



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS
JOURNALS + DIGITAL PUBLISHING



16 August–15 November 2008

Author(s): Michele K. Esposito

Source: *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Vol. 38, No. 2 (Winter 2009), pp. 208-227

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

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1525/jps.2009.38.2.208>

Accessed: 03/03/2015 11:13

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at
<http://www.jstor.org/page/info/about/policies/terms.jsp>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.



University of California Press and Institute for Palestine Studies are collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to *Journal of Palestine Studies*.

<http://www.jstor.org>

CHRONOLOGY

16 AUGUST–15 NOVEMBER 2008

COMPILED BY MICHELE K. ESPOSITO

This section is part 100 of a chronology begun in JPS 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984). For a more comprehensive overview of events related to the al-Aqsa intifada and of regional and international developments related to the peace process, see the Quarterly Update on Conflict and Diplomacy in this issue.

16 AUGUST

As the quarter opens, a 6-mo. **Hamas-Israel** cease-fire in the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip, which began on 6/19/08, remains in effect, with occasional cross-border incidents reported (see Quarterly Update in *JPS* 149 for background). **Israel**, however, maintains a tight closure on Gaza Strip (imposed since 1/08), allowing only the minimum amount of food, fuel, and basic humanitarian aid to enter and permitting no exports or individuals to leave. During the day, **Israeli naval vessels** pursue Palestinian fishing boats off the Gaza coast, confiscating 1, temporarily detaining 2 fishermen. In the West Bank, controlled by the **Fatah-led Palestinian Authority (PA)**, the **Israel Defense Forces (IDF)** fire tear gas at, beat Palestinians holding a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Dayr al-Bhussun nr. Tulkarm; conduct late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, nr. Jenin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba and the nearby Beit HaShalom outpost in Hebron's Wadi al-Nassara neighborhood (comprising the al-Rajabi building seized in 4/08 and surrounding land seized last quarter; see Quarterly Update in *JPS* 149) attack Palestinians and their property in Wadi al-Nassara, wounding 1 Palestinian. (OCHA 8/20; PCHR 8/21)

17 AUGUST

The **Israeli cabinet** approves the release of **200 Palestinian prisoners** as a gesture to **PA Pres. Mahmud Abbas** to encourage progress in ongoing final status negotiations (see Quarterly Update in *JPS* 149 for background). In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in, fires on residential areas of Tulkarm, causing no reported

injuries; conducts house searches nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Eitza'il nr. Hebron attack several nearby Palestinian shepherds and their sheep. (IFM 8/17; WP 8/18; NYT 8/19; OCHA 8/20; PCHR 8/21)

18 AUGUST

Israel opens the Kerem Shalom commercial crossing into Gaza for the first time since 4/08, when a Palestinian suicide bomber struck there; 15 trucks carrying humanitarian aid enter Gaza. Israel says it will allow around 80 trucks to enter over the next few days as a "trial run" prior to reopening the crossing for regular imports as part of the 6/19 cease-fire deal with Hamas. In the West Bank, the **IDF** searches homes and shops in Tulkarm, making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Jenin town and refugee camp (r.c.), and nr. Hebron. As part of a new crackdown on **Hamas** in Hebron, **PA security officials** inform the head of the privately run **Islamic Charitable Association (ICA)**, allegedly affiliated with **Hamas**, that the PA has removed the organization's governing board and replaced it with a governing body comprising exclusively of **Fatah** mbrs. to run the charity and its affiliated orphanage and boarding school (see Quarterly Update for details). (OCHA, WP, WT 8/20; PCHR 8/21; AHR 8/23)

19 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in, fires on residential areas of Tammun village nr. Tubas, then fires on stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 2 (ages 10, 12); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem and Jenin,

in Hebron, outside Jerusalem. (OCHA 8/20; PCHR 8/21)

20 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** bars Palestinian workers fr. paving a road inside al-Walaja village nr. Bethlehem, stating that the area is under the jurisdiction of Israel's Jerusalem municipal authority; this marks the 1st clear indication that Israel plans to annex the area to Jerusalem after its **separation wall**, which is planned to bisect al-Walaja, is completed. The **IDF** also makes daytime raids on 3 radio and TV stations in Hebron, arresting employees and confiscating broadcasting equipment; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin and Nablus, nr. Hebron and Ramallah, and in Nur al-Shams r.c. nr. Tulkarm. (PCHR 8/2; OCHA 8/27; PCHR 8/28)

21 AUGUST

In the West Bank, **IDF** undercover units enter Kafr Qallil nr. Nablus in the afternoon, driving vehicles with Palestinian license plates, to capture 2 wanted Palestinians (1 a mbr. of military wing of the **Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP]**, the other of the **al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade [AMB]**). The **IDF** also issues a military order confiscating Palestinian land in Hebron for construction of a settler-only bypass road and military outpost; fires tear gas, rubber-coated steel bullets at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Ni'lin, injuring 10; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, nr. Bethlehem and Ramallah. (OCHA 8/27; PCHR 8/28)

22 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Ramallah and neighboring al-Bireh; fires tear gas, rubber-coated steel bullets at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Silwad nr. Ramallah, nr. Bethlehem; fires tear gas, skunk spray (see Quarterly Update in *JPS* 149) at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in. Separately, **Jewish settlers** fr. Matiyahu settlement

nr. Ramallah fire on a Palestinian home in Bil'in, causing no injuries. In 2 incidents in East Jerusalem, **Jewish settlers** vandalize 20 graves in a Muslim cemetery; attempt to seize a strip of Palestinian land, but are chased off by local Palestinians. (OCHA 8/27; PCHR 8/28)

23 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem. More than **40 human rights activists fr. 17 countries** (including Israel) organized by the U.S.-based **Free Gaza Movement (FGM)** complete a 2-day voyage fr. Cyprus to Gaza, sailing in 2 boats carrying humanitarian aid, to challenge Israel's blockade; the Israeli navy allows the boats to pass unchallenged (see Quarterly Update for details). (NYT 8/24; OCHA 8/27; PCHR 8/28; WP 8/29)

24 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts predawn patrols in Tulkarm town and r.c.; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Ramallah, nr. Bethlehem and Jenin; conducts late-night patrols in al-Fara'a r.c. and Tammun village nr. Tubas. **Jewish settlers** fr. Brakha settlement nr. Nablus burn 7 dunams (d.; 4 d. = 1 acre) of Palestinian agricultural land. **Jewish settlers** fr. Keddumim nr. Qalqilya stone Palestinian vehicles passing by the settlement, causing no injuries; the **IDF** removes them. In Hebron, a group of **Jewish settlers** beats 2 Palestinians. As the Palestinian school yr. begins, the Ramallah-based, Fatah-run **Palestinian Teachers' Union** calls on Gaza's 10,000 teachers and school administrators to strike to protest Hamas's de facto rule, acknowledging that the strike is, in part, intended to disrupt life in Gaza and weaken the **Hamas** government; the **PA** pledges to continue to pay the teachers' salaries as long as they observe the strike, which lasts through the end of the quarter (see Quarterly Update for details); **Hamas** authorities quickly begin contracting 1,000s of substitute teachers to keep schools running. (OCHA 8/27; PCHR 8/28; WT 10/15)

25 AUGUST

U.S. Secy. of State Condoleezza Rice arrives in Israel for a 2-day visit to press

Israel and the PA for a joint statement on the peace process before the end of Pres. George W. Bush's term (see Quarterly Update for details). Hrs. before her arrival, **Israel releases 198 Palestinian prisoners** as a gesture to **Abbas**, including 2 long-held prisoners given life sentences for murdering Israelis: **Said al-Atba** (a mbr. of the **Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]** convicted in 1977) and **Muhammad Abu Ali** (convicted in 1980; elected to the PA legislature representing Fatah while jailed); none of those released are fr. Hamas. In Gaza, **Palestinians** fire 2 **rockets** into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem, nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Susia in Hebron destroy a Palestinian olive crop nearby. (NYT 8/26; OCHA 8/27; PCHR 8/28)

26 AUGUST

For a 2d day, **Palestinians** fire 2 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. **Israel** closes Gaza border crossings for 48 hrs. in response. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, Jenin town and r.c., Nablus. (OCHA 8/27; PCHR 8/28)

Timed with **Rice's** arrival in Israel, the Israeli human rights group **Peace Now** issues a report showing that Israeli settlement construction in 2008 to date has nearly doubled compared to the same period in 2007 (see Quarterly Update for details), with significant construction taking place in East Jerusalem and the unauthorized settlement outposts that Israel pledged to the U.S. it would remove as part of its road map commitments to advance the peace process. In her meeting with **Israeli FM Tzipi Livni**, **Rice** urges Israel not to take such steps that undermine peace talks. **Livni** calls the 2008 construction "small activities" that should not be used by the Palestinians as an "excuse" not to negotiate. Rice then holds a 3-way mtg. in Jerusalem with the **PA and Israeli negotiating teams**, then heads to Ramallah to meet with **Abbas** (see Quarterly Update). (NYT, WP, WT 8/27)

27 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** moves into al-Kum village nr. Hebron before dawn, sets up checkpoints, checks Palestinians'

IDs as they leave dawn prayers, arresting 3; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., nr. Tulkarm, and in Bethlehem, Nablus (targeting al-Najah University students), Tubas. **Jewish settlers** in Hebron attack a Palestinian home, injuring 1 Palestinian. (PCHR 8/28; OCHA 9/3; PCHR 9/4)

28 AUGUST

The 2 **FGM** boats that sailed into Gaza on 8/23 depart Gaza for Cyprus (unimpeded by the Israeli navy) carrying 9 **Gazans** (mostly students with valid visas to study abroad and a family seeking medical treatment for their 10-yr.-old son) who had been unable to get Israeli permission to leave the Strip; to make space on the boats for the 9 Gazans, 9 FGM activists remain in Gaza (see Quarterly Update for details). In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends undercover units into Nablus in cars bearing Palestinian license plates to raid an auto supply store, arresting 1 Palestinian; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Ni'lin, injuring 11 (including 8 children, ages 12-16); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin, Nablus. (OCHA 9/3; PCHR 9/4)

Abbas begins a 2-day visit to Beirut for talks with **Lebanese leaders** regarding the status of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. See Quarterly Update for details. (BBC 8/28)

29 AUGUST

Israeli naval vessels seize 9 Palestinian fishing boats off the Bayt Lahiya coast, detaining 9 fishermen for questioning, releasing them in the evening. In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes an afternoon raid into al-Til nr. Nablus, arresting 1 Palestinian; fires tear gas, skunk spray at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, wounding 1; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin, injuring 3; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus and nr. Jenin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beit HaShalom and Kiryat Arba attack Palestinians and vandalize Palestinian homes in Wadi al-Nassara; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. A **Palestinian** is killed when

he accidentally triggers unexploded **IDF** ordnance (UXO) in a field nr. Jenin. The Ramallah-based, **Fatah-led Health Workers' Union** calls on PA health providers in Gaza to strike to protest the acting Hamas government; this strikes continues through the end of the quarter (see Quarterly Update for details; c.f. 8/24 above). (OCHA 9/3; PCHR 9/4)

30 AUGUST

Egypt unilaterally opens the Rafah crossing, allowing some 500 Palestinians to return to Gaza and 1,000 to leave before Ramadan begins; the move is closely coordinated with **Hamas**, which bars most Gazans fr. reaching the border to prevent a mass exodus, setting up stations to process exit applications, allowing mostly medical cases and Palestinians with foreign work visas to leave. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in villages surrounding Hebron. (WP, WT 8/31; OCHA 9/3; PCHR 9/4)

31 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., and in Ni'lin (shooting and seriously wounding 1 Palestinian). (OCHA 9/3; PCHR 9/4)

1 SEPTEMBER

The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of Gaza City, wounding 2 fishermen, forcing the boats to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** eases age restrictions on Palestinians entering Jerusalem to attend al-Aqsa Mosque during Ramadan, extending opening hours for checkpoints into Jerusalem; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem and in villages and camps around Hebron. The **PA central pharmacy** in Ramallah takes over the coordination of pharmaceutical deliveries to Gaza from the **World Health Organization (WHO)**. (OCHA 9/3; PCHR 9/4; OCHA 10/15; see also IFM 8/31)

2 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., and in Nablus. The **IDF** bars a group of **Jewish settlers** fr. entering the Palestinian village of Bayt Safafa

in East Jerusalem, but makes no arrests. **Jewish settlers** stone, lightly injure a Palestinian Council (PC) mbr. nr. the evacuated settlement of Homesh s. of Jenin. (OCHA 9/3; PCHR 9/4)

3 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., in Hebron, and nr. Bethlehem, Nablus, Qalqilya, Ramallah, and Tulkarm. (PCHR 9/4; OCHA 9/10; PCHR 9/11)

In a rare Israeli prosecution of Israeli security forces for their actions in the West Bank, **2 Israeli border policemen** are convicted of manslaughter for kidnapping a 17-yr.-old Palestinian and throwing him from a moving vehicle in Hebron in 2002; they face up to 20 yrs. in jail. (WP 9/4)

4 SEPTEMBER

Israel releases **4 Fatah-affiliated political prisoners** as a goodwill gesture to Abbas, marking the start of Ramadan; none are fr. Gaza. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Ni'lin, injuring 1; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Nablus and neighboring Balata r.c., nr. Hebron and Jenin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba stone a Palestinian teenager, vandalize several homes nearby. (OCHA 9/10; PCHR 9/11; AIC 11/9)

5 SEPTEMBER

An **Israeli security official** confirms that Israel allowed 900 assault weapons and ammunition to be transferred to **PA security forces** in late 8/08 to build the capacity of forces loyal to **Abbas**; the arms came via Jordan, but the source is not noted. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, skunk spray at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, wounding 1; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin, injuring 2; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Nablus, neighboring 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma' r.c., and al-Til, and nr. Bethlehem and Jenin.

Jewish settlers fr. Beit HaShalom attack Palestinians, vandalize nearby homes. The **IDF** declares the Joseph's Tomb area nr. Nablus a closed military zone, escorts **Jewish settlers** to the site to pray. (NYT 9/6; OCHA 9/10; PCHR 9/11; AIC 11/9)

6 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in several villages surrounding Jenin. (OCHA 9/10; PCHR 9/11)

7 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Jenin, and Tulkarm. (OCHA 9/10; PCHR 9/11)

8 SEPTEMBER

Israel releases **165 Fatah-affiliated prisoners** as a goodwill gesture to mark Ramadan (see 9/4); none are fr. Gaza. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Ni'lin, injuring 1; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Jenin town and r.c. A **Palestinian woman** sprays an acid-like substance on 2 **IDF** soldiers checking IDs at Hawara checkpoint nr. Nablus, lightly injuring them; the soldiers open fire, causing no injuries, but the woman escapes. (MNA, OCHA 9/10; PCHR 9/11)

9 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes a morning incursion into Ni'lin, surrounding and firing tear gas into a girls school for no apparent reason while classes are in session (10s of students suffer tear gas inhalation), then fires on 10s of stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them, wounding 7; destroys an unlicensed fruit and vegetable stand nr. the Qalandia checkpoint that provides the only source income for 6 Palestinian families; demolishes 32 bedouin structures in Mu'arrajat nr. Ramallah, displacing 60 bedouin (including 36 children); seizes Palestinian land in Hebron to erect a new electricity network to serve local **Jewish settlements**; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., in Dahaysha

r.c. and Nablus, and in al-Askra village nr. Bethlehem. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba stone Palestinian elementary school students on their way home fr. school, occupy the yards of 2 Palestinian homes and hold prayers (the **IDF** removes them). (OCHA 9/10; PCHR 9/11; AIC 11/9)

The **Pentagon** announces a \$77-m. deal to sell **Israel** 1,000 GBU-39 bunker-buster munitions. Israeli military experts say the bombs would not be suitable for an attack on **Iran** but "could provide a powerful new weapon" against Gaza. (AP 9/15)

10 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes an early-evening raid into Nablus, occupying several buildings in Ras al-Ayn neighborhood as observation posts, raiding an apartment building to capture 2 wanted **AMB** mbrs., wounding 1 wanted man and fatally shooting **1 Palestinian bystander** in the process. The **IDF** also conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Tulkarm, in Ni'lin (those arrested include 2 boys ages 11 and 14), and nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin, Tubas. Some **20 Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar nr. Nablus throw stones at residents of 'Asira al-Qibliyya, who throw stones back, prompting the **IDF** to fire in the air and at the legs of the Palestinians "to try to restore order"; no serious injuries are reported. **Jewish settlers** attack an **IDF** contingent that enters an unauthorized settlement outpost nr. Ramallah to confiscate construction equipment being used to expand the outpost; no serious injuries are reported; late in the evening, **Jewish settlers** from another nearby outpost enter an **IDF** base w. of Ramallah, damage the water supply. (PCHR 9/11; NYT 9/12; NYT 9/14; OCHA 9/17; PCHR 9/18; AIC 11/9)

E. of Beirut, **Druze politician Shaykh Sali Aridi** of the pro-Syrian Lebanese Democratic Party is assassinated by a bomb placed under his car. No group claims responsibility. (WP 9/11)

11 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Ni'lin, injuring 5; makes a late-night incursion into 'Anabta nr. Tulkarm, patrolling streets, firing on houses and shops, then firing on

stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 1; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Tubas, and nr. Bethlehem, Jenin. (OCHA 9/17; PCHR 9/18)

12 SEPTEMBER

In the 1st such incident since 6/13/08 (before the cease-fire began), **IDF** troops on the s. Gaza border fire across the border on residential areas of al-Shuka, seriously wounding 1 Palestinian. The **IDF** also makes an afternoon raid into Hebron, surrounding a **PA security force unit** on patrol, arresting 2 PA security officers; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, wounding 2 Palestinians and an Israeli journalist; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (10s suffer tear gas inhalation); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. A **Jewish settler seriously** injures a 6-yr.-old Palestinian boy in an accidental hit-and-run in Hebron; the **IDF** evacuates the child to a Jerusalem hospital. (OCHA 9/17; PCHR 9/18; AIC 11/9)

13 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, a **Palestinian** sneaks into the unauthorized settlement outpost of Shalhevet (next to Yitzhar settlement, s. of Nablus), sets fire to a vacant building, then stabs and lightly wounds a 9-yr.-old Jewish settler boy who saw him and raised an alarm. In retaliation, **armed Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar raid and open fire on the nearby Palestinian village of 'Asira al-Qibliyya in an assault that lasts for several hrs., causing property damage and wounding 4 Palestinians; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. Nr. Bethlehem, **Palestinians** stone a bus with Israeli license plates, lightly injuring 2 American tourists. In response, the **IDF** sends troops into the nearby village of Tuqu' to search for the assailants; the troops fire live ammunition at stone-throwing youths who confront them, killing a **16-yr.-old Palestinian boy**, seriously wounding another teenager. The **IDF** also conducts late-night patrols in Husan and Nahalin villages nr. Bethlehem, firing on residential areas, causing no injuries; conducts separate late-night arrest raids, house searches in Nahalin and Tuqu', as well as nr. Hebron and Jenin.

(NYT, WT 9/14; OCHA 9/17; PCHR 9/18; NYT 9/26; AIC 11/9)

14 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, **Palestinians** fire 1 **rocket** into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In response, **Israel** closes all Gaza crossing through 9/16. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Til, al-Bireh, several villages around Jenin, and nr. Bethlehem, Hebron. (OCHA 9/17; PCHR 9/18)

At a regular top-level Israeli-PA security coordination meeting near Ramallah, the **PA** reportedly asks **Israel** "to join them in preparing a field plan and train their forces and supply them with weapons" to confront Hamas, anticipating clashes in 1/09, when Abbas's term as president officially expires. The PA team also asks for IDF permission to deploy a new PA security contingent in Hebron district to confront Hamas forces there (see Doc. C2). (YA 9/19)

15 SEPTEMBER

Nr. the Rafah border in Egypt, **Egyptian border police** find a major smuggling tunnel stocked with 95 televisions, 7 washing machines, computer equipment, and large quantities of clothes for import to Gaza. In the West Bank, the **IDF** imposes a curfew on Nahalin village nr. Bethlehem, raids and searches several homes, but makes no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., nr. Bethlehem. In Gaza City, an **Army of Islam** mbr. fatally shoots a **Hamas-affiliated police officer** while resisting arrest. (NYT, OCHA 9/17; PCHR 9/18)

16 SEPTEMBER

Overnight in Gaza City, **Hamas-affiliated police** raid a family compound belonging to the **Daghmash clan** in an attempt to break up the Daghmash-controlled **Army of Islam**. A heavy exchange of gunfire lasting for several hrs. leaves **1 policeman** and **11 Daghmash** dead (including a 1-yr.-old, 2 other children, 8 gunmen), and 45 wounded (including Army of Islam head Mumtaz Daghmash; at least 15 other Daghmash members, including 2 women; and 10 police); police confiscate 32 truckloads of weapons from the compound. During the day, 6

Palestinian fishing boats carrying **FGM** activists who sailed into Gaza on 8/22 attempt to outrun the Israeli naval blockade to get the activists back to Cyprus but are fired upon and forced back to shore by the navy, leaving 1 activist injured and 1 boat damaged (see 8/28). The **IDF** also sends tanks, bulldozers into c. Gaza to level land along the border fence, withdrawing by evening, marking the 1st cross-border incursion since 7/23. In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes an afternoon raid into Bayt Umar nr. Hebron, firing on stone-throwing Palestinians who confront them, wounding an 11-year-old Palestinian boy; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron, nr. Bethlehem and Jenin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Maskiyot in the Jordan Valley drive Palestinian shepherds off nearby land. (NYT, OCHA 9/17; PCHR 9/18; AIC 11/9)

17 SEPTEMBER

Israeli FM Tzipi Livni narrowly wins **Kadima party** elections to replace **Ehud Olmert** as party head. Olmert, Israel's current PM, called for party elections on 6/11/08, after government investigators turned up serious new evidence of his financial impropriety (see Quarterly Update in *JPS* 149). He vowed to resign as PM formally once a new party head was elected. (NYT 9/17; HA, NYT, WP, WT 9/18)

Israel reopens Gaza's Kerem Shalom crossing for limited imports of humanitarian goods and the Nahal Oz crossing for limited fuel (see 9/14). In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Ni'lin, injuring 6; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Azariyya nr. Jerusalem and al-Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah, and nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar burn Palestinian olive trees nr. Nablus. (PCHR 9/18; OCHA 9/24; PCHR 9/25; AIC 11/9)

18 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** issues 2 military orders confiscating 140 d. of Palestinian land in Bardala village in the Jordan Valley (reportedly for "settlement activities") and 22 d. nr. Yatta outside Hebron (to build a wall near Miskadot Yehuda settlement); sends troops into Ramallah, where they occupy a previously abandoned observation post, with-

drawing later in the afternoon; makes a rare daytime incursion into Dahaysha r.c. to arrest a Palestinian teenager; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Jenin. **Jewish settlers** attack 2 Palestinian homes in Hebron, claiming that Palestinians threw stones fr. the area; the **IDF**, accompanied by settlers, evacuates and searches the homes. Some 20 masked, armed **Jewish settlers** fr. Talmon and Harsha settlements nr. Ramallah attack a Palestinian home and car, causing heavy damage. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar stone Palestinian cars driving nr. the settlement, causing no reported injuries. Later in the day, the same **settlers** close the Nablus-Ramallah road to Palestinian traffic. (OCHA 9/24; PCHR 9/25)

19 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (several suffer fr. tear gas inhalation); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (wounding 6). (OCHA 9/24; PCHR 9/25)

20 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, **IDF** troops stationed nr. Yitzhar settlement fatally shoot a **14-yr.-old Palestinian boy** who allegedly planned to throw a Molotov cocktail at them. The **IDF** also raids an apartment building in Abu Dis in search of wanted Palestinians, pushing a **56-yr.-old Palestinian woman** down a flight of stairs, killing her; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Ni'lin, nr. Bethlehem and Hebron (firing on residential areas of Ithna village, causing no injuries). **Jewish settlers** fr. Beit HaShalom throw garbage and rotten vegetables at local Palestinians; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. (OCHA 9/24; PCHR 9/25)

21 SEPTEMBER

Olmert formally resigns as PM, automatically becoming caretaker PM until a new government is formed. (IFM 9/21; NYT, WP, WT 9/22; NYT 9/28)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Bayt Jala nr. Bethlehem. (OCHA 9/24; PCHR 9/25)

22 SEPTEMBER

Israeli pres. Shimon Peres authorizes **Livni** to form a new government. Israeli law gives her 42 days to complete the task or step aside for the pres. either to authorize another party to form a coalition or to call early elections. **Israeli and Palestinian negotiating teams** will continue to hold their regular mtgs., and **Olmert** and **Abbas** will continue to meet biweekly to discuss the teams' progress, but no major agreements are expected until a new government is formed (see Quarterly Update for details). (IFM 9/22; WT 9/23)

A **19-yr.-old Palestinian** resident of Jabal Mukabir in East Jerusalem drives his car into a group of **IDF soldiers** in the Old City, injuring 19 before being shot dead; Israeli police believe the man acted intentionally and alone, though the family believes the incident was an accident. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in, fires on residential areas of Jenin town and r.c., causing no injuries; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Nablus and Tulkarm, nr. Bethlehem and Jenin. A **Palestinian woman** (apparently the same who staged a similar attack on 9/8) sprays an acid-like substance on an **IDF** soldier checking IDs at Hawara checkpoint, blinding him and injuring 3 Palestinians nearby; she is captured, arrested. (JP, YA 9/22; NYT, WP 9/23; OCHA 9/24; PCHR 9/25)

The donors' **Ad Hoc Liaison Comm. (AHLC)** meets in New York to discuss the PA's financial crisis and how to better target aid to PA security reform efforts (see Quarterly Update for details). (IMF, "Macroeconomic and Fiscal Framework for the West Bank and Gaza: Second Review of Progress," 9/22; UNOSC, "UN Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committees," 9/22; World Bank, "Palestinian Economic Prospects: Aid, Access and Reform," 9/22; IFM 9/22, 9/23)

23 SEPTEMBER

Egyptian border police blow up 2 smuggling tunnels under the Rafah border, killing **5 Palestinians**, wounding 4. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires tear gas, percussion grenades at a **European Union delegation** visiting the **separation wall** in Ni'lin (seriously injuring their Palestinian guide), then firing rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists who gather at the scene to protest, injuring 4 Palestinians and a British journalist; steps

up patrols around Hebron, randomly checking Palestinian IDs; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Dahaysha r.c. (firing live ammunition and percussion grenades inside a home, seriously injuring a Palestinian teenager and his father), nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Tulkarm. (NYT, OCHA 9/24; PCHR 9/25)

24 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin and in Dahaysha r.c., Nablus, Ni'lin Inside Israel, **Hebrew University professor Ze'ev Sternhell**, a prominent critic of Jewish settlements and the siege of Gaza, is lightly injured when suspected hardcore right-wing settlers throw a pipe bomb at him outside his Jerusalem home; police find posters in his neighborhood offering a reward of \$320,000 to anyone who kills a member of **Peace Now**, an Israeli group that campaigns against settlements and of which Sternhell is a mbr. (BBC, PCHR, Peace Now press release 9/25; NYT, WP 9/26; HA 9/27; WP 9/29; OCHA 10/1; BBC, PCHR 10/9)

25 SEPTEMBER

For perhaps the 1st day since the start of the al-Aqsa intifada in 9/00, **no incidents of Israeli-Palestinian violence** are reported in the occupied territories. (OCHA 10/1; PCHR 10/9)

26 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in nonviolent demonstrations against the **separation wall** in Bil'in and Ni'lin (wounding 2 in Bil'in). (OCHA 10/1; PCHR 10/9)

27 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Nablus. A **Palestinian gunman** shoots at a Jewish settler vehicle nr. Ariel settlement, wounding 1 settler. Dozens of **Jewish settlers** rampage through Kafr al-Dik nr. Salfit, fire on and stone Palestinian homes and vehicles; the **IDF** sends in troops when Palestinians rally to defend their homes, firing tear gas and rubber-coated steel bullets to disperse the Palestinians, wounding a 13-yr.-old boy and

hitting and injuring a Palestinian man with an IDF vehicle. Nr. Nablus, a **Palestinian shepherd** is killed when he triggers **IDF UXO**. (NYT 9/29; OCHA 10/1; PCHR 10/9; AIC 11/9)

In **Syria**, a **suicide car bombing** kills **17 people**, wounds 13 in Damascus. No group claims responsibility, and the intended target is unclear (see Quarterly Update). (NYT, WP 9/30)

28 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends troops into Kafr Qaddum village nr. Qalqilya, where they fire on residential areas and halt Palestinians for random ID checks, beating several, causing no serious injuries; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Nablus, nr. Jenin. (OCHA 10/1; PCHR 10/9)

29 SEPTEMBER

Israel imposes a general closure on the West Bank and on 2 checkpoints into Nablus through 10/1 for Rosh Hashanah. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Fawar r.c. nr. Hebron and nr. Jenin. (OCHA 10/1; PCHR 10/9)

In Tripoli, **Lebanon**, a remote-controlled **car bomb** explodes nr. an army bus, killing **4 Lebanese soldiers** and **3 bystanders**, injuring around 20, marking the 2d attack in Tripoli targeting the army in 6 wks. (NYT, WP 9/30; WT 10/2, 10/13; WP 10/22)

30 SEPTEMBER

No incidents of Israeli-Palestinian violence are reported. Despite the quiet on the Gaza front over the previous 2 wks., **Israel** takes no actions to ease its siege of and increase the flow of goods into Gaza (see Quarterly Update for details). (OCHA 10/1; PCHR 10/9)

1 OCTOBER

The UN reports that 1 Palestinian **rocket** was fired toward Israel between 9/21 and 9/27 but landed inside Gaza, causing no damage or injuries; the last Palestinian rocket fired was on 9/14. In the West Bank, **Palestinians** throw stones at Jewish settler vehicles nr. Qalqilya, damaging 7 cars and lightly injuring 2 settlers. In response, the **IDF** imposes a curfew on and patrols

in nearby Azun village, firing on residential areas and then on stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them, causing no reported injuries. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ginot Shomron (part of Karnei Shomron) nr. Qalqilya vandalize Palestinian homes in Azun village, burn 12 d. of Palestinian olive groves. (OCHA 10/1, 10/8; PCHR 10/9; AIC 11/9)

2 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** raids a Palestinian home in Hebron based on complaints fr. local settlers, arrests 3 Palestinian youths; conducts large-scale, late-night arrest raids and house searches nr. Bethlehem. The **IDF** evacuates **Jewish settlers** fr. the unauthorized outpost of Shvut Ami nr. Qalqilya; in retaliation, the settlers attack nearby Palestinian farmers, set fire to 10 d. of agricultural land (burning 100 olive trees), block a road to Palestinian traffic, stone passing Palestinian vehicles; **IDF troops** bar Palestinians fr. extinguishing the crop fire. **Jewish settlers fr. Ginot Shomron** nr. Qalqilya attempt to storm the nearby Palestinian village of Azun, but the **IDF** blocks them to prevent clashes. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai settlement nr. Hebron attack Palestinians harvesting olives nearby, steal their olives; the IDF arrests 2 Palestinian teenagers who try to fend off the settlers. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba damage Palestinian water pipelines nearby, demolish several branch roads that had previously been blocked off by the IDF and settlers. (OCHA 10/8; PCHR 10/9)

3 OCTOBER

In the afternoon, **IDF** troops on the s. Gaza border nr. al-Qarara fire on 2 unarmed Palestinians who stray nr. the border fence, order them to lie on the ground, then send soldiers into Gaza to arrest and remand them to Israel. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts afternoon arrest raids nr. Tulkarm; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (1 Palestinian journalist, 1 Japanese activist are wounded); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (wounding 7); conducts late-night house searches in Jenin town and r.c. but makes no arrests. At least **50 Jewish**

settlers fr. Kiryat Arba attack Palestinians harvesting olives nearby, injuring 1 Palestinian and 2 Israeli peace activists aiding with the harvest. (OCHA 10/8; PCHR 10/9)

4 OCTOBER

Israeli naval vessels fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of Rafah, seriously wounding 1 Palestinian fisherman, forcing boats to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends troops into Kafr al-Dik nr. Salfit late in the afternoon, where they fire on residential areas and then on stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 5 with rubber-coated steel bullets; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem and in Ni'lin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beit HaShalom and Kiryat Arba vandalize nearly a dozen Palestinian homes and shops nearby; the IDF observes but does not intervene. (OCHA 10/8; PCHR 10/9; AIC 11/9)

5 OCTOBER

The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing boats off the Gaza coast, wounding 1 fisherman. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Jenin. (OCHA 10/8; PCHR 10/9)

6 OCTOBER

The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing boats off the Gaza coast, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, in Dahaysha r.c. and Jenin town and r.c., and nr. Nablus and Tulkarm (targeting **Islamic Jihad**). (OCHA 10/8; PCHR 10/9)

7 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, **IDF** undercover units make an early morning incursion into al-Fara'a r.c. in a truck with Palestinian license plates, apparently targeting the wrong home, next door to that of a wanted **Islamic Jihad** mbr., shooting and wounding an innocent Palestinian. The **IDF** also conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus (violently beating 2 Palestinians who were slow in opening their doors, leaving a 55-yr.-old man partially paralyzed), nr. Jenin. In Hebron, **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba attack and beat a 55-yr.-old Palestinian

woman; at least 3 Palestinians rush to her defense, and the fight expands, prompting **Israeli soldiers and border police** to intervene, arresting 2 Palestinians (including a 9-yr.-old boy). Nr. Salfit, **Palestinians** set fire to a parked Jewish settler vehicle. In East Jerusalem nr. Issawiyya, **Jewish settlers** attempt to take over a plot of Palestinian land for a new outpost, plowing and planting it over to establish claim; Palestinian residents drive them away. (OCHA 10/8; PCHR 10/9; AIC 11/9)

8 OCTOBER

Israel imposes a general closure on the West Bank, seals Gaza's crossings through 10/9 for Yom Kippur. Inside Israel, riots erupt between **Israeli Palestinians and Jews** in the mixed city of Acre. Clashes are sparked when Jews observing Yom Kippur (when all traffic in Israel's Jewish population centers halts) attack an Israeli Palestinian family driving through a predominantly Jewish neighborhood, believing that they are deliberately breaking the sanctity of the holy day. Though the family is only lightly injured, rumors quickly spread through Arab areas of Acre that 1 was killed. Seeking revenge, 100s of angry Palestinian youths rampage through Jewish areas, vandalizing cars and breaking shop windows (see Quarterly Update for details). In Gaza, the **UN** reports that 1 **rocket** was fired toward Israel between 10/1 and 10/7 but landed inside Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, **IDF** soldiers nr. Tulkarm bar local Palestinians fr. harvesting their olive groves, citing the Yom Kippur holiday; conduct late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. (OCHA 10/8 PCHR 10/9; WP 10/10; NYT 10/13; OCHA 10/15; PCHR 10/16)

9 OCTOBER

In Acre, inside Israel, **Israeli Palestinians and Jews** clash again when Jews angry over the 10/8 incidents pour into the streets after the lifting of the Yom Kippur fast at sundown and attack and vandalize Palestinian homes and shops in Arab neighborhoods, sparking fistfights and stone-throwing exchanges; **Israeli police** fire tear gas, percussion grenades, water cannon to disperse the crowds, also arresting several people; no serious injuries are reported. In East Jerusalem, **Israeli security forces** escort 100s of Israeli Jews into the al-Aqsa Mosque

courtyard to pray. (WP 10/10; OCHA 10/15; PCHR 10/16)

10 OCTOBER

In Acre, clashes between **Israeli Palestinians and Jews** continue; residents report at least 3 Arab homes destroyed by fire and several others heavily damaged since 10/8. Overnight, in the West Bank, the **IDF** makes an incursion into Bayt Umar nr. Hebron, raiding, searching, and occupying 2 homes; in the morning, troops fire rubber-coated steel bullets at Palestinians and international peace activists who gather for a nonviolent protest, injuring 3 Palestinians and 1 international activist, arresting 9 Palestinians (including 3 children), releasing most and withdrawing by evening. The **IDF** also fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (injuring 5); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (injuring 6); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar attack a Palestinian family harvesting olives nearby, damage 15 trees. **Jewish settlers** fr. Abracha settlement nr. Nablus attack Palestinians harvesting olives nearby; 6 Palestinians require hospitalization. In Hebron, **PA security forces** raid a home in Hebron, confiscating weapons and explosives, arresting 11 **Hamas**-affiliated Palestinians, accusing them of planning to use the arms against the PA. (NYT 10/13; OCHA 10/15; PCHR 10/16)

11 OCTOBER

Inside Israel, **Israeli Jews and Palestinians** in Acre engage in their 4th straight night of rioting and sectarian violence; 2 Palestinian apartment buildings set on fire; some 12 people are arrested. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Tubas and nr. Bethlehem, Jenin, Nablus. **Jewish settlers** fr. Susia nr. Hebron raid nearby a Palestinian home, beat 3 Palestinians. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar and Brakha attack local Palestinians harvesting olives. (WP 10/12; NYT 10/13; OCHA 10/15; PCHR 10/16)

12 OCTOBER

Overnight, the **IDF** makes an incursion into Bethlehem, surrounding and firing on the home of a wanted Palestinian, raiding and several nearby homes, occupying 1 as an observation post; over the next 12 hrs., troops evacuate, partially bulldoze, then storm the surrounded, vacant home, incorrectly believing the wanted man to be inside, rendering the house uninhabitable. The **IDF** also enters al-Khadir village nr. Bethlehem and al-Masayaf neighborhood in Ramallah in the morning, randomly checking Palestinians' IDs, arresting 2 in al-Khadir and summoning 2 in Ramallah for questioning; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. In East Jerusalem, Israeli authorities formally open a synagogue built on confiscated and demolished Palestinian property; the ceremony is attended by several senior Israeli officials, rabbis, and right-wing Israeli MKs. (NYT 10/13; OCHA 10/15; PCHR 10/16)

13 OCTOBER

Inside Israel, riots in Acre taper off after **Israeli police** arrest the **Israeli Palestinian** whose driving on 10/8 touched off the clashes, charging him with speeding, reckless endangerment, and offending religious sensibilities; the man denies the charges, saying he only drove through a Jewish neighborhood to pick up his daughter from a class. Meanwhile, **Israel** imposes a general closure on the West Bank, seals Gaza's crossings for Sukkoth. Overnight, **Jewish settlers** fr. Adei Ad outpost nr. Ramallah steal olives and destroy olive trees in nearby al-Mughayyir village, sparking fights with Palestinian farmers who arrive in the morning to harvest the groves; no serious injuries are reported. The new synagogue build on East Jerusalem Waqf land, inaugurated on 10/12, opens to **Jewish worshipers**; **Israeli security forces** set up checkpoints around the area to prevent Palestinians fr. reaching the site, sparking clashes between the security forces and Palestinians; no serious injuries or arrests are reported. In Hebron, **PA security forces** claim to find a tunnel under a home, arrest 2 Palestinians allegedly affiliated with **Hamas**, linking them to the 11 arrested on 10/10 for plotting against the PA. (OCHA 10/15; PCHR 10/16)

14 OCTOBER

Egyptian border police blow up 10 smuggling tunnels along the Rafah border, causing no reported injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fatally shoots a **Palestinian teenager** nr. Beit El settlement nr. Ramallah, claiming that he was preparing to throw a Molotov cocktail; bulldozes the **Palestinian home** in Hebron where PA security forces claimed to find a tunnel on 10/13. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ma'on nr. Hebron assault a group of Palestinian children near the settlement. (OCHA, WT 10/15; PCHR 10/16; see also ICG 9/11)

Maj. Gen. Gadi Shamni, head of the IDF Central Command, warns the **Israeli cabinet** that **Jewish settler violence** is in danger of spinning out of control, stating, "an extreme incident could happen at any time. These people are conspiring against the Palestinians and against the [Israeli] security forces." Shamni reports that in the past few wks. settlers have set a dog on an IDF reserve cmdr., broken the arm of a dep. battalion cmdr., slashed tires on IDF vehicles. In Hebron, he says settlers attacked an IDF officer who tried to stop settler children fr. throwing stones at Palestinians. (WP 10/15)

15 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires on stone-throwing Palestinians in Jalazun r.c. leaving a funeral for the teenager killed nr. Beit El on 10/14, fatally shooting **1 Palestinian**; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin, Tulkarm. (PCHR 10/16; NYT 10/17; OCHA 10/22; PCHR 10/23)

16 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes a predawn raid on Kafr Malik nr. Hebron, firing on 2 Palestinians allegedly carrying Molotov cocktails, killing **1 Palestinian**; makes a predawn raid on Qabatya nr. Jenin (which is under daytime PA security control), arresting 4 **Islamic Jihad** mbrs., confiscating 88 lbs. of explosives; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Fara'a r.c., Jenin town and r.c.

Jewish settlers fr. Keddumim nr. Qalqilya burn a Palestinian olive grove. **Jewish settlers** fr. Elon Moreh nr. Nablus slash the tires, break the windows of the car of a Palestinian family harvesting their

olive grove nearby; **IDF soldiers** observe but refuse requests of the Palestinian family to intervene. **Jewish settlers** fr. Efrat and Kefar Etzion nr. Bethlehem, escorted by the IDF, set up several mobile homes at an abandoned IDF post in Bayt Sahur, hold prayers in local park. (NYT 10/17; OCHA 10/22; PCHR 10/23; AIC 11/9)

17 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (10s suffer tear gas inhalation); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (injuring 13, including 2 children ages 7 and 12); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Fawar r.c., nr. Hebron. (OCHA 10/22; PCHR 10/23)

18 OCTOBER

The **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Jenin town and r.c. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai settlement in Hebron attack Palestinians and international peace activists harvesting olive groves outside of Hebron, injuring 1 Palestinian and 1 solidarity activist; the **IDF** closes the area, orders everyone to leave. **Jewish settlers** fr. Elon Moreh attack a Palestinian family harvesting their olive grove nr. the settlement, destroying the collected olives. **Jewish settlers** attack Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Qalqilya; the **IDF** closes the area, orders everyone to leave. **Jewish settlers** fr. Mevo Dotan nr. Jenin violently beat a Palestinian man harvesting his olives nearby. (OCHA 10/22; PCHR 10/23; AIC 11/9)

19 OCTOBER

In the first such cross-border incident in Gaza since 9/16, the **IDF** sends bulldozers and armored vehicles into areas n. of Bayt Hanun to level land along the border. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Bayt Furik nr. Nablus. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai beat a Palestinian family harvesting olives in Hebron, steal their olives. **Jewish settlers** fr. Elon Moreh attack Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Nablus.

Under pressure to prevent further clashes like those that recently occurred in Acre, **Israeli police** arrest 3 **Israeli Jews** for assaulting Palestinians in Jerusalem and stoning Palestinian cars. Also in Israel, **right-wing Jewish extremists** vandalize buildings in Tel Aviv with graffiti threatening **Peace Now secy. gen. Yariv Oppenheimer** (cf. 9/24). (OCHA, WT 10/22; PCHR, WJW 10/23; AIC 11/9)

20 OCTOBER

By this date, **Palestinian factions** have agreed to an **Egyptian** proposal to resume their national unity dialogue in Cairo on 11/9. **Hamas** and **Fatah** are considering a draft memorandum of understanding on national reconciliation proposed by Egypt that would be issued at the close of the Cairo summit (see Quarterly Update). (Electronic Intifada [online] 10/28; MNA 11/2; MNR 11/7; AFP 11/8; NYT, WT 11/9)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols, searches houses in al-Khadir, beats 3 Palestinians (ages 28, 37, and 63), claiming that Palestinians in the area had thrown stones at Israeli vehicles on a nearby settlers-only bypass road; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, nr. Hebron. **More than 100 Jewish settlers** block roads and throw stones at Palestinian cars nr. Qalqilya to prevent Palestinians, accompanied by international and Israeli peace activists, fr. reaching their groves to harvest olives. Inside Israel, **Israeli police** arrest 6 **Israeli Jews** fr. Tel Aviv for taking part in recent arson attacks against Israeli Palestinian property in Acre. (BBC 10/20; OCHA, WT 10/22; PCHR, WJW 10/23)

21 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Fara'a r.c., firing on stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 1; patrols in, fires on residential areas of Ithna nr. Hebron, wounding 1 Palestinian. **Jewish settlers** in Hebron attack Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Yatta; the **IDF** declares the area a closed military zone, orders the Palestinians to leave the area. (OCHA 10/22; PCHR 10/23; AIC 11/9)

22 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and

around Nablus, nr. Hebron and Bethlehem. (PCHR 10/23; OCHA 10/29; PCHR 10/30)

23 OCTOBER

A **Palestinian** fr. the West Bank village of Tuqu' nr. Bethlehem, apparently acting alone, enters the Jewish settlement of Gilo, stabs and wounds an Israeli police officer and fatally stabs an **86-yr.-old Jewish settler** before being caught by another Gilo resident. Later, the **IDF** raids, searches several homes in Tuqu', arresting 2 Palestinians (including a young woman). The **IDF** also enters al-'Arub r.c. in pursuit of Palestinian youths who allegedly threw stones at passing IDF vehicles, detaining 4 children for 3 hrs.; begins bulldozing Palestinian land in the al-'Amra nature reserve, located w. of the **separation wall** s. of Jenin; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus. (NYT 10/24; OCHA 10/29; PCHR 10/30)

24 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts random ID checks of Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Nablus, arresting 1; raids, imposes a curfew on Azun nr. Qalqilya, fires on residential areas, blocks a main road with sand and rocks, then withdraws; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (10s suffer tear gas inhalation); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (seriously injuring an 11-yr.-old girl); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Fara'a r.c. (firing live ammunition at stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them, wounding 3, 1 of them seriously) and nr. Bethlehem (occupying 1 Palestinian home as an observation post, evicting the family), Nablus. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar attack Palestinians harvesting olives nearby, burn 15 olive trees, march through Bidan village in a show of force. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba demand that a Palestinian mechanic near the settlement fix their car, beat him when he refuses. **Jewish settlers** temporarily reoccupy the evacuated Homesh settlement site, stone passing Palestinian vehicles. The **WHO** arranges an emergency shipment of 4 truckloads of medical items into Gaza,

noting that the **PA's** Ramallah-based central pharmacy has sent no medial supplies to Gaza since it took over that function from the WHO on 9/1; as a result, 94 essential drugs have been entirely depleted in Gaza. (OCHA 10/29; PCHR 10/30; AIC 11/9)

25 OCTOBER

On the Rafah border, **3 Palestinians** are killed when a smuggling tunnel collapses. **Egyptian security forces** discover and demolish 3 tunnels on the Rafah border, giving a warning in advance to allow anyone in the tunnels to leave. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Fara'a r.c., Ni'lin. A new **585-mbr. PA security unit**, part of which was trained under U.S. auspices in Jordan, takes up patrols in Hebron and immediately launches an expanded arrest campaign targeting **Hamas**; this is dubbed **Operation Dawn of the Nation** (see 9/14, Quarterly Update). (BBC, NYT 10/25; WT 10/26; OCHA 10/29; PCHR 10/30)

26 OCTOBER

A week ahead of her deadline to form a government, **Kadima party head and acting Israeli FM Tzipi Livni**, with power-sharing deals with the Labor and Meretz parties already drafted, unexpectedly informs **Israeli pres. Shimon Peres** that she cannot form a coalition. She blames other Israeli parties for making unreasonable political and economic demands, stating that she was unwilling to compromise her principles to form a government (see Quarterly Update). (NYT, WP 10/26; WP 10/27)

Overnight, the **IDF, Israeli police, and border police** evacuate **Jewish settlers** fr. the unauthorized settlement outpost of Federman Farm in Hebron, sparking violent clashes with the settlers in which 1 policeman is seriously injured, 2 settler girls attempt to burn police vehicles, and settlers rampage through Palestinian areas, slashing the tires of 22 cars and vandalizing a Muslim cemetery. In interviews with the press afterward, Jewish settlers call for retributive attacks on the Israeli security forces. During the day, **Jewish settlers** fr. Harsina settlement in Hebron attack, vandalize, attempt to occupy a Palestinian home and land adjacent to the settlement; **Jewish settlers** vandalize Palestinian cars in Hizma village nr. Jerusalem; and **10 masked settlers** attack **IDF soldiers** guarding

Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Otniel settlement nr. Hebron, injuring 1 soldier. At the weekly Israeli cabinet meeting, **Olmert** warns that the government "will show no tolerance toward such expressions and actions," while **Shin Bet security chief Yuval Diskin** states that he is "very concerned" that right-wing settler groups might try to assassinate pro-peace politicians. Meanwhile, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus and nr. Bethlehem. (IFM 10/26; NYT 10/27; OCHA 10/29; PCHR, WJW 10/30; WP 11/2)

27 OCTOBER

An **IDF** unit patrolling inside Israel along the s. Gaza border fires on agricultural and residential areas of Khuza, breaking a window at a girls' school; 1 Palestinian girl is injured by flying shards of glass. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Bethlehem and Dahaysha r.c., nr. Hebron and Tulkarm. (OCHA 10/29; PCHR 10/30)

28 OCTOBER

Israeli pres. Shimon Peres sets 2/10 as the date for parliamentary elections. (REU 10/28; MM 10/29)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus and Salfit, nr. Bethlehem and Qalqilya. (OCHA 10/29; PCHR 10/30)

29 OCTOBER

Another **FGM** boat (see 8/23) carrying **27 international activists** defies **Israel's** naval blockade of Gaza, sails into a Gaza port delivering humanitarian supplies; Israeli naval vessels do not challenge the boat. In the West Bank, **IDF** troops operating in Yamun village nr. Jenin before dawn fatally shoot a **67-yr.-old Palestinian shepherd** who fired a rifle at the patrol fearing they were rustlers; demolish 6 structures in the bedouin village of Umm al-Khayr nr. Carmiel settlement s. of Hebron, displacing 45 Palestinians, including a 1-wk.-old baby; conduct late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., in Nablus, and nr. Bethlehem and Hebron. **Israel's High Court** orders **Jewish settlers** to vacate the illegal outpost of Beit Shalom, in the al-Rajabi building in Hebron, within 24 hrs. or face eviction (at the end of the quarter, however, the settlers have not been

forced to leave). **Israel's High Court** also gives approval for the demolition of the historic Ma'an Allah Muslim cemetery (4,000 tombs) in West Jerusalem for construction of the Center for Human Dignity-Museum of Tolerance, designed by Frank Gehry. (NYT, PCHR, WP 10/30; OCHA 11/5; PCHR 11/6; OCHA 11/19s)

30 OCTOBER

Israel orders borders with Gaza sealed after an early warning system detects a rocket launch fr. Gaza into Israel, but later admits that the system malfunctioned and no rocket was fired; the seal is lifted. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Bethlehem, and nr. Hebron (raiding 2 Palestinian colleges, detaining 27 students for questioning); demolishes 36 structures (approx. 23 dwellings and 13 animal pens) belonging to bedouin families in Mughayyir al-Dir, outside Ramallah and adjacent to Mitzpe Dani settlement outpost, displacing 97 individuals (including 51 children), on the grounds that the structures were built in a closed military zone. **Jewish settler girls** (ages 12-17) stone **Israeli border police** demolishing an "illegal structure" in Givat Harsina outpost in Hebron, injuring 2 officers; the girls are arrested. **Hamas** releases **17 Fatah mbrs.** fr. detention in Gaza, saying they are the only political prisoners being held and are being freed as a gesture to Fatah before national unity talks set to open in Cairo on 11/9 (see 10/20). (OCHA, REU, YA 10/30; YA 11/2; XIN 11/5; OCHA 11/5; PCHR 11/6)

31 OCTOBER

Israeli naval vessels fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes a daytime raid into Dura nr. Hebron, firing on residential areas, sparking clashes with Palestinians, wounding 3; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, in and around Nablus; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (injuring 1); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (injuring 1). In He-

bron, **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba clash with **Israeli police** demolishing an unauthorized settlement outpost, removing the outpost's single dwelling, injuring 3 policemen; the settlers also attack local Palestinians and media, injuring 3 Palestinian cameramen for AP and Reuters; in the evening, settlers re-occupy the site. Inside Israel, **2 Israelis** stab and wound 2 Palestinian workers in a bakery in Talpiot nr. Jerusalem; **Jewish extremists** harass Israeli Palestinians in Tiberias, burn 2 Palestinian-owned vehicles. (AFP, AP, REU, WP 11/1; WP 11/2; OCHA 11/5; PCHR 11/6)

1 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, nr. Bethlehem. **Jewish settlers** (including children) fr. Federman Farm outpost nr. Hebron stone a nearby **Israeli border police unit**, injuring 2 officers, claiming the unit intended to re-evacuate the outpost. As part of the ongoing Operation Dawn of the Nation, the **PA security force** unit newly deployed in Hebron makes a predawn raid on nearby al-Burj village, apparently coordinated with the **IDF**; masked officers arrive in 20 jeeps with dogs, search homes of **Hamas** members and supporters suspected of "carrying out anti-Israeli activities," detaining about 25 before withdrawing in the evening. (HA, IMEMC 11/1; OCHA 11/5; PCHR 11/6)

2 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late night arrest raids in and around Jenin town and r.c., Nablus, and in al-Fara'a r.c. nr. Tubas (firing live ammunition and rubber-coated steel bullets on stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 6); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Ni'lin (injuring 2 Palestinians, 1 international). **Israel** imposes new restrictions requiring **Palestinian medical personnel** fr. the West Bank who work in Jerusalem to enter Jerusalem only through the Qalandia checkpoint, the most crowded checkpoint, causing them significant delays. Heavy rains cause the collapse of 10 smuggling tunnels on the Rafah border, trapping and injuring at least 7 Palestinians. **Egypt** allows the entry of a delegation of **Islamic Jihad officials** fr. Gaza who are heading to Damascus for a

wk. of internal discussions on Egypt's proposed national unity plan ahead of national unity talks in Cairo on 11/9. Inside Israel, **Hebrew University student Ali Baher**, an Israeli Palestinian, is detained by campus security, questioned for 3 hrs., charged with "inappropriate conduct" for refusing on political grounds to shake hands with **Pres. Shimon Peres**, who randomly approached Baher while he was touring the campus library meeting with students; the university evicts Baher from campus housing and orders a disciplinary hearing (date not set) to decide whether he should be suspended. (MNA 11/2; OCHA 11/5; PCHR, Physicians for Human Rights–Israel press release 11/6)

Concerned by the escalating settler violence directed at Israeli security forces, the **Israeli cabinet** at its weekly meeting votes to suspend all direct and indirect government funding to **unauthorized settlement outposts** (especially citing infrastructure such as roads, garbage collection, and school buses) in the 1st de facto admission that public funds are used to advance illegal settlement. Olmert also proposes increasing arrests and administrative detention of Jewish settlers who break the law. The **Jerusalem District Juvenile Court** remands and indicts **3 Jewish settler girls** (ages 12, 15, 17) for reckless endangerment, aggravated assault of security forces, and obstruction of a police officer for attacks against Israeli border police in Givat Harsina on 10/30. **IDF district cmdr. Noam Tivon** cancels plans to give a speech at a yeshiva in Efrat settlement nr. Bethlehem after **Jewish settlers** fr. Hebron threaten to hold a massive demonstration to block his visit, calling him an "expulsion criminal" for previously ordering the removal settlers fr. the unauthorized Federman Farm outpost. (YA 11/2; NYT, WP 11/3; WT 11/4; MM 11/4, 11/7)

3 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Tulkarm, nr. Bethlehem and Jenin. To demonstrate disapproval of unauthorized settlement in keeping with the Israeli cabinet's 11/2 decision, the **IDF** tears down several shacks erected by **Jewish settlers** nr. the unauthorized outpost of Migron (n. of Jerusalem) who intended to expand the outpost; the **IDF** continues to guard Migron itself, which is connected to Israel's electricity grid and has paved access roads. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kochav Ya'acov nr. Ramallah at-

tack Palestinians harvesting olives nearby; the **IDF** disperses the settlers. (WT 11/4; OCHA 11/5; PCHR 11/6)

4 NOVEMBER

Democratic candidate Barack Obama is elected president of the United States, to be inaugurated on 1/20/09. (MM 11/4; MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/5; MM 11/5, 11/6, 11/7)

In a major escalation and violation of the Gaza cease-fire, the **IDF** sends a large infantry unit into central Gaza nr. Dayr al-Balah allegedly to destroy a tunnel nr. the border, occupying 2 Palestinian homes (1 covering the tunnel), wounding 1 Palestinian woman in the process; troops then clash with Hamas gunmen who arrive on the scene, killing a **senior Hamas cmdr.**, wounding 2 Hamas mbrs., leaving 4 **IDF** soldiers wounded, and marking the 1st armed clash since the cease-fire went into effect on 6/19. Israel publicly accuses Hamas of plotting to dig under the border fence to capture soldiers and abduct them to Gaza; separately, Israeli defense officials acknowledge (see WT 11/20) that they simply wanted to send a message to Hamas not to operate near the border. In response, **Hamas** fires 10 **mortars** fr. Gaza toward Israel; several land inside Israel, causing no damage or injuries. Later, the **IDF** makes air strikes on Khan Yunis and al-Qarara, killing **5 Hamas mbrs.**, wounding several. **Israel** calls these attacks "pinpoint operations" against specific threats, saying it still intends to adhere to the cease-fire. The **IDF** also sends troops into n. Gaza nr. Bayt Hanun to level land. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron, nr. Bethlehem and Tulkarm. OCHA reports that in the previous wk. at least 8 **IDF** soldiers have been injured in clashes with **Jewish settlers** seeking retaliation for the 10/26 evacuation of Federman Farm. (IFM, JAZ, NYT, OCHA, PCHR, WP 11/5; MM, PCHR 11/6; WT 11/20)

5 NOVEMBER

Overnight, the **IDF** demolishes the **Palestinian home** nr. Dayr al-Balah that it says was hiding a tunnel, arresting 4 female residents, bulldozing an additional 2.5 d. of land. Retaliating for **IDF** attacks on 11/4-5, **Hamas** and **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. fire about 35 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries; the **IDF** strikes 1 rocket-launching site in Jabaliya r.c. in n. Gaza,

killing 1 **Islamic Jihad mbr.** and wounding 2 others (including senior cmdr. Issam Ba'lusha) and 2 bystanders. Hamas officials state that they are in contact with **Egypt** to restore calm and would observe the ceasefire if Israel halted attacks; **Israel** says it intends to uphold the truce, but cuts off fuel shipments to Gaza and seals all crossings into the Strip indefinitely as punishment for the rocket fire. In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes a daytime arrest raid, searches a shop in al-Khadir nr. Bethlehem; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron and nr. Bethlehem, Ramallah. The **IDF** also demolishes 2 **Palestinian homes** in Silwan in East Jerusalem (displacing 9 Palestinians)—the 1st of 88 Palestinian homes slated for demolition to make way for a “national archeological park”—sparking clashes with local residents that leave 8 injured, 20 under arrest; also demolishes 1 **Palestinian home** in Shu'fat (displacing 11 Palestinians), a wedding hall in Bayt Hanina. (AFP, HA, XIN 11/5; NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 11/6; HA 11/8; OCHA 11/12; PCHR 11/13; NYT 12/7)

6 NOVEMBER

U.S. Secy. of State **Rice** begins her final 4-day Middle East tour of Egypt, Jordan, Israel, and the West Bank to discuss efforts to achieve “lasting peace in the region consistent with the goal of a two-state solution.” The U.S. had announced the trip on 10/30, when optimism surrounding the Gaza ceasefire was high, hoping that the visit would end with the signing of an Israeli-Palestinian joint statement on future negotiations at a high-level Quartet meeting on 11/9. In the wake of the 11/4–5 violence, however, the **White House** declares today, as Rice begins her meetings, that it intends to leave Israeli-Arab peacemaking to the Obama admin. and no longer thinks any Israeli-Palestinian peace deal will occur before Bush leaves office in 1/09. **Rice** meets with **Livni** today. See Quarterly Update for details. (BBC 11/6; NYT, WP, WSJ 11/7) (WT 10/31; HA 11/8; IFM, NYT, WP, WT 11/9; WP 11/10)

IDF troops on the s. Gaza border fire on Palestinian farmers working their fields nearby, forcing them to leave. The **IDF** also makes an air strike on a group of Palestinians nr. Jabaliya r.c. allegedly preparing to fire a rocket, injuring 1. **Palestinians** fire 4 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, in the morning, the **IDF** sends undercover units into Qalqilya driving a car with Palestinian plates to raid

a store, arrest the owner; conducts a similar undercover raid into Nablus later in the day, raiding another store and arresting the owner; sends troops into al-Khadir village at midday, forcing stores to close, patrolling streets, withdrawing early in the evening; makes an evening incursion into Azun nr. Qalqilya, imposing a curfew, beating Palestinians who do not quickly leave the streets, withdrawing before midnight. **Abbas** accuses **Hamas** forces in Gaza of detaining nearly 50 Fatah members and supporters in a political move to undermine upcoming Cairo unity talks; at least 9 of those arrested, including a Fatah PC mbr., are released by the end of the day. A **Palestinian woman** dies of injuries receive in the 11/4 **IDF** attacks on Gaza. (HA 11/6; MM 11/7; OCHA 11/12; PCHR 11/13)

7 NOVEMBER

Islamic Jihad mbrs. fire 14 **rockets** fr. Gaza toward Israel, 7 of which land inside Israel, none of which causes damage or injuries. **FGM** sends another boat fr. Cyprus to Gaza (see 8/23, 10/29), this time carrying 13 **mbrs. of various European parliaments** and veteran **Israeli journalist Amira Hass**; **Israel** does not block the boat. A 7-yr.-old **Palestinian boy** fr. Gaza dies after **Israel** repeatedly denies him transportation to an Israeli or foreign hospital to be treated for breathing and heart problems. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (10s suffer tear gas inhalation); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (injuring 1 Palestinian journalist covering the incident, 1 international); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Tulkarm, and nr. Jenin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba vandalize Palestinian property, including removing a fence that separates the settlement fr. a neighboring plot of Palestinian land. (HA, NYT 11/8; OCHA 11/12; PCHR 11/13)

8 NOVEMBER

IDF troops, bulldozers cross into s. Gaza to level land along the border e. of Khan Yunis, exchanging fire with **Hamas mbrs.**,

causing no reported injuries. In a similar incident nr. the Erez crossing, **IDF** soldiers exchange fire with **DFLP** gunmen, causing no reported injuries. The **IDF** also makes an air strike on an alleged rocket-launching site in n. Gaza, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Nur al-Shams r.c. nr. Tulkarm, nr. Bethlehem. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba beat a 6-yr.-old Palestinian boy on his way to school until his grandfather halts the attack; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. **Hamas** accuses PA security forces in the West Bank of arresting 26 Hamas mbrs. and supporters, mostly in Hebron, but also in Bethlehem, Jericho, and Salfit. (HA, JP, MNA, REU, YA 11/8; HA, JAZ, MNA 11/9; OCHA 11/12; PCHR 11/13)

After a last-minute talks in Cairo between **Egyptian intelligence chief Omar Sulayman** and **senior Hamas official Mahmud Zahhar** fr. Gaza, **Hamas's dep. leader Musa Abu Marzuq** announces from Damascus that Hamas will not attend national unity talks in Cairo on 11/9. Hamas officials cite Egyptian and PA unwillingness to compromise on the wording of an Egyptian draft national unity statement or to discuss issues of importance to Hamas, and the PA's failure to fulfill a pledge to release 100s of **Hamas and Islamic Jihad prisoners** held in the West Bank as a confidence-building gesture in advance of the summit. (AFP 11/8; NYT, WT 11/9; see also MNR 11/7)

Rice stops in Jenin to meet with **Abbas** and to inaugurate a new hospital wing funded by USAID, announcing another \$14 m. in USAID funds for Jenin. (HA 11/8; IFM, NYT, WP, WT 11/9)

9 NOVEMBER

In Sharm al-Shaykh, Egypt, **Rice** attends a high-level **Quartet** mtg. to discuss ways of keeping the process alive during the Israeli and U.S. government transitions. **Abbas**, **Livni** brief the Quartet on their talks since the 11/07 Annapolis summit, pledge to continue negotiations despite the political uncertainty in Israel, and reaffirm that "nothing would be considered agreed until everything is agreed." The Quartet reiterates its support for continued negotiations, praises the PA's security reforms, and urges the international community to fulfill aid pledges to the PA to ease the economic crisis in the territories (see Quarterly Update for details). (HA 11/8; IFM, NYT, WP, WT 11/9; WP 11/10)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes an evening incursion into Anabta nr. Tulkarm, firing on residential areas and then on stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 1 teenager; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, in Jenin town and r.c., and nr. Bethlehem. **Israeli police** evict a Palestinian family (14 mbrs., including 7 children) fr. their home in Shaykh Jarrah, East Jerusalem, turning the property over to **Jewish settlers** who claim to have purchased the land fr. relatives of the Ottoman-era owners even though an Israeli court ruled in 2006 that their claim was based on forged documents. (AFP, XIN 11/9; OCHA 11/12; PCHR 11/13; NYT 12/7)

10 NOVEMBER

As **Israel's** total seal on Gaza borders, imposed on 11/5, continues, **Gaza municipal officials** shut down Gaza's power plant for lack of fuel, cutting power to much of Gaza City. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night house searches in and around Nablus but makes no arrests. The **IDF** also confiscates a Palestinian mobile home in Bayt Hanina in East Jerusalem; the **IDF** previously demolished 2 homes that the Palestinian owner had built on the site. (NYT, WP 11/11; OCHA 11/12; PCHR 11/13)

11 NOVEMBER

Israel agrees to a request by **Quartet special envoy Tony Blair** to resume fuel shipments to Gaza but allows industrial fuel for Gaza power plant to flow for only 4 hrs. before cutting off the supply once again. Meanwhile, the **United Nations Relief and Works Agency** (UNRWA) warns that it will be forced to halt food distribution to 750,000 refugees on 11/14 for lack of stocks unless **Israel** unseals Gaza's borders. **IDF** troops on the s. Gaza border fire on Palestinian farmers working their fields nr. the border fence, forcing them to flee. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends troops into al-Araqa nr. Jenin overnight, setting up checkpoints and conducting ID checks; fires on Palestinians in Hebron holding a rally to commemorate the 4th anniversary of PLO head **Yasir Arafat's** death, wounding 4 Palestinians; sends undercover units into Jenin r.c. in a car with Palestinian license plates to arrest a wanted Palestinian; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around

Jenin town and r.c., in Nablus, nr. Bethlehem. (JAZ, JP, WP 11/11; WT 11/12; OCHA 11/12; PCHR 11/13)

The **Israeli cabinet** discusses a proposal by Justice M Daniel Friedmann and Vice PM Haim Ramon to use heavy artillery to retaliate against Palestinian rocket fire fr. Gaza, recommending that the IDF notify civilians to evacuate villages that have become "launching pads for . . . terror groups" and then "raze the villages with artillery"; no decision is taken (see Quarterly Update for details). (JP 11/11)

12 NOVEMBER

IDF troops on the Gaza border fire on, cross the border to chase 4 Hamas mbrs. allegedly laying a roadside bomb, sparking an exchange of fire (including IDF air strikes and Palestinian mortar fire on the IDF troops inside Gaza) that leaves the 4 **Hamas mbrs.** dead and 1 IDF soldier wounded and damages several Palestinian homes. In the West bank, the **IDF** demolishes 1 **Palestinian home**, 3 other structures in area C nr. Ramallah, conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, and in Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah (thoroughly searching the home of al-Watan TV's director, making no arrests). (AYM 11/12; NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 11/13; OCHA 11/19; PCHR 11/20)

13 NOVEMBER

In Gaza, **UNRWA** suspends food deliveries to 750,000 Gazans for lack of stocks and **Gaza municipal officials** are forced to shut down Gaza's power plant once again for lack of fuel (see 11/11) after Israel suspends food and humanitarian aid shipments to Gaza in response to **Palestinians** firing 8 **rockets** and some **mortars** into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. The **UN's World Food Program**, which feeds an additional 130,000 nonrefugee Palestinians, says it is delving into its emergency stock of food, which will last only 4 more weeks. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Jenin. **Israeli police** raid an event being held at the Jerusalemite Association for Community Development in Wadi al-Juz in East Jerusalem (attended by, among others, the Egyptian amb. to Israel and a Spanish embassy official), halting the event on the grounds that it constituted illegal Palestinian political activity

in Jerusalem. (WP, WT 11/14; OCHA 11/19; PCHR 11/20)

14 NOVEMBER

As **Israel** continues to seal Gaza's borders completely, aid agencies (including Oxfam and UNRWA) warn of an impending humanitarian crisis. **UNRWA Gaza dir. John Ging** states that "it is unprecedented that the UN is unable to get its supplies in to a population under such obvious distress." Unnamed **Hamas officials** say that Israel apparently is not interested in maintaining the truce and therefore would face consequences. Today, **Hamas** admits to firing 11 **Grad-type rockets** fr. Gaza toward Israel (4 of which landed inside Israel, causing no damage or injuries) in addition to 3 regular **rockets** and several **mortars**, 1 of which (unclear whether rocket or mortar) hits an Israeli home in Sederot, causing damage and lightly injuring 1 Israeli. The **IDF** makes air strikes on suspected launch sites in n. Gaza, wounding 2 armed Palestinians. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinians holding a nonviolent protest against settlements at the evacuated settlement site of Homesh nr. Jenin (wounding 1); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, and nr. Bethlehem, Hebron; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (injuring 2); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international peace activists taking part in a similar nonviolent demonstration in Ni'lin (injuring 1). (NYT, WP 11/15; WT 11/16; OCHA 11/19; PCHR 11/20)

15 NOVEMBER

As the quarter closes, **Israel** maintains its ban on all Gaza imports including fuel, medicine, basic foodstuffs, and currency for banks. As a result, **1.5 m. Gazans** are without regular electricity, no Gazan households have daily running water (20% of households receive 6 hrs. of water/5 days, 40% receive 6 hrs. water/4 days, 40% receive 6 hrs. water/3 days), bread is being rationed due to lack of grain, and shortages of milk, red meat, and fresh produce are widespread. **UNICEF** reports that the Israeli government has been holding 2 shipments of vaccines for Gazan children at Ben-Gurion airport since 10/29.

The **WHO** reports that the stock of 95 of 473 drugs it classifies as “essential” for hospitals and clinics to have on hand and 174 other medical supplies are at zero levels in the Strip. **UN Secy.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon** calls on Israel to open crossings into Gaza for fuel, food, and humanitarian aid, stating that measures that increase the suffering of Gaza’s civilians “are unacceptable and should

cease immediately.” The UN reports that **Palestinians** have fired some 140 **rockets and mortars** toward Israel since 11/4, injuring 1 Israeli and causing property damage in 1 incident on 11/14. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c. (WT 11/15, 11/16; OCHA 11/17, 11/19; PCHR 11/20)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP	(Agence France-Presse, Paris)
AHR	(<i>al-Abram</i> , Cairo)
AIC	(Alternative Information Center, Jerusalem)
AP	(Associated Press [Internet])
ATL	(Anatolia, Ankara)
AYM	(<i>al-Ayyam</i> , Ramallah)
BBC	(British Broadcasting Corporation World Service [Internet])
HA	(<i>Ha’Aretz</i> [Internet], Tel Aviv)
IFM	(Israeli Foreign Ministry, Jerusalem)
IMEMC	(International Middle East Media Center, Bayt Sahur)
JAZ	(al-Jazeera Satellite Channel Television, Doha)
JP	(<i>Jerusalem Post</i> [Internet], Jerusalem)
MM	(<i>Mideast Mirror</i> , London)
MNA	(Ma’an News Agency, Bethlehem)
MNR	(al-Manar TV, Beirut)
NYT	(<i>New York Times</i> , New York)
OCHA	(United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes, Jerusalem)
PCHR	(Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
REU	(Reuters [Internet])
WJW	(<i>Washington Jewish Week</i> , Rockville, MD)
WP	(<i>Washington Post</i> , Washington)
WSJ	(<i>Wall Street Journal</i> , New York)
WT	(<i>Washington Times</i> , Washington)
XIN	(Xinhua-New China News Agency, Beijing)
YA	(<i>Yedi’ot Abaronot</i> , Tel Aviv)