

## CHRONOLOGY

16 AUGUST–15 NOVEMBER 2011

COMPILED BY MICHELE K. ESPOSITO

*This section is part 112 of a chronology begun in JPS 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect North American Eastern Standard Time. 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, **Israel** maintains a tight siege on **Hamas**-controlled Gaza, imposing a 300-meter no-go zone inside the full length of the Gaza border and limiting the Palestinian fishing zone off Gaza to 500–1,000 m. off Bayt Lahiya and Rafah and 3 naut. mi. elsewhere. In the West Bank, governed by the **Fatah-led Palestinian Authority (PA)**, Israeli military operations are relatively low. **Israeli troops** on the Gaza border fatally shoot a mentally handicapped **Palestinian teenager** who approaches the border fence e. of Dayr al-Balah in c. Gaza. In the West Bank, the **Israel Defense Forces (IDF)** patrols 6 villages nr. Jericho, Qalqilya, Ramallah, and Tulkarm during the day and 2 villages nr. Jenin and Ramallah late at night. An **Israeli military court** says it is holding **Samer Allawi**, a senior Palestinian journalist who serves as **al-Jazeera** satellite network's Kabul bureau chief, on suspicion of being a **Hamas** mbr. but has not yet indicted him; the IDF confirms that it detained him on 8/9/11 at a border crossing to Jordan when he attempted leave the West Bank, where he had visited family in Nablus; Allawi denies any Hamas connection. (AFP 8/16; JTA, WP, WT 8/17; PCHR 8/18; OCHA 8/19)

### 17 AUGUST

The **IDF** fires warning shots at Palestinian farmers working nr. Bet Ayn settlement nr. Hebron, forcing them to leave the area. (PCHR 8/18; OCHA 8/26)

### 18 AUGUST

**Unidentified assailants** armed with heavy weapons and explosives enter **s. Israel** fr. the **Egyptian** Sinai and stage coordinated attacks on a bus, several cars, and an IDF patrol, killing **7 Israelis** (1 IDF soldier, 6 civilians) and wounding up to 40, marking the deadliest attack on Israel since 3/2008. The attacks begin at midday with gunfire on a bus nr. Elat carrying mostly soldiers fr. a nearby army base; when an IDF unit arrives on the scene, it is quickly ambushed and hit with explosive devices. Within the hour, at least 3 reports of mortar fire fr. Egypt and attacks on civilian vehicles with antitank weapons are reported in the Elat area. Israeli security forces engage in firefights with the infiltrators over the next several hours, killing at least **7 attackers**, noting that 3 of the bodies were booby trapped. At one point, IDF troops pursue the attackers into Egypt and clash with Egyptian border guards, **killing an Egyptian military officer and 2 Egyptian border police** and injuring 2 others. **Israel** accuses **Hamas** of sending terrorists fr. Gaza through the Rafah smuggling tunnels into Egypt and then on to Israel, and criticizes Egypt's inability to secure its borders. The **IDF** quickly launches **12 air strikes** on **s. Gaza** in retaliation, primarily targeting the **Popular Resistance Committees (PRCs)**—an umbrella group comprising mbrs. of all Gaza factions, including Fatah and Hamas. In total, **7 Palestinians** (including 2 children) are killed and at least 23 Palestinians (including

7 children, 6 women) are wounded. Among the dead are 5 senior PRC members who were targeted for assassination, including **PRC leader Kamal Abu Abed al-Nairab**, PRC chief military cmdr. Imad Hamad, and a PRC rocket expert. Later in the evening, gunfire erupts again in Elat, killing **1 Israeli border policeman** and critically injuring another. The PRCs fire 4 **rockets** (including at least 1 manufactured **Grad rocket**) fr. Gaza into Israel, where at least 3 are intercepted by Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system; no damage or injuries are reported. By late evening, the Israeli DMin. reports no further fire, but says assailants may still be on the loose. Hamas and the PRCs deny any part in the attacks. Egyptian and American analysts (e.g., NYT, WT 8/19) say that "it is not a remote possibility for [Egypt's radical militant elements] to cross the border and launch attacks against Israeli targets. It makes a lot of sense" given Egypt's recent crackdown on al-Qa'ida-inspired Islamist militants in the n. Sinai (see 8/13). (AHR, AP, HA, IFM, JP, JTA, MNA, REU, Wafa, YA 8/18; NYT, OCHA, WP, WT 8/19; *al-Masri al-Yawm* 8/20; JAZ 8/21; PCHR 8/25; OCHA 8/26)

Meanwhile, in the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Bayt Liqya nr. Ramallah during the day and in Jenin, Jericho, and 2 villages nr. Ramallah and Salfit. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beit El nr. Ramallah enter nearby Dawar al-Qare' village and set fire to 2 cars. (PCHR 8/25)

## 19 AUGUST

Cross-border exchanges in Gaza continue overnight and throughout the day. The **PRCs**, the **al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade (AMB)**, and a small Salafist group (the **Abdullah Azzam Brigades**) fire around 17 **rockets** (including at least 4 Grads) and at least 2 **mortars** into Israel, seriously injuring 2 Israelis and damaging a religious seminary and a synagogue. The **IDF** carries out at least 25 **air strikes** (warplanes and drones) and 5 **artillery strikes**, killing at least another 7 **Palestinians** (5 militants and 2 bystanders, including 1 child) and wounding at least 40; the attacks include the targeted assassination of **Islamic Jihad's senior military cmdr. Mu'ataz Quraiq'** in

Gaza City, also killing his brother and 2-yr.-old son. (The other 4 militants killed, including **senior PRC cmdr. Samed Abed**, apparently were targeted after firing rockets.) Other targets include smuggling tunnels on the Rafah border, the main waste treatment facility in Nussayrat refugee camp (r.c.) in central Gaza, and numerous Hamas facilities and suspected weapons storage facilities across the Strip. With air strikes continuing into the evening, Hamas's military wing, the **Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades (IQB)**, declares that it no longer considers itself bound by a unilateral cease-fire that had been in place since the end of Israel's Operation Cast Lead in 1/2009. **Israeli officials** discuss the possibility of launching an all-out offensive on Gaza. A **Hamas mbr.** injured in an 8/15/11 Israeli air strike on Gaza dies. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Jenin and 1 each nr. Jericho, Qalqilya, and Ramallah.

**Palestinians** (sometimes accompanied by Israeli and international activists) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Kafr Qaddum, Ni'lin, and al-Nabi Salih. **IDF** soldiers beat and fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, injuring 1 Palestinian. (JP, MNA, YA 8/19; NYT, WP 8/20; IMEU, JAZ 8/21; PCHR 8/25; OCHA 8/26; NYT 8/27)

In Cairo, **100s of Egyptians** angry over **Israel's** killing of 3 soldiers in the Sinai on 8/18 gather outside the Israeli emb., demanding Israel's amb. be expelled. **Egypt's Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF; the interim military leadership)** summons the **Israeli amb.** to demand an apology and call for an investigation into the killings. The **Muslim Brotherhood's candidate for pres., Abdel Moneim Abou el-Fatouh**, calls the incident an Israeli act of war, saying the SCAF should abrogate the 1979 peace treaty. (NYT, WP 8/20)

## 20 AUGUST

Cross-border violence in Gaza enters its 3d day. **Israel** conducts 3 **drone air strikes** and 7 **artillery strikes** on Gaza, injuring 6 Palestinians (3 militants and 3 bystanders, including a woman and

child). The **PRCs**, **Islamic Jihad**, and **Hamas** fire as many as 64 **rockets** (including at least 7 Grads) and 18 **mortars**, killing 1 **Israeli** and wounding 6 in Beersheba, lightly injuring 3 Israelis in Ofakim when a rocket hits a house, and injuring 3 Palestinian laborers in Ashdod (2 seriously). **Israeli naval vessels** fire 3 times on Palestinian fishing boats off the Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. **IDF** soldiers on the n. Gaza border nr. Bayt Hanun fire warning shots at Palestinian fishermen on the beach nr. the no-go zone, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** carries out a major late-night raid on Hebron, sending 100 military vehicles into the area fr. 3 directions and rounding up some 120 Palestinians, mostly Hamas members and supporters, marking the largest West Bank arrest operation since 2003; those arrested include **Hamas-affiliated Palestinian Council (PC) mbr. Muhammad Abu Jheisha** and leading figures of several Hamas-affiliated charities. **Jewish settlers** fr. Migron outpost nr. Ramallah beat a 12-yr.-old Palestinian boy tending sheep nearby. (JP, YA 8/20; JAZ, JP, NYT, WP 8/21; MNA 8/22; IFM, PCHR 8/25; OCHA 8/26)

In Cairo, crowds outside the **Israeli** emb. grow steadily into the 1,000s overnight and throughout the day. **Israel** issues a formal expression of regret for the deaths of the Egyptian soldiers, but Egyptian leaders say it is inadequate. **Egypt** briefly threatens to recall its amb. fr. Israel, but backs down following international intervention to calm tensions. **Israel** shelve discussions of a major military strike on Gaza given the crisis with Egypt. (WP 8/20; NYT, WP 8/21; NYT 8/27; WP 8/28)

**21 AUGUST**

**Israel** and **Hamas** (assisted by **Egyptian mediators**) agree to restore their cease-fire, ending 4 days of cross-border violence. **Hamas** says it has secured the agreement of the smaller Palestinian factions and will enforce a moratorium on rocket and mortar fire. A **PRC** spokesman says, however, that the **PRCs** will not abide by the cease-fire. Before the new cease-fire goes into effect, **unidentified Palestinians** fire as many as 27 **rockets** (including 5 Grads) and 2

**mortars** into Israel, damaging an empty school but causing no injuries. The **IDF** carries out 6 **air strikes** and 2 **artillery strikes** on the rocket launch site, empty Hamas training sites, and a police station, injuring 12 Palestinians (3 militants and 9 bystanders, including 5 children). In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids and house searches in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem. (JP, PCHR, YA 8/21; NYT, WP, WT, YA 8/22; WP 8/23; PCHR 8/25; OCHA 8/26)

An **Israeli military delegation** arrives in **Egypt** to discuss the preliminary findings of its investigation of the deaths of the 3 Egyptian soldiers, securing a new Gaza cease-fire (agreed later in the day), and repairing bilateral relations. **U.S. asst. secy. of state for Near Eastern affairs Jeffrey Feltman** and **UN coordinator for the Middle East peace process Robert Serry** are also in Cairo to help mediate. Around this time, **Israeli DM Ehud Barak** sends the message to Egypt's transitional military council that they may skirt provisions of the 1979 peace treaty and send as many troops, armored vehicles, and helicopters into the Sinai as necessary to restore order and guarantee border security. In Cairo, **100s of Egyptian protesters** keep up a demonstration outside the Israeli emb., calling for the amb. to be expelled and the emb. removed. (NYT 8/22; WP 8/23; NYT 8/27)

**22 AUGUST**

The **Gaza cease-fire** generally holds, though **unidentified Palestinians** fire 4 **rockets** into Israel during the day, causing damage in 1 instance but no injuries. The **PRCs** now say (see 8/21) that they will abide by the cease-fire because it "serves the interests of the Palestinian people." In the West Bank, the **IDF** raids and searches 15 houses in Hebron, arresting 1 Palestinian; patrols in 2 villages nr. Jenin, 1 each near Qalqilya and Tulkarm. (JTA, YA 8/22; WP 8/23; PCHR 8/25; OCHA 8/26)

**23 AUGUST**

In Doha, **PA pres. Mahmud Abbas** meets with **Arab League FMs** and **Arab League secy.-gen. Nabil Elaraby** to

discuss plans to seek recognition of Palestinian statehood at the UN in 9/2011. **Abbas meets on the sidelines with U.S. asst. secy. of state Jeremy Feltman.** (Wafa 8/23) (see Quarterly Update for details)

The **IDF** carries out a late-night **drone missile strike** on a car nr. Rafah, assassinating the **head of Islamic Jihad's military wing Isma'il Asmar**, injuring a girl nearby. **Islamic Jihad** responds by firing 4 Qassam **rockets** and several **mortars** into Israel, lightly wounding an Israeli infant. (**Egyptian officials** say that a Palestinian **rocket** fired fr. Rafah landed on the Egyptian side of the border, in Egyptian Rafah, injuring 1 woman.) Israel responds with 2 **drone missile strikes** on a suspected rocket-launching team nr. Dayr al-Balah, wounding 2 armed Palestinians. In the West Bank, **IDF** soldiers enter Tulkarm, randomly stopping Palestinians and checking their IDs; conduct late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Bet Ayn nr. Hebron uproot 10s of olive and plum trees on nearby Palestinian land. The **Israeli High Court** rejects an appeal by residents of al-Walaja who challenged the separation wall route on the grounds that it would cut off the village from Bethlehem, holding that the residents did not prove that the planned route would severely harm the village. (JP, JTA, Wafa, WP, WT 8/24; PCHR, WP 8/25; OCHA 8/26; PCHR 10/27)

#### 24 AUGUST

**El Salvador** recognizes Palestine as an independent state. (REU 8/25)

**Israel** carries out 3 **air strikes** (drone and warplanes) targeting Palestinian rocket-launching teams and smuggling tunnels on the Rafah border, killing 1 **armed Palestinian** and 1 **tunnel worker** and wounding 6 Palestinians (including 1 child). **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. fire at least 20 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, injuring an Israeli child. (PCHR, UPI, YA 8/25; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

#### 25 AUGUST

Overnight and during the day, the **IDF** carries out multiple air strikes on

Gaza in retaliation for the 8/24 rocket fire, hitting smuggling tunnels, a suspected weapons depot, and a rocket-firing team, killing 9 **Palestinians** (including at least 4 militants) and wounding 29. **Unidentified Palestinians** fire at least 15 **rockets** (including at least 1 Grad and 9 Qassams) and **mortars** into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Jenin and surrounding villages throughout the evening. **Jewish settlers** fr. Migron outpost nr. Ramallah set fire to nearby Palestinian olive groves, burning 100 trees. (AP, IDFS, MNA 8/25; JP, NYT, Wafa, YA 8/26; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

#### 26 AUGUST

**Hamas officials** say that all main Gaza factions have agreed to reimpose their cease-fire immediately, while **Egyptian mediators** work to secure the compliance of smaller factions. **Islamic Jihad** says it will observe the moratorium as long as Israel also ceases fire. **Israel** does not comment. Before the new cease-fire goes into effect, the **PFLP** and **other unidentified Palestinians** fire 1 Grad and 2 Qassam **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. Israel does not respond. Israeli DM **Barak** authorizes construction of a kindergarten in Hebron's Beit Romano settlement, home to some of the most extremist Jewish settlers. Meanwhile, **Jewish settlers** uproot olive trees in Qasra village nr. Nablus; when local Palestinians try to drive them away, **IDF** troops intervene, firing tear gas and live ammunition at the Palestinians, seriously injuring 1. The **IDF** also patrols in Kafr al-Dik village nr. Salfit. **Palestinians** (sometimes accompanied by Israeli and international activists) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, al-Ma'sara, and Ni'lin, as well as at the Qalandia crossing into Jerusalem. **IDF** soldiers beat and fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, causing no serious injuries, and arrest 2 Palestinians. (AP, MNA, YA 8/26; MNA, WP 8/27; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

In **Egypt**, 100s of protesters rally outside the **Israeli** emb. after Friday

prayers demanding the expulsion of the amb. (WP 8/28)

## 27 AUGUST

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 1 Qassam **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries; Israel does not respond. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Jenin and Tulkarm late at night, randomly stopping residents and checking their IDs. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai in Hebron beat a Palestinian passerby. (JP 8/28; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

## 28 AUGUST

The **IDF** conducts late-night patrols in the same 2 villages nr. Jenin and Tulkarm that it entered on 8/27. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beit Hadasah in Hebron vandalize nearby Palestinian homes. (PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

## 29 AUGUST

A **21-yr.-old Palestinian** fr. Nablus enters Israel, steals a taxi in Tel Aviv, and drives it into a police checkpoint outside a popular nightclub, then stabs several bystanders before being subdued by police; the **PA** condemns the attack. **Unidentified Palestinians** fire a Qassam **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In Gaza, a **13-yr.-old Palestinian boy** dies of injuries sustained in an IDF drone strike on 8/21. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Jericho, 1 each nr. Ramallah and Tulkarm. (YA 8/29; NYT 8/30; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

## 30 AUGUST

The **IDF** patrols in 5 villages nr. Ramallah, 1 nr. Jericho. **Jewish settlers** fr. Shilo settlement nr. Ramallah stone Palestinian vehicles, causing no injuries. (PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

## 31 AUGUST

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 Qassam **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. The **IDF**

patrols in 3 villages nr. Jenin. (YA 8/31; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

## 1 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** patrols in 3 villages nr. Ramallah and 1 village each nr. Hebron, Jenin, and Jericho. **Jewish settlers** cut down 20 Palestinian olive trees nr. Kafr Qaddum village nr. Qalqilya. (PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

## 2 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Ramallah and 1 nr. Jericho in the morning, and in al-Bireh, 3 villages nr. Tulkarm, 3 nr. Jenin, and 1 nr. Ramallah late in the evening; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. **Palestinians** (sometimes accompanied by Israeli and international activists) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, and al-Nabi Salih. **IDF** soldiers beat and fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, causing no serious injuries. (PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

The **UN's Palmer commission** releases its long-delayed investigative report on the **5/2010 Gaza flotilla raid** in which 9 Turkish activists attempting to break the siege of Gaza were killed in the IDF raid on the *Mavi Marmara*. The report concludes that Israel had the legal right to impose a naval blockade of Gaza and to stage an armed raid of the boat, but that the force used by IDF soldiers to subdue protesters was "excessive and unreasonable." In response, **Turkey** expels Israel's amb. and several other senior diplomats, suspends military agreements with Israel, and vows to expand its naval presence in the Mediterranean to protect its ships. (NYT, WP 9/2; HA, NYT, WP 9/3; WP 9/5; NYT, WP 9/7) (see Quarterly Update and Doc. A1)

## 3 SEPTEMBER

U.S. admin. sources say **Pres. Barack Obama's admin.** has "launched a last-ditch diplomatic campaign" to convince the **Palestinians** to abandon their statehood initiative at the UN by

making it clear that the U.S. will veto and by presenting (soon, via the **Quartet**) a proposal for renewed talks as an alternative. The sources say that the Quartet proposal is aimed primarily at swaying UN member states to vote against a Palestinian statehood resolution and is not expected to result in a resumption of serious peace talks. (NYT 9/4) (see Quarterly Update for details)

The **IDF** conducts afternoon and evening patrols in Jenin and 4 nearby villages, 2 village nr. Tulkarm, and 1 nr. Hebron; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron. In Israel, as many as **400,000 Israelis** turn out nationwide (more than 300,000 in Tel Aviv) for protests calling for social justice. **July 14th movement organizers** had called for a million-person march today to revive the Saturday protests, which fell off after the 8/18 Elat attack. After the rally, demonstrators begin taking down tent camps, as organizers switch attention to forming local committees to press for social reforms (see Quarterly Update for details). (WP 9/4; PCHR, WJW 9/8; OCHA 9/9; *Foreign Policy* [Internet] 9/12; see also NYT 9/1)

**Egypt**, in effort to improve relations with Israel by strengthening border security, begins an operation to close smuggling tunnels under the Rafah border. Meanwhile, the **Israeli emb. in Cairo** hires contractors to erect a 12-ft. wall around the emb. in effort to deter the 100s (and sometimes 1,000s) of Egyptian who have gathered outside since the 8/18 Elat incident to protest the deaths of 3 Egyptian soldiers. (WP 9/4, 9/5)

#### 4 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Ramallah during the day; conducts late-night patrols in 3 villages nr. Salfit; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around 'Askar r.c. nr. Nablus, nr. Hebron, and nr. Ramallah. A **Palestinian** is killed in a smuggling tunnel accident on the Rafah border. (PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

#### 5 SEPTEMBER

**Abbas** tells a group of 20 left-leaning Israeli intellectuals that the Palestinians

want above all to resume negotiations, stating that "no matter what happens at the [UN], we have to return to negotiations," but also that even if there is a last-minute deal to resume talks, the UN bid will proceed. He confirms that in recent months he met 3 times secretly with **Israeli pres. Shimon Peres** in Amman, London, and Rome to discuss reviving talks. He also reveals that he met secretly on 8/27/11 with **Israeli DM Ehud Barak**, who asked him to drop the statehood bid. (NYT 9/6; WJW 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

The **IDF** carries out an **air strike** on a house in Nussayrat r.c. in c. Gaza, seriously injuring 1 Palestinian woman. **Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts morning house searches in Sirris village nr. Jenin, summoning several Palestinians for interrogation; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya and Ramallah (arresting **Hammas-affiliate PC mbr. Muhammad Abu Tair**). The **IDF** razes 3 buildings in Migron outpost, ordered removed by Israel's High Court; settlers scuffle with the IDF, which arrests 6. Soon after, **Jewish settlers** set fire to a mosque in a nearby Palestinian village and spray graffiti saying "Migron." In other apparent reprisals, **Jewish settlers** fr. Beitar Ilit nr. Bethlehem pump wastewater on agricultural lands in nearby Husan and Nahalin villages, damaging 100s of trees and crops; **Jewish settlers** vandalize a Palestinian home in Hebron; **Jewish settlers** fr. Shilo settlement set up a roadblock on the Nablus–Ramallah road and stone passing vehicles, seriously damaging 1 car and injuring 1 Palestinian; **Jewish settlers** fr. Keddumim settlement stone Palestinian vehicles on the Qalqilya–Nablus road, causing light damage but no injuries. In addition, **Jewish settlers** accompanied by IDF soldiers and border police uproot 88 trees on confiscated Palestinian land in al-Walaja nr. Bethlehem. (NYT, WP 9/6; PCHR 9/8)

#### 6 SEPTEMBER

**Obama Middle East adviser Dennis Ross** and **acting U.S. special envoy to the Middle East peace process David**

**Hale** arrive in the region for 2 days of mtgs. with Israeli and Palestinian officials regarding the Palestinian statehood bid and a possible Quartet plan to revive negotiations. As they meet first with **Israeli pres. Benjamin Netanyahu** and **DM Barak**, **U.S. secy. of state Hillary Clinton** phones **Abbas**, urging him to “work hard with us to avoid a negative scenario in New York at the end of the month.” (AFP, Bloomberg, NYT 9/6; WP 9/7) (see Quarterly Update for details)

Overnight, **unidentified Palestinians** fire a Qassam rocket fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In retaliation, the **IDF** carries out an air strike on a suspected weapons depot in Gaza, causing no reported injuries. Later in the day, the **IDF** makes a brief incursion into s. Gaza nr. Khan Yunis, exchanging fire with PRC mbrs., causing no initial injuries; when the PRCs. fire mortars toward soldiers, the IDF replies with gunfire fr. a helicopter, killing **1 PRC mbr.** and wounding 3 bystanders. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 1 village nr. Tulkarm. (IFM 9/6; NYT 9/7; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/9)

## 7 SEPTEMBER

**Ross** and **Hale** meet with **Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erakat**. **Quartet special envoy Tony Blair** is also in the region. (Bloomberg 9/6; NYT, WP 9/9)

The **IDF** makes a predawn raid into Tulkarm r.c., arresting 1 Palestinian; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin, Qalqilya; conducts late-night patrols in Jericho. **Militant Jewish settlers** vandalize **IDF** base nr. Ramallah, damaging 13 vehicles and breaking windows in apparent retaliation for the 9/5 razing of structures at Migron outpost. (PCHR, WP 9/8; PCHR 9/15; OCHA 9/16)

## 8 SEPTEMBER

**Ross** and **Hale** return to the U.S., having failed to secure a last-minute postponement of the Palestinian statehood bid. U.S. officials say they are “at a loss” for how a U.S. veto can now be avoided. **Quartet** efforts to broker a

resumption of talks continue, however. (NYT, WP 9/9) (see Quarterly Update)

**IDF** troops on the s. Gaza border fire toward al-Qarara village, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts daytime patrols in 4 villages nr. Qalqilya, 3 villages northwest of Salfit, and 2 villages southwest of Ramallah; conducts synchronized late-night patrols in 4 villages nr. Tulkarm and additional late-night patrols in 1 village nr. Ramallah. In Ramallah, 10s of **Palestinians** hold the 1st small demonstration in support of the statehood bid, marching to the UN’s local headquarters. **Jewish settlers** fr. Shvut Rachel settlement nr. Nablus set fire to 2 Palestinian cars and vandalize a mosque in nearby Yatma village to protest the IDF’s 9/5 removal of structures at Migron outpost. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar nr. Nablus uproot 17 olive trees in nearby Hawara village. (NYT, WT 9/9; PCHR 9/15; OCHA 9/16)

## 9 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** conducts daytime patrols in 2 villages nr. Salfit, 1 nr. Qalqilya (firing percussion grenades to intimidate residents), and 1 nr. Ramallah; detains 4 Palestinian children nr. Qalqilya for stone throwing; conducts late-night patrols in 1 village nr. Ramallah (fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at stone-throwing Palestinians who confront them, causing no serious injuries) and 1 nr. Jenin; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. **Palestinians** (sometimes accompanied by Israeli and international activists) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil’in, Ni’lin, and al-Nabi Salih. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, causing no serious injuries. **Jewish settlers** fr. Esh Kodesh settlement nr. Nablus uproot 45 olive trees on nearby Palestinian land. (PCHR 9/15; OCHA 9/16)

After Friday prayers, **1,000s of Egyptian protesters** besiege the **Israeli emb. in Cairo**, tear down the wall recently built outside (see 9/3), scale the building to rip down the flag, gain access to the offices, and throw

documents into the street. Egyptian security forces collect the ambassador, his family, and other staff who are away from the emb. and secure them at the airport for evacuation to Israel. The 6 employees inside the emb. lock themselves in an office and await rescue. Egyptian riot police arrive in 50 APCs and fire tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the protesters, who respond with stones and Molotov cocktails. Heavy clashes continue overnight, with riot police unable to secure the embassy. (WP 9/10; NYT, WP 9/11) (see Quarterly Update for details)

### 10 SEPTEMBER

**IDF** troops on the s. Gaza border fire toward Abasan village, causing no injuries; later fire on and detain 3 Palestinian children (2 age 17, 1 age 14) who crossed the border fence into Israel e. of Khan Yunis in effort to find work, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 1 village nr. Ramallah during the day and in 2 villages nr. Salfit, 1 nr. Jericho, and 1 nr. Ramallah late at night; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Ramallah in the afternoon and nr. Hebron late at night. (PCHR 9/15; OCHA 9/16)

After more than 13 hrs. of heavy clashes (in which 2 Egyptians are killed, some 1,200 are injured, and 19 are arrested), **Egyptian commandos** free the 6 employees trapped in the **Israeli emb. in Cairo**, and **Egyptian riot police** manage to disperse protesters. **Netanyahu** praises **Egypt's** efforts to defend embassy staff and pledges to return Israel's amb. to Cairo soon. (IFM, NYT, WP 9/11; *Politico* [Internet] 9/13) (see Quarterly Update for details)

### 11 SEPTEMBER

**Israeli naval vessels** surround and fire on 2 Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, wounding 2 fishermen, detaining 8, and confiscating the boats; the fishermen are released to Gaza later in the day. Late at night, **IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire 2 **artillery shells** at an open area nr. the border, causing no reported damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 5 villages nr. Qalqilya, 3 nr. Ramallah, and 2 nr.

Salfit during the day; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Fawar r.c. and 2 villages nr. Hebron. (PCHR 9/15; OCHA 9/16)

### 12 SEPTEMBER

**Abbas** briefs **Arab League FMs** in Cairo on the Ross-Hale visit. The FMs say that they strongly prefer that the Palestinians seek observer-state status via the UNGA rather than full member-state status via the UNSC so as to avoid a serious confrontation with the U.S., but that they will support whatever he decides to do. Palestinian chief negotiator **Erakat** says (9/13) that the Palestinians are waiting to hear new proposals being drafted by **EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton** and Quartet envoy **Blair** before deciding. (*Forbes*, REU 9/12; NYT, WT 9/13; NYT 9/14; NYT 9/17; JPI 9/23) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**IDF** troops on the c. Gaza border fire on Juhur al-Dik village, causing damage to a house but no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts synchronized daytime patrols in 2 villages e. of Qalqilya; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** set fire to 2 Palestinian cars and vandalize a Palestinian home in Burqa village nr. Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Karme Tzur nr. Hebron uproot 160 grape arbors on nearby Palestinian land. **Jewish settlers** fr. Gil'ad settlement nr. Qalqilya stone Palestinian cars on the Qalqilya–Nablus road, causing no injuries; the **IDF** intervenes by closing the road to Palestinian traffic for 5 hrs. (PCHR 9/15; OCHA 9/16)

### 13 SEPTEMBER

EU foreign policy chief **Ashton** extends her regional visit through at least 9/15 for more talks with Palestinian, Israeli, U.S., and Arab officials regarding the Palestinian statehood bid at the UN and a possible Quartet statement on reviving talks. (*Independent, Turkish Weekly* [Internet] 9/15) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore.



In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes an auto parts store and a Palestinian **home** under construction nr. Hebron; patrols in 1 village nr. Salfit in the evening; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya. **Jewish settlers** fr. Gil'ad settlement stone Palestinian vehicles on the Nablus–Qalqilya road, injuring 1 Palestinian. One of 2 Palestinians who confessed to the 3/11/11 murder of a Jewish family in Itamar is sentenced to life in prison. **PA police** release on bail **Palestinian journalist George Cantawi** pending his trial in 10/2011; Cantawi was recently arrested and charged with defamation and slander for criticizing medical services in Bethlehem after **PA governor of Bethlehem 'Abd al-Fattah Hamayil** filed the complaint and suit against him. (PCHR 9/15; OCHA 9/16; JPI 9/23)

#### 14 SEPTEMBER

**Ross** and **Hale** return to the region 9/14–15 to meet with Netanyahu and Abbas. They propose that the Palestinians drop their UN bid in exchange for “some attributes of a state” (e.g., getting aid directly from the World Bank, which gives only to states) or for restarting talks based on 1967 lines but without a settlement freeze (already rejected by Abbas as insufficient). Separately, EU foreign policy chief **Ashton** and Quartet special envoy **Blair** suggest that the Palestinians drop their bid in exchange for a Quartet statement outlining a return to peace talks and a UNGA res. endorsing the *idea* of Palestinian statehood without granting the status of a state. Abbas rejects these as too little too late. (NYT 9/14; NYT, WP 9/16)

The **IDF** cuts down 135 olive trees in Dayr Istya village nr. Salfit, saying they were planted on state land; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Bireh (raiding the home of **Hamas-affiliated PC mbr. Fadil Hamdan**, arresting him) and Nablus; conducts late-night patrols in 1 village nr. Jenin. (PCHR 9/15, 9/22; OCHA 9/23)

#### 15 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** patrols in 8 villages during the day and evening (2 each nr. Jenin,

Ramallah, Salfit, and Tulkarm); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in 5 villages (2 each nr. Jenin and Qalqilya, 1 nr. Tulkarm). Unidentified **Jewish settlers** burn 2 Palestinian cars in Bayt Furik village nr. Nablus. **Jewish settlers** fr. Gil'ad settlement burn 150 trees and agricultural land nr. Qalqilya. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ariel settlement nr. Salfit damage a nearby Palestinian olive grove. **Jewish settlers** attempt to place a mobile home on the evacuated Homesh settlement site nr. Jenin, but are removed by the **IDF**. (PCHR 9/22; OCHA 9/23)

#### 16 SEPTEMBER

After meetings with the U.S. and EU envoys and Arab FMs, **Abbas** declares in a televised address that the Palestinians will ask for full member-state status at the UN, not simply observer-state status. Insiders say Abbas was debating which tack to take until he met again with Ross and Hale who offered no incentives and only threats to get him to drop the plan; outraged by the U.S. posturing, he decided to go for full membership. (NYT 9/17) (see Quarterly Update for details)

The **IDF** patrols in 9 villages between morning and late evening (4 nr. Ramallah, 2 nr. Tulkarm, 1 each nr. Jenin, Jericho, and Salfit). A **Hamas mbr.** dies of injuries received in a 1/8/09 IDF drone missile strike on his vehicle in Khan Yunis, during Operation Cast Lead. **Palestinians** (sometimes accompanied by Israeli and international activists) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bayt Umar, Bil'in, Ni'lin, and al-Nabi Salih. **IDF** soldiers beat and fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, moderately injuring 1 Palestinian; 1 Palestinian is arrested and 2 Palestinian journalists are forcibly removed. Armed **Jewish settlers** fr. Esh Kodesh outpost nr. Nablus attempt to swim in a pond on nearby Palestinian land in Qusra-Jaloud village and open fire on villagers who confront them, wounding 1 before the **IDF** intervenes, firing tear gas at the Palestinians to disperse them. (PCHR 9/22; OCHA 9/23)

## 17 SEPTEMBER

**Hundreds of Israeli and Palestinian supporters of the UN statehood bid** hold a peaceful joint rally on their respective sides of the Qalandia crossing. The **IDF** patrols in 1 village nr. Nablus in the morning; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Jenin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Efrat nr. Bethlehem stone a passing Palestinian car, causing serious damage but no injuries. (NYT 9/18; PCHR 9/22; OCHA 9/23)

## 18 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** conducts afternoon patrols in 1 village nr. Qalqilya. **Jewish settlers** fr. Gil'ad settlement nr. Qalqilya set fire to nearby Palestinian agricultural lands, damaging 20 olive trees. (PCHR 9/22; OCHA 9/23)

Meeting with Palestine National Council members in Gaza, **Hamas's acting PM Ismail Haniyeh** says Hamas strongly supports Palestinian statehood and will not stand in the way of Abbas going to the UN, but is upset that Abbas has not coordinated or consulted with Hamas on the process, which Hamas feels violates the spirit of the 5/2011 national reconciliation accord. (NYT 9/19) (see Quarterly Update for details)

## 19 SEPTEMBER

**Netanyahu** announces a last-minute decision to lead the Israeli delegation to the UNGA session. He calls on **Abbas** to restart negotiations with him in New York that would be continued in Jerusalem and Ramallah upon their return, giving no details on the basis for relaunching talks. **Senior Palestinian official Hussam Zumlut** reiterates that the Palestinian leadership is ready to consider any "serious and credible" proposal to resume talks, meaning it must include a settlement freeze and acceptance of the terms of reference of the previous agreements. (HA, WP 9/20)

**Obama** begins a 3-day diplomatic push at the UN in NY, meant to "express our support for a negotiated, two-state solution." (AFP, WP 9/19)

**Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza

coast, forcing them to return to shore and confiscating several nets left behind. A **14-yr.-old Palestinian child** dies of injuries sustained in an 8/19/11 Israeli air strike on Gaza City. In the West Bank, the **IDF** uproots 500 olive, fig, and almond trees in Dayr Istya village nr. Salfit, saying they were planted on state land (see 9/14); patrols in 2 villages nr. Ramallah and 1 nr. Qalqilya in the morning; conducts late-night patrols in 2 villages nr. Jericho and Salfit; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Nur Shams r.c. nr. Tulkarm. **Jewish settlers** attempt to set up tents on the evacuated Homesh settlement site, but are removed by the **IDF**. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar settlement nr. Nablus burn 10s of dunams of Palestinian agricultural land nr. Asira Qibliyya village. (WT 9/21; PCHR 9/22; OCHA 9/23)

The **Israeli emb. in Cairo** reopens after a 10-day shutdown, but the amb. has not returned. (NYT 9/20)

## 20 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** makes a brief incursion into n. Gaza nr. Bayt Lahiya, firing indiscriminately but causing no apparent damage or injuries. **Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 3 villages w. of Ramallah in the evening. The **IDF** imposes a curfew on Kafr Haris village nr. Salfit and escorts 100s of Jewish settlers into the village to pray at a Jewish shrine; settlers vandalize Palestinian homes as they leave. In 2 separate incidents, the **IDF** prevents 10s of **Jewish settlers** protesting against the Palestinian statehood bid fr. entering Palestinian villages—Ya'bad nr. Jenin and Asira Qibliyya nr. Nablus (see 9/19). In the Asira Qibliyya incident, settlers fr. Yitzhar clash with local Palestinians; the **IDF** intervenes, firing tear gas at the Palestinians, hitting a 14-yr.-old Palestinian in the back with a canister, moderately injuring him. Dozens of **Palestinians** march to the Qalandia crossing to Jerusalem, where they rally in support of the Palestinian statehood bid at the UN; they burn tires and throw stones and bottles at IDF soldiers, who

reply with tear gas; a Palestinian teenager is hit in the head with a tear gas canister and moderately injured. (WT 9/21; PCHR 9/22; OCHA 9/23)

## 21 SEPTEMBER

Speaking on the 1st day of the UNGA session, **Obama** rejects the Palestinian statehood bid and gives what some analysts (e.g., WP 9/22) call “his clearest statement of support and sympathy for Israel” and “a retreat from his early ambitions to help broker an enduring peace.” **Obama** and **Clinton** each meet separately with **Abbas** and **Netanyahu** later in the day. Abbas repeats that the statehood bid is not meant to preclude negotiations, and that the Palestinians hope to resume negotiations as soon as possible, with a settlement freeze and agreement on 1967 lines as the basis of talks. Details of talks with Netanyahu are not released. (NYT, WP, WT 9/22; WP 9/23) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**French pres. Nicholas Sarkozy** puts forward a last-minute proposal to avert a crisis at the UN, offering to host immediate Israeli-Palestinian talks with broad international mediation and the goal of reaching a comprehensive final status agreement within 1 year, provided that the Palestinians accept observer-state status at the UN and pledge not to “undertake actions incompatible with the continuation of negotiations.” (NYT, WT 9/22) (see Quarterly Update for details)

As the UNGA session opens in New York, 1,000s of **Palestinians** rally in Ramallah and Nablus in the 1st of 2 big rallies in support of statehood (the other is planned for 9/23). **IDF undercover units** enter Bayt Umar village nr. Hebron at midday, raiding a carpentry workshop and arresting 1 Palestinian. The **IDF** blocks at least **30 armed Jewish settlers** fr. Mevo Dotan settlement nr. Jenin attempting to enter nearby ‘Araba village. (PCHR 9/22; OCHA 9/30)

## 22 SEPTEMBER

**Quartet reps.** work late into the evening to draft a statement outlining a path to resuming Israeli-Palestinian

negotiations. (NYT, WP 9/23) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Tulkarm in the evening and in Birzeit and 5 villages s. of Jenin late at night. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ofra settlement nr. Nablus set fire to 40 dunams (d.; 4 d. = 1 acre) of Palestinian olive and fig trees nearby. (PCHR 9/29; OCHA 9/30)

## 23 SEPTEMBER

**Abbas** addresses the UNGA and officially submits the papers requesting full UN member-state status. UN secy.-gen. Ban Ki-Moon immediately sends the application to the UNSC. Rotating UNSC head, Lebanese amb. Nawaf Salam, says he will distribute it to UNSC mbrs. on 9/26. (NYT, WP, WT 9/24) (see Doc. B1 and Quarterly Update for details)

**Netanyahu** also addresses the UNGA session, calling on Abbas to resume talks immediately in New York, again without giving details on the basis or goal of talks. (WP 9/24)

Within 3 hrs. of Abbas’s speech, the **Quartet** issues a vague statement calling on Israel and the Palestinians to return to talks within a month, with the objective of reaching a final agreement within a year. While Quartet special envoy **Blair** heralds this as “breakthrough,” UN and U.S. officials say the idea is to delay UNSC consideration of the Palestinian application to the UN on the assumption that if talks are “underway and making progress,” the UNSC would put off a vote in hopes that the parties could reach negotiated agreement. (State Dept. press release 9/23; NYT, WP, WT 9/24) (see Doc. A2 and Quarterly Update for details)

In the West Bank, **1,000s of Palestinians** gather in Ramallah’s Clock Tower Square after dark to watch **Abbas’s** UN address televised live and celebrate the application for statehood. Similar rallies are held across the West Bank, but are banned in Gaza by Hamas authorities, who are angry that Abbas did not consult with Hamas over the process. Observers note (e.g., NYT, WP 9/24) that the “festive mood was tempered with resentment at . . . Obama’s

firm stance against the initiative.” One Palestinian on the street states (WP 9/24): “We are choking on the American double standard. America supported the movements for freedom in Egypt, Tunis, Libya and Yemen, but this stops when it comes to the Palestinian people. We are asking, why?” During the day, the regular weekly protest against the separation wall in Bil’in, al-Nabi Salih, and Ni’lin are turned into rallies in support of the UN statehood initiative; in al-Nabi Salih, Palestinian demonstrators burn Israeli flags and posters of Obama. Similar small rallies are held at Qalandia r.c. The **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and percussion grenades at the demonstrators, causing no serious injuries. (NYT, WP 9/24; PCHR 9/29; OCHA 9/30)

Meanwhile, nr. Kiryat Arba settlement in Hebron, a **Palestinian boy** is killed in a hit-and-run by a vehicle with Israeli plates. Later in the day in the same area, a **Jewish settler man and his infant son**, residents of Kiryat Arba, die in a car crash; the **IDF** says it was an accident, but local settlers accuse the army of covering up a murder, claiming that vengeful local Palestinians stoned the vehicle causing it to crash. The **IDF** denies the claims and expresses concern that settlers are attempting to provoke violence on the eve of Abbas’s UN speech. Meanwhile, **unarmed Palestinians** patrolling the outskirts of Qusra village in the n. West Bank (subject of numerous recent attacks by Jewish settlers fr. Esh Kodesh outpost) throw stones at a group of armed **Jewish settlers** that try to enter the village, sparking a clash; the **IDF** intervenes, firing tear gas and live ammunition at the Palestinians, killing **1 Palestinian** and wounding 7. The **IDF** also patrols in 2 villages nr. Ramallah and Salfit in the morning, in Jericho in the afternoon, and in al-Bireh, 2 villages nr. Salfit, and 1 nr. Tulkarm late at night. (NYT, WP 9/24; PCHR 9/29)

#### 24 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** patrols in ‘Ayn al-Sultan r.c. nr. Jericho early in the morning, in 2 villages nr. Qalqilya and 2 nr. Ramallah in the afternoon, and 1 nr. Jenin and 1 nr. Tulkarm late at night. **Jewish**

**settlers** fr. Gil’ad settlement nr. Qalqilya vandalize Palestinian homes in nearby Far’ata village; the **IDF** intervenes, removing the settlers. In response to the 9/23 Palestinian statehood bid at the UN, **Jewish settlers** erect racist banners against Arabs at several crossroads, **IDF** checkpoints, and entrances to Palestinian communities across the West Bank. In Gaza, **2 Palestinians** are killed, 7 are injured when gas canisters they were smuggling through a tunnel on the Rafah border explode. (PCHR 9/29; OCHA 9/30)

#### 25 SEPTEMBER

**Abbas** arrives back in Ramallah to a hero’s welcome. (WP 9/15; NYT 9/26)

The **IDF** conducts late-night patrols in Nur Shams r.c. nr. Tulkarm, an open area nr. Tulkarm, and 2 villages nr. Qalqilya and Ramallah. In revenge for clashes on 9/23, **Jewish settlers** fr. Esh Kodesh outpost uproot a total of 550 Palestinian olive trees from 2 nearby plots. **Jewish settlers** in Hebron beat Palestinians and vandalize Palestinian property in at least 3 separate incidents. (MNA 9/25; PCHR, WP 9/29; OCHA 9/30)

#### 26 SEPTEMBER

In East Jerusalem, **IDF undercover units** raid a protest tent in Shaykh Jarrah neighborhood, arresting **PC mbr. Ahmad ‘Attoun** as he prepared to give a press conference on Israeli land confiscations in the Palestinian neighborhood. The **IDF** conducts afternoon and evening patrols in 3 villages nr. Jenin, Qalqilya, and Salfit; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Salfit. **Israel** releases **al-Jazeera Afghanistan bureau chief Samer Allawi** (see 8/16) after he agrees to a plea deal in which he is fined and sentenced to time served plus 3 years suspended. (NYT 9/28; PCHR, WJW 9/29; OCHA 9/30)

#### 27 SEPTEMBER

**Israel** advances plans to build 1,100 Jewish settlement housing units in Gilo in southern East Jerusalem nr. Bethlehem. The U.S. says it is “deeply

disappointed,” and calls the move “counterproductive” to peace. **Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts synchronized daytime patrols in 2 villages s. of Jenin; conducts separate patrols in 1 village nr. Tulkarm in the morning and 2 nr. Jenin in the evening. **Jewish settlers** erect racist banners against Palestinians along the Tulkarm–Nablus road nr. Einav checkpoint. In Gaza, **2 Palestinians** working in a smuggling tunnel are killed when Egyptian security forces pump in wastewater to seal the tunnel. (NYT, WP, WT 9/28; PCHR, WJW 9/29; OCHA 9/30)

### 28 SEPTEMBER

The **UNSC** refers the Palestinian application for membership to a special comm. (1 diplomat fr. each of the 15 states) for review. The comm. schedules its 1st mtg. for 9/30. If the Palestinians can secure the backing of at least 9 of the 15 UNSC members, the application can proceed via the UNGA even if the U.S. vetoes. At this stage, 6 UNSC mbrs. plan to vote in favor, 5 plan to abstain, 1 (the U.S.) plans to vote against, and 3 are undecided. (NYT 9/29) (see Quarterly Update for details)

In advance of the Jewish New Year, **Jewish settlers** put up banners on roads leading to settlements that say in Hebrew and Arabic “Next year, Israeli sovereignty over Judea and Samaria” and “This is the Land of Israel.” Meanwhile, the **IDF** praises the **PA security forces** for their close coordination to prevent violence surrounding the UNGA session. The **IDF** also confiscates 148 d. of Palestinian agricultural land in Battir village nr. Bethlehem. (PCHR, WP 9/29; OCHA 10/7)

### 29 SEPTEMBER

After meeting with the **PLO Exec. Comm.** in Ramallah, **Abbas** says that the 9/23 **Quartet** proposal for resuming talks has “encouraging elements,” but can only be viable if Israel “clearly commits” to 1967 lines with agreed swaps as the basis of talks and imposes

a settlement freeze (which **Netanyahu** has repeatedly rejected). (WP 9/30) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire a **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, damaging an empty building; the **IDF** responds with 2 late-night **air strikes** on a **Hamas** training site nr. al-Maghazi r.c. in c. Gaza, causing heavy damage but no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 1 village nr. Qalqilya in the afternoon; conducts synchronized late-night patrols in Jenin town and r.c. and 5 nearby villages. The **IDF** also announces plans to confiscate 800 d. of Palestinian land in Bayt Umar for a new settler-only bypass road linking Hebron and Bethlehem. **Jewish settlers** fr. Hebron uproot 50 olive trees and spray paint Stars of David on rocks on Palestinian agricultural land in nearby al-Zahiriyya village. (IDFS 9/30; PCHR 10/6; OCHA 10/7)

### 30 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** carries out an **air strike** on a suspected Palestinian rocket-launching team nr. the n. Gaza border; no rocket fire or injuries are reported. The **IDF** conducts synchronized afternoon patrols in 3 villages n. of Jenin, evening patrols in 1 village nr. Qalqilya, and late-night patrols in 1 village nr. Jenin and 2 nr. Salfit. For a 2d week, the weekly nonviolent demonstrations held by **Palestinian** and international activists in Bil’in, Ni’lin, Kafr Qaddum, and al-Nabi Salih focus on supporting the UN statehood bid. **IDF** soldiers beat and fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, moderately injuring 1 Palestinian. **Jewish settlers** fr. Anatot settlement nr. East Jerusalem attack and beat a group of activists that come to visit the protest tent of a Palestinian family whose land was confiscated to expand the settlement, seriously injuring 3 people; **Israeli border police** observe but do not intervene. (IDFS 10/1; PCHR 10/6; OCHA 10/7)

### 1 OCTOBER

In an apparent assassination attempt, the **IDF** conducts a drone missile strike

on a Palestinian home in Bayt Hanun in n. Gaza, where **IQB** mbrs. are meeting, seriously wounding 2 **IQB** mbrs. and lightly injuring a bystander; Israel claims the **IQB** mbrs. were tied to Hamas's rocket program. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts daytime patrols in 2 villages nr. Ramallah; conducts synchronized late-night patrols in 4 villages nr. Jenin; conducts other evening and late-night patrols in Jericho, 2 villages nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Qalqilya. **Jewish settlers** fr. Sham'a settlement nr. Hebron threaten several Palestinian shepherds and seize 150 of their sheep. **Jewish settlers** fr. Halamish settlement nr. Ramallah set fire to a nearby Palestinian olive grove, burning 50 trees. (PCHR 10/6; OCHA 10/7)

## 2 OCTOBER

Israel welcomes the 9/23 **Quartet** initiative to restart talks "without preconditions." It calls the Palestinian demands (see 9/29) for agreed baselines proof that the Palestinians are not serious about peace, whereas "while Israel has some concerns, it will raise them at the appropriate time." (NYT, WP 10/3)

The **IDF** conducts synchronized daytime patrols in 4 villages nr. Ramallah; patrols in Bil'in in the afternoon and Birzeit late evening (both are nr. Ramallah). In Gaza, **1 Palestinian** is fatally electrocuted in a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border. (PCHR 10/6; OCHA 10/7)

## 3 OCTOBER

Inside Israel, **Jewish extremists** set fire to a mosque in the Israeli Palestinian village of Tuba-Zangaria and scrawl graffiti reading "price tag," "revenge," and "Palmer" (in reference to Asher Palmer, the Jewish settler killed in a traffic accident that Jewish settlers claimed was caused by stone-throwing Palestinians; see 9/23). Some **200 angry Palestinian residents** march toward a neighboring Jewish town but are blocked by Israeli police who fire tear gas to disperse them; protesters set fire to tires and throw stones at police in response; no serious injuries are reported. **Netanyahu** denounces the arson, and

Israeli pres. **Peres** and **Israel's 2 chief rabbis** visit the mosque in a show of solidarity with the village. **IDF** troops on the c. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in a landfill nr. the border, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** razes at least 5 d. of Palestinian agricultural land and uproots at least 95 olive and oak trees for construction of an **IDF** access road in preparation for construction of a new segment of the separation wall in al-Walaja; patrols in Tulkarm and 1 village nr. Ramallah in the morning, in 1 village nr. Jericho in the afternoon, and inside Jericho late at night; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. (NYT, WP 10/4; PCHR 10/6; OCHA 10/7; PCHR 10/27)

## 4 OCTOBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 **Grad rockets** toward Israel; 1 lands inside Gaza and the other in Israel, neither causing damage or injuries. The **IDF** makes a day-long incursion into s. Gaza to level land and clear lines of sight along the border fence e. of al-Qarara and Khan Yunis; helicopters escorting the troops occasionally fire on the surrounding area to keep Palestinians indoors, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** levels 15 d. of Palestinian agriculture land along the separation wall n. of Hebron, including uprooting and confiscating 600 trees, destroying irrigation infrastructure, bulldozing several storehouses and a tent, and confiscating 2 mobile storage structures and 2 generators; bulldozes 3 agricultural storehouses, 5 tents, and several wells in Kafr al-Dik village nr. Salfit. (YA 10/4; PCHR 10/6; OCHA 10/7)

## 5 OCTOBER

**Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. **A Palestinian** dies of injuries he sustained in a 9/24/11 accident in a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border. The **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Jerusalem and Hebron. (PCHR 10/6, 10/13; OCHA 10/14)

**6 OCTOBER**

The **IDF** makes a day-long incursion into n. Gaza to level land and clear lines of sight along the border fence nr. Bayt Lahiya. In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes a **Palestinian home** and well northwest of Hebron before an Israeli court hears the appeal filed by the owner contesting the demolition orders; bulldozes another 12-d. area of Palestinian agriculture land northwest of Hebron, uprooting and confiscating at least 250 olive and almond trees; patrols in Tulkarm in the morning, in 2 villages nr. Jenin and Tulkarm in the afternoon, and 4 villages nr. Qalqilya and 1 nr. Tulkarm late at night. **Jewish settlers** fr. Esh Kodesh nr. Nablus uproot at least 210 olive and fig trees fr. nearby Palestinian land. **Jewish settlers** fr. Gil'ad settlement nr. Qalqilya chase Palestinians harvesting a nearby olive grove; the **IDF** intervenes to remove the settlers. **Israeli police** arrest an **18-yr.-old rabbinical student** tied to a radical Jewish settler group in connection with the 10/3 Tuba-Zangaria mosque arson. A **Palestinian** hospitalized since being wounded in an Israeli air strike on Khan Yunis on 5/13/03 dies of his injuries. (WP 10/7; PCHR 10/13; OCHA 10/14)

**7 OCTOBER**

**Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 1 village nr. Tulkarm in the morning and in 2 villages nr. Jenin and 1 nr. Qalqilya late at night; conducts afternoon arrest raids nr. Bethlehem. The weekly demonstrations by **Palestinians** and international activists in Bil'in and Bayt Umar express solidarity with Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails on a hunger strike for better conditions, in Bil'in calling specifically for the release of Fatah's Marwan Barghouti and the PFLP's Ahmad Sa'adat. In Ni'lin and al-Nabi Salih, **Palestinians** and international activists rally in support of the Palestinian statehood bid at the UN. In all 4 cases, **IDF** soldiers beat and fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun

grenades at the protesters, injuring 1 British activist and arresting 1 Palestinian, both in Bayt Umar. (PCHR 10/13; OCHA 10/14)

**8 OCTOBER**

In 3 separate incidents, **IDF troops** on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinian farmers working fields nr. the border fence, forcing them to flee but causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Qalqilya in the morning, barring farmers in 1 village fr. harvesting olives; raids a home in open area e. of Qalqilya in the morning in search of 2 wanted Palestinians who are not home, detaining and questioning 4 family members (including 2 children ages 9 and 11) for 5 hrs.; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Nablus. (PCHR 10/13; OCHA 10/14)

**9 OCTOBER**

In 2 separate incidents, **IDF troops** on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinian farmers working fields nr. the border fence, forcing them to flee but causing no injuries. **Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the c. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** bars Palestinian farmers fr. reclaiming a plot of agricultural land northwest of Hebron, confiscating a bulldozer; the **Dutch government** had funded the project by the Agricultural Development Association to develop the land. The **IDF** also conducts 2 sets of synchronized patrols in 2 villages nr. Tulkarm in the afternoon and in 3 villages e. of Qalqilya in the evening; conducts late-night patrols in w villages nr. Jenin and Qalqilya. (PCHR 10/13; OCHA 10/14)

**10 OCTOBER**

The **IDF** makes a brief incursion into s. Gaza to level land and clear lines of sight along the border e. of al-Qarara. **IDF troops** on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinian farmers working their land nr. the border fence, forcing them to flee but causing no injuries. **Israeli naval vessels** fire on

Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes a **Palestinian house** under construction nr. Bethlehem; patrols in Tulkarm in the morning; patrols in 2 villages nr. Qalqilya in the afternoon; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron (including in al-'Arrub r.c.), Jenin, and Qalqilya (arresting 4 Palestinian children ages 15–17). In 2 separate incidents, **Jewish settlers** fr. Karnei Shomron nr. Qalqilya chase off Palestinians harvesting olives nearby; the **IDF** intervenes both times, removing the settlers but barring the Palestinians fr. resuming the harvest. (PCHR 10/13; OCHA 10/14)

### 11 OCTOBER

**Israel** announces it has signed a prisoner swap agreement in Cairo with **Hamas**, which agreed to free **IDF soldier Gilad Shalit** (captured on the Gaza border in 6/2006). In return, Israel will release around 1,027 Palestinian prisoners in 2 stages: the 1st 450 Palestinians would be exchanged for Shalit within a wk.; the remaining 550 or so Palestinians would be freed within 2 mos. In Gaza, 1,000s pour into the streets to celebrate. (NYT, WP, WT 10/12; NYT, WP 10/13; NYT 10/17, 11/6) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire a **Qassam rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, **IDF troops** in Hebron violently beat a group of Palestinian children and teachers who refuse new IDF demands to submit to searches before crossing a permanent checkpoint in al-Shuhada Street to reach the **Cordoba Elementary School**, moderately injuring 7 children (ages 10–15). The **IDF** also demolishes a newly constructed mosque in Khirbat Yazra nr. Tubas; demolishes 2 **Palestinian homes** and an animal pen belonging to a bedouin family outside Qalqilya; conducts synchronized late-night patrols in 2 villages nr. Qalqilya. (YA 10/11; PCHR 10/13; OCHA 10/14)

### 12 OCTOBER

In Hebron, **Palestinians** protesting the treatment of Palestinian prisoners in

Israeli jails throw stones at **IDF troops**, who respond with rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and percussion grenades; during the mêlée **Israeli undercover units** grab and beat a Palestinian teenager, shooting and wounding him with live ammunition as he attempts to flee. The **IDF** also conducts late-night arrest raids in and around Hebron, in Tulkarm and nearby Nur Shams r.c., and nr. Jenin. (PCHR 10/13, 10/20; OCHA 10/21)

### 13 OCTOBER

The **IDF** levels 30 d. of Palestinian agriculture land nr. Salfit for the expansion of a settlement outpost, moving 4 mobile homes onto the site; conducts 2 sets of synchronized late-night patrols in 8 villages southwest of Jenin and 3 northeast of Jenin, without searching homes or making arrests. **Jewish settlers** in Hebron attack and vandalize the **Cordoba Elementary School** (see 10/11) while classes are in session, violently beating teachers who bar them fr. entering the school; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. (PCHR 10/20; OCHA 10/21)

### 14 OCTOBER

**Israel** approves formal plans to build an entirely new 2,610-unit Jewish settlement, Givat Hamatos, in southern East Jerusalem with the aim of completely dividing Jerusalem from Bethlehem (see Quarterly Update for details). The **IDF** conducts synchronized afternoon patrols in the same 2 villages northeast of Jenin they patrolled on 10/13, synchronized late-night patrols in 6 villages btwn. Jenin and Tulkarm, and separate late-night patrols in Jenin (shooting in the air to intimidate residents). The weekly demonstrations by **Palestinians** and international activists in Bil'in express solidarity with Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails, calling for the release of Fatah's Barghouti and the PFLP's Sa'adat. In Ni'lin and al-Nabi Salih, **Palestinians** and international activists rally in support of the Palestinian statehood bid at the UN. In all 4 cases, **IDF** soldiers beat and fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, but no



significant injuries are reported. **Jewish settlers** fr. Gil'ad settlement nr. Qalqilya escorted by **IDF troops** stop a Palestinian family fr. harvesting olives on their land, saying they had exceeded the time allocated by the IDF for the harvesting. (NYT 10/15; PCHR, WJW 10/20; OCHA 10/21; PCHR 10/27; WJW 11/6)

### 15 OCTOBER

The **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Salfit and Tulkarm in the afternoon; patrols in Tulkarm and nearby Dayr al-Ghusun village, 2 villages nr. Jenin, and 1 nr. Qalqilya late at night; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Nablus. (PCHR 10/20; OCHA 10/21)

### 16 OCTOBER

**Palestinians** rally in solidarity with prisoners in Israeli jails, and clash with the **IDF** at a demonstration outside Ofer military prison nr. Ramallah; no serious injuries are reported. Palestinian students and teachers fr. **Cordoba Elementary School** in Hebron hold a sit-in at an IDF checkpoint on al-Shuhada Street to protest new IDF demands that they submit to searches before proceeding to the school (see 10/13); the IDF fires tear gas and beats the protesters to disperse them, lightly injuring 3 children. The **IDF** conducts predawn patrols in Qalqilya and 1 village nr. Tulkarm; patrols in 1 village nr. Qalqilya in the afternoon; conducts late-night patrols in open areas e. of Qalqilya, in Jenin, and in nearby Burqin village. (WP 10/17; PCHR 10/20; OCHA 10/21)

### 17 OCTOBER

The **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Tulkarm in the morning (setting up a flying checkpoint and randomly checking Palestinian IDs in 1 village); raids a car repair shop in Barta'a village nr. Jenin in the afternoon, confiscating 10s of cars with Israeli license plates; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron. (PCHR 10/20; OCHA 10/21)

### 18 OCTOBER

**Israel** and **Hamas** implement the 1st stage of their prisoner swap,

exchanging **IDF Cpl. Shalit** for **477 Palestinian prisoners** (see Quarterly Update for details). In the West Bank, crowds welcoming the returning prisoners wave Hamas flags. (IFM 10/18; NYT, WP, WT 10/19; OCHA 10/21; JPI 11/4)

The **IDF** patrols in 1 village nr. Jenin in the afternoon. (PCHR 10/20; OCHA 10/21)

### 19 OCTOBER

The **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron. **Jewish settlers** attack Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Salfit, stealing their olives and tools and driving them away. (PCHR 10/20, 10/27; OCHA 10/28)

### 20 OCTOBER

The **IDF** patrols in Tulkarm, 2 villages nr. Ramallah, 1 nr. Qalqilya, 1 nr. Tulkarm during the day; conducts late-night patrols in Jericho, Tulkarm, and Bayt Liqya nr. Ramallah (where stone-throwing Palestinians confront IDF troops, who respond with tear gas, rubber-coated steel bullets, and percussion grenades, causing no serious injuries). (PCHR 10/27; OCHA 10/28)

**Libyan leader Mu'ammur Qaddafi** is captured and killed by rebels in Sirte, after a NATO attack in which U.S. drones and French warplanes bomb his convoy. Qaddafi's son Mutassim and his army chief of staff are also killed. Rebels secure Sirte by the end of the day. (JAZ 10/20; NYT, WP, WT 10/21) (see Quarterly Update for details)

### 21 OCTOBER

The **IDF** conducts morning patrols in 2 villages nr. Ramallah and 2 nr. Tulkarm, and late-night patrols in Birzeit nr. Ramallah. The weekly demonstrations by **Palestinians** and international activists in Bil'in for a 3d week express solidarity with Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails, calling specifically for the release of Fatah's Barghouti and the PFLP's Sa'adat. In Ni'lin, **Palestinians** and international activists rally in support of the Palestinian statehood bid at the UN. Demonstrations in Kafr Qaddum protest Israeli land seizures.

In all 3 cases, **IDF** soldiers beat and fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, but no significant injuries are reported; 1 Palestinian is arrested in Bil'in. **Jewish settlers** fr. Esh Kodesh (armed with stones, sharp tools, sticks, and a machine gun) attack and drive off Palestinian farmers and international activists harvesting olives nearby, seriously beating 2 Palestinians (no shots are fired); the **IDF** intervenes, forcing everyone to leave the area. **Jewish settlers** escorted by **IDF** troops expel Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Kafr Qaddum, saying local Palestinians are barred fr. harvesting until they cease their weekly demonstrations against Israeli land seizures. (PCHR 10/27; OCHA 10/28)

#### 22 OCTOBER

The **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Ramallah in the morning; conducts late-night house searches nr. Salfit, summoning 1 Palestinian for questioning. **Palestinians** and international activists in Bayt Umar protest against Israeli land seizures; the **IDF** fires tear gas and percussion grenades to disperse them, causing no serious injuries. **Jewish settlers** fr. Revava settlement nr. Salfit attack Palestinians harvesting olives nearby. (PCHR 10/27; OCHA 10/28)

#### 23 OCTOBER

**IDF troops** on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the former Erez industrial zone, forcing them to flee. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts early morning patrols in and around Tulkarm, midmorning patrols in 3 villages nr. Ramallah, afternoon patrols in Tulkarm town and r.c. (where stone-throwing Palestinians confront the troops, who respond with tear gas and percussion grenades, causing no injuries), and late-night patrols in al-Bireh, Salfit, and 2 villages nr. Jenin and Ramallah; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Salfit. In East Jerusalem, **Israeli forces** raid the offices of the al-Quds Development Association in Dahiyat al-Barid, arresting the director and then raiding his home; later raid

the al-Iman School in Bayt Hanina, arresting a teacher and then raiding his home. (PCHR 10/27; OCHA 10/28)

In **Libya**, rebel forces secure control of most of the country. The rebel-led Transitional National Council declares liberation and announces plans to form an interim government as Libyans celebrate nationwide. (WP 10/23, 10/24)

#### 24 OCTOBER

**Egypt** announces that it has reached a deal with **Israel** to release suspected spy for Israel **Ilan Grapel** in exchange for 25 Egyptians jailed in Israel for non-security-related offenses. (NYT, WP 10/25) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**IDF troops** on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the former Erez industrial zone, forcing them to flee. A **Palestinian** is killed when a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border collapses. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols twice in Tulkarm, as well as in 3 villages nr. Jenin, 2 nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Jericho; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Salfit. (PCHR 10/27; OCHA 10/28)

#### 25 OCTOBER

During the day, the **IDF** conducts intensive patrols in Jenin, Tulkarm, and 10 villages between the 2 cities, making no house raids or arrests. In the evening, the **IDF** reenters Jenin, searching a number of homes and arresting 1 teenager; patrols in 2 villages nr. Jericho, 2 nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Qalqilya. In East Jerusalem, **Israeli forces** raid and seal 3 offices of the al-Quds Development Association (see 10/23), accusing the group of having ties to Hamas and the PLFP; the association protests, noting that it is licensed to operate by the Israeli government. (PCHR 10/27; OCHA 10/28)

#### 26 OCTOBER

**Quartet reps.** hold separate talks with Palestinian and Israeli officials to urge the sides to resume direct talks, but report no progress. (WP 10/27) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 1 **Grad rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. Late in the evening, the **IDF** retaliates with 6 **air strikes** on Gaza, destroying an agricultural storehouse in Wadi al-Silqa in c. Gaza (also damaging 5 homes) and 3 storage sheds in Khan Yunis, and hitting a Hamas training site in Dayr al-Balah in c. Gaza; no injuries are reported. **Israeli naval vessels** intercept and confiscate a Palestinian fishing boat off the c. Gaza coast, arresting 2 fishermen. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night patrols in 1 village nr. Ramallah. (IDFS, PCHR, YA 10/27; PCHR 11/3; OCHA 11/4)

## 27 OCTOBER

**Israel** frees 25 Egyptian prisoners at the Taba border crossing with **Egypt**. Hrs. later, **Egypt** flies **Grapel** to Ben-Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv. Grapel is expected to return home to the U.S. on 10/28. (NYT, WP, WT 10/28; JPI 11/4)

**IDF troops** on the s. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinian shepherds grazing animals nr. the abandoned Dahaniyya airport site, wounding 1. **Israeli naval vessels** fire on a Palestinian fishing boat off the Gaza coast (exact location not reported), forcing it to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Jenin and 2 nearby villages, 3 villages nr. Ramallah, and 3 nr. Qalqilya during the day; patrols in Birzeit, Jericho, and 2 villages nr. Qalqilya and Tulkarm late at night. (PCHR 11/3; OCHA 11/4)

## 28 OCTOBER

In a rare interview with Israeli TV, **Abbas** states, "It was our mistake. . . . It was an Arab mistake as a whole" to reject the 1947 UN partition plan to divide historic Palestine into a Jewish and a Palestinian state. (NYT 10/29)

The **IDF** conducts daytime patrols in Tulkarm and 1 nearby village, Dura nr. Hebron (firing percussion grenades and unleashing attack dogs to chase off stone-throwing youths; 1 dog attacks a man outside his home, moderately injuring him), 2 villages nr. Jenin, and 1 nr. Ramallah; conducts late-night

patrols in Beitunia nr. Ramallah. The weekly demonstrations by **Palestinians** and international activists in Bil'in for a 4th week express solidarity with Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails, calling for the release of Fatah's Barghouti and the PFLP's Sa'adat. In al-Nabi Salih and Ni'lin, **Palestinians** and international activists rally in support of the Palestinian statehood bid at the UN. Demonstrations by Palestinians in Kafr Qaddum protest Israeli land seizures. In all 4 cases, **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, injuring 1 Palestinian in Bil'in. (PCHR 11/3; OCHA 11/4)

## 29 OCTOBER

During the day, the **IDF** carries out 3 **air strikes** on an Islamic Jihad training camp in s. Gaza, killing 5 **Islamic Jihad mbrs.** allegedly responsible for the rocket fire on 10/26 (including field cmdr. Ahmad Shaykh Khalil) and wounding 3. Over the course of the day, **Islamic Jihad** responds with a volley of at least 24 **rockets** and **mortars** on s. Israel; at least 1 Grad strikes Ashqelon, killing 1 **Israeli** and wounding 2. Late at night, the **IDF** carries out another 9 **air strikes** on 8 Islamic Jihad targets in Gaza City, Bayt Hanun in n. Gaza, Dayr al-Balah in c. Gaza, and Khan Yunis and Rafah in s. Gaza, killing another 4 **Islamic Jihad mbrs.** and wounding at least 1 Islamic Jihad mbr. and 2 bystanders. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Tulkarm, 2 villages nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Qalqilya in the afternoon; conducts late-night patrols in Jericho, 2 villages nr. Jenin, and 2 nr. Tulkarm. (YA 10/29; NYT, WP 10/30; PCHR 11/3; OCHA 11/4; JPI 11/11)

## 30 OCTOBER

In the afternoon, the **IDF** carries out an **air strike** on a rocket-launching team in s. Gaza, killing 1 **DFLP mbr.** and seriously wounding another. By nightfall, **Egypt** announces it has secured pledges fr. the Palestinian factions to a reimpose the cease-fire. **Netanyahu** publicly states that "there is no cease-fire," vowing to attack if

Israel perceives a threat; **Islamic Jihad** says it reserves the right to respond if attacked. Late at night, the **IDF** carries out 3 air strikes targeting mbrs. of the armed wing of the Salafist al-Ahrar Movement nr. Khan Yunis, killing 2 al-Ahrar mbrs., and fires 2 drone missiles at another group of armed Palestinians in Jabaliya in n. Gaza, causing no reported injuries. There is no immediate Palestinian retaliation. In the West Bank, the **IDF** daytime patrols in Tulkarm town and r.c., 3 villages nr. Ramallah, 2 nr. Salfit, and 1 each nr. Jenin and Jericho; conducts late-night patrols in Jericho, Salfit (summoning 1 Palestinian for questioning), Tulkarm, and 4 villages nr. Qalqilya (summoning 2 Palestinians for questioning). (AHR, IDFS 10/30; IDF, NYT 10/31; PCHR 11/3; OCHA 11/4)

### 31 OCTOBER

**Bosnia**, a rotating **UNSC** mbr., announces that it will abstain from the vote on the Palestinian membership in the UN, making it impossible for the Palestinians to secure the 9 votes needed to approve the application, making a U.S. veto unnecessary. The lack of 9 supporting votes also means the Palestinians cannot ask the UNGA to consider the measure under the Uniting for Peace res. (res. 377). (NYT 11/1) (Quarterly Update for details)

**UNESCO's** general conference votes (107-14, with 52 abstentions and 20 not present) to approve Palestine's full membership. The **U.S.**, **Israel**, and **Canada** immediately announce they are cutting off funding to the organization. (CNN, HA 10/31; NYT, WT 11/1) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 5 rockets fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. **Israel** prepares to launch a major attack on Gaza in response, but **Egypt** intervenes, saying intelligence indicates it was a small Salafist group that fired the rockets, not Hamas or Islamic Jihad, and asking Israel to wait 24 hrs. before responding to see if the cease-fire will take hold. The **IDF** demolishes 3 Palestinian homes in al-Khan al-Ahmar in East Jerusalem; patrols in Tulkarm, 1 nearby village, and 1 village nr. Jenin in the morning;

conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Jenin and 1 nearby village; conducts late-night patrols in 3 villages nr. Jenin, Qalqilya, and Tulkarm. **Jewish settlers** fr. Migron settlement nr. Ramallah stone an elderly Palestinian woman harvesting olives on her property, moderately injuring her. (IDFS, JP, REU 10/31; HA 11/2; PCHR 11/3; OCHA 11/4; JPI 11/11)

### 1 NOVEMBER

Retaliating for the 10/31 UNESCO vote, **Netanyahu** suspends the transfer of VAT taxes Israel collects on the **PA's** behalf and orders accelerated construction of 2,000 settlement housing units in East Jerusalem's Har Homa settlement and the nearby West Bank settlements Efrat and Ma'ale Adumim, calling it Israel's "right and obligation" to build in Jerusalem. Meanwhile, Palestinian IP addresses and Palestinian phone networks in the West Bank and Gaza come under "multiple attacks" by computer hackers originating from many countries; the **PA** says the attacks appeared linked to the UNESCO vote and it believes they were "organized by a state" [i.e., Israel]. (HA, NYT, WP 11/2)

The **IDF** drops flyers over Khan Yunis warning residents to stay away fr. the 300-m. no-go zone. **IDF troops** manning the observation towers on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians and international activists marching toward the border to protest Israel's imposition of a no-go zone; no casualties are reported. In the evening, **unidentified Palestinians** fire a rocket fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma' r.c. nr. Nablus and nr. Jenin; conducts late-night patrols in Jenin. The **Israeli Comm. against House Demolitions (ICHAD)** submits a report to the UN special rapporteurs on Palestine that concludes that Israeli policies in East Jerusalem (e.g., restricting building permits, demolitions, revoking permanent residency status) are forcing Palestinians to flee in what may constitute a war crime. In the West Bank, the **IDF** rearrests **senior Hamas official Hassan Yousef** in Ramallah for having links to

a “terrorist” organization; Yousef was 1st arrested in 2005, was released on 8/4/11 as part of a mass release to ease prison overcrowding. (JP 11/1; PCHR 11/3; OCHA 11/4)

## 2 NOVEMBER

The **IDF** makes a brief, pre-dawn incursion into c. Gaza e. of Wadi al-Silqa to level land and clear lines of sight along the border fence. **IDF troops** on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the fmr. Erez industrial zone, forcing them to flee. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin. (PCHR 11/3, 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

## 3 NOVEMBER

**IDF troops** make a brief incursion into n. Gaza nr. Bayt Lahiya for unknown reasons and are engaged by a **Hamas border patrol unit**, causing no initial casualties; the **IDF** troops call in artillery fire, directing at least 4 shells at the surrounding area (forcing local farmers to flee, injuring 2 civilians, and damaging a civilian vehicle), and deploy drones and helicopters to chase and fire missiles at Hamas mbrs., firing at least 3 missiles that kill **2 IQB mbrs.** and cause some collateral damage. In the West Bank, the **IDF** takes down several electricity poles supplying bedouin encampments nr. Havat Maon unauthorized settlement outpost nr. Hebron, stating that no permit was obtained to expand electricity services; patrols in Tulkarm in the morning and 1 village nr. Ramallah late at night. (PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

## 4 NOVEMBER

The **Israeli navy** halts and boards 2 boats (sailing as the “**Freedom Waves Flotilla**”) carrying 27 international activists and journalists (fr. Ireland, Canada, the U.S., and Australia) attempting to run the Gaza blockade, taking them from international waters off the Gaza coast to Ashdod, where the boats are confiscated and the activists detained; an organizer on 1 boat is tasered by a

soldier when he resists orders to leave his cabin and join the other activists being rounded up. **Unidentified Palestinians** fire a **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Jericho and 2 villages nr. Ramallah in the morning, and in Tulkarm and 1 village nr. Jericho late at night. The weekly demonstrations by **Palestinians** and international activists in Bil’in and al-Nabi Salih support the Palestinian statehood bid at the UN and oppose Israeli occupation and land seizures. Palestinians and international activists demonstrating in Ni’lin express solidarity with Palestinian prisoners and call for national reconciliation. In all 3 cases, **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, causing no serious injuries; 1 Palestinian in al-Nabi Salih is arrested. (NYT, REU, WP 11/5; Democracy Now 11/8; PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

## 5 NOVEMBER

The **IDF** makes 3 **air strikes** on a site nr. Khan Yunis, killing **1 Islamic Jihad mbr.**, and wounding at least 2. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Jericho and Ramallah in the morning. (HA, REU, VOA 11/5; PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

## 6 NOVEMBER

In retaliation for the Israeli air strikes on 11/5, **unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 rockets fr. Gaza into Israel, injuring a Thai laborer. On the 1st day of *‘Id al-Adba*, **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar settlement nr. Nablus uproot 25 olive trees on nearby Palestinian land, spray painting on the branches “Happy *‘Id*” and “revenge.” (HA, YA 11/6; PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

## 7 NOVEMBER

**IDF troops** on the Gaza border fire on residential areas of al-Qarara in s. Gaza (forcing residents to stay inside but causing no injuries) and fire several artillery shells at a farm nearly 1 km. fr. the border e. of Gaza City, moderately wounding 2 Palestinians working

their land. In the West Bank, the IDF, responding to a complaint from **Jewish settlers** fr. Daniel settlement nr. Bethlehem, arrests 3 Palestinian farmers working a plot of land in nearby Artas village, charging them with being “present on a piece of land that is the subject of dispute between the Palestinians and settlers” and fining them \$400 each; patrols in 2 village nr. Jenin, in 1 case firing rubber-coated steel bullets and stun grenades at stone-throwing youths who confront them, causing no serious injuries. (PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

### 8 NOVEMBER

The **UNSC comm.** reviewing the Palestinian membership request issues its final report, stating that mbrs. are deadlocked and unable to reach consensus and therefore cannot make a recommendation, leaving the statehood application effectively dead. France urges the Palestinians to ask the UNGA to upgrade its status to the lesser observer-state status, but the Palestinians have not decided what to do next. (NYT, WP 11/9; WT 11/10) (see Quarterly Update for details)

The **IDF** carries out 2 late-night **air strikes**, destroying a greenhouse in the former Jewish settlements n. of Khan Yunis, causing no reported injuries. The **IDF** patrols in Jericho, neighboring ‘Ayn al-Sultan r.c., and 2 villages nr. Ramallah in the morning; conducts late-night patrols in Jenin town (firing percussion grenades to intimidate residents) and r.c. (firing rubber-coated steel bullets, stun grenades at stone-throwing youths who confront them, causing no injuries), synchronizing these with arrest raids, house searches in 1 village nearby. (PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

### 9 NOVEMBER

Obama Middle East adviser **Ross** announces at a lunch with Jewish leaders that he will resign effective 12/2011 to return to work at the pro-Israel **Washington Institute for Near East Policy**. Sources say his decision reflects “the diminishing chances for a breakthrough in either Iran or the Arab-Israeli peace process” before the 2012 presidential elections. (NYT, WP 11/10)

In retaliation for Israeli air strikes on 11/8, **unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. **Israeli naval vessels** detain a Palestinian fishing boat off the c. Gaza coast, confiscating the boat, detaining 1 man who is a mbr. of the Palestinian naval police, questioning and releasing 2 others. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts afternoon patrols in 1 village nr. Jericho and 2 nr. Ramallah (firing rubber-coated steel bullets, stun grenades, and tear gas at stone-throwing youths in 1 case, causing no serious injuries); patrols in Tulkarm late at night; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. (XIN 11/9; PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

### 10 NOVEMBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 1 **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries; in response the **IDF** carries out an **air strike** on a Hamas training post in Khan Yunis, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** confiscates 4 d. of Palestinian agriculture land nr. Hebron for expansion of a settlers-only bypass road; raids a house in Hebron, firing stun grenades and live ammunition, wounding and arresting 1 Palestinian; searches several abandoned houses and photographs an old mosque in Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; conducts 3 synchronized morning patrols in 2 villages nr. Ramallah, 2 villages nr. Tulkarm, and 3 nr. Jenin; conducts other morning patrols in 1 village nr. Salfit and late-night patrols in 2 villages nr. Qalqilya, 2 nr. Ramallah, and 1 nr. Salfit. **Jewish settlers** in Hebron set fire to 3 Palestinian vehicles. (PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

### 11 NOVEMBER

The **IDF** patrols in Tulkarm and 2 villages nr. Jericho and Ramallah in the morning; conducts 2 sets of synchronized late-night patrols in Tulkarm and 4 villages to the north, and in 6 villages west of Jenin; conducts other late-night patrols in Qalqilya. The weekly demonstrations by **Palestinians** and international activists in Bil’in, Ni’lin,

and al-Nabi Salih support the Palestinian statehood bid at the UN, call for national reconciliation, and oppose Israeli occupation and land seizures. Palestinians and international activists in Kafr Qaddum denounce Israeli land seizures. In all 4 cases, **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters, injuring 2 Palestinians in al-Nabi Salih; 1 Palestinian in al-Nabi Salih is arrested. (PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

### 12 NOVEMBER

**IDF troops** on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinian farmers working their land nr. the border fence, forcing them to flee. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts daytime patrols in Tulkarm, 2 villages nr. Jenin, and 1 nr. Ramallah; conducts late-night patrols in 1 village nr. Qalqilya; conducts other late-night arrest raids nr. Hebron. The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids on the homes (in al-Nabi Salih and 2 nr. Ramallah) of **3 Palestinians released in the Shalit prisoner swap**, summoning them for questioning. (PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

### 13 NOVEMBER

During the day, the **IDF** raids and searches the home nr. Qalqilya of a **Palestinian released in the Shalit prisoner swap** and deported to Gaza, making no arrests. Late at night, the **IDF** raids the homes of another **13 Palestinians released in the prisoner swap** and allowed to return to the West Bank (3 in Qalqilya, 2 in Balata r.c. nr. Nablus, 7 in villages nr. Salfit, 1 in a village nr. Jenin), summoning them to appear for questioning; the fmr. prisoner fr. Jenin is given a map of the district delineating boundaries past which he cannot go and a warning not to engage in any security activity. The **IDF** also begins bulldozing Palestinian agriculture land in 'Azun 'Atma village nr. Qalqilya for construction of a "security fence" around Oranit settlement (residents estimate that 40 farmers will be affected); conducts late-night patrols in another 3 villages nr. Salfit, and 2 nr. Tulkarm; conducts additional arrest

raids, house searches in Balata r.c., Salfit. (PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

### 14 NOVEMBER

Over the objections of Israeli DMin. officials, the **Israeli cabinet** affirms the government's decision to withhold \$100 m. in VAT taxes owed the PA. The DMin. has warned that withholding the PA's money could undermine the PA's stability and West Bank security. Meanwhile, overnight, **unidentified Palestinians** fire a rocket fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In retaliation, the **IDF** carries out 4 late-night **air strikes** on the main Palestinian naval police post in Bayt Lahiya, killing **1 Hamas-affiliated naval police officer**, wounding 7 officers and 5 civilians in houses nearby (including the French consul, his wife, and a pregnant woman, who miscarries). In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Tulkarm 3 times during the day; conducts synchronized patrols in 2 villages e. of Qalqilya in the morning; conducts late-night patrols in 2 villages nr. Jenin and Qalqilya; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Ramallah. (YA 11/14; WP 11/15; PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

### 15 NOVEMBER

During a regular security briefing to the Knesset, **IDF chief of staff Lt. Gen. Benny Gantz** says that Israel may need to strike Gaza if rocket fire continues, stating that Israel would initiate an operation before it would allow itself to be "dragged into" one. Later in the day, **unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, damaging an empty kindergarten but causing no injuries. Late at night, the **IDF** carries out 2 **air strikes** (warplane and drone) targeting a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border and a group of armed Palestinians nr. Jabaliya, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes 4 **Palestinian homes** n. of Jericho; patrols in al-Bireh and 3 villages nr. Ramallah during the day; conducts late-night house searches nr. Nablus, confiscating computers but making no arrests. Taking inspiration from the U.S. civil rights movement of the 1960s, **6 Palestinian peace**

**activists**, dubbed the **Freedom Riders**, board an Israeli commuter bus linking the West Bank Jewish settlements with Jerusalem and are arrested at an IDF checkpoint outside the city. The **Israeli Housing Min.** launches a major advertising campaign selling 277 subsidized apartments in Ariel settlement nr. Salfit,

743 in Ramot and 130 in Har Homa settlement in Jerusalem, and 164 in Mod'in nr. Ramallah, as well as leasing 213 plots of land zoned for construction in Efrat settlement nr. Bethlehem, 207 in Mod'in, 168 in Har Homa, and 18 in Pisgat Ze'ev in Jerusalem. (JP, WP 11/16; PCHR 11/17; OCHA 11/18)

#### CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

|      |   |
|------|---|
| AFP  | (Agence France-Presse, Paris)   |
| AHR  | ( <i>al-Abram</i> , Cairo)  |
| AP   | (Associated Press [Internet])   |
| CNN  | (Cable News Network [Internet])   |
| HA   | ( <i>Ha'Aretz</i> [Internet], Tel Aviv)   |
| IDFS | (Israel Defense Force Spokesperson, [Internet])   |
| IFM  | (Israeli Foreign Ministry, Jerusalem)   |
| JAZ  | (al-Jazeera Satellite Channel Television, Doha)   |
| JP   | ( <i>Jerusalem Post</i> [Internet], Jerusalem)  |
| JPI  | ( <i>Jerusalem Post International Edition</i> , Jerusalem)  |
| JTA  | (Jewish Telegraphic Agency [Internet])  |
| MNA  | (Ma'an News Agency, Bethlehem)  |
| 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])  |
| UPI  | (United Press International [Internet])   |
| VOA  | (Voice of the Arabs, Cairo)   |
| WAFA | (Palestine News Agency, [Internet])   |
| WJW  | ( <i>Washington Jewish Week</i> , Rockville, MD)  |
| WP   | ( <i>Washington Post</i> , Washington)  |
| WT   | ( <i>Washington Times</i> , Washington)   |
| XIN  | (Xinhua–New China News Agency, Beijing)   |
| YA   | ( <i>Yedi'ot Aharonot</i> , Tel Aviv)   |