



## OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

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# Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

## 25 – 31 July 2007

### Of note this week

#### Gaza Strip:

- Seven Palestinians, including Islamic Jihad and Hamas members, were killed and seven others were injured from IDF military operations and IAF air strikes.
- Three Palestinians were killed, including two females, and nine others were injured in family disputes and other forms of internal violence. One Palestinian died due to illness on the Egyptian side of the closed Rafah crossing and another died in an Israeli prison.
- 17 mortars were fired at IDF bulldozers during IDF incursions into the Gaza Strip (Gaza and Khan Younis). In addition, 29 Qassam rockets, 31 mortar shells, and one RPG were fired towards Israel. These included two rockets and 12 mortars fired towards IDF Kissufim military base, eight rockets towards Sderot, one rocket and five mortars towards Kerem Shalom crossing, and five mortars towards Erez crossing, among others. As a result, one Israeli woman was lightly injured by shrapnel (Sderot), one deserted home was severely damaged (Sderot), and several other homes were damaged (Western Negev).
- The IDF continued to conduct levelling and excavating operations in the Gaza Strip, thereby uprooting 120 dunums of olive and citrus trees.
- Between 29 and 31 July, 901 Palestinians—out of the estimated 6000 Palestinians on the Egyptian side of Rafah crossing—entered the Gaza Strip through Erez crossing.
- The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) has called for investigations of alleged torture practiced by the Executive Support Force (ESF) and 'Izziddin al-Qassam Brigades (the military wing of Hamas) against a number of Palestinian detainees. PCHR has also called for an investigation of an incident where nine Palestinians, including a child and two women, were injured during ESF arrest campaigns.

#### West Bank:

- There was an increase in checks at IDF checkpoints surrounding the Ramallah governorate; the Israeli DCL reported that these procedures were due to security alerts about potential attacks in Israel by Palestinians coming from the northern West Bank.
- The IDF killed one Palestinian (Bethlehem) and injured 11, including seven children.
- One Palestinian was killed and two injured in a family feud (Qalqiliya), two were injured by unidentified persons (Jenin and Nablus), and one died of wounds sustained during factional clashes on 24 July (Nablus).
- 81 IDF search campaigns, 65 arrests, and 113 flying checkpoints were reported, which are similar to last week's figures.
- **27 July:** Although the time period given by the IDF for their eviction ended at noon, the two settler families remained in the vegetable market in the H2 area of Hebron City. They vowed to resist the eviction, especially after receiving a religious decree from Rabbi Mordachi Elyaho allowing them to defy the eviction order (Hebron).
- **29 July:** The IDF started to dismantle the Road Barrier along Road 317 south of the towns of Yatta, As 'Samu and Adh Dhahiriya. On 24 July, the Israeli High Court ruled that the barrier be dismantled within two weeks.

#### Palestinian and Israeli conflict related casualties:<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Excluding Palestinian-Palestinian internal violence and other 'indirect' conflict related incidents reported in Section 2.

## 1. [Physical Protection – conflict related casualties](#)

### Gaza Strip:

- **26 July:** Three Palestinians (aged 23, 33 and 42 years) who were Islamic Jihad members were killed when an IAF helicopter fired a rocket targeting a vehicle carrying suspected armed men traveling on Salah Ed-Din road in Gaza City (Gaza).
- **26 July:** A 26-year-old Palestinian, who was a Hamas member, was killed when an IAF helicopter fired a rocket targeting a group of Hamas members during its military operation in the Al Foukhari area southeast of Khan Younis (Khan Younis).
- **26 July:** A Palestinian man was injured in Beit Lahiya when an IAF helicopter fired a rocket at a group of armed men who were attempting to launch rockets towards Israel. The armed men reportedly escaped unharmed (North Gaza).
- **26 July:** A 33-year-old Palestinian, who was a Hamas member, was killed while attempting to fire an anti-tank missile at IDF soldiers who had entered 800 meters into the Al-Foukhari area southeast of Khan Younis. At 1220 hours, three Palestinians (who are Islamic Jihad members) were injured when an IAF helicopter fired a rocket targeting the same area (Khan Younis).
- **28 July:** Two Palestinians (aged 23 and 24 years), who are members of Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, were shot and killed by IDF soldiers guarding the border fence north of Beit Lahiya. They were apparently attempting to plant a roadside bomb near the border line (North Gaza).
- **30 July:** Three Palestinians were injured, including an Islamic Jihad member and an Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades member, when an IAF helicopter fired a rocket targeting a vehicle carrying suspected armed men travelling on Salah Ed-Din road in Al Maghazi Camp (Central Gaza).

### Other incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **27 July:** Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for detonating a roadside bomb when an IDF vehicle passed along the Green Line near Kerem Shalom. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **29 July:** Two Palestinian girls (aged 14 and 15 years) approached the border fence east of Beit Hanoun and were taken into IDF custody. The IDF handed them over to the Palestinians via a Palestinian ambulance. It was reported that the girls were experiencing family-related problems and wished to leave Gaza (North Gaza).
- **29 July:** Armed Islamic Jihad members opened fire at IDF troops stationed at the border line area east of Al Farahein area. The IDF responded with heavy shooting. No casualties were reported (Khan Younis).
- **30 July:** A mortar shell was fired from an area west of Beit Hanoun at Erez crossing. The ESF opened fire towards those believed to have launched the mortar shell and there was an exchange of gunfire that lasted 10 minutes. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **30 July:** An RPG was fired at an IDF jeep passing by the border fence east of Al Bureij Camp. The RPG missed the target and no injuries were reported (Central Gaza).

### West Bank:

- **25 July:** A 48-year-old Palestinian woman was injured by live ammunition during an IDF training course in the area of Khirbet 'Atuf (Tubas).
- **25 July:** Three Palestinian boys (aged 14 and 15(2) years) were physically assaulted and injured by the IDF in Qalqiliya City during an IDF search campaign.
- **26 July:** A 19-year-old Palestinian man from the town of Adh Dhahiriya was injured with live bullets when an IDF undercover unit opened fire towards him while he was walking in the street. The IDF soldiers fled the scene and, according to a number of sources, did not report the incident to the IDF. The IDF unit had hijacked a Palestinian taxi cab at gunpoint, tied the driver's hands, blindfolded him, and placed him in the back seat (the vehicle owner was driving to a number of stone quarries in the town). Members of the unit (a lieutenant and five of his soldiers) were initially arrested and then four were released while the commander and the fifth soldier who shot the Palestinian civilian remained in custody as they await the military court's hearing (Hebron).
- **26 July:** A 20-year-old man from the village of Tuqu was clubbed and killed by IDF soldiers manning a flying checkpoint near the village (Bethlehem).
- **27 July:** A 13-year-old Palestinian boy from Ya'bad was injured when an IDF jeep ran over him during an IDF military operation in the town. The child was transported to a hospital in Jenin (Jenin).
- **27 July:** Two Palestinian men were injured by rubber-coated metal bullets fired by the Israeli Border Police during the weekly demonstration held by Palestinian, international

and Israeli protestors against the Barrier constructed in Bil'in village. Several cases of tear gas inhalation were also reported (Ramallah).

- **29 July:** A 14-year-old Palestinian boy from Izbat Jalu'd was physically assaulted and injured by the IDF at a flying checkpoint near the village (Qalqiliya).
- **30 July:** Two Palestinian boys (aged 16 and 17 years) were physically assaulted and injured by the IDF in Qalqiliya City during an IDF search campaign (Qalqiliya).

Other incidents (not involving casualties/damage):

- **27 July:** Israeli settlers entered the evacuated settlement of Khomesh and were evacuated by the IDF on the same day.

## **2. Physical Protection - other incidents involving casualties<sup>2</sup>**

**Gaza Strip:**

- **25 July:** Three Palestinians (family relatives) were shot and injured in Khan Younis by their relative who works for the ESF. The motive is reportedly an internal family dispute (Khan Younis).
- **26 July:** A 39-year-old Palestinian (who is an Islamic Jihad member) was reportedly accidentally shot and wounded by his colleague who was cleaning his weapon in Nuseirat Camp (Central Gaza).
- **26 July:** Four Palestinians (members of the same family) were physically assaulted by the ESF when they resisted the ESF's attempt to arrest their relative (a Fatah member) in Khan Younis (Khan Younis).
- **27 July:** An 18-year-old Palestinian girl arrived dead at Al Aqsa hospital. The motive behind the death is unknown (Central Gaza).
- **28 July:** A 26-year-old Palestinian woman was stabbed and killed by her brother in Al Bureij Camp. The incident is reportedly an "honour killing" (Central Gaza).
- **29 July:** A 45-year-old Palestinian patient died on the Egyptian side of the closed Rafah crossing.
- **30 July:** The body of a 35-year-old PA intelligence officer was found in the formerly evacuated Slaw settlement. It was reported that he was abducted and tortured by three men belonging to Fatah Al-Yasser Brigades due to a family dispute. The ESF took the three suspects into custody (North Gaza).
- **31 July:** A 12-year-old boy was injured by a stray bullet while he was standing in front of his house in Tel-es-Sultan area in Rafah. The source of the shooting is unknown. (Rafah).
- **31 July:** A 28-year-old Palestinian prisoner from Maghazi Camp (who was a PA National Security Officer) died in an Israeli prison.

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **28 July:** An internal armed dispute between members of a local family took place in Al Bureij Camp. An exchange of fire lasted for 20 minutes. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **28 July:** The Egyptian Security forces discovered and exploded two tunnels located opposite Al Barahma area (Rafah).
- **29 July:** The Egyptian Security Forces exploded three tunnels located opposite Al Brazil quarter (Rafah).
- **29 July:** The ESF attempted to arrest the Administrative Director of Al Najjar hospital in Rafah (Magdy Khalifa) for an unknown reason. In response, hospital staff threatened that they would go on a strike in protest. An ESF commander intervened and the Administrative Director was not arrested. At 2030 hours, the staff returned to work (Rafah).
- **30 July:** The Egyptian Security Forces exploded two tunnels located opposite Al Salaam quarter (Rafah).
- **30 July:** The ESF confiscated all copies of three daily newspapers as they entered Gaza for two hours claiming they are unfairly reporting on Hamas - Al Quds, Al Haya and Al Ayyam. (Gaza).
- **31 July:** Egyptian Security Forces exploded a tunnel located opposite Al Salaam quarter (Rafah).

<sup>2</sup> Casualties recorded in this section relate to Palestinian inter-factional fighting, family and community disputes, reckless use of weapons, and disputed incidents. Also reported in this section are casualties indirectly related to the conflict such as incidents involving Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), traffic accidents between Israeli and Palestinians in the oPt and deaths resulting from delay in receiving medical treatment at a checkpoint or during a military operation/curfew. These casualties are not recorded in the total in Section 1.

**West Bank:**

- **27 July:** A 50-year-old Palestinian man was injured by masked men in Birqin village. The motive is unknown (Jenin).
- **31 July:** A 23-year-old Palestinian man was killed and two Palestinians (aged 24 and 27 years) were injured in 'Azzun due to a family feud (Qalqiliya).
- **31 July:** A 25-year-old Palestinian man from Balata Camp was injured in Nablus City when unidentified persons shot him in his legs (Nablus).

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **27 July:** A group of Palestinian refugees gathered around the main UNRWA building in Bethlehem City to protest a reduction in the agency's health services (Bethlehem).
- **31 July:** An explosive device was detonated near Juneid PA prison in Nablus City. No injuries were reported and the circumstances surrounding the incident are unknown (Nablus).

**Inter-factional violence****Gaza Strip:**

No incidents to report.

**West Bank:**

- **27 July:** A 20-year-old Palestinian male student from Seida (Tulkarm) died of injuries sustained on 24 July during factional clashes at An Najah University (Nablus).

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

No incidents to report.

**3. Shelter and Property**

**Table 1: Structures Demolished/Damaged by the Israeli Authorities (IDF, Border Police, Civil Administration...etc) and Israeli Settlers**

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures damaged	People displaced	People affected
25 July 2007	Gaza	0	2+	0	Unknown
30-31 July 2007	Qalqiliya City (Qalqiliya)	0	5+	0	Unknown
31 July 2007	Marrah Al Baqqar, Dura town (Hebron)	0	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>9+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2+</b>

- **25 July:** Several house boundary walls were damaged during an IDF military operation in Johr Ed-Dik area southeast of Gaza City (Gaza).
- **30—31 July:** The IDF damaged several greenhouses, agricultural storage rooms and an irrigation network north of Qalqiliya City during a search campaign (Qalqiliya).
- **31 July:** IDF soldiers operating in Marrah Al Baqqar village, located in the suburbs of the town of Dura, damaged two graves while trying to detain Palestinians wanted by the Israeli authorities. The corpses in the graves were exposed and later covered by residents of the village (Hebron).

Other incidents (not involving demolitions/property damage):

- **26 July:** The IDF handed five stop construction orders to Palestinian residents from Qarawat Bani Hassan regarding houses under construction in Area C that lack building permits (Salfit).
- **26 July:** The IDF forcibly entered the Rehabilitation Center for the Physically Handicapped in Qalqiliya City, confiscated computers, and ordered its closure for two years. The IDF also searched a mosque, an Islamic club, and Al Huda Radio station (Qalqiliya).
- **30—31 July:** The IDF occupied the third floor of a building and a nearby park with a swimming pool north of Qalqiliya City between 0200 hours on 30 July to 1000 hours on 31 July during a search campaign (Qalqiliya).
- **29 July:** IDF soldiers manning Hamra checkpoint, along with Israeli civil administration officials, confiscated a water tank and detained the driver for a few hours. The tank belongs to Al Hadidiya village in the Jordan Valley and is used for supplying water to the whole village. This incident is part of IDF attempts to put pressure on Al Hadidiya

community to abide by the military order that demands their eviction on the basis that they live in a military zone. The driver was released but to reclaim the water tank he was demanded to pay a fine of 4,500 NIS and the village representatives were demanded to sign a pledge affirming that they will abide by the IDF military order. Village residents suffered from water shortage as a result (Jordan Valley).

Ongoing incidents (not involving demolitions/property damage):

- **25 April to date:** The IDF continues to occupy the fourth floor of a four-storey Palestinian office building in Huwwara (Nablus) and has converted it into an observation post to monitor Road 60. The offices have nonetheless continued to operate.

**Internal Violence Incidents Affecting Shelter and Property:**

No incidents to report.

## 4. Natural Resources

### **Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting<sup>3</sup>**

**Nablus Governorate:**

**29 July:** 100 dunums of olive and almond trees on land belonging to Palestinians from 'Einabus village were set on fire (Nablus). Palestinians accused settlers from Yizhar settlement of setting the trees on fire since the land is near the settlement and not accessible to Palestinian farmers. About 400 trees were damaged.

Ongoing incident:

- **15 January to date:** The IDF continues to level eight dunums of land near Huwwara checkpoint to expand the checkpoint. The land belongs to Palestinians from Burin village and was requisitioned on 10 July 2005 (Military Order T/106/05).

**Jenin Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Tubas Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Tulkarm Governorate:**

Ongoing incident:

- Land levelling continues around Avne Hefez and Enav settlements for the construction of a new fence.

**Qalqiliya Governorate:**

Ongoing incident:

- Barrier construction: land levelling and construction work continue near Immatin village, between 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth, and between 'Azzun and Kafr Laqif.

**Salfit Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - Barrier construction on Palestinian land extending between Rantis (northwest of Ramallah governorate) and Beit Nuba (southwest of Ramallah governorate) is complete, except for Al Midya-Ni'lin section.
  - Barrier construction between Al Midya and Ni'lin has been planned but is pending a decision by the Israeli High Court of Justice based on appeals submitted by Ni'lin village residents and Hashmon'im settlers (each side is demanding that the barrier be pushed closer to the other side).
  - Construction continues on 'Abud land to encircle Beit Arye and Ofarim settlements as part of the extension of the "Ariel finger." Construction is taking place around the two settlements and parallel to bypass Road 564. The Barrier will isolate 3,800 dunums of the village land.

<sup>3</sup> 4 dunums = 1 acre; 10 dunums = 1 hectare

- Construction of three “fabric of life” roads, which is part of an Israeli plan to build alternative roads for Palestinians *in lieu* of the main roads that have become closed due to closure and Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues at a fast pace of a new road between Rantis and Shuqba, parallel to bypass Road 465.
  - Construction continues of a road between Beit Liqya and Beit ‘Anan.
  - Construction continues of a road between Beit ‘Ur al Fauqa and Tira via an underpass under Road 443.
  - Land levelling continues in order to construct a road between Beit Ur at Tahta and Beituniya.

#### **Jerusalem Governorate:**

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##### Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate. Exceptions to this are northeast of Al ‘Eizariya towards Ma’ale Adummim settlement. Construction has been stopped along a 3 km stretch of the Barrier south of Ma’ale Adummim and Kedar since 3 March 2006 pending a court case.
  - Construction near Ar Ram checkpoint between Dahiyat Al Bareed and Atarot is complete. One detour route between the neighbourhoods of Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed remains possible but the Barrier will soon seal off this neighbourhood entirely from Ar Ram and the West Bank. This week, the iron gate between Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed was closed on most days to vehicular traffic and ajar for pedestrian passage only, as additional construction and infrastructure work was carried out on the remaining parts of the Barrier in Dahiyat al Bareed. It is planned that the gate will be used by Israeli security patrol vehicles and will not be open for humanitarian cases in the future.
  - The construction of a road barrier continues on Road 1 east of Az Za’ayem.
- Construction of an Israeli police station (two large buildings) in E1 is ongoing. E1, or East 1, is an area north of Ma’ale Adummim and Road 1. Major infrastructure work is being carried out on the hill around the two buildings in preparation for building the roads that will lead to the police station.
- The road between Anata and Al ‘Eizariya is under construction (Road 70). Another road (Road 80) is planned that will link Abu Dis to Road 1 east of the planned Barrier around Ma’ale Adummim. The road will be open for Palestinians only and is part of the “fabric of life” roads planned by the Israeli authorities.

#### **Jericho Governorate:**

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No incidents to report.

#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

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**25 - 26 July:** Several hundred Israeli settlers attempted to establish a new outpost over 1,000 dunums located behind the Barrier route near Artas village (Bethlehem).

##### Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues next to Al Khadr Boys School along the eastern side of Road 60 adjacent to the school playground.
  - Land levelling continues in the section of Road 60 between the Palestinian village of Al Khadr and Al Nashshash (southern entrance of Bethlehem City). Additional lengths of the Barrier have been erected in this section during the reporting period.
  - Land levelling continues west of Wadi Rahhal village and near the settlement of Efrata for the construction of the Barrier.
  - Sections of the Barrier have been placed in the vicinity of Har Gilo settlement.
- Paving continues on the side of Tunnels checkpoint to expand the site. Extensive land levelling has taken place on both sides of the road leading to Beit Jala at the junction with Road 60.
- Land levelling and digging for the construction of the tunnel near Al Khadr village has continued. The initial construction of Al Khader underpass is complete. Land levelling is currently being carried out to construct the underpass lanes.
- Land levelling is also taking place along the western side of Road 60 leading to the western villages.

- Work continues on the road leading to the Talita Khoumy School; a one-metre high road barrier was installed and land levelling has continued on both sides of the road.
- Land levelling continues for the construction of the new terminal next to Al Jab'a checkpoint.
- Construction work at Nu'man terminal is ongoing.
- Land levelling is on-going east of the Gush Etzion checkpoint.

#### **Hebron Governorate:**

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Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: construction continues west of Eshkolot settlement.
- Land levelling, including paving continues west of the checkpoint of Tarqumiya for a new commercial checkpoint.

#### **Gaza Strip:**

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- **25 July:** Ten IDF armoured vehicles entered 300 metres into the Johr Ed-Dik area southeast of Gaza City. IDF bulldozers levelled and excavated land while IDF soldiers conducted a house-search operation (Gaza).
- **26 July:** IDF soldiers were still deployed in Al Foukhari area southeast of Khan Younis. IDF bulldozers levelled and excavated land, uprooting 120 dunums of olive and citrus trees belonging to three local families. At 2200 hours, the IDF withdrew to the border fence (Khan Younis).

## **5. Access and Movement for Civilians**

### **a) Incidents of curfews**

Ongoing incidents:

- **17 May to date:** Palestinians living in Gaza Strip areas (north, east of Beit Hanoun and north, and northwest of Beit Lahia) have maintained a self-imposed a curfew after dark due to IDF military operations.

### **b) Access to education**

- **25 July:** The UNRWA summer learning programme was disrupted by IDF activities in Kan Younis; Abu Tu'aima School was closed and the Foukhari School reported 50% attendance (Khan Younis).

### **c) Access to employment**

- **Throughout the week,** Palestinian workers from the Governorate of Hebron holding valid permits to work in Israel were obliged to stay overnight in front of the Meitar checkpoint, located south of the town of Adh Dhahiriya (Hebron), in order to reach their workplaces inside Israel. This checkpoint is the only checkpoint in the Governorate of Hebron that can be used by Palestinian workers to reach their work places inside Israel. It is manned by the Israeli Border Police and checks are conducted using palm identification. Similarly, Palestinian workers from the Governorate of Bethlehem holding valid work permits were obliged to stay overnight at Gilo checkpoint in order to cross and reach their work places inside Israel.

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 12 March 2006, Palestinian workers from the Gaza Strip have been prevented from entering Israel.
- In the West Bank, all Palestinians must apply to the DCL offices in the Jerusalem peripheries to obtain Israeli permits. The criteria for people to be eligible for an Israeli permit are similar for both workers and traders; a Palestinian should be above 35 years of age, married with a child, and with no security file.

### **d) Closures/movement restrictions**

#### **Nablus Governorate:**

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**25, 28 and 30 July:** major delays were reported at Al Badhan checkpoint.

**28 July:** The IDF closed Huwwara checkpoint for one hour due to the presence of a suspicious object.

**29 July:** The IDF closed Huwwara checkpoint for two hours due to the presence of a suspicious object.

Ongoing incidents:

- **28 March to date:** The IDF continues to close Shave Shomron checkpoint (Nablus) for all Palestinians, ambulances, UN and international organisations.

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#### Jenin Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- **30 August 2006 to date:** The IDF have allowed 40 commercial trucks (with a freight load of under two tonnes) to transport food products to Barta'a enclave. A list with the plate numbers of the trucks is present at the checkpoint. Other materials require prior coordination.

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#### Tubas Governorate:

No incidents to report.

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#### Tulkarm Governorate:

**26 and 27 July:** Delays and long queues were reported at 'Anabta and Kafriat tunnels.

**30 July:** The IDF closed 'Anabta checkpoint for five hours.

Ongoing incidents:

- **24 May to date:** The IDF continues to close the dirt road connecting Dhinnaba to Izbat abu Khameish with two earth mounds.

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#### Qalqiliya Governorate:

**25 July:** The IDF closed Qalqiliya North checkpoint and the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya (DCO) from 2 - 5pm.

**25 July:** The IDF closed Falamiya Barrier gate for four hours and prevented farmers from reaching their land behind the Barrier.

Ongoing incidents:

- **18 May to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Izbat at Tabib with 'Azzun and 'Asla villages with an earth mound.
- **13 July to date:** The IDF soldiers positioned at the flying checkpoint placed at the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City (DCO) continue to prevent Arab Israelis to enter Qalqiliya City.

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#### Salbit Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close the gate at the northern entrance of Kafr ad Dik.

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#### Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

**During the reporting period:** Delays at Atara checkpoint were reported on a daily basis.

In several cases, the waiting time reached up to 60 minutes.

Ongoing incidents:

- **1 July to date** The Road gate of At Tira (Ramallah) opens three times a day for half an hour each time. The gate will be used by the residents travelling in Palestinian-plated taxis to enter/exit the village—only 11 Palestinian taxis were permitted to cross and travel on Road 443.

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#### Jerusalem Governorate:

**During the reporting period:** Long delays at Qalandiya, Jaba' and A Ram checkpoints were reported, especially during the morning and afternoon rush hours.

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#### Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:

**During the reporting period:** Delays at both Hamra and Tayasir checkpoints were experienced by Palestinian commuters due to the slow checking process by IDF soldiers manning the checkpoints. In several cases at Tayasir checkpoint, the IDF stopped operating the checkpoint for some time periods.

Ongoing incidents:

- **14 September 2006 to date:** The IDF announced that only Palestinians with Jericho residency, Jerusalem ID-holders, and residents of Bethlehem and Hebron, would be able to exit via the Jericho DCO checkpoint, forcing all others to either request a permit or to travel on the Al Mu'arrajat old road to reach the rest of the West Bank. Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers and residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayem and As Sawahira village are allowed to exit Jericho via the DCO checkpoint.
- **9 January to date:** Bisan checkpoint has been open for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley and Jericho to export their agricultural produce into Israel



using a back-to-back system. Palestinians from the West Bank in possession of BMC cards (trader permits) in addition to an Israeli permit, are allowed through this checkpoint into Israel. Palestinians working for international organisations continue to be prohibited from using Bisan checkpoint.

- **26 April to date:** Access of Palestinians to the Jordan Valley improved. Movement from the West Bank continues to be controlled through the four main checkpoints: Tayasir, Hamra, Ma'ale Efraim and Yitav. However, a personal permit is no longer required to enter the Jordan Valley for West Bank residents. Access is only possible with public transportation as West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from entering the Jordan Valley.

#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

#### **Hebron Governorate:**

**29 July:** The IDF started to dismantle the Road Barrier along Road 317 south of the towns of Yatta, As 'Samu and Adh Dhahiriya. **On 24 July,** the Israeli High Court ordered the IDF to dismantle this Road Barrier within two weeks. The Court criticized the IDF for failing to act within the six-month limit the Court gave it on its 14 December (2006) hearing.

Ongoing incidents:

- Despite the Israeli High Court ruling of 14 December 2006 stipulating the dismantling of the Road Barrier along Road 317, the Road Barrier is still present. However, in its 24 July session, the Israeli High Court gave the IDF a period of two weeks to completely dismantle the Road Barrier. The court criticised the IDF's failure to act within the six-month limit allotted by the court in its hearing on 14 December 2006.
- A main Palestinian road (parallel to Road 35) connecting Hebron City to the towns of Idhna and Tarqumiya via Beit Kahil village remains closed to Palestinian traffic.

#### **Gaza Strip**

Functioning of Gaza crossing points:

- Erez was open all week for senior Palestinian businessmen as well as the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, and critical medical cases with special coordination arrangements. However, since 4 July and for the first time since 12 June, a very limited number of senior Palestinian businessmen were permitted to cross Erez towards Israel and the West Bank. (Appendix for daily log of movement is not available due to the non-presence of staff at the Palestinian DCL).
- Rafah crossing was closed this week
- Karni crossing: the conveyor belt operated for two days to transfer wheat into Gaza (26 and 30 July) due to shortages on the local market. No trucks were permitted to cross. Karni has been closed since 12 June. Since 17 May, the crossing's operating hours were shortened from 13.5 to 9 so it has in general closed before dusk (around 1800 hours).
- Sufa crossing was open on all scheduled operating days this week for the crossing of commercial goods and humanitarian aid.
- Kerem Shalom was open for four days this week (25, 26, 29 and 30 July) for the crossing of commercial goods and humanitarian aid provided by international aid organizations.
- Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on five scheduled operating days.
- Gaza fishermen are permitted to fish up to six nautical miles off the coastline.

Ongoing incidents:

- Following Israel's unilateral disengagement from the Gaza Strip in September 2005, the IDF announced that Palestinians should keep a distance of at least 150 metres from the perimeter fence along the eastern and northern borders of the Gaza Strip.
- On 28 December 2005, the IDF declared the former northern settlement bloc to be a "no-go" zone. Officially, entry into the area for the 250 residents and international organisations requires prior coordination with the IDF. Since 17 May, IDF presence in this area has been enforcing this ban.
- **17 May to date:** Palestinian farmers have been unable to reach their farms in the areas east and north Beit Hanoun and north and northwest of Beit Lahia due to ongoing IDF military activities. Palestinian farmers have also been unable to reach farms located east of Al Bureij Camp and east of Khan Younis due to intermittent military operations by the IDF. In total, at least 200 dunums planted with different

crops are currently inaccessible since IDF soldiers regularly open fire towards the area. There is fear that if access obstruction continues more than 1,000 tones of potatoes, water melons and onions will rot.

**Table 2: Reported IDF Flying (random) Checkpoints in the West Bank**

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Bizzariya (2)	2
Jenin	Al Kufeir (2), 'Arraba (4), Sanur (3), Az Zababida (3), Al Jalama (1), Arab as Suweitat (1), Jab'a (1), Ti'nnk (1), Southern entrance of Jenin (1), Kafr Ra'i (1), Fahma (1)	19
Tubas	'Aqqaba (1), Al Far'a Village (2), Tammun (1)	4
Tulkarm	Kafr Sur (2), 'Attil (1), Far'un (1), Bal'a (1), Baqa ash Sharqiya (1)	6
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya entrance (DCO) (7), Habla Tunnel (7), 'Azzun (4), 'Azzun tunnel (3), An Nabi Elyas (1), Jinsafut (2), Jayyus (2), Ras Atyia (2), Al Funduq (1), Kafr Thulth (1), Wadi Qana (2), Kafr Qaddum (2), Immatain (1), Izbat Ja'lud (1)	36
Salfit	Deir Istiya (1), Biddya (1), Bruqin (1)	3
Ramallah/Al Bireh	Road 60 (7)	7
Jericho	-	0
Jerusalem	Bet Hanina/ Al Ram (3), Shufat (2)	5
Bethlehem	Al 'Ubeidiya (2), Bethlehem City (1), Beit Jala (2), Beit Sahur (2), Tuqu (2), Husan, Beit Fajjar (1)	10
Hebron	Yatta (3), Dura (3), Hebron City – H1 (4), Al Arrub RC (2), Sa'ir (2), Adh Dhahiriya (2), Tarqumiya (1), Beit Ummar (2), Idna (2)	21
<b>Total West Bank</b>		<b>113</b>

## 6. Search/Arrests/Detentions

**Table 3: Searches, Arrests, and Detentions Conducted by the Israeli Authorities (IDF, Border Police, Civil Administration...etc)**

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention by the IDF, number of searches noted at locations within brackets	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus City (3), Kafr Qalil (2), Huwwara CP, Zaatarra CP	5	7
Jenin	Jenin City (5), Jenin Camp (5), Kafr Dan (1), Qabatiya (1), Kafr Rai' (2), Bir al Basha (1), Az Zababida flying CP	15	6
Tubas	Tubas (2), Al Far'a village (1)	3	0
Tulkarm	'Anabta (1), Tulkarm (1), Tulkarm RC (1)	3	1
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya City (7), 'Azzun (4), Habla (1), Jayyus (2), Jit (1), Kafr Qaddum (2), Immatain (1), Ras 'Atiya (1), Sanniriya (1), Kafr Thulth (1), Ad Dab'a (1), Kafr Laqif (1)	23	6
Salfit	Deir Istiya (1)	1	0
Ramallah	Ramallah City (2), Abud (1), Beit Ur at Tahat (2), Bir Zeit (1), Kharbatha al Misbah (1), Saffa (1), Surda (1), Beit Rima (1), At Tayba CP	10	25
Jericho	-	0	0
Jerusalem	Shufat, Qalandiya (1), Hizma (1)	2	3
Bethlehem	Beit Sahur (1), Al 'Aza RC, Dar Salah, Al 'Ubeidiya (1), 'Ayda RC (1), Al Khadr (1), Beit Jala (1), Bethlehem (1), Tuqu (1), Ash Shawawra, Beit Fajjar (1), Husan	8	5
Hebron	Hebron City (3), Al 'Arrub Camp, Dura (3), Beit Awwa, Yatta (2), Adh Dhahiriya (1), Sa'ir (1), As Samu, Bani Na'eem (1), Halhul, Surif, Nuba	11	12
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>81</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Gaza Strip</b>			
Central Gaza <sup>1</sup>	Johr Ed-Dik (1), East of Al Maghazi (1), Maghazi Camp (1, 0)	3	50
Khan Younis	Al Foukhari area (1)	1	54
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>104</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>84</b>	<b>169</b>

<sup>1</sup> On 26 July, 44 of the 50 Palestinians who were arrested by the IDF on 25 July were released and six remained in custody (Central Gaza). In addition, 52 of the 54 Palestinians arrested in Al Foukhari area on 26 July were released the following day while two remained in custody.

**Table 4: Searches, Arrests, and Detentions Conducted by Palestinian Security Forces**

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention, (number of searches, number of arrests per location)	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus City (1,1)	1	1
Bethlehem <sup>1</sup>	Bethlehem (5,5), Al 'Ubeidiya (3,7), Zatarra (1,1)	9	13
<b>Total West Bank</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Gaza Strip</b>			
North Gaza	Beit Hanoun (1, 13), Jabalia Camp (1, 2), unspecified (1, 3)	3	18
Khan Younis	Khan Younis (2, 4+)	2	4+
Rafah	Rafah (1, 4), Sufa area (1, 2), Brazil quarter (1, 3)	3	9
<b>Total Gaza Strip<sup>2</sup></b>		<b>8</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>45</b>

<sup>1</sup> During the reporting period Palestinian security forces in Bethlehem Governorate arrested 13 Hamas members who, according to Palestinian sources, admitted during the investigations that they were a core group for setting up a branch of the ESF in Bethlehem.

<sup>2</sup> Carried out by ESF—the Palestinian security force under the authority of the Hamas headed administration in Gaza. Twenty-two were released (Beit Hanoun, Jabalia Camp, Rafah, and Brazil quarter), 15 of whom were Fatah members, 2 Islamic Jihad members, and 3 were young men who had thrown stones at a Hamas vehicle. Concerning the other nine Palestinians who remained in custody, three were suspected of killing a PA intelligence officer in an incident related to a family dispute, two were arrested during an ESF intervention in a family dispute, and two were Fatah members who were allegedly disrupting a pro-Hamas sermon in Khan Younis.

## Appendix: Checkpoints: 25 – 31 July 2007

Checkpoint	Status
<b>Tulkarm:</b>	
<b>Efrayim</b>	Open from 0500 to 0630 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0500 to 1200 hours on Fridays for Palestinian workers and traders with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Kafriat</b>	Open 24 hours. It is divided into three parts: one that controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one that controls movement to Israel; and one that controls movement to and from Jbara.
<b>Kafriat Tunnel / Ar Ras</b>	The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin. On 26 and 27 July, delays and long queues were reported.
<b>'Anabta</b>	Located at the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. On 26 and 27 July, delays and long queues were reported.
<b>Qalqiliya:</b>	
<b>Jaljoulia</b>	Open 24 hours. Access is only granted to holders of permits to enter Israel and residents of Ras Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi Ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda. Ambulances from Qalqiliya town to these five villages need prior coordination with DCL. Only vehicles leaving the West Bank are subject to security checks.
<b>Qalqiliya North</b>	Open from 0400 to 1900 hours Sunday to Thursday and from 0400 to 1200 hours on Fridays for Palestinian permit holders. The checkpoint is used by Palestinian workers and merchants with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Jit Junction Partial Checkpoint</b>	Located at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm. On 22 and 23, it was closed due to settlers' march to Khomesh settlement.
<b>Salfit:</b>	
<b>Deir Ballut</b>	Open from 0600 to 1800 hours. The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western Salfit governorate.
<b>Kafr Qasem On Road 5.</b>	Open 24 hours for UN, international organisations and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Nablus:</b>	
<b>Huwwara Southern main entrance</b>	Open from 0600 to 2300 hours for humanitarian organisations and Palestinian pedestrians. Israeli citizens can pass only after prior liaison with the IDF. Public transportation and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint between 0600 and 2100 hours. Commercial trucks are not allowed to pass. Delays and long queues were reported this week.
<b>Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade</b>	Open from 0500 to 1930 hours for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only following prior liaison with the IDF. Public transportation, commercial trucks, trucks carrying aggregates and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint. On 22 and 23, it was closed due to settlers' march to Khomesh settlement.
<b>Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area of Jarzim with Nablus City</b>	Open from 0600 to 1800 hours from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritan families living east of the checkpoint.
<b>Beit Furik Eastern gate and checkpoint. After the closure regime main gateway between Nablus and the Jordan Valley</b>	Open 0530 to 2100 hours for villagers from Beit Furik and Beit Dajan. All residents heading south have to enter Nablus and cross through Nablus checkpoints.
<b>Shave Shomeron Northwest, main road to Jenin</b>	Closed since 15 August 2005 for Palestinians as well as for ambulances, UN and humanitarian organizations. For the latter category, the checkpoint was temporarily opened between 1 and 28 March 2007, after which it was re-closed.
<b>Zaatara (Tappouah) South, main road to Ramallah</b>	Open 24 hours. Controls Palestinian movement on Roads 60 and 505 southwards.
<b>17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed) On road leading to Nablus's northern villages</b>	Only open for humanitarian organizations and humanitarian emergency cases.
<b>Yizhar Partial Checkpoint</b>	Located north of Huwwara village on Road 60.

<b>Al Badhan Partial Checkpoint</b>	Located on Road 57 leading to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin. Closed three times for two to three hours. On 26, 28 and 30 July, major delays were reported.
<b>Jenin:</b>	
<b>Al Jalama</b>	Is the main entrance to Israel. Open between 0700 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
<b>Imreiha (Reikhan)</b> <i>Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave</i>	Open between 0500 to 2100 hours for Palestinians living in the enclave, UN and international organisations. 34 vehicles with their plate numbers on a list at the checkpoint are allowed to transport foodstuff into the closed area behind the Barrier. Other materials need prior coordination.
<b>Mevo Dotan (New)</b> <i>On Road 585 near Ya'bad</i>	Open from 0700 to 1900 hours for all Palestinians.
<b>Tubas:</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> <i>Main entrance to Israel</i>	Located north of Tubas. Since 9 January, the checkpoint is officially open from 1000 to 1800 hours Sunday through Thursday, 0600 to 1200 hours on Fridays, and closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley and Jericho to export their agricultural produce into Israel via Bisan using the back-to-back system. Palestinians from the West Bank in possession of businessman cards, in addition to an Israeli permit, are allowed through this checkpoint into Israel. Palestinians working for international organisations continue to be prohibited from using Bisan checkpoint.
<b>Tayasir</b> <i>Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley</i>	Previously the main road to Jordan, Tubas and Jenin. Officially open between 0300 and 2200 hours. As of 26 April, this checkpoint is now open for all Palestinians from the West Bank governorates. Access is only permitted with public transportation as West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited. Commercial trucks are also able to cross. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley via this checkpoint is no longer required. Delays continue to be reported on a daily basis.
<b>Maale Efrayim</b> <i>Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus</i>	Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus. Officially open between 0600 and 2200 hours. Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or are in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas. The same restrictions apply to commercial trucks.
<b>Hamra</b> <i>East, before closure regime main road to Jordan and Nablus</i>	Previously the main road to Jordan and Nablus. Officially open between 0300 and 2200 hours. As of 26 April, this checkpoint is now open for all Palestinians from the West Bank governorates. Access is only permitted with public transportation as West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited. Commercial trucks are also able to cross. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley via this checkpoint is no longer required. Delays continue to be reported on a daily basis.
<b>Ramallah/AI Bireh:</b>	
<b>Bet El/DCO</b>	Since 20 August the checkpoint has been in operation from 0600 to 2000 hours. Access in vehicles is reserved only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, PRCS and PMRS ambulances, staff of the water and electricity companies and Palestinians with special work permits. As of 17 May a new military company is in charge of the checkpoint with soldiers from the reserve forces.
<b>Atara Bridge</b>	Manned by Border Police. No permits required to cross the checkpoint. As of 1 December, random checks of Palestinian vehicles and IDs going through the checkpoint in both directions. Long delays were reported on a daily basis.
<b>An Nabi Salih gate Partial Checkpoint</b>	Open. On 21 July the checkpoint was operating between 0800 and 1500 hours. Delays were reported.
<b>At Tayba</b>	Manned by the IDF. Controls movement between Ramallah governorate and the Jordan Valley and is placed at the intersection between bypass Road 458 and Road 449 (Al Mu'arrajat road that connects Road 90 to Road 458). No permits are required to cross the checkpoint. Beginning on 1 July, the partial checkpoint has become a permanent one and there have been random checks of the vehicles and IDs of Palestinians crossing the checkpoint. Delays were reported several times this week.
<b>Makkabim</b> <i>On Highway 443</i>	Usually open for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders and foreign passport holders. Road 443 is off-limits to West Bank Palestinians, except those with permits to enter Israel/Jerusalem.
<b>Ni'lin</b>	Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders. Palestinians with West Bank IDs not allowed through regardless of any valid permits to enter Israel.

<b>Rantis</b>	Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Jerusalem:</b>	
<b>Qalandiya</b>	Open for internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Only drivers of vehicles and their family members are allowed through inside the vehicle. Passengers, both West Bank ID holders and Jerusalemites, have to cross through the pedestrian lanes. As of 10 December, Israeli private Security Guards are present at the checkpoint at a second line behind the IDF for extra random security checks. This week, delays during the morning and evening rush hours were reported for pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
<b>Hizma</b> <i>Eastern entrance of junction Road 437/Psigat Ze'ev settlement</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February 2006 West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross through this checkpoint unless they belong to one of the new 'facilitated' categories; Palestinians working in international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and prominent businessmen (BMC Card holders). The head of the East Jerusalem Hospital Network reported that medical staff have not been permitted to use Hizma, and that in fact the Commander-in-Chief of the checkpoint claimed that the decision of allowing the medical staff to use it had been reversed.
<b>Az Za'ayem</b> <i>North eastern entrance, on Road 1</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem, West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross unless they belong to one of the new 'facilitated' categories; Palestinians working in international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and prominent businessmen (BMC Card holders).
<b>Ar Ram</b> <i>Northern entrance, on Road 60</i>	Open for internationals, diplomats, Palestinians working with international organisations and residents of the southern part of Dahiyat al Bareed (soon to be within the Barrier) with their names and ID numbers registered on a list held at the checkpoint. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross. This week, long delays were reported during the morning and evening rush hours.
<b>Bir Nabala / Atarot</b> <i>Northern entrance on Road 404 /45 Road Atarot Junction</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, and Palestinians with valid permits and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
<b>Ramot Alon</b> <i>North western entrance on Road 436</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
<b>Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint</b>	Open 24 hours for Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and UN and international organisations; Palestinians from the West Bank need a permit. West Bank vehicles are not allowed. Commercial trucks are not allowed through this checkpoint unless the merchandise itself is from Shu'fat camp. All other commercial trucks from the West Bank must use Beituniya checkpoint.
<b>Container ("Wadi nar")</b> <i>East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank</i>	Open for all Palestinian vehicles without permits and for internationals. Israeli yellow-plated cars are not allowed to cross.
<b>Ras Abu Sbeitan (Olive)</b> <i>North eastern entrance on Road 1</i>	Open 24 hours. Jerusalem ID holders, Palestinians holding West Bank ID cards and valid permits, Internationals with valid Israeli visas (all pedestrians) can use the checkpoint. No vehicles are allowed through this checkpoint.
<b>Abu Dis</b> <i>Between Abu Dis and Ras al 'Amoud</i>	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
<b>Lazarus</b>	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
<b>Bir Nabala / Rafat</b> <i>On the new road between Rafat and Bir Nabala village</i>	Delays are experienced on daily basis due to the fact that each passing vehicle is undergoing a check. Palestinians from the West Bank cities outside of Ramallah, attempting to enter Bir Nabal through this checkpoint have been refused entry on several occasions for reportedly not having permits.
<b>Jaba'</b> <i>On the road between Jaba' Junction and Qalandiya checkpoint</i>	Random checks by the IDF soldiers. This week, long delays during the morning and evening rush hours were reported.

<b>Jericho:</b>	
<b>DCO</b> <i>Main checkpoint off Road 1</i>	Main checkpoint off Road 1. Open daily 24 hours. No permits required for Jericho residents and foreign passports and Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards. As of 14 September 2006, West Bank ID holders need permits to leave Jericho via the DCO (exceptions apply for Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers and residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayem, As Sawahira village and residents of Bethlehem and Hebron). All vehicles including public taxis and commercial trucks have to have checkpoint permits to exit Jericho via this checkpoint unless they have Jericho or Jerusalem registration.
<b>Al Auja (Yitav)</b> <i>On Road 90</i>	Open 24 hours for Palestinians living in Jericho Governorate. Palestinians non-residents of Jericho and hold West Bank IDs going north towards al Auja and the Jordan Valley area are prohibited though unless they hold Israeli permits to allow them access to the area. No permit required for those travelling to Ramallah.
<b>Gate opposite Allenby</b> <i>Checkpoint off Road 90</i>	Gate manned by the IDF. Closed at all times. Soldiers open the gate for shuttle busses taking Palestinians to Allenby Border crossing to Jordan.
<b>An Nwemeh</b> <b>Partial Checkpoint</b> <i>North Jericho</i>	Open. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arrajat road, which is the only road to Ramallah at the moment.
<b>The Dead Sea</b>	Located on Road 90 alongside the Dead Sea. Open 24 hours daily for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, and holders of foreign passports. Access to the Dead Sea area is prohibited for all Palestinians with West Bank IDs, except those with permits to work in Israeli settlements.
<b>Bethlehem :</b>	
<b>Gilo (Rachel's Tomb)</b> <i>Terminal at north entrance to Bethlehem leading to Jerusalem</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with valid permits. West Bank Palestinians (including those working for the UN and other international agencies) have to walk through the terminal to undergo search procedures. Jerusalem ID holders passing into Bethlehem are being asked to prove that they reside in areas falling within Jerusalem boundaries. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to enter Bethlehem only if driven by an Arab Israeli. Palestinians holding valid work permits can access East Jerusalem and Israel through this checkpoint. During the reporting period Palestinian workers from the Governorates of Bethlehem and Hebron holding valid work permits were obliged to stay overnight at Gilo checkpoint in order to cross and reach their work places inside Israel.
<b>An Nu'man</b> <i>On the main entrance of Khallet an Nu'man from Beit Sahur side</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Only Palestinians living in the village, listed vehicles and drivers of service providers are allowed through. Extended family members are not allowed to visit Palestinian residents. International organisations wishing to enter the village are required to hold a permit, show their organisation's ID and their national IDs and/or passports.
<b>Ein Yalow</b> <i>Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police and open 24 hours for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations only. Commercial trucks also are allowed to go through.
<b>Beit Jala DCO</b> <b>Partial Checkpoint</b> <i>Entrance to Beit Jala</i>	Rarely-manned. Open 24 hours and movement is allowed in both directions for all vehicles.
<b>Tunnels</b> <i>Road 60 at Har Gilo</i>	Open 24 hours and since 23 February manned by the Israeli Border Police and private security firm staff. Open for international humanitarian organisations although local staff are being requested to show their local ID with a valid entry permit in order to proceed into Jerusalem. Palestinians with permits are not allowed to cross and are redirected to Gilo checkpoint. The checkpoint is still used by Jerusalem ID holders. Commercial trucks are only allowed to go through between 1100 and 1600 hours. On 20 July, IDF soldiers manning the checkpoint delayed OCHA's staff in the southern West Bank from reaching Jerusalem for 45 minutes; they insisted on searching the UN vehicle in which the team was traveling.
<b>Settlers' Checkpoint – Efrata</b> <i>Southern entrance to settlement</i>	Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by Israeli settlers with movement beyond it restricted for Palestinians.
<b>Gush Etzion</b> <i>On Road 60, at Etzion turn</i>	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers checking northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
<b>Wadi Fukin</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line</i>	Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations.

<b>Al Jab'a</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line</i>	Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations. Land levelling is ongoing to enlarge the checkpoint.
<b>Ein Gedi</b> <i>On Road 90, along Dead Sea</i>	Open 24 hours; restricted for Palestinian movement.
<b>Hebron :</b>	
<b>Beit Awwa</b> <i>At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354</i>	Crossing along Road 354. Manned by the Israeli Border Police. The checkpoint is currently open 24 hours with no ID checks performed.
<b>Tarqumiya</b> <i>Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates</i>	Workers are usually allowed to cross from 0500 to 1700 hours. The back-to-back section is open from 0700 to 1700 hours; goods are moving across smoothly and all cargo is checked by the IDF Military Police. 'Family visits' coordinated by ICRC for Palestinians detained in Israel were carried out as normal through this checkpoint.
<b>Meitar</b> <i>Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police and open between 0500 and 1900 hours. Checks are conducted using palm identification. Palestinian workers with valid permits are permitted to cross. However, during the current reporting period, it was reported that Palestinian workers holding valid permits to work in Israel were camping overnight at the checkpoint to ensure for themselves a reasonable chance of accessing Israel.
<b>Shani</b> <i>At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317</i>	Manned by the IDF. Only Israeli plated cars are allowed to travel through it. Palestinian workers cannot use the checkpoint to access Israel.
<b>Beit Yatir</b> <i>On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizel</i>	Open 24 hours and manned by the IDF. The checkpoint is restricting the movement of Palestinians living south of it next to the settlement of Beit Yatir. The Terminal is operational and the checkpoint was pushed back behind the roundabout. Currently Palestinians living in the nearby village of Imneizil can access their village without having to cross the checkpoint.
<b>Prayers Road, H2</b> <i>Access to area of Ibrahim Mosque</i>	Closed to Palestinians. During the reporting period, both Israeli settlers and IDF soldiers prevented Palestinian residents from accessing this road.
<b>Shohada street, H2</b> <i>Western entrance to Shohada street</i>	Open to Palestinians living beyond it and in the Tel Rumeida area. Access possible only on foot. Palestinians and internationals have to go through a mobile metal detector.
<b>Ibrahim Mosque, H2</b> <i>Access to the Mosque</i>	Worshippers and visitors are searched upon entry. Residents living in the vicinity of the Mosque must hold a special permit to gain access to their homes.
<b>Bab Al Baladiyye , H2</b> <i>Next to settlement of Beit Romano</i>	The checkpoint is closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and a new gate has been installed across the road blocking physical access towards it.
<b>Qarantina, H2</b> <i>Junction with Shohada Street</i>	Closed to Palestinians. Entry point for Palestinian fire trucks and ambulances. No longer allowed for the use of international humanitarian organisations, though the TIPH have reported being able to use it.
<b>Bab Al-Khan, H2</b> <i>Entrance to Avraham Avinu settlement</i>	Closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and north toward the market.
<b>Tel Rumeida, H2</b> <i>Beginning of street leading to settlement</i>	Open only to Palestinians travelling on foot living between the checkpoint and the settlement. A military order was issued on 17 July 2006 that declared the area beyond the checkpoint as a "Closed Area" barring the entry of anyone beyond the checkpoint except Israeli citizens, IDF and Israeli Police or those who have an IDF-issued permit.
<b>Al Kasaba, H2</b> <i>Exit from the Kasaba, old city (Tomb of the Patriarchs)</i>	Permanent checkpoint which filters Palestinian movement from the Kasaba area directed to the Tomb of the Patriarchs. Movement is segregated for incoming and outgoing movement. Palestinians exiting Kasaba are processed through a combination of turnstiles, allowing one person at a time to pass, and a metal detector. The process is slow and problematic during Friday prayers.
<b>Abu Rish, H2</b> <i>Near the Abu Rish Mosque at the end of Al Shohada St.</i>	Manned by the IDF. The only access point for international organisations into Hebron Old City. Palestinians have to go through a mobile metal detector.
<b>Ar Ramadin</b> <i>At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. All Palestinians with a Ramadeen address are allowed to cross after an ID check. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325. <b>Throughout the week</b> , the Israeli Border Police manning Ar Ramadin checkpoint delayed workers for long periods of time since the ID check process was slow.



<b>Halhul – Sa'ir Partial Checkpoint</b> <i>At the entrance to Halhul (also called 'Nabi Younis' checkpoint)</i>	Located on the junction between the two towns on Road 60. Monitored from the nearby observation tower.
<b>Al Fawwar Partial Checkpoint</b> <i>Al Fawwar-Dura junction on Road 60</i>	Monitored from the nearby observation tower.
<b>Tarqumiya – Idhna Partial Checkpoint</b> <i>The junction between the two towns on Road 35</i>	Manned on a temporary basis by the Israeli Border Police.
<b>Ras Al Joura Partial Checkpoint</b> <i>Near the junction between Road 35 and Road 60</i>	Manned on a temporary basis by the IDF.

### Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints

<b>Erez crossing</b>	<p>Erez was open all week for Palestinian traders as well as the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, and critical medical cases with special coordination arrangements. However, since 4 July and for the first time since 12 June, a very limited number of senior Palestinian businessmen were permitted to cross Erez towards Israel and the West Bank.</p> <p>25 July: 36 medical cases, 90 traders, 35 other Palestinians, and five Palestinian businessmen crossed. 27 and 28 July: 1,054 medical cases and 102 Palestinian traders crossed. 29 July: 61 medical cases and 10 additional Palestinians (traders, businessmen and others) crossed. 31 July: 67 medical cases and 90 Palestinians crossed to Israel.</p> <p>Between 29 and 31 July, 901 Palestinians—out of the estimated 6000 Palestinians on the Egyptian side of Rafah crossing—entered the Gaza Strip through Erez crossing. Of those, 487 Palestinians entered on 31 July.</p> <p>The crossing remains closed for Palestinian workers since 12 March 2006.</p>
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<b>Rafah Passenger Terminal</b>	Rafah crossing was closed all week. It was last open on 9 June.
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### Commercial checkpoints:

<b>Tulkarm/Qalqiliya</b>	
<b>Taybeh</b>	An Israeli private company has the responsibility of controlling the checkpoint. The back-to-back system has been operational from 0800 to 1700 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0800 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
<b>Nablus</b>	
<b>Awarta checkpoint</b> <i>Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003</i>	Open from 0600 to 1800 hours, Sunday to Thursday, Friday from 0600 to 1400 hours and closed on Saturday. Commercial trucks need permits to pass the checkpoint.
<b>Jenin</b>	
<b>Al Jalama</b> <i>Main commercial checkpoint</i>	Open between 0700 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
<b>Ramallah/Al Bireh</b>	
<b>Beituniya</b> <i>Back-to-back checkpoint</i>	Officially open between 0700 to 1700 hours Sunday to Thursday, 0700 to 1300 hours on Fridays and closed Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for commercial goods and a back-to-back system is in operation. Only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to pass through this checkpoint without using the back-to-back system, but only if bill lading stipulates Kafr 'Aqab and/or Sameeramees as offloading destinations. This checkpoint is not open for private cars or pedestrians. As of 1 July, UN staff and diplomats are no longer allowed through the checkpoint as it has become solely open for the movement of goods.

<b>Gaza Strip</b>	
<b>Karni</b>	The conveyor belt operated for two days to transfer wheat into Gaza (26 and 30 July) due to shortages on the local market. It was closed on 25, 27, 28 (weekend), 29, and 31 July. Karni crossing has generally been closed since 12 June.
<b>Sufa</b>	Sufa crossing was open this week (25, 26, 29, 30 and 31) for the crossing of commercial commodities and humanitarian aid. On 27 and 28 July, it was closed (weekend).
<b>Kerem Shalom</b>	Kerem Shalom was open on 25, 26, 29 and 30 July for the crossing of commercial goods and humanitarian aid provided by international aid organizations. On all other days, it was closed.
<b>Nahal Oz Energy Pipelines</b>	Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on five scheduled operating days and were closed on 30 July. On Saturday 28 July, they were closed for the weekend.

- End -

**Method and Sources**

The information used to compile these Briefing Notes comes from a range of sources with a field presence in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The accuracy of the reported information is ensured through the corroboration of reports by two additional sources. Typically, the OCHA Field Coordination Unit (FCU) receives an initial incident report from a source, which is verified through visits to the incident site in addition to further corroboration with a third source, such as an NGO. In addition, OCHA FCU collects military orders as documentary evidence and provides information on incidents witnessed in person.

In the interests of timeliness and readability, the sources are not listed for each incident within the texts of the report. Listed below are the sources relied upon each week in compiling this Briefing:

- Physical protection: OCHA FCU, Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS), United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA), World Health Organization (WHO), Israel Defence Forces (IDF) website, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), offices of Palestinian Authority (PA) governors, Palestinian District Civilian Liaison (DCL).
- Shelter and property: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Natural Resources: OCHA FCU, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils, Land Defence Committee and Land Research Centre.
- Access for Medical Assistance: OCHA FCU, WHO, PRCS, Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), UN World Food Programme, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNRWA.
- Access and Movement for Civilians: Sources: Palestinian DCL, Christian Peacemakers Team (CPT).
- Curfews: OCHA FCU, Village Councils, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Access to Education: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, UNICEF, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils.
- Access to Employment: UNRWA, United Nations Office of the Special Coordinator for the Middle East (UNSCO), Palestinian Ministry of Labour (MoL), Palestinian DCL, Palestinian Chamber of Commerce, Israeli DCL.
- Closures/Movement Restrictions: OCHA FCU, UNRWA.
- Additional Protection issues: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), UNSCO, Palestinian DCLs, Palestinian Governors' offices, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, IDF.