the area at the time, claims the **IDF** assassinated the pair with a remote-controlled device. A **Palestinian worker** at a Gaza settlement is killed, another is wounded when a bomb in his employer's car explodes; the **IDF** claims the men were planting the bomb when it exploded. **Palestinian snipers** fire on 2 settler vehicles, wounding 1 settler and causing 1 car to crash, killing another settler. **Palestinians** fire mortars at a **Jewish settlement** in Gaza, causing no damage. The **IDF** responds by heavily shelling residential areas of Khan Yunis. **Jewish settlers** open fire on the Palestinian villages of Bazarim and Burqa, caus-

ing no injuries. The **IDF** also "eases" the blockade on Bethlehem and Qalqilya, allowing residents "to enter and exit the cities through 1 roadblock for each city after undergoing stringent security checks." (HA, REU 4/30; LAW, MM, NYT, WT 5/1; NYT 5/2; *al-Quds* 5/3 in WNC 5/4; LAW 5/4)

In New York, **Peres** discusses Israel's position on the Jordanian-Egyptian initiative with UN Secy.-Gen. **Annan**. (HA 5/1; AYM 5/1 in WNC 5/3; MM, WT 5/2; WJW 5/3; SA 5/3 in WNC 5/7; MM 5/4)

The **State Dept.** issues its annual report on global "terrorism," which notes—but does not support or dismiss—**Israeli** accusations that **PA** security officials, **Fatah** mbrs. have facilitated and/or taken part in attacks against Israelis. (MM 5/1, 5/2; AYM 5/3 in WNC 5/7; *al-Abram* [Internet] 5/10)

1 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **2 Palestinians, 1 Jewish settler** dead. **Palestinians** fire 2 mortars at a **Jewish settlement** in Gaza, causing no injuries. **Jewish settlers** stone Palestinian cars nr. Keddumim settlement, fire on Palestinians in Bazari (injuring 2). The **IDF** shells residential areas of al-Bireh and Ramallah, damaging offices of the PA Central Bureau of Statistics, the Local Government Min., Wafa news agency; bulldozes Palestinian land in Bayt Hanun. **Sharon** announces that he has given the **IDF** "freedom beyond imagining" to act against Palestinians, saying, "There are things we will tell the public about. There are things we will deny, and there are things that will remain hidden forever." (MM 5/1; NYT, WP 5/2; MA 5/2 in WNC 5/3; LAW, WT 5/4)

2 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. In a pre-dawn strike, **IDF** bulldozers move into Brazil camp in PA-controlled Rafah under cover of tank, machine-gun fire to demolish **20 Palestinian homes**, killing **1 Palestinian**, wounding at least 14, leaving 150 homeless. Israel claims the aim of the 4-hr. assault was to halt sniper fire. (AP, BBC, NYT, REU 5/2; BDL, NYT, WP, WT 5/3; *al-Quds* 5/3 in WNC 5/4; LAW, MM 5/4; MEI 5/18)

In Washington, Israeli FM **Peres** discusses with Secy. of State **Powell** Israel's position on the Jordanian-Egyptian initiative, urges the U.S. to help arrange a cease-fire. Powell, echoing Israel's positions, says the U.S. supports the Arab proposal as the "beginning of

a dialogue. But, of course, that dialogue cannot get underway until violence is brought down" significantly; he does not mention the Israeli attack on Brazil hrs. earlier. The **State Dept.**, however, denounces the Brazil attack as "undermin[ing] the efforts to defuse the situation." (MENA 5/2 in WNC 5/3; WP, WT 5/3; MM 5/4) (see Peace Monitor)

At a mtg. of his **inner cabinet** held in the **Jewish settlement** of Ofra, **Sharon** says that he cannot foresee Israel ever ceding sovereignty over the **Jordan Valley** "from the Jordanian border in the east to the mountain ridges of Judea and Samaria and the Allon Road in the west." (JP [Internet] 5/3; WJW 5/10)

3 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. **Jewish settlers** attack, beat up several Palestinian farmers nr. Aqraba; fire on Palestinians nr. Hawara, causing no injuries; throw stones at Palestinian cars nr. Shavei Shomron settlement. The **IDF** shells residential areas in Bayt Hanun. (HJ 5/4; PCHR 5/10; LAW 5/11)

In Washington, **Bush, Peres** discuss the Jordanian-Egyptian initiative. They also address the **American Jewish Comm.**, where Bush says the U.S. and Israel "see eye to eye on how to handle the peace process," that the U.S. will be "steadfast in supporting Israel against terrorism." (AP, NYT 5/4)

The **U.S.** is voted off the **UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR)** for the 1st time since the comm. was established in 1947. (NYT, WP 5/4; NYT, WT 5/5; MM 5/8; WJW 5/10; JT 5/13 in WNC 5/14; MM 5/14; MEI 5/18) (see Peace Monitor)

Lebanon sends a letter to UN Secy.-Gen. **Annan** protesting his 5/2 proposal to the UNSC to reduce the size of the **UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)** contingent when the UNIFIL mandate comes up for renewal in 7/01, arguing that the troops are necessary while tensions in the region remain high. (RL 5/3 in WNC 5/4; MEI 5/4; WT 5/10; MEI 5/18) (see Peace Monitor)

4 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. **Palestinians** fire 2 mortars at **Kefar Aza kibbutz** inside the Green Line, causing no damage. The **IDF** fires 4 tank shells at a **PSF** post nr. Bayt Hanun in response; also shells residential areas of al-Bireh, Gaza City, Jinin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Tapuah settlement fire on Palestinians, destroy property in Yasuf; **Is-**

raeli border police capture, arrest 4 of the settlers. In Bethlehem, **500 Islamic Jihad supporters** protest the Jordanian-Egyptian initiative. (WT 5/5; MA 5/7 in WNC 5/8; PCHR 5/10; LAW 5/11)

The **Mitchell Comm.** gives **Israel**, the **PA** copies of its preliminary report on the causes of the 7 mos. of clashes. The report targets 3 goals—halting violence, rebuilding confidence, resuming negotiations—though it says the "timing and sequence" of steps must be decided by the parties themselves. (MM 5/4; WT 5/5; HA, NYT, WT 5/6; *al-Quds* 5/6 in WNC 5/7; HA, NYT, WT 5/7; AYM 5/7, JT 5/8 in WNC 5/9; MM, WT 5/8; WJW 5/11; AN 5/14 in WNC 5/15; MEI 5/18) (see Peace Monitor; Docs. A2, B2, C2, D4)

5 MAY

As **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue, the **IDF** assassinates **Islamic Jihad mbr. Ahmad As'ad. 1 Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. The **IDF** shells 10 mobile trailers used by the **GIS** in Jericho, injuring 9 GIS mbrs.; shells residential areas in Bayt Hanun, nr. Jericho; begins bulldozing wide tracks of land nr. Yabad for a new settler bypass road. (LAW 5/5; WT 5/6; PCHR 5/10; LAW 5/11; HA 5/16)

Pope John Paul II arrives in Damascus on a 4-day trip to Syria, is greeted by Pres. **Asad.** (NYT, WT 5/6; AFP 5/7 in WNC 5/8; MM, WP, WT 5/8; MM 5/9; WJW 5/10; MEI 5/18) (see Peace Monitor)

6 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **2 Palestinians** dead. In what the **IDF** says is an effort to silence shooting at its positions, **Israeli paratroopers, border police** in armored personnel carriers and under cover of IDF tank and machine-gun fire enter **PA**-controlled Bayt Jala and al-Khadir, where they fire on Palestinian homes for several hrs., killing 1 Palestinian, injuring 23. The **IDF** also briefly enters and shells residential areas of Tulkarm, killing 1 Palestinian, wounding 9; bulldozes 17 dunams of Palestinian land in Bayt Hanun. Israeli DM **Ben-Eliezer** says he has given **IDF field cmdrs.** greater freedom to launch ground attacks into areas under PA control to suppress Palestinian gunfire. In Petah Tikva, Israel, a **bomb** explodes in a trash bin nr. a bus station, lightly injuring **1 Israeli.** (LAW, NYT 5/7; *al-Quds* 5/7 in WNC 5/8; WP, WT 5/8; PCHR 5/10; LAW 5/11)

7 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **2 Palestinians** dead. The **IDF** opens fire on Khan Yunis, killing a **4-mo.-old Palestinian girl** inside her home, wounding at least 23 Palestinians, including 10 children. **Sharon** apologizes for the incident, in which the IDF was responding to 4 mortars fired toward **Neve Dekalim settlement** that caused no damage. The **IDF** directs heavy machine gun fire at a car clearing a PA checkpoint nr. Hebron, killing **1 PSF officer**, wounding 2. The **Israeli navy** captures a **boat** nr. the Israel-Lebanon border carrying a load of weapons, ammunition. The **Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC)** acknowledges the boat is theirs; the **PA** denies any connection to the shipment. In the West Bank, the **IDF** enters 2 towns in **area A** in pursuit of Palestinians said to have fired on Israeli forces. The **U.S.** criticizes recent incursions into area A as a "serious escalation." The **IDF** also directs heavy machine gun fire on residential areas of Jinin; bulldozes 230 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Khan Yunis, 71 dunams in Gaza City. (AP, LAW 5/7; MM, NYT, WP, WT 5/8; *al-Quds* 5/8 in WNC 5/9; MM 5/9; SA 5/9 in WNC 5/10; PCHR, WJW 5/10; DUS 5/10 in WNC 5/11; LAW 5/11; AYM 5/11 in WNC 5/14)

8 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. **1 Jewish settler** is fatally shot nr. Itamar settlement. **1 Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. **IDF** bulldozers push 150 yds. into PA-controlled territory nr. Netzarim settlement to demolish Palestinian agricultural land. The **IDF** also shells residential areas of Tulkarm. (NYT 5/8; WP, WT 5/9; *al-Quds* 5/9 in WNC 5/10; WJW 5/10; LAW 5/11; MA 5/11 in WNC 5/14)

Dismissing the Mitchell Comm.'s conclusion that settlements are a barrier to peace, **Sharon** vows to continue expanding **Jewish settlements**; says settlements are not illegal because they are built "not on occupied territory, but disputed territory." The **State Dept.** says Sharon's plans (announced 5/6) to seek an additional \$350 m./yr. for settlement construction "risks further inflaming the already volatile situation . . . and is provocative." (NYT, WP 5/9; WP 5/10; MEI 5/18)

Israel's Public Security Min. says it has drawn up a list of 11 offices operated by the **PA** in **East Jerusalem** that it plans to close

in the near future to "thwart any activity by the PA infringing on our sovereignty in Jerusalem." (MA 5/8 in WNC 5/9; WJW 5/10; AYM 5/10 in WNC 5/11)

9 MAY

As **Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue, **2 Jewish settler teenagers** (1 of whom is a dual U.S.-Israeli citizen) are found beaten to death in a cave nr. Bethlehem; the pair have been missing since 5/8. **Sharon** calls the murders a "new escalation," blames the **PA**. The **IDF** detains 15 Palestinians for questioning. **YESHA settlers council** says the proper response is to accelerate settlement construction, declare Arafat an enemy of the state, bring down the PA. The **IDF** makes 4 incursions into PA-controlled territory: sending bulldozers covered by tanks into Rafah to demolish a **Palestinian home**, shell a **PSF** post; bulldozing Palestinian land nr. Gaza City; twice entering Bayt Hanun to bulldoze land, a **PSF** post. **Hamas** claims responsibility for a **roadside bomb** on the Egypt-Gaza border that kills **2 Rumanian migrant laborers**, wounds 1. **Palestinians** fire 2 mortars at Nisanit settlement in Gaza, causing no damage. (AP, MM 5/9; MM, NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 5/10; LAW, MM, NYT, WP, WT 5/11; WJW 5/17; MEI 5/18)

For the 1st time in 3 yrs., the **Israeli government** demolishes **2 bedouin** homes in the Negev. (Mossawa Center press release 5/17) (see 4/26)

10 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. **A critically ill Palestinian** dies when the **IDF** bars his transportation through a checkpoint to a hospital; a **2d Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. In retaliation for the death of 2 Rumanian workers on 5/9, the **IDF** shells Gaza City, targeting and severely damaging **Fatah** and **PSF** offices, the **PA Transportation Min.**, **PSF central prison**, injuring 5 **PSF** officers, 8 civilians. The **IDF** also shells residential areas of Rafah; bulldozes 2 **Palestinian homes** in Rafah, 200 dunams of agricultural land in al-Qarara; surrounds 15 Palestinian homes (occupied by 150 people) nr. Kefar Darom settlement with barbed wire, seals the area for 7 hrs. In Hebron, **Jewish settlers** severely beat 3 Palestinians (ages 9, 27, 54). (AFP [Internet], LAW, MEZ, PCHR 5/10; MM, NYT, WP, WT 5/11; Interfax, QA 5/11 in WNC 5/14; HP 5/12; PCHR 5/17; LAW, MEI 5/18; JP 5/25)

The **U.S. House** votes (252-165) to pass an amendment to the foreign operations budget that would withhold \$244 m. in **UN** arrears slated for payment in 2002 unless the **U.S.** regains its seat on the **UNCHR**. (NYT, WP, WT 5/11; MM 5/14) (see 5/3)

11 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **1 Palestinian** dead. Overnight, **Palestinian assailants** throw hand grenades at an **IDF** post nr. Gaza's Dayr al-Balah refugee camp. In retaliation, the **IDF** sends tanks and bulldozers into the camp at dawn, firing 15 shells, demolishing **5 Palestinian homes** and a **PSF** post; the 700-yd. incursion, the deepest into PA-controlled territory since **IDF** field cmdrs. were given (5/6) free rein to carry them out, leaves 27 Palestinians homeless. Later, the **IDF** fires machine guns toward journalists, Palestinians digging through the rubble in search of their possessions. The **IDF** also directs shells, heavy machine gun fire on residential areas of Bethlehem, Jabaliya, Jericho, Khan Yunis; opens a new settler bypass road linking the **Jewish settlements** of Mevo Dotan, Homesh, Shaked. A **pipe bomb** explodes in the Old City of Jerusalem, wounding 2 people. For the 2d day, **Jewish settlers** in Hebron attack, seriously injure 3 Palestinians (ages 6, 14, 16). (HP, PMC, WP 5/12; PCHR 5/17)

In Amman, **Jordanian security forces** violently disperse **100s of Jordanians** taking part in 2 Palestinian solidarity rallies sponsored by the **Muslim Brotherhood** to mark the 53d anniversary of the Nakba. (HP 5/12; *al-Ra'i* 5/12, JT 5/13 in WNC 5/14; QA 5/14 in WNC 5/15; MM 5/15; JT 5/16 in WNC 5/17; MEI 5/18) (see Peace Monitor)

12 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving **3 Palestinians** dead. The **IDF** attempts to assassinate **Fatah *tanzim* leader 'Abd al-Karim Owais** by firing 5 missiles fr. a helicopter at his car as he drives through Jinin, killing 1 passenger and 1 bystander, wounding 17 (mostly students returning home fr. school); Owais, 3 other passengers escape after the 1st rocket misses the car. Over 10,000 Palestinians attend the funeral of the 2 killed, call for more attacks on Israeli targets. **Palestinians** fire 6 mortars at 2 Jewish settlements in Gaza, causing no damage. In response, the **IDF** shells al-Maghazi refugee camp, killing 1 Palestinian, wounding 10;

sends tanks into and fires on Khan Yunis, damaging a cemetery that the **IDF** claims was the source of mortar fire. For the 3d day, **Jewish settlers** in Hebron attack, injure 4 Palestinians (ages 3, 6, 13, 37). Settlers also establish a new settlement outpost nr. Kochav Hasachar settlement. (HP 5/12; LAW, NYT, WP, WT 5/13; *al-Quds* 5/13 in WNC 5/15; PCHR 5/17; LAW, MEI 5/18)

13 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue. Late this evening, the **IDF** helicopter gunships, naval boats shell **PSF** posts across the Gaza Strip specifically targeting, destroying at least 8 **PSF** armored personnel carriers, not aiming at adjacent **PSF** buildings; 3 **PSF** officers are wounded. The **IDF** says the attacks were in response to the "unprecedented number of mortar attacks" (they report 17) on Jewish settlements in Gaza in the preceding wk. The **IDF** also sends tanks, bulldozers into Rafah to demolish **2 Palestinian homes**; 2 other homes are damaged by shelling. (MA 5/13 in WNC 5/14; WP, WT 5/14; PCHR 5/17)

14 MAY

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving a total of **7 Palestinians** dead. Hrs. before dawn, without warning, the **IDF** opens fire with M-16s and heavy machine guns on a **PSF** post in Beitunia, killing **5 PSF officers**. Later in the day, 10,000s of Palestinians attend a memorial for the 5 killed in Ramallah. The **U.S.** says **Israel's** actions mark a "very disturbing" escalation. When a **Palestinian** throws a grenade at an **IDF** checkpoint nr. Khan Yunis, **IDF** soldiers open fire on cars waiting to pass through, killing the assailant (who is reportedly wearing an explosive device), 1 bystander, wounding 5 bystanders. The **IDF** also demolishes a **PSF** building nr. Tulkarm. **Palestinian gunmen** fire on Gilo settlement, wounding **4 Jewish settlers**. (LAW, MEZ, MM, NYT, WP, WT 5/14; MM, NYT, WP, WT 5/15; AN, MENA 5/15 in WNC 5/16; AYM 5/16 in WNC 5/18; PCHR, WP 5/17; LAW, MEI 5/18)

Hizballah fires 5 rockets fr. **Lebanon** into the Israeli-occupied **Shaba' Farms**. The **IDF** responds by firing mortars at Hizballah targets in s. Lebanon, overflying the area. Neither side reports damage. (RL 5/14 in WNC 5/15; NYT 5/15; MEI 5/18)

15 MAY

Palestinians mark Nakba commemoration day by observing 3 minutes of silence. Large rallies are held in every major Palestinian city in the West Bank and Gaza, after which a recorded message by **Arafat** is read over loudspeakers. **Israeli Arabs** hold marches to the sites of their destroyed villages. Marches, rallies are also held in Amman (where 1,000s demonstrate), Cairo, Tehran, Washington. (MM 5/15; IRNA, MENA 5/15 in WNC 5/16; SA 5/15, HJ, JT, *al-Quds* 5/16 in WNC 5/17; NYT, WP, WT 5/16; WJW 5/17; HA, WP 5/18)

Israeli-Palestinian clashes escalate due to the Nakba anniversary, leaving **5 Palestinians, 1 Israeli settler** dead, some 250 Palestinians wounded. In an apparent assassination in Gaza, the **IDF** fires a tank shell at the car driven by **'Abd al-Hakim al-Ma-nama, bodyguard of Hamas spiritual leader Shaykh Yasin**, killing him and a passenger. In Ramallah, an **IDF** soldier shoots **French TV reporter Bertrand Aguirre**, who captures his targeted shooting on video. A **Palestinian woman** gives birth at an **IDF** checkpoint when soldiers refuse to let her pass to reach a hospital. The **IDF** directs shells, heavy machine gun fire at residential areas of Rafah, Tulkarm. (AP, LAW 5/15; HP, NYT, WP, WT 5/16; PCHR 5/17; CSM 5/18; JP 5/25)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP	(Agence France-Presse, Paris)
AN	(Arab News, Riyadh)
AP	(Associated Press, Internet)
ATL	(Anatolia, Ankara)
AYM	(<i>al-Ayyam</i> , Ramallah)
BBC	(British Broadcasting Corporation World Service, Internet)
BDL	(BADIL Resource Center, Bethlehem)
CNN	(Cable News Network, Internet)
CSM	(<i>Christian Science Monitor</i> , Boston)
DUS	(<i>al-Dustur</i> , Amman)
HA	(<i>Ha'Aretz</i> [Internet], Tel Aviv)
HJ	(<i>al-Hayat al-Jadida</i> , Ramallah)
HP	(Hear Palestine [Internet], Washington)
IRNA	(Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran)
JP	(<i>Jerusalem Post International Edition</i> , Jerusalem)
JT	(<i>Jordan Times</i> , Amman)
LAW	(Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment, Jerusalem)
MA	(<i>Ma'ariv</i> , Tel Aviv)
MEI	(<i>Middle East International</i> , London)
MENA	(Middle East News Agency, Cairo)
MEZ	(al-Mezan Center for Human Rights, Jabaliya)
MIL	(<i>Milliyet</i> , Ankara)

The **Higher Follow-Up Comm. for the Arab Community (HFCAC)**, composed of Israeli Arab political and community leaders, reports that **Israel** is restricting the freedoms of **Israeli Arabs** in light of the al-Aqsa intifada. Israeli Arab journalists, poets have been detained for questioning, warned against "incitement" for writing on the intifada; community activists have received threatening telephone calls fr. police, intelligence officials; Israel police have opened investigations against 4 Israeli Arab MKs; 1 Israeli Arab has been placed under administrative detention; several Israeli Arabs have had their passports confiscated for taking part in a trip to Syria. (HFCAC press release 5/15)

In Washington, PA senior negotiator **Abbas** holds talks with Secy. of State **Powell**, **National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice** on halting violence, **Arafat** visiting the U.S. (WP, WT 5/16; MENA 5/16 in WNC 5/17; NYT 5/17, 5/21)

Israel, the **PA** submit their official responses to the **Mitchell Comm.** report, generally welcoming the report as a basis for a cease-fire. (MM 5/15; NYT 5/16; AYM 5/16 in WNC 5/18; NYT 5/17) (see Peace Monitor; see Docs. B2, C2)

Israel reinforces troops in **Shaba' Farms**, directs machine gun fire across the border into **Lebanon**, flies helicopters along the border area. (RL 5/15 in WNC 5/16)

- MM (*Mideast Mirror*, London)
 NYT (*New York Times*, New York)
 PCHR (Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
 PMC (Palestine Media Center, Internet)
 QA (*al-Quds al-Arabi*, London)
 REU (Reuters, Internet)
 RL (Radio Lebanon, Beirut)
 SA (*al-Sharq al-Awsat*, London)
 TT (*Tebran Times*, Tehran)
 UPMRC (Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees, Jerusalem)
 VIRI (Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Tehran)
 WJW (*Washington Jewish Week*, Rockville, MD)
 WNC (World News Connection [Internet], Washington)
 WP (*Washington Post*, Washington)
 WT (*Washington Times*, Washington)
 XIN (Xinhua—New China News Agency, Beijing)

Chronology compiled by Michele L. Kjorlien



Palestinians survey the damage in Khan Yunis, where IDF bulldozers, under cover of tank fire, leveled 30 homes in a predawn raid on 11 April. (AP Photo/Pier Paolo Cito)