CHRONOLOGY

16 August–15 November 2009

Compiled by Sasha Heroy

This section is part 104 of a chronology begun in JPS 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect Eastern Standard Time (EST). 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

In the West Bank, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) conduct late-night raids, house searches nr. Ramallah, in and around Jenin town and refugee camp (r.c.), and nr. Qalqilya, arresting 4 Palestinians. (PCHR 8/20)

Jewish settlers evict a Palestinian fr. his home in Silwan in East Jerusalem, claiming to have legal documents proving their ownership of it. (PCHR 8/20)

Israeli border police shoot, wound an Egyptian border policeman approaching the Sinai border fence nr. Elat when he refuses to identify himself and instead cocks his weapon, according to a joint investigation undertaken by the IDF Southern Command and Egyptian forces. (JPI 8/27, JR 9/14)

17 August

In Gaza, Israeli naval vessels confiscate a Palestinian fishing boat off the Rafah coast, temporarily detaining 2 Palestinian fishermen (releasing them on 8/18). (OCHA 8/19; PCHR 8/20)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Salif and Jenin, in and around Hebron, and in Ramallah, arresting 13 Palestinians (including 3 teenagers); raids the Tulkarm home of a Palestinian woman recently released fr. Israeli jail, confiscating a mobile phone and photos. (PCHR 8/20)

At least 30 Jewish settlers attack mbns. of the Hanun and al-Ghawi families, who were evicted fr. their homes in the Shaykh Jarrah neighborhood of East Jerusalem on 8/2 (see Quarterly Update in JPS 153), injuring 2 Palestinian girls and 1 international activist; Israeli security forces intervene, arresting several Palestinians and settlers, releasing all of them within a day. In Jerusalem’s Old City, Israeli police change the lock on the al-Nazir Gate of the al-Aqsa Mosque, normally controlled by Waqf authorities. The police later claim to have replaced the locks by mistake, and Waqf officials restore the original lock. In a training exercise lasting 1 hr., Israeli security forces practice scaling the fences surrounding the al-Aqsa Mosque using ladders. (OCHR 8/19; PCHR 8/20)

18 August

In the West Bank, the IDF detains 3 shop owners and demolishes their auto repair shops in Qalqilya, destroying equipment within and causing substantial losses. (PCHR 8/20)

The Israeli government denies reports that it has officially approved a construction freeze to last until 2010 but confirms that PM Benjamin Netanyahu, DM Ehud Barak, and Housing and Construction M Ariel Atias have made a decision to suspend soliciting of new bids for settlement construction in the West Bank. (JP 8/18; WP, WT 8/19; WJW 8/20; WT 8/21)

A Fatah al-Islam (FI) mbr. jailed in Lebanon for his participation in clashes between FI and the Lebanese army in ‘Ayn...
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al-Hilwa r.c. in 2007 (see Quarterly Updates in JPS 145, 146) escapes fr. a high-security prison with the help of 8 other would-be escapees. (NYT 8/19)

19 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the IDF bars Palestinians fr. al-Ibrahimi Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs (site of the 1994 massacre committed by Baruch Goldstein) in Hebron to allow Jewish settlers to celebrate a religious event; conducts late-night raids, house searches in Hebron and Balata r.c. nr. Nablus, arresting 3 Palestinians; raids the home of, arrests Muhammad Ibrahim Abu Rahma, the deputy mayor of Bil’in, and a mbr. of the Public Committee Against the Wall (he is released on 8/23). (OCHA 8/25; PCHR 8/27)

Lebanese commandos recapture the FI mbr. who escaped fr. prison on 8/18. (NYT 8/20)

20 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the IDF sets up additional checkpoints and searches Palestinian vehicles in n. Hebron; raids nearby shops, questions shop owners but makes no arrests. Jewish settlers fr. Avraham Avino in Hebron uproot Palestinian carob and pine trees fr. the gardens opposite the al-Ibrahimi Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs; the IDF observes but does not intervene. (OCHA 8/25; PCHR 8/27)

21 AUGUST

The IDF makes a brief incursion into s. Gaza to level land and clear lines of sight c. of Abasan, Khuza, and al-Fukhari villages. (PCHR 8/27)

In the West Bank, the IDF fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas, skunk (a foul-smelling liquid) at Palestinians and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in N‘lin (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas and violently beats a number of Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in al-Ma‘sara (injuring 2, including 1 teenager); fires rubber-coated bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall in Bil‘in (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation); implements additional security restrictions on the movements of Palestinians in the old city of Hebron, which prevents a number of them fr. entering the al-Ibrahimi Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs for Friday prayers; conducts late-night raids, house searches in Surif village nr. Hebron, arresting 2 Palestinians. (OCHA 8/25; PCHR 8/27)

22 AUGUST

For unknown reasons, IDF troops on the n. Gaza border shoot and wound a Palestinian teenager fr. Bayt Lahiya who is at least 900 meters fr. the border. (PCHR 8/27)

In the West Bank, the IDF detains dozens of farmers in and around Bayt Awa nr. Hebron and warns them of straying near the separation wall. (PCHR 8/27)

23 AUGUST

For unknown reasons, IDF troops on the n. Gaza border nr. Bayt Hanun fire at Palestinian farmers and houses, wounding a farmer who is at least 1,800 m fr. the border. (OCHA 8/25; PCHR 8/27; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 8/09)

Israel announces a general easing of restrictions on movement of West Bank Palestinians during Ramadan (which began on 8/22), though Palestinian access to East Jerusalem is restricted to men over 50 yrs. old, women over 45, and children under 12. In the West Bank, the IDF violently beats a Palestinian who allegedly threw rocks at a checkpoint in Hebron; conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., arresting 3 Palestinians. Jewish settlers fr. Avraham Avino throw stones, empty bottles, garbage at nearby Palestinian houses; the IDF observes but does not intervene. Muhammad Ibrahim Abu Rahma, the deputy mayor of Bil‘in arrested by the IDF on 8/19, is released on bail under strict conditions, including that he agree not to participate in demonstrations, remain at least 6 km away fr. the separation wall every Friday, and make a 3-hr. visit to an Israeli police station every day. (PCHR 8/27, 9/3; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09).
24 AUGUST

IDF troops on the n. Gaza border fire on a group of Palestinians nr. Bayt Lahiya in disputed circumstances, killing 1 Palestinian teenager, injuring at least 1 other, and possibly arresting a 3d; the IDF claims the group was planting a roadside bomb along the border, whereas Palestinian sources claim they were civilians collecting scrap metal nr. the border fence. Unidentified Palestinians respond by firing 2 or 3 rockets into Israel, wounding an IDF soldier. (NYT, OCHA, WT 8/25; PCHR 8/27; OCHA Humanitarian Reports 8/09, 9/09; JPI 9/4)

In the West Bank, the IDF seals the entrance to Sa‘ir village nr. Hebron for 3 hrs.; conducts late-night raids, house searches in Jenin town and r.c., in and around Hebron, nr. Ramallah, arresting 2 Palestinians and summoning several others for questioning. (PCHR 8/27)

25 AUGUST

In retaliation for Palestinian rocket fire on 8/24, the IDF carries out an early morning air strike on smuggling tunnels on the Rafah border, collapsing a tunnel, killing 2 Palestinians and injuring at least 6 others; 1 person is reported missing. (OCHA 8/25; NYT 8/26; PCHR 8/27; OCHA Humanitarian Report 8/09; JPI 9/4)

In the West Bank, the IDF storms the Bayt Jala offices of Bethlehem 2000 Radio, confiscating $150,000 worth of equipment; conducts raids, house searches nr. Ramallah, and Jericho, in and around Hebron, nr. ‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, arresting 5 Palestinians (including 2 teenagers); patrols and opens fire in Qabatya village nr. Jenin, causing no reported injuries. (PCHR 8/27)

Palestinian Authority (PA) PM Salam Fayyad publicizes a 65-page plan to unilaterally build a de facto Palestinian state comprising both the West Bank and Gaza by 2011. (NYT, WP, WT 8/26; WJW 8/27; JPI 9/4) (See Doc. B4 in JPS 153 and Quarterly Update for details)

To mark captured IDF soldier Cpl. Gilad Shalit’s upcoming 23d birthday on 8/28, 100s of Israeli activists demonstrate outside Israeli security prisons where Palestinians are detained to prevent prisoners’ families fr. visiting them; Israeli police arrest 4 demonstrators. Israel consequently suspends family visits for West Bank prisoners in the Hadarim and Shikma prisons allegedly to reduce the likelihood of clashes. (OCHA 8/25; JPI 9/4)

26 AUGUST

The IDF shoots, seriously wounds a Palestinian at a checkpoint in Hebron after he allegedly attempts to attack a soldier with a knife; conducts late-night raids, house searches in Qalqilya and nr. Jenin, Bethleh- em, Jericho, Hebron, Salfit, and Ramallah, arresting 15 Palestinians. Following a late-night explosion nr. the Bayt Ijza gate into Jerusalem, Israeli border police close all 3 gates in the separation wall controlling access to Palestinian agricultural land in the Jerusalem governorate, preventing Palestinian farmers fr. reaching their grape crops. (PCHR 8/27; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 8/09; OCHA, PCHR 9/3)

On the sidelines of meetings with British PM Gordon Brown in London, Netanyahu meets with U.S. special envoy George Mitchell to discuss peace issues; the two report having “made good progress” (no elaboration) and say they will meet again in the coming weeks. (Christian Science Monitor, NYT, WJW, WP 8/27)

27 AUGUST

Israeli naval vessels fire on Palestinian fishing boats and swimmers approximately 700 m fr. the Gaza coast nr. Bayt Lahiya, killing 1 Palestinian and injuring 1 other. (OCHA, PCHR 9/3)

In the West Bank, the IDF erects an iron gate at the entrance of al-Naqura village nr. Nablus. Israeli security forces announce that 3 gates in the separation wall nr. Jerusalem closed on 8/26 will remain so indefinitely. Jewish settlers in Hebron vandalize 3 Palestinian vehicles and throw stones, bottles at Palestinian homes in Tal Rumayda neighborhood. (OCHA, PCHR 9/3)

Fmr. U.S. pres. Jimmy Carter leads a group of international public figures associated with human rights advocacy to meet with local organizers of the weekly nonviolent protests against the separation wall held in Bil‘in. (NYT 8/28)

28 AUGUST

Unidentified Palestinians fire a rocket fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no
damage or injuries. The body of a Palestinian initially reported missing after the IDF’s 8/25 air strike on the Rafah border is recovered from a destroyed smuggling tunnel. (WJW, PCHR 9/3)

In the West Bank, the IDF fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni’lin (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation) and at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, demonstrating against the separation wall in Bil’in (injuring 1 Palestinian and exposing 10s of others to tear gas); closes the entrance to al-Ma’asara, fires sound bombs and tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall there, beating a number of them (injuring 2, including a 9-yr.-old child); conducts late-night raids, house searches in Nablus and nearby ‘Ayn Bayt al-Ma’ r.c., nr. Ramallah, arresting 6 Palestinians (including 1 woman). In Hebron, Jewish settlers fr. Ramat Yishai beat a 12-yr.-old Palestinian child; the IDF observes but does not intervene. (PCHR 9/3)

On the 1st Friday of Ramadan, the IDF enforces age restrictions announced on 8/23 limiting Palestinian access to Jerusalem for prayers; an estimated 60,000 Palestinians enter the city. (OCHA, PCHR 9/3; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09)

29 AUGUST

In retaliation for rocket fire on 8/28, the IDF carries out an air strike, destroying a building belonging to the Palestinian Energy Authority in Gaza City that the IDF alleges concealed the entrance to a smuggling tunnel used by militants to infiltrate Israel; no casualties are reported. (WT 8/30; PCHR 9/3; WJW 9/3)

In the West Bank, Jewish settlers fr. Ramat Yishai throw stones, empty bottles at Palestinian homes in the Tal Rumayda neighborhood of Hebron. (PCHR 9/3)

30 AUGUST

Unidentified Palestinians fire at least 2 mortars into Israel, causing no reported injuries or damage. Egyptian police discover 1,540 pounds of TNT in an underground stash nr. the Gaza border. Hamas leaders in Gaza object to UNRWA plans to include lessons about the Holocaust in schools it administers. (NYT, WT 9/1; WP, WT 9/2; WJW 9/3)

In the West Bank, the IDF makes late-night raids, house searches in Jenin town and r.c. and nr. Hebron and Jericho, arresting 9 Palestinians (nearly all teenagers). (PCHR 9/3)

31 AUGUST

Israeli naval vessels fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the Bayt Lahiya coast, lightly injuring the occupants of a boat that catches fire. Unidentified Palestinians fire 2 rockets or mortars into Israel, causing no reported injuries or damage. (PCHR 9/3; WJW 9/3)

In the West Bank, IDF troops fire on Palestinian youths who allegedly threw a Molotov cocktail at their observation tower nr. Beit El settlement n. of Ramallah, killing 1 teenager with 3 gunshots to the chest and arresting 4 others; fire sound bombs and tear gas to disperse Palestinians and medical workers who approach the area, injuring a paramedic and an UNRWA worker. The IDF also conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Ramallah, Nablus, Qalqilya, in and around Hebron, arresting 6 Palestinians (including 1 teenager). (OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 8/09; OCHA, PCHR 9/3)

Israel announces that it has arrested (on 8/10, not previously reported) and indicted 23-yr.-old Israeli Palestinian Rawi Fuad Sultani for taking part in a Hizballah-orchestrated plot to assassinate IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi. Israel alleges that Sultani, who worked out at the same gym as Ashkenazi, was recruited by Hizballah to monitor Ashkenazi’s movements and routine. (WJW 9/5; JPI 9/10; NYT 9/12; JR 9/29)

1 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, 2 mbrs. of Hamas’s military wing, the Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades (IQB), are killed in a mysterious explosion e. of Jabaliya; Hamas accuses the IDF of targeting the men with artillery fire, but Israel denies involvement, and a medical worker at the scene reports no evidence of shell ing in the area. Egyptian police discover approximately 2 tons of TNT underground nr. Sarsuria in the Sinai that they believe
was intended for militants in Gaza (cf. 8/30). (WP 9/2; OCHA, PCHR 9/3)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts raids, house searches nr. Jenin and Hebron, arresting 3 Palestinians. (PCHR 9/3)

In East Jerusalem, ultra-Orthodox Israeli Jews protesting a parking lot that operates on the Sabbath attack a Palestinian cab driver passing by, heavily damaging his taxi and lightly injuring him. (OCHA 9/11)

2 SEPTEMBER

IDF troops on the n. Gaza border exchange fire with unidentified Palestinians n. of Bayt Hanun, leaving 1 Palestinian gunman and 1 Palestinian bystander wounded. (PCHR 9/3)

In the West Bank, the IDF dismantles part of the infrastructure at Ma'ale Ephraim checkpoint controlling access to the Jordan Valley, stating that it will only periodically be staffed (a decision reversed later in the mo.); conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Jenin, in Qalqilya, and nr. Jericho and Bethlehem, arresting 6 Palestinians (including 2 teenagers). (OCHA 9/3; PCHR 9/10; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09; OCHA 10/2)

In Jerusalem, PA national economy M Basim Khoury and Israeli dep. PM Silvan Shalom discuss economic cooperation, marking the 1st senior-level meeting between Israel and the PA since Netanyahu took office in 3/09. (WP 9/3)

3 SEPTEMBER

The IDF makes a brief incursion into s. Gaza to level land along the border e. of Khan Yunis; makes another incursion further north, leveling land and destroying water tanks in the al-Shuja'iyya neighborhood of Gaza City to improve lines of sight, sparking a clash with armed Palestinians, leaving 1 of the Palestinians wounded. (PCHR 9/10)

In the West Bank, the IDF bulldozes 4 irrigation networks and crops nr. Hebron, beating Palestinian farmers who attempt to block them; conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Nablus and in Tulkarm, arresting 3 Palestinians. A Palestinian child accidentally triggers IDF unexploded ordnance (UXO) in Ni'lin and is treated for burns. (PCHR 9/10; OCHA 9/11)

4 SEPTEMBER

IDF troops on the n. Gaza border nr. Bayt Hanun fire on Palestinian farmers approaching their land some 600 m fr. the border fence, killing 1 Palestinian teenager. The IDF also makes a brief incursion into s. Gaza to level land in Khuza village nr. Khan Yunis. (PCHR 9/10; OCHA 9/11; OCHA Humanitarian Report 9/09)

In the West Bank, the IDF fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international human rights activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni'lin (injuring 3, including an Israeli and a Palestinian journalist) and at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall in Bil'in (injuring 2, including 1 teenager); conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Tulkarm town and r.c., in al-Fara'a r.c. nr. Tubas, and nr. Jenin, Ramallah, and Hebron, making no arrests but summoning at least 1 Palestinian for questioning; patrols Qabatya but makes no arrests. (PCHR 9/10)

On the 2d Friday of Ramadan, the IDF continues to enforce age restrictions announced on 8/23 limiting Palestinian access to Jerusalem for prayers; an estimated 130,000 Palestinians enter the city, but as a result of intense crowding at Qalandia checkpoint, many other “qualified” Palestinians are prevented fr. entering and 19 people (primarily women and children) are injured in the crush of worshipers awaiting entry at IDF checkpoints around the city. (PCHR 9/10; OCHA 9/11; OCHA Humanitarian Report 9/09)

5 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids on al-Shu'la building in Beitunia nr. Ramallah, the offices of the Bayt al-Taqwa Association in Bayt Fajjar nr. Bethlehem, and on a house in al-Ram nr. Jerusalem, where they summon 1 Palestinian for questioning. (PCHR 9/10)

6 SEPTEMBER

IDF troops make a brief incursion into n. Gaza to arrest 5 Palestinians (all under the age of 18) grazing animals nr. the border fence. (PCHR 9/10)
In the West Bank, **IDF** troops halt a Palestinian car nr. Hebron full of laborers heading to their jobs in Israel; detain and beat the driver for more than 3 hrs. before **Israeli border police** intervene. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids, house searches in Qalqilya, Nablus, and Balata r.c. nr. Nablus, making no arrests. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai beat 2 Palestinians (including 1 teenager), who are then detained when they attempt to inform IDF soldiers at a military checkpoint nearby. (PCHR 9/10)

In East Jerusalem, **Jewish settlers** beat a number of clergymen nr. the Armenian Monastery; when the clergymen complain to the police, 2 of them are arrested. (PCHR 9/10)

7 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Tulkarm, Jenin, and in al-Fara’a r.c. nr. Tubas and Jalazun r.c. n. of Ramallah, arresting 7 Palestinians. (PCHR 9/10)

**Israeli police** extend the closure (imposed on 7/07 and extended every six mos. thereafter) of the Nidal Center for Community Development in East Jerusalem. **Jewish settlers** celebrate the groundbreaking of a new East Jerusalem settlement called Mafsirit Adumim. (PCHR 9/10)

**Israeli DM Barak** authorizes construction of 455 additional housing units in West Bank settlements, most nr. the 1967 border. (NYT, WP 9/8; WT 9/9; PCHR, WJW 9/10; JR 9/29)

8 SEPTEMBER

**IDF** troops make a brief incursion into n. Gaza and fire at Palestinian residential areas in Bayt Lahiya; no casualties are reported. (PCHR 9/10)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Jenin, Tulkarm, and Hebron, arresting 5 Palestinians; patrols in and opens fire on residential areas of Qabatya, causing no injuries and making no arrests; sets up flying checkpoints on roads leading to Jerusalem, halting and searching Palestinian vehicles. (PCHR 9/10)

9 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** shoots and wounds a Palestinian who strays nr. the n. Gaza border nr. Bayt Hanun; makes a brief incursion into Bayt Hanun, firing on residential and surrounding agricultural areas but causing no further injuries; makes an incursion into al-Maghazi r.c., leveling areas of land and firing indiscriminately but causing no injuries. (PCHR 9/10; OCHA, PCHR 9/17)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** dismantles an unauthorized settlement outpost nr. Hebron. In retaliation, **Jewish settlers** fr. Susia attack a group of Palestinians fr. a nearby village, injuring 15. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids, house searches in al-Bireh, nr. Hebron, Ramallah, and Tulkarm, and in ‘Aqabat Jabir r.c. nr. Jericho, arresting 9 Palestinians. (OCHA 9/11; OCHA, PCHR 9/17)

**A Palestinian** who fell ill at an **IDF** crossing on 9/4 while waiting to enter East Jerusalem for prayers on the 2d Friday of Ramadan dies of a heart attack; the **UN** cites **IDF** checkpoint restrictions and conditions as a factor contributing to his death. (OCHA 9/11)

10 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** seals Attara nr. Ramallah for 3 hrs. after troops discover a suspicious object during vehicle checks at the entrance to the village. The **IDF** conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya and Salfit and in Jenin town and r.c., but makes no arrests; a Palestinian whose house is raided reports money missing. The **IDF** also patrols and opens fire in Qabatya but makes no arrests and causes no injuries. **Jewish settlers** fr. Susia, escorted by the **IDF**, erect tents and set up electricity generators on an unauthorized settlement outpost site nr. Hebron that was dismantled by the **IDF** on 9/9. The **Israeli High Court**, ruling on a petition filed in 2003, orders the **IDF** to dismantle sections of the **separation wall** in Khirbat Jibara and Jayyus n. of Qalqilya, reinstating Palestinian access to 2,488 dunams (d.; 4 d. = 1 acre) of land. (OCHA 9/11; OCHA, PCHR 9/17; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09)

In Silwan in East Jerusalem, a **Jewish settler** shoots, wounds 1 Palestinian, also hitting 1 Palestinian teenager with shrapnel; the settler is arrested by Israeli police. The al-Aqsa Association reports that the Israeli authorities are digging a new tunnel under Silwan. (NYT 9/12; OCHA, PCHR 9/17; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09)
11 SEPTEMBER

The IDF makes an incursion into al-Bureij r.c. in central Gaza, detaining a Palestinian (who is released on 9/12). (PCHR 9/17)

In the West Bank, the IDF patrols Qalandia r.c. nr. Ramallah, firing rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at stone-throwing Palestinians who confront them, wounding 1 (possibly a bystander); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni'lin (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation) and at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall in Bil'in (injuring 2); conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Nablus, Jenin, and Salfit, arresting 5 Palestinians. (PCHR 9/17)

On the 3rd Friday of Ramadan, the IDF continues to enforce age restrictions announced on 8/23 limiting Palestinian access to Jerusalem for prayers; an estimated 190,000 Palestinians enter the city, but as a result of intense crowding at Qalandia checkpoint, many other “qualified” Palestinians are prevented fr. entering, and 80 people (primarily women and children, and 20 of whom are hospitalized) are injured. (PCHR 9/17; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09)

Unidentified assailants fire 2 Katyusha rockets (the 1st in 6 mos.) fr. Lebanon into Israel, causing no reported damage or injuries. In retaliation, the IDF fires at least 14 missiles toward the port of Tyre and sends fighter jets across the border; no casualties are reported in either attack. (NYT, WP 9/12; JPI 9/24)

12 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in Jericho and Tulkarm town and r.c., making no arrests; patrols and opens fire in Qabatya but makes no arrests and causes no injuries. Jewish settlers block the main entrance to Ras Karkar nr. Ramallah, throw stones, empty bottles at Palestinians, and violently beat a Palestinian. (PCHR 9/17)

A Palestinian wounded by the IDF on 8/26 dies in an Israeli hospital. (OCHA, PCHR 9/17)

13 SEPTEMBER

The IDF makes an incursion into c. Gaza and searches farmland nr. al-Bureij r.c., arresting 3 Palestinians. (PCHR 9/17)

In the West Bank, the IDF makes no arrests; conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Ramallah and Jenin, arresting 3 Palestinians (including a woman). More than 30 Jewish settlers fr. Yitzhar settlement set fire to a field in Far'ata village nr. Nablus. In a separate incident, Jewish settlers fr. Yitzhar shoot at 2 Palestinian shepherds nr. the settlement, wounding 1. (OCHA, PCHR 9/17)

14 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, arresting 5 Palestinians. (PCHR 9/17)

15 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, IDF undercover units raid a village in the Hebron hills, arresting wanted IQB Tulkarm head Muhammad Harwish and his aide Adnan Samara. The IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Ramallah, arresting 3 Palestinians. In Bil'in, the IDF raids the home of 'Abdallah Abu Rahma, the Bil'in Coordinator of the Public Committee against the Wall and Settlement, violently beating him and attacking a number of international activists. Jewish settlers fr. Yitzhar beat a Palestinian shepherd and shoot another Palestinian who attempts to phone Israeli authorities for help. (PCHR 9/17; JPI 9/24)

In East Jerusalem, the IDF conducts raids, house searches in Silwan, arresting 4 Palestinians (including 1 teenager). (PCHR 9/17)

U.S. special envoy Mitchell begins a 2-day trip to Israel and Ramallah to discuss settlement construction with Netanyahu and PA pres. Mahmud Abbas. (WP 9/16; WJW 9/17) (see Quarterly Update for details)

The UN's Goldstone mission, which investigated Israeli and Palestinian actions during Operation Cast Lead (OCL), issues its advance report accusing both Israel and Hamas of extensive war crimes and possible crimes against humanity, giving them until 2/5/10 to respond. (NYT, WP 9/16) (see Quarterly Update for details)
16 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF patrols and opens fire on residential areas of Qabatya, causing no injuries and making no arrests. (PCHR 10/1)

17 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Nablus, arresting 2 Palestinians. (PCHR 10/1)

18 SEPTEMBER

Israel seals the West Bank for the Jewish New Year. Inside the West Bank, the IDF arrests 3 Palestinians armed with knives attempting to enter Gush Etzion settlement nr. Bethlehem; violently beats 1 Palestinian teenager nr. the al-Ibrahimi Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni’lin (10s are injured) and at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, demonstrating against the separation wall in Bil’in (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation). (PCHR 10/1; OCHA 10/2)

19 SEPTEMBER

No Israeli-Palestinian violence was reported in the West Bank or Gaza. (PCHR 10/1; OCHA 10/2)

20 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, the bodies of 2 Palestinians, an IQB mbr. and a mbr. of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine’s (PFLP) armed wing, are found nr. the Gaza border nr. Jabaliya, possibly the victims of an IDF flechette shell; the IDF does not comment. The IDF carries out air strikes on smuggling tunnels on the Rafah border, causing no reported injuries. (PCHR 10/1; OCHA 10/2)

In the West Bank, a fire in a field nr. the unauthorized settlement outpost of Gil’ad Farm nr. Nablus destroys Palestinian olive trees, 2 settler homes, utility lines and injures 6 settlers. Palestinians claim the fire was started by settlers, while settlers accuse the Palestinians; the IDF arrests 4 Palestinian farmers. IDF troops violently beat a Palestinian at Jibara checkpoint nr. Tulkarm; carry out late-night raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem and Ramallah, arresting 4 Palestinians and summoning 3 more for interrogation; patrol and open fire in Jenin town and r.c., causing no injuries and making no arrests. (JPI, PCHR 10/1; OCHA 10/2)

21 SEPTEMBER

For unknown reasons, IDF troops on the n. Gaza border nr. Qarni crossing fire live ammunition and a sonic bomb at a nearby Palestinian property, causing no casualties. (PCHR 10/1)

In the West Bank, the IDF fatally shoots a Palestinian leaving a gas station nr. Bethlehem, claiming he ignored orders to halt (witnesses dispute this); conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Hebron and in ‘Aqabat Jabir r.c. nr. Jericho, arresting 2 Palestinians and summoning 4 for questioning. Jewish settlers fr. Ramat Yishai throw stones, bottles at Palestinian homes in Hebron, effectively trapping residents in their homes for several hrs.; the IDF observes but does not intervene. (OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09; PCHR 10/1; OCHA 10/2)

22 SEPTEMBER

The IDF makes a brief incursion into Gaza n. of Bayt Hanun to level land along the border fence. (PCHR 10/1)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya and Jenin and in Hebron, arresting 15 Palestinians (including 4 teenagers). Jewish settlers fr. Ma’on settlement nr. Hebron destroy a Palestinian agricultural facility marked for destruction by the IDF; the IDF observes but does not intervene. (PCHR 10/1; OCHA 10/2)

On the sidelines of the convening of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in New York, U.S. pres. Barack Obama moderates a meeting between Netanyahu and Abbas, encouraging them to resume peace negotiations promptly. (WP 9/23; WJW 9/24; JPI 10/1) (see Quarterly Update for details)

23 SEPTEMBER

Israeli naval vessels detain for 12 hrs. 5 fishermen off the n. Gaza shore and
confiscate their boat. The IDF also makes a brief incursion into n. Gaza to level land along the border fence n. of Bayt Hanun. (PCHR 10/1)

In the West Bank, the IDF reopens 3 gates in the separation wall in the Jerusalem governorate that were closed on 8/26; local Palestinian farmers who rely on the gates for access to their land located between the separation wall and the Green Line report that their grape crops have been damaged because of the prolonged closure. The IDF also conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Salit, and Tulkarm and in and around Nablus, arresting 11 Palestinians. (OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09; PCHR 10/1)

24 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in Jenin town and r.c. and nr. Jericho, making no arrests; patrols and opens fire on residential areas of al-Bireh, making no arrests and causing no injuries. Some 120 Jewish settlers escorted by IDF troops storm the al-Ibrahimi Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs and occupy it for more than 90 mins. (PCHR 10/1; OCHA 10/2)

25 SEPTEMBER

The IDF makes an air strike on Gaza City’s al-Tuffah neighborhood, killing 3 Islamic Jihad mbrs., possibly injuring 1 Islamic Jihad mbr. and 3 bystanders. (NYT, WP 9/26; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09; PCHR 10/1; OCHA 10/2)

In the West Bank, the IDF fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni’alin (injuring 6 Palestinians, including 1 teenager) and at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall in Bil’in (injuring 1 Palestinian, arresting 1 Palestinian and 2 Israelis); fires sound bombs and violently beats Palestinian and international activists protesting in Burin nr. Nablus against the confiscation of land to be razed and annexed by Yitzhar settlement. The IDF also arrests 2 Palestinians teenagers nr. Qalqilya for stone-throwing. (PCHR 10/1)

26 SEPTEMBER

For unknown reasons, IDF troops on the Gaza border fire on Palestinian property nr. Jabaliya, causing no injuries. Israeli naval vessels positioned off the n. Gaza shore fire on a group of Palestinian fishing boats, forcing them back to shore but causing no injuries. (PCHR 10/1)

27 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, the IDF makes an air strike on an open area nr. Bayt Hanun, causing no casualties. (PCHR 10/1)

Israel imposes a general closure on the West Bank for the 2-day Yom Kippur holiday. The IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Tulkarm, arresting 1 Palestinian, Jewish settlers fr. Kiryat Arba nr. Hebron attack Palestinians exiting the nearby al-Ras Mosque and throw stones, empty bottles at Palestinian vehicles; no serious injuries are reported. (PCHR 10/1)

Outraged by rumors that right-wing Jews plan to invade the al-Aqsa Mosque compound to mark Yom Kippur, Palestinians throw stones at French tourists visiting the mosque, mistaking them for Jewish activists. Israeli police disperse the crowd of approximately 150 Palestinians with stun grenades, leading to a number of disturbances throughout East Jerusalem. Palestinians also throw rocks, Molotov cocktails, and garbage at Israeli border police. As many as 38 Palestinians and 18 mbrs. of Israeli security forces are injured, and 11 Palestinians are arrested. (NYT 9/28; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 9/09; WJW 10/1; OCHA 10/2; JPI, OCHA 10/8)

28 SEPTEMBER

IDF troops on the Gaza border direct artillery fire at al-Musaddar village, hitting 1 Palestinian home and injuring 2 teenagers, then make a brief incursion into the area. (PCHR 10/1)

In the West Bank, Jewish settlers fr. Yitzhar uproot numerous Palestinian olive trees. (PCHR 10/1)
In East Jerusalem, disturbances between Jews and Muslims continue for a 2d day; at least 2 Jewish homes in Silwan are struck by Molotov cocktails, and Jews stone Arab cars driving on Hebron Street but apparently cause no injuries. (WJW 10/1)

29 SEPTEMBER

The IDF makes air strikes on smuggling tunnels along the Rafah border, killing 2 Palestinians and trapping at least 11 others (who are freed and hospitalized). IDF tanks on the s. Gaza border nr. the Dahanyya airport site fire on and injure a Popular Resistance Comm. mbr. monitoring IDF movements along the border. Meanwhile, Israeli DM Barak authorizes the export of palm fronds fr. Gaza for use in Jewish Sukkoth celebrations because Egyptian suppliers are overcharging (JP 9/30; PCHR 10/1; JPI, OCHA 10/8)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Ramallah, Qalqilya, Jenin, and in Tulkarm, arresting 8 Palestinians (including 1 teenager) and summoning 1 mbr. of the Bil’in Public Committee Against the Wall for interrogation; issues demolition orders for 6 Palestinian homes in Azun that allegedly provided cover for stone-throwing Palestinian youths. Unidentified Palestinians shoot at a Jewish settler vehicle outside Kida settlement nr. Jerusalem, wounding the driver, who is airlifted to a hospital in Jerusalem; stone Israeli vehicles traveling nr. Bethlehem, damaging at least 1 car. (PCHR 10/1; JPI 10/8)

1 OCTOBER

As agreed on 9/30, Israel releases 19 Palestinian female prisoners in exchange for a 2-min. video fr. Hamas proving that captured IDF soldier Cpl. Shalit is still alive. A 20th prisoner is expected to be released on 10/3. After Palestinians fire 3 rockets fr. Gaza into Israel (causing no damage or injuries), the IDF carries out air strikes on smuggling tunnels along the Rafah border and on a marble factory and an iron warehouse in Gaza City suspected of being used to manufacture weapons. An Israeli drone also fires a missile nr. Bayt Lahiya. No casualties are reported in any of the air strikes. (NYT 10/3; PCHR 10/8; JR 10/26)

In the West Bank, the IDF fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni‘lin (10s suffer fr. tear gas) and at Palestinian grounds of a school nr. Jenin in disputed circumstances (the IDF says it was an accident, whereas Palestinian eye-witnesses say the jeep was chasing the youth); angry Palestinians throw stones, clash with IDF troops, who respond with tear gas, causing minor injuries. The IDF also conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Qalqilya, and nr. Jenin, Hebron, and Jericho, arresting 12 Palestinians (including 1 teenager) and summoning 6 others for questioning. (OCHA 9/09; PCHR 10/1; OCHA 10/2; OCHA 10/8; PCHR 10/8)
activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall in Bil’in (injuring 2 international activists); conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Tulkarm, arresting 1 Palestinian. (PCHR 10/8)

**Israeli security forces** prevent thousands of Palestinians fr. entering East Jerusalem for Friday prayers at the al-Aqsa Mosque. The overcrowded conditions at Qalandia checkpoint cause at least 35 Palestinians to faint. Additional checkpoints are also erected in the Old City. (PCHR 10/8)

**Hamas mbr. Yusuf Abu Zuhri**, the brother and bodyguard of Hamas spokesman Sami Abu Zuhri, dies in Egyptian custody. **Hamas** accuses Egyptian authorities of torturing him. Abu Zuhri was detained in al-Arish in 4/09 on charges of entering Egypt illegally through a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border. (Agence France-Presse 10/13; JPI 10/22)

At Abbas’s request, the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) defers until 3/10 a vote to endorse the UN’s Goldstone report (see 9/15). The move is supported by Israel and the U.S. but is immediately denounced by Palestinians. (WP 10/2; WP 10/3; JR 10/26) (see Quarterly Update for details)

### 3 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** bars Palestinian farmers fr. reaching their land in Bayt Umar nr. Hebron; conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Hebron, arresting 7 Palestinians (including 4 teenagers). (PCHR 10/8)

### 4 OCTOBER

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border nr. Bayt Lahiya shoot and seriously wound 1 Palestinian teenager who says that he was throwing stones at a dog on the beach when he was shot. (OCHA, PCHR 10/8)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** arrests 5 Palestinian workers by the separation wall nr. Azun Atma nr. Qalqilya; conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Qalqilya, arresting 3 Palestinians. (PCHR 10/8)

**Major clashes erupt in Jerusalem** sparked by rumors that Israeli authorities plan to allow Jewish settlers to enter the al-Aqsa Mosque compound to mark the Sukkoth holiday. In reaction, Muslim leaders call on Palestinians to rally to defend the mosque, prompting Jewish religious leaders to call followers to defend the Temple Mount. As some 200 Palestinians inside the mosque compound and some 150 Palestinians on the periphery hold off 100s of Jewish settlers fr. reaching the compound, Israeli security forces attempt to seal off the holy site and Jerusalem’s Old City to disperse the protesters and prevent violence fr. spreading. Minor incidents are reported in Ras al-Amud and al-Tur neighborhoods. Some Palestinians throw stones at security forces, who respond with stun grenades and a water cannon. Israeli security forces also arrest 10 Palestinians and violently beat 10s of others who attempt to force their way through IDF checkpoints around the Old City to reach the mosque. Among those arrested are 2 public figures—Shaykh Ka-mal al-Khatib and Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) mbr. Hatim ‘Abd al-Qadir (both quickly released on bail and forbidden fr. entering the Old City for 15 days). (WT 10/6; PCHR, WJW 10/8; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 10/09)

### 5 OCTOBER

In response to escalating tensions in East Jerusalem, 1,000s of Palestinians attend a rally in Gaza organized by Hamas calling for another intifada. (WT 10/6)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** arrests a Palestinian by the separation wall nr. Azun Atma; conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Nablus and nr. Jenin, arresting 2 Palestinians. (PCHR 10/8)

**Israeli-Palestinian tensions in Jerusalem** remain high following the 10/4 clashes. Although Israel deploys 1,000s of additional police in and around the Old City and IDF helicopters and drones monitor fr. above, some significant clashes are reported in and around the city. At a checkpoint at the entrance of Shu’fat r.c., Israeli security forces arrest a Palestinian who stabbed an Israeli soldier in the neck; IDF troops then enter Shu’fat r.c., fire sound bombs and tear gas, and arrest 8 more Palestinians (all under the age of 18, 2 under the age of 13). At Qalandia checkpoint, Israeli security forces fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and sound bombs at 10s of Palestinian protesters. In Ras al-Amud neighborhood, Israeli security forces...
arrest 13 Palestinians for stone-throwing. Israeli authorities also seal off 2 Arab neighborhoods adjacent to the Old City and bar men under the age of 50 fr. entering al-Aqsa Mosque. At least 7 Palestinians are wounded in clashes during the day. Israel releases 2 Palestinians detained at crossings into Jerusalem on 10/4 but bars them fr. entering Jerusalem for 90 days. (WT 10/6, PCHR 10/8)

A complaint filed by Israeli human rights organization Yesh Din results in the arrest of an IDF soldier on charges of beating the Bil'in Coordinator of the Public Committee against the Wall and Settlement during a late-night raid on 9/15. (OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 10/09)

6 OCTOBER

The IDF makes a brief incursion into c. Gaza to level land in the al-Shuja'iyya neighborhood of Gaza City; IDF tanks fire 7 shells nr. a secondary school in the area, causing damage to the school but no injuries. (OCHA, PCHR 10/8)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Hebron, arresting 2 Palestinians (including 1 teenager). Also nr. Hebron, 2 Jewish settlers beat a Palestinian child after stones were thrown at their vehicle. (PCHR 10/8)

Following clashes in Jerusalem on 10/4 and 10/5, Israeli security forces patrol the city in numbers. In the Wadi al-Juz neighborhood of East Jerusalem, Israeli security forces raid a sit-in tent set up 2 yrs. ago by the Islamic Movement and arrest Islamic Movement head Shaykh Raed Salah on charges of inciting violence. An Israeli court ruling authorizes Salah to be released but bars him fr. Jerusalem’s Old City for 1 mo. Israeli police break up Palestinian protests against the court decision, arresting 2 Palestinians. (WT 10/7; PCHR 10/8)

7 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Jenin town and r.c., arresting 2 Palestinians. (PCHR 10/8)

Israeli police arrest American-born Jewish settler Yaakov Teitel on charges of murdering Palestinians, bombing a leftist Israeli professor’s home, and maiming a 15-yr.-old boy belonging to a community of Jews for Jesus. (NYT, WT 11/2; OCHA, WJW 11/5; OCHA 11/09)

Facing tremendous domestic criticism, Abbas reverses his position on deferring discussion of the Goldstone report at the HRC. (NYT, HA 10/7) (see Quarterly Update)

8 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF patrols in Ramallah and al-Bir'eh for several hrs. beginning at midday but makes no arrests. Palestinian sources report that in the previous wk., Jewish settlers fr. Nahan’l settlement nr. Ramallah uprooted at least 50 olive trees belonging to a Palestinian family. (PCHR 10/8; PCHR 10/15)

9 OCTOBER

The IDF fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni’lin (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation) and at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, demonstrating against the separation wall in Bil’in (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation). (PCHR 10/15)

Following a week of tensions, Israel declares a state of high alert in East Jerusalem, deploys additional security forces, and sets up additional checkpoints across the city. In the only serious incident reported, IDF troops fire rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian protesters in Ras al-Amud, slightly injuring at least 10; 3 others are arrested and beaten by undercover security forces in front of TV cameras. (PCHR 10/15; PCHR 10/22)

U.S. special envoy Mitchell begins 2 days of mtgs. with Netanyahu in Jerusalem and Abbas in Ramallah. (WP 10/10, 10/12) (see Quarterly Update for details)

10 OCTOBER

The IDF conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Ramallah. (OCHA, PCHR 10/15)

11 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, IDF troops arrest 3 Palestinians teenagers at Hawara
checkpoint nr. Nablus, claiming they are in possession of a knife and metal tools; raid a fuel station in Hebron and check the Palestinian workers’ ID cards, arresting 1. The IDF also raids and searches a number of houses nr. Hebron, arresting 1 Palestinian; conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Ramallah, arresting 1 Palestinian; enters the Zif area of Hebron, where troops open fire and conduct raids, house-searches, transform the roofs of a number of houses into military outposts. As the Palestinian olive harvest officially begins, the IDF bars Jewish settler access and deploys additional border police to certain areas of the West Bank to prevent clashes. A 17-yr.-old Palestinian shot in the head by IDF troops in Bayt Umar nr. Hebron on 3/4 dies fr. his wounds. (OCHA, PCHR 10/15; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 10/09)

12 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, IDF troops stationed atop Hebron homes occupied on 10/11 fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at 10s of stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them, injuring 1 Palestinian teenager. The IDF also ambushes several Palestinian vehicles attempting to evade IDF checkpoints to transport workers to jobs in Israel, burning and destroying 3 of them; conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Nablus, Hebron, Jericho, and Jenin, arresting 10 Palestinians. Jewish settlers fr. the unauthorized settlement outpost of Mitzpe Ami nr. Qalqilya set fire to a Palestinian olive tree field and block firemen fr. reaching the area, destroying as many as 250 trees; Israeli police arrest 13 settlers who refuse to leave the area. Jewish settlers fr. Kiryat Arba stone Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Hebron and steal harvested olives; the IDF observes but does not intervene. (OCHA, PCHR 10/15; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 10/09)

In East Jerusalem, the IDF bulldozes a Palestinian home in Bayt Hanina neighborhood, displacing 5 Palestinians. (OCHA, PCHR 10/15; PCHR 10/22).

A mysterious explosion in Tayr Filsi village in s. Lebanon injures or kills at least 1 person. Israel cites the explosion as proof that Hizballah is stockpiling weapons in violation of UN Res. 1701 that ended the 2006 Lebanon war. (NYT 10/13)

13 OCTOBER

Unidentified Palestinians fire 1 rocket fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. Israel responds with 2 air strikes on smuggling tunnels along the Rafah border, lightly injuring at least 4 Palestinians. (Xinhua-New China News Agency 10/14; PCHR 10/15; OCHA 10/22)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Hebron and East Jerusalem, arresting 4 Palestinians. (PCHR 10/15)

14 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Ramallah and Hebron, arresting 11 Palestinians (including 3 teenagers and 1 journalist). A Jewish settler fr. Eli nr. Nablus harasses Palestinian farmers working in their olive fields and is detained by the IDF. (PCHR 10/15; PCHR 10/22).

15 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF announces a high security alert and closes the Hawara checkpoint controlling access into Nablus for several hrs.; conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Ramallah, arresting 1 Palestinian. (OCHA, PCHR 10/22)

16 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni`lin (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation) and at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall in Bil’in (injuring 2 Palestinians, 1 French activist, and 1 Canadian journalist); fires sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall in al-Ma'sara, violently beating a number of them (injuring 3 Palestinians); conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Jenin and Bethlehem, summoning 1 Palestinian for questioning. (PCHR 10/22)
The HRC votes (25 to 6, with the U.S. voting against) to endorse the Goldstone report and refer it to the UNGA. (NYT, WP 10/17; WJW 10/22; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 10/09) (See Quarterly Update for details)

17 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem, arresting 2 Palestinians. (PCHR 10/22)

In East Jerusalem, the IDF serves eviction orders to 3 extended Palestinian families (58 individuals, including at least 16 children) living in 12 houses (in which they have lived since 1956) after an Israeli court rules in favor of Jewish groups claiming ownership of the properties; the court orders the Palestinian families to pay back rent to the Jewish groups and cover costs of demolishing the structures, apparently to make way for a new development. (PCHR 10/22)

18 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Tulkarm, arresting 4 Palestinians. (PCHR 10/22)

In East Jerusalem, Israeli municipal officials distribute demolition orders to the owners of at least 67 Palestinian homes in Silwan. (PCHR 10/22) (for background on Israeli development plans for Silwan, see Quarterly Update in JPS 152)

19 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Tulkarm and in nearby Nur Shams r.c., arresting 6 Palestinians. (PCHR 10/22)

20 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF imposes a curfew on Jayyus nr. Qalqilya in retaliation for stone-throwing at IDF military vehicles. (PCHR 10/22)

In East Jerusalem, Jewish settlers violently beat mbrs. of the al-Ghawi family (primarily women and children) who have been living in a tent in Shaykh Jarrah neighborhood since they were evicted fr. their home on 8/2, injuring 11 and damaging their belongings; Israeli police arrest at least 4 Palestinians who attempt to intervene, as well as 4 settlers. (OCHA, PCHR 10/22; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 10/09)

21 OCTOBER

After unidentified Palestinians fire 1 rocket fr. Gaza into Israel (causing no damage or injuries), the IDF carries out air strikes on smuggling tunnels along the Rafah border and on a warehouse in Gaza City: no casualties are reported. (OCHA, PCHR 10/29)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Nablus and nearby 'Askar r.c., in and around Tubas, nr. Jenin and Ramallah, arresting 8 Palestinians (including 4 teenagers). (PCHR 10/29)

22 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF prevents Palestinian farmers and international activists fr. reaching agricultural lands nr. Bayt Umar n. of Hebron to cultivate olives, beating 1 Spanish and 1 Israeli activist, and forcing the farmers to leave the area. The IDF also conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., in 'Aqabat Jabir r.c., nr Tulkarm and Jericho, arresting 4 Palestinians and summoning a number of others for questioning (violently beating the father of 1 suspect when he takes too long to open the door). Palestinian sources report that in the previous wk., at least 50 Jewish settlers fr. Ma'ale Levona attacked Palestinian farmers fr. Sinjil nr. Ramallah headed to their olive fields and were removed fr. the area by the IDF; Jewish settlers fr. the unauthorized settlement outpost of Adei Ad nr. Ramallah cut down 55 Palestinian olive trees in protest at the arrest of 2 other settlers for stealing Palestinian olives. (OCHA 10/22; PCHR 10/29; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 10/09)

23 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF forcefully disperses a peaceful sit-in by Palestinian and international activists protesting the
expansion of Kiryat Arba settlement, detaining 12 international activists and 3 Palestinians and violently beating 2 Palestinians; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a non-violent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni’lin (injuring 7, including 2 teenagers) and at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, demonstrating against the separation wall in Bil’in (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation). (PCHR 10/29)

24 OCTOBER

Late in the evening, Israeli security forces deploy heavily in Jerusalem’s Old City and close al-Jab’a checkpoint into Jerusalem. (PCHR 10/29)

Abbas issues a decree calling for PA presidential and parliamentary elections to be held in the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem on 1/24/10. (NYT, WP 10/24; NYT 10/27) (see Quarterly Update for details)

25 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF raids a house in Bayt Fajjar nr. Bethlehem and another in Jericho, arresting 2 Palestinians (including 1 teenager). (PCHR 10/29)

New Israeli-Palestinian clashes erupt in East Jerusalem after Israel’s Islamic Movement and extremist Jewish groups call on their followers to rally in defense of the al-Aqsa Mosque and Temple Mount respectively. Israeli security forces deploy across the city to contain and prevent clashes, entering the al-Aqsa Mosque compound twice during the day with the stated aim of removing Palestinian demonstrators hiding among the approximately 200 worshippers at the site (temporarily locking worshippers inside the Dome of the Rock and the Southern Mosque), beating many Palestinians, firing tear gas and sound bombs, and arresting 10s of Palestinians (including PLC mbr. ‘Abd al-Qadir, who is ordered on 10/26 to stay out of Jerusalem for 21 days; see 10/4); as many as 25 Palestinians (including around 4 children, 7 women) and 5 journalists are injured. In a possibly related incident, Israeli security forces at Qalandia checkpoint arrest a Palestinian woman for allegedly attempting to stab an Israeli soldier; the IDF later raids her family’s house in Safia nr. Ramallah. (NYT, WP, WT 10/26; OCHA, PCHR, WJW 10/29; PCHR 11/5)

An Israeli military court sentences 2 IDF soldiers to 20 days in a military prison, expels them fr. their unit, and prohibits them fr. serving as combat soldiers for having demonstrated in support of West Bank settlements during their swearing-in ceremony. (WJW 10/29)

26 OCTOBER

The IDF makes a brief incursion into Gaza to level agricultural land nr. Qarni crossing. (PCHR 10/29)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts evening and late-night raids, house searches in al-‘Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, in Umm Salamuna nr. Bethlehem, and nr. Qalqilya and Jerusalem, arresting 10 Palestinians (including at least 4 teenagers) and summoning 1 for questioning. (PCHR 10/29)

Israeli authorities make a predawn raid on a Palestinian home in Sur Bahir neighborhood on the outskirts of East Jerusalem, evicting the family and demolishing the house (located in a designated green area) without giving them time to take any belongings. (PCHR 10/29)

27 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in Nablus, nearby ‘Ayn Bayt al-Ma’ r.c., and Tulkarm, arresting 12 Palestinians (including 2 teenagers). Jewish settlers fr. Shvut Rachel nr. Nablus stone and violently beat Palestinians harvesting olives nearby, injuring 5 of them; IDF troops escorting the settlers arrest 1 Palestinian for refusing orders to leave the area. (OCHA, PCHR 10/29)

In East Jerusalem, Israeli security forces evict families fr. 3 Palestinian homes, demolishing 1 of the homes completely, destroying part of the 2d (ordering the family to complete the demolition within 2 days), and completing the destruction (begun earlier) of a 3d. (Reports differ as to the exact locations of the properties: Palestinian sources place 2 homes in Jabal Mukabir and 1 in Shu’fat, UN reports indicate 1 each in ‘Anata, Jabal Mukabir, and Sur Bahir). (OCHA, PCHR 10/29)
Unidentified assailants fire a Katyusha rocket from Hula village in southern Lebanon into northern Israel near Kiryat Shimon. The IDF responds by firing several artillery rounds into Lebanon. No casualties are reported in either incident. (NYT, WT 10/28; JPI 11/5; JR 11/23)

28 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF prevents Palestinian farmers from Bayt Umar near Hebron from reaching their agricultural lands located near Karme Tzur settlement; conducts late night raids, house searches near Hebron, Bethlehem, and Jenin, arresting 1 Palestinian and summoning 5 others for interrogation. (PCHR 10/29, 11/5)

In Shuafat Jarrah in East Jerusalem, Israeli police dismantle a tent and confiscate the possessions of members of a family evicted from their home on 8/2. (OCHA 10/29)

29 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF bulldozes agricultural land and irrigation infrastructure in the fertile al-Buq'a area near Hebron, firing sound bombs and tear gas and beating Palestinian farmers who try to block them, injuring 12 Palestinians (including 2 cameramen and 8 women). The IDF also delivers demolition notices to 4 Palestinian homes in Khirbat al-Hajri near Hebron. (PCHR 11/5)

30 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the IDF fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Nilin (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation) and at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall in Bil'in (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation); closes the entrance to al-Ma'sara and fires sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall there, beating a number of them (injuring 4 Palestinians, including 1 teenager); patrols Saffa village near Ramallah, firing rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, sound bombs at stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation) and arresting 1 Palestinian. IDF troops also detain a Palestinian worker attempting to install power networks in al-Taqani near Hebron and confiscate his equipment. (Israeli efforts to prevent the construction and infrastructure projects in the village, which is close to Ma'on settlement, have been ongoing since 5/09.) (PCHR 11/5)

Armed Jewish settlers in the Bayt Safafa neighborhood of East Jerusalem attack a Palestinian family over a land ownership dispute, injuring 4 Palestinians. (OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 10/09; OCHA 11/5)

31 OCTOBER

IDF troops on the n. Gaza border near Bayt Lahiya shoot and wound a mentally ill Palestinian near the border fence; the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Palestinian Liaison Office secure his release fr. Israeli custody. (PCHR 11/5)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Tulkarm town and r.c., but makes no arrests. Nr. Nablus, 8 Jewish settlers fr. Brakha raid Burin village, where they are confronted by 10s of stone-throwing Palestinians; IDF troops in the area (possibly escorting the settlers) fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at the Palestinians, injuring 1 and arresting 1 other. (PCHR 11/5)

U.S. secretary of state Hillary Clinton arrives in the Middle East and meets with Netanyahu and Abbas, hoping to help them reach an agreement on settlements that would allow resumption of peace talks. (NYT 10/31; NYT, WP 11/1; JR 11/23) (see Quarterly Update for details)

1 NOVEMBER

IDF troops on the Gaza border nr. the Erez crossing fire on a group of Palestinians scavenging building materials fr. the rubble of commercial buildings in the Erez industrial zone previously bulldozed by the IDF; fire on a Palestinian farmer working on his land nr. the border, causing damage but no reported injuries. (PCHR 11/5)

In the West Bank, a Palestinian shepherd is severely beaten nr. Yitzhar settlement
either by Jewish settlers or IDF troops posted outside the settlement; other IDF troops arrive on the scene and take the shepherd into custody, later transferring him to a hospital in Israel. The IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in Tubas, nr. Jenin and Qalqilya, arresting 4 Palestinians (including 1 teenager). (OCHA, PCHR 11/5)

In East Jerusalem, Israeli forces demolish a Palestinian home in the Jabal Mukabir neighborhood. (PCHR 11/5)

2 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya, arresting 2 Palestinians. (PCHR 11/5)

In East Jerusalem, Israeli authorities evict and demolish a Palestinian home in Bayt Hanina, later admitting that the family never received a demolition order and therefore had not had the opportunity to appeal. In the al-Thawri neighborhood, IDF troops evict and demolish 2 Palestinian homes. In Shaykh Jarrah, Jewish settlers, accompanied by hired guards and displaying what appears to be a court order granting them ownership of a Palestinian house, evict an elderly resident and remove the belongings of other residents not present. Local Palestinians and Israeli peace activists confront the settlers; Israeli police intervene, arresting 1 Israeli activist. (OCHA, PCHR 11/5)

3 NOVEMBER

An ailing Palestinian dies while waiting to exit Gaza to receive medical treatment in Egypt. (OCHA 11/09)

In the West Bank, IDF troops raid a café in Tubas and question a number of the customers; conduct late-night raids, house searches in and around Nablus, Jenin town and r.c., in al-Fara’a r.c., nr. Tubas, Qalqilya, and Hebron, arresting 5 Palestinians (including 1 teenager). (PCHR 11/12)

In East Jerusalem, Israeli security forces raid a Palestinian home in the African Colony Quarter nr. Jerusalem’s Old City, arresting 1 Palestinian teenager for his alleged participation in the 10/25 al-Aqsa Mosque protests. (PCHR 11/12)

5 NOVEMBER

Abbas gives a 15-min. televised address in which he announces that he will not run for reelection in 1/10 because of the lack of progress in peace negotiations. (NYT, WP, WT 11/6) (see Quarterly Update)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in Salfit and nr. Bethlehem, arresting 2 Palestinians. (PCHR 11/12)

The UNGA votes 114 to 18, with 44 abstentions, to endorse the Goldstone report. (NYT, WT 11/6; NYT 11/7)

6 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, Palestinian activists in a number of locations along the separation wall protest in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. In Nīfīn, Palestinian protesters also attempt to pull down sections of the separation wall but are dispersed by rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas fired by IDF troops; 5 protesters are wounded, and 10s suffer fr. tear gas export documentation, were loaded in Egypt and headed to Syria for land transport to Lebanon, but says that neither the ship’s crew nor the Egyptians who loaded the cargo knew that the containers held arms. Iran and Syria officially deny the claims. (NYT, WP, WT 11/5; JPI, WJW 11/12)
inhalation. The IDF also closes the entrance to al-Ma’sara, fires rubber-coated steel bullets and sound bombs, violently beats a number of Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall there (injuring 2 Palestinians under the age of 13); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at Palestinian activists, some of whom throw stones at IDF troops, taking part in a demonstration against the separation wall in Bil’in (10s suffer fr. tear gas inhalation). The IDF also conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem but makes no arrests. (MNA 11/9; OCHA, PCHR, WJW 11/12; OCHA 11/17)

7 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in villages nr. Bethlehem and Jenin but makes no arrests. For unknown reasons, IDF troops at a checkpoint in Hebron fire at a Palestinian family in a car, seriously wounding the driver with shrapnel. Jewish settlers fr. Brakha attempt to raid Burin village but are repelled at the entrance by stone-throwing Palestinians; the IDF intervenes, firing bullets and tear gas, beating a number of Palestinians (including several journalists), and removing the settlers fr. the area. In Hebron, Jewish settlers fr. the unauthorized settlement outpost of Beit Hadassah, escorted by IDF troops, march toward Kiryat Arba settlement, stoning Palestinian homes along the way. (OCHA, PCHR 11/12)

8 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem and Nablus, in and around Jenin town and r.c., and in al-Fawar r.c. nr. Jericho, Hebron, Qalqilya, and nr. Nablus, arresting 11 Palestinians (including 5 teenagers). (PCHR 11/12)

9 NOVEMBER

To mark the Muslim holiday ‘Id al-Adha, Israeli officials allow the import of 3,000 cattle to Gaza. (WJW 11/12; JPI 11/19)

In the West Bank, the IDF conducts late-night raids, house searches in and around Hebron, in Jericho and Tubas, and nr. Ramallah, arresting 11 Palestinians (including 1 teenager). (PCHR 11/12)

In East Jerusalem, Israeli authorities paste demolition orders on the walls of 15 Palestinian homes in the ‘Ayn al-Luza, al-Bustan (in Silwan), and Yemen quarters of the Old City. Although residents of the houses are given 20 days to appeal the demolitions, the notices are back-dated 18 days. Elsewhere in Silwan, Israeli forces demolish 1 Palestinian home and deliver a demolition order to the Old Town Women Society, which provides aid to at least 70 Palestinian families. (OCHA, PCHR 11/12; PCHR 11/19)

10 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF opens the Jalama crossing connecting Israel’s Gilboa region with Jenin in the West Bank to Palestinian vehicular traffic for the first time in 8 yrs. (the crossing remains closed to Israeli Jews); Quartet envoy Tony Blair attends the opening ceremony. The IDF also conducts late-night raids, house searches nr. Nablus and Jerusalem, arresting 11 Palestinians (including 5 teenagers). Jewish settlers fr. Kiryat Arba throw stones, empty bottles at Palestinians and their homes in the Wadi al-Nasara neighborhood of Hebron; the IDF observes but does not intervene. Also in Hebron, 3 Jewish settlers fr. the unauthorized settlement outpost of Ramat Yishai beat 2 Palestinian teenagers. (NYT 11/11; OCHA, PCHR 11/12; JPI 11/19)

11 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF patrols Kafr Haris village nr. Salit and imposes a curfew, disrupting all daily activities in the village; conducts late-night raids, house searches in Qalandia r.c. s. of Ramallah, ‘Aqabat r.c. s. of Jericho, Hebron, Qalqilya, and nr. Nablus, arresting 7 Palestinians (including 2 teenagers). (PCHR 11/12, 11/19)

12 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the IDF demolishes 12 partially built Palestinian homes and 1 poultry farm in Rajib nr. Nablus; issues demolition orders for 17 other Palestinian civilian structures (including 9 homes housing 57 people, of whom 39 are...
Jewish settlers fr. Yitzhar uproot nearly 100 olive trees fr. nearby Palestinian land. (OCHA 11/12; PCHR 11/19)

13 NOVEMBER

IDF troops on the c. Gaza border c. of Gaza Valley open fire on 7 Palestinians nr. the border fence, killing 1 Palestinian teenager and wounding another, then enter Gaza to detain the entire group. The IDF claims they were engaging in hostile activity, a charge local Palestinians deny. (NYT, WP 11/14; PCHR 11/19; OCHA 11/20; OCHA Humanitarian Monitor 11/09)

In the West Bank, the IDF completes construction of a segment of the separation wall along bypass road No. 55 nr. Qalqilya, completely isolating Azun village and separating the farmers in the village fr. at least 1,300 d. of their land; fires live ammunition at Palestinian and international activists taking part in a nonviolent demonstration against the separation wall in Ni’lin (injuring at least 2 Palestinians); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at the protesters (causing no reported injuries) and arrests 6 Palestinians (including 2 teenagers). Jewish settlers fr. Avraham Avino occupy a Palestinian commercial building on al-Sahla street in the old city of Hebron for several hrs. to conduct religious ceremonies. (MNA 11/14; PCHR 11/19; OCHA 11/20)

14 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, Palestinian activists celebrating the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall with a protest against the separation wall in Dayr Ghusun nr. Tulkarm attempt to remove and subsequently damage a gate in the separation wall that prevents Palestinian farmers in the area fr. reaching their lands. The IDF fires rubber-coated steel bullets, sound bombs, tear gas at the protesters (causing no reported injuries) and arrests 6 Palestinians (including 2 teenagers). Jewish settlers fr. Carmiel attack Palestinians fr. the nearby Bedouin village of Umm al-Khayr, badly injuring 1 Palestinian woman and damaging several Palestinian houses and 1 car. (MNA 11/14; PCHR 11/19; OCHA 11/20)

15 NOVEMBER

IDF troops on the Gaza border nr. Erez crossing open fire at a group of Palestinians hunting birds nr. the border fence, wounding 1 Palestinian. Later, IDF troops on the Gaza border nr. Bayt Hanun open fire on Palestinian farmers working their land nearby, wounding 1 of them. The IDF also makes a brief incursion into n. Gaza to level land along the border fence to clear lines of sight. (OCHA 11/20; PCHR 11/19)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCEABBREVIATIONS

HA (Ha’aretz [Internet], Tel Aviv)
JP (Jerusalem Post [Internet], Jerusalem)
JPI (Jerusalem Post International Edition, Jerusalem)
JR (Jerusalem Report, Jerusalem)
MNA (Ma’an News Agency, Bethlehem)
NYT (New York Times, New York)
OCHA (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes, Jerusalem)
PCHR (Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
WJW (Washington Jewish Week, Rockville, MD)
WP (Washington Post, Washington)
WT (Washington Times, Washington)