



Chronology

16 AUGUST–15 NOVEMBER 2016

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This is part 132 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 regional and international developments related to the Palestinians and Israel, see the quarterly Update on Conflict and Diplomacy in *JPS* 46 (2).

16 AUGUST 2016

In the **West Bank**, around 500 **Israel Defense Forces (IDF) troops** conduct arrest raids and weapons searches in al-Fawar refugee camp (r.c.), sparking major clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; at least 33 Palestinians are injured (1 bystander succumbs to his injuries later in the day). Initial reports of the clashes say that IDF snipers were aiming at Palestinian youths' lower bodies; an autopsy of the fatally injured youth later shows that he was shot in the heart. B'Tselem will report on 9/9 that the Palestinian killed did not, in fact, take part in the clashes, despite media reports at the time. The IDF remains deployed in the camp for nearly 24 hours. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** conduct further raids and house searches late at night nr. Ramallah and nr. Hebron, arresting 10 Palestinians and issuing an arrest summons to 1; and patrol during the day nr. Hebron, Nablus, and Qalqilya. **Israeli forces** uproot around 50 olive trees outside a village nr. Tulkarm, and demolish 7 homes outside Sa'ir village nr. Hebron, 3 homes and a room in Bayt Jala

nr. Bethlehem, and 1 home outside Duma village nr. Nablus. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** demolish a stable in Jabal Mukabir and a car showroom in Anata, and forcibly disperse Palestinian protesters at a sit-in in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners at a Red Crescent office in Sheikh Jarrah. Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians after they cut through the border fence and enter Israeli territory. It is unclear what they intended to do. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 8/16; MNA, TOI 8/17; PCHR 8/18; HA 8/21; MNA 9/10)

17 AUGUST 2016

Israeli forces return the body of a Palestinian killed outside the Old City on 3/9 to his family. In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** demolish 2 agricultural structures and part of a stone wall nr. Nablus, patrol nr. Ramallah and Hebron during the day, and arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids nr. Hebron and Jenin. In **Israel, hundreds of Palestinian citizens** demonstrate outside a police station in Ramla to protest the 7/28

killing of Palestinian a during a drug raid in Tel Aviv. (MNA, TOI, Wafa 8/17; JP, MNA, PCHR 8/18; PCHR 8/25)

Israeli DM Avigdor Lieberman outlines his new “**carrot-and-stick**” policy for administering the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt), saying he favors more arrests, restrictions on construction, and collective punishment of Palestinian villages whose residents resist the occupation, while granting permits for “civilian projects” to villages whose residents are more docile. In that vein, Lieberman recently approved the construction of a hospital in Beit Sahour. The DM has reportedly divided the West Bank into problem areas that he plans to punish, and calmer areas, which will be rewarded with infrastructure projects like the one in Beit Sahour (see Update for details). (HA, JP, TOI 8/17)

18 AUGUST 2016

Palestinian Authority security forces (PASF) conduct raids in Nablus, sparking a firefight with wanted men; 2 PASF mbrs. are killed and 2 are injured. Late at night, the PASF returns to Nablus to arrest the men responsible for the killings earlier in the day. They shoot and kill 2 of the wanted men in the ensuing clashes. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** patrol nr. Hebron. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City in 2 separate incidents, causing no damage or injuries. In **Israel**, **Israeli forces** demolish several residential buildings, arbors, and a car wash in bedouin villages nr. Beersheba. (MNA 8/18; JP, TOI 8/19; PCHR 8/25)

19 AUGUST 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday

demonstrations in solidarity with hunger-striking Palestinian prisoners and against Israel’s occupation, settlement, and separation wall in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil’in, Ni’lin, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza’s border nr. Gaza City; 3 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids in and around Hebron, issuing arrest summons to 3 Palestinians; and patrol nr. Hebron, Jenin, and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** deploy heavily in Jabal Mukabir, raiding several shops and sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 4 youths are arrested. (MNA 8/19; PCHR 8/25)

20 AUGUST 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in al-Fara’a r.c. nr. Tubas, arresting 1 Palestinian and sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths; 1 Palestinian is injured. They conduct further raids nr. Jenin, Bethlehem, and Hebron, arresting 3 Palestinians; and patrol nr. Nablus, Hebron, and Tulkarm. At a flying checkpoint nr. Jenin, **Israeli soldiers** stop a group of Palestinians on motorcycles, arrest 1 and assault another, causing moderate injuries. They also confiscate 3 of the motorcycles. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians and issue arrest summons to 6 during raids in Jabal Mukabir and Hizma. (PCHR 8/25)

The **Israel Land Authority** and **Ma’ale Adumim Economic Development Company** open 4 tenders for leasing land, establishing a hotel, and constructing a new park in the settlement. (MNA 8/20)

21 AUGUST 2016

Palestinian fighters in Gaza launch a rocket into Israel, which lands in Sderot, causing no damage or injuries. The **IDF** then launches dozens of air strikes on “key Hamas strategic assets,” according to IDF sources on 8/23. The IDF also targets Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) and other factions’ sites in and around Bayt Hanun, injuring at least 7 Palestinians (3 of whom are Hamas mbrs.). Also, an Israeli tank fires 6 shells at a Gazan water storage facility along the border nearby, causing damage. Initial reports say that the **PFLP’s armed wing** is responsible for the rocket launch; later, a Salafi group affiliated with the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) claims responsibility. Off Gaza’s coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries; 2 fishermen are arrested. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in and around Hebron, as well as in Bethlehem and nr. Salfit, arresting 8 Palestinians; and patrol nr. Nablus, Salfit, Ramallah, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** issue arrest summons for 6 Palestinians during raids in Jabal Mukabir. (AP, HA, JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa 8/21; HA 8/22; TOI 8/24; PCHR 8/25)

An **Israeli delegation** meets with their **Egyptian diplomatic counterparts** in Cairo to discuss Pres. Abdel Fattah al-Sisi’s efforts to revive the stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. After the meetings, al-Sisi says he recently spoke with **Russian pres. Vladimir Putin** about hosting a round of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in Moscow, and indicated that Putin would be willing to do so. (TOI 8/21; JP, TOI 8/22)

22 AUGUST 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct heavy raids and weapons searches in and around Hebron and Bethlehem, arresting 5 Palestinians

and sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths; 6 Palestinians are injured. The IDF conducts further raids nr. Qalqilya, arresting 3 Palestinians and assaulting a 4th (he is moderately injured). In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians during raids in Silwan and Issawiyya. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Jabaliya r.c., causing no damage. (Wafa 8/22; HA, MNA 8/23; PCHR 8/25)

After an errant mortar shell from **Syria** lands in the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights**, the IDF launches a strike on a Syrian govt. site nr. the border fence. There are no reported casualties in either incident. (HA 8/22)

23 AUGUST 2016

Around 60 right-wing Jewish activists visit Joseph’s Tomb outside Nablus overnight, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians. **IDF troops** disperse the clashes, arresting some of the Jewish activists. There are no serious injuries. Because this was an unauthorized trip, the activists did not have an IDF escort. Elsewhere in the West Bank, **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in 1 village nr. Hebron and in Aida r.c. nr. Bethlehem, arresting 3 Palestinians; and patrol nr. Ramallah, Qalqilya, and Hebron. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** assault and moderately injure a Palestinian nr. the Old City. (JP, MNA, 8/23; PCHR 8/25)

In Nablus, **PASF troops** arrest and beat to death Ahmad Izzat Halawa, 50, a Fatah military leader allegedly involved in the killing of 2 PASF troops on 8/18, sparking clashes; 1 Palestinian is lightly injured. Palestinians in Nablus begin a general strike to protest the killing. PASF

troops also conduct an atypical raid in Area C of the West Bank searching for suspects connected to the 8/18 killings, and arrest many Palestinians in Anata village. (JP, MNA 8/23; EI, MNA 8/24)

Two days after **Egyptian pres. al-Sisi** said that **Russian pres. Putin** would be willing to host Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, **Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu** speaks with Putin by telephone to discuss the idea, as well as other regional issues. No further details about their conversation are reported. (HA 8/23; TOI 8/23)

24 AUGUST 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian outside the Yitzhar settlement nr. Nablus after chasing him and other youths who allegedly threw stones from a moving vehicle at Israeli soldiers. According to the IDF, the slain Palestinian allegedly stabbed and lightly injured 1 of the soldiers in the ensuing confrontation. However, photos of the scene show the Palestinian, still alive, sitting in the army vehicle, where he would not have presented a threat to the soldiers. His cousin says he did not attempt to stab anyone, adding that he was engaged to be married in 2 mos. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian in c. Hebron when she is found to be carrying a knife, and conduct late-night raids nr. Ramallah and Bethlehem, arresting 9 Palestinians. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** return the body of a Palestinian to his family, who hold a small funeral for him in a nearby cemetery. Israeli forces killed him on 3/9 after he and a companion opened fire on an Israeli bus. Overnight, **Israeli forces** demolish 3 residential structures and a cultural center in a village nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** dump untreated sewage in Palestinian olive groves and grape arbors nr. Bethlehem. Along **Gaza's border**,

Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Rafah, and open fire on Palestinian shepherds working nr. Bayt Hanun, injuring 1 moderately. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Jabaliya r.c., causing no damage or injuries. (EI, HA, JP, MNA, PIC, TOI, Wafa 8/24; PCHR 8/25; PCHR 9/1)

25 AUGUST 2016

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian man nr. the Erez border crossing in unclear circumstances. Off Gaza's coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya overnight, damaging 1 boat and injuring and arresting 1 fisherman. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct late-night house searches and raids in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem, destroying the doors to a cultural center and sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 2 Palestinians are injured. They conduct further raids and house searches nr. Nablus and Hebron, arresting 3 Palestinians, and patrol during the day nr. Hebron. **PASF troops** conduct raids overnight in Nablus, arresting 1 man wanted in connection with the killings on 8/18. They say he is the last man wanted in relation to the incident. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians during raids in Silwan. (MNA 8/25; MNA 8/26; PCHR 9/1)

The **Popular Resistance Comms.** announces that it will not be taking part in the **municipal elections** set for 10/8. The group does call on the Palestinian people to participate, however. (MNA 8/25)

26 AUGUST 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill an unarmed Palestinian at a military post outside Ofra

settlement nr. Ramallah. The man does not open fire on the soldiers, despite initial reports to the contrary. A Palestinian official later says that the slain Palestinian suffered from mental disabilities and that he had entered the military area by accident. In an uncharacteristic response, the IDF does not label the man a terrorist. Israeli forces return the man's body to his family in the evening. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** shoot and kill a Palestinian driver in Silwan, East Jerusalem, because they think he is attempting to ram them. The police later report that the man was drunk and not attempting a ramming attack. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, the **IDF** violently disperses Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border nr. Gaza City; 1 Palestinian is injured. **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in 2 villages nr. Hebron and in Balata r.c. nr. Nablus, arresting 2 Palestinians and sparking minor clashes (there are no serious injuries); and patrol in 3 villages nr. Hebron during the day. **Israeli troops** also deploy crowd-control measures on Palestinians attending a soccer match in al-Ram nr. Jerusalem. Around 1,200 Palestinians suffer tear gas inhalation. (HA, MNA, TOI 8/26; PCHR 9/1)

27 AUGUST 2016

IDF troops arrest 2 Palestinians for carrying knives and allegedly planning stabbing attacks, 1 at Qalandia crossing nr. Jerusalem and 1 in c. Hebron. They arrest 4 more Palestinians during late-night raids nr. Bethlehem, at checkpoints nr. Jenin, and in Qalandia r.c. nr. Jerusalem. The IDF patrols nr. Hebron and

Nablus during the day. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** chase several Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, arrest 2 fishermen, and confiscate their boat. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Gaza City, causing no injuries. (HA, JP, MNA, Wafa 8/27; PCHR 9/1)

28 AUGUST 2016

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian youth allegedly carrying a knife and planning a stabbing attack in Shu'fat r.c., and arrest another Palestinian on a late-night raid in Ras al-Amud. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 3 Palestinians during raids nr. Nablus, Ramallah, and Jenin; and patrol in 2 villages nr. Nablus, and 3 villages and al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron. **Around 12,000 Palestinians** attend a funeral for the Palestinian killed by PASF troops in Nablus on 8/23. After the funeral, hundreds of mourners break off from the procession, chant anti-Palestinian Authority (PA) slogans, and clash with PASF troops (there are no serious injuries). Off Gaza's coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (JP, MNA, TOI 8/28; PCHR 9/1)

Palestinian officials announce the beginning of preliminary discussions about a possible summit meeting in Moscow between PM Netanyahu and Pres. Abbas, to be mediated by **Russian pres. Putin**. Separately, a **senior PLO official** says that the Palestinians recently rejected a U.S. offer for a trilateral peace summit with Israel, and that the Palestinians instead insisted on 2 central preconditions for any meetings: release of the 4th tranche of prisoners that were set to go free in connection with the last round of talks in 3–4/2014 and a settlement freeze (see Update). (HA, JP, TOI 8/28)

As the **Palestinian school year** begins, the PA Education Ministry accuses Israel of withholding the delivery of around 300,000 textbooks to schools in Gaza. **Israel's Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT)** says the books must be examined and approved before being released. (HA 8/28)

29 AUGUST 2016

Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats and arrest 2 fishermen nr. Bayt Lahiya. In **Gaza**, armed assailants assault and temporarily kidnap a Fatah official working to coordinate the **municipal elections** on 10/8 nr. Khan Yunis. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish 6 residential structures and 2 barns in a village in the E1 area nr. Jerusalem, and confiscate heavy machinery Palestinians are using to repair a road nr. Hebron. **IDF troops** conduct raids and house searches in 1 village each nr. Nablus, Salfit, and Hebron, arresting 5 Palestinians. (MNA, WAFA 8/29; PCHR 9/1)

Responding to reports about Russian efforts to host a peace summit on 8/28, **PA pres. Abbas's office** releases a statement reaffirming that Abbas is willing to take part in any peace initiative aimed at a "comprehensive and fair solution." A **Russian spokesperson** says that there is "nothing concrete" yet. (TOI 8/29)

30 AUGUST 2016

Israeli forces carry out the **punitive demolition** of the Hebron-area home of a Palestinian prisoner accused of participating in the shooting of an Israeli settler rabbi on 7/1, sparking minor clashes; there are no injuries. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids and house searches in

Nablus and patrol nr. Nablus, Tubas, and Hebron. An **Israeli settler** turns his dog loose on an elderly Palestinian nr. Nablus, causing moderate injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** return the body of a Palestinian withheld since being killed in a confrontation with them in 10/2015. He is buried in a cemetery outside the Old City while a large number of Israeli police keep watch. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** demolish 1 Palestinian home in Sur al-Bahir and 2 in Silwan on the grounds that they lack proper permits. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 8/30; PCHR 9/1)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 1st of 3 planned days to allow Muslims from Gaza to travel to Saudi Arabia to perform the annual Hajj (see Update). (PCHR 9/1; OCHA 9/8)

The **Israeli authorities** allow the transfer of 300,000 textbooks into **Gaza**, following complaints from the Palestinians. (MNA 8/30)

31 AUGUST 2016

IDF troops raid al-Sanabel radio station in Dura village nr. Hebron overnight, shutting it down on the grounds of alleged incitement and arresting 5 journalists. They also destroy and confiscate some broadcasting equipment. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids and house searches in and around Tulkarm, Jenin, and in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem; and patrol nr. Nablus. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. al-Bureij r.c. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** assault and arrest 5 Palestinian youths as they leave a soccer field in the Old City, demolish a blacksmith shop in the southeast corner of the city, and arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Ras al-Amud. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA 8/31; PCHR 9/1; PCHR 9/8)

The Egyptian authorities keep the **Rafah border crossing** open for the 2d of 3 planned days (see Update). (PCHR 9/1; OCHA 9/8)

The High Planning Comm. of **Israel's Civil Admin.** advances plans for the construction of 463 settler residences in the West Bank, including approval for 234 units in the Elkana settlement, 31 in Bet Arye, and 20 in Givat Ze'ev. The comm. also retroactively legalizes 178 units built in Bet Arye in the 1980s (see Update). (AFP, HA, MNA 8/31)

1 SEPTEMBER 2016

Israeli forces return the body of an East Jerusalem Palestinian to his family in Jabal Mukabir almost a year after he was killed on 10/13/2015 after his family provides NIS 20,000 (approx. \$5,300) in collateral to secure the release of his body. He is buried at a cemetery nr. the Old City in a funeral service limited to 25 attendees. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian youth at Qalandia checkpoint after she allegedly threw a knife at them. **Dozens of right-wing Jewish activists** visit Joseph's Tomb nr. Nablus overnight, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and Palestinian residents of the area; 1 Israeli soldier is moderately injured. **IDF troops** also raid several homes in the nearby Balata r.c., sparking further clashes; there are no injuries. The **IDF** arrests 6 Palestinians during raids, house searches, and patrols nr. Jenin and Hebron. **Israeli soldiers** escort Jewish settlers on a visit at al-Ibrahimi Mosque in c. Hebron, barring Muslims from the site for the time being. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA 9/1; PCHR 9/8)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for passage in both directions for the 3d of 3 planned days (see Update). (PCHR 9/1; OCHA 9/8)

2 SEPTEMBER 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih) and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian photojournalist is injured. They also conduct raids and patrols nr. Nablus and Hebron throughout the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during a patrol in Issawiyya, and arrest and assault a Palestinian in al-Tur. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats overnight nr. Bayt Lahiya and later nr. Jabaliya r.c., causing no damage or injuries. (MNA 9/2; PCHR 9/8)

Senior Israeli officials say that **PM Netanyahu** is thinking about permitting **International Criminal Court (ICC) officials** to visit Israel and the oPt soon in the context of **ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda's** preliminary examination into alleged war crimes during Israel's summer 2014 assault on Gaza, as well as its settlement enterprise. According to ICC officials, the purpose of the visit would be "outreach and education," rather than research and fact-finding (see Update). Israel decided to engage with Bensouda's examination in 7/2015, after criticizing and boycotting it since its inception in 1/2015. (AFP, HA, JP 9/2)

3 SEPTEMBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids and house searches nr. Nablus, Ramallah, and Hebron; and patrol nr. Jenin, Hebron, and Salfit throughout the day. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian attempting to cross into Israel nr. al-Bureij r.c. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open

fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no injuries or damage. (MNA, WAFA 9/3; PCHR 9/8)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for humanitarian cases passing in both directions. They plan to open it again on 9/4 (see Update). (OCHA 9/8)

4 SEPTEMBER 2016

Along **Gaza's border, unidentified Palestinian fighters** open fire on IDF troops stationed nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no injuries or damage. In response, the **IDF** launches air strikes on at least 2 Hamas military sites in n. Gaza, injuring 3 Hamas fighters. **IDF troops** also open fire on Palestinian homes nr. al-Maghazi r.c., causing no damage. Off Gaza's coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City and then nr. Rafah, causing no injuries. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** attempt to remove a Palestinian flag from a public space in a village nr. Nablus, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents throughout the day; 2 Palestinians are injured. They also arrest 2 Palestinian youths allegedly planning to carry out stabbing attacks in c. Hebron. Both boys were found to be carrying knives. **Israeli forces** destroy personal property and threaten to arrest a Palestinian infant during a raid on the Hebron-area home of a Palestinian who was killed on 11/1/2015 after attempting to stab an Israeli soldier. They also impose strict closures on 3 villages nr. Nablus after reports of stone-throwing in the area (the closures will be enforced through 9/10). The **IDF** arrests 3 Palestinians during raids and house searches nr. Salfit, Nablus, Ramallah, and Bethlehem, sparking clashes in Balata r.c. (1 Palestinian is injured); and patrols nr. Nablus, Hebron, Tulkarm, Salfit, and Qalqilya during the day.

Meanwhile, **unknown assailants** throw Molotov cocktails at the Nablus-area home of a Palestinian woman running for office in the 10/8 **municipal elections**, causing minor damage. She is affiliated with Fatah. In **East Jerusalem, around 60 right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif** in the morning. **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in Shu'fat. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 9/4; MNA 9/5; PCHR 9/8; MNA 9/10)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for humanitarian cases passing in both directions for the 2d of 2 planned days (see Update). (OCHA 9/8)

The **PA** and **Israel** sign an agreement to improve **postal service** in the oPt. The deal gives Palestinians more control over the transfer of mail in and out of the West Bank (see Update for details). (JP, MNA, TOI 9/4)

An errant mortar round fired from **Syria** lands in the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights**, causing no damage or injuries. The **IDF** returns artillery fire on Syrian govt. positions along the border, causing an unknown amount of damage. (HA, MNA, TOI 9/4)

5 SEPTEMBER 2016

Israeli police shoot and kill a Palestinian in an alleged ramming attack in Shu'fat r.c. The police say that they opened fire on the vehicle, killing 1 man, a passenger, and injuring the driver, only after failing to stop it and make an arrest. The Israeli police will, on 9/6, retract their accusation that the incident was a ramming attack, and instead blame the deceased's brother-in-law, the driver, for causing his death by driving erratically. (The driver will be charged with manslaughter and driving under the influence on 9/15.) Elsewhere in **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian at **Haram al-Sharif** when she is

found to be carrying a knife, and arrest 3 more Palestinians during late-night raids in Qalandia r.c. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** patrol in a village n. of Nablus, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing residents; 2 Palestinians are injured. They arrest 10 Palestinians during raids and house searches nr. Nablus, Hebron, Ramallah, and Salfit; and patrol nr. Jenin, Qalqilya, Nablus, and Tulkarm during the day. **Israeli forces** cut down around 250 olive trees from a Palestinian's land nr. Qalqilya overnight. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 9/5; EI 9/6; HA 9/7; TOI 9/15)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** to hundreds of Muslim Palestinians embarking from Gaza on their pilgrimage to Mecca (see Update). (OCHA 9/8)

6 SEPTEMBER 2016

For the 2d time this week, **IDF troops** fire artillery shells and machine gun rounds at **Hamas and PIJ military sites in Gaza** nr. Bayt Lahiya, Dayr al-Balah, and Bayt Hanun, causing minor damage to the sites and at least 3 neighboring homes. The IDF reports that the shelling was in response to gunfire emanating from Gaza earlier in the morning. (MNA, WAFA 9/6; PCHR 9/8)

The **Israeli authorities** return the body of a Palestinian to his family in East Jerusalem, having punitively withheld it since Israeli forces killed him on 2/19. His family is forced to pay a security deposit of NIS 20,000 (approx. \$5,000), bury the body at al-Mujahidin Cemetery in c. Jerusalem, and limit the attendance at his funeral at 25 people. Elsewhere in **East Jerusalem**, a Palestinian demolishes the walls of his own home in the Old City to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. **Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during raids in Issawiyya, Qalandia

r.c., and Abu Dis. In the **West Bank, IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian nr. Jenin in unclear circumstances. Meanwhile, the **IDF** arrests 9 Palestinians and issues 3 arrest summons during raids nr. Tulkarm, Hebron, Nablus, and Jenin; and patrols nr. Qalqilya, Hebron, and Nablus. **Israeli undercover forces** arrest 4 Palestinian customs officers who are conducting a surveillance operation outside Nur Shams r.c. overnight. The officers attempted to detain the Israelis without knowing they were undercover troops. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 9/6; WAFA 9/7; PCHR 9/8)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for humanitarian cases passing in both directions (see Update). (MNA 9/6; OCHA 9/8)

7 SEPTEMBER 2016

Along **Gaza's border, Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Khan Yunis. In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** raze 40 dunams (around 10 acres) of farmland, destroy 800 trees, and demolish 2 wells in various locations nr. Hebron; and also demolish 3 homes, 6 livestock barns, and 2 water tanks in the n. Jordan Valley. **IDF troops** arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in and around Hebron and Bethlehem, and patrol nr. Nablus during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, a Palestinian family demolishes their own home in the Old City to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. **Israeli forces** arrest 7 Palestinians during raids in Issawiyya and Anata r.c. (MNA, WAFA 9/7; PCHR, WAFA 9/8; PCHR 9/22)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for humanitarian cases passing in both directions (see Update). (MNA 9/6; OCHA 9/8)

8 SEPTEMBER 2016

The **Israeli authorities** return the body of a Palestinian to his family in East Jerusalem, having punitively withheld it since he was killed on 12/14 after carrying out a car ramming attack in Jerusalem. His family is forced to pay a security deposit, bury the body at al-Mujahidin Cemetery in c. Jerusalem (rather than nr. their home in Hebron), and limit the attendance at his funeral at 25 people. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** open fire on a group of Palestinian students walking home from school in Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah, injuring 1 and sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths in the area (there are no serious injuries). They also patrol nr. Hebron and Jenin. An **Israeli settler driver** rams his vehicle into an elderly Palestinian nr. Bethlehem, causing moderate injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian bird-hunters and farmers nr. Jabaliya, injuring 1. Off Gaza's coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City and arrest 6 fishermen. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 9/8; PCHR 9/22)

A **Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson** confirms that **PA pres. Abbas** and **Israeli PM Netanyahu** "agreed in principle" to meet in Moscow, but they have not yet set a date. She says that Russian officials are still working to find an appropriate date. (HA, JP, REU, RFM, TOI 9/8)

In response to growing Hamas-Fatah tensions, the **Palestinian High Court of Justice** puts a freeze on the **municipal elections** scheduled for 10/8 (see Update). The freeze is set to expire on 12/21. The court will deliberate again on 9/21. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 9/8; MNA, NYT 9/9)

9 SEPTEMBER 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday

demonstrations in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners and against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border nr. al-Bureij r.c.; 1 Palestinian is killed in Gaza and 1 is injured. The **IDF** will deny firing on protesters in Gaza. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians during raids and house searches nr. Qalqilya, Jenin, and in Hebron, sparking minor clashes nr. Jenin (there are no serious injuries); and patrol nr. Hebron and Qalqilya during the day. (HA, MNA 9/9; PCHR 9/22)

10 SEPTEMBER 2016

A **6-year-old Palestinian** is killed when an **Israeli settler** rams her with his vehicle outside Bethlehem. Early reports on the incident say it was an accident, but the driver's intentions are unclear. **IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons on late-night raids nr. Jenin and Bethlehem; and patrol nr. Hebron during the day. **Israeli settlers** set fire to Palestinian farm lands nr. Qalqilya, destroying 13 olive trees. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Gaza City. Off the coast nr. Jabaliya, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats. There are no injuries in either incident. (MNA 9/10; PCHR 9/22)

In the 3d such incident this week, an errant mortar from **Syria** lands in the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights**, causing no serious damage. The **IDF** responds by firing artillery shots at Syrian govt. sites nr. the border. It is not clear how much damage is caused. (HA, JP, TOI 9/10)

11 SEPTEMBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** allows Palestinians in 3 villages nr. Nablus to reopen

roads leading to their villages after a week of closures. The Israeli authorities closed the villages on 9/4 in response to reports of stone-throwing in the area. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** reopen the entrance to a junction nr. Hebron, after keeping it sealed for nearly a year. **IDF troops** arrest 1 Palestinian during late-night raids nr. Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem**, around 50 Israeli settlers escorted and guarded by 30 Israeli intelligence officers tour **Haram al-Sharif**. **Israeli forces** arrest 4 Palestinians during raids in Silwan and Issawiyya. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian homes nr. Khan Yunis, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA 9/11; PCHR 9/22)

Israel's High Court of Justice upholds the 7/30/2015 law allowing Israeli authorities to force-feed hunger-striking Palestinian prisoners if the atty. gen., a district court pres., and a doctor agree that the hunger strike is causing irreparable health damage or threatening the prisoner's life (see *JPS* 45 [1]). (JP, MNA, TOI 9/11)

12 SEPTEMBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Qusra village nr. Nablus, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 4 Palestinians are injured. **Israeli forces** reseal the entrance to a junction nr. Hebron 1 day after reopening it. An **Israeli military bus driver** rams and injures 2 Palestinian youths nr. Hebron, according to Palestinian witnesses of the incident. Late at night, **2 Israeli soldiers** mistakenly drive into Tulkarm using the GPS navigation app Waze. Residents throw stones at the 2 soldiers, lightly injuring both. The IDF and PASF coordinate their exit from the city. **IDF troops** arrest 3 Palestinians for throwing stones and paint cans at an Israeli settler bus in al-'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron. (MNA, YA 9/12; MNA 9/13; PCHR 9/22)

In a joint press conference with Luxembourg's PM Xavier Bettel, **Israeli PM Netanyahu** says that the proposed meeting between himself and PA pres. Abbas, which was 1st planned for Cairo and then Moscow in recent weeks, may now happen in **Luxembourg**: "[Bettel] has invited me to Luxembourg, and he said the Palestinians might also come there; therefore, it's either Moscow or Luxembourg." (JP 9/12)

13 SEPTEMBER 2016

The **Israeli authorities** return the body of a Palestinian killed in a confrontation with Israeli troops on 9/5. His family buries him in the Anata village cemetery nr. Bethlehem. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** assault a Palestinian at a mobile checkpoint nr. Jenin, and arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids nr. Hebron. (MNA 9/13; Wafa 9/14; PCHR 9/22)

For the 4th time in 2 weeks, errant mortar fire from **Syria** lands in the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights**, causing no damage. The **Israeli Air Force (IAF)** launches retaliatory air strikes on Syrian govt. sites nr. the border, causing an unknown amount of damage. During the Israeli sortie, the **Syrian army** fires 2 surface-to-air missiles at the IAF aircraft. The Syrian army claims that it downs a jet and a drone; the **IDF** denies that any of its aircraft were shot down. Later in the day, another round of 3 mortar shells from Syria falls in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, and again, the IDF responds, launching air strikes on Syrian govt. sites nr. the border. No damage or injuries are reported. (HA, JP, NYT, TOI, YA 9/13)

The **PA** and **Israel** reach an agreement on repayment of the Palestinians' outstanding debts to the **Israel Electric Corporation (IEC)**, which reportedly total almost NIS 2 b.

(approx. \$350 m.; see Update). The IEC reduced the flow of power to several West Bank cities, starting in 5/2016, as punishment for the unpaid debts. (TOI 9/13; JP, WAFA, YA 9/14)

14 SEPTEMBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian at Checkpoint 300 nr. Bethlehem when he is found to be carrying a knife, arrest 5 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids nr. Salfit, Hebron, and Bethlehem; and patrol nr. Hebron and Nablus. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Khan Yunis. In **East Jerusalem**, a right-wing Jewish activist prays at **Haram al-Sharif**, sparking a heated confrontation between his Israeli police escort and Muslim worshippers in the area. The police quickly escort the activist from the sanctuary. (MNA, WAFA 9/14; MNA 9/15)

U.S. and Israeli officials formally sign a **\$38-b. military aid agreement** covering 2019–28 (see Update for details). After the signing, Pres. Barack Obama renews his call for a 2-state solution, arguing that it is the only way to keep Israel secure in the long-term. (EI, HA, MNA, NYT, YA 9/14; HA 9/15)

15 SEPTEMBER 2016

Unidentified Gazans fire a mortar shell into Israel, which lands in an open area, causing no damage or injuries. Holding **Hamas** accountable for all rocket attacks emanating from Gaza, the **IDF** carries out air strikes on 3 Hamas military sites nr. Bayt Lahiya and in Gaza City, causing damage and destroying 2 nearby agricultural structures and a water well. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA, YA 9/15; PCHR 9/22)

During overnight raids nr. Hebron, **IDF troops** shoot and fatally injure a Palestinian

attempting to escape arrest. Later in the day, **IDF troops** arrest 2 more Palestinians during raids nr. Nablus and Hebron, and patrol nr. Qalqilya, Ramallah, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** evict a Palestinian family from their home in the Old City to make room for Jewish-only housing in the area. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian youth in Hizma allegedly planning to carry out a stabbing attack. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. al-Bureij r.c. (MNA 9/15; HA, MNA, TOI 9/16; PCHR 9/22)

16 SEPTEMBER 2016

In the heaviest day of violence since the beginning of 7/2016, Israeli forces kill 2 Palestinians and 1 Jordanian in **East Jerusalem** and the **Hebron** area. **Israeli forces** shoot and kill a Jordanian youth outside the Old City of Jerusalem after he allegedly attempts to stab an Israeli soldier. An eyewitness reports that the youth did not attack anyone, and that he only yelled “Allahu akbar” when the Israeli forces asked him to lift his shirt. Israeli forces later find a knife on his body. **IDF troops** open fire on 2 Palestinians allegedly attempting a ramming attack outside Kiryat Arba settlement nr. Hebron, killing 1 and seriously injuring the other; 3 Israelis are injured in the alleged ramming. Separately, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian youth in c. Hebron after he allegedly stabs and injures an Israeli soldier at a checkpoint. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** shoot and seriously injure a Palestinian in c. Hebron after he allegedly stabs and injures an Israeli soldier. After the attacks, an officer with **Israel's COGAT** says that the IDF will impose strict punishments on the attackers' home villages, including Bani Na'im. The IDF then shuts down a number of checkpoints in Hebron and the

entrances to Bani Na'im, declaring the village and c. Hebron closed military zones. **Israeli troops** conduct raids in Bani Na'im late at night, issuing 2 Palestinians arrest summons. (HA, JP, MNA, NYT, TOI, YA 9/16; HA 9/17; PCHR 9/22)

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, separation wall, and settlements in 4 areas nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih, and Jalazun r.c.), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border nr. al-Bureij r.c.; 4 Palestinians are injured. They also disperse Palestinian stone-throwers nr. Nablus, arresting 1; arrest 1 Palestinian and issue 2 arrest summons during raids and house searches nr. Bethlehem, Salfit, Hebron, and Ramallah; and patrol nr. Salfit, Nablus, Ramallah, and Hebron throughout the day. **Unidentified assailants** throw stones at an Israeli bus traveling between Jerusalem and Ma'ale Adumim settlement, injuring the driver. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** search cars and detain a handful of Palestinians during patrols in Silwan, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents of the area; 2 Palestinians are injured. A Palestinian man demolishes his own home in Jabal Mukabir to avoid paying for Israeli demolition crews. (MNA 9/16; PCHR 9/22)

17 SEPTEMBER 2016

In the 3d such incident in the area in less than 24 hours, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian youth in c. Hebron after he stabs and injures an Israeli soldier at a checkpoint. After the attack, the **IDF** raids the alleged attacker's nearby home and deploys reinforcements to the West Bank. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa, YA 9/17; PCHR 9/22)

Meanwhile, the **IDF** conducts raids in the Hebron-area village of Bani Na'im, home to 2 of the Palestinians killed on 9/16, issuing multiple arrest summons and searching several homes. **IDF troops** arrest 9 Palestinians and issue 4 arrest summons on further raids in and around Nablus, Hebron, Tulkarm, and Ramallah. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 4 Palestinians during raids in Silwan and Issawiyya. A group of 5 Israeli youths, including an off-duty IDF soldier, assault a Palestinian child in Gillo, moderately injuring him. (MNA, TOI, Wafa 9/17; PCHR, YA 9/22)

Unidentified fighters fire 2 mortar shells from Syria into the **Israeli-occupied Golan Heights**. For the 1st time along the Israel-Syria border, Iron Dome missile defense batteries intercept both rockets, preventing any damage or injuries. (HA, JP, TOI 9/17)

18 SEPTEMBER 2016

Amid an upswing in tension across the **West Bank, Israeli soldiers** shoot and seriously injure a Palestinian after he allegedly stabs and moderately injures an Israeli officer outside the Efrat settlement nr. Bethlehem. **IDF troops** on a patrol nr. Jenin clash with and violently disperse stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 4 Palestinians are arrested. They arrest 3 more Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Nablus; and patrol throughout the day nr. Nablus, Hebron, and Salfit. **Israeli forces** shut down the entrance to Bayt Umar village nr. Hebron to allow for maintenance work on an IDF watchtower in the area (the work will continue through 9/22). Meanwhile, the **Israeli authorities** return the body of the Jordanian killed on 9/16 to his family via the Allenby border crossing. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 4 Palestinians during raids in Ras

al-Amud, Issawiyya, and Silwan. (MNA, YA 9/18; PCHR 9/22)

Israeli PM Netanyahu authorizes the extension of his ban on mbrs. of the Knesset (MKs) visiting **Haram al-Sharif** ahead of the Jewish High Holidays, which he implemented during the *habba*, the surge of Palestinian resistance, random attacks, and protests that began in Jerusalem in 9/2015 (see Update). (TOI 9/18)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** overnight and allow 474 Palestinian pilgrims to return home from their trip to Saudi Arabia (see Update). (MNA 9/18)

19 SEPTEMBER 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill 2 Palestinians in c. Hebron after they allegedly attempt to stab Israeli soldiers. Palestinian witnesses say the 2 men posed no threat to the soldiers. In the wake of the attack, **IDF troops** clash with stone-throwing Palestinian protesters in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem and in several areas in and around Hebron; 2 Palestinians are arrested and 3 are lightly injured. They arrest at least 16 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Nablus, Salfit, Bethlehem, Jenin, and Ramallah; seize several Palestinian cars, install a new checkpoint, and patrol in the Hebron district throughout the day. They also shut down an area of Hebron's Old City, denying maintenance workers access to dilapidated buildings. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** shoot and moderately injure a Palestinian nr. the Old City after he stabs and injures 2 of them. They raid his family home in Ras al-Amud later in the day, arresting his 2 brothers. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** arrest 12 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya and the Old City. A Palestinian demolishes her own grocery shop in al-Thawri

to avoid paying for Israeli demolition crews. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, seriously injuring 1 fisherman and damaging his boat. (EI, HA, MNA, YA 9/19; PCHR 9/22)

20 SEPTEMBER 2016

Amid a weeklong uptick in violence in the Hebron area, **IDF troops** shoot and kill a Palestinian at the entrance to Bani Na'im village, which has been under a general closure since the killings on 9/16. The IDF alleges that the Palestinian youth was brandishing a knife and attempting to stab Israeli soldiers at a security checkpoint. Hours later, **IDF troops** assault and arrest a Palestinian in Hebron's Old City, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwers in the area. The **IDF** conduct heavy raids and patrols in the Hebron area throughout the day and late at night, arresting 6 Palestinians and issuing 1 arrest summons. (HA, MNA, WAFA 9/20; PCHR 9/22)

After reports of gunshots fired at an **Israeli settlers' bus** nr. Nablus overnight, the IDF closes entrances to several villages in the area. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, the **IDF** arrests 2 Palestinians during late-night raids nr. Nablus and Salfit and patrols nr. Salfit and Nablus. Meanwhile, **dozens of Israeli settlers** visit a Jewish holy site nr. Nablus, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and Palestinian youths in the area; there are no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 6 Palestinians during late-night raids in Shu'fat r.c. and demolish a home n. of the city and a number of agricultural facilities in Sur al-Bahir. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Khan Yunis. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA 9/20; PCHR 9/22)

According to the IDF, **Israeli aircraft** shoot down a **Hamas drone** off Gaza's coast in the afternoon. The IDF says it will "not permit any violation of its airspace, and will act with determination against any such effort." The drone reportedly did not cross into Israeli airspace. (MNA, YA 9/20)

21 SEPTEMBER 2016

IDF troops shoot and injure a Palestinian youth at a checkpoint nr. Qalqilya as she is walking home from school. The Israeli soldiers reportedly thought she was planning a stabbing attack (she will be released from detention on 9/22). Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** raid the Bil'in homes of several leaders in the activist groups that organize the Friday protests in the Ramallah-area village, confiscating a number of cell phones and computers. Late at night, 2 Israeli soldiers torch a Palestinian-owned lumber warehouse in Nablus, and IDF troops arrest 7 Palestinians during raids and house searches nr. Tulkarm, Jenin, Bethlehem, and Tubas. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** continue targeting Shu'fat r.c., arresting 5 Palestinians during raids in the camp and in Abu Dis. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian homes nr. Khan Yunis, causing no damage. (HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 9/21; MNA, PCHR 9/22; HA 9/25; PCHR 9/29)

Following a request from the public prosecutor's office, the **Palestinian High Court of Justice** postpones until 10/3 its decision regarding the **municipal elections** that were initially set for 10/8. The elections had been postponed indefinitely on 9/8 because of challenges to their legitimacy (see Update for details). (AFP, MNA 9/21)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** to allow Palestinian pilgrims to

return from their trip to Saudi Arabia. They are set to open it again on 9/22 and 9/23 (see Update). (MNA 9/23)

While in New York for the **UN General Assembly (UNGA) meeting**, **Israeli PM Netanyahu** meets with **U.S. pres. Obama**. They reportedly do not discuss the push for Israeli-Palestinian peace that the Obama admin. is rumored to be planning after the U.S. election in 11/2016. Netanyahu tells Obama he will always be welcome in Israel, and Obama responds, "We'll set up a tee time." (AFP, EI, NYT, REU, YA 9/21; HA 9/25)

22 SEPTEMBER 2016

Around 700 Israeli settlers visit Joseph's Tomb nr. Nablus overnight, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and stone-throwing Palestinians; 2 Palestinians are injured. **IDF troops** arrest 10 Palestinians and issue 6 arrest summons during raids and house searches nr. Jenin and Hebron, and in and around Bethlehem; and patrol nr. Hebron and Nablus. Off Gaza's n. coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 9/22; PCHR 9/29)

For a 2d day in a row, the Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** to allow Palestinian pilgrims to return from their trip to Saudi Arabia (see Update). (MNA 9/23)

PA pres. Abbas addresses the **UNGA** in New York City and pledges to present the **UN Security Council (UNSC)** with a res. condemning Israel's settlements in the West Bank. **Israeli PM Netanyahu** also addresses the **UNGA** in New York, reaffirming his pledge to resist any UN attempt to dictate the terms of a res. to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and welcoming the "spirit" of the **Arab Peace**

Initiative. He also invites Abbas to address the Israeli Knesset and promotes a regional framework for peace that the Palestinians can join or not. (HA, YA 9/22; MNA 9/23)

23 SEPTEMBER 2016

IDF troops shoot and injure a Palestinian youth outside the Kiryat Arba settlement nr. Hebron after he allegedly attempts to stab an Israeli soldier. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and multiple locations along Gaza's border; 3 Palestinians are injured. They also arrest 8 Palestinians and issue 5 arrest summons during raids and house searches nr. Hebron and Salfit, as well as in and around Bethlehem; and patrol nr. Hebron throughout the day. (EI, HA, MNA 9/23; PCHR 9/29)

For the 3d and final day in a row, the Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** to allow Palestinian pilgrims to return from their trip to Saudi Arabia (see Update). (MNA 9/23; MNA 9/24)

Leaders of the **Middle East Quartet**, including U.S. secy. of state John Kerry, Russian FM Sergey Lavrov, EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini, and UN secy.-gen. Ban Ki-moon, reiterate the group's call for the creation of "conditions for the resumption of meaningful negotiations that will end the occupation that began in 1967 and resolve all final status issues," and reaffirm conclusions from the report they released in 7/2016 (see *JPS* 46 [2]). Afterward, Kerry meets with **Israeli PM Netanyahu** to discuss the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. (YA 9/23; MNA 9/24; HA 9/25)

24 SEPTEMBER 2016

Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Rafah and again nr. Gaza City, causing damage to 1 boat. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 6 Palestinians during late-night raids nr. Hebron, and patrol nr. Qalqilya and Hebron throughout the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** continue targeting Shu'fat r.c., raiding the camp for the 3d day this week. They arrest 3 Palestinians, sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths in the camp; there are no serious injuries. (Wafa 9/24; PCHR 9/29)

25 SEPTEMBER 2016

A **Palestinian prisoner** in Israel's Ramon Prison dies of a stroke. He was severely beaten by Israeli guards in 2003, and his health has deteriorated ever since. Hours after his death, a group of Palestinian prisoners declares a 3-day hunger strike in solidarity with their deceased comrade. Israeli prison guards raid their cells, assaulting several of their leaders. (MNA, Wafa 9/25)

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli border guards** assault a Palestinian worker attempting to cross into Israel nr. Qalqilya. They cause moderate injuries and leave him with the broken leg he sustained after falling from the separation wall. **Israeli forces** demolish around 35 saplings in a nature reserve nr. Hebron. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians gathering nr. Salfit to protest recent settlement expansion in the area; 1 Palestinian is arrested when he stands in front of a bulldozer. They also arrest 12 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem and Jenin, and nr. Hebron and Nablus; and patrol nr. Hebron and Nablus. **Israeli settlers** set fire to a Palestinian home under construction nr. Nablus, causing moderate damage. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli**

forces arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids in Jabal Mukabir, Issawiyya, and Abu Dis. (MNA, WAFA 9/25; PCHR 9/29)

In a meeting with **Israeli PM Netanyahu** in New York, **Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump** says that, if elected, he will “accept the long-standing Congressional mandate to recognize **Jerusalem** as the undivided capital of the State of Israel,” according to a Trump campaign press release. Netanyahu later meets with **Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton**, and she pledges to oppose “any attempt by outside parties to impose a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict . . . including the UN,” according to a press release from her campaign. (AJ, AP, HA, REU 9/25; HA 9/26)

26 SEPTEMBER 2016

Israeli forces carry out the **punitive demolition** of 1 room in the Hebron-area home of a Palestinian accused of participating in a 6/8 killing in Tel Aviv. Elsewhere in the West Bank, they demolish an agricultural structure, a small residence, and a car shop nr. Nablus, and 4 water wells nr. Hebron late at night. **IDF troops** arrest 7 Palestinians and cause NIS 10,000 (approx. \$2,700) in damage during raids and house searches nr. Hebron, Bethlehem, and Jenin; and patrol nr. Hebron and Salfit throughout the day. An **Israeli settler** opens fire on Palestinian youths allegedly throwing rocks nr. Qalqilya, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 6 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids in the Old City, Jabal Mukabir, and Shu‘fat r.c., marking the 4th day this week they have targeted the camp. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 9/26; PCHR 9/29)

27 SEPTEMBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish part of a classroom in a bedouin community nr. Jerusalem, and 6 residences and 9 sheep barns in the n. Jordan Valley. **IDF troops** arrest 10 Palestinians, including 1 Palestinian Legislative Council mbr., during raids and house searches nr. Jenin, Tulkarm, and in and around Hebron; and patrol nr. Salfit and Hebron during the day. **Palestinian youths** throw Molotov cocktails at an Israeli settler’s vehicle late at night nr. Ramallah, injuring 1 settler. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish 3 residential buildings in al-Tur and Bayt Safafa. **Israeli forces** continue targeting Shu‘fat r.c., raiding the camp for the 5th day this week and arresting 6 residents. They arrest 6 more Palestinians during raids in Abu Dis, Qalandia r.c., Jabal Mukabir, and Issawiyya. (MNA, WAFA 9/27; MNA 9/28; PCHR 9/29)

The **Israeli police** deploy heavily across East Jerusalem ahead of the Jewish High Holidays, issuing a temporary security alert and installing road blocks. (MNA 9/27)

28 SEPTEMBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** raze a swath of Palestinian land nr. Bethlehem, demolishing several olive trees. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids nr. Ramallah, Hebron, and Tulkarm, arresting 5 Palestinians and confiscating 1 car; and patrol nr. Hebron during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** continue targeting Shu‘fat r.c., raiding the camp for the 6th day this week and arresting at least 13 residents. They arrest 2 more Palestinians during raids in Qalandia r.c. and al-‘Izzariya. Two Palestinian families demolish their own homes in Bayt Hanina to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. (MNA, WAFA 9/28; PCHR 10/6)

Former Israeli pres. Shimon Peres dies at the age of 93. (HA, JP, NYT 9/28)

29 SEPTEMBER 2016

One Palestinian is killed and 3 others are injured in a tunnel collapse nr. Bayt Hanun in Gaza. Also along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Dayr al-Balah, causing no injuries or damage. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** temporarily forces 19 Palestinians from their homes in the n. Jordan Valley to make space for military drills in the area, and patrols nr. Nablus and Hebron during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** fire sound bombs during a raid in al-Tur, striking 1 Palestinian in the back of the head and causing serious injuries. (JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa 9/29; PCHR 10/6)

The **Israeli authorities** cancel **elderly Gazans'** weekly trip to **Haram al-Sharif** for Friday prayers due to the planned funeral for former Israeli pres. Peres, set for 9/30. Meanwhile, **PA pres. Abbas** asks to attend Peres's funeral, drawing criticism from across the Palestinian political spectrum. (HA, JP, MNA, YA 9/29)

30 SEPTEMBER 2016

Israeli soldiers shoot and kill a Palestinian at the Qalandia checkpoint n. of Jerusalem after he allegedly stabs an Israeli border guard, causing moderate injuries. The **IDF** then violently disperses around 200 Palestinians gathering to throw stones in protest of the killing. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and

along Gaza's border nr. al-Bureij r.c. and Shuja'iyah; at least 6 Palestinians are injured and 2 are arrested. They also patrol during the day nr. Qalqilya, Salfit, and Hebron. (HA, MNA, TOI, YA 9/30; MNA 10/1; PCHR 10/6)

PA pres. Abbas attends the funeral of former **Israeli pres. Peres** and shakes hands with **Israeli PM Netanyahu**. Responding to criticism from Hamas and many other Palestinians, a senior Hamas official says that Abbas's attendance disproves Israeli claims of Palestinian dedication to violence and that it sent a "strong message of Palestinian peace" to the world. **MK and Joint List chair Ayman Odeh** refuses to attend, along with the rest of the Joint List, citing Peres's treatment of the Palestinians (see Update for details). The Joint List and PA reportedly agree to refrain from publicly criticizing one another over their different views on this matter. (HA, JP, MNA, NYT, YA 9/30; HA 10/1)

1 OCTOBER 2016

Across **Israel**, Palestinian citizens gather to commemorate the 16th anniversary of the killing of 13 Palestinians by Israeli forces in 10/2000. Around 2,000 people, including several Joint List MKs, march through Sakhnin to mark the occasion. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids and house searches nr. Bethlehem, Qalqilya, and Salfit; and patrol during the day nr. Nablus and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 18 Palestinians during late-night raids in the Old City, al-Tur, and Silwan. (HA, MNA, Wafa 10/1; PCHR 10/6)

The **Israeli authorities** announce that the **IDF** will be imposing a general closure of the West Bank and a temporary moratorium on passage to and from Gaza between midnight on

10/2 and midnight on 10/4 during the upcoming Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashanah. Only medical and humanitarian exceptions will be allowed (see Update). (HA, JP, MNA 10/2)

The **Israeli NGO Peace Now** reports that the **Israeli Civil Admin.** has advanced plans to build a new settlement outpost nr. Nablus, likely with the intention of housing the 40-odd families from the **condemned Amona outpost**. The plan for the new settlement includes 98 housing units, with an option to increase the number of units to 300. Peace Now also reports that plans for a new industrial zone nr. Ramallah were also advanced. (JP, MNA, PCN 10/2)

2 OCTOBER 2016

The **IDF** implements a general closure of the **West Bank** and **Gaza** due to the Jewish holiday Rosh Hashanah. Meanwhile, the **IDF** delivers stop-work orders to a Palestinian home under construction in Yatta village nr. Hebron, and patrols during the day nr. Nablus, Tulkarm, Qalqilya, Salfit, and Hebron. An **Israeli settler** attacks a Palestinian-owned car nr. Qalqilya, causing NIS 1,000 (approx. \$260) in damage to the windshield and tires. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian homes nr. Khan Yunis, causing no damage. (Wafa 10/2; PCHR 10/6)

A **Palestinian official** says that the Israeli authorities have decided to bar non-Jews from **al-Ibrahimi Mosque** in Hebron on 7 different days in 10/2016 corresponding to Jewish holidays. The mosque will be closed to non-Jews on 10/3–4, 10/9, 10/12, 10/18–19, and 10/26. (MNA 10/2)

3 OCTOBER 2016

The **IDF** closes **al-Ibrahimi Mosque** in Hebron to non-Jews and maintains the general

closure of the oPt during Rosh Hashanah. Meanwhile, a group of **settler children** harass a Palestinian family picking olives nr. Hebron. They attempt to steal some olives before a local chapter of Youth Against Settlements intervenes. **IDF troops** raid a village nr. Nablus late at night and patrol nr. Hebron and Ramallah during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, 45 right-wing Jewish activists visit **Haram al-Sharif**. A Palestinian family demolishes part of its own home in the Old City to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** arrest a young Palestinian after he cuts through the border fence in an attempt to enter Israel nr. Eshkol. (MNA, Wafa 10/3; MNA 10/4; PCHR 10/6)

The **Palestinian High Court of Justice** rules that the municipal elections, which were set for 10/8 before being indefinitely delayed on 9/8, will go forward on 10/8 only in the West Bank because the courts operating in Gaza are “illegal.” The court previously said it favored holding elections across all Palestinian territory, including Gaza and East Jerusalem (see Update). **Hamas** rejects the court's decision; a spokesperson says that the decision “divides the Palestinian people.” (HA, JP, MEE, MNA, TOI, Wafa, YA 10/3; MNA 10/4)

4 OCTOBER 2016

The **IDF** keeps **al-Ibrahimi Mosque** in Hebron closed to non-Jews and maintains the general closure of the oPt during Rosh Hashanah. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids nr. Hebron, Bethlehem, and Nablus; and patrol nr. Nablus, Salfit, and Hebron during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, 73 right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif**. **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid in Silwan. (MNA 10/4; HA 10/5; PCHR 10/6)

PA FM Riyad al-Maliki says that Arab states have agreed to begin consultations in New York in support of a **UNSC res.** condemning Israeli settlements (see Update). He says, “We agreed that Arab amb. to the UN would start consultations on the draft res. before the end of [10/2016].” (Wafa 10/4)

After a cabinet meeting, **PA PM Rami Hamdallah** announces that the PA has decided to postpone municipal elections by 4 mos., to 2/2017. Earlier in the day, the **Central Elections Commission** criticized the High Court’s 10/3 decision to cancel the vote in Gaza, saying that excluding Gaza would only compromise the political situation further and recommending a postponement. **Hamas spokesperson Sami Abu Zuhri** criticizes the postponement, saying, “We consider the govt.’s decision to postpone the election as an attempt to evade the election to serve Fatah’s interests.” (HA, MEE, MNA, TOI, Wafa 10/4)

The ship *Zaytouna* approaches Gaza with an all-female crew of **13 solidarity activists**. They plan to test the Israeli blockade of Gaza on either 10/5 or 10/6 to focus international attention on the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Gaza. The **International Comm. for Breaking the Siege of Gaza** releases a statement supporting the women’s mission and calling on Israel to guarantee their safe arrival. Meanwhile, the **Israeli navy** is preparing to intercept the ship. (MNA 10/4; JP, TOI 10/5)

5 OCTOBER 2016

A **small Salafi group** fires a rocket from Gaza into Israel, which explodes in Sderot, causing no injuries and minor damage. Holding Hamas responsible, the **IDF** fires tank shells and launches at least 25 air strikes on Hamas military sites in Bayt Hanun, Khan Yunis, and Gaza City, causing substantial damage. After the

air strikes, the Israeli press reports that Hamas sent a message via a 3d party pledging to try to deescalate tensions and to stop small armed groups from firing more rockets. Meanwhile, an **Israeli jet** crashes on its return trip from a sortie in Gaza, killing the pilot and injuring another Israeli airman. An IDF spokesperson says that the 2 men ejected from the aircraft before the crash, and that the cause of the crash was unknown. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa, YA 10/5; PCHR, TOI 10/6)

The **IDF** lifts its 3-day general closure of the **West Bank** overnight, allowing Palestinians in the West Bank and **Gaza** to use border crossings into Israel again. They also lift their 1.5 mo. closure of Kifl Haris village nr. Salfit. The village was closed after reports of stone-throwing in the area. Elsewhere in the West Bank, **Israeli forces** level 36 dunams (9 acres) of Palestinian land nr. Hebron, destroying numerous plum and olive trees. **IDF troops** arrest 17 Palestinians during late-night raids and house searches nr. Ramallah, Hebron, Tulkarm, and Bethlehem. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 15 Palestinians during raids in Issawiyya and al-Tur.

Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City and Khan Yunis, causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers and shepherds working nr. Gaza City, causing no injuries. (MNA, Wafa 10/5; PCHR 10/13)

A delegation of **ICC officials**, including **chief prosecutor Bensouda**, arrives in Israel for a 5-day educational visit. They will meet with both Israeli and Palestinian officials. Bensouda is still conducting the preliminary examination into alleged war crimes that she initiated in 1/2015 at the Palestinians’ request. However, the ICC officials explicitly state that they are not in Israel to “engage in evidence collection in

relation to any alleged crimes” or to “assess the adequacy of the respective legal systems to deal with crimes that fall within ICC jurisdiction” (see Update). (HA, JP, TOI 10/5)

Israeli naval forces intercept the ship *Zaytouna* around 35 naut. mi. off the coast of Gaza and peacefully arrest its all-female crew of **solidarity activists**. The takeover and escort to the port of Ashdod are “uneventful,” according to the IDF. The women are then detained at Givon Prison ahead of their likely deportation. **PLO secy.-gen. Saeb Erekat** says, “We strongly condemn the Israeli aggression today against the international flotilla that attempted to break the illegal Israeli siege over 1.8 m. people in Gaza.” (EI, HA, MNA, NYT, WAFA 10/5)

6 OCTOBER 2016

For a 2d day in a row, **Gazan fighters** fire a rocket into s. Israel. It lands in an open area, causing no serious damage or injuries. The **IDF** fires retaliatory tank shells across the border at Hamas sites, causing an undetermined amount of damage. After the exchange, **DM Lieberman** says that Israel will not seek an escalation of violence, but that it will not hesitate from retaliating against all rocket attacks (see Update). (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, YA 10/6; PCHR 10/13)

Along **Gaza’s border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Rafah. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** conducts a late-night raid in al-Fara’a r.c. nr. Tubas, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 3 Palestinians are injured and 2 are arrested. **IDF troops** arrest 6 Palestinians during raids nr. Bethlehem, Nablus, and Tulkarm; and patrol nr. Hebron. In **Israel**, **Israeli forces** demolish the “unrecognized” bedouin village of al-Araqib in the Negev for the 104th time since 2010.

They also shut down several organizations affiliated with the **Northern Branch of the Islamic Movement** in Nazareth and Umm al-Fahm, including 1 media group. The branch was accused of incitement and outlawed in 11/2015 (see *JPS* 45 [3]). (MNA 10/6; MNA 10/7; PCHR 10/13)

PA pres. Abbas is admitted to hospital in Ramallah after suffering chest pains and undergoes cardiovascular testing. **PLO secy.-gen. Erekat** says that the tests confirm that Abbas is in “good health.” (HA, MEMO, MNA 10/6)

7 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel’s separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil’in, Ni’lin, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and in 4 areas along Gaza’s border (nr. Gaza City, Khan Yunis, Dayr al-Balah, and al-Bureij r.c.); 2 Palestinians are injured and 1 of their vehicles is confiscated. After reports of stone-throwing in Huwwara village nr. Nablus, the **IDF** shuts down all the stores in the village and blocks off the main road. **IDF troops** patrol nr. Hebron and Salfit throughout the day. **Israeli settlers** assault a number of Palestinian farmers harvesting olives nr. Salfit, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and the Palestinians; 2 Palestinians are arrested. Off **Gaza’s coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City, and then detain 2 fishermen and confiscate 1 boat. (MNA 10/7; PCHR 10/13)

8 OCTOBER 2016

Israeli forces injure more than 50 Palestinians in clashes at Al-Quds University in Abu Dis,

East Jerusalem. It's unclear how the clashes began. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 8 Palestinians during raids and house searches nr. Jenin, Salfit, Ramallah, Bethlehem, and in Nablus; and patrol in and around Hebron during the day. (MNA 10/8; PCHR 10/17)

9 OCTOBER 2016

Israeli police shoot and kill a Palestinian in Sheikh Jarrah, East Jerusalem, after he injures 6 Israelis in a drive-by shooting nr. an Israeli police headquarters (2 succumb to their injuries later in the day). The Palestinian was reportedly supposed to turn himself into the Israeli authorities today to begin serving a 4-mo. sentence for attacking a police officer in 2013. **Israeli forces** later conduct a series of raids in Silwan and al-Ram, interrogate the attacker's family, and spark clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 7 Palestinians are detained, and 1 Associated Press photographer and 2 Israeli soldiers are injured (1 seriously). Israeli troops return to al-Ram late at night, arrest the attacker's teenage daughter, and threaten punitive demolition of the attacker's home. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 10/9; HA, MNA, NYT, YA 10/10; PCHR 10/13)

Around 1,200 right-wing Jewish activists visit Joseph's Tomb nr. Nablus, sparking clashes between their **IDF escort** and stone-throwing Palestinians; there are no serious injuries. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** arrest 13 Palestinians and damage 1 workshop during raids and house searches nr. Tulkarm, Hebron, and Qalqilya. Inside Israel, **Israeli forces** demolish multiple homes in the bedouin village of Bir Hadaj nr. Beersheba. The IDF also demolishes 22 residential and agricultural structures in the n. Jordan Valley,

8 homes in a bedouin community nr. Bethlehem, and a number of residences, agricultural structures, solar panels, and the main water pipeline in a bedouin village nr. Jerusalem. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** open fire on Palestinian farmers nr. al-Maghazi r.c., causing no injuries; and conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. al-Bureij r.c. (MNA, WAFA 10/9; MNA 10/10; PCHR 10/13)

10 OCTOBER 2016

A **Palestinian** dies in a smuggling tunnel between Gaza and Egypt after being accidentally electrocuted. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure 2 Palestinians nr. Bethlehem in unclear circumstances. Meanwhile, **Israeli troops** deploy nr. a mosque n. of Bethlehem, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 3 Palestinians are injured and 10 are arrested. The **IDF** arrests 12 Palestinians during raids and house searches nr. Salfit and in and around Jenin; and patrols nr. Hebron during the day. **Israeli forces** demolish a small tool shop outside Yatta village nr. Hebron. **Israeli settlers** assault Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Nablus, causing no serious injuries, before smashing the windows and slashing the tires of their car. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** raid a school in the Old City, accusing several students of throwing glass at them from the school's windows. Teachers and administrators block the Israeli troops from arresting their students. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian shepherds working nr. al-Bureij r.c., causing no injuries. Off Gaza's coast late at night, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Jabaliya r.c., causing no damage or injuries. (EI, MNA

10/10; MNA, Wafa 10/11; HA 10/12; PCHR 10/13)

11 OCTOBER 2016

Israeli forces punitively shut down shops in al-Ram village and conduct a series of raids on homes in Silwan belonging to family members of the Palestinian who injured 4 Israelis and killed 2 in a shooting in Sheikh Jarrah on 10/9. The raids spark clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians across Silwan; 1 Palestinian is shot and killed with live ammunition. Israeli troops return to al-Ram in the evening, conducting a series of raids and sparking further clashes with Palestinian youths; 4 Palestinians are injured. Elsewhere, **184 right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif**. Their Israeli police escort assaults and arrests 1 Palestinian youth. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** carry out the **punitive demolition** of the Nablus apartment of a Palestinian accused of planning the shooting attack on 10/1/2015 that left 2 Israeli settlers dead. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** conduct a raid in Ni'lin village nr. Ramallah, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing residents; there are no serious injuries. Late at night, they conduct further raids in Ni'lin, arresting 3 Palestinians. The IDF patrols nr. Hebron and Nablus during the day. (EI, HA, JP, MNA, TOI, Wafa, YA 10/11; HA, MNA, Wafa, YA 10/12; PCHR 10/13)

Ahead of the start of **Yom Kippur** at sunset, the **Israeli police** and **IDF** implement a 48-hour general closure of East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and Gaza just after midnight. All border crossings between the West Bank, Gaza, and Israel will be closed, except for humanitarian cases. The police place roadblocks around Jerusalem, preventing Palestinians from driving into Jewish neighborhoods and blocking them

from some main streets entirely. (HA, MNA, TOI 10/11)

12 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian child along Gaza's border nr. Khan Yunis, according to Palestinian witnesses. The IDF will deny any involvement in the shooting. Also along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinians hunting birds nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. Off Gaza's coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries or major damage. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** continue their general closure across the oPt for **Yom Kippur** and bar non-Jewish visitors from **al-Ibrahimi Mosque** in c. Hebron. Also in the Hebron area, the **IDF** shuts down the main entrance to Bayt Umar village, temporarily shuts down some shops, conducts a series of raids in the area, and detains a number of Palestinian youths. **IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians on further raids nr. Bethlehem. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct heavy raids in al-Ram for the 2d day in a row, sparking renewed clashes with Palestinian youths; several Palestinians are injured. They also close down the main entrance to Issawiyya as collective punishment after arresting 5 Palestinians accused of throwing Molotov cocktails. **Israeli settlers** assault Palestinians and their homes in Silwan, sparking minor clashes between Israeli forces in the area and stone-throwing Palestinians; there are no serious injuries. (MNA, Wafa 10/12; MNA, PCHR, Wafa 10/13; PCHR 10/20)

13 OCTOBER 2016

Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya

on 2 separate occasions, causing no injuries or damage. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** confiscate several mobile residences nr. Jericho and demolish a road leading to Khirbat al-Hadidiya village nearby. **IDF troops** remove flags and banners from Palestinian homes during a raid in Hebron; arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in and around Nablus; and patrol nr. Qalqilya, Salfit, and Hebron during the day. **Two Israeli security troops** are injured in an alleged car ramming attack outside Jerusalem. The driver involved is not identified before he or she flees the scene. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** violently disperse Palestinian worshippers outside a mosque in Issawiyya, and then conduct raids in a neighboring village, arresting 4 Palestinians. Later, they violently disperse Palestinians at a funeral in Silwan, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; there are no serious injuries. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 10/13; PCHR 10/20)

A **UNESCO** commission approves a Palestinian-backed draft res., titled “Occupied Palestine,” condemning Israel’s discriminatory administration of **Haram al-Sharif** that, according to Israeli officials, ignores Jewish connections to the site (see Update for details). (HA, TOI 10/13; MNA 10/14)

14 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel’s occupation, separation wall, and settlements in 4 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil’in, Ni’lin, Silwad, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza’s border nr. al-Bureij r.c. and Jabaliya r.c.; 1 Palestinian is injured. Also along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmland nr. Khan Yunis, causing no serious damage. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, they demolish

property and threaten demolitions during late-night raids nr. Nablus and Hebron; and patrol nr. Hebron throughout the day. **Israeli settlers** set fire to Palestinian farmlands nr. Qalqilya, destroying 50 olive trees. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** assault a Palestinian from Silwan while he is walking n. of the city. (MNA 10/14; PCHR 10/20)

At Egypt’s request, the **UNSC** holds a special meeting to discuss Israeli settlement building in the oPt, particularly the obstacles it presents to a 2-state solution. Two major anti-occupation groups, B’Tselem and Americans for Peace Now, address the UNSC. (HA, MNA, TOI, YA 10/14; AP 10/15)

15 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians gathering at Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah to commemorate the 1st anniversary of the killing of a resident of the camp; at least 10 Palestinians are injured (1 critically). The **IDF** also conducts late-night raids nr. Nablus, Hebron, and Jenin, arresting 5 Palestinians, demolishing a door and threatening demolitions; and patrols nr. Hebron and Qalqilya. Meanwhile, a **Palestinian** armed with a knife allegedly assaults an Israeli border police officer outside a settlement nr. Jerusalem, causing minor injuries. Along **Gaza’s border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmland nr. Gaza City, causing no damage. Off Gaza’s coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli police** arrest a Palestinian nr. the Old City who was allegedly planning a stabbing attack. **Israeli forces** arrest 6 Palestinians during late-night raids in Silwan and Abu Dis; and impose a temporary closure on Bayt Surik village n. of the city, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing residents; 2 Palestinians are injured.

(HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 10/15; PCHR 10/20)

The **IDF** imposes a **general closure** over the West Bank and Gaza, barring all passage through border crossings, except humanitarian cases, for the **Jewish Sukkot holiday**. The closure is set to extend through 10/17. (MNA, TOI 10/15)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for passage in both directions for the 1st of 2 planned days (see Update). (JP, MNA 10/15)

Israeli PM Netanyahu accuses B'Tselem and Americans for Peace Now of joining the "chorus of slander" against Israel because they participated in the **UNSC** meeting on Israeli settlements on 10/14. Netanyahu also says he is working to deny B'Tselem its right to a national service volunteer. The group only is allotted 1 such volunteer, and the post is currently unfilled. (HA 10/16)

16 OCTOBER 2016

At sundown, Israeli authorities close Haram al-Sharif and Hebron's al-Ibrahimi Mosque to non-Jewish visitors until 10/24 for the Sukkot holiday. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct a raid in Qatabiya village nr. Jenin, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing residents; 2 Palestinians are injured. They also arrest 4 Palestinians during raids nr. Nablus and Hebron; and patrol nr. Hebron during the day. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinians picking olives nr. Nablus, causing no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, a large number of **Israeli forces** deploy across Silwan after unidentified assailants throw Molotov cocktails at a settler home in the neighborhood. In **Israel**, around **1,200 bedouins** gather outside the Ramat Hanegev council building to protest Israel's ongoing evacuation and demolition of

their homes. Their village, Bir Hadaj, is partially unrecognized, and part of it is slated for destruction in the context of the Israeli plan to redevelop the Negev. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya and Gaza City, causing no injuries or damage. (HA, MNA, WAFA 10/16; WAFA 10/19; PCHR 10/20)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for passage in both directions for the 2d of 2 planned days (see Update). (MNA 10/16)

17 OCTOBER 2016

In **East Jerusalem**, **43 right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif**, marking Sukkot. **Israeli forces** seize the identity cards of several Palestinians waiting for access while the group is touring the sanctuary. They also arrest 10 students and an administrator of the Islamic Orphan's Secondary School in the Old City after reports of stone-throwing in the area, as well as 2 Palestinians during raids and at checkpoints in the Old City and Issawiyya. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** delivers **stop-work** orders to the al-Zawiya municipality for an ongoing road-paving project in the village. **IDF troops** arrest 7 Palestinians during raids nr. Ramallah and Hebron; and patrol nr. Nablus, Hebron, and Ramallah during the day. **Unidentified assailants** throw stones at an Israeli bus driving nr. Bethlehem; the driver suffers minor injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian electricity technicians doing maintenance work on power lines nr. Khuza'a. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya. Neither incident results in injuries. (MNA, TOI 10/17; PCHR 10/20)

18 OCTOBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** assault Palestinians harvesting olives nr. Nablus, causing no injuries. They also conduct raids nr. Nablus, Tulkarm, and Ramallah, arresting 6 Palestinians and sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents of Sabastiya village (there are no serious injuries). The IDF patrols nr. Hebron and Salfit during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **unidentified youths** throw stones at an Israeli car in al-Tur, lightly injuring 2 Israelis. Later, stone-throwers injure a 3d Israeli outside the Old City. **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians leaving the Old City and 17 more during raids in al-Tur, Silwan, and Wadi al-Juz late at night. Meanwhile, more than **200 right-wing Jewish activists** tour **Haram al-Sharif** for a 2d straight day, while **Israeli forces** seize the ID cards of a number of Palestinians attempting to gain access to the sanctuary. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 10/18; PCHR 10/20)

UNESCO's Exec. Board approves the Palestinian-backed "Occupied Palestine" draft res. about Israel's discriminatory administration of **Haram al-Sharif** that was approved by a separate UNESCO body on 10/13 (see Doc. A1 and Update for details). (AJ, ALM, AP, HA 10/18)

19 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian at a checkpoint nr. Nablus after she allegedly attempts to stab an Israeli border police officer. No Israelis are injured. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** patrol nr. Hebron throughout the day and arrest 3 Palestinians on late-night raids nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, and

Jenin. In **East Jerusalem**, more than 10,000 Jewish worshippers gather at the Western Wall for Sukkot. Meanwhile, around 1,000 worshippers tour **Haram al-Sharif** and police remove 8 of them from the sanctuary for violating the rule against non-Muslim prayer. Elsewhere, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in the Old City, Silwan, and al-Ram. They also confiscate equipment from a printing house in al-Ram. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Bayt Hanun; and open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Bayt Hanun later in the day, causing no injuries. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 10/19; MNA, PCHR 10/20; JP 10/21; PCHR 10/27)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 2d time this week, allowing passage in both directions. A Palestinian official says that they intend to keep it open for 4 days in a row (see Update). (MNA 10/19)

Israeli amb. to the UN Danny Danon says he plans to demand that the UN end its funding of **B'Tselem** because of its criticism of the Israeli occupation on 10/14. (HA, JP, TOI, YA 10/19; JP 10/20)

20 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian outside Bayt Umar nr. Hebron after he and other youths throw stones at soldiers as they patrol the area. One Israeli soldier is lightly injured, according to the IDF. Palestinian medical personnel say that the youth was shot in the back. An internal IDF memo will leak to the press next week claiming that the Israeli soldiers responsible for the killing had not followed official guidelines during the incident, and that it could have been avoided

if they had. Early in the morning, **more than 1,000 right-wing Jewish activists** visit Joseph's Tomb outside Nablus, sparking clashes between their **IDF escort** and stone-throwing Palestinians in the area; 1 Palestinian is injured. **IDF troops** also conduct late-night raids and house searches nr. Hebron, Jenin, Ramallah, and Bethlehem, arresting 4 Palestinians and assaulting 1; and patrol during the day nr. Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, 323 right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif** on the 4th day of Sukkot. (AJ, EI, JP, MNA, WAFA 10/20; TOI 10/25; PCHR 10/27)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 2d day in a row, allowing passage in both directions (See Update). (MNA 10/20)

A **Palestinian** succumbs to injuries sustained during an IDF raid in Ramallah in 2007. (MNA 10/20)

21 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border nr. al-Bureij r.c.; 2 Palestinians are injured. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Balata r.c. nr. Nablus early in the morning, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian residents; at least 7 Palestinians are injured. The **IDF** arrests 1 Palestinian and issues 5 arrest summons during raids nr. Bethlehem and Hebron. (MNA 10/21; PCHR 10/27)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 3d day in a row,

allowing passage in both directions (see Update). (MNA 10/20)

22 OCTOBER 2016

A **Hamas fighter** dies in a tunnel collapse in the morning. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers and bird hunters nr. Gaza City. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya. There are no injuries or damage in either incident. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** level land nr. Nablus reportedly to prepare for the construction of new settler residences in the area. **IDF troops** open fire on 3 Palestinians outside Beit El settlement nr. Ramallah, injuring 1 moderately. They also arrest 2 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during raids nr. Jericho and Qalqilya, as well as in and around Bethlehem; and patrol nr. Hebron and Nablus during the day. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 10/22; MNA 10/23; PCHR 10/27)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 4th day in a row, allowing passage in both directions. They had planned to keep the crossing open only 4 days in a row, but decide to extend it an additional day through 10/23 (see Update). (MNA 10/23)

An **Israeli police spokesperson** announces that the IDF will impose a **general closure** on the West Bank and Gaza from midnight tonight through approx. midnight on 10/24, the 1st day of Jewish holiday Simhath Torah. Humanitarian cases will be permitted. (HA, MNA, TOI 10/23)

23 OCTOBER 2016

Hundreds of right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif**, marking the 7th and final day

of Sukkot. Meanwhile, **Israeli forces** arrest 20 Palestinians on late-night raids in Shu'fat, Issawiyya, Jabal Mukabir, and Silwan. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Dayr Jarir village nr. Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 2 Israeli soldiers are injured. Hours after the clashes, the IDF returns to the village, declaring it a closed military zone and shutting down all exits and entrances. (They will reopen the village on 10/24.) **IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids nr. Nablus and Hebron. Israeli authorities extend the **general closure** on the West Bank and Gaza through 10/25 for the Jewish holiday of Simchat Torah. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no injuries or damage. (MNA 10/23; PCHR 10/27)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for an unscheduled 5th day in a row, allowing passage in both directions (see Update). (MNA 10/24)

24 OCTOBER 2016

For the 2d time in 3 days, a **Hamas fighter** is killed in a tunnel collapse e. of Khan Yunis. Hamas later says he was working in the tunnel when it collapsed. Earlier, **unknown persons** fire a rocket from Gaza into an open area in s. Israel, causing no major damage or injuries. The **IAF** then launches retaliatory air strikes on a military post e. of Bayt Hanun in Gaza. The shelling causes material damage but no injuries. Also along Gaza's border, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. al-Maghazi r.c., causing no injuries. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** lifts its closure of Dayr Jarir village nr. Ramallah 1 day after imposing it, while maintaining its general closure of the West Bank and Gaza, as announced on 10/22, until midnight.

IDF troops arrest 6 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Jenin, and nr. Ramallah and Bethlehem; and patrol nr. Nablus and Hebron during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, 67 right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif**. **Israeli forces** arrest 6 Palestinians during late-night raids in the Old City. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 10/24; PCHR 10/27)

25 OCTOBER 2016

An **Israeli settler driver** crashes his vehicle into a Palestinian couple and their horse-drawn cart nr. Qalqilya, moderately injuring both of them (the man will succumb to his injuries on 10/26). It's unclear if the crash was an intentional ramming attack or not. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, the **IDF** shuts down the entrances to Husan village nr. Bethlehem after unidentified assailants open fire on Israeli settlers' vehicles in the area. **IDF troops** arrest 7 Palestinians during patrols nr. Tulkarm, Nablus, and Bethlehem, as well as in and around Ramallah and Hebron; and patrol nr. Salfit and Hebron during the day. The raids in Ramallah spark clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths, but there are no serious injuries. In the evening, **PASF troops** violently suppress a demonstration in al-Am'ari r.c. nr. Ramallah in protest of PA pres. Abbas's recent decision to expel a Fatah official from the party (see Update for details). Further **PASF** clashes break out in Balata r.c. nr. Nablus and in Jenin; 2 Palestinians are injured. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Shu'fat r.c. and the Old City. Along **Israel's border with Egypt**, an **Israeli youth** is wounded by gunfire from Egypt while performing maintenance work on the border fence. An Egyptian police officer is later found responsible, having mistaken the youth for a

smuggler. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA 10/25; MNA, TOI 10/26; HA, PCHR 10/27)

26 OCTOBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** reopens the entrance to Bayt ‘Aynun village nr. Hebron, having kept it closed for nearly a year following a surge of violence in the Hebron area in 10/2015 (see Update on Conflict and Diplomacy). **IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids and house searches nr. Jenin and in Nablus, Hebron, and Bethlehem; and patrol nr. Hebron throughout the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish 3 homes in Bayt Hanina and a multi-unit building in Silwan. They also arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Silwan and Issawiyya. Along **Gaza’s border**, **Israeli forces** conduct limited incursions to level lands nr. Gaza City and al-Bureij r.c. In **Israel**, **Israeli forces** deliver demolition orders to several homes in Bir Hadaj village nr. Beesheba, sparking clashes with the residents of the bedouin village; several bedouins are arrested. (MNA, WAFA 10/26; MNA, PCHR 10/27; PCHR 11/3)

Unidentified assailants driving along the Israel-Lebanon border in **s. Lebanon** open fire on Israeli forces across the border, injuring 1. The Israeli soldiers return fire, causing an unknown amount of damage or injuries (see Update). (HA, JP, MNA, YA 10/26)

UNESCO’s World Heritage Comm. passes a res. condemning Israel’s discriminatory administration of **Haram al-Sharif** and reaffirming the sanctuary as a Muslim holy site. The wording is similar to that in the res. passed by UNESCO’s executive board on 10/18, but does not refer to Israel as an “occupying” power and also includes Jewish names for the Western Wall/al-Buraq Plaza (see Doc. A1 and Update for details). (HA, JP, TOI, WAFA 10/26)

27 OCTOBER 2016

Along **Gaza’s border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. al-Bureij r.c. Meanwhile, the Israeli authorities temporarily limit the number of trucks permitted to pass through the Kerem Shalom crossing bearing goods for Gaza. Around 70 trucks are denied access. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in al-Khadir nr. Bethlehem and Jayyus nr. Qalqilya, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians in both. **IDF troops** also arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Tubas and nr. Tulkarm and Nablus; and patrol during the day nr. Hebron. **Israeli forces** bulldoze an agricultural road nr. Nablus, then block the road with a sand barrier. **Unidentified vandals** scrawl swastikas and the words “Death to Jews” on an IDF outpost nr. Hebron late at night. In response, the **IDF** suspends the Palestinian olive harvest in the area indefinitely. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct raids in Shu’fat r.c., sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; at least 12 Palestinians are injured. They arrest 3 Palestinians during further raids in Sur al-Bahir. (MNA, WAFA 10/27; HA 10/30; PCHR 11/3)

PA pres. Abbas meets with **Hamas leader Khalid Mishal** and his **dep. Ismail Haniyeh** in Doha. They discuss steps they could take toward Palestinian national reconciliation. Senior Palestinian officials say the meeting is the start of a new reconciliation process, but they add that Abbas and Mishal did not agree on the aims of the new process (see Update). (HA, NYT, TOI, YA 10/27; MNA 10/30)

28 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday

demonstrations against Israel's settlements, occupation, and separation wall in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border nr. Gaza City and al-Bureij r.c.; 3 Palestinians are injured. Elsewhere in the **West Bank, Israeli soldiers** shoot and seriously injure a Palestinian after he allegedly attempts a car-ramming and stabbing attack nr. Ramallah. Palestinian witnesses say that the soldiers fired on the man in his car unprovoked, injuring him. They fired on him again when he exited the vehicle, allegedly holding a knife. The **IDF** raids his Ramallah-area home late at night and interrogates his family. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** expel a number of Palestinian farmers from their land nr. Nablus, arresting 1. They conduct raids nr. Salfit and patrol nr. Hebron throughout the day. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** seal off a main street in Jabal Mukabir with cement barriers in an act of collective punishment after unidentified persons in the area fired fireworks at a nearby Israeli settlement, according to the Israeli authorities. They also conduct raids in Issawiyya, sparking minor clashes with stone-throwing youths; there are no serious injuries. (MNA 10/28; HA, TOI, WAFA 10/29; PCHR 11/3)

29 OCTOBER 2016

Late at night, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian driving outside the Ofra settlement nr. Ramallah. They claim he had weapons and intended to attack them. Elsewhere in the **West Bank, IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during raids nr. Hebron, Bethlehem, and Jenin; and patrol nr. Ramallah and Hebron throughout the day. **Israeli settlers** cut down 18 olive trees on Palestinian land nr. Bethlehem. Meanwhile, **PASF troops** conduct a raid in Balata r.c.,

sparking clashes with armed gunmen in the camp; 2 residents of the camp and 1 Palestinian security officer are injured. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya and Gaza City, injuring 1 fisherman. (JP, MNA, TOI 10/29; PCHR 11/3)

30 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian driver at a junction nr. Bayt Umar after he allegedly rams them, lightly injuring 3. Elsewhere in the **West Bank, IDF troops** conduct a raid nr. Salfit, setting up flying checkpoints to secure an area for **Israeli settlers** to enter the area. Hundreds of settlers then tour Kafr Haris village. **IDF troops** arrest 8 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during late-night raids nr. Ramallah, Nablus, and Qalqilya; and patrol nr. Ramallah, Hebron, and Qalqilya during the day. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** assault and arrest a Palestinian accused of stone-throwing nr. the Old City, and arrest 7 more Palestinians during raids in Silwan and al-Tur. Meanwhile, an **Israeli settler** assaults a Palestinian in Silwan, causing minor injuries. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian agricultural lands nr. Gaza City, causing no serious damage. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 10/30; PCHR 11/3)

Israel's Coordination and Liaison Admin. to the Gaza Strip announces that Israel will increase the supply of **water** to Gaza now that a new reservoir has been constructed. The reservoir can retain around 5,000 m³ of water, allowing for an increase in annual transfers of water from 1.5 m. to 3 m. m³ (MNA 10/31)

31 OCTOBER 2016

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian policeman outside the Beit El settlement nr. Ramallah after he opens fire on Israeli soldiers at the Beit El checkpoint, injuring 3. The IDF raids the assailant's Jenin-area home after the attack, arresting his brother and confiscating the family's work permits. They also shut down the Beit El checkpoint (it will remain closed through 11/14). Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** close down the entrance to Marah Rabah village nr. Bethlehem, as well as 2 side roads, after reports of stone-throwing in the area. They also demolish 10 residential structures and animal sheds in the n. Jordan Valley, confiscate 4 tractors from families living nr. Tubas, and deliver stop-work orders to several homes under construction nr. Hebron. **IDF troops** arrest 10 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids nr. Qalqilya, Nablus, and Hebron, as well as in Tubas; and patrol nr. Qalqilya and Hebron during the day. Early in the morning, **PASF troops** conduct raids in Balata r.c. nr. Nablus, sparking 6 hours of clashes and minor firefights with the alleged criminals they came to arrest. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** raid a middle school in Silwan and attempt to arrest a number of students accused of stone-throwing before 2 administrators intervene. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level lands nr. Khuza'a. Off Gaza's coast, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City, causing no injuries or damage. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 10/31; HA 11/1; MNA 11/2; PCHR, REU 11/3; MNA 11/14)

1 NOVEMBER 2016

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian agricultural lands nr.

Khuza'a and Khan Yunis, and Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Bayt Lahiya. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on 2 Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing 1 moderate injury and no serious damage. Then they confiscate both boats and arrest 6 fishermen. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian in c. Hebron after she is found to be carrying 2 knives. They also drive a Palestinian farmer and his family off their olive grove outside nearby Bayt Umar village. The **IDF** conducts raids in Nablus late at night, arresting 4 Palestinians and sparking minor clashes (there are no serious injuries); arrests 11 Palestinians and issues 1 arrest summons during further raids in and around Bethlehem and Hebron; and patrols in Hebron and nr. Qalqilya during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli Nature and Parks Authority forces** demolish 6 graves in Bab al-Rahma Cemetery nr. the Old City. They claim the graves were built on "confiscated land" belonging to the authority. **Israeli forces** conduct raids in Abu Dis, sparking clashes with students at Al-Quds University; there are no serious injuries. They arrest 8 Palestinians during raids in Sur al-Bahir, Issawiyya, and the Old City. (JP, MNA, WAFA 11/1; PCHR 11/3)

2 NOVEMBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** patrol nr. Hebron during the day; and arrest 16 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Tulkarm, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a 2-story building in Bayt Hanina and arrest 3 Palestinians during late-night raids in Shaykh Sa'ad. In **Israel**, **Israeli forces** demolish the "unrecognized" bedouin village of al-Araqib in

the Negev for the 105th time since 2010. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 11/2; PCHR 11/3; PCHR 11/10)

The **Jerusalem Municipality's Local Planning and Building Comm.** approves the construction of **181 new residences** in the Gilo settlement. Meanwhile, *Haaretz* reports that settlers in the **Ariel settlement** have recently constructed 16 new buildings on territory that does not belong to the state, meaning that construction there should be illegal. (HA, JP 11/2; HA, JP 11/3)

3 NOVEMBER 2016

Israeli soldiers shoot and kill a Palestinian outside the Ofra settlement nr. Ramallah after he allegedly attempts to stab 1 of them. No Israelis are injured. After the attack, **IDF troops** set up a checkpoint outside the nearby Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents of the area; 1 Israeli soldier is injured. Elsewhere, **armed Palestinian gunmen** shoot and injure an Israeli soldier nr. Tulkarm. The circumstances of the shooting are unclear. The **IDF** seals off 2 roads leading to Marah Rabah village nr. Bethlehem with cement barriers. **Israeli forces** demolish 2 storage warehouses and a butcher shop nr. Nablus. **IDF troops** arrest 3 Palestinians during late-night raids in Bethlehem and nr. Hebron; and patrol nr. Jenin, Hebron, Qalqilya, and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct raids in Abu Dis in the morning and ban 3 mosques from broadcasting the morning call to prayer. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 11/3; MNA 11/4; PCHR 11/10)

A **Palestinian** succumbs to injuries he sustained during clashes with the IDF in Nablus in 2002. (MNA 11/4)

4 NOVEMBER 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's occupation, separation wall, and settlements in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih), and Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian and 1 Israeli activist are arrested. The **IDF** also bars around 30 Palestinian families from reaching their olive groves nr. Nablus until 11/7. **IDF troops** conduct late-night raids nr. Hebron and Ramallah, arresting 1 Palestinian, issuing arrest summons to another, and threatening punitive demolition to the home of a 3d; and patrol nr. Hebron during the day. (MNA 11/4; MNA 11/7; PCHR 11/10)

5 NOVEMBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Bayt Umar nr. Hebron, sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths; there are no serious injuries. They also raid the Ramallah-area home of the Palestinian killed during an alleged stabbing attack on 11/3, and interrogate and detain his family. The **IDF** arrests 7 Palestinians and confiscates personal property during late-night raids nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin, and Ramallah; and patrol nr. Hebron and Salfit during the day. **Around 20 Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinians picking olives nr. Ramallah, injuring 3 (1 critically). In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 4 Palestinians during raids in Hizma and nr. the Old City. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA 11/5; HA 11/6; PCHR 11/10)

Amid the ongoing conflict in Syria, **Hamas** closes its office in Damascus in a symbolic effort

to distance the group from **Syrian pres. Bashar al-Asad**. (PIC 11/6)

6 NOVEMBER 2016

For the 2d time in 2 days, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Bayt Umar, seizing a computer from a printing shop and breaking into a number of homes. They also arrest 11 Palestinians and confiscate personal property during late-night raids nr. Tulkarm, Ramallah, Qalqilya, and Bethlehem, as well as in and around Hebron; and patrol nr. Hebron and Nablus during the day. **Israeli soldiers** assault and injure 2 Palestinians picking olives nr. Qalqilya. Meanwhile, **PASF troops** pass on information about a planned attack on an IDF position in c. Hebron, leading to the IDF's arrest of the suspected assailant. **Israeli soldiers** then find an IED planted close to their position. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest a Palestinian in the Old City when she is allegedly overheard planning a stabbing attack. They also arrest 2 Palestinian youths during late-night raids in Issawiyya. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** spray wastewater at a Palestinian fishing boat in an attempt to submerge it. The fisherman on board faints and is taken to al-Shifa Hospital. (MNA, WAFA, YA 11/6; PCHR 11/10)

7 NOVEMBER 2016

Following clashes in the area, including on 11/3, the **IDF** shuts down a number of checkpoints across the Ramallah district, causing major traffic delays. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** confiscate electrical equipment and arrest 2 Palestinians during a raid nr. Jenin. They return to the Jenin area at night for further raids, sparking clashes with

stone-throwing youths; there are no serious injuries. The IDF also arrests 6 Palestinians and issues 1 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Tulkarm, Hebron, and Bethlehem; and patrols nr. Hebron and Ramallah during the day. **Israeli forces** demolish several Palestinian residential tents in the n. Jordan Valley and confiscate a residential trailer and a water tank from al-Samu' village nr. Hebron. Meanwhile, **around 30 Palestinian families** reenter their olive groves nr. Nablus, having been barred from them since 11/4 by the IDF. They find 400 trees picked bare and accuse Israeli settlers of stealing the harvest. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** shut down a wedding hall in al-'Izzariya, claiming that Palestinians fired guns into the air during a celebration there. They also arrest 9 Palestinians during raids in Shu'fat r.c., Issawiyya, and Silwan. (MNA, WAFA 11/7; MNA, WAFA 11/8; PCHR 11/10)

8 NOVEMBER 2016

IDF troops assault a Palestinian youth at the entrance to 'Azun village nr. Qalqilya before arresting him. It's unclear why the young man was targeted. Meanwhile, the **IDF** arrests at least 7 Palestinians and confiscates 1 car during raids in and around Hebron, Jenin, and Nablus; and patrols nr. Hebron throughout the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish 1 residential building each in Issawiyya, al-Tur, and Wadi al-Juz. They also arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids in Jabal Mukabir. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya late at night, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 11/8; MNA 11/9; PCHR 11/10)

In a surprise win, **Republican Trump** is elected to become the 45th pres. of the U.S.

His victory promises to upend many U.S. relationships, including those with Israel, the Palestinians, and Iran (see Update). (AP, BBC, NYT 11/8; HA, TOI, WAFA 11/9)

9 NOVEMBER 2016

IDF troops shoot and critically injure a Palestinian in Hawara village nr. Nablus after he allegedly attempts to stab a soldier with a screwdriver. Late at night in the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** use concrete to seal the entrance to the Hebron-area home of a Palestinian accused of assisting in the killing of 4 Israelis in Tel Aviv on 6/8. They also confiscate a tractor from Ras al-Amud village in the n. Jordan Valley and reopen the entrance to Aqraba village nr. Nablus, which was closed on 9/20 as collective punishment for reported stone-throwing in the area. The **IDF** arrests 14 Palestinian during late-night raids nr. Jenin, Bethlehem, and Hebron; and patrols nr. Hebron and Nablus during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a car wash in Bayt Hanina overnight. They also conduct raids in Abu Dis, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; there are no serious injuries. Around 100 right-wing Jewish activists tour **Haram al-Sharif** in the morning. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Khan Yunis. (MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 11/9; PCHR 11/10; PCHR 11/17)

A Palestinian from Jalazun r.c. succumbs to a head injury he sustained in clashes with the IDF in the camp in 1992. (MEMC 11/9)

An errant mortar shell fired from **Syria** lands in an uninhabited area of the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, causing no damage or injuries. The **IDF** responds later in the day, firing artillery at Syrian army targets. There are no reported injuries. (JP, TOI 10/9)

10 NOVEMBER 2016

Palestinians across the West Bank demonstrate in commemoration of the 12th anniversary of **Yasir Arafat's death**. **IDF troops** violently disperse demonstrations in Bethlehem, Ramallah, al-Bireh, and Tulkarm injuring at least 5 Palestinians. Separately, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian as he throws a Molotov cocktail at them nr. Ramallah; arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids nr. Jenin, Tubas, and Nablus, as well as in Qalqilya; and patrol during the day nr. Qalqilya and Hebron. **Israeli forces** demolish 2 agricultural structures nr. Qalqilya. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Gaza City and Nuseirat r.c., causing no damage or injuries. Along Gaza's border, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working nr. Gaza City, causing no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 4 Palestinians during raids in Ras al-Amud and Silwan. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 11/10; PCHR 11/17)

11 NOVEMBER 2016

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday demonstrations against Israel's separation wall, settlements, and occupation in 3 villages nr. Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum nr. Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border nr. Gaza City; at least 5 Palestinians are injured. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, the **IDF** patrols nr. Nablus and Hebron during the day. **Palestinian youths** throw Molotov cocktails into the **Beit El settlement** nr. Ramallah overnight, causing 1 home to burn down completely. Dozens of Orthodox Jews attempt to visit Rachel's Tomb nr. Bethlehem, sparking clashes with IDF troops; there are no serious injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, the **IDF** fires several mortar

shells at “suspicious” targets nr. Khan Yunis, according to an army spokesperson. There are no reports of injuries or serious damage. (MNA 11/11; MNA 11/12; PCHR 11/17)

In a wide-ranging interview with the *Wall Street Journal*, **U.S. pres.-elect Trump** says he will attempt to achieve the “ultimate deal” between Israel and the Palestinians, “for humanity’s sake.” (WSJ 11/11; HA 11/12)

12 NOVEMBER 2016

IDF troops arrest 3 Palestinians and issue arrest summons to 5 during raids and house searches nr. Bethlehem and Ramallah, and patrol nr. Hebron during the day. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians during raids in the Old City. (PCHR 11/17)

13 NOVEMBER 2016

Along **Gaza’s border, Israeli forces** open fire on agricultural lands nr. Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries, and conduct a limited incursion to level land nr. Jabaliya r.c. In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** confiscate a small plot of land nr. Salfit. **IDF troops** arrest 6 Palestinians and issue 3 arrest summons during late-night raids nr. Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem, and Tulkarm; and patrol nr. Ramallah, Nablus, and Bethlehem during the day. In **East Jerusalem**, a Palestinian family demolishes their own apartments in Jabal Mukabir to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. Likewise, 2 Palestinians demolish their own shops in Bayt Hanina. (MNA, WAFA 11/13; PCHR 11/17)

14 NOVEMBER 2016

In the **West Bank**, an explosive device detonates nr. IDF troops on a patrol nr. Bethlehem, causing no injuries. **Israeli forces**

block off 2 roads nr. Hebron, weeks after reopening them in 10/2016 and 9/2016. They were initially closed down in 10/2015 amid the early days of the *habba*. They also carry out the demolition of 28 stores and a Palestinian home in al-‘Awja village nr. Jericho, sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths; 5 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** arrest 6 Palestinians and issue 6 arrest summons during violent raids and house searches nr. Salfit (they also confiscate a car); and patrol nr. Hebron and Qalqilya. **Unidentified assailants** throw Molotov cocktails at an Israeli settler bus nr. Hebron, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** demolish an agricultural building in Silwan and arrest 6 Palestinians during raids in Silwan and Issawiyya late at night. Off **Gaza’s coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Jabaliya r.c., causing no damage or injuries. (JP, MNA, WAFA 11/14; PCHR 11/17)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 1st of 5 planned days (see Update). (WAFA 11/14)

15 NOVEMBER 2016

In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** demolish 3 agricultural structures in Silwan and Jabal Mukabir and the foundation of a mosque in Sur al-Bahir overnight. In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** demolish a residential structure and a community center in Umm al-Khayr village and a water well nr. Hebron, as well as a residential structure outside Bayt Jala nr. Bethlehem. **IDF troops** conduct a raid in Nablus late at night, sparking clashes and a brief firefight between their PASF escort and armed Palestinians; 1 Palestinian is killed and 3 PASF troops are injured. The IDF arrests 2 Palestinians and confiscates a number of appliances during further raids in Ramallah

Chronology

and nr. Hebron; and patrol during the day nr. Hebron. Meanwhile, the **Israeli authorities** announce that they have approved a master plan for future development of Tinnik village nr. Jenin. Israel, which rarely permits Palestinian building in Area C, has been authorizing new projects in the context of DM Lieberman's "**carrot-and-stick**" policy (see Update for details). Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage. They arrest 2 fishermen and confiscate their boat. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 11/15; JP, MNA, WAFA 11/16; PCHR 11/17)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 2d of 5 planned days (see Update). (MNA 11/15)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP (Agence France-Presse)
AJ (Al Jazeera)
ALM (Al-Monitor)
AP (Associated Press)

BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation World Service)
EI (Electronic Intifada)
HA (Haaretz)
IMEMC (International Middle East Media Center)
JP (Jerusalem Post)
MEE (Middle East Eye)
MEMO (Middle East Monitor)
MNA (Ma'an News Agency)
NYT (New York Times)
OCHA (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes)
PCHR (Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
PCN (Peace Now)
PIC (Palestinian Information Center)
REU (Reuters)
RFM (Russian Foreign Ministry)
TOI (Times of Israel)
WAFA (Palestine News Agency)
WSJ (Wall Street Journal)
YA (Yedioth Ahronoth)