16 AUGUST

In Amman, Israeli PM Ehud Barak discusses the final status talks with King Abdullah of Jordan. (MENL 8/16; WP 8/17)

18 AUGUST

U.S. special envoy Ross meets separately with Israeli PM Barak and with PA negotiators Erakat, Dahlan. Neither Israel, the PA see a possibility for convening another summit mtg. soon. (NYT, WT 8/18)

Lebanon accuses Israel of committing 4 new violations of the blue line, the nonborder marking the UN certified IDF withdrawal fr. s. Lebanon (see Peace Monitor in JPS 117), including moving the separation fence into Lebanon at one point nr. Metulla. (RL 8/18 in WNC 8/21; MEI 9/1)

19 AUGUST

In Alexandria, U.S. special envoy Ross discusses the PA-Israeli impasse over Jerusalem with Egyptian FM 'Amr Musa, then returns to Israel to meet with Israeli chief negotiator Ben-Ami. Musa says Egyptian officials are drawing up proposals for a compromise on Jerusalem. (MENA 8/19 in WNC 8/21; WP 8/20; WJW 8/24; AYM 8/24 in WNC 8/28)

10s of Jewish settlers, angry over an accident in which a Palestinian motorist lightly injured a Jewish boy, rampages through the Hebron market, overturning Palestinians' stalls, sparking a riot. The IDF intervenes, injuring 3 Palestinians with rubber bullets, arresting 7 Palestinians and 3 settlers. (WT 8/20; WJW 8/24; MA [Internet] 8/25; VOI 9/10 in WNC 9/12)

20 AUGUST

In Jerusalem, U.S. special envoy Ross meets with PA negotiators Erakat, Dahlan. (MM, WP 8/21)

In a hasty attempt to forge a new secular coalition after losing his Knesset majority (see Peace Monitor in JPS 117), PM Barak announces plans for a “secular revolution.”
(MM, WT 8/21; MM, NYT 8/22; MM, WJW 8/24; CSM, JP, MM 8/25; JP 9/1; NYT 9/17)

21 AUGUST

In Alexandria, Egyptian pres. Husni Mubarak holds separate talks with Arafat, Meretz MK Yossi Sarid on the Jerusalem impasse; with Syrian FM Farouq al-Shara’a on the Syrian, Palestinian tracks and possibly holding a mini-Arab summit on the peace process. (MENA 8/21 in WNC 8/22; MM 8/22; MENA 8/23 in WNC 8/24; WJW, WP 8/24)

22 AUGUST

King Abdullah of Jordan holds talks on the Jerusalem impasse with Arafat in Ramallah, Barak in Tel Aviv. (MM 8/22; MM, NYT, WP, WT 8/23; JT 8/23 in WNC 8/24; AYM, HJ, alQuds 8/23 in WNC 8/28; WJW 8/24; DUS 8/26 in WNC 8/30; JP 9/1)

23 AUGUST

In the 1st 3-way mtg. since Camp David, U.S. special envoy Ross meets with the PA’s Erakat, Israel’s Ben-Ami in Jerusalem. (AYM 8/25 in WNC 8/28)

24 AUGUST

PM Barak says that if peace talks with the PA fail, he would ask the Likud party to join a national unity government. Likud head Ariel Sharon, who opposes Barak’s peace policies, says he would reject the offer. (NYT 8/25; WP 8/31; MA 9/7 in WNC 9/8) (see 8/20)

In Alexandria, Israeli negotiator Ben-Ami, Egyptian pres. Mubarak discuss the Jerusalem impasse. Ben-Ami says Mubarak offered 2 compromise proposals, but Egypt does not confirm. (WP 8/24; MENA 8/24 in WNC 8/28; JP [Internet] 8/25; MENL, NYT 8/26; MM 8/29; MEI 9/1)

25 AUGUST

In Amman, 5,000 Jordanians attend a rally calling for an Arab/Islamic summit in support of Palestinian and Muslim sovereignty over East Jerusalem. (JT 8/27 in WNC 8/28)

26 AUGUST

In Alexandria, Arafat, Mubarak discuss the Jerusalem issue, Arafat’s planned mtg. with Pres. Clinton on the sidelines of the UN millennium summit in New York on 9/6. (MENA 8/26 in WNC 8/28)

In area B outside Jerusalem, 3 IDF soldiers are killed, 1 is wounded by friendly fire in a botched raid on the hideout of Palestinian Mahmud Abu Hanud, wanted for allegedly staging a 1997 Hamas bombing in Jerusalem that killed 21 Israelis. Abu Hanud is wounded but escapes to Nablus, where he is arrested by the PSF. The PA, angry that Israel did not give it advance notice of the raid, says it will try Abu Hanud in a PA court, not extradite him to Israel. (NYT 8/27; CSM, LAW, NYT, WP, WT 8/28; MM, NYT 8/29; MM, Palestine Report [Internet] 8/30; JP [Internet], MM, WJW 8/31; JP, MEI, NYT, WP 9/1; WJW 9/7; JP, MM, NYT, WP 9/8; JP 9/15)

27 AUGUST

PA negotiators Dahlan, Erakat meet with Israeli negotiators Ben-Ami, Sher to discuss gaps on final status issues. (alQuds 8/28 in WNC 8/30)

The PA Local Government Min., begins planning West Bank–Gaza municipal elections. (PA Ministry of Information press release 8/27)

Lebanon holds the 1st of 2 rounds of parliamentary elections, covering n. districts. Candidates opposed to Pres. Emile Lahoud take 33 of 63 seats. (WT 8/27; NYT 8/28; MM, NYT 8/29; al-Safir 8/29 in WNC 8/31; MM, WP 8/30; MM 8/31; MEI 9/1)

28 AUGUST

Morocco hosts a mtg. of the Jerusalem Comm. of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) to discuss PA-Israeli final status talks on the city. (AYM 8/28 in WNC 8/29; MM, WP, WT 8/29; JT 8/29 in WNC 8/30; MM 8/31; JT 9/10 in WNC 9/12)

In Paris, French FM Hubert Vedrine briefs Israel’s Ben-Ami on Pres. Jacques Chirac’s talks with Syrian FM Shara’a on 8/27. Afterward, Ben-Ami says Israel cannot hold talks with Syria now. (AFP 8/28 in WNC 8/29; Globes 8/28 in WNC 8/30)

29 AUGUST

On their way home fr. Africa, Pres. Clinton, special envoy Ross stop in Cairo to discuss with Pres. Mubarak ways to restart the PA-Israeli talks. Also in Cairo, Egyptian FM Musa receives PA Planning M Nabil Shaath for talks on the peace process. (MM...
8/29; AYM, MENA 8/29 in WNC 8/30; WP 8/30; al-Quds 8/30 in WNC 8/31; MEI 9/1; AYM 9/9 in WNC 9/12)
The IDF bulldozes 3 Palestinian homes in Shufat refugee camp. (LAW 8/29; WT 8/30)

30 AUGUST

Israel agrees that as of 10/1, Jordanian exporters may transport goods to the PA areas without switching haulers at the border. (JT [Internet], MENL 9/13; JT [Internet] 9/25)

31 AUGUST

In Washington, the U.S., Israel open another round of talks toward drafting a memorandum of understanding codifying their strategic relationship. (WT 9/1; MA 9/1 in WNC 9/6) (see Peace Monitor in JPS 117)

1 SEPTEMBER

Egyptian pres. Mubarak flies to Paris to consult with Pres. Chirac on PA-Israeli final status talks, Syrian-Israeli track. (MM 9/4; MENA 9/5 in WNC 9/7; al-Musawwar 9/8 in WNC 9/14) (see 8/28)

CIA Dir. George Tenet arrives in Israel fr. Cairo for 2 days of consultations with Barak, Arafat advisers on security and the peace process in advance of Clinton’s mtgs. with Arafat, Barak at the UN millennium summit in New York. (MM 9/1)

U.S. special envoy Ross, back in the region, holds separate mtgs. with Arafat, Barak, and PA negotiators Erekat, Dahlan. (MM 9/1; WT 9/3)

A PA military court sentences Hamas mbr. Abu Hanud to 12 yrs. for forming, arming military cells. (LAW, NYT, WP, WT 9/2; WJW 9/7; HJ 9/7 in WNC 9/12; JP, MM 9/8) (see 8/26)

2 SEPTEMBER

Arafat, his security advisers meet with CIA Dir. Tenet in Ramallah. Arafat then heads to Cairo for talks with Pres. Mubarak. (WT 9/3; MM 9/6)

The PA releases its 1st batch of new textbooks to replace decades-old Egyptian, Jordanian texts. Israel complains that the new books are biased. (WP 9/3)

3 SEPTEMBER

CIA Dir. Tenet, Arafat meet again. (MM 9/4, 9/6)

In Cairo, Arab League FM open a 2-day mtg. focusing on final status arrangements for Jerusalem. Arafat briefs FMs on the Camp David summit, recent developments. (JT 9/10 in WNC 9/12; MEI 9/15)

Lebanon holds 2d round of parliamentary elections, covering seats allotted to s. districts. Candidates allied with fmr. PM Rafiq Hariri (1992–98) win 18 of 19 seats. (NYT, WP 9/3; MM, NYT, WT 9/4; MM, NYT, WT 9/5; MM 9/6, 9/7, 9/8, 9/11; MEI 9/15)

4 SEPTEMBER

King Muhammad of Morocco receives Israel’s Ben-Ami for talks on the Jerusalem issue. (MM 9/5)

At the close of their mtg. in Cairo, Arab League FMs announce plans for heads of state to begin holding a full Arab summit every March beginning in 3/01. FMs will meet again in 10/00 to prepare. (MM 9/4; al-Quds 9/6, JT 9/10 in WNC 9/12)

5 SEPTEMBER

At a European Union (EU) mtg. in Strasbourg, Palestinian Council (PC) Speaker Ahmad Qurai’, Knesset speaker Avraham Burg offer their personal recommendations for Jerusalem, possibly as trial balloons. Qurai’ proposes the whole city be placed under international control, “neither under Israeli nor Palestinian sovereignty,” until the issue can be resolved. Burg calls for “divine sovereignty,” under which Jerusalem “would be not only the capital of Israel . . . but would become the international capital of democracy.” (AFP 9/5 in WNC 9/8; MA [Internet], MM 9/6; MM 9/7)

6 SEPTEMBER

On the sidelines of the UN summit in New York, Clinton meets separately with Barak, then Arafat to discuss ways of advancing the peace talks. The leaders propose various ideas for moving beyond the Jerusalem issue but agree on none. (MM 9/6; HJ 9/6 in WNC 9/7; MM, NYT, WJW, WP, WT 9/7; al-Quds 9/7 in WNC 9/8; CSM, MM, WP 9/8; Arab News [Jeddah] 9/11 in WNC 9/14; NYT 9/12; WJW 9/14; MEI 9/15) (see Peace Monitor)

Lebanese residents of Hula on the border with Israel report that the IDF has violated the blue line, confiscating 4,000 m² of land to build a road. (RL 9/6 in WNC 9/7)
7 SEPTEMBER

On the sidelines of the UN mtg. in New York, Egyptian FM Musa holds a 4-way mtg. with the FMs of Jordan, Oman, Qatar on the final status of Jerusalem and inter-Islamic coordination. (MENA 9/8 in WNC 9/12)

An Israeli court orders the arrest of 3 Israeli border policemen for detaining, severely beating 3 Palestinian laborers and taking "trophy photos" of the 9/6 assault. (NYT 9/8; WJW 9/19)

8 SEPTEMBER

In advance of the PLO Central Comm. (PLOCC) mtg. 9/9–10, 10s of Palestinian refugees in Beirut, Sidon attend demonstrations calling for the right of return. (Daily Star [Internet] 9/9)

In Bayt Furik in the West Bank, reps. of the Arab Liberation Front (ALF), Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), Fatah, Hamas, the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front discuss the final status of Jerusalem; unanimously call on the PA to uphold the demand for Palestinian sovereignty over all of East Jerusalem. (AYM 9/9 in WNC 9/14)

In New York, Egyptian FM Musa holds a 2d 4-way mtg. on the final status of Jerusalem and inter-Islamic coordination with the FMs of Iran, Qatar, Saudi Arabia. Musa also discusses Jerusalem separately with FM Shara' of Syria, Pres. 'Abd al-Rahman Wahid of Indonesia. (MENA 9/8 in WNC 9/12)

9 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, Arafat opens a 2-day PLOCC meeting on unilateral declaration of statehood, announces that talks with Israel will resume in the region on 9/11 and continue for 4 wks., per a request by Pres. Clinton. (WT 9/9; HJ, al-Quds 9/9 in WNC 9/12; AYM 9/9; al-Quds 9/10 in WNC 9/14; WP, WT 9/10; MM 9/11; JP, MEI 9/15) (see Doc. B1)

10 SEPTEMBER

For the 2d time in 16 mos., the PLOCC votes (58-15, with 3 abstentions, 55 absent) to postpone plans to declare statehood unilaterally after 9/13. (JT 9/10 in WNC 9/12; CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 9/11; AFP, ATL, AYM, Interfax, al-Quds, VOI, XIN 9/11, MENA, TT, VOI 9/12 in WNC 9/14; HJ, IRNA, al-Quds 9/12, AYM, RMC 9/15 in WNC 9/18; WJW 9/14; JP, MEI 9/15; al-Quds 9/15 in WNC 9/26) (see Peace Monitor)

Israeli negotiator Sher. PA negotiator Erakat agree on a timetable for negotiations in the coming wks. (MA, al-Quds, VOI 9/11 in WNC 9/14; MM 9/12; WJW 9/28)

11 SEPTEMBER

In Cairo, Arafat briefs Mubarak on the latest developments in the peace process. (MENA 9/11 in WNC 9/14; CSM, NYT 9/12)

Israel's Housing Min. reports that Jewish settlement construction is up 96% during the 1st half of 2000 as compared to the 1st half of 1999. Since Barak took office in 7/99 work has begun on 1,384 new settlement housing units in Jerusalem, 540 elsewhere. (MM 9/12)

Lebanese living along the blue line report that the IDF has moved new missile batteries into n. Israel since the Lebanese elections ended on 9/3. (al-Nabar 9/12 in WNC 9/14; MM 9/14 in WNC 9/18)

12 SEPTEMBER

In New York, U.S. Secy. of State Albright meets with Israel's Ben-Ami, Sher. After this mtg. and a mtg. with Egyptian FM Musa, she phones Arafat to request he send negotiators to the U.S. to meet with the Israelis. The PA agrees but says it is surprised by the change of plans (see 9/9). (MENA 9/12, AYM 9/14 in WNC 9/18; MM 9/18)

Barak briefs Labor/One Israel mbrs. on his plans to try to stave off early elections by forming a coalition government with the Am Ehad. Center, Democratic Choice, Meretz, One Israel, Shinui parties, plus Arab MKs. If that fails, he will consider inviting Likud. Yisrael Ba'Aliya to join. (MM 9/12; VOI 9/12 in WNC 9/14; MM 9/13, 9/15)

Israeli police say they have recently arrested 41 Israeli Arabs fr. Umm al-Fahm, 4 West Bank Palestinians on suspicion of forming an illegal organization, arms trafficking, plotting attacks on police and soldiers. (MM, WT 9/13; MA [Internet], MM 9/14)

13 SEPTEMBER

PA negotiators Erakat, Dahan leave for New York for 2 days of consultations with the U.S. peace team and Israeli negotiators Ben-Ami, Sher. (AYM 9/14 in WNC 9/18)

In Washington, Ben-Ami briefs U.S. National Security Adviser (NSA) Sandy Berger, the Senate minority and majority leaders, the House Foreign Relations Comm. on the latest developments in the PA-Israeli peace process; calls for upgrading...
U.S.-Israeli strategic ties, which he stresses should not be conditional on progress on talks with the PA. (MM, WT 9/13; AYM 9/13, Globes 9/14 in WNC 9/18; MM, WP 9/14; MM 9/15, 9/25) (see Peace Monitor)

In Gaza, a dispute b/wn. rival Fatah factions erupts in a demonstration, stone-throwing. (NYT 9/14; SA 9/14 in WNC 9/18; SA 9/17 in WNC 9/26) (see Peace Monitor)

Netzarim settlement in Gaza. IDF soldiers, PA police disperse Palestinians throwing stones at passing settler vehicles. No one is injured; 1 car is damaged. (VOI 9/13 in WNC 9/18)

14 SEPTEMBER

Secy. of State Albright meets with Israel’s Ben-Ami. U.S. special envoy Ross meets with the PA’s Erakat, Dahlan. Talks focus on how to proceed now that the 9/13 deadline for a final status agm’t. has passed without an accord or a unilateral Palestinian declaration of statehood. (WP 9/14; NYT, WT 9/15; AYM 9/16 in WNC 9/25; MM 9/19; WJW 9/21)

Lebanon reports that Israel is reinforcing troops in Shaba’ Farms, now considered by the UN as part of the occupied Golan Heights. (RL 9/14 in WNC 9/18) (see Peace Monitor in JPS 117)

15 SEPTEMBER

In Umm al-Fahm, 70,000 Israeli Arabs attend a rally in support of Palestinian sovereignty over al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. (PASSIA 10/00)

16 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, 2,000 Palestinian refugees fr. Balata camp march in support of the right of return, in memory of the 18th anniversary of the Sabra-Shatila massacre in Lebanon. 300 Palestinian refugees in Dahaysha camp hold a similar rally, after which 50 youths clash with IDF troops guarding Rachel’s Tomb in Bethlehem, leaving 2 Palestinians injured. (AP, REU 9/16; JT [Internet], HA [Internet] 9/17)

In Washington, 4,000 supporters of the Palestinian refugees’ right of return stage a rally outside the White House. (REU 9/16; WP 9/17)

17 SEPTEMBER

In Jerusalem, PA, Israeli teams resume informal talks but make no progress. Talks are expected to continue for 4-5 wks., without U.S. participation. (WT 9/18; CSM 9/19)

In London, 2,000 supporters of the Palestinian refugees’ right of return stage a rally like that held in Washington on 9/16. (FOFOGNET Digest [Internet] 9/16; Jewish Chronicle [Internet] 9/22)

Some 150 Lebanese residents of Kafr Shuba cross the blue line into Israeli-controlled territory to protest the occupation of their farm lands, which are part of the Shaba’ Farms area. They are halted by the IDF, escorted back to Lebanon without incident. (MEI 9/29)

18 SEPTEMBER

Lebanese PM Salim al-Huss announces the postponement of a donor conference set for 10/9 to secure aid for Lebanon’s reconstruction. Lebanon estimates it needs $260 m. in emergency aid for s. Lebanon, $5 b. in grants and soft loans for the rest of the country. (MM, WP 9/19; WT 9/20)

Lebanese troops take up posts in Jazzin for the 1st time since it was evacuated by the South Lebanon Army (SLA) in 6/99. (MM 9/18, 9/19)

19 SEPTEMBER

Barak cancels a scheduled mtg. b/wn the PA and Israeli peace teams, calls for a “time-out” in peace talks, saying the PA is inflexible and is increasing its demands. Arafat phones Clinton, Albright, Ross, and the leaders of Egypt, France, Jordan, Morocco to complain. By the end of the day, Barak agrees to resume mtgs. on 9/20. (MM 9/19; HA [Internet], JP [Internet], MM, NYT, WT 9/20; al-Quds 9/20, MENA, al-Quds 9/21 in WNC 9/26; MM, WJW 9/21)

In Washington, Pres. Clinton meets with the U.S. peace team to discuss how to proceed. (MM 9/19; HA [Internet] 9/21; SA 9/19, AYM, RMC 9/20, al-Quds 9/21 in WNC 9/26; HJ, SA 9/21 in WNC 9/27; WP 9/22)

In Paris, Israel’s Ben-Ami briefs Pres. Chirac on the latest developments on final status talks. The 2 men meet in private with no aides; no details are released. (YA 9/19; AFP 9/19 in WNC 9/26; MM 9/20; HA [Internet] 9/21)

20 SEPTEMBER

PA, Israeli peace teams hold a “business-like” mtg. on the peace talks. (MM 9/20; MM, NYT 9/21)
French pres. Chirac phones Arafat to discuss the peace process, especially the Jerusalem impasse. (AFP 9/20 in WNC 9/26) (see 9/19)

PA Planning M Shaath forms a team to draft plans to transform the Min. of Planning and International Cooperation into a foreign ministry, to otherwise standardize the Palestinian diplomatic network. (al-Quds 9/21 in WNC 9/27)

21 SEPTEMBER

Separately, PA, Israeli officials say talks are on hold while the U.S. decides if it will offer bridging proposals. NSA Berger says the U.S. is also weighing the possibility of holding another round of summit talks or sending Secy. of State Albright to the region. (MM 9/21; MM, WP, WT 9/22)

The IDF confirms that the Israeli DMin. has approved a 250-acre expansion of the West Bank settlement of Alfe Menashe; work has already begun. (AP 9/21)

22 SEPTEMBER

Arafat rejects a request by Barak for a 1-on-1 mtg., saying there is no point in meeting unless there is a chance for progress. (WT 9/24)

The State Dept. announces that it has suspended the security clearance of Amb. to Israel Martin Indyk pending completion of an investigation into whether he mishandled classified material. (NYT, WP 9/23; MENA 9/23 in WNC 9/27; WT 9/24; MM, NYT, WT 9/25; MM 9/26; WJW 9/28; MEI, WT 9/29)

Just 4 mos. after fleeing to Israel during the IDF withdrawal fr. s. Lebanon, 118 SLA refugees, mostly women and children, return to Lebanon. (RL 9/22 in WNC 9/27; NYT 9/23)

IDF troops fire at a group of Lebanese and foreign journalists, Hizballah mbrs., standing at the Kafr Shuba Gate on the blue line, injuring 1 Hizballah mbr. (RL 9/22 in WNC 9/27)

23 SEPTEMBER

Secy. of State Albright phones Arafat to urge him to meet with Barak. (WT 9/24)

French pres. Chirac phones Egyptian pres. Mubarak to discuss the final status of Jerusalem. (AFP 9/23 in WNC 9/27) (see 9/20)

24 SEPTEMBER

Barak says that he is prepared to sign a partial agmt. with the PA that would include a comprehensive agmt. on most final status issues, a time limit for agreeing on the rest. The PA rejects the idea of another interim agmt. (WP 9/25; MM 9/26; MEI 9/29)

25 SEPTEMBER

At Barak's home, Arafat, Barak meet for the 1st time since the Camp David summit. After the 3-hr. mtg., during which Clinton phones Arafat, Israel and the PA announce their senior negotiators will go to Washington in the next few days to meet with the U.S. peace team, possibly to hold 3-way talks. (MM 9/25; MM, NYT, WP, WT 9/26; NYT 9/27)

Israel's Ben-Ami goes to Jordan, Egypt reportedly to promote the idea of entrusting the UN Security Council (UNSC) to resolve competing claims on Jerusalem. (JP [Internet], MM 9/25; NYT 9/26; MM 9/27)

A Knesset comm. approves a draft law that would require an absolute majority of 61 MKs to endorse a decision to turn over land within the present municipal borders of Jerusalem to “a foreign body.” (NYT 9/26)

In the Galilee, 1,000 Israeli Arab residents of ‘Ayn Mahal strike to protest the seizure of 450 acres of their land for the expansion of Jewish Upper Nazareth. (AFP [Internet] 9/25)

26 SEPTEMBER

The PA peace team led by Erakat and Dahlan, the Israeli team led by Ben-Ami and Sher arrive in Washington; meet separately with U.S. special envoy Ross. Secy. of State Albright says the U.S. will not present bridging proposals. (MA [Internet] 9/27; WJW, WP 9/28)

27 SEPTEMBER

Israeli police inform Waqf officials that Likud MK Sharon has requested to visit the Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount on 9/28, just before Rosh Hashanah on 9/29. The Waqf urges against the visit, warning it would be viewed as a political provocation and could spark violence. (MM 9/27)

In Washington, U.S. special envoy Ross holds separate mtgs. with Israeli, PA teams. The PA team asks the U.S. to urge Barak against allowing MK Sharon to visit the Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount. (WP 9/28)
Israel’s Atty. Gen. Elyakim Rubenstein throws out the bribery and corruption case against fmr. Likud PM Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife, clearing the way for Netanyahu’s political comeback. (IsRN, MM 9/27; MM, NYT, WP, WT 9/28; MM 9/29; WJW 10/5; JP 10/6)

Netzarim Junction in Gaza, 2 roadside bombs are detonated as an IDF convoy escorting Jewish settlers passes, injuring 2 soldiers. (MM, NYT, WP 9/28) (see 9/13)

28 SEPTEMBER

In Washington, the Israeli, PA delegations end consultations with the U.S. peace team, return home. (REU 9/28; NYT 10/2; WP 10/22)

With the authorization of Barak and Ben-Ami (who is also Israel’s internal security M), Likud MK Sharon leads a group of Likud MKs into the Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount under heavy escort and police helicopter guard to assert Israeli sovereignty over the disputed site. 1,000 Israeli riot police are deployed on the buildings surrounding the mosque compound. Sharon attempts to enter the Marwani Mosque (which some Jews consider to be the site of Solomon’s stables) but is barred by 200 Palestinians, including several Israeli Arab MKs, who sit peacefully in his path. After Sharon leaves, Palestinians scuffle with and throw stones at police, who fire tear gas, rubber bullets at them. 24 Palestinians, 25 policemen are injured. Rioting spreads throughout East Jerusalem and to Ramallah, where 6 Palestinians are injured. (IsRN, LAW, MA [Internet], MM 9/28; HJ 9/28, al-Quds, MENA 9/29 in WNC 10/2; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 9/29; WP 10/1; NYT 10/3; WJW 10/5; MEI 10/13)

In Gaza, another roadside bomb explodes nr. an IDF patrol causing no injuries. An IDF soldier injured by a roadside bomb on 9/27 dies. (WP, WT 9/29)

Rachelim settlement issues tenders for construction of 14 new housing units and related infrastructure. (IsRN 9/28)

29 SEPTEMBER

Palestinian-Israeli clashes sparked by Likud MK Sharon’s visit to Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount on 9/28 continue for a 2d day. Palestinian worshipers leaving Friday prayers at al-Aqsa Mosque throw stones at the estimated 2,000 Israeli sharpshooters and riot police surrounding the site, who in turn storm the mosque compound, shooting live ammunition and rubber bullets, killing 4 Palestinians, wounding around 220. At least 2 Palestinians are killed elsewhere in East Jerusalem, and other clashes are reported nr. Bethlehem, in Hebron. Barak meets with his security cabinet to formulate a strategy to contain the violence, calls Arafat to say that “further violence will not be tolerated.” Arafat calls Pres. Clinton to urge him to press Barak to pull back forces fr. the holy site. (LAW, MM 9/29; NYT, WP, WT 9/30; HJ, al-Quds 9/30 in WNC 10/2; CSM, HA [Internet], JP [Internet] 10/2; MENA 10/2 in WNC 10/3; MEI 10/13)

PA-Israeli security cooperation in the West Bank deteriorates. In Qalqilya, a PA policeman on a joint patrol shoots, kills an IDF colleague. Arafat phones Barak to express condolences, promise an investigation. (MM 9/29; NYT, WP, WT 9/30; WT 10/4)

In Wihdat camp in Jordan, 6,000 Palestinian refugees attend a demonstration sponsored by the Muslim Brotherhood to protest Israeli actions in Jerusalem. (DUS 9/30 in WNC 10/2; JT [Internet] 10/1)

30 SEPTEMBER

On the 3d day of rioting, an effort to secure a cease-fire fails, and Palestinian-Israeli clashes spread to almost all Palestinian towns, most IDF checkpoints in the West Bank and Gaza, with the Israeli forces reportedly taking harsher actions than on 9/28 or 9/29. While only 8 IDF troops are lightly injured during the day, another 12 Palestinians are killed, more than 500 wounded. The worst fighting takes place outside Nablus, where 8 Palestinians, including 2 PA policemen are killed; and in Gaza, where 200 Palestinians are injured, and 12-yr.-old Muhammad al-Dura and an ambulance driver who tries to rescue him are shot dead. Telephone calls are exchanged among U.S. Secy. of State Albright, Arafat, Barak, Israel’s Ben-Ami, Egyptian pres. Mubarak, U.S. special envoy Ross, CIA Dir. Tenet, Russian FM Igor Ivanov, EU officials. Arafat flies to Cairo to meet with Mubarak, EU special envoy Miguel Moratinos. (MENA, RL 9/30, IRNA, ITAR-TASS, JT, MENA, al-Quds 10/1 in WNC 10/2; NYT, WP, WT 10/1; CSM, NYT, WT 10/2; SA 10/2 in WNC 10/3; MA 10/6 in WNC 10/10; al-Quds 10/12 in WNC 10/16; MEI 10/13)

In ‘Ayn al-Hilwa refugee camp in Lebanon, 2,500 Palestinians demonstrate against Israeli actions in Jerusalem. In

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Cairo, Egyptian students block the train station in protest. (RL 9/30 in WNC 10/2)

1 OCTOBER

On the 4th day of Palestinian-Israeli clashes, another attempt to secure a cease-fire fails, and rioting spreads to Israeli cities, including Acre, Jaffa, Nazareth, Tel Aviv, and Israeli Arab towns across the Galilee. In Umm al-Fahm, 1 Israeli Arab is shot dead by Israeli police, sparking massive rioting. In the West Bank and Gaza, the IDF rolls out heavy weapons—including tanks, antitank missiles, attack helicopters, grenades—to combat stone-throwing Palestinians, resulting in another 12 Palestinian fatalities, over 200 Palestinians wounded. The 1st IDF soldier is killed in street clashes (see 9/29). Jewish settlers in Jerusalem open fire on a Palestinian car, killing a toddler. The 1st confirmed incidents of Palestinians shooting at IDF troops take place in Gaza and Ramallah, but no IDF injuries are reported. The IDF places a 24-hr. curfew on Palestinians in Hebron, Israel states that its troops have “exercised restraint,” accuses the PA of “orchestrating a campaign of spreading violence for political gain.” Clinton phones Arafat to urge him to halt the violence; says that once the fighting stops, he will convene PA, Israeli security officials for a fact-finding session “to figure out what went wrong.” (PCHR 10/1; IRNA, MENA 10/1 in WNC 10/2; AFP 10/1, IRNA 10/2 in WNC 10/3; AP, CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/2, HA [Internet], MM, NYT 10/3; MEI 10/13)

On his 1st official visit abroad as head of state, Syrian pres. Bashar al-Asad arrives in Cairo to meet with Pres. Mubarak. Talks touch on the peace process, Jerusalem. (MENA 10/1 in WNC 10/2, 10/3)

In Amman, Jordanians, Palestinians protest Israel’s use of excessive force against Palestinians. (JT 10/5 in WNC 10/6)

2 OCTOBER

Despite another attempt to secure a cease-fire, Israeli-Palestinian clashes in Israel and throughout the West Bank and Gaza continue, leaving 10 Palestinians, 7 Israeli Arabs, 1 IDF soldier, 1 Jewish settler dead and some 300 Palestinians injured; 3 Israeli Arabs wounded on 10/1 also die. Israel closes roads in n. Israel, the West Bank, Gaza to civilian traffic. Around 30 exchanges of gunfire btwn. Israeli security forces and armed Palestinian civilians and police are reported. Nr. Tulkarm, Palestinians set afire an industrial plant owned by Jewish settlers. Nr. Hebron, Jewish settlers fatally shoot a Palestinian. The IDF Dep. Chief of Staff Moshe Ya’alon warns that if Palestinians do not stop attacking troops guarding Joseph’s Tomb in Nablus, the IDF will move in even though the area is under full PA control; the IDF has taken up positions around area A but has not crossed into them. Barak authorizes his forces to use “all necessary means” to protect Israeli lives, quell riots. (AP, MM 10/2; AFP, ANSA, EFE [Madrid], Interfax, RL, XIN 10/2 in WNC 10/3; RL, SAPA [Johannesburg] 10/2, JT, HJ, al-Quds, SA 10/3 in WNC 10/6; CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/3; HJ, al-Quds, Sabab 10/3, MA 10/6 in WNC 10/10; MM 10/9)

The IDF claims that Muhammad al-Dura, the 12-yr.-old killed at Netzarim Junction on 10/1, had been throwing stones at soldiers before he was shot, contradicting widely broadcast footage of the incident recorded by France 2 TV showing the boy and his father pinned down by gunfire for 45 minutes. The pair were returning from errands and had been dropped off by a taxi, which refused to take them across Netzarim Junction because of heavy IDF fire. (Age [Melbourne], HA [Internet], MM, WP 10/3; MA 10/6 in WNC 10/10) (see Doc. B3)

U.S. Secy. of State Albright announces that she will meet with Arafat, Barak in Paris on 10/4 to discuss the clashes, the peace process. All 3 will then meet with Mubarak in Sharm al-Shaykh on 10/5. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/3; Radio France International 10/3 in WNC 10/6)

In Amman, Arafat, King Abdallah discuss the Israeli-Palestinian clashes, call on Israel to pull back forces to restore calm, and urge Arab states to convene an emergency summit. In Cairo, Mubarak, Syrian pres. Asad also call for an Arab summit. Massive rallies protesting Israeli actions are held in Amman, Cairo, Damascus, refugee camps in Lebanon, Yemen. Protests are also held outside Israeli embassies and legations in many European and North American cities, including Ann Arbor, Austin, Brussels, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, London, Los Angeles, Montreal, New Haven, New York, Ottawa. (AP, BDL, UPI 10/2; MENA 10/2 in WNC 10/3; MENA 10/2, JT, MENA 10/3, JT 10/4 in WNC 10/6; NYT, WP, WT 10/3; AYM 10/3 in WNC 10/12; MM, WT 10/4; WJW 10/5; HJ 10/5, al-Quds 10/7 in WNC 10/10; JP 10/13)
In Paris, PA Planning M Shaath briefs French Pres. Chirac on the ongoing clashes. Chirac calls on both sides to deescalate the violence, calls for an international inquiry into the clashes. (AFP 10/2, 10/3, Le Monde 10/4 in WNC 10/6)

In New York, the UNSC begins closed-door mtgs. on several draft resolutions regarding the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli clashes. Britain, the U.S. lobby against issuing a resolution, saying, at most, a statement should be read. (UPI 10/3; HA [Internet] 10/4; W JW 10/5) (see Peace Monitor)

3 OCTOBER

This morning, the IDF begins pulling back reinforcements fr. the West Bank, Gaza after reaching a new agmt. with the PA. Initially, clashes abate, but fighting continues at old hot spots (e.g., Hebron, Nablus, Netzarim Junction, Ramallah, Tulkarm). Within hrs., the IDF sends reinforcements back in, firing antitank missiles and deploying helicopter gunships, tanks against Palestinians, killing 3, injuring 40. In Nablus, 27 Palestinians are injured when an IDF helicopter fires rockets at an apartment building. 1 Palestinian injured last wk. dies. Inside Israel, massive demonstrations continue across the Galilee following 2 funerals for Israeli Arabs killed by the Israeli police earlier in the wk. (MM 10/3; AFP, IRNA, MENA 10/3, JT, Le Monde 10/4 in WNC 10/6; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 10/4; AYM 10/4 in WNC 10/10; MEI 10/13)

Barak meets with Israeli Arab leaders to “ease concerns about the neglect of their community,” agrees to set up a special cabinet comm. to address Arab concerns. Under pressure fr. Israeli Arab MKs, he bans police fr. using live ammunition against Israeli protesters unless there is “clear and immediate danger to life.” The Israeli government also releases plans to improve roads and schools in Israeli Arab towns, raise the standard of living of the Arab minority. (MM 10/3; NYT, WT 10/4; MEI 10/13)

In Beirut, 20,000 Palestinians, Lebanese march to UN House to protest Israeli actions. Some 10,000 Palestinian refugees demonstrate in camps in Rashidiyya, Sidon, and Tyre. In Amman, Jordanians observe a strike in solidarity with the Palestinians, and Jordanian riot police wield clubs against 100s of stone-throwing demonstrators marching on the Israeli emb. In Norway, some 100 Norwegians take part in a violent protest outside the Israeli emb. in Oslo, burning flags, throwing bottles, breaking windows. Rallies are also reported in Egypt, Greece, Oman, Pakistan, the UAE. In the U.S., anti-Israeli protests are held in Austin, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Raleigh, San Francisco, Washington, and outside the CNN offices in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, Canada. (JP [Internet], MM 10/4; JT 10/4 in WNC 10/6; Daily Star [Internet] 10/5; MM 10/6; MEI 10/13)

The IDF admits that its soldiers fired the shots that killed Muhammad al-Dura at Netzarim Junction on 10/1 but blames Palestinians for the “cynical use” of children in confrontations with IDF troops. (WP 10/4; NYT 10/5) (see 10/2)

4 OCTOBER

In Paris, U.S. Secy. of State Albright, CIA Dir. Tenet meet with Arafat, Barak. After 12 hrs. of talks, joined at times by UN Secy.-Gen. Kofi Annan and French Pres. Chirac, the sides reach an arrangement under which Barak agrees to withdraw troops to their positions before 9/28, Arafat agrees to try to curb Palestinian rioting, both sides agree to keep people away fr. hot spots (Netzarim Junction in Gaza, Joseph’s Tomb in Nablus, and the “circle area” nr. Ramallah). The U.S. wanted Arafat and Barak to sign a document outlining the agmts., but Arafat would do so only if the text provided for an international inquiry, which Barak rejects. After the mtg. Albright, Arafat leave for Sharm al-Shaykh. Barak returns to Israel, saying there is no point in meeting with Mubarak. (MM, REU 10/4; AFP, ATL, Interfax, IRNA, ITAR-TASS, MENA, Yonhap [Seoul] 10/4, AFP, IDF Radio, Interfax, JT, MA, MENA, al-Quds, SA, VOI 10/5 in WNC 10/6; AP, CSM, LAW, MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/5; Arab News 10/5, AYM, HJ, MENA 10/6, SA 10/7, MENA 10/9 in WNC 10/10; MM, WP 10/6; AYM, Le Monde 10/11 in WNC 10/12; MM, WP 10/12; JP, MEI 10/13) (see Peace Monitor)

Meanwhile, Palestinian-Israeli clashes continue in the West Bank, Gaza, and Israel, leaving 9 Palestinians dead, 10s wounded; 2 Palestinians die of wounds received earlier. An Israeli Arab is killed in a clash with Israeli police in Kefar Manda in the Galilee. The IDF eases open-fire regulations, permitting soldiers to fire on any vehicles approaching checkpoints and continues to use heavy weapons, but overall the fighting is less intense than in previous days. The most serious clashes are nr. Bethlehem, Jaffa, Nablus, Netzarim Junction. (MM 10/4; ANSA, IRNA 10/4 in WNC 10/6; LAW, NYT, WP, WT
Protests against Israel’s actions are held in Damascus, where 1,000s of students demonstrate outside the U.S. emb.; in Cairo, where 1,500 students demonstrate outside the Israeli emb.; and in Amman, where riot police fire tear gas to disperse 800 protesters marching toward the Israeli emb., injuring 62. In Copenhagen, 5,000 attend a Palestinian solidarity rally. Smaller rallies are staged in Istanbul, London, Rome. In the U.S., rallies are staged in Dearborn, Detroit, Madison, Miami, New Haven, Portland. (MENA 10/4 in WNC 10/5; ATL 10/4, JT 10/5 in WNC 10/6; MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/5; MENA 10/5, HJ 10/6 in WNC 10/10; MENL 10/11)

The PA releases 12 Hamas political prisoners who had been held without charge in PA jails. Israel says the PA is giving a “green light for terrorism.” (HJ 10/5 in WNC 10/6; WP 10/6)

The PC convenes an emergency session in Ramallah, denounces Israel’s aggression, calls for an Arab summit. (WP 10/5)

Citing “compelling national security interests,” the State Dept. sends Amb. Indyk back to Israel to liaise with Israeli officials during the clashes. (WT 10/5) (see 9/22)

5 OCTOBER

In Sharm al-Shaykh, Albright, Arafat brief Mubarak on the 10/4 Paris talks. Israeli and PA officials meet with U.S. special envoy Ross on the sidelines. (MM, MENA, IRNA 10/5 in WNC 10/6; MM, WP, WT 10/6; AYM, al-Quds, XIN 10/6 in WNC 10/10; AYM 10/11 in WNC 10/12; MEI 10/13)

In the West Bank and Gaza, the IDF pulls back tanks and some troops fr. major Palestinian cities, and the PSF clears Palestinian protesters fr. major Israeli outposts, implementing the 1st steps of the Sharm al-Shaykh agmts. Some clashes still take place (including at Netzarim Junction), leaving 2 Palestinians dead; a 3d Palestinian dies of wounds received earlier. (MM 10/5; MENA 10/5 in WNC 10/6; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 10/6; DUS, JT, MA; al-Musawwar 10/6 in WNC 10/10; AYM 10/6 in WNC 10/13)

At Wihdat camp, Jordanian riot police fire tear gas at Palestinians protesting Israeli violence to keep them fr. marching out of the camp. Anti-Israel, anti-U.S. demonstrations are held in Iran, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan. Rallies in solidarity with the Palestinians are held in London, Princeton, St. Louis, Toronto. (MM 10/5; REU, UPI 10/6; REU 10/8; MEI 10/13)

The board of directors of the Israel Broadcast Authority (IBA) agrees to “not provide a stage for the leaders of the Palestinian inciters and rioters and not give excessive voice, exposure, or coverage to radicals” during the clashes. The IBA includes state-run and independent media. (MK Azmi Bishara press release 10/6)

297 SLA mbrs. and dependents who fled to Israel in 5/00 return to Lebanon. (al-Nabar 10/6 in WNC 10/10)

6 OCTOBER

Anticipating protests following Friday prayers, Israel seals the West Bank and Gaza, allows plainclothes PA police to deploy in the Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount to form a cordon to prevent Palestinians fr. throwing stones. The PA police, Waqf officials largely succeed in restraining the crowd, but when a handful of the 8,000 Palestinian worshipers do throw rocks, Israeli forces open fire, killing 2 Palestinians, wounding 60. At sundown IDF troops raid the Haram al-Sharif to chase off Palestinians, lower a Palestinian flag. In total, 9 Palestinians are killed, 450 injured during the day; a 10th dies of wounds received earlier. (AP, JP [Internet], LAW, MM 10/6; MENA 10/6, IRNA, TT 10/7 in WNC 10/10; NYT, WP, WT 10/7; AYM 10/7 in WNC 10/12)

The largest rally in support of the Palestinians is held in Amman, where 30,000 Jordanians, Palestinians attempt to march on the Israeli emb. but are dispersed by Jordanian police firing tear gas. In Baqa’ camp, Jordanian police fire on 2,000 Palestinian demonstrators, killing 1, injuring at least 50. The incidents prompt the government to ban public protests. In Damascus, Syrian police use tear gas to disperse protesters attempting to march to the U.S. emb. In Tunis, Arafat, Pres. Zine Abidine Ben Ali participate in a rally attended by 10,000 Tunisians. Crowds also demonstrate in Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Oman, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Yemen, as well as in Berlin, Canberra, Geneva, the Hague, London, Prague, Reykjavik, and Vienna. In Canada, rallies are held in Calgary, Edmonton, Ottawa, Toronto, Waterloo, and Windsor. In the U.S., protests are staged in Atlanta, Baton Rouge, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Dearborn, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, Memphis, Miami, New York,
Oklahoma City, Orlando, Phoenix, Raleigh, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Tampa, Washington. (BBC, MM, REU, UPI 10/6; AFP, CTK [Prague], EFE [Madrid] 10/6, JT 10/8 in WNC 10/10; Toronto Star, WP, WT 10/7; alQuds 10/7, AFP 10/11 in WNC 10/12; REU 10/8; WP 10/10; MM 10/11; Daily Star 10/12 in WNC 10/15; MEI 10/13; SA 10/16 in WNC 10/18; Le Monde 11/7 in WNC 11/8)

7 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian fighting in the West Bank and Gaza abates slightly but escalates again this evening, leaving at least 3 Palestinian dead. The most serious incident is in Nablus, where the IDF, implementing the Sharon policy, turns over Joseph’s Tomb to the PSD. Palestinians celebrating the IDF pullback overrun the PSD, destroy the tomb. In response, armed Jewish settlers roam areas around West Bank settlements, stoning and firing at Palestinian cars, killing 1 Palestinian. Inside Israel, Jews fr. Upper Nazareth rampage through Arab Nazareth throwing stones at Israeli Arabs, sparking a riot; when Israeli Arabs start to fight back, Israeli riot police intervene, using tear gas and live ammunition, shooting dead 2 Israeli Arabs. In Tiberias, Jews vandalize a historic mosque. The IDF moves tanks into the West Bank to guard the Jewish settlement of Psagot, which has been the target of Palestinian sniping. At Gaza airport, Palestinians fire on a bus of Israeli airport workers, injuring 8. Israel shuts the airport. (LAW 10/7; MENA, RL 10/7, alQuds 10/8, AFP, Le Monde 10/10 in WNC 10/10; ADM, NYT, WP, WT 10/8; MM, NYT, WT 10/9; AYM 10/9, MA 10/10, 10/11 in WNC 10/12; NYT 10/10; WJW 10/12; MEI 10/13; WJW 10/19; WP 10/28)

Barak calls up IDF reservists, sets an ultimatum of 48 hrs. for Palestinians to halt their assaults on IDF outposts, Jewish settlements or "we will regard this as a cessation by Arafat of the peace process, and we will order the army to use all means at its disposal." Barak also says he is considering forming a "unity government" with Likud MK Sharon. (AYM 10/7, alQuds 10/9 in WNC 10/12; NYT, WP, WT 10/8; AYM 10/8 in WNC 10/13; MM 10/9; Le Monde 10/10 in WNC 10/10; MM 10/11; JP, MEI 10/13)

Nr. Shaba’ Farms, IDF soldiers fire across the blue line into Lebanon at 100s of Palestinian refugees staging a protest, killing 2, wounding 15. In response, Hizballah guerrillas cross into the Golan Heights, kidnap 3 IDF soldiers; fire rockets at the IDF’s Shaba’ outpost, injuring 6 soldiers. Barak re-enforces the border area, sends Israeli warplanes and attack helicopters into Lebanon to strike Hizballah targets, injuring 4 Lebanese civilians. U.S.’s Albright phones Lebanese pres. Lahoud, Syrian pres. Asad to urge them to intercede with Hizballah to release the IDF soldiers. France, Germany, the Red Cross, Russia, the UN open channels with Hizballah, which demands Israel release at least 19 Lebanese political prisoners (kidnapped by the IDF in Lebanon, held without trial for as long as 20 yrs.) in exchange for the soldiers. (CNN [Internet] 10/7; RL 10/7, AYM 10/8, Interfax 10/9, Le Monde 10/10 in WNC 10/10; NYT, WP, WT 10/8; Manar TV [Internet], MM, NYT, WT 10/9; alQuds 10/9, DUS, alSafrir 10/10 in WNC 10/12; MM, NYT, WP 10/10; NYT, WJW, WP 10/12; JP, MEI 10/13; JP 10/27, 11/3)

After 6 days of debate, the UNSC passes the (14-to-0, with the U.S., abstaining) a watered-down resolution that condemns the “excessive use of force” against the Palestinians but does not mention Israel by name. U.S. Amb. Richard Holbrooke threatened to veto stronger language. (AP 10/7; NYT, WP, WT 10/8; AYM 10/8 in WNC 10/13; MM, NYT, WT 10/9; CSM, WP 10/10; MEI 10/13) (see Doc. A1)

In Amman, Jordanian police open fire on Palestinian refugees demonstrating for the closure of the Israeli emb., killing 1, arresting 97. Demonstrations condemning Israeli violence, U.S. support of Israel are held in Bahrain, Canada, Egypt, France, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, the UAE, and Yemen. In the U.S., rallies are held in Albuquerque, Dearborn, New York. (BBC, al-Jazeera TV [Internet] 10/7; AFP, ATL, MENA 10/7, JT 10/8 in WNC 10/10; Daily Star 10/12 in WNC 10/13; Gulf News [Internet], NYT 10/8; MM 10/11; AYM 10/11 in WNC 10/12; MEI 10/13)

8 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian fighting continues as Israel marks Yom Kippur. Barak warns that if clashes continue, the IDF will begin targeting Arafat’s offices, PA police stations, top cmdrs.; Israel may implement a “sanctions package” (including sealing the West Bank and Gaza, halting all monetary transfers). At Netzarim Junction, the IDF demol-
ishes 2 apartment buildings formerly used as PA police barracks, a factory, an office, several homes, a water well, and a 20-dunam orange grove. A settler rabbi is found shot to death in a West Bank cave. Armed Jewish settlers enter Palestinian areas of East Jerusalem and Hebron, Bidya, Husan, Salfit, Shu'fat camp, burning shops, beating Palestinians, shooting at houses, and wounding at least 8 Palestinians, 1 of whom bleeds to death as settlers hold off ambulances with gunfire. Inside Israel, Jewish residents of Upper Nazareth attack Israeli Arabs, property in Nazareth. (ADM, LAW, REU 10/8; Interfax 10/8 in WNC 10/10; Gush Shalom press release, MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/9/; HA [Internet], MM, WP 10/10; MA 10/10 in WNC 10/12; HA [Internet] 10/11; MEI, NYT 10/13; LAW 10/19; Globes [Internet] 10/25)

Lebanon puts forces on alert as Israel reinforces troops on the blue line, conducts overflights of Beirut, and warns Hizballah, Lebanon, and Syria of “decisive action” if Hizballah does not release the 3 IDF soldiers kidnapped on 10/7. Saudi Arabia warns Israel that Arab states will not sit idly by if Barak follows through on his threat. (NYT, WP, WT 10/9; MM 10/10; MEI 10/13)

Pres. Clinton asks Mubarak to convene a summit where they could meet with Arafat, Barak. None of the 3 leaders immediately embraces the idea. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/9; MENA 10/9 in WNC 10/10; AYM 10/10 in WNC 10/12)

In Gaza, Arafat meets with the Executive Authority and reps. of Hamas, Islamic Jihad to coordinate a joint response to Barak’s latest warnings. (NYT 10/9; HJ, MA 10/10 in WNC 10/12; MM 10/11)

The PA releases 5 Hamas mbrs. fr. jail. Hamas says 23 mbrs. have been freed in recent days. (AYM 10/9 in WNC 10/12; AYM 10/12 in WNC 10/13) (see 10/4)

Jordan postpones sending its newly appointed amb. to Israel to protest Israel’s excessive use of force against Palestinians. (WP 10/9; MM 10/10; HA [Internet] 10/11)

In Morocco, 500,000 people march to protest Israel’s recent actions. In Amman, 100s of Jordanian students attempt a march to the U.S., Israeli emb. but clash with riot police; at least 5 are injured, 10 arrested. In Beirut, 25,000 Lebanese and Palestinians march in funeral processions for 2 Palestinians shot by the IDF on the blue line on 10/7. In Cairo, 9,000 Egyptian students hold a rally. Demonstrations continue in Australia, Greece, Jordan, Lebanon, non. Syria, Yemen. In the U.S., protests are held in Albuquerque, Anaheim, Kansas City. (UPI 10/8; MENA 10/8, JT 10/9 in WNC 10/10; MM 10/9; Daily Star [Internet], NYT, WP 10/9; TT 10/10 in WNC 10/12; MEI 10/13)

9 OCTOBER

Barak extends indefinitely his 48-hr. deadline for Arafat to halt Palestinian riots in light of international mediation efforts.

Clinton, Albright spend the day on the phone, discussing with Arafat, Barak, Mubarak, various EU leaders ways of halting the violence. UN Secy.-Gen. Annan, Russian FM Ivanov meet with Barak in Tel Aviv, Arafat in Gaza. Arafat goes to Cairo to confer with Mubarak. (MM, NYT, WT 10/9; Interfax, IRNA, MENA 10/9 in WNC 10/10; Interfax 10/9, Le Monde 10/10 in WNC 10/10; MENA 10/9, DUS 10/10, MA 10/11 in WNC 10/12; HA [Internet], CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/10; WJW 10/12; MEI 10/15)

Meanwhile, Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue throughout the West Bank and Gaza and inside Israel. The IDF extends the West Bank–Gaza closure indefinitely, cancels all permits issued to Palestinians working in Israel. 100s of Israeli Jews fr. Upper Nazareth rampage through Arab Nazareth, firing automatic weapons and wielding clubs, injuring 50 Israeli Arabs, damaging homes and shops. Israeli police break up the ensuing riot, firing tear gas and rubber bullets. 2 Israeli Arabs are shot dead with live ammunition either by Jewish civilians or the police. In Tel Aviv, 500 Israeli Jews attack Arab apartment buildings, set Arab-owned stores on fire. In Jaffa, Israeli Jews set fire to 2 mosques, a number of Palestinian homes. In East Jerusalem, Jewish settlers attempt to vandalize the Latin Patriarchate Church. In the West Bank, 2 Palestinians are found dead, both apparently killed by Jewish settlers avenging the murder of a rabbi on 10/8 (1 is later judged by international experts to have died in a car accident). 2 Palestinians die of injuries received earlier. (Gush Shalom press release, MM 10/9; AYM 10/9, MA 10/10 in WNC 10/12; ADM, LAW, MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/10; WJW 10/12; MEI 10/15)

10,000 Kuwaitis rally in solidarity with the Palestinians. Smaller rallies are held in Canada, Egypt, Italy, and the UK, as well as in Chicago. (MENA 10/9 in WNC 10/10; MM, WP 10/10; MEI 10/13; MM 10/17)
**10 OCTOBER**

International mediation efforts continue, with UN Secy.-Gen. Annan, Russian FM Ivanov, EU foreign policy dir. Javier Solana each meeting separately with Arafat, Barak. Egypt's Musa flies to Damascus to confer with Syrian pres. Asad. Who phones Arafat to express Syrian support. Mubarak also phones Arafat and rejects Clinton's proposal (10/8) for a summit in Egypt. (ATL, Interfax, ITAR-TASS, MENA, XIN 10/10 in WNC 10/12; CSM, MM, NYT, WP 10/11; Milliyet 10/11, al-Quds 10/12 in WNC 10/13; CSM, WJW 10/12)

Meanwhile, Israeli-Palestinian clashes abate somewhat. Inside Israel, Israeli Jews stab to death 2 Israeli Arabs nr. Tel Aviv, set fire to 3 Arab apartment buildings in Jaffa, and set fire to 3 Palestinian homes and a Jewish-owned restaurant that employed Palestinians in Tel Aviv. Clashes btw. Israeli Jews and Arabs are also reported in Haifa, Tiberias, and Acre, where Israeli police intervene, firing tear gas and live ammunition, wounding 1 Israeli Arab. (Israeli police say they have arrested some 400 Israeli Arabs, 200 Israeli Jews since clashes began.) Jews fr. West Jerusalem damage Palestinian property in East Jerusalem. In Gaza, the IDF demolishes another apartment building in Netzarim Junction, which was evacuated earlier because it had been hit by IDF shells. Jewish settlers reportedly attack Palestinians in Hebron, Khan Yunis, Rafah and outside Jinin, Nablus, Ramallah; some incidents involve settlers firing automatic weapons. In Rafah, a 12-yr.-old Palestinian is shot dead by the IDF. Nr. Ramallah, IDF soldiers shoot, wound a Palestinian ambulance driver. (ADM, BBC, MM 10/10; ADM, MM, NYT, WP 10/11; AFP 10/10, MA 10/11, Le Monde 10/12 in WNC 10/12; MM, WJW, WP 10/12; MEI 10/13; WP 11/30)

Protests in solidarity with the Palestinians are held in Brussels, Cairo, Madrid. In the U.S., rallies are held in Ann Arbor, New Haven. (RL 10/10 in WNC 10/12; WT 10/11)

The State Dept. restores Amb. to Israel Indyk's security clearance. (NYT, WT 10/11; WJW 10/12) (see 10/4)

**11 OCTOBER**

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue for the 13th straight day, leaving 3 Palestinians dead, 185 injured. The most severe exchanges are outside Nablus, where a mosque is torched, allegedly by Jewish settlers, and Palestinians throw stones at a funeral procession for a Jewish settler. IDF troops and helicopters escorting the funeral procession respond with gunfire, call in extra attack helicopters, tanks. The riot degenerates into a gunfight btwn. the PA police and IDF and armed Jewish settlers. The IDF also deploys attack helicopters against Palestinian gunmen nr. Bethlehem. In Hebron, 1 IDF soldier is shot, seriously wounded. Israeli border police prevent an ambulance fr. taking 4 seriously wounded Palestinians into Jordan for treatment. (ADM, LAW, REU 10/11; CSM, MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/12; JT 10/12 in WNC 10/16; JT 11/9 in WNC 11/13)

International mediation efforts continue. UN Secy.-Gen. Annan extends his stay in stab to death 2 Israeli Arabs nr. Tel Aviv, set fire to 3 Arab apartment buildings in Jaffa, and set fire to 3 Palestinian homes and a Jewish-owned restaurant that employed Palestinians in Tel Aviv. Clashes btw. Israeli Jews and Arabs are also reported in Haifa, Tiberias, and Acre, where Israeli police intervene, firing tear gas and live ammunition, wounding 1 Israeli Arab. (Israeli police say they have arrested some 400 Israeli Arabs, 200 Israeli Jews since clashes began.) Jews fr. West Jerusalem damage Palestinian property in East Jerusalem. In Gaza, the IDF demolishes another apartment building in Netzarim Junction, which was evacuated earlier because it had been hit by IDF shells. Jewish settlers reportedly attack Palestinians in Hebron, Khan Yunis, Rafah and outside Jinin, Nablus, Ramallah; some incidents involve settlers firing automatic weapons. In Rafah, a 12-yr.-old Palestinian is shot dead by the IDF. Nr. Ramallah, IDF soldiers shoot, wound a Palestinian ambulance driver. (ADM, BBC, MM 10/10; ADM, MM, NYT, WP 10/11; AFP 10/10, MA 10/11, Le Monde 10/12 in WNC 10/12; MM, WJW, WP 10/12; MEI 10/13; WP 11/30)

*Protests in solidarity with the Palestinians are held in Brussels, Cairo, Madrid. In the U.S., rallies are held in Ann Arbor, New Haven. (RL 10/10 in WNC 10/12; WT 10/11)*

The State Dept. restores Amb. to Israel Indyk's security clearance. (NYT, WT 10/11; WJW 10/12) (see 10/4)
scend on the station (manned by 21 officers), break in, and kill the soldiers, injuring 15 police-
cemen in the process. Declaring that the PA
has “crossed the line,” Barak seals borders with
Egypt and Jordan, authorizes IDF air strikes against Arafat’s headquarters in Ramallah and Gaza, the Palestinian
Broadcasting Center in Ramallah, the Gaza port, various PA police stations, including those in Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah. When the
strikes occur, Arafat is in his Gaza office waiting for CIA Dir. Tenet to arrive to dis-
cuss the possibility of convening the U.S.-Is-
raeli-PA trilateral security comm. (formed in
1998) to explore ways of halting the vio-
ence. Neither Arafat nor Tenet is injured, but 43 Palestinians are wounded. In Gaza City,
Palestinians pack belongings into cars, pre-
pare to flee. In Jericho, Palestinians set fire
to a 6th-century synagogue. Jewish settlers
attack, fire on Palestinian cars nr. Bethlehem,
Jinin. In retaliation, IDF helicopters fire rock-
ets at the PA police academy in Jericho. Dur-
ing the Israeli air strikes, the PA releases
around 60 Hamas, Islamic Jihad pris-
ers for their safety. (ADM, AP, LAW, MM,
NYT 10/12; ATL, AYM, IRNA, LPA, MENA,
XIN 10/12 in WNC 10/13; MENA, XIN 10/12,
SA 10/13 in WNC 10/16; CSM, MM, NYT, WP,
WT 10/13; WP, WT 10/14; MENA 10/16 in
WNC 10/17; WJW 10/19; JP 10/20; MEI 10/27; MA 11/6 in WNC 11/9)

In Yemen’s port of Aden, a small, explo-
sive-laden boat rams the USS Cole, an Aegis
destroyer in port for refueling, killing 17 U.S.
service personnel, injuring 35. (AP, MM
10/12; AFP [Internet], CSM, MM, NYT, WP,
WT 10/13; NYT, WP, WT 10/14, 10/15,
10/16; MEI 10/27)

In the U.S., the primary concern of the
can the attack on the USS Cole, while Israel’s attacks on the Palestinian infrastructure, PA offices are
viewed as a limited military response to the
death of Israeli soldiers in PA custody, if not
at the hands of the PA. Clinton, Albright
express outrage over the murder, call on
both sides to halt the violence. Clinton says
he appreciates Palestinian frustration, but
“there can be no possible justification for
mob violence.” 96 senators send Clinton a
letter urging him to express solidarity with
Israel “at this critical moment.” (NYT, WP,
WT 10/13; MEI, MM 10/27; MEI 11/10) (see
Doc. D4)

Mubarak invites Arafat, Barak, Clinton
to Sharm al-Shaykh for a summit. Mubarak
also meets with King Abdullah of Jordan

on the escalating crisis, upcoming Arab sum-
mit. (MENA 10/12 in WNC 10/13; MM, NYT,
WP 10/13)

In Biarritz, France, Pres. Chirac convenes
an emergency EU mtg. to discuss the escala-
tion of Israeli-Palestinian violence, implores
both sides to halt the fighting. (MM 10/13;
AFP, EFE [Madrid] 10/13 in WNC 10/16; WP
10/14; SA 10/15 in WNC 10/17)

UN Secy.-Gen. Annan, in Lebanon to
discuss the Hizballah kidnapping of 3 IDF
soldiers, cuts short his visit, returns to
Israel to try to calm the situation. (WP
10/13)

The Arab League denounces the Israeli
air strikes, warns that “all options” are open
to the Arab world if the escalation continues.
In Cairo, angry crowds march through the
streets demanding Egypt take military action
against Israel. In Beirut, demonstrations
break out on university campuses. Elsewhere
in Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria—including in
the Palestinian refugee camps—the streets are quiet; the governments release no
official statements on events but heighten
visibility of police, military. Anti-Israeli, anti-
U.S. demonstrations are noted in Indonesia,
South Africa. In the U.S., demonstrations
are held in Boston, Dearborn, Detroit, Los
Angeles, New York, Raleigh, San Diego,
Washington. In France, numerous acts of
anti-Jewish vandalism, including attacks on
synagogues, are noted in Lille, Paris, Rouen.
(AP 10/12; AFP [Internet], WP 10/13; JT
10/13 in WNC 10/16; WP 10/14)

At the UN, U.S. Amb. Holbrooke warns
Arab, nonaligned diplomats they may
“jeopardize” relations with the U.S. if they
push for a special session of the UN Gen-
eral Assembly (UNGA) to censure Israel,
for a UNSC res. calling on Israel to cease
hostilities. (TT 10/12 in WNC 10/13; MM
10/13; NYT, WP 10/14)

13 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue but
are less severe, largely because overnight the
IDF deployed tanks on access roads to and
around PA cities, sealing area A, limiting
movement. During the day, 2 Palestinians
are killed by Israeli gunfire, over 160 are in-
jured. Israel prohibits Palestinians under
45 fr. attending Friday prayers in Jerusalem,
prompting scuffles with those denied access
but preventing the full-scale rioting of 9/29,
10/6. In Jerusalem, cameramen record foot-
age of Israeli police disguised as Palestini-
ants seizing 2 Palestinian youths, beating
them while holding them in a choke hold. Armed Jewish settlers rampage through homes in Arsal, Bayt Inun, al-Khadr. In Gaza City and Shati camp, 100s of Palestinians hold rallies denouncing the PA for the failed peace process. The rallies devolve into riots, with demonstrators torching cars, bars, hotels, restaurants. (AP, IsRn, LAW 10/13; ADM, LAW, NYT, WP, WT 10/14; HA [Internet] 10/15)

Oman closes its trade office in Tel Aviv, Israel's trade mission in Muscat. Morocco recalls its envoy to Israel. In Cairo, 10,000 Egyptians hold anti-Israeli, anti-U.S. demonstrations. In Lebanon, the army keeps Palestinians away fr. the blue line, where they want to hold demonstrations. However, 6,000 Palestinians in 'Ayn al-Hilwa camp, 3,000 in Beddawi camp, 5,000 in Nahr al-Barid camp, 7,000 in Rashidiyya camp demonstrate against Israel. In Amman, 8,000 Jordanians attend a government-sanctioned rally; a smaller, unauthorized demonstration takes place spontaneously following Friday prayers. In the U.S., rallies are held in Ann Arbor, Atlanta, Austin, Chicago, Columbus, Detroit, Las Vegas, New York, Petaluma (CA), Philadelphia, Santa Ana (CA), San Francisco, Washington. Similar demonstrations are held in Austria, Bahrain, Bosnia, Canada, Djibouti, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Pakistan, Scotland, Sudan, Syria. (AFP [Internet], BBC, Los Angeles Times [Internet], MM, Omani News Agency [Internet], REU, UPI 10/13; AFP, BETA [Belgrade], MENA 10/13, MENA 10/14 in WNC 10/16; Daily Star [Internet], NYT 10/14; HA [Internet], NYT 10/15; MM 10/17; WJW 10/19; WP, WT 10/20; MM 10/24, 10/25; WJW 10/26; MEI 10/27)

14 OCTOBER

As Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, UN Secy.-Gen. Annan announces that Arafat, Barak have dropped preconditions and agreed to meet with Pres. Clinton, Mubarak, King Abdallah, the UN's Annan, the EU's Solana meet in Sharm al-Shaykh. Talks continue for 16 hrs., stretching past midnight, without success. A separate, very heated mtg. is held among Secy. of State Albright, Israel's acting FM Ben-Ami, the PA's Local Government M Erakat, Egyptian FM Musa to draft an outline of the rules of disengagement. (MM 10/16; ITAR-TASS, MENA, RL 10/16 in WNC 10/17; alQuds 10/16, JT 10/17 in WNC 10/18; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 10/17; AYM 10/17 in WNC 10/9)

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue at the same level of the past few days, with most clashes occurring on the outskirts of Palestinian cities, which are encircled by IDF troops. 2 Palestinians are killed by Israeli gunfire; 1 Palestinian dies of illness after being denied access to medical treatment by the IDF for 2 days because of the internal closure; 190 Palestinians are injured. The IDF expands its Netzarim Junction base, begins

15 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue at the same lower rate as they have since 10/12, causing no fatalities. 1 Palestinian dies of injuries received earlier. The IDF begins digging trenches, installing barricades at crossing points btwn. Israeli-, PA-controlled areas. The PA reportedly arrests 34 Hamas mbrs., in the West Bank, Gaza. (LAW 10/15; Gulf News [Internet], Khaliq Times [Internet], NYT 10/16)

Hizballah announces it has taken a 4th IDF soldier hostage. The IDF confirms that Col. Elhanan Tenenbaum (res.) was in Switzerland on business when he “disappeared on his own initiative on personal circumstances a wk. ago.” (ADM, REU, WP 10/15; MM, NYT, WT 10/16; MM 10/17; MA 10/17 in WNC 10/18; Daily Star [Internet] 10/19; MEI 10/27)

2 IDF soldiers are lightly wounded by gunfire from across the Jordanian border. (WP 10/15)

In Sydney, Australia, a rally in support of the Palestinians turns violent when 20–50 of the 2,500 protesters attempt to storm the U.S. consulate. Rally organizers quickly get the crowd under control and the demonstration disperses without police intervention. Other pro-Palestinian rallies are held in Madrid, San Diego, Washington. (AFP 10/15 in WNC 10/16)

16 OCTOBER

Arafat, Barak, Clinton, Mubarak, King Abdallah, the UN's Annan, the EU's Solana meet in Sharm al-Shaykh. Talks continue for 16 hrs., stretching past midnight, without success. A separate, very heated mtg. is held among Secy. of State Albright, Israel's acting FM Ben-Ami, the PA's Local Government M Erakat, Egyptian FM Musa to draft an outline of the rules of disengagement. (MM 10/16; ITAR-TASS, MENA, RL 10/16 in WNC 10/17; alQuds 10/16, JT 10/17 in WNC 10/18; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 10/17; AYM 10/17 in WNC 10/9)

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clearing agricultural land along roads nr. Khan Yunis. (ADM, LAW 10/16; CSM, NYT, WP, WT 10/17; Globes [Internet] 10/25)

In Gaza, Fatah, Hamas stage demonstrations against Arafat’s participation in the Sharm al-Shaykh talks. Palestinian refugees in Lebanon hold similar protests in ‘Ayn al-Hilwa, Baalbek, Tyre. In Iran, 1,000s of students march to the local UN offices to urge UN support for the Palestinians, condemnation of Israel. Smaller rallies in solidarity with the Palestinians are held in Amman, Ankara, Tokyo. In the U.S., demonstrations are held in Madison, San Francisco. (UPI 10/16; ATL, RL 10/16 in WNC 10/17; JT 10/17 in WNC 10/18)

The UNGA, citing a rule that allows it to take up matters of international peace and security when the UNSC proves unable or unwilling to do so, begins preparing for an emergency session to debate a resolution condemning recent Israeli violence. U.S. Amb. Holbrooke protests. (WT 10/17; WP 10/18; WJW 10/19; MEI 10/27) (see 10/12)

Hizballah says that Col. Tenenbaum, the 4th IDF soldier taken captive, approached Lebanese contacts in Europe, claiming to be an intelligence agent for a country other than Israel. He was lured to Beirut, traveling on a fake passport, on the pretense of meeting with a Hizballah official. Israel does not comment. At the request of Shin Bet, the Israeli High Court imposes a ban on publishing information about the affair. (NYT, WP 10/17; WJW 10/19) (see 10/15)

17 OCTOBER

After several more hrs. of talks among Arafat, Barak, Clinton, Mubarak, King Abdullah, Annan, and Solana, Clinton announces that Arafat, Barak have agreed on steps toward halting the clashes. No details are released. The agmts. are oral and reportedly are vague, not giving an order of who is to take what step 1st. The sides agree that Clinton will appoint an international inquiry comm. to investigate the recent clashes. The U.S. for the 1st time acknowledges that Arafat “may not have control of everything” but still says it expects a cessation of violence “within hours.” (AFP [Internet], MM, REU 10/17; ATL, Interfax, MENA, RL 10/17 in WNC 10/18; LAW, NYT, WP, WT, YA 10/18; JT, al-Quds, SA 10/18, Le Monde 10/19 in WNC 10/19; WJW 10/19; JP 10/20; MEI 10/27; MA 11/6 in WNC 11/9) (see Doc. D5)

Meanwhile, Israeli-Palestinian clashes escalate. Nr. Itamar settlement, Jewish settlers open fire on a Palestinian family harvesting their olive crop, killing 1, wounding 3. A PA policeman is killed by IDF fire in Gaza. A 3d Palestinian dies of injuries received earlier. Palestinian gunmen fire at Gilo settlement, critically wounding an Israeli border policeman. IDF tanks fire on the neighboring Palestinian village of Bayt Jala in retaliation. Settlers fr. Itamar fire on Palestinian homes in neighboring Hawara village, attack a Palestinian ambulance driver. (ADM, LAW, MM, PCHR, REU 10/17; MENA 10/17, al-Quds 10/18, MA 10/19 in WNC 10/19; ADM, Bahrain Tribune [Internet], CSM, HA [Internet], LAW, NYT, WP, WT 10/18; WJW 10/19; HJ 10/24, MENA 10/25 in WNC 10/30)

Hamas’s Shaykh Ahmad Yasin, West Bank Fatah leader Marwan Barghouti say their supporters will continue the uprising despite the Sharm al-Shaykh agmts. The DFLP, Islamic Jihad, Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine issue similar statements. Palestinians in Bethlehem, Gaza City, Nablus, Qalqilya, Ramallah demonstrate against the Sharm al-Shaykh mtg. 1,000s of Egyptian students in Cairo, 7,000 Palestinian refugees in Tripoli, Lebanon, hold similar demonstrations. A rally in solidarity with the Palestinian people is held in New York. (ADM, LAW, MM, PCHR, REU 10/17; RMC 10/17 in WNC 10/18; MENA 10/17, al-Quds 10/18, MA 10/19 in WNC 10/19; ADM, Bahrain Tribune [Internet], CSM, HA [Internet], LAW, NYT, WP, WT 10/18; WJW 10/19; HJ 10/24, MENA 10/25 in WNC 10/30)

18 OCTOBER

In implementation of the Sharm al-Shaykh agmts., the PA releases a statement, read on Palestinian TV, urging Palestinians to “refrain from anything that would lead to tension or violence and to work to calm down the situation.” Barak orders IDF troops to do their utmost to avoid causing casualties. By the end of the day, Israel lifts the internal closure on areas A, pulls tanks back fr. Nablus, reopens border crossings with Egypt and Jordan, and reopens the Gaza airport (see 10/7). Hamas reports that the PA has rearrested all mbrs. released since 9/28, plus others. (MM, PCHR 10/18; NYT, WP, WT 10/19; MEI 10/27)

Israeli, PA, U.S. security officers meet to discuss implementing Sharm al-Shaykh
agmts. Although Israeli officials for the 1st time acknowledge that Arafat does not have “monolithic control” over Palestinian protesters, Israel expects “total tranquility” by the afternoon of 10/20, is still working on plans for a unilateral separation fr. the Palestinians. (REU 10/18; NYT, WP 10/19; HA [Internet] 10/20; MENL, NYT 10/22)

Despite these actions, Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue unabated, with the IDF continuing to fire live ammunition at Palestinians, but causing no fatalities. 1 Palestinian dies of injuries received earlier. In a joint operation, Shin Bet and IDF special forces capture 8 Palestinians suspected in the killing of the IDF reservists in Ramallah on 10/12. The PA says the 8 may have been taken in area A, which would be the 1st incursion into area A since clashes began. In Gaza, 2 roadside bombs explode as a convoy of Jewish settlers under IDF escort pass, causing no injuries. In Gaza, the IDF clears 35 dunams of woodland along the road to Erez checkpoint. (Abu Dhabi TV [Internet], ADM, BBC, MM, PCHR, UPMRC press release 10/18; HA [Internet], MM, NYT, WP, WT, YA 10/19; Globes [Internet] 10/25) Rallies protesting Israeli actions are held in Canada, Italy, Portugal. In the U.S., similar demonstrations are held in Providence, San Francisco. (Diario de Noticias 10/18 in WNC 10/19)

19 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, dimming hopes that a cease-fire will take hold. The worst fighting is around Nablus, where the IDF escorts a group of 40 Jewish settlers on a hike nr. Aksar al-Balad refugee camp to view, among other things, the remains of Joseph’s Tomb (see 10/7). 4 of the settlers reportedly open fire on the camp, prompting PA police to fire back, sparking an exchange of gunfire. The IDF warns Palestinians to evacuate areas of Nablus, then sends attack helicopters to cover and extract the settlers. During the 7-hr. exchange, 1 settler, 1 Palestinian are killed and 3 settlers, 15 Palestinians injured. In Bethlehem, an explosion at a Force 17 building, apparently caused by a gas leak, kills 3 Palestinians, injures several others. Around Gush Katif settlement, the IDF bulldozes 72 dunams of land, 2 walls surrounding Palestinian homes. Under heavy IDF guard, Israeli mayor of Jerusalem Ehud Olmert and New York City council mbr. Noach Dear attend a housewarming celebration for a Jewish settler family that just acquired property in Palestinian East Jerusalem. (AP 10/19; MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/20; NYT 10/21; Globes [Internet] 10/25; JP 10/27; MM, WJW 11/16)

Protests against Israeli actions are held in Boston, Ottawa, Washington. (al-Awda Internet news group 10/19) Despite these actions, Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue unabated, leaving 10 Palestinians dead, some 400 wounded. Barak vows to halt the peace process officially on pass, causing no injuries. In Gaza, the IDF clears 35 dunams of woodland along the road to Erez checkpoint. (Abu Dhabi TV [Internet], ADM, BBC, MM, PCHR, UPMRC press release 10/18; HA [Internet], MM, NYT, WP, WT, YA 10/19; Globes [Internet] 10/25) Rallies protesting Israeli actions are held in Canada, Italy, Portugal. In the U.S., similar demonstrations are held in Providence, San Francisco. (Diario de Noticias 10/18 in WNC 10/19)

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bars an ambulance fr. taking a seriously wounded Palestinian into Jordan for treatment. Jewish settlers fr. Beitar lit assault Palestinians harvesting their olive grove; the IDF intervenes, forcing the Palestinians to leave. (ADM 10/21; NYT, WP, WT 10/22; JT 11/9 in WNC 11/13)

In Cairo, the Arab League opens a 2-day emergency session on the recent Israeli-Palestinian violence, the peace process. (WT 10/21; NYT, WP, WT 10/22; MM 10/23; MENA 10/24 in WNC 10/25; MEI 10/27; MM 11/7) (see Peace Monitor)

1,000s of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, Syria stage demonstrations calling on Arab leaders to sever all ties with Israel. Demonstrations in solidarity with the Palestinian people are held in Italy, Kenya, the UK, Yemen. In the U.S., rallies are held in Austin, Miami Beach, San Francisco. Israeli Jews, Arabs fr. the mixed community of Neve Shalom host a peace rally in Haifa, but barely 1,000 Israelis attend. (UPI 10/21; WP 10/22; WJW 11/9)

22 OCTOBER

The Arab League closes its 2-day emergency session, issuing a nonbinding resolution calling for a $1 b. Palestinian aid fund, recommending Arab states postpone further normalization with Israel. Tunisia orders Israel to shut its representative offices in Tunis. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/23; MENA 10/23; HJ, IRNA 10/24 in WNC 10/25; HJ 10/24, 10/25, HJ, SA 10/26 in WNC 10/30; WJW 10/26; MEI 10/27) (see Doc. B4)

Barak formally suspends the peace process. In response, Arafat states that Palestinians have a right to an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital and "to accept it or not to accept—let [Barak] go to hell." Meanwhile, Israeli-Palestinian clashes escalate further, leaving 4 Palestinians dead, over 100 injured; 2 others die of injuries received earlier. The most violent exchange is nr. Bethlehem, where the IDF orders residents of Aida camp, Bayt Jala, Bayt Sahur to evacuate their homes before ordering machine guns, tanks, and helicopter gunships to fire into the area, targeting buildings fr. which snipers shot into nearby Gilo settlement and destroying 2 Palestinian factories, several houses, a power plant. The gunfire continues overnight. In Gaza, the IDF bulldozes Palestinian agricultural land along roads leading to Morag settlement. Israel also recloses the Gaza airport, reinstates the internal closure on PA areas, shuts crossings into Egypt and Jordan. (ADM 10/22; BDL, LAW, MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/23; MM 10/24; MA 10/24 in WNC 10/25; MEI 10/27; AYM 11/12 in WNC 11/13)

In Cairo, 1,000s of Egyptian students protest the failure of the Arab League summit to cut ties with or to call for military action against Israel. There are also reports of at least 1 Palestinian protest in Bethlehem denouncing Arab leaders, especially Mubarak, for the weak Arab League statement. Other rallies in support of the Palestinians are held in Bahrain, London, Ottawa. (WP 10/23; HJ 10/24, SA 10/26 in WNC 10/30; Bahrain Freedom Movement press release 10/25; MM 10/26)

Barak announces an inquiry will be held into the deaths of Israeli Arabs during the recent clashes and a 4-yr. development plan for Israeli Arab areas. Israeli Arabs complain that the inquiry's recommendations will be nonbinding. (NYT 10/23; WJW 10/26; MM 10/30)

23 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes abate slightly overall, but increase around Bayt Jala, the Jewish enclave in Hebron. During the day, 1 Palestinian is killed, 3 are wounded, 2 others die of injuries received earlier. The IDF continues to shell areas of Bayt Jala, damaging several homes and injuring several Palestinians. The IDF bulldozes large tracks of olive groves nr. Netzahim Junction, Nisanit settlement. IDF rocket attacks are reported nr. Rafah. (PCHR, MM 10/23; LAW, MM, NYT, WT 10/24; Globes [Internet] 10/25; JT 10/25 in WNC 10/30; MEI 10/27)

The National and Islamic Higher Comm. for the Follow-up of the Intifada (NIHC)—an umbrella group separate fr. the PA, representing all the Palestinian nationalist and Islamist factions—issues its 1st leaflet.

Palestinians in al-Maghazi refugee camp in Gaza stage a small demonstration denouncing Arab leaders for the weak Arab League statement on 10/22. (HJ 10/23 in WNC 10/25) (see Peace Monitor)

Morocco severs ties with Israel, shutting its trade office in Tel Aviv, Israel's trade representation in Rabat. In London, 7,000 people stage a march in solidarity with the Palestinians. (MM, UPI 10/24; MM 10/25; MEI 10/27; MM 11/3) (see 10/13)

Barak, Sharon open talks on forming a coalition government. (MA [Internet], MM, NYT 10/23; MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/24; JT...
24 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes abate further due to heavy rains, cold weather. During the day, 2 Palestinians are killed; a 3d dies of injuries received earlier. Barak sends top security aide Yossi Girnson to Gaza to discuss security coordination with PAF head Dahlan. The IDF shells areas around Bayt Jala, Hebron, Jericho, Rafah, and Tulkarm, severely damaging more than 6 Palestinian homes, killing 1 man, wounding at least 8. The IDF uproots Palestinian olive groves nr. Nettarum Junction. IDF tanks in Psagot settlement fire into al-Birch camp outside Ramallah in response to sniping. Barak allows Jewish settlers to go back to Mitzpe Hagit, one of the illegal settlement enclaves evacuated in 1999. (Gush Shalom press release 10/24; LAW, NYT, WT 10/25)

Pres. Clinton phones Arafat to urge him to halt Palestinian demonstrations, arrange a time to come to Washington to discuss resuming peace talks. Arafat gives no assurances. The White House says Clinton also phoned Barak, to invite him to a separate mtg. in Washington, but the leaders were “unable to speak.” (MM, NYT, WT 10/25; NYT, YA 10/26; AYM 10/26 in WNC 10/30)

In Washington, Pres. Clinton, King Abdullah of Jordan sign a free trade agreement. (AP, BBC, MM 10/24; WJW 10/26; WP 10/27; JT 10/30, 10/31 in WNC 11/1; JT 11/8 in WNC 11/9; JT 11/9 in WNC 11/13; WP 11/10)

In a coordinated event, groups of West Bank Palestinians, 10,000s of Jordanians fr. across the kingdom march toward Jerusalem in a nonviolent demonstration of support for the right of return. While Palestinians are stopped at IDF checkpoints, the Jordanians are halted nr. Allenby Bridge by Jordanian riot police and security forces, with helicopter support. The Jordanian authorities beat back marchers with batons, water cannons, and tear gas, injuring 100s. (AP, BBC, MM 10/24; WJW 10/26; WP 10/27; JT 10/30, 10/31 in WNC 11/1; JT 11/8 in WNC 11/9; JT 11/9 in WNC 11/13; WP 11/10)

100s of Yemenis march in Sana’a to protest Israeli violence against the Palestinians. In the U.S., a Palestinian solidarity rally is held in Chicago. (Bernama-IINA [Internet] 10/24)

25 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue at a low level for a 3d day, as severe weather continues. In Gaza, IDF, PA security officials hold expanded talks on lowering friction and violence in the field; plan further talks btwn. West Bank security coordinators. In Gaza, a roadside bomb goes off nr. an IDF convoy, causing no injuries. In Hebron, the IDF evacuates a number of Palestinian residents bordering on the Jewish settlement enclave, confiscates their homes as new military posts. Jewish settlers chop down Palestinian olive groves nr. Nablus. The IDF again shells Bayt Jala. (ADM, MM 10/25; NYT, WT 10/26)

Demonstrations in solidarity with the Palestinians are held in Montreal, outside the U.S. emb. in Jakarta. (al-Awda Internet news group 10/25)

26 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify slightly. A Palestinian suicide bomber on a bicycle lightly injures 1 IDF soldier outside Gaza’s Kissufim settlement. Islamic Jihad takes responsibility. The IDF blocks the main north–south road in Gaza, effectivly dividing the Strip in half; bulldozes 7 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Kefar Darom. (MEZ, MM 10/26; NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 10/27; PCHR 10/29)

Pres. Clinton speaks to Barak about easing the violence, coming to Washington for talks on renewing negotiations. No mtg. is reached. (WP 10/27) (see 10/24)

In Washington, Israeli amb. David Ivri meets with officials fr. the National Security Council, White House to discuss Israel’s supplemental aid request. (HA [Internet] 10/27; AYM 10/29 in WNC 11/1) (see Peace Monitor)

27 OCTOBER

Israel restricts Palestinians’ access to Jerusalem for the 3d Friday in a row. Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify again, leaving 4 Palestinians dead, 250 injured. Main flash points are Bayt Jala, Bethlehem, Hebron, Jinin, Qalqilya, Qaruni checkpoint, Tulkarm. IDF troops outside Ramallah open fire on an ambulance, severely injuring the driver. In Gaza, the IDF bulldozes another 3 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Kefar Darom settlement. At least 3 roadside bombs explode nr. Bethlehem, injuring 1 Israeli border policeman. A synagogue in Efrat is vandal-
ized, presumably by Palestinians, though how they entered the Jewish settlement is unclear. (ADM, LAW, MM, PCHR 10/27; IDF Radio [Internet], Guardian [Internet], NYT, WT 10/28; AYM 10/31 in WNC 11/1)

Palestinian refugees in ‘Ayn al-Hilwa camp in Lebanon demonstrate against the weak Arab League statement issued on 10/22. In Nairobi, 1,000s of Kenyans march in solidarity with the Palestinians. In the U.S., similar rallies are held outside the New York Times offices in New York, as well as in Hartford, Sacramento. (Panafrican News Agency [Internet] 10/27; al-Safir 10/28 in WT 10/31; MM 11/1; WJW 11/2; MEI 11/10) WNC 10/31

28 OCTOBER

Following the funerals for 4 Palestinians killed on 10/27, Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify further, leaving 50 Palestinians injured. 2 Palestinians, including a journalist hit by live ammunition in Bethlehem on 10/19, die of wounds received earlier. In Bayt Jala, IDF shelling destroys a building housing 10 adults, 15 children. Jewish settlers move 4 caravans to Havat Maon, one of the illegal enclaves that Barak evacuated in 1999. (LAW 10/28; NYT, WP 10/29; AIC 11/2; JP 11/10)

15,000 Mauritanians attend a rally calling on the government to sever ties with Israel. In the U.S., 1,000s of Americans rally outside the White House in support of the Palestinian people. Similar rallies are held in New York, Seattle. (WP, WT 10/29; MEI 11/24)

29 OCTOBER

With Israeli-Palestinian clashes showing no sign of abating, IDF Chief of Staff Gen. Shaul Mofaz announces that the army will begin initiating attacks on Palestinian targets, especially Fatah leaders, and using more force against demonstrators. During the day, 5 Palestinians are killed, over 100 injured; a 6th Palestinian dies of injuries received earlier. Nr. Qarni crossing in Gaza, IDF tanks fire on Palestinian demonstrators, killing 2, wounding 25. Also in Gaza, Palestinian gunmen fire on and detonate a small bomb nr. a bus carrying Jewish settlers under IDF escort, causing no injuries. In a drive-by shooting in East Jerusalem, Jewish settlers wound a Palestinian security guard outside Augusta Victoria hospital. Armed settlers also open fire on Palestinians in Haris, wounding 3. Nr. Ariel settlement, the IDF bulldozes Palestinian olive groves. (MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/30; AYM 10/30 in WNC 11/1; NYT, WP 10/31; AIC 11/2; al-Quds 11/9 in WNC 11/13)

A day before the Knesset reconvenes, Barak and Likud Leader Sharon are still unable to reach an agmt. on forming a unity government despite 7 days of talks. The Shas party, which pulled out of Barak’s coalition in 7/00, before the Camp David talks, says it will give Barak a 1-mo. safety net against no-confidence votes. In return, Barak suspends plans for secular social reforms (see 8/20). (MM, NYT, WT, YA 10/30; MM, WT 10/31; MM 11/1; WJW 11/2; MEI 11/10)

30 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify after funerals for Palestinians killed on 10/29, the discovery in East Jerusalem of the body of a Jewish settler, and the fatal shooting of 2 guards outside an Israeli government building in East Jerusalem. In retaliation, Barak orders missile strikes on Fatah offices and Force 17 buildings in al-Bireh, Khan Yunis, and Nablus, destroying them, damaging an adjacent Samaritan synagogue and at least 1 home. Israel warns it will send commandos to hunt down Palestinians firing on troops fr. behind crowds of stone throwers. During the day, at least 2 Palestinians are killed, 40 are injured; a 3d dies of injuries received earlier; a 4th, seriously ill, dies when IDF detains his ambulance at a checkpoint. The main hot spots are around Jericho, Nablus, Ramallah (where the IDF reportedly uses grenade launchers), Tulkarm. Nr. Rafah, the IDF clears 100 dunams of Palestinian land, digs a trench across the main road to Gaza City. Armed Jewish settlers fire on Palestinian homes, schools in Hebron and nr. Bethlehem, Tulkarm. Settlers also throw stones at Palestinian cars nr. Hebron; uproot Palestinian groves nr. Itzhar settlement, shooting and wounding a Palestinian who tries to stop them. (ADM, LAW, MEZ, MM 10/30; International Herald Tribune. LAW, MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/31; HA [Internet], NYT, WP 11/1; AIC 11/2; JT 11/3 in WNC 11/6; MEI 11/10)

The Knesset reconvenes after a 3-mo. recess. The session is calmer than expected due to the agmt. Barak reached with Shas on 10/29. (MM, NYT 10/30; MM, NYT, WP, WT 10/31; AYM 10/31 in WNC 11/1)

31 OCTOBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving 5 Palestinians dead, 45 injured. At
Qarni crossing, the IDF shoots a CNN reporter in the back with live ammunition. The most severe clashes are in Gaza, where Palestinians for the 1st time fire 3–4 antitank grenades at an IDF post, causing no injuries. The PA says it has not authorized its security forces to use their weapons to date but warns that could change depending on Israel’s actions. Nr. Bethlehem, IDF troops, Jewish settlers reportedly fire on Red Crescent ambulances attempting to reach injured Palestinians. (ADM, LAW 10/31; LPA 10/31 in WNC 11/1; HA [Internet], MEZ, NYT, WP 11/1; see Jane’s Defence Weekly 10/10)

This evening, Israeli Transportation Minister Amnon Shahak, Barak security aide Ginosaur, secretly go to Gaza for talks with Arafat. No details are released. (NYT 11/2)

1 NOVEMBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes increase sharply, leaving 3 IDF soldiers dead, 4 wounded in gunfights with Palestinians and 6 Palestinians dead, 140 wounded by the IDF. A small bomb explodes in West Jerusalem, lightly injuring 2 Israelis. Barak orders missile attacks on the PSF training center nr. Jericho, Jericho’s Oasis Casino, a marble factory in Bethlehem, residential areas around Bayt Jala and Bethlehem. The IDF also directs fire fr. tanks, heavy machine guns, grenade launchers at residential areas in Bayt Sahur, Beitunia, Jericho, al-Khadir, Qarni crossing, Tulkarm. Jewish settlers shoot, seriously wound 2 Palestinians nr. Nablus; open fire on Palestinian homes in al-Khadir. Israel, however, reopens the Rafah border crossing to individuals, though trade is still barred. (ADM, IsRN, LAW, MA [Internet], MM, PCHR 11/1; AFP [Internet], AIC, HA [Internet], NYT, REU, WJW, WP, WT 11/2; MENA 11/2 in WNC 11/3; MEI 11/10)

Following a mtg. with Albright in Washington, Israeli acting FM Ben-Ami says Israel must address the clashes “not as a civilian uprising but as a military confrontation.” (PA negotiator Erakat was to have met with Albright as well but could not leave Jericho because of IDF air strikes.) With the violence escalating, MK and fmnr. PM Shimon Peres makes a low-key trip to Gaza very late this evening to meet with Arafat. (ADM, IsRN, LAW, MA [Internet], MM, PCHR 11/1; al-Quds, RMC 11/1 in WNC 11/3; AFP [Internet], AIC, HA [Internet], NYT, REU, WJW, WP, WT 11/2; YA 11/5)

2 NOVEMBER

Early this morning, Arafat, Peres wrap up talks, and Barak announces that the sides have agreed to try again to implement the 10/17 Sharm al-Shaykh arrangements. The Israeli cabinet suspends punitive attacks on Palestinian targets. Differences quickly arise, however, over plans for Arafat, Barak to issue statements on ending the violence (see Peace Monitor). As the sides discuss how to resolve their differences, 2 Islamic Jihad activists detonate a car bomb in West Jerusalem, killing 2 Israelis, wounding 9. (AFP [Internet], MM, NYT, REU, WP, WT 11/2; ATL, Interfax, MENA, XIN 11/2 in WNC 11/3; ATL, Cyprus News Agency 11/2, MENA, al-Quds 11/4; al-Quds 11/5 in WNC 11/6; JP [Internet], MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/3; MM 11/6; MEI 11/10)

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving 2 Palestinians dead, 80 wounded. Nr. Nablus, Jewish settlers uproot a Palestinian olive grove; attack Palestinian cars and property around Hawwara, Hebron, Tulkarm. The IDF confiscates and levels 70 dunams of Palestinian land to build a road linking Morag, Gush Katif settlements. However, Israel acknowledges that PA police are making more of an effort to halt stone throwers; Arafat unequivocally denounces the Islamic Jihad bombing; and Barak phones Arafat to express condolences over today’s Palestinian fatalities. In Gaza, the IDF evacuates a position linking Qarni to Netzarin settlement. pulls tanks back fr. main roads. (AFP [Internet], MM, NYT, REU, WP, WT 11/2; JP [Internet], MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/3; MEI 11/10)

While in New York, Israel’s Ben-Ami (promoted to FM today) reportedly sets up a public relations (PR) headquarters to aid in Israel’s PR efforts in North America. The office head, fmnr. IBA dir. gen. Aryeh Mekel, will coordinate among the FMin.’s PR dept., a special steering comm. of senior officials of U.S. Jewish organizations, and 6 major U.S. PR firms that have been contracted. (MA [Internet] 11/8; HA [Internet] 11/13)

Israel begins reviewing a project for 4,000 new housing units in Har Homa settlement (Jabal Abu Ghunaym) in East Jerusalem. If approved, the site would be known as Har Homa B, would link Har Homa with Gilo settlement. (al-Quds 11/2 in WNC 11/3; LAW 11/4)
3 NOVEMBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes abate slightly but leave 2 Palestinians dead, over 275 injured (mostly in Ramallah). The IDF pulls back fr. some Palestinian towns, says the PA is attempting to calm the street. But Israel again restricts Palestinian access to al-Aqsa Mosque for Friday prayers. The IDF shells areas nr. Bethlehem in response to Palestinian machine-gun fire; demolishes 2 Palestinian homes, bulldoizes 27 dunums of agricultural land in Rafah. (AFP [Internet], LAW, PCHR 11/3; NYT, WP, WT 11/4; WP, WT 11/5)

In Washington, PA negotiator Erakat meets with UN Secy.-Gen. Annan in New York and with U.S. officials in Washington, but there is no indication that he and Erakat meet. (JP [Internet] 11/3; NYT 11/4; MENA 11/4 in WNC 11/6; IsRN 11/5) (see 11/1)

Large anti-Israeli demonstrations are held in Bahrain. In the U.S., a rally in support of the Palestinians is held in Boulder. (Bahrain Freedom Movement press release 11/5)

4 NOVEMBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue at the same level as in recent days, leaving at least 87 Palestinians injured (almost half by live ammunition). In Hebron, where Palestinians have been under 24-hr. curfew since 10/1, the IDF refuses to allow a Palestinian family to transfer their ill newborn to the hospital, allowing her to die. Jewish settler attacks on Palestinians and their property are reported in Hebron, nr. Bethlehem and Nablus, and throughout Jerusalem. (ADM, LAW 11/4; AYM 11/6 in WNC 11/9; WP, WT 11/5)

In Tel Aviv, 50,000 Israelis attend a rally marking the 5th anniversary of the assassination of PM Yitzhak Rabin. In comparison to previous yrs., fewer people attend and the event is less a peace rally and more a memorial. (NYT, WP 11/5; MM 11/8; WJW 11/9; JP 11/10)

Another antigovernment/anti-Israeli/anti-U.S. rally is held in Mauritania. In the U.S., rallies in support of the Palestinian people are held in Carlisle, PA; North Bergen, NJ. (Free Arab Voice [Internet] 11/14)

5 NOVEMBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify slightly, leaving 2 Palestinians dead. Palestinians ambush a car outside Ma’ale Levona settlement nr. Ramallah, injuring 2 Jewish settlers. (IsRN, MEZ 11/5; LAW, NYT, WP 11/6; HJ 11/6 in WNC 11/7; AYM 11/6 in WNC 11/9)

The NIHC issues leaflets in the West Bank and Gaza, calling on Palestinians to focus their confrontation on IDF soldiers and Jewish settlers, to form local committees to organize mass activities, to boycott Israeli and U.S. goods. (HJ 11/6 in WNC 11/7)

The White House announces that Arafat, Barak have accepted invitations to meet with Pres. Clinton in Washington—Arafat on 11/9, Barak on 11/12. (XIN 11/5 in WNC 11/6; HJ, IRNA 11/5, AYM, DUS, al-Quds 11/6 in WNC 11/7; MM, NYT, WP 11/6)

At Fatima Gate, 100s of Lebanese throw stones across the blue line at IDF troops, who fire warning shots in return, causing no injuries. Rallies in support of the Palestinians are held in Ottawa, outside Senate candidate Rick Lazio’s campaign headquarters in Babylon, NY. (AFP [Internet] 11/5, 11/10)

6 NOVEMBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving 2 Palestinians dead; a 3d Palestinian dies of injuries received earlier. The IDF searches homes in villages around Bethlehem, arrests 3 Palestinians; directs tank, heavy machine-gun fire at residential areas of Aqabat Jabir camp, Jericho, Salfit. Jewish settlers assault Palestinians, damage property in Hebron, nr. Jinin. (ADM 11/6; ADM, IDF Radio [Internet], NYT, WP 11/7)

Israel leaks reports that the U.S. has raised the idea of posting international observers as a buffer in the West Bank, Gaza. Barak denounces the proposal. Clinton states the U.S. will not endorse it if Israelis are opposed. Ben-Ami says he has already met with Albright, Holbrooke to coordinate steps to block the proposal in the UN. (MM 11/6; NYT, WP, WT 11/7; AYM 11/7 in WNC 11/8; NYT, WP 11/8; MEI 11/10) (see Peace Monitor)

IDF troops capture a man armed with knives sneaking into the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights fr. Syria. (NYT 11/7)

In Tehran, 1,000 Iranian students attend a rally in solidarity with the Palestinian people. A much smaller rally is held in Baltimore. (IRNA 11/6 in WNC 11/7)

With Shas support, Barak survives 5 no-confidence motions in the Knesset. (AFP [Internet] 11/6)
7 NOVEMBER

Presidential elections are held in the U.S., but the race between VP Al Gore (D) and Texas Gov. George W. Bush (R) is too close to call. The election rests on some 1,500 votes in Florida, where ballot errors could swing results. At the least, Florida absentee ballots must be tabulated and regular votes recounted, meaning it could be weeks before the new president is declared. (MM 11/7; NYT, WP, WT 11/8;


Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving 1 Palestinian dead, 150 injured. A 2d Palestinian dies of wounds received earlier. Jewish settlers block roads, attack Palestinians, damage property in Hebron and nr. Nablus, Rafah, Tulkarm. Off Gaza, a fishing boat laden with explosives detonates nr. an Israeli patrol ship, killing the suicide bomber. The IDF shells areas of Bayt Jala in response to Palestinian sniping at Gilo settlement. IDF Chief of Staff Mofaz says the IDF is preparing contingencies for the evacuation of all 7,000 Jewish settlers in Gaza. Barak allows the Gaza airport, closed since 10/22, to reopen. (ADM, LAW 11/7; al-Quds 11/7 in WNC 11/9; NYT, WP 11/8)

In keeping with the 10/17 Sharm al-Sheikh agmts., the White House names fmr. Senator George Mitchell (D-ME) to lead an inquiry into the causes of the Israeli-Palestinian clashes. Also named to the panel are fmr. Turkish pres. Suleyman Demirel, Norwegian FM Thorbjorn Jagland, fmr. Senator Warren B. Rudman (R-NH), EU foreign policy dir. Solana. (MM, NYT, WP 11/8; AYM 11/9 in WNC 11/13; MEI 11/24)

8 NOVEMBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes intensify, especially in Gaza. 4 Palestinians are killed by IDF troops, 2 others die of injuries received earlier, and 1 Israeli customs official is ambushed and killed in Gaza (both Fatah Uprising, Islamic Jihad claim responsibility). Blaming Arafat for the ambush, Barak shuts the Gaza airport and the Rafah border crossing to Egypt, reportedly sends more tanks and armored vehicles into the West Bank and Gaza. At Qarni crossing, a gun battle erupts btwn. IDF troops, PA police; the IDF shells a building “used as cover” by the policemen. IDF tank, heavy machine-gun fire is reported in Aida refugee camp, Bayt Jala, Bayt Sahur, Beitunia, al-Bireh, Hebron, Salfit, in Bayt Jala, 1 house is completely destroyed, 6 homes and a school are damaged. The IDF also uproots a Palestinian olive grove in Qalqilya. (al-Haq press release, LAW, MM, PCHR 11/8; ADM, NYT, WP, WT 11/9; al-Quds 11/9 in WNC 11/13)

Arafat flies to Cairo to confer with Mubarak, EU special envoy Moratinos and then goes to London to meet with British PM Tony Blair before heading to Washington. After meeting with Arafat, Moratinos leaves for a 2-day visit to Israel. (LPA, MENA 11/8 in WNC 11/9; MENA 11/8 in WNC 11/13; WP 11/9)

UN Human Rights Commissioner (UNHRC) Mary Robinson begins a 1-wk. tour of Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, Egypt, Jordan to investigate the recent Israeli-Palestinian violence. (AP 11/8; NYT, WP 11/9; WP 11/11; al-Quds 11/11 in WNC 11/13; WP 11/28) (see Doc. A5)

The UNSC holds a closed-door mtg. on the ongoing clashes, the PA’s request for international forces. The mtg. is adjourned until 11/10, so Arafat may address the council. (XIN 11/8 in WNC 11/9; SA 11/8 in WNC 11/13; MM, NYT, WT 11/9; MEI 11/10)

Under pressure fr. Israeli Arab MKs, Barak upgrades the inquiry comm. into the deaths of Israeli Arabs during the recent clashes to a state commission, which has more authority. (NYT, WP 11/9) (see 10/22)
The IDF also clears lands around the main road of Nazlit Issa village nr. Tulkarm, demolishes several greenhouses nr. Jinin. **Jewish settlers** set fire to 100 dunums of Palestinian crops outside Qalqiliya, attack Palestinians and Palestinian property in Hebron and around Jinin. IDF heavy machine-gun fire is reported around Hebron, Jinin, Nablus. (ADM 11/9; NYT, WP, WT 11/10)


More than **1,000 Palestinians** hold an anti-Israeli demonstration in Wihdat camp in Jordan. In the U.S., a rally in support of the Palestinians is held in New York. (AFP [Internet] 11/10)

10 NOVEMBER

**Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue, leaving **5 Palestinians, 1 Israeli Arab, 1 IDF soldier** dead, 300 Palestinians injured. Following the funeral for Fatah cmdr. **Ubayyat** (attended by 10,000 Palestinians), a **Palestinian sniper** fires on IDF troops outside Rachel's Tomb nearby, killing 1 soldier, wounding another. A small bomb explodes in **East Jerusalem**, slightly injuring an Israeli border policeman. More than 50 IDF shells fall in the Ramallah area, hitting the PA civil administration building, the PA Central Bureau of Statistics headquarters, the Islamic Elementary School, several apartment complexes and homes. IDF tank, heavy machine-gun fire are reported in and around Hebron, Jinin, Khan Yunis, Nablus, Qalqiliya, Salfit. The IDF also bulldozes agricultural lands nr. Qalqiliya. **Jewish settlers** uproot Palestinian olive trees nr. Ramallah, assault Palestinians in several locations around Nablus. Israel again restricts Palestinian access to al-Aqsa Mosque for Friday prayers. **Egypt** reports that **Israel** is barring medical goods, 30 ambulances donated by **Saudi Arabia** fr. entering Gaza via the Rafah crossing. (ADM, LAW 11/10; MENA 11/10 in WNC 11/13; NYT, PCHR, WP 11/11; HJ 11/15 in WNC 11/27)

**UNSC** resumes talks on an international buffer force for the West Bank, Gaza. **Arafat** lobbies for the UN to send 2,000 troops to the West Bank, Gaza, Jerusalem. The **UK, U.S.** vow to block the proposal as long as **Israel** disapproves. (XIN 11/10 in WNC 11/13; NYT, WP, WT 11/11; HJ 11/13 in WNC 11/15) (see Peace Monitor)

In Amman, **Jordanian security forces** peacefully disperse **1,000 Jordanians** attempting to march to the Israeli emb. **100s of Lebanese, Palestinian refugees** demonstrate at Fatima Gate on the blue line. The **IDF** shoots across the border, wounding a **Lebanese truck driver** approaching the border with a load of stones. (AFP [Internet] 11/10; DUS 11/10 in WNC 11/13; MEI 11/24)

11 NOVEMBER

**Israeli-Palestinian clashes** intensify, leaving **11 Palestinians, 1 IDF soldier** dead and over 200 Palestinians, 1 American wounded. 8 of the Palestinians and the IDF soldier are killed during a gun battle outside **Gush Katif** settlement in Gaza; the IDF confirms that the soldier was killed by IDF gunfire, 6 of the Palestinians are likely killed by settler gunfire. Nr. Rachel's Tomb, an **American photographer** is seriously wounded by live ammunition fired by the **IDF**. The **IDF** shells an unfinished building in al-Birah, killing **2 Fatah mbrs.** The 11th Palestinian is fatally shot at Erez crossing. 3 Palestinians die of injuries received earlier. IDF shelling, heavy machine-gun fire is reported in Hebron, Nablus. The IDF clears more Palestinian land in the Rafah area. (LAW, PCHR 11/11; LAW, MEZ, NYT, WP, WT 11/12; MA 11/13 in WNC 11/14; NYT 11/19)


In Rome, **30,000 Italians** protest against Israel’s “massacre of innocent Palestinians.” Similar, smaller rallies are held in **Oslo, Stockholm**. (ANSA 11/11 in WNC 11/13; IsraelWire [Internet] 11/12, 11/13)

12 NOVEMBER

**Israeli-Palestinian clashes** continue. 1 **Palestinian** is shot dead by the **IDF** at Erez crossing. A **2d Palestinian**, suspected of aiding the Ubayyat assassination on 11/9, is shot dead by a Palestinian gunman. A **3d Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. 2 **Egyptians** are wounded by Israeli gunfire
at the Rafah border. The convoy of UNHRC Leader Sharon is fired on as she tours Hebron's Jewish enclave, damaging 1 vehicle. IDF tank fire, shelling are reported in and around Bayt Jala, Bayt Sahur, Bethlehem, Jericho, al-Khadir, Ramallah; the Jericho casino is severely damaged. In Gaza, several roadside bombs explode, causing no injuries; a Jewish settler opens fire on Palestinians, wounding 1. (AFP [Internet] 11/12; HA [Internet], NYT, WP, WT 11/13; MM 11/15)

The Clinton-Barak mtg. in Washington is delayed several hrs. when a Russian plane is hijacked to Israel in an incident unrelated to the Middle East crisis. When the pair finally meet, they make no progress toward halting the violence. Barak reportedly tells Clinton that Israel will not "sit idly on its hands" in the face of Palestinian actions, complains that the PA is trying to internationalize the conflict by getting the UN involved. Barak also raises the issues of supplemental U.S. aid, upgrading the U.S.-Israeli strategic relationship. (NYT, WP, WT 11/12; MM, NYT, WP, WT 11/13; HJ 11/14 in WNC 11/16; MM 11/15)

13 NOVEMBER

Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, leaving 2 Palestinians dead. A 3d Palestinian dies of injuries received earlier. In Gaza, Palestinian snipers open fire on a convoy of Jewish settlers under IDF escort, killing 2 IDF soldiers, wounding 6 settlers. A Jewish settler driving in the West Bank, an Israeli truck driver carrying goods to a Jewish settlement in Gaza are also shot dead by Palestinian snipers, marking the highest 1-day toll for Israeli Jews since clashes began. The IDF seals area A, halts all traffic on and leading to the main north–south road in Gaza. IDF shelling is reported in Aqabat Jabir camp, Bayt Jala, Bethlehem, Jericho, Nablus, al-Qarara. In Gaza, the IDF levels another 112 dunums of Palestinian agricultural land, 1 Palestinian home, a livestock pen, and an irrigation system. (AP, LAW, MM, PCHR 11/13; LAW, MEZ, MM, NYT, WP 11/14; NYT 11/15; W JW 11/16, 11/23)

Barak, attending a fund-raiser in Chicago for the United Jewish Communities General Assembly (UJCGA), lists 5 requirements of any final status agmt. with the PA (see Doc. C2). More than 1,000 Americans rally outside the UJCGA venue to protest Israeli violence against the Palestinians. Similar rallies are held in New York, where Likud Leader Sharon addresses a New York Post seminar, and in Philadelphia. (WP 11/14; W JW 11/16)

With Shas support, Barak survives another no-confidence vote in the Knesset. (AFP [Internet] 11/13) (see 11/6)

14 NOVEMBER

As Israeli-Palestinian clashes continue, Israel tightens its blockade of Palestinian towns in the West Bank. During the day, 3 Palestinians are shot dead by the IDF. A 4th Palestinian is killed by a Jewish settler. A 5th dies of complications fr. inhaling tear gas when the IDF bars an ambulance fr. taking him to a hospital. A 6th dies of injuries received earlier. Nr. Ramallah, several Palestinians are wounded by Jewish settlers in a drive-by shooting. Beginning this evening and continuing overnight, IDF troops search, ransack at least 20 homes in area B nr. Nablus, Qalqilya, and Ramallah, arresting 15 Fatah mbrs. "suspected of carrying out terrorist attacks." Nr. Qalqilya, the IDF bulldozes several greenhouses. In a closed mtg., Arafat tells his security officials to prevent individuals fr. firing fr. areas A and Palestinian-populated areas so as to reduce civilian casualties resulting fr. Israeli reprisals. (EU press release, LAW, MEZ 11/14; MENA 11/14 in WNC 11/16; LAW, MEZ, NYT, WP, WT 11/15; MA [Internet], MM, NYT 11/16; AYM 11/16 in WNC 11/17)

In Doha, the OIC issues a special non-binding resolution on the clashes, urging mbrs. to cut ties with Israel; the U.S. to revise its "biased stance" in favor of Israel; the UN to send a peacekeeping force to the West Bank, Gaza. (MA [Internet], MM, OIC press release 11/14; AYM, IRNA 11/14 in WNC 11/15; MENA 11/14 in WNC 11/16; MM 11/15, 11/16; IRNA 11/16 in WNC 11/17; MM 11/17; JP, MEI 11/24)

Lebanon reports that the IDF overflew Baalbek, Bint Jubayl, Iqlim al-Tuffah, Marja‘youn, Nabatiyya and reinforced troops in the Shaba‘ Farms area. UNIFIL adviser Timur Goksel says UNIFIL recorded 123 Israeli violations of Lebanese airspace btwn. 10/8 and 11/8, has protested to Israel to no avail. (AFP [Internet] 11/14; RL 11/14 in WNC 11/16)

The Clinton administration submits to Congress a request for a $750 m. supplemental aid package for Egypt, Israel, Jordan. (WP 11/15; HA [Internet], W JW 11/16) (see Peace Monitor)
Senior Israeli PA officials reportedly hold a secret mtg. at the Egyptian mission to the UN in New York to discuss options for a UN buffer force in the West Bank, Gaza. (WP 11/16, 11/18)

First Lady Hillary Clinton (the senator-elect fr. NY), U.S. special envoy Ross, Russian FM Ivanov are among those who attend the funeral of PM Yitzhak Rabin’s widow, Leah Rabin, who died on 11/12. Arafat sends his condolences via videotape, which is aired on Israeli TV. Afterward, Ross meets with Barak. (MA [Internet], MM 11/15; MM, NYT, WJW, WP, WT 11/16; JP 11/24)

In Marseilles, France, a 2-day Euro-Mediterranean FMs mtg. opens to review regional cooperation efforts over the past 5 yrs. The session focuses on the Israeli-Palestinian crisis as it affects regional stability. (AFP [Internet], JT [Internet] 11/15; see also JT 11/13 in WNC 11/14; AYM 11/14 in WNC 11/15; SA 11/15, ANSA, ATL 11/16 in WNC 11/17)

In Lebanon, PM Hariri, Hizballah spiritual leader Shaykh Hassan Nasrallah hold their 1st mtg. in 8 yrs. during which they reportedly agree not to give Israel a pretext to strike Lebanon while upholding Beirut’s right to recover Shaba’ Farms, to coordinate efforts to keep the issue of Syria’s troop presence in the country out of the public domain. (MM 11/17) (see Peace Monitor)

Chronology Source Abbreviations

ADM (Addameer—Prisoners Support and Human Rights Association, Ramallah)
AFP (Agence France-Presse, Paris)
AIC (Alternative Information Center, Jerusalem)
ANSN (Associated National Press Agency, Rome)
AP (Associated Press, Internet)
ATL (Anatolia, Ankara)
AYM (al-Ayyam, Ramallah)
BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation World Service, Internet)
BDL (BADIL Resource Center, Bethlehem)
CSM (Christian Science Monitor, Boston)
DUS (al-Dustur, Amman)
HA (Ha’aretz, Tel Aviv)
HJ (al-Hayat al-Jadida, Ramallah)
IRNA (Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran)
IsRN (Israel Radio News, Internet)
JT (Jordan Times, Amman)
LAW (Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment, Jerusalem)
LPA (London Press Association, London)
MA (Ma’ariv, Tel Aviv)
MEI (Middle East International, London)
Israeli soldiers shoot at stone-throwing Palestinians in Khan Yunis, 24 October 2000. (Agence France-Presse/Thomas Coex)