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CHRONOLOGY

16 MAY-15 AUGUST 2005

COMPILED BY MICHELE K. ESPOSITO

This section is part eighty-four of a chronology begun in JPS 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984).

Chronology dates reflect Eastern Standard Time (EST). For a more comprehensive overview of events related to the al-Aqsa intifada and of regional and international developments related to the peace process, see the Quarterly Update on Conflict and Diplomacy in this issue

16 MAY

With implementation of **Israeli PM Ariel Sharon's** disengagement plan to evacuate troops and settlers fr. Gaza and 4 West Bank settlements slated to begin in mid-8/05, **some 1,500 right-wing Israeli disengagement protesters**, mostly young Jewish settlers, try to block around 100 intersections across Israel in one of the largest demonstrations to date. **Israeli police** deploy 1,000s of officers to keep roads open, demonstrations peaceful; arrest around 400 protesters. In the occupied territories, the **Israel Defense Forces (IDF)** fatally shoots a **Palestinian** who allegedly attempts to stab a soldier at a checkpoint outside Tulkarm (Palestinian observers dispute this, saying the man was angry, but merely approached the soldiers to question delays at the checkpoint); conducts arrest raids, house searches in Askar refugee camp (r.c.; targeting wanted **al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade [AMB]** mbrs), al-Mughayyir n. of Ramallah, Sawahara e. of Jerusalem. **Jewish settlers** fr. Keddumim bulldoze 30 dunams (d.; 4 d. = 1 acre) of olive trees nr. Qalqilya. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. (IMEMC, MM, PRCS 5/16; JTA, MM 5/17; OCHA, PR, WP 5/18; PCHR 5/19)

17 MAY

Overnight, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Dura and Sammu'; in the morning, stone-throwing youths confront the troops, the **IDF** responds with live ammunition and teargas, causing no serious injuries. **IDF** undercover units conduct arrest raids in Bethlehem. **Palestinians** fire a mortar at an **IDF** post in Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, IMEMC 5/17; PCHR 5/19)

18 MAY

In the sharpest escalation of violence since the 2/8 truce, the **IDF** fatally shoots a **Hamas mbr.** nr. the Rafah border after he fires on an **IDF** position. In response, **Hamas** fires some 20 **mortars** at Jewish settlements in s. Gaza, causing light damage. **Palestinian Authority (PA) police** dispatched to halt the fire are shot at by Palestinian gunmen (Hamas says it is not involved), stoned by bystanders. The **IDF**, blaming the PA for failing to take adequate steps, then launches an air strike against the Hamas mbrs. targeting the settlement, killing **1 Hamas mbr.**, wounding 1. Hamas mortar fire continues during the day, lightly wounding 1 settler. The **IDF** also patrols in Nablus, fires on residential areas; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bethlehem. **Jewish settlers** fr. Efrat uproot olive and almond trees, bulldoze Palestinian land nr. al-Khadir nr. Bethlehem to widen a settler bypass road. In Fara' r.c., **3 armed, masked Palestinians** raid an UNRWA clinic, order a doctor to leave permanently, harass the staff, then raid an UNRWA girls' school, threaten the principal, demand that a teacher be fired; no group claims responsibility; UNRWA protests to the PA, criticizing the PA's failure to protect UN institutions. (JAZ 5/18; NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 5/19; IMEMC, JAZ 5/20; OCHA 5/25; PCHR 5/26)

19 MAY

The **IDF** sends troops into 'Ayn Bani Salim nr. Hebron to search 35 Palestinian homes, take a census of and photograph the families; conducts arrest raids in Askar r.c., Balata r.c. (also firing on residential areas), Hebron, Tulkarm. **Palestinians** fire 10s of **mortars**,

3 **rockets** at IDF; Jewish settler targets in Gaza for a 2d day and also toward Sederot, causing light damage to an IDF base just outside Gaza and to the Qarni crossing, but no injuries; **Israel** threatens sharp retaliation. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai severely beat a 75-yr.-old Palestinian woman in Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Efrat nr. Bethlehem continue to bulldoze Palestinian land in nearby al-Khadir (see 5/18). (IMEMC, NYT, WP 5/20; PCHR 5/26)

20 MAY

In Gaza, 3 Palestinians representing the **AMB, Hamas, Islamic Jihad** stage a joint attack on Kefar Darom settlement, firing rifles, 1 mortar, 6 grenades, causing damage but no injuries; the **IDF** fires back, killing 1 **Hamas mbr.**, wounding a 2d, who escapes with the 3d assailant; the IDF says that **PA security forces** spotted the attackers but did not stop them, waiting until after the clash to retrieve the body of the dead man, turn his weapons over to the IDF. **Israel** pledges to respond to such attacks as it did today, "without escalating the fighting." The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids in Mughraqa in central Gaza, nr. Bethlehem; patrols in Nablus, firing on residential areas; occupies a Palestinian home in Hebron as an observation post. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba severely beat 3 Palestinian girls. (IMEMC 5/20; NYT 5/21; OCHA 5/25; PCHR 5/26)

21 MAY

The **IDF** fires on a Palestinian working in a field nr. Tulkarm, wounding him; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Ramallah. In Hebron, **10s of Jewish settlers** attack Palestinian homes to protest a solidarity visit to the Palestinians by several Israeli peace activists; **Jewish settlers** fr. Beit Hadasah settlement, chase and throw stones, eggs, tomatoes at Palestinian girls at a nearby elementary school. (PCHR 5/26)

22 MAY

The **IDF** bulldozes 5 **Palestinian homes** in Yatta nr. Hebron; fires on a Palestinian car nr. Bayt Furik checkpoint nr. Nablus, hitting the driver 7 times, wounding him; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Qalqilya; conducts patrols in Jinata nr. Bethlehem. **Israeli border police** raid a **Central Elections Commission (CEC) registration center** in Nabi Samuel outside Jerusalem, check IDs

of the staff; raid another center in Harmala nr. Bethlehem, holding staff for 3 hrs. In Bayt Lahiya, 2 Palestinian boys are injured when they accidentally trigger a roadside bomb; 2 Palestinian boys are injured in a similar incident nr. the Rafah border fence. (IMEMC 5/23; OCHA 5/25; PCHR 5/26)

23 MAY

The **IDF**, accompanied by **Israeli Interior Min. officials**, enters Bayt 'Ouna nr. Bethlehem, imposes a curfew, makes a census of residents. The **IDF** also cordons off part of Dura nr. Hebron, occupies a home as an observation post, searches several homes, stops Palestinians randomly for ID checks, stops children fr. leaving for school, fires on youths who throw stones at troops, wounding 1 teenager with live ammunition; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Hebron. Nr. Hebron, **3 armed Jewish settlers** fr. Ma'on severely beat a Palestinian shepherd, steal 7 sheep; **IDF** troops intervene, arrest the Palestinian. Other **Jewish settlers** fr. Ma'on bar Palestinian farmers fr. reaching their land in Yatta, beat 3 Palestinians. **Several 1,000 Hamas** supporters demonstrate in Gaza City against court decisions calling for recounts in the latest round of municipal elections, a possible delay in the 7/17 legislative elections. (NYT 5/24; OCHA 5/25; PCHR 5/26)

24 MAY

The **IDF** demolishes a **Palestinian home** and 2 animal farms nr. Hebron for construction of the **separation wall**. (PCHR 5/26)

25 MAY

The **IDF** fires on Palestinian residential areas of Khan Yunis, wounding a 13-yr.-old Palestinian boy; fires on stone-throwing youths in Hebron, wounding 1 in the buttocks with live ammunition; shells a newly completed, uninhabited Palestinian home nr. Hebron, causing serious damage; conducts house searches in and around Hebron, interrogates residents aged 13–25 in Hebron's Bab al-Zawiyya neighborhood. (IMEMC 5/25; PCHR 5/26; OCHA 6/1; PCHR 6/2)

26 MAY

IDF soldiers break into, occupy a Palestinian home in Hebron to watch a soccer championship on the family's satellite TV;

the IDF confirms the incident took place, says the cmdr. of the squad has been suspended. The **IDF** also completes a segment of the **separation wall** n. of Bethlehem; fires on residential areas of Rafah, wounding 1 Palestinian; conducts arrest raids, apartment searches in Abu Dis, targeting al-Quds University students. An **Israeli navy** gunboat fires on 2 Palestinian fishing vessels off the coast of Gaza, seriously damaging them. Mbrs. of rival **PA security forces** exchange gunfire for several hrs. in Ramallah, causing no injuries; a similar incident occurs in Rafah, leaving 1 officer wounded. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba set fire to Palestinian olive groves, vandalize 2 Palestinian homes in Hebron; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. **Jewish settlers** fr. Tal Rumayda stone Palestinian homes in Hebron; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. Late in the evening, **Jewish settlers** fr. Avraham Avino in Hebron throw Molotov cocktails at a market storage area where Palestinian keep their carts and goods, causing moderate damage. (HA 5/27; OCHA, PR 6/1; PCHR 6/2)

27 MAY

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bayt Laqia; bars an ailing **Palestinian** fr. crossing a checkpoint nr. Nablus to reach a waiting ambulance for 40 mins., allowing him to die. For the 2d day, an **Israeli navy** gunboat fires on several Palestinian fishing boats, orders fishermen to leave their catch and return to shore. In Yanun, **2 Jewish settlers** burn 20 d. of Palestinian crops. (IMEMC 5/27; VOP 5/28 in WNC 5/29; XIN 5/29; PR 6/1; PCHR 6/2)

28 MAY

The **IDF** fires missiles at Tal al-Za'atar in n. Gaza, allegedly targeting **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. attempting to fire a rocket, but no injuries are reported; shells Jabaliya r.c., hitting a home, wounding 2 Palestinians; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Jenin, Ramallah; patrols in Nablus; captures 4 unarmed Palestinians attempting to sneak across the Israeli border fence in central Gaza to find work; detains a Palestinian in Ariel settlement who apparently was living there secretly with his Jewish settler girlfriend (a fmr. IDF intelligence officer). **Palestinian gunmen** fire on an IDF outpost nr. Mevo Dotan settlement nr. Jenin; the **IDF** returns fire, killing 1 **Palestinian**, wounding and arresting 2. **Palestinians** also fire an **antitank**

missile at an IDF patrol nr. Rafah, causing no damage or injuries. In Hebron, **10s of Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba (some reports say Avraham Avino) attack and threaten 10s of Palestinians, vandalize and attempt to break into Palestinian homes, seriously injuring a 12-yr.-old Palestinian girl. Some **50 Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai attack a Palestinian home where a number of international peace activists are visiting; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. (IMEMC, PRCS 5/28; YA 5/29; OCHA 6/1; PCHR 6/2)

29 MAY

The **IDF** fatally shoots a **Palestinian** with a hearing problem who fails orders to halt nr. Hebron's Ibrahim Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs; fires on a Palestinian vehicle that passes an IDF post nr. Jenin, killing 1 **Palestinian**; tightens restrictions on Palestinian movement around Bayt Jala nr. Bethlehem; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Nablus. A **Palestinian** is killed in Khan Yunis when the rocket-propelled grenade he launches toward a Jewish settlement misfires. Nr. Gaza City, **2 AMB mbrs.** are killed, 3 (including at least 1 Hamas mbr.) are injured allegedly when a roadside bomb they are planting explodes prematurely. In Ramallah, an **unidentified masked gunman** fatally shoots **Palestinian journalist Samir Rantisi**, an aide to fmr. PA Information M Yasir 'Abid Rabbuh; the PA suspects a criminal motive, while the Rantisi family believes he was killed because he was involved in an investigation into certain corrupt PA officials. A **Palestinian** wounded during an attack on an IDF post nr. Mevo Dotan on 5/28 dies. (IMEMC, PRCS 5/29; XIN, YA 5/29 in WNC 5/30; IMEMC, JAZ, JP, NYT 5/30; OCHA 6/1; PCHR 6/2)

30 MAY

The **IDF** fires missiles nr. a Gaza r.c., destroying 2 **Islamic Jihad** rocket launchers, wounding 2 Palestinian bystanders; the Islamic Jihad mbrs., who had fired 3 rockets at Sederot (causing no damage or injuries), escape. The **IDF** also demolishes 2 animal farms w. of Bethlehem to make way for the **separation wall**. (JAZ 5/30; NYT 5/31; PR 6/1; PCHR 6/2)

31 MAY

The **IDF** reinforces troops in Qalqilya, Tamun; conducts arrest raids, house searches

nr. Hebron, Ramallah. **PA security forces** find, seal a smuggler's tunnel on the Rafah border. **Palestinians** fire an **antitank missile** at an IDF patrol in s. Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. A **Jewish settler** fr. Itamar driving nr. Nablus shoots, wounds a Palestinian walking along the road; the **IDF** evacuates him to an Israeli hospital. **Jewish settlers** severely beat 3 Palestinian farmers working their land outside Bethlehem. (HA, IMEMC, Wafa 5/31; VOI 5/31 in WNC 6/1; PCHR 6/2)

1 JUNE

The **IDF** fatally shoots a **Palestinian** motorist who fails to stop at a flying checkpoint btwn. Nablus and Tulkarm; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem and Hebron, in Nablus, in and around Tulkarm. Some **50 armed PA military intelligence officers** block main roads in Gaza City, raid the PC offices in Rafah to protest the PA's decision to meld military intelligence into the regular PA security forces. (PCHR 6/2; JP 6/2 in WNC 6/3; OCHA 6/8; PCHR 6/9)

2 JUNE

Israel releases the last **398 Palestinian prisoners** of 900 that Sharon promised to free in his 2/8 mtg. with **PA Pres. Mahmud Abbas** in Sharm al-Shaykh; 2 prisoners refuse release (1 to stay in prison with his brother, 1 to take the Palestinian high school matriculation exams [*tawjibi*] slated to be given to prisoners shortly). The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Tulkarm and in Azariyya, Balata r.c., Nablus; searches, temporarily occupies a flour mill in Gaza's al-Qarara for use as an observation tower to protect **Jewish settlers** traveling btwn. Gush Katif and Israel; begins work on a new segment of the **separation wall** s. of Nablus. **Palestinian residents of Dayr al-Hatab** nr. Nablus report that the **IDF** has for 3 wks. been bulldozing Palestinian land around Elon Moreh to create a buffer around the settlement. **Israel** issues tenders for the construction of 22 new housing units in Ma'ale Adumim settlement, despite U.S. President George W. Bush's calls to stop all settlement expansion. A **Jewish settler** injures a Palestinian girl in a hit-and-run incident n. of Ramallah. In Gaza City, **100s of armed Palestinians** (mbrs. of PA military intelligence, the AMB, Fatah) protest the PA's decision to dismantle the military intelligence service, merge it with the PA se-

curity forces, and retire a number of officers; some demonstrators fire in the air. (IMEMC, JP, JTA, Wafa 6/2; VOI 6/2 in WNC 6/3; WP, WT 6/3; IMEMC 6/4; OCHA, PR 6/8; PCHR 6/9)

3 JUNE

The **IDF** confirms that today for the 1st time it used (against 400 Palestinians protesting nonviolently against the separation wall in Bil'in) a new crowd-dispersal device that emits painful bursts of sound at a specific frequency. The **IDF** conducts patrols in Dura, fires on stone-throwing youths who confront the troops, wounding 2; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem; razes 300 d. of agricultural land southwest of Hebron for construction of the **separation wall**. **5 Palestinian gunmen** fatally shoot **Fatah regional head Ali Farraj** and his brother, charging that Farraj ordered the killing of their father, an alleged collaborator, in 1991. (AP, BBC 6/3; XIN 6/4; AP 6/5; PCHR 6/9; JP 6/26 in WNC 6/27)

Ma'ariv 6/3 runs a feature interviewing **IDF** soldiers who confirm that the IDF carried out "eye for an eye" reprisal attacks on **PA police officers** in 2002 in retaliation for the 2/19/02 killing of 6 IDF soldiers at a checkpoint outside Ramallah by a lone AMB gunman who escaped. The IDF says that the reprisal killings were never investigated because they were "part of a series of operations against terrorism in line with Israeli army orders and procedures." (MA, *Newsday* 6/3; NYT 6/4)

4 JUNE

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches around Bethlehem and in al-'Azza r.c., Bayt Surik nr. Jerusalem, Yatta; halts a taxi nr. Ramallah, detains 1 passenger—Samir Burnat, a leading organizer of nonviolent protests against the separation wall in Bil'in. Some 40 **mbrs. of PA military intelligence loyal to Musa Arafat** (forced to retire in 4/05) attack the PC building in Gaza City and block the main road to Rafah checkpoint, temporarily detain **PA Amb. to North Korea Shakir Abu Aida** in protest against Abbas's recent age limits for PA security officers, release him unharmed. **Palestinian attorneys** stage a 1-day strike to protest the PA's failure to protect judges, prosecutors, defense lawyers fr. increasing vigilantism. (HA 6/4; AP, IMEMC, NYT 6/5; PCHR 6/9; *al-Abram* 6/10; PR 6/15; BBC 6/16)

5 JUNE

The **IDF** fires on a group of Palestinian teenagers who stray close to the fence around Gaza's Neve Dekalim settlement, injuring 1; demolishes a **Palestinian home**, several farm buildings in Yatta; raids a dental clinic in Hebron, arrests the director, questions the staff, summons local Palestinians for questioning; conducts arrest raids in Tulkarm, exchanging fire with wanted Palestinians, detaining 3, wounding 1. **Armed AMB mbrs.** occupy the **PA Interior Min.** offices in Nablus to protest the ministry's failure to provide them protection, salaries; 1 AMB mbr., 1 PA security officer are injured in scuffles outside the complex; the standoff ends when the PA reportedly agrees to their demands. (AP 6/5; PR 6/8; PCHR 6/9; *al-Abram* 6/10)

6 JUNE

A group of **Israelis** celebrating Jerusalem Day, marking the 1967 occupation of East Jerusalem, visit the al-Aqsa Mosque compound under **Israeli police** escort; outraged **Palestinians** at the site throw stones at Israeli police, Jewish worshipers at the Wailing Wall; the some 3,000 police, deployed to prevent violence on the anniversary, respond with stun grenades; no injuries are reported. In response to the al-Aqsa incident, **Hamas** fires 4 **Qassam rockets** at the Negev, causing light damage or injuries. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bayt Hanina nr. Jerusalem, Jenin; bulldozes at least 8 d. of agricultural land n. of Qalqilya for construction of the **separation wall**. (JAZ 6/6; HA 6/7; NYT, WP 6/8; PCHR 6/9)

7 JUNE

The **IDF** raids Qabatya nr. Jenin to arrest wanted **Islamic Jihad cmdr. Marawa Khalil** (also reported as Murwa Kamil), exchanges gunfire with him, attracting a mob of stone-throwing Palestinians; in the ensuing 90-min. clashes, Khalil and an unarmed **Palestinian bystander** are fatally shot, 9 Palestinians (including at least 3 bystanders) and 1 IDF soldier are wounded, Khalil's **house** is demolished; **100s of Palestinians** later march in Jenin, protesting the IDF operation and calling for revenge. In retaliation for the raid, **Islamic Jihad** fires **mortars** at Gaza's Ganei Tal settlement, hitting a greenhouse and killing **2 Palestinian and 1 Chinese laborer**, wounding 5 Pales-

tinians. In further response to 6/6 events in Jerusalem, Hamas fires 3 **Qassam rockets** at Sederot and several **mortars** at Gaza settlements, causing light damage, no injuries; **Israeli FM Silvan Shalom** blames Hamas for "trying very hard to undermine our efforts to move toward peace with the Palestinian Authority." The **IDF** also fatally shoots an **Arab** (identity unknown, carrying Egyptian bank notes) who tries to scale the Rafah border fence; fires a missile at Palestinian resistance mbrs. in Bayt Hanun, causing no damage or injuries; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron. (PRCS 6/7; MENA, VOP, XIN 6/7 in WNC 6/8; NYT, OCHA, PR, WP, WT 6/8; VOP, XIN 6/8 in WNC 6/9; PCHR 6/9; *al-Abram* 6/10; PR 6/15)

8 JUNE

In disputed circumstances, the **IDF** fires 2 missiles at **Hamas mbrs.** reportedly driving a car transporting a rocket launcher in Khan Yunis, but the Hamas mbrs. escape unharmed; around the same time **Hamas mbrs.** fire 9 **mortars**, 1 **Qassam rocket** at nearby IDF targets and settlements, damaging a bus, lightly wounding 2 IDF soldiers; The IDF says it retaliated against the Hamas mbrs., who attacked 1st; Hamas says the IDF targeted its mbrs. 1st, and they responded. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Gaza's al-Mawasi area and nr. Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarm. A **Palestinian teenager** stabs, wounds an Israeli policeman in West Jerusalem, is arrested. **Jewish settlers** set fire to a Palestinian store in Hebron. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received on 6/7 in Khan Yunis. (PRCS 6/8; AFP, VOI, VOP, XIN 6/8 in WNC 6/9; NYT, PCHR, WT 6/9; OCHA, PR 6/15; PCHR 6/16)

9 JUNE

The **IDF** temporarily detains, roughs up **9 PA security officers** in Hebron; sends troops into Tulkarm, fires on residential areas, wounding 1 in response to gunfire at a Palestinian wedding. **15 militant Jewish settler families** take over a vacant Gaza hotel in Neve Dekalim settlement, threaten to use it as a base to resist disengagement implementation. **PA security forces** cracking down on the carrying of weapons in public stop 2 **Palestinian Resistance Comm. (PRC)** mbrs. driving in Gaza, fire on their car when they refuse to get out and permit a search, and instead drive away; 1 PRC mbr.

is wounded. (WT 6/10; VOP 6/10 in WNC 6/11; NYT 6/12; PCHR 6/16)

10 JUNE

The **IDF** patrols Ithna nr. Hebron, fires on residential areas; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Tulkarm. Some **40 armed PRC mbrs.** angry over a shooting incident in Gaza on 6/9 fire on the Gaza home of **PA police cmdr. Rashid Abu Shibak**, causing damage but no injuries, sparking a 5-hr. clash with **PA security forces** (during which the PRC mbrs. also fire rocket-propelled grenades); at least 3 Palestinians are wounded. (NYT 6/12; PR 6/15; PCHR 6/16)

11 JUNE

The **IDF** bars an ambulance transporting a **Palestinian** heart attack victim fr. crossing a checkpoint to reach a hospital in Tulkarm, allowing him to die; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Hebron, Yatta. **Masked Palestinian gunmen** fire on the **PA preventive security forces** headquarters outside Gaza City, causing no injuries. (PR 6/15; PCHR 6/16)

At its annual conference, the **New England United Methodist Church** passes a resolution calling for divestment and economic action against Israeli occupation. The resolution denounces Israel's construction of the separation wall, settlement expansion, confiscation of Palestinian property, as well as the "unemployment, malnutrition, restrictions on movement, denial of medical care, denial of access to their agricultural lands, humiliation at checkpoints, and extended lockdowns called curfews" caused by the IDF (United Methodist Church press release 6/20)

12 JUNE

Israel seals the West Bank and Gaza through 6/14 for the Shavut holidays. The **IDF** patrols in villages nr. Tulkarm, firing live ammunition at Palestinian stone-throwers who confront them in Saida, seriously injuring 1 bystander; patrols in, fires on residential area of Nablus. The **PA** executes **4 Palestinian prisoners** convicted of murder (3 by hanging, 1 by firing squad), marking the 1st time in 3 yrs. that the PA has carried out the death penalty. An **ailing Palestinian** dies at a checkpoint nr. Tulkarm when the IDF bars passage to a private car taking him

to a hospital. Rival factions of the **AMB** exchange gunfire in central Ramallah, leaving 2 AMB mbrs. wounded. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba attack Palestinian homes s. of Hebron, causing damage but no injuries. (IMEMC 6/12; BBC, NYT, WT 6/13; HA 6/14; OCHA, PR 6/15; PCHR 6/16; PR 6/22)

13 JUNE

The **IDF** imposes a curfew on, patrols in al-Khadir; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, in Issawiyya in East Jerusalem; raids, searches a school in Bayt Jala late in the evening. **Palestinians** fire **4 mortars** at Gush Katif, causing no damage or injuries. (VOP 6/13 in WNC 6/14; PCHR 6/16)

14 JUNE

The **IDF** patrols in Dura, fires on residential areas, then fires on stone-throwing Palestinians who confront the troops. **12 Jewish settler families** fr. other West Bank settlements move into Sanur (previous pop. 31 families, 105 individuals), which is slated to be evacuated under disengagement. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba poison a horse belonging to Palestinians living nearby; the same settlers poisoned another horse a wk. earlier. (AFP, IMEMC 6/14; PCHR 6/16)

15 JUNE

The **IDF** demolishes a 3-story building, a 2-story building in Jerusalem; temporarily occupies a flour mill in al-Qarara as an observation tower to protect **Jewish settlers** traveling btwn. Gush Katif and Israel (it had occupied the same mill on 6/2); conducts arrest raids, house searches in Mughraqa and nr. Hebron, Khan Yunis, Ramallah. **IDF undercover units** arrest **3 wanted Islamic Jihad mbrs.** in an operation nr. Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Keddumim set fire to 100 Palestinian olive trees. Some **40 armed Palestinians** open fire in Jenin's city center, stage a sit-in in front of **PA PM Ahmad Qurai's** Jericho home to protest the PA's failure to honor commitments to integrate them into the PA. (REU 6/15; JAZ. PCHR 6/16; OCHA, PR 6/22; PCHR 6/23)

16 JUNE

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, in Bethlehem; undercover units arrest **3 wanted**

Islamic Jihad mbrs. in an operation nr. Jenin (see 6/15). **Islamic Jihad** fires 2 **rockets** at Sederot, causing damage but no injuries. **Palestinian lawyers** demonstrate in Ramallah to draw attention to calls by the **Palestinian Bar Association** on the PA to halt chaos in the territories. **Israeli police** arrest 6 **Jewish settler women** fr. Kiryat Arba for writing graffiti calling for the expulsion of Palestinians on the walls of adjacent Palestinian homes. (IMEMC, JAZ 6/16; HA 6/17; PCHR 6/23)

17 JUNE

The **IDF** seals the Gaza Strip; shoots, wounds a mentally handicapped Palestinian who strays into a closed military zone nr. the Rafah terminal to Egypt; conducts arrest raids nr. Jenin; patrols in Nablus; bulldozes around 170 d. of agricultural land e. of Yatta for construction of a road along the **separation wall**. An ailing **70-yr.-old Palestinian woman** trying to reach a hospital in Jerusalem dies of a heart attack at an **IDF** checkpoint nr. Bethlehem after being delayed passage. (IMEMC 6/17; XIN 6/18; OCHA 6/22; PCHR 6/23)

18 JUNE

The **IDF** clashes with 4 mbrs. of the **AMB, Islamic Jihad** at an IDF outpost outside Gaza's Kefar Darom settlement, killing 1 **Islamic Jihad mbr.**, wounding an AMB mbr., while the 2 other gunmen flee. The **IDF** also opens the Rafah crossing, with severe restrictions on who may cross, but otherwise continues to seal the Gaza Strip; raids a suspected **Islamic Jihad** weapons factory in Jenin, arrests 1 **Islamic Jihad** mbr.; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, in Mughraqa, nr. Tulkarm; bulldozes 1 d. of Palestinian agricultural land bordering Kefar Darom. Around 30 **armed Jewish settlers** (young disengagement protesters who moved to Neve Dekalim in recent days) attack a group of Palestinians in al-Mawasi, beating 3, shooting and wounding 1; **Israeli** soldiers observe but do not intervene, delay the checkpoint crossing of an ambulance transporting the wounded man to the hospital. Soon after, **Palestinians** fire 4 **mortars** at Neve Dekalim, 1 **rocket** at Sederot, causing no damage or injuries. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba occupy 3 Palestinian stores in the Palestinian section of Hebron for use as a synagogue, uproot 33 olive trees, destroy a harvest of plums. (HA, XIN 6/18; VOI, VOP

6/18 in WNC 6/19; WP 6/20; OCHA, PR 6/22; PCHR 6/23; IMEMC 6/24)

19 JUNE

Claiming retaliation for recent arrest raids and attacks on its mbrs., **Islamic Jihad**, the **Abu Rish Brigades** (a Fatah offshoot) take responsibility for 2 Palestinians firing an antitank round at an IDF post on the Rafah border, killing 1 **IDF soldier**, wounding 2; firing a **rocket-propelled grenade** at IDF soldiers and civilian laborers working nearby, causing no injuries; the IDF fires back, killing 1 **Palestinian militant**, while the 2d escapes; Israel vows to launch a crackdown on **Islamic Jihad**. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem and in Jenin, Tubas. (WP 6/20; OCHA, PR 6/22; PCHR 6/23)

20 JUNE

The **IDF** fatally shoots an unarmed **Palestinian teenager**, wounds a 2d who were nr. a closed military zone outside Bureij r.c.; fires on Palestinians conducting a nonviolent protest against the **separation wall** nr. Yatta, wounding 8; imposes a curfew on, patrols in Baqa' al-Sharqiyya nr. Tulkarm; for no apparent reason fires on a Palestinian car driving in central Hebron, wounding the driver; later conducts arrest raids, house searches in Hebron as well as in Bethlehem and Sawahara al-Sharqiyya nr. Jerusalem, nr. Tulkarm. An **Islamic Jihad gunman** fatally shoots a **Jewish settler** driving nr. Tulkarm, wounds his passenger. **Palestinians** fire **mortars** at Gush Katif, causing no damage or injuries. (IDF Radio, VOI, XIN, YA 6/20 in WNC 6/21; HA, WP, WT 6/21; OCHA, PR 6/22; PCHR 6/23)

21 JUNE

Overnight, the **IDF** arrests 52 **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. in the largest raids against the group in the West Bank since 3/05; half of the mbrs. are arrested in Hebron, others in Jenin, Qalqilya, Ramallah. Minutes before Sharon and Abbas hold their 1st mtg. since the 2/8 Sharm al-Shaykh summit to coordinate disengagement (see Quarterly Update), **IDF** aircraft fires 2 missiles at a group of **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. in Bayt Lahiya in what Israeli officials say is a failed attempt to assassinate a **wanted Islamic Jihad mbr.** The **Israel FMin.** says that "the message was very clear—that Israel cannot accept the

fact that Islamic Jihad, Hamas, and the al-Aqsa Brigades have weapons.” The PA urges **Islamic Jihad**, the **AMB** to abide by the cease-fire. **Palestinians** fire a **mortar** at a Jewish settlement in s. Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids, house searches in Nablus, Qalqilya and around Bethlehem, Hebron, Tulkarm. (AFP, HA, JAZ 6/21; VOP 6/21 in WNC 6/21; *Daily Star*, HA, NYT, PR, WP, WT 6/22; PCHR, WP, WT 6/23; VOI 6/23 in WNC 6/24; QA 6/27 in WNC 6/28; *Jordan Times* 7/1)

The **Knesset Interior Comm.** discusses the civilian aspects of the **Or Commission’s** 9/1/03 report into the 10/00 riots during which 13 Israeli Palestinians were killed by police (see Peace Monitor in *JPS* 118; Chronology in *JPS* 130). **Fmr. High Court Justice Theodore Or** says that the government has done nothing to implement his comm.’s recommendations (particularly for achieving equal rights for **Israeli Palestinians**), address the issues raised in the report. (YA 6/21)

22 JUNE

Israel announces that the **IDF** will resume targeting **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. for assassination. The **PA** warns that the move could rupture the unofficial cease-fire, but **Israel** argues that the targeting would still be in line with truce provisions, which it claims allow **Israel** to defend itself against imminent attack if the **PA** security forces fail to do so; the **PA** rejects this. Later, the **IDF** fires missiles at a group of **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. in Bayt Lahiya in an apparent assassination attempt. The **IDF** also conducts major arrest raids, house searches in Balata r.c. and Nablus, clashing with local gunmen, leaving no reported casualties; conducts other arrest raids, house searches in Hebron, nr. Jenin; demolishes 10 **Palestinian homes** in Jiftlik nr. Jericho; bulldozes 5 d. of land in, fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis; conducts patrols in Kafr Dik nr. Nablus, Tamun nr. Jenin. A **Palestinian** grabs the gun of an Israeli security guard at the Barkan industrial zone nr. Ariel settlement, shoots and wounds the guard, flees. **Palestinian gunmen** fire on an **IDF** outpost nr. Gush Katif, causing damage but no injuries. **Palestinian gunmen** fire on a building in Balata r.c. where **Qurai’** is giving a speech, detonate a roadside bomb as he and his convoy leave the area; no injuries are reported in either incident, no group claims responsibility. (AFP, HA, WP, WT, XIN 6/22; PCHR 6/23; VOP

6/23 in WNC 6/24; OCHA, PR 6/29; PHRC 6/30)

23 JUNE

The **IDF** fires on residential areas of, conducts arrest raids and house searches in, Qalqilya; raids, searches houses in al-Til nr. Bethlehem and Saida nr. Tulkarm, occupying 6 houses as observation posts. **Palestinians** fire a **mortar** at Neve Dekalim, injuring 1 Jewish settler; fire on a Jewish settler vehicle nr. Salfit, wounding 1 Jewish settler. After the **PA police** in Jenin arrest a Palestinian militant for firing on the home and setting fire to the car of **PC mbr. Jamal Shati al-Hindi**, **Palestinian gunmen** stage a drive-by shooting of the police station in Jenin, killing the **PA police officer** who made the arrest; the **AMB** stresses that its mbrs. were not involved. (NYT, WP 6/23; YA 6/24; BBC, HA 6/25; OCHA, PR 6/29; PHRC 6/30)

24 JUNE

The **IDF** imposes a closure on Palestinian sections of Hebron and surrounding areas (still in place as of 7/6), conducts arrest raids, house searches targeting **Islamic Jihad**; also conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Ramallah. **Palestinian gunmen** fire on a group of Jewish settlers at a hitchhiking post outside Beit Haggai settlement nr. Hebron, killing 1 **Jewish settler**, wounding 3. Despite the **PA’s** attempt to ban the gatherings, 100s of **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. rally in Ramallah and nearly 1,000 rally in n. Gaza, protesting the **IDF’s** recent crackdown on its mbrs. and stating that it has no intention of abandoning the unofficial cease-fire. In Gaza, **Islamic Jihad** fires **mortars** at several Jewish settlements, causing damage but no injuries. (AFP, IMEMC, JTA 6/24; NYT, WP 6/25; HA, XIN 6/26; PRCS 6/27; JP 6/27 in WNC 6/28; OCHA, PR 6/29; PHRC 6/30)

In Nottingham, England, the **Anglican Consultative Council**, the global policy-making arm of the 77 million-mbr. Anglican Church, unanimously approves a statement urging the church’s 38 “provinces” to consider divestment fr. companies that bolster the Israeli occupation, as well as “investment strategies that support the infrastructure of a future Palestinian state.” (Religion News Service 6/24; NYT, WT 6/25; JP 6/26 in WNC 6/27; PR 6/29)

25 JUNE

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids in Dahaysha r.c., nr. Bethlehem and Hebron, targeting **Islamic Jihad** mbrs., detaining at least 14; **Islamic Jihad** leaders reiterate the group's commitment to maintain calm despite Israeli attempts to provoke it. The **IDF** also withdraws fr. 3 Palestinian schools in Hebron that it has occupied as observation posts for 4 yrs. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beit Haggai nr. Hebron put caravans on a new unauthorized outpost nearby, throw a grenade at a Palestinian home in Hebron, injuring a 13-yr.-old Palestinian girl. **PA police** cordon off areas of Jenin searching for, exchanging gunfire with, ultimately arresting 10 Palestinians wanted in connection with the attack on PC mbr. Hindi's car on 6/23; no injuries are reported. (BBC, HA, JAZ, REU 6/25; VOI, VOP 6/25 in WNC 6/26; VOP 6/26 in WNC 6/27; QA 6/27 in WNC 6/28; OCHA 6/29; PHRC 6/30)

26 JUNE

The **IDF** demolishes 11 long-abandoned bungalows along the s. Gaza shore outside Shirat Hayam settlement being used by some **100 West Bank Jewish settlers** who recently came to Gaza to block disengagement; the settlers scuffle with soldiers, break into a nearby Palestinian clinic, damage 12 d. of Palestinian crops and an irrigation network nearby; **1 IDF soldier** is arrested, ordered jailed for 56 days for refusing to follow orders to carry out the demolition. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids in, fires on residential areas of 'Azun nr. Qalqilya; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis; imposes a curfew on Saffa nr. Ramallah; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Bethlehem, Tulkarm; begins construction of a new **separation wall** segment northeast of Jerusalem nr. 'Anata. In Rafah, 4 Palestinian children are injured when they trigger either a roadside bomb or unexploded IDF ordnance. A **Palestinian** stabs, wounds an IDF soldier in East Jerusalem, is arrested. A **Jewish settler** beats, injures a Palestinian man in Hebron; the IDF intervenes, arrests the settler. Another group of **Jewish settlers** fr. Beit Haggai beat 2 Palestinian employees of the Hebron Reconstruction Comm. doing work on local Palestinian homes. **Jewish settlers** fr. Avraham Avino in Hebron burn down a Palestinian shop, vandalize several others. A **Jewish settler** wounded in the 6/24 shooting outside Hebron dies. (HA, IMEMC, XIN

6/26; VOI 6/26 in WNC 6/27; NYT, WP, WT 6/27; PCHR 6/28; OCHA, PR, WP, WT, XIN 6/29; PHRC 6/30)

27 JUNE

The **IDF** uncovers, demolishes a tunnel leading fr. Khan Yunis to Neve Dekalim settlement, passing under an IDF checkpoint; fires on residential areas of Aida r.c.; raids, occupies 5 houses outside Hebron, 4 outside Tulkarm as observation posts. **Islamic Jihad** fires 4 **mortars** at Gaza's Morag settlement, causing no damage or injuries. **Hamas** fires 3 **Qassam rockets** at Sederot; 2 hit inside Gaza, causing no damage or injuries; the 3d does not fire. **Jewish settlers** occupy a 3-story Palestinian building nr. the site of beachfront buildings demolished by the IDF on 6/26, declare establishment of a new **unauthorized settlement outpost**, Tal Yam. **Jewish settlers** fr. Efrat occupy a Palestinian home nr. the s. entrance to Bethlehem, are evicted by the **IDF**. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba throw stones, Molotov cocktails at a house and farm, causing damage, burning several trees. As many as **40,000 Israeli motorists** protesting the government's disengagement plans pull over to the side of the road and pause for 15 mins. during rush hour, creating traffic tie-ups. (HA, REU, XIN 6/27; PCHR, WT 6/28; OCHA 6/29; PHRC 6/30)

28 JUNE

The **IDF** fatally shoots a **Palestinian** allegedly attempting to plant a roadside bomb outside Morag; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Hebron and nr. Bethlehem, Tulkarm. In al-Mawasi, **Jewish settlers** attack several Palestinian homes, seize 1, clash with Palestinians, leaving 1 Jewish settler injured; the IDF intervenes, removes the settlers; later the settlers return, throw stones at Palestinians, attempt to run them down, causing no injuries. Also in Gaza, **Jewish settlers** attack a car carrying 3 Palestinian journalists, lightly injuring them. **Islamic Jihad** fires 2 **rockets** at Sederot, causing no damage or injuries. **PA Atty. Gen. Hussein Abu Assi** says that he has instructed police to detain more than **5 fmr. PA officials** on charges of misuse of public funds. Some fmr. officials may have to be extradited fr. Arab countries. (IMEMC, JAZ, REU 6/28; HA, IMEMC, XIN 6/29; PHRC 6/30)

29 JUNE

An **IDF** aircraft fires 2 missiles at a well in Bayt Hanun, destroying it. Around **40 Jewish settlers** fr. Tal Yam outpost in Gaza (see 6/27) chanting "Death to Arabs" occupy 2 Palestinian homes in al-Mawasi, throw stones at **Palestinians** and **IDF soldiers** nearby, severely beat 1 Palestinian in what observers describe as a near lynching (the incident, caught on video by an Israeli cameraman, is described by **Sharon** on 6/30 as "a barbaric, wild, and heartless act"); an Israeli reporter pulls the critically injured Palestinian to safety; the IDF arrests the settlers, evicts them fr. the area. The **IDF** fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, wounding 2 Palestinians; raids, occupies 2 Palestinian homes in al-Til as observation posts; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Aida r.c. and nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Tulkarm. The **AMB**, **Islamic Jihad**, the **PRCs** take joint responsibility for firing 2 **mortars** at Netzarim, causing no damage or injuries. During the day, **Palestinians** fire 10s of **rockets**, at least 1 **mortar** at Gaza settlements, lightly injuring 1 foreign worker in Gush Katif. **Israeli police** arrest around **150 Israeli disengagement protesters** who attempt to block roads across Israel during rush hour, causing limited tie-ups. (AFP, XIN 6/29; VOI 6/29 in WNC 6/30; BBC, PCHR, Palestine News Network, WP, XIN 6/30; HA 7/2; JP 7/2 in WNC 7/3; UPI, YA 7/3; NYT 7/5; OCHA, PR 7/6; PCHR 7/7; NYT 7/15)

30 JUNE

The **IDF** declares **Gaza settlements** closed military zones so that they may bar and remove from them any nonresident Israelis protesting disengagement, then evicts **150 right-wing Israeli disengagement protesters** (mostly West Bank settlers, many aligned with the outlawed Kach movement) fr. an abandoned hotel in s. Gaza that they have been occupying for 1 mo.; detains, handcuffs for several hrs. **2 Israeli journalists** covering the evictions. The **IDF** sends troops into Balata r.c., Nablus after Palestinians stating they are mbrs. of the **AMB-Ayman Juda Brigade** falsely claim to have captured 2 IDF undercover soldiers who entered the city; troops clash with stone-throwing Palestinians who confront them (leaving 7 Palestinians, 1 IDF soldier injured), detain and beat 2 Palestinian journalists covering the incursion; the **AMB**, **Islamic Jihad** deny involvement. The **IDF**

fires on residential areas of Dura; demolishes 3 **Palestinian homes** in Hebron, 3 in Yatta, all bordering Jewish settlements; occupies 2 Palestinian homes nr. Tulkarm, 1 in Jenin as observation posts; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Aida r.c., Bayt Fajjar, Hebron. An **Israeli naval vessel** fires on a Palestinian fishing boat off Gaza, wounding 1 fisherman. **Jewish settlers** fr. Gush Katif attack Palestinian traders, farmers waiting nr. the Tuffah checkpoint n. of Gaza City; the IDF intervenes, disperses the settlers. Nr. Nablus, **5 Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar throw stones at a Palestinian taxi. **Hamas** fires a **Qassam rocket** at Neve Dekalim, causing no damage or injuries. (BBC, WAFA, XIN 6/30; VOI, VOP 6/30 in WNC 7/2; IMEMC, NYT, WP, WT 7/1; HA 7/3; OCHA, PR 7/6; PCHR 7/7)

1 JULY

The **IDF** imposes a curfew on, patrols in, fires on residential areas of Dayr Istiyya nr. Salfit; patrols in Tamun and Tubas nr. Jenin; occupies 5 Palestinian homes in Al-lar nr. Tulkarm as observation posts; fires on residential areas of Rafah, wounding a Palestinian infant inside her home. A **Jewish settler** injures a 69-yr-old Palestinian woman in a hit-and-run incident in the West Bank (exact place not reported). (VOI 7/1 in WNC 7/2; OCHA 7/6; PCHR 7/7)

Israel police send a large contingent (20 vehicles) into the unrecognized village of Bir al-Mashash in the Negev, with home demolition orders covering all structures in the village of **4,000 Israeli Palestinians**. Angry residents scuffle with police, leaving at least 2 Israeli Palestinians hospitalized. (IMEMC 7/1)

2 JULY

The **IDF** directs tank fire at Palestinian militants laying a roadside bomb nr. Morag, critically wounding 1 Palestinian; fires on residential areas of Dura, Rafah; occupies 3 Palestinian homes in Hebron, 1 in Yatta as observation posts; patrols in Palestinian areas of Hebron; conducts house searches nr. Tulkarm. Some **40 armed AMB mbrs.** raid, temporarily occupy a PA building in Gaza City, demanding Abbas make good on promises to recruit them into the security forces. **Jewish settlers** fr. Elkana attack, damage a Palestinian home in nearby Masha nr. Salfit. **Jewish settlers** fr. Keddumim close a nearby road used by Palestinians,

stone passing Palestinian cars. (HA, IMEMC 7/2; VOP 7/2 in WNC 7/3; OCHA 7/6; PCHR 7/7)

3 JULY

Some 20 **IDF** soldiers patrolling in Rafah exchange fire with **Hamas** mbrs., leaving 1 armed Palestinian injured. The **IDF** bulldozes part of a cemetery in Rafah to widen the Philadelphi route; sends troops into Bayt Furik nr. Nablus, fires on residential areas, then fires on stone-throwing Palestinians who confront the troops, wounding 2; temporarily seals 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma' r.c. nr. Nablus, searches houses; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Qabatya nr. Jenin, in villages around Hebron; occupies a Palestinian home in Mughraqa as an observation post. An **Israeli border policeman** is seriously injured in a fall during scuffles with Palestinians at a **separation wall** demonstration nr. Har Adar. **Palestinians** fire 6 **mortars** at Jewish settlements in Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. (XIN 7/3; VOI 7/3 in WNC 7/4; YA 7/4 in WNC 7/5; OCHA 7/6; PCHR 7/7)

4 JULY

The **IDF** confirms that in recent wks. it has confiscated 2,000 d. of Palestinian agricultural land btwn. Jenin, Nablus for temporary housing for IDF soldiers responsible for evacuating 4 n. West Bank Jewish settlements under disengagement. The **IDF** also sends troops into Bayt Furik nr. Nablus, fires on stone-throwing youths who confront the troops, wounding 2; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Ramallah; occupies a Palestinian home in Gaza City as an observation post; patrols in villages nr. Jenin; fires on Palestinian farmers conducting a peaceful march to their lands being razed by the IDF for construction of the **separation wall**, wounding 3. **Palestinian gunmen** fire on Qadim settlement in the n. West Bank, causing damage but no injuries. **Palestinians** fire a **mortar** at an IDF base outside Gaza's Neve Dekalim settlement, causing no damage or injuries. An **Israeli border policeman** injured on 7/3 dies. (HA 7/4; YA 7/4 in WNC 7/5; VOI 7/5 in WNC 7/6; OCHA 7/6; PCHR 7/7)

5 JULY

The **IDF** bulldozes 8 **Palestinian homes**, a gas station constructed without

permits in areas of East Jerusalem slated for a new park; demolishes 22 **structures (including a school)** in Khirbet Tana nr. Nablus (pop. 450) built without permits, leaving only 2 buildings in the village and the 200-yr-old mosque standing; imposes a curfew on 'Ayn al-Bayda nr. Jenin, searches homes, arrests around 30 Palestinian farmers, shepherds who are not residents of the village; raids a municipal building in n. Ramallah, arresting 1 Palestinian; fires live ammunition at Palestinians protesting **separation wall** construction in Qutna nr. Jerusalem, wounding 2; fires on residential areas of Aida r.c.; raids, occupies 3 Palestinian homes in Yatta as observation posts. **Hamas** holds a prayer rally in Nablus calling on Palestinians to boycott the evening's **Palestine International Festival** (an annual wk.-long festival, not held since 2000, that opened in cities across the West Bank on 6/30) performance in the city by **pop singer Ammar Hassan**, citing the impropriety of men and women dancing to "risqué" music as well as of holding such a celebration when families are still mourning the losses of the intifada; the **AMB** assures that it sanctioned the event after Hassan agreed to sing only "conservative songs"; the performance ultimately is disrupted by some masked **AMB** mbrs. fr. Nablus and Balata r.c., who fire guns in the air, destroy some sets, force Hassan to cut short his performance. (HA, REU 7/5; IMEMC, OCHA, PR, XIN 7/6; PCHR 7/7; PR 7/13; HA 7/28; PR 8/3)

The **United Church of Christ** passes a resolution calling for the use of "economic leverage" to promote Middle East peace (see Doc. C3), but rejects resolutions calling for divestment in companies that supply Israel with bulldozers, military equipment. Two additional resolutions also denounce all forms of violence in the Middle East, "including suicide bombing by Palestinians and the use of force by Israelis in perpetuating occupation of Palestinian lands," and call on Israel to dismantle the separation wall. (JTA, WP 7/6; AP 7/7; CSM 7/8)

6 JULY

The **IDF** fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, wounding an 8-yr-old Palestinian; demolishes 5 **Palestinian homes** outside Nablus that were built without permits; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron. **IDF** soldiers escorting **Jewish settlers** to Joseph's Tomb nr. Balata r.c. exchange gunfire with local Palestinians,

leaving **1 AMB mbr.** dead, 1 AMB mbr. and 1 bystander wounded. In Gaza, **2 Islamic Jihad mbrs.** attempt to infiltrate Morag settlement, 1 is fatally shot by the IDF, 1 is wounded. In Gaza, a **Jewish settler** injures 3 Palestinians in a hit-and-run incident outside of Kefar Darom, local Palestinians race to the scene and IDF soldiers, other Kefar Darom settlers race to the driver's defense, sparking clashes that leave 9 Palestinians injured, 2 seriously. In a separate incident in Gaza, a **Jewish settler** fr. Gadid injures a 57-yr.-old Palestinian farmer in a hit-and-run incident outside Khan Yunis. (XIN 7/6; VOP 7/6 in WNC 7/7; AFP, IMEMC, PCHR, PRCS 7/7; VOI 7/7 in WNC 7/8; ISM 7/12; OCHA 7/13; PCHR 7/14)

7 JULY

IDF conducts arrest raids, house searches in Jenin town and r.c. and nearby Tamun and nr. Hebron, Qalqilya. **Palestinians** fire a **mortar** at Gush Katif, causing no damage or injuries. In response to clashes on 7/6, the **AMB** and **PRCs** in Balata r.c. announce that they will no longer observe the cease-fire. (XIN 7/7; VOI 7/7 in WNC 7/8; ISM 7/12; PCHR 7/14)

8 JULY

An **Israeli civilian security guard** responsible for separation wall construction area outside Bayt Laqia fires on stone-throwing youths, fatally shoots a **15-yr.-old Palestinian** working in his family's vineyard nearby; the IDF bars an ambulance fr. reaching the area for 2 hrs. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids in Hebron and Jenin, targeting **Islamic Jihad**; fires on Palestinians holding a daily nonviolent protest against the **separation wall** nr. Bil'in, critically wounding 1 Palestinian with a bullet to the head; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis; arrests 2 Palestinian farmers working their land nr. Hebron for being too close to the separation wall; raids, occupies 2 Palestinian homes nr. Tulkarm as observation posts. The **AMB** detonates a **roadside bomb** nr. an IDF patrol in Rafah, injuring 4 IDF soldiers. **Palestinians** fire an **antitank rocket** at an IDF patrol nr. Neve Dekalim, causing no damage or injuries. (AFP, IMEMC 7/8; VOI, YA 7/8 in WNC 7/9; AFP, HA, NYT, WP, WT, XIN 7/9; HA 7/10; AYM 7/10 in WNC 7/11; OCHA 7/13; PCHR 7/14)

9 JULY

Israel confirms that disengagement will begin ca. 8/17 (see Quarterly Update). The **IDF** continues arrest raids in Hebron, Husan nr. Bethlehem, Jenin targeting **Islamic Jihad**; fires on Palestinian children playing btwn. Ganei Tal and Neve Dekalim settlements outside Khan Yunis, seriously wounding an 11-yr.-old boy; arrests 4 unarmed Palestinians who attempt to cross the Gaza fence into Israel to find jobs. **Palestinians** fire a **mortar** fr. Gaza at the Negev, fires on IDF posts in s. Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. A **Palestinian** stone-thrower wounded in Nablus on 7/6 dies. (HA 7/9; HA, VOI 7/9 in WNC 7/10; PRCS 7/10; OCHA 7/13; PCHR 7/14)

10 JULY

A **senior Islamic Jihad military cmdr.** escapes assassination when a remote controlled bomb destroys his car moments after he parks and enters his Gaza City home. The **IDF** imposes a curfew on al-Mughayyir nr. Ramallah; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, in Qalqilya, nr. Tulkarm; occupies a Palestinian home nr. Tulkarm as an observation post; fires on, arrests 2 Palestinians attempting to sneak into Israel fr. s. Gaza to find work. **Palestinians** throw an explosive device at an IDF patrol nr. Ramallah, lightly wounding 1 IDF soldier; fire a **mortar** at a settlement in n. Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. Heeding appeals by the IDF, **Jewish settlers** voluntarily evacuate an unauthorized settlement outpost built east of Ofra settlement in 1995. (HA, IMEMC, XIN 7/10; YA, IDF Radio 7/10 in WNC 7/12; PCHR 7/14)

11 JULY

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Jenin and Qalqilya targeting **Islamic Jihad**. A **Palestinian** is injured when he apparently triggers a roadside bomb nr. Morag. **Palestinians** fire an **antitank rocket** at IDF soldiers patrolling the Philadelphia route, wounding an Israeli civilian contractor, 2 soldiers. A **14-yr.-old Palestinian girl** wounded by IDF fire in Balata r.c. on 7/6 dies. (IMEMC, XIN 7/11; VOP 7/11 in WNC 7/12; VOI, YA 7/12 in WNC 7/13; OCHA 7/13; PCHR 7/14)

12 JULY

After mos. of IDF operations in which an Islamic Jihad leader was assassinated on 3/10, another leader survived an attempted assassination on 7/10, and more than 300 cadres were arrested following the 2/25 suicide bombing carried out by a renegade Islamic Jihad mbr., an **Islamic Jihad suicide bomber** fr. al-Til outside Tulkarm detonates a device outside a mall in Netanya, killing **3 Israelis**, wounding up to 48, marking the 1st suicide bombing since 2/25/05 (1st inside Israel since 11/1/04); **Islamic Jihad** at first denies, then confirms responsibility. **Israel** suspends all contacts with the **PA** regarding disengagement, seals the West Bank and Gaza, vows to respond harshly against the group. **Abbas** states, "We condemn this terrorist attack. It's a crime against the Palestinian people. Those traitors are working against the Palestinian interest. . . . They did a stupid thing that they should be punished for," though he notes Islamic Jihad's denial. At almost the same time as the bombing, a stolen car breaks through the fence of Shavei Shomron settlement in the West Bank and explodes, injuring the driver but causing no other casualties; the IDF says the driver was an **Islamic Jihad** mbr. who had been working as an informant for Israel; he had been handcuffed to the wheel of the car and the bomb he was carrying was detonated by cell phone, suggesting an attempt to assassinate him for collaboration. The **IDF** demolishes **2 Palestinian homes** built without permits in Issawiyya and Silwan, East Jerusalem, where Israel intends to construct a park; conducts house searches, detains Palestinians for interrogation in Bayt Fajjar nr. Bethlehem. **Palestinians** detonate **aroadside bomb** under an IDF jeep outside Netzer Hazani settlement in s. Gaza, injuring 2 soldiers. **Masked Palestinian gunmen** fire on **senior PA Interior Min. Ibrahim Salama** as he drives in Ramallah, force his car to stop, severely beat him; no group takes responsibility. (AP, BBC, HA, IMEMC, XIN 7/12; VOI, VOP 7/12 in WNC 7/13; NYT, OCHA, PR, WP, WT, YA 7/13; HA, Interfax, ITAR-TASS, JP, MA, XIN, YA 7/13 in WNC 7/14; PCHR 7/14; *al-Safir* 7/16 in WNC 7/17; PR 7/20; XIN 7/21)

13 JULY

Announcing the start of a "sustained" campaign against **Islamic Jihad**, the **IDF** imposes 24-hr. curfews on Tulkarm town and

r.c., al-Til, and Nur al-Shams r.c.; reinvades Tulkarm (turned over to PA security control on 3/22) and al-Til in its largest military operation since Israeli and the Palestinians agreed to an unofficial cease-fire on 2/8, fatally shooting a **PA policeman**, leaving a **2d PA policeman** clinically dead, arresting at least 6 Palestinians with Islamic Jihad ties; 2 IDF soldiers are injured. **Israel** says it was forced to act in Tulkarm because the PA had not reined in militants there, citing the bombing as proof; the **PA** says the assault on Tulkarm is unjustified, since the 7/12 bomber came fr. al-Til, 5 mi. away, under Israeli military control. Late in the evening, the **IDF** raids Nablus, fatally shoots **Islamic Jihad cmdr. Muhammad al-Assi** when he attempts to elude arrest; detains an Islamic Jihad mbr., a British woman with him. The **IDF** also demolishes **2 Palestinian homes** in East Jerusalem; razes 4 bedouin tents, 6 animal pens outside Bethlehem; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin, Nablus. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba stone a Palestinian vehicle driving the Palestinian section of Hebron, injuring the driver. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar vandalize a Palestinian home, burn a Palestinian car nr. Nablus. In Bureij r.c., the **PA security forces** secure the release of **2 international aid workers** (1 British, 1 Australian) kidnapped by a Palestinian family that hoped to use them as bargaining chips to secure the release of relatives jailed by the PA. An **Israeli** dies of injuries received in the 7/12 bombing. (AFP, IMEMC, JTA, NYT, PR, XIN 7/13; VOP 7/13 in WNC 7/13; VOI, VOP 7/13 in WNC 7/14; NYT, PCHR, PRCS, WP, WT 7/14; VOI 7/14 in WNC 7/15; JAZ 7/17; OCHA, PR 7/20; PCHR 7/21)

14 JULY

Sharon authorizes the widening of the IDF's campaign to include **Hamas**. Later **4 rockets** fired fr. n. Gaza hit the Israeli town of Netiv Haasara, killing 1 **Israeli woman**, wounding 1; **Hamas**, the **AMB** each claim responsibility (the AMB for the fatal strike, which it says was in retaliation for the 7/10 assassination attempt); as many as **21 mortars and rockets** are fired during the day, also damaging an IDF post. The **IDF** also continues operations in and around Tulkarm; launches arrest raids targeting **Islamic Jihad** nr. Bethlehem, in Abu Dis and Asira al-Qibliyya, and in and around Hebron. **Abbas** declares a state of emergency, placing **PA security forces** in Gaza on high alert

and ordering them to prevent any fire on Israeli targets. **PA police** later fire on a car that fails to stop at a checkpoint in Bayt Lahiya, sparking a clash with **Hamas** gunmen in the car that leaves 5 Hamas mbrs., 3 policemen wounded; Hamas mbrs. later attack a PA police post, torch 2 police cars in retaliation. **Abbas** goes to Gaza to hold emergency talks with **Hamas** leaders regarding clashes in Bayt Lahiya. An **Israeli** wounded in the 7/12 bombing dies, bringing that toll to 5. (AFP, IMEMC, JTA, PRCS 7/14; HA, VOI, VOP 7/14 in WNC 7/15; HA, NYT, UNIS, WP, WT, XIN, YA 7/15; NYT, REU, WP 7/16; HA 7/17; OCHA, PR 7/20; PCHR 7/21)

15 JULY

Citing retaliation for the death of an Israeli woman on 7/14, the **IDF** launches overnight missile strikes on 4 sites in Gaza: a **Hamas** cultural center in n. Gaza, 2 sites Palestinians have used to launch rockets in s. Gaza, and a metal workshop (alleged weapons factory) in central Gaza; at least 2 Palestinians are injured. Later in the day, an **IDF** drone fires a missile at a car driving in Gaza City, assassinating 4 **Hamas mbrs.** (Sabir Abu Assi, 'Assim Abu Ras, Amjad Arafat, 'Adil Haniyeh), wounding more than 12 bystanders; an IDF helicopter and ground troops fire 3 missiles at a car driving in Salfit, assassinating 3 **wanted Hamas mbrs.** (Muhammad Ayyash, Samir Dawahqa, Muhammad Mar'ai); an IDF helicopter fires at 3 Palestinians firing mortars at Gush Katif, injuring them. In clashes in Salfit after the assassinations, the **IDF** fatally shoots a stone-throwing **Palestinian teenager**. The Israeli strikes mark the definitive end of the 2/8 cease-fire; **Hamas** announces that it is considering massive retaliation. **Israel** blames **Abbas** for failing to crack down on militant groups. The **IDF** also continues operations in and around Tulkarm; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin, Nablus. Overnight, **PA police** searching for Hamas gunmen clash again with **Hamas mbrs.**, this time in Gaza City, leaving 2 **Palestinian children** dead; during the clash, Hamas mbrs. destroy a PA armored personnel carrier with rocket-propelled grenades, burn a police station and a PA office building; **Hamas, Fatah** quickly convene an emergency mtg. to defuse tensions. **Palestinians** fire a barrage of at least 19 **rockets** and 10s of **mortars** at Neve Dekalim, lightly injuring 2 settlers, damaging 5 houses; 1 shell hits an indus-

trial zone in the Negev, sparking a fire. A **Jewish settler** seriously injures a Palestinian teenager in a hit-and-run incident in Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai throw stones, bottles at Palestinian homes in Hebron and at a Palestinian teenager, lightly injuring him. An **Israeli court** sentences an **East Jerusalem Palestinian** to 5 mos. in jail for joining **Force 17** in 2000, calling it a "severe crime"; says at least 80 "Jerusalem Arabs" have been indicted on similar charges since 9/00. (IMEMC, JTA, NYT, UNIS, WP, YA 7/15; VOI 7/15 in WNC 7/15; Interfax, ITAR-TASS, JP, MENA, VOI, VOP, XIN 7/15 in WNC 7/16; HA, IMEMC, NYT, PRCS, REU, WP, WT, YA 7/16; VOP 7/16 in WNC 7/17; HA 7/17; OCHA, PR 7/20; PCHR 7/21)

16 JULY

IDF tanks and infantry begin massing on Gaza's northern border in apparent preparation for a major incursion. The **IDF** continues operations in and around Tulkarm; conducts predawn missile strikes on 3 auto repair garages, machine shops in Gaza City, Khan Yunis thought to be weapons factories, injuring 3 Palestinians; conducts arrest raids targeting **Hamas** and **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. in Bethlehem, Hebron, Nablus, and Tulkarm, arresting 26 Hamas, 4 Islamic Jihad mbrs.; also raids, searches homes in Mughraqa; fires on a group of Palestinians trying to cross the closed Abu Huli crossing into Gaza, wounding 4; conducts patrols nr. Ramallah, Tulkarm and in Dahaysha r.c., Nablus (firing on residential areas), Qalqilya, Tubas nr. Jenin. **Hamas** fires 10 **mortars**, 8 **Qassam rockets** fr. Gaza at Sederot and Nisanit settlement (lightly injuring 7 settlers). In Gaza City, some 10,000 **Hamas supporters** attend the funeral of 4 Hamas mbrs. assassinated on 7/15. In Bayt Lahiya, **Hamas gunmen** shoot, wound a **PA security officer**. In Khan Yunis, **Palestinian gunmen** associated with a **Fatah** splinter group set fire to the newly opened offices of **Fatah head Faruq Qaddumi** (see Quarterly Update), then fire on **PA security forces** posts in the area. In Ramallah, **AMB** mbrs. fire in the air, order stores to close to protest Palestinian deaths in recent days; **PA security forces** deploy in response, ordering stores to reopen. (HA, IMEMC, JAZ, REU, YA 7/16; VOI, VOP 7/16 in WNC 7/17; HA, JAZ, JP, NYT, WP, XIN 7/17; VOP 7/17 in WNC 7/18; OCHA, PR 7/20; PCHR 7/21)

Israel releases the **leader of the Islamic movement in Israel Shaykh Ra'id Salah**,

arrested in 5/03, after serving a sentence for directing funds to West Bank and Gaza charities that allegedly support "terrorism"; his sentence was reduced by more than a yr. for good behavior. (REU 7/17; VOI 7/17 in WNC 7/18; JP 7/18 in WNC 7/19; PR 7/20)

17 JULY

The **IDF** continues massing tanks, armored vehicles on the n. Gaza border; **Sharon** instructs security officials to take "all measures, without restrictions, in order to stop the wave of terrorism," though his advisers suggest that any push into Gaza likely would not happen until after Condoleezza **Rice's** visit on 7/22. An **IDF sniper** (reportedly firing fr. a nearby Jewish settlement) assassinates **senior Hamas cmdr. Sa'id Siyam** (not Shaykh Sa'id Siyam, the Hamas spokesman) outside his home in Khan Yunis. The **IDF** also lifts the curfews on Tulkarm and surrounding areas imposed on 7/13; fires missiles at a Palestinian vehicle in Bayt Lahiya, injuring 1 **Hamas** mbr., injured 2 bystanders in an apparent assassination attempt; fires on stone-throwing youths in Tulkarm, wounding 1; shells residential areas of Khan Yunis; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Ramallah and in 'Azun, Hebron, Kafr Thuluth, Qalqilya, Saida nr. Tulkarm, Wadi al-Silqa. In retaliation, **Hamas** fires **Qassam rockets** into Neve Dekalim (hitting a house, injuring 6 settlers), Sederot (causing no injuries). **Israel** bars indefinitely all visits to Palestinian prisoners as punishment for the 7/12 Netanyahu bombing. A **Palestinian** injured in the **IDF** assassination of 3 **Hamas** mbrs. in Salfit on 7/15 dies. (HA, IMEMC, PRCS, XIN 7/17; VOI, VOP, YA 8/17, Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation 7/18 in WNC 7/18; NYT, WP, WT 7/18; XIN 7/18 in WNC 7/19; OCHA, PR 7/20; PCHR 7/21)

18 JULY

The **IDF** fires on Palestinians waiting to cross the Abu Huli crossing, killing a **15-yr.-old Palestinian boy**; raids a student center in Ramallah run by an **Islamic Jihad** mbr., confiscating 3 computers, several cell phones, arresting 6 Palestinians; conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Bireh and nr. Qalqilya, Tulkarm; patrols in Aida r.c., Dura (firing on stone-throwing children who confront them, injuring 2); fires on residential areas of Jayyus nr. Qalqilya. A **9-yr.-old Palestinian girl** is killed in a

mysterious explosion in Gaza. **Palestinians** fire 10s of **mortars** at Jewish settlements in Gaza, lightly injuring 3 Thai workers, 1 Jewish settler. The **Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine's (DFLP) National Resistance Brigades** fire 4 **mortars** at the Erez crossing, causing no damage or injuries. More than **20,000 Israeli protesters** demonstrate in s. Israel against disengagement. In light of recent clashes with **Hamas**, the **PA** bans the display of, begins removing all factional flags fr. public spaces in Gaza, saying "only the Palestinian flag will remain." The **PA** also bans **PA employees** fr. criticizing the PA. (AFP, PRCS, XIN 7/18; IDF Radio, Israel Television Network, VOI, YA 7/18 in WNC 7/19; HA, WP, XIN 7/19; OCHA, PR 7/20; PCHR 7/21; CSM 7/26)

19 JULY

The **IDF** raids Yamun nr. Jenin, surrounds the house of **wanted Islamic Jihad mbrs. Zahir and Warad Abahra** (uncle and nephew), begins to bulldoze the house when they do not surrender, sparking an exchange of gunfire that leaves both men dead; also conducts arrest raids, bulldozes part of a 2d Palestinian home, uproots 10s of olive trees elsewhere in Yamun; razes the remains of a **Byzantine church** nr. Dayr al-Balah, known for its mosaic floors dating to 586 A.D.; fires on residential areas of Dura nr. Hebron; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Tulkarm, around Hebron; sends undercover units to arrest a wanted Palestinian in Bethlehem; bulldozes Palestinian agricultural land in Shufa nr. Tulkarm to widen the buffer zone around Avni Hefetz and Einav settlements; issues military orders confiscating 15 d. of land nr. Qalqilya for the construction of new settler bypass roads. **1,000s of Israeli disengagement protesters** demonstrate in s. Israel for a 2d day. A **Palestinian teenager** stabs, lightly injures an Israeli in Jerusalem. **Hamas** fires 7 **Qassam rockets**, 19 **mortars** at Gush Katif and Neve Dekalim, injuring a foreign worker, damaging a house. **Jewish settlers** fr. Karnei Shomron throw stones at Palestinian cars on the Nablus-Qalqilya road, damaging 1 bus. **PA security forces** make a predawn raid on a **Hamas** educational center in Jabaliya r.c., seize computers and documents, while armed **AMB** mbrs. working with them torch 2 of the offices and 2 cars. (Senior **Fatah**, **AMB** officials say that in recent days, Abbas asked the AMB to help fight **Hamas** and ensure calm in Gaza in

advance of disengagement, but that this is not official PA policy.) **Hamas** mbrs. attack the security forces and **AMB** mbrs., resulting in heavy clashes that leave 13 people wounded. In reaction, **100s of Palestinians** demonstrate outside the PC offices in Ramallah to call for national unity and an end to the security chaos. Late in the evening, the **Egyptian delegation** secures agmt. of **Fatah, Hamas** to withdraw all armed forces fr. the streets of n. Gaza. **5 PA intelligence officers** raid the **al-Quds University forensics lab** , the only forensics lab in the West Bank, rummage through and tamper with evidence in several murder, malpractice investigations; **100s of students** mass to protect the lab, scuffle with **plainclothes intelligence officers** ; the **PA Justice Min.** opens an investigation. (AFP, AP, IMEMC, XIN 7/19; MENA, VOL, VOP, YA 7/19 in WNC 7/20; HA, NYT, OCHA, PR, PRCS, REU, WAFA, WP, WT, XIN 7/20; VOP 7/20 in WNC 7/21; PCHR 7/21)

20 JULY

The **IDF** begins dismantling 1 of its main posts in Khan Yunis in preparation for disengagement; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Aida r.c. and Wadi al-Silqa, around Hebron, nr. Qalqilya. Major Hamas-Fatah clashes erupt in Gaza City when **PA preventive security force officers** outside the force's headquarters open fire on a car driven by an **Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades mbr** . Within the hr., **Hamas political leaders, senior PA officials** hold a press conference appealing for calm, say they are ready to put aside all differences and hold talks on improving relations. Hrs. later **unidentified gunmen** (some reports say **Hamas** mbrs.) fire on the Gaza City homes of PA police cmdr. **Abu Shibak** (see 6/10), **Fatah Gaza head Abdallah Franji, Fatah Revolutionary Council mbr. Majid Abu Shammala, Force 17 head Faisal Abu Sharkh, PA security forces Col. Nabil Tamus,** and the offices of **leading Fatah mbr. Samir Masharawi** and the **PA preventive security forces** headquarters; exchange gunfire with Abu Shibak's and Franji's bodyguards, leaving at least 7 Palestinians (at least 2 Franji bodyguards, 2 Abu Shibak bodyguards, 1 attacker) injured. In Jericho and Ramallah, **10s of Palestinians** , including some political leaders and heads of organizations, organized by the **National and Islamic Higher Committee for the Follow-up of the Intifada (NIHC)** stage marches to

demand that the PA take action to end lawlessness, support rule of law. A **PA police officer** dies of injuries received during the IDF incursion into Tulkarm on 7/13. In s. Israel, **1,000s of Israeli protesters** observe a 3d and final day of demonstrations against disengagement. (AFP, IMEMC, PCHR, PR, REU, XIN 7/20; AYM 7/20 in WNC 7/21; NYT, PCHR, WP 7/21; OCHA 7/27; PCHR 7/28)

21 JULY

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Hebron, Jenin; bulldozes 5 d. of olive trees in Kafr Qadim nr. Qalqilya; confiscates 8 d. of land outside Nablus to expand a buffer around an IDF post. A **rocket** fired by **Palestinians** at Gush Katif bloc hits a Palestinian house in Khan Yunis, killing **1 Palestinian child** , wounding a 2d. A **mortar** fired by Palestinians at an IDF post in Gaza injures 1 IDF soldier. After an **NIHC** mtg. in Gaza, the **PA, Palestinian factions** announce that all factions have reaffirmed their pledge to observe a cease-fire, will remove all armed forces fr. the streets (except those of the PA security forces), will halt provocations and incitement. **Israel** agrees to renew contacts with the **PA** regarding coordination on the disengagement, which were suspended following the 7/12 suicide bombing. (IMEMC 7/21; NYT, WT, XIN 7/22; OCHA, PR 7/27; PCHR 7/28)

22 JULY

Palestinian gunmen fire on an IDF post in Hebron, wounding 2 soldiers; the **IDF** returns fire, killing a **Palestinian** by-stander. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Balata r.c., fires on residential areas of Jenin r.c. and town. **Jewish settlers** fr. Avraham Avino rampage through Palestinian areas of Hebron, damaging Palestinian property, threatening residents. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beitur Ilit severely beat a 75-yr.-old Palestinian farmer working his land in Husan. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar attack, vandalize Palestinian homes in Ourif nr. Nablus; the IDF intervenes to fire tear gas at Palestinians who attempt to fend off the settlers. **Hamas mbr. Hamad Adah** dies of injuries received in the 7/15 IDF air strike on Gaza City that assassinated 4 other Hamas mbrs. (AFP, IMEMC, PRCS 7/22; OCHA 7/27; PCHR 7/28)

23 JULY

The **IDF** tightens restrictions on Palestinian movement around Jenin; patrols in Bethlehem; conducts arrest raids, house searches in 'Azun nr. Qalqilya, Balata r.c., Dura, Nablus, al-Zahiriyya nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Neve Daniel nr. Bethlehem severely beat a 65-yr.-old Palestinian. (IMEMC 7/23; OCHA 7/27; PCHR 7/28)

24 JULY

Palestinian gunmen representing the **AMB**, **Islamic Jihad**, the **PRCs** fire on a Jewish settler vehicle nr. Gaza's Kissufim crossing, killing 2 **Israeli civilians** (visiting Jewish settler relatives), wounding 4; **IDF** soldiers at the crossing return fire, killing 2 **Palestinians**; 2 soldiers are wounded in the exchange. Israel says it captured an **AMB mbr.** who infiltrated Israel fr. Gaza with an 11 lb. bomb, with plans to carry out a suicide bombing in Tel Aviv; arrested a 2d Palestinian accomplice in Jaffa (with an Israeli ID card, married to an Israeli Arab). An **IDF** drone fires 2 missiles at a group of armed Palestinians nr. Bayt Lahiya, causing no injuries, in what may be an assassination attempt. The **IDF** also sends troops into Sa'ir nr. Hebron, fires on stone-throwing Palestinians who confront the troops, seriously injuring 1 bystander; fires on residential areas of Rafah; severely beats a Palestinian at a flying checkpoint nr. Salfit; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Balata r.c., villages around Jenin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai attack, vandalize a Palestinian home in Hebron. **Palestinian groups linked to Fatah, Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine** fire **rockets** at Gush Katif, causing no damage or injuries. An **armed Palestinian** in fatigues raids the Rafah apartment of 4 **American International Solidarity Movement workers**, forces 1 of them (a 75-yr.-old man) into a car with 3 other masked Palestinians, holds him at a local school for 1 hr. before releasing him unharmed; no reason is given. (HA, IMEMC, PCHR, PRCS, WP, WT, XIN 7/24; NYT 7/25; OCHA, PR 7/27; PCHR 7/28)

25 JULY

The **IDF** demolishes a **Palestinian home** in East Jerusalem, 6 agricultural storehouses (place not given); shells residential areas of Rafah; conducts arrest raids nr. Tulkarm and in 'Azun, Bethlehem, Burqin nr. Jenin,

Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Halamish nr. Ramallah uproot 5 d. of nearby Palestinian olive trees, destroy an irrigation network **Jewish settlers** handcuff, beat, leave unconscious a 70-yr.-old Palestinian nr. Tulkarm. (Wafa 7/25; OCHA 7/27; PCHR 7/28; IMEMC 7/29)

26 JULY

Israel announces plans to build 21 Jewish homes in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. The **IDF** demolishes 2 **Palestinian homes** in East Jerusalem, 2 nr. Qalqilya, 1 nr. Salfit, for being constructed without permits; fires on residential areas of Rafah. A **Jewish settler** fr. Karme Tzur kills a **14-yr.-old Palestinian** in a hit-and-run incident outside Hebron. (AP, MA 7/26; IMEMC, JAZ, OCHA, PR, PRCS 7/27; PCHR, YA 7/28)

27 JULY

The **IDF** sends helicopters, tanks, bulldozers into Jenin to arrest wanted **Islamic Jihad mbr. Hamza Kakur**, sparking clashes in which IDF soldiers fatally shoot a **Palestinian** stone thrower and wound at least 6 Palestinians; **Palestinian gunmen** wound 2 IDF soldiers; Kakur is arrested. The **IDF** fires on Palestinian motorists waiting at a checkpoint outside Khan Yunis, seriously injuring 1; fires on residential areas of Naqura and Sebastia nr. Nablus; demolishes 3 **Palestinian homes** in al-Khadir. The **PA** hangs a **Palestinian** given the death penalty for murder (see 6/12). (PR, XIN 7/27; HA, PCHR, PRCS 7/28; PR 8/3; PCHR 8/4)

The **Knesset** votes (59-12) to grant citizenship to **Palestinians** married to **Israelis** only if the Palestinian men are over age 35 and the Palestinian women are over age 25. The decision replaces an emergency measure (in place since 3/03, set to expire on 7/31) banning all Palestinians fr. becoming Israeli citizens under family reunification, but writes into law limitations previously considered temporary. The **Knesset** also passes (54-15) the so-called "intifada law" that limits Palestinians' right to sue the state for damages incurred during the intifada to traffic incidents involving IDF soldiers, physical injuries received while in military detention. (HA 7/28; PR 8/10)

28 JULY

Israel says it has begun construction of 2 additional fences around the Gaza Strip—1

of razor wire, 1 with electronic sensors and surveillance cameras—to ensure Israeli security after disengagement; both fences will be inside Israel. **IDF undercover units** make a major incursion into Tulkarm, raid the home of **wanted Islamic Jihad mbr. Mu'ayyad Musa**, fatally shoot him in an apparent assassination. The **IDF** demolishes a **Palestinian home** in Husan w. of Bethlehem for construction of the **separation wall**; fires on residential areas of Budrus nr. Ramallah, Rafah; raids the Abu Huli neighborhood of Dayr al-Balah, searches homes, rounds up residents for interrogation, arrests 2; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bayt Khalil nr. Hebron, Burqin, Nablus, Qabatya, Yatta. **Palestinians** fire 3 **rockets** at Sederot and the Negev, a **mortar** at the Gaza security fence, causing no damage or injuries. **Armed mbrs. of the Jenin Martyrs Brigades** (a Bureij cell of the **PRCs** affiliated with Fatah) kidnap **PA military intelligence officer Jihad 'Abid** (fmr. aide to fmr. military intelligence head Musa Arafat) as he returns to Gaza through the Rafah crossing. (AFP, HA, XIN, 7/28; NYT 7/29; PR 8/3; PCHR 8/4; HA 8/8)

29 JULY

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids in Dura, Qabatya, al-Til. **Jewish settlers** fr. Suissa attack, beat 3 Palestinian farmers working their land in Yatta; the **IDF** intervenes to arrest a 4th farmer. **Relatives of PA military intelligence officer 'Abid** (kidnapped 7/28) abduct 2 **foreign UN workers** in Gaza City to pressure the PA to get 'Abid released; the PA secures 'Abid's release within hrs., and the UN workers are freed. (AFP, IMEMC, PCHR 7/29; PCHR 8/4; HA 8/8)

30 JULY

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bani Na'im s. of Hebron, fires on residential areas, wounding 2 Palestinian children; patrols in Aida r.c. (conducting random ID checks), Bala'a nr. Tulkarm (firing on stone-throwing youths who confront the troops, wounding 3 of them, 1 bystander), Bayt Khalil; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Jenin, Nablus, Qalqilya, Tulkarm; tightens restrictions on Palestinian movement btwn. Salfit, Qalqilya. **Jewish settlers** fr. Hebron uproot 80 Palestinian olive trees, beat 4 Palestinian farmers in nearby Yatta. **Jewish settlers** fr. Elon Moreh uproot 250 Palestinian olive trees outside Salfit.

Some 10,000 **Palestinian health workers** in PA government clinics begin an open-ended strike, demanding an increase in pay; they have been observing occasional strike days over the past 3 wks., without response fr. the PA. In Tulkarm, **10s of PA special forces** protest the PA's decision to merge them under the **PA public security**. The **Rafah zoo**, demolished by the IDF during Operation Rainbow in 5/04 (see Chronology in *JPS* 133), reopens. (IMEMC, JAZ 7/30; IMEMC 7/31; PR 8/3; PCHR 8/4)

31 JULY

The **IDF** raids Tulkarm, arrests **Islamic Jihad West Bank leader Shaykh Ibrahim Fayyad**; conducts arrest raids, house searches in 'Azun, al-Bireh, Hebron, Qalandia r.c. and nr. Bethlehem, Jenin; raids, searches the Alms Comm. offices in Hebron, confiscating 3 computers. (XIN 7/31; PCHR 8/4)

1 AUGUST

Israel lifts the seal on Gaza imposed after the 7/12 bombing (the seal on the West Bank remains in place), but cancels 7,000 work permits for Gazans, renewing permits of only 2,000 workers and 200 merchants. The **IDF** reinforces troops in Gaza, sending tanks and armored vehicles, expanding construction of roads in central Gaza in preparation for disengagement; announces that it will replace its rubber-coated steel bullets that have killed scores of Palestinians with compressed sand bullets originally developed for close-quarter hostage rescues; says sand bullets have already been used against Palestinians protesting the separation wall. **Gaza settler leaders** begin collecting settlers' weapons ahead of disengagement; some settlers say they will not give up their arms. The **IDF** demolishes a **Palestinian home** in East Jerusalem; conducts arrest raids in al-Bireh (targeting **Islamic Jihad**), Halhul nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ma'on attack, beat 3 Palestinian farmers working their land nearby; the **IDF** intervenes, declares the area a closed military zone, orders farmers to leave, arresting 1 farmer and 1 international peace activist. Late in the evening, **AMB n. Gaza cmdr. Ahmad Abu Zayid** is fatally shot by an unidentified gunman; initial reports indicate his death is a result of intra-Palestinian fighting, but the **AMB** later accuses **Israel** of assassinating him, saying that earlier in the evening,

Israeli security personnel (suspected Shin Bet) questioned his family regarding the car he drives, whether he has a bodyguard, whether he travels armed. A **grenade** explodes outside the Gaza City home of **PA Atty. Gen. Hussein Abu Assi** causing serious damage but no injuries; no group takes responsibility (see 6/28). In Gaza City, **unidentified gunmen** driving in a car open fire on **2 PA military intelligence officers**, injuring them. Nr. Khan Yunis, **2 Palestinians** are killed when explosives they are handling detonate. (MEMC, Wafa, YA 8/1; AP, Deutsche Presse Agentur, PCHR, YA 8/2; JP, PR, WT 8/3; PCHR 8/4; FT 8/8)

2 AUGUST

The **IDF** raids Tulkarm, exchanges gunfire with **Islamic Jihad** mbrs, causing no casualties; conducts patrols in 'Allar and Saida nr. Tulkarm, Nablus; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bethlehem, Jenin, Tulkarm. **Palestinians** fire **3 rockets** at Sederot where some **25,000 right-wing Israelis** launch a 2-day protest against disengagement, but 2 fall in Bayt Hanun in n. Gaza, killing a **6-yr-old Palestinian boy**, wounding 9 Palestinians, damaging a hospital; no damage or injuries are reported in Sederot. A **bomb** explodes outside the Gaza City home of **PA Higher Judicial Council head Zuhayr Surani**, causing damage but no injuries; no group claims responsibility. (AP, PCHR, PR, WP, WT 8/3; NYT, PCHR, REU, WP 8/4)

3 AUGUST

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem and Tulkarm (also firing on residential areas), nr. Hebron, and in Jenin town and r.c., Ramallah; patrols in Nablus. **Islamic Jihad** admits that it fired the rockets at Sederot on 8/2 that killed a Palestinian boy; pledges to end rocket and mortar attacks in Gaza, cooperate with the PA ahead of disengagement. (MEMC, PR 8/3; NYT, PCHR, WP 8/4; PCHR 8/11)

4 AUGUST

An **IDF soldier**, who deserted 2 mos. ago to protest disengagement and moved to the right-wing West Bank settlement of Tapuach, boards a Haifa-Shafa' Amr bus, still dressed in fatigues and carrying his military issue

weapon; when the bus enters the Israeli Palestinian town of Shafa' Amr, the driver asks him whether he's on the right bus; the soldier then shoots the **Israeli Palestinian driver** dead and opens fire on the passengers, killing another **3 Israeli Palestinians**, wounding 20 before a mob beats him to death. **Sharon** denounces the "reprehensible act by a bloodthirsty Jewish terrorist"; **YESHA** settlers council also condemns the attack; the U.S. terms it a "terrible act of terrorism." In Gaza City, the **PA** opens (symbolically on Arafat's birthday) a 2-wk. "victory festival" to celebrate the pending disengagement and a wk.-long UNDP-funded publicity campaign called "Gaza—Reclaiming our Gem"; **10,000s of Palestinians**, predominantly **Fatah** supporters, rally outside Gaza's PC headquarters to hear speeches by **Abbas, Qurai', Dahlan**, who emphasize national unity, call on Palestinians not to take any actions that would jeopardize the national image, emphasize that the world is watching how Palestinians react to disengagement and assume responsibility for Gaza. The **IDF** raids Ramallah, arrests **Islamic Jihad spokesman Shaykh Khadir 'Adnan**; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Aida r.c. (arresting a PA security officer), Bayt Fajjar, Hebron (occupying 2 houses as observation posts), al-Til, Yatta; patrols in Bethlehem; arrests a PA security officer at a checkpoint outside Jerusalem. A **Jewish settler** fr. Neve Dekalim throws a Molotov cocktail at a Palestinian home in al-Mawasi, causing damage but no injuries. **Israel** announces plans to build 72 new housing units in **Beitar Ilit** settlement nr. Jerusalem. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received on 8/2 in Bayt Hanun. (MEMC, HA, REU, YA 8/4; AFP, BBC, JAZ, MA, NYT, WP, WT, YA 8/5; VOP 8/5 in WNC 8/5; NYT, WP, WT 8/6; OCHA, PR 8/10; PCHR 8/11)

The **BBC** reports that papers in the British National Archives show that in 1958, **Britain** secretly sold **Israel** 20 tons of heavy water vital for production of plutonium and the manufacture of nuclear weapons at its Dimona reactor. No "peaceful use only" condition was placed on the sale. (BBC 8/4)

The **World Bank** releases a report showing **Israel** to be 2d only to Italy as the most corrupt, least efficient of developed countries. The report states that "Israel is considered one of the riskiest places in the Western world, with an unstable, inefficient regime, low accountability, a relative high rate of state corruption, and poor law enforcement." (HA 8/4)

5 AUGUST

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Dura and Hebron (occupying 1 house in each as an observation post), Nablus, Nur al-Shams r.c.; fires on residential areas of Rafah. **Israeli Palestinians** observe a day-long general strike to protest the 8/4 Shafa 'Amr attack. (HA, IMEMC 8/5; PCHR 8/11)

The **Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)** targets for "progressive engagement" 5 corporations (Caterpillar, Citigroup, ITT Industries, Motorola, United Technologies) it believes "contribute to the ongoing violence that plagues Israel and Palestine." The church, as shareholders in these companies, will lobby them to halt actions that support occupation, threaten to divest if they do not. (AP, HA 8/5; *Boston Globe*, *Seattle Times*, NYT 8/6; CSM 8/8)

6 AUGUST

The **IDF** makes a predawn raid on Mughraqa in s. Gaza, sending in troops backed by more than 20 armored vehicles to search houses; raids al-Quds University campus in East Jerusalem, arresting **Palestine National Council mbr. Ali Abu Hilal**, dir. of the university's Center for Democracy and Human Rights; imposes a curfew on 'Azun nr. Qalqilya; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, Rafah; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Hebron and al-Ram nr. East Jerusalem, nr. Nablus; patrols in Araba nr. Jenin, Ubaydiyya nr. Bethlehem, Tulkarm town and r.c. (firing on stone-throwing youths, wounding 1), Za'tara nr. Bethlehem; fires on unarmed Palestinians attempting to sneak into Israel w. of Hebron to find work, wounding 2. The **AMB, DFLP** fire **mortars** at the IDF post at Erez crossing, causing no injuries. The Fatah offshoot **Abu Rish Brigades** fires a **rocket** at Neve Dekalim, causing no damage or injuries. **Palestinians** fire on an **IDF** patrol nr. Tulkarm r.c., causing no injuries but prompting troops to enter the camp, return fire, injuring 1 Palestinian bystander. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beit Hadasah severely beat a 16-yr.-old Palestinian in Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba severely beat a 14-yr.-old Palestinian boy in Hebron. A **Jewish settler** driving nr. Hebron chases, fires on a carload of Palestinian workers returning fr. their jobs in Israel, seriously wounding 1, lightly wounding a 2d. In Jerusalem, **20 Jewish settlers** try to force

their way into the al-Aqsa Mosque but are barred by Palestinian guards. **PA judges** go on strike and demonstrate outside the main court headquarters in Gaza. PA High Court chief justice **Surani** (whose home was attacked on 8/2) resigns to protest inadequate security (he retracts the resignation on 8/8). (HA, REU, XIN 8/6; REU 8/8; OCHA, PR 8/10; PCHR 8/11)

7 AUGUST

The **IDF** fires on residential areas of Rafah, killing 1 **Palestinian**; opens fire in Nur al-Shams r.c., killing 1 **Palestinian teenager**, wounding 5 after a Molotov cocktail is thrown at a passing IDF jeep fr. the area; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Jenin and in 'Azun, Hebron, Khan Yunis, Tulkarm; occupies 3 houses in Jenin, Hebron, Tulkarm as observation posts; bulldozes a grove of Palestinian olive trees in Bayt Surik nr. Jerusalem; arrests 5 Palestinian farmers working their fields nr. the separation wall around Qalqilya nr. 'Azun, releasing 3 after questioning, holding 2. In response to the 8/4 Shafa 'Amr killings, **AMB gunmen** fire on a Jewish settler vehicle in the West Bank, wounding 2 settlers. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ma'on attack, beat 4 Palestinian farmers working their nearby fields. **Palestinian gunmen** fire on the **International Comm. of the Red Cross (ICRC)** headquarters in Khan Yunis, causing damage but no injuries. The **PA security forces** arrest **Khan Yunis Fatah official and Qaddumi spokesman Sulayman al-Farah** on suspicion of building a local militia; Farah earlier announced that Qaddumi ordered his office to set up a 1,500-man force to help the PA maintain law and order in Gaza during disengagement (see 7/16). (IMEMC, UPI 8/7; NYT 8/8; HA, NYT, WT 8/9; OCHA, PR 8/10; PCHR 8/11)

8 AUGUST

The **IDF** begins dismantling observation posts around Gaza settlements, replacing them with armored vehicles and tanks in preparation for disengagement; sends troops into Nur al-Shams r.c., searches homes, fires on stone-throwing youths who confront them, killing 1 **Palestinian** bystander, wounding at least 1; fires tank shells at a graveyard in Khan Yunis where Palestinian reportedly were preparing to launch a mortar, causing damage but no injuries; fires on residential areas of Rafah; conducts arrest

raids in 'Azun, Balata r.c., Dura, al-Khadir; occupies a house in Silat al-Dahir, turns it into an observation post; patrols in Nablus. **Palestinian gunmen** loyal to Fatah head **Qaddumi** kidnap **2 foreign UN workers**, their **Palestinian driver** in Khan Yunis to pressure the **PA** to secure the release of Fatah mbr. Farah (arrested 8/7); the **PA security forces** storm the home of a local **AMB** cmdr., exchange fire with the kidnapers (2 kidnapers, 1 bystander are injured), free the 3 captives unharmed; Farah remains in custody. Citing incidents in Khan Yunis today and on 8/7, the **ICRC** suspends operations in Gaza to protest the lack of security. (FT, IMEMC, UNIS, XIN 8/8; FT, HA, IMEMC, JP, NYT, PRCS, WT 8/9; OCHA, PR 8/10; PCHR 8/11)

The **IDF** begins delivering letters to the roughly **1,600 Jewish settler families** in the Gaza Strip and 4 West Bank settlements slated for removal under disengagement, giving them until 8/15 to evacuate their homes and receive full compensation; those remaining on 8/17 will be forcibly removed, will not be allowed to return to collect their belongings (which will be packed and shipped by the **IDF**), will not receive full compensation. (HA 8/8; NYT 8/9) (see Quarterly Update)

9 AUGUST

The **IDF** delays passage of an ambulance through the separation wall gate at Kafr Qadim to a hospital in Qalqilya, allowing a **Palestinian** heart attack victim to die; imposes curfews on 'Ayn al-Bayda, Bardala, Kardala in the n. Jordan Valley; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, nr. Bethlehem, and in 'Azun, Khan Yunis, Nur al-Shams r.c.; searches a home in Azariyya; patrols in villages around Jenin, in Nablus. During **Abbas's** speech to the PC in Gaza City, several **armed AMB mbrs.** break into the courtyard of the PC building, stage a brief sit-in demanding jobs and government support, leave without incident when PA officials promise to look into their demands. (IMEMC, XIN 8/9; IMEMC, JAZ 8/10)

10 AUGUST

The **IDF** continues arrest raids, house searches in Nur al-Shams r.c.; patrols in Nablus and nearby Dayr Istiyya. **IDF soldiers, Jewish settlers** close off an archaeological site nr. Ramallah, fire on local Pales-

tinians who attempt to stop them fr. doing excavation work, wounding 9. In Jerusalem, some **70,000 religious Jews** gather at the Western Wall in a peaceful protest against disengagement. (HA, IMEMC 8/10; NYT, PCHR 8/11; IMEMC 8/12; PCHR 8/18)

11 AUGUST

The **IDF** conducts arrests raids, house searches nr. Jenin, Tulkarm. Some **150,000 Israelis** take part in an antidisengagement rally in Tel Aviv sponsored by the **YESHA settlers' council**. (IMEMC 8/12; PCHR 8/18)

12 AUGUST

The **IDF** fires live ammunition at Palestinian protesters marching to their lands outside Qalqilya that have been cut off by the separation wall, seriously wounding 1; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron and in al-Mawasi, Nablus, Tamun. In separate incidents in Karmil and Yatta, 5 Palestinians are injured when they accidentally trigger unexploded **IDF** ordnance. **Jewish settlers** protesting Israel's planned evacuation of Homesh settlement in the West Bank march fr. nr. Tulkarm toward Nablus, throwing stones, bottles at Palestinian homes along the way; when **Palestinian youths** respond by throwing stones at the settlers, the **IDF** intervenes, fires percussion grenades and rubber bullets, injuring 2 Palestinian teenagers, 1 **journalist** covering the incident. (IMEMC 8/12; PCHR 8/18; PR 8/25)

13 AUGUST

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron (occupying 2 houses as observation posts); occupies a house in Nablus as an observation post. **Jewish settlers** beat 2 Palestinians nr. Tulkarm. In Qalqilya, **10s of armed AMB mbrs.** storm, seal a government building, demanding jobs; PA security forces do not intervene. (HA, IMEMC 8/13; OCHA 8/17; PCHR 8/18)

The **Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)** passes a resolution (668-269) that condemns Israeli operations in the occupied territories, calls for dismantling of the separation wall, urges members to use financial means to "advocate for peace with justice," but denies it is calling for divestment and rejects the idea of a boycott. An ELCA spokesman says the intention is to encourage "positive investment" to encourage

the peace process, not to pull out funds. **Jewish organizations** say the move is “a camouflaged call to divest.” (REU 8/13; JAZ, YA 8/14; HA 8/15)

14 AUGUST

As of midnight local time, the **IDF** seals the Gaza Strip in preparation for disengagement implementation beginning on 8/17, making it illegal for Israelis to enter Gaza. During the day, some **7,500 PA security forces**, overseen by **Egyptian security officers**, begin deploying nr. Gaza settlements to prevent Palestinians fr. approaching them. Before dawn, **Palestinian gunmen** fire on Kefar Darom, causing no damage or injuries; an **IDF** tank returns fire, accidentally targeting an **IDF** personnel carrier, wounding 5 **IDF** soldiers. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends troops into Tulkarm, closes the main street, interrogates residents; conducts arrest raids, house searches in villages around Tulkarm; occupies a house nr. Nablus as an observation post. Nr. Qalqilya, a **Palestinian** dies of heat stroke after being handcuffed by **IDF** troops, left in the sun for hrs. In light of threats by **Jewish extremists** to storm the Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount and destroy the al-Aqsa mosque, **100s of Israeli police, troops** deploy in and around the Old City of Jerusalem to prevent possible Israeli-Palestinian clashes; **1,000s of Muslims fr. Jerusalem and Israel** attempt to converge to defend the site, but West Bank Palestinians are barred fr. entering Jerusalem, Israeli Palestinians under age 45 are banned fr. accessing the mosque compound. **Jewish settlers** gather outside Homesh settlement to protest the disengagement, throw stones at passing Palestinian vehicles. In Gaza, **Jewish settlers** block Palestinian access to roads btwn. Kefar Yam and Shirat Hayam. A **French sound technician** covering the disengagement in Gaza is kidnapped by unknown Palestinians; **Hamas** accuses the **PA** of not doing enough to protect internationals working in Gaza, says targeting foreigners should be a red line. In light of recent kidnappings, the **UN** moves all nonessential foreign staff in Gaza to Jerusalem until further notice. (AFP, XIN 8/14; IMEMC, WT 8/15; PR 8/17; PCHR, REU 8/18; IMEMC 8/19)

15 AUGUST

The **IDF** tightens restrictions on Palestinian movement inside Gaza, declares the **n. West Bank** a closed military zone in

preparation for disengagement; begins going door to door in the **Gaza settlements**, asking residents to leave within 48 hrs. (see Quarterly Update). In Aley Sinai, 56 of 59 families who had agreed to leave rescind their decision, vowing to resist evacuation until the Israeli government finds permanent living solutions for the community as a whole; the government had promised them space together in an Ashkelon hotel, but only today learned that not enough space was available. During the day, some **1,000 right-wing settlers** in various locations in s. Gaza simultaneously begin marching toward Gush Katif to block troops, but are prevented fr. reaching the settlement bloc by **IDF troops and border police**. Other **settler youths** slash the tires of several army jeeps, spray liquid soap on windshields to limit visibility, spread nails on roads to delay convoys of movers. **Jewish settlers** fr. Neve Dekalim vandalize, attempt to set fire to several Palestinian homes in al-Mawasi. In Gan Or, local settlers who want the **IDF's** help to evacuate scuffle with settler youths blocking soldiers fr. entering the settlement. In the West Bank, the last residents of Ganim (est. 1983, pop. 172) and Qadim (est. 1983, pop. 169) evacuate voluntarily by evening, while settlers in the other 2 West Bank settlement slated for removal, the hard-line enclaves of Homesh (est. 1980, pop. 228) and Sanur (est. 1982, pop. 105), refuse to accept their notices. The major **Palestinian factions**, including **Hamas**, agree to oversee jointly how the PA uses land evacuated by settlers and the **IDF**; the PA expects 5% of the land to revert to individual Palestinian owners, with the rest being state land that will fall under PA jurisdiction. In a signal to reassure Palestinians about how it will handle land use, the **PA security forces** demolish a house, cabana, pool built illegally on Gaza public land by **2 senior PA security officials**; when a neighbor of one of the officials tells journalists that the demolitions were good because his neighbors “were criminals . . . a gang,” several **PA security officers** beat him, threaten to shoot him, before he retreats into his house. (BBC, HA, NYT 8/15; HA, NYT, WP, WT 8/16; PR 8/17; PCHR 8/18)

Meanwhile, the **IDF** continues arrest raids, house searches in villages around Tulkarm; launches arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem and in Birzeit, al-Mawasi; searches homes in Kafr Qadim; occupies 5 Palestinian houses (2 nr. Gaza's Dugit settlement, 1 in Mughraqa, 1 nr. Tulkarm, 1 in Wadi al-Silqa) as observation

posts; fires on residential areas of Rafah. **Jewish settlers** vandalize Palestinian homes in Hebron. The **ICRC** resumes field activities

in Gaza, which were suspended on 8/7 after shots were fired at its Khan Yunis offices. (IMEMC 8/15; NYT 8/16)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP	(Agence France-Presse, Paris)
AP	(Associated Press [Internet])
AYM	(<i>al-Ayyam</i> , Ramallah)
BBC	(British Broadcasting Corporation World Service [Internet])
CSM	(<i>Christian Science Monitor</i> , Boston)
FT	(Financial Times, London)
HA	(<i>Ha'Aretz</i> [Internet], Tel Aviv)
IMEMC	(International Middle East Media Center, Bayt Sahur)
ISM	(International Solidarity Movement [Internet])
JAZ	(al-Jazeera Satellite Channel Television, Doha)
JP	(<i>Jerusalem Post</i> [Internet], Jerusalem)
JTA	(Jewish Telegraphic Agency [Internet])
MA	(<i>Ma'ariv</i> , Tel Aviv)
MENA	(Middle East News Agency, Cairo)
MM	(<i>Mideast Mirror</i> , London)
NYT	(<i>New York Times</i> , New York)
PCHR	(Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
PR	(<i>Palestine Report</i> , Jerusalem)
PRCS	(Palestine Red Crescent Society [Internet])
QA	(<i>al-Quds al-Arabi</i> , London)
REU	(Reuters [Internet])
UNIS	(United Nations Information Service, Geneva)
OCHA	(United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes, Jerusalem)
UPI	(United Press International [Internet])
VOI	(Voice of Israel, Jerusalem)
VOP	(Voice of Palestine, Jericho)
WAFA	(Palestine News Agency, Ramallah)
WNC	(World News Connection [Internet], Washington)
WP	(<i>Washington Post</i> , Washington)
WT	(<i>Washington Times</i> , Washington)
XIN	(Xinhua–New China News Agency, Beijing)
YA	(<i>Yedi'ot Abaronot</i> , Tel Aviv)