



## OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

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# Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

## 12 – 18 September 2007

### Of note this week

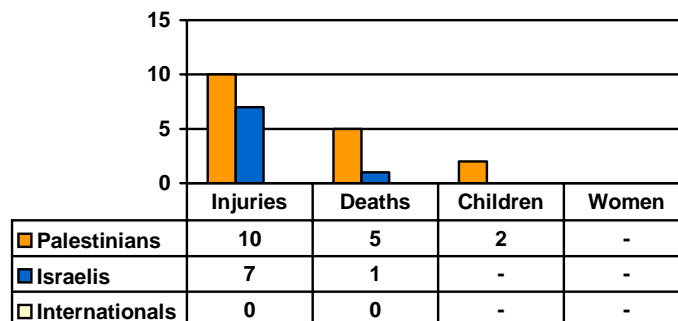
#### Gaza Strip:

- The IDF injured two Palestinians during the reporting period.
- 18 Qassam rocket and 19 mortars were fired towards Israel, of which one Qassam and two mortars landed in the Palestinian area. One Israeli air strike took place on 13 September that did not result in casualties.
- On **13, 14 and 15 September**, all Gaza crossings were completely closed for the Jewish holidays. However, extremely urgent cases were allowed entry into Israel as stated by the Israeli DCL.
- **14 September:** The Egyptian security forces detonated a tunnel located opposite Al Shouka area. Six Palestinians who were working in the tunnel were arrested.
- **17 September:** The IDF authorised the PA Civil Affairs Office to set up a caravan at the old Palestinian DCL site (Khamsa Khamsa) that will replace the old Palestinian passport control and will operate from 0700 hours to 1900 hours. The procedures will be the same as previously.

#### West Bank:

- During the reporting period, the IDF killed five Palestinians, including two children, and injured eight others. One IDF soldier was killed. Five IDF soldiers and two Israeli settlers were injured.
- 78 IDF search campaigns, 54 arrests, and 102 flying checkpoints were reported.
- **12-16 September:** Israel imposed a general closure on the West Bank due to the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashana. All Palestinians, including holders of valid permits, were prevented from passing through all the checkpoints leading to East Jerusalem and Israel. 14 September marked the first Friday of Ramadan; this year marked the introduction of a new "prayer permit" for men between 45 and 50 years of age and women between 40 and 45 years of age. There was, however, an overnight change in regulations that ultimately allowed only men and women above 60 to pass in order to perform Friday prayers at Al Aqsa Mosque.
- **13 September to date:** The IDF extended the opening hours at all the checkpoints around Nablus City until 2400 hours during the month of Ramadan.
- **13 September:** The IDF prevented Muslim worshippers from accessing the Ibrahimi Mosque in the H2 area of Hebron City but made it accessible to Jewish worshippers celebrating the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashana.
- **15 September:** Palestinians and peace activists held a demonstration near the western entrance to Sarra village and tried to remove the road blocks closing the entrance (Nablus).
- **18 September:** The IDF issued a military order (T/29/07) to confiscate 312 dunums and 900 meters from the lands of the villages of Al Khader and Artas for Barrier construction (Bethlehem).

#### 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:

- **14 September:** One Palestinian man (adult) was injured during armed clashes between IDF soldiers and Palestinian armed men in Al-Umour area south of Sufa crossing (Khan Younis).
- **15 September:** One 16-year-old Palestinian male was injured when IDF troops opened fire in his direction during an IDF military ground operation southeast of Beit Hanoun (North Gaza).

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

- **13 September:** An IAF helicopter fired a rocket targeting a vehicle allegedly carrying Islamic Jihad militants traveling west of Jabaliya. No injuries were reported. The car was completely damaged (North Gaza).
- **16 September:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from the area north of Beit Hanoun towards Sderot. An IAF helicopter responded with heavy shooting, targeting the area north of Beit Hanoun. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **13 September:** An exchange of fire erupted for 15 minutes between IDF troops and armed Hamas men east of Al Maghazi Camp. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **16 September:** A road side mine was exploded under an IDF tank during an IDF ground operation in Al Umour area south of Sufa crossing (Khan Younis).
- **17 September:** Two mortar shells were fired from the area north of Beit Hanoun towards Erez crossing. Both landed in the Palestinian area. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **17 September:** A roadside bomb exploded under an IDF jeep passing by the border line east of Nahal Oz. No injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **16 September:** It was reported that IDF soldiers discovered and detonated a roadside bomb southeast of Karni Industrial Zone. No injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **17 September:** Two RPGs were fired at an IDF jeep while it was patrolling the area near the border fence east of Al Qarara northeast of Khan Younis. In response, an IDF undercover unit and one tank entered 1 km into Al Qarara area and clashed with a group of armed Hamas men. No injuries were reported (Khan Younis).
- **17 September:** A 15-minute exchange of fire took place between the IDF and armed Palestinians near Erez crossing. The IDF fired a surface-to-surface missile targeting a group of armed men but no injuries were reported.

### West Bank:

- **14 September:** Two Israeli settlers were injured near Karnei Shomron settlement when armed Palestinians opened fire at their vehicle while they were passing on Road 55 near the settlement.
- **16 September:** A 22-year-old Palestinian man was killed in Balata refugee camp when the IDF opened fire at the man in front of his house (Nablus).
- **16 September:** A 27-year-old Palestinian man from Jabal Johar neighbourhood in the H2 area of Hebron City was killed and his 25-year-old brother was injured when IDF soldiers opened fire at him during an internal fight between two rival Palestinian families. On **17 September**, the 25-year-old Palestinian man died of sustained injuries (Hebron).
- **17 September:** A 16-year-old male was shot and killed with a live bullet in the chest by an IDF patrol in Ramallah at Tahta neighbourhood. The boy was walking back from a youth club to his house around 0200 hours. The Israeli liaison officer reported on behalf of the IDF patrol that the young male was shot after being identified to be in possession of a weapon. The male was evacuated and sent to Ramallah hospital where he died of sustained injuries. No weapon was confiscated by the IDF (Ramallah).
- **18 September:** A 17-year-old Palestinian boy was killed in Camp No.1 and seven Palestinians (aged 15, 17, 19, 21, 22 and 65 years) were injured by plastic-coated metal bullets during an IDF operation in the camp. During the operation, the IDF imposed curfew and damaged several houses (Nablus).
- **18 September:** One IDF soldier was killed and five others were injured during the IDF military operation in Camp No. 1: two IDF soldiers were injured when an explosive device was detonated near them, one of whom died later the same day of sustained injuries; and four IDF soldiers were injured by a tear gas canister that exploded prematurely inside their armoured vehicle (Nablus).

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

### Gaza Strip:

- **14 September:** A 16-year-old Palestinian boy was injured while he was handling an explosive device in Beit Hanoun (North Gaza).
- **15 September:** Three Palestinians were injured during a dispute that erupted between two families in Nuseirat Camp (Central Gaza).
- **15 September:** Two Palestinians were injured when an armed feud erupted between two families in Deir El Balah. Two injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **16 September:** A Hamas member (adult) died of wounds sustained during the armed clashes between the ESF and Al Majadiyh family on 30 August (Khan Younis).
- **17 September:** A 40-year-old Palestinian man was killed when a group of unknown armed men opened fire in his direction in Deir Al Balah. The motive is reportedly an ongoing family dispute (Central Gaza).

### Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **14 September:** An explosion took place inside an ESF military training camp in Sheikh Zayed City during what was apparently a bomb-making exercise. No injuries were reported (Gaza North).
- **16 September:** The ESF discovered and dismantled an explosive device which was planted at the eastern gate of the PLC compound in Gaza City. No injuries were reported (Gaza City).
- **16 September:** An explosive device was detonated in front of a house owned by a Fatah member in Rafah. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **18 September:** A group of Rajab family members attempted to kidnap a member of Hillis family in Shuija'iya quarter in Gaza City due to an old dispute. The Hillis family discovered the attempt and then kidnapped three members of the Rajab family (Gaza).

### West Bank:

- **15 September:** A 26-year-old Palestinian man was injured by unknown men in Nablus City (Nablus).
- **15 September:** A 7-year-old Palestinian boy from the H2 area of Hebron City was injured when a settler ran him over near the Ibrahimi Mosque (Hebron).
- **16 September:** A 35-year-old Palestinian man from Nur Shams Camp died at Kafriat checkpoint after the IDF delayed his access for 90 minutes. The man was suffering from cancer and he was heading to Jerusalem with his brother for treatment, the IDF denied him access due to the Jewish holiday although he had a valid permit for medical treatment.
- **17 September:** A 14-year-old Palestinian boy from Kifl Haris died after an Israeli bus hit him while he was walking alongside the road near the village (Salfit).
- **17 September:** A 44-year-old teacher was injured when a Palestinian opened fire inside an UNRWA school in Jenin Camp. The school was closed on 17 and 18 September in protest against the incident (Jenin).
- **17 September:** A 12-year old Palestinian boy from Wadi Al Nassara neighborhood in the H2 area of Hebron City was injured when an Israeli settler ran him over while walking on the main road leading to the settlement of Kiryat Arba.

### Inter-factional violence

#### Gaza Strip:

- **18 September:** A dispute erupted between Hamas and Islamic Jihad supporters in Asqalan mosque in Nasser quarter in Gaza City. Hamas members had apparently attempted to take over the mosque which belongs to Islamic Jihad. Both parties used sticks and axes. Three injuries were reported (Gaza).

### Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **12 September:** An explosive device was detonated in front of the Navy Force office which is now occupied by the ESF. An RPG shell was subsequently fired at the same

<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.

location. The boundary wall of the compound was damaged. No injuries were reported (Gaza City).

- **14 September:** An explosive device was detonated near to the Jenin military base on Salah Ed-Din road in Al Bureij Camp. No injuries or damage were reported (Central Gaza).

#### West Bank:

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 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Previous Reporting Period</i> |                       |                       |                    |                  |                 |
| 11 September 2007                | 'Anata, Jerusalem     | 21 shacks             | -                  | N/A              | N/A             |
| <b>Total</b>                     |                       | <b>21</b>             | <b>-</b>           | <b>N/A</b>       | <b>N/A</b>      |

#### **Previous Reporting Period:**

- **11 September:** The Israeli Border Police and IDF demolished 21 barracks and agricultural structures belonging to Palestinians in 'Anata neighbourhood, allegedly for their proximity to the Barrier and the proposed settler road.

#### Other incidents (not involving demolitions/property damage):

- **16, 17 and 18 September:** The IDF occupied a house in Deir Istiya and converted it into an observation post and held the family (five persons including two elderly persons) in one room. The IDF occupied the house between 0600 hours on 16 September until 1200 hours on 17 September. On 18 September in the early morning hours, IDF soldiers reoccupied the house and still remain in it (Salfit).
- **17 and 18 September:** The IDF occupied a house between 2100 and 0900 hours in Kafr ad Dik and converted it into an observation post and held the family (10 persons including two children) in one room and prevented them from have *Suhour* or the Ramadan's early breakfast meal (Salfit).

#### 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 (Nablus).

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

No incident to report.

### 4. Natural Resources

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

##### **Nablus Governorate:**

Ongoing incident:

- **8 August to date:** The IDF continues construction work to upgrade the lanes at Beit Iba checkpoint.
- **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.

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

**Tulkarm Governorate:**

## Ongoing incident:

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

**Qalqiliya Governorate:**

## Ongoing incident:

- **13 August to date:** The IDF continues to carry out land leveling to build a military road connecting Qedumim settlement to road 55, in accordance with military requisition order T/15/07. The land belongs to farmers from Kafr Qaddum village.
- 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.
- 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 closures 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.
- **4 September:** The Israeli High Court of Justice ordered the State of Israel to redraw, partially dismantle and rebuild the route of a 1.7 kilometer section of the West Bank barrier, which was built on land belonging to the village of Bili'in. Once accomplished, this re-routing will allow Bil'in residents to access 1,100 dunums of land they have been deprived of since the construction of the barrier in their village.

**Jerusalem Governorate:**

## 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. The iron gate between Ar Ram and Dahiyet Al Bareed was closed all week for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, so all vehicular traffic took the detour route through Dahiyet Al Bareed neighbourhood. Additional construction and infrastructure continues to be carried out on the remaining parts of the Barrier. 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:**

No incidents to report.

#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

**18 September:** The IDF issued a military order (T/29/07) to confiscate 312 dunums and 900 meters from the lands of the villages of Al Khader and Artas for the purpose of constructing the Barrier in the areas of Daher Al Baqqoush, Al Sawwaneh, Umm Rukba, Batn Al Ma'asi and Khillet Al Korneish. The order gave the land owners seven days to object to the confiscation.

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 in the section of Road 60 between the Palestinian village of Al Khadr and Al Nashshash (southern entrance of Bethlehem City) was suspended during the reporting period.
  - Asphaltting 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.
- The expanded Tunnels checkpoint is operational. Land levelling has taken place on both sides of the road leading to Beit Jala at the intersection with Road 60.
- Land levelling and digging for the construction of the underpass near Al Khadr village has continued. The initial construction of the underpass is complete but land levelling is currently being carried out to construct the underpass lanes.
- Land levelling continues along west of Road 60 leading to the western villages.
- 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:**

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:**

- **12 September:** Several IDF armored vehicles and bulldozers entered about 600 meters into the eastern part of Al Maghazi Camp and carried out a land leveling operation (Central Gaza).
- **14 September:** Eight IDF tanks and two bulldozers entered about 1000 meters into Al-Umour area south of Sufa crossing and carried out a land leveling and excavation operation (Khan Younis).

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

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

**Table 2: Incidents of Curfew Imposed by the IDF**

| Date              | Location, Governorate | Duration        |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 18 September 2007 | Camp No. 1, Nablus    | 21 hours        |
| <b>Total Week</b> |                       | <b>21 hours</b> |

- **18 September:** The IDF imposed curfew on Camp No.1 for 21 hours (between 0300 and 2400 hours) during a military operation in the camp. The curfew is still ongoing.

Ongoing incidents:

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

**b) Access to education**

- **17 September:** In response to the feud between two Palestinian families in Jabal Johar neighbourhood in the H2 area of Hebron City, the schools of Tariq Ibn Ziyad and Al Fayha' Girls School were closed by the Palestinian Ministry of Education in order to reduce friction in the area between the two families. Members of the feuding families usually attend the above-mentioned schools.
- **17 and 18 September:** UNRWA closed its installations in Jenin Camp, including two schools, one clinic, and the camp service office, after a Palestinian opened fire inside an UNRWA School injuring a 44-year-old teacher. The installations were closed in protest against the incident (Jenin).
- **18 September:** Two UNRWA schools (attended by 1,100 students) and were closed in Camp No.1 after the IDF imposed curfew on the camp since the early morning hours (Nablus).
- During the reporting period, the IDF and Israeli Police escorted Palestinian students to and from their elementary school in At Tuwani (south Hebron) to their homes in Tuba and Magyar Al Abid. The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks by Israeli settlers from the Ma'on settlement.

**c) Access to employment**

- **Between 12 and 15 September:** Palestinian workers holding valid work permits were denied access to their work places inside Israel as the IDF imposed a general closure due to the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashana.
- **Between 16 and 18 September,** 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 on time. 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 at least one child, and with no security file.

**d) Closures/movement restrictions**

**Nablus Governorate:**

**14 September:** The IDF closed Al Badhan checkpoint for four hours.

**16 September:** The IDF closed Huwwara checkpoint for two hours and arrested one Palestinian.

**16 September:** The IDF closed Beit Furik checkpoint for one hour.

**18 September:** The IDF held Palestinian men inside a mosque near Camp No.1 for ten hours from dawn prayer until 1300 hours due to the military operation in the camp.

Ongoing incidents:

- **28 March to date:** The IDF continues to close Shave Shomron checkpoint (Nablus) for all Palestinians, ambulances, UN and international organisations.
- **29 August to date:** The IDF continues to close 'Asira ash Shamaliya checkpoint (Nablus) for all except ambulances in emergency cases.

**Jenin Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **30 August 2006 to date:** The IDF have continued to allow 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:**

**12 – 16 September:** The IDF closed Zeita Barrier gate.

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:**

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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#### **Salfit 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:**

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:**

No incidents to report.

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#### **Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:**

Ongoing incidents:

- **14 September 2006 to date:** The IDF has 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'ayyem 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 continued at the improved level previously reported. Movement from the West Bank continues to be controlled through the four main checkpoints: Tayasir, Hamra, Ma'ale Efraim and Yitav. 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.

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#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

**15 September:** IDF soldiers surrounded Harmala Mosque in Za'atara village for a period of two hours and prevented worshippers from leaving it after *Al Taraweeh* prayers (Bethlehem).



**Hebron Governorate:**

**14 September:** The IDF closed off all the roads leading to the Ibrahimi Mosque in the H2 area of Hebron City and kept worshippers inside the Mosque after *Al Taraweeh* prayers for two hours as it was inspecting a suspicious object.

**Gaza Strip**

Functioning of Gaza crossing points:

- Erez was open on three days 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 to Israel and the West Bank. (Appendix for daily log of movement is based on estimated figures due to the absence of staff at the Palestinian DCL at present).
- Rafah crossing was closed this week
- Karni crossing: the conveyor belt operated for two days to transfer grains and animal feed into Gaza (17 and 18 September). However, the crossing has remained generally closed for other imports and all exports. Karni has been closed since 12 June.
- Sufa crossing was open on two out of the five scheduled operating days for the crossing of commercial goods and humanitarian aid. However, the crossing remains closed for all construction materials.
- Kerem Shalom was open on one day for the crossing of commercial and humanitarian goods.
- Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on three out of the 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 a fear that if access obstruction continues more than 1,000 tonnes of potatoes, water melons and onions will rot.

**Table 3: Reported IDF Flying (random) Checkpoints in the West Bank**

| Governorate            | Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets  | Total # of flying checkpoints |
|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Nablus                 | Bizzariya (1), Deir Sharaf (1), Jamma'n (1)  | 3                             |
| Jenin                  | 'Arraba (2), Al Kufeir (2), Sanur (2), Az Zababida (2), Silat adh Dhahar (1), As Suweitat (4), Jaba'a (1), Az Zawiya (1)   | 15                            |
| Tubas                  | -  | 0                             |
| Tulkarm                | Beit Lid (1), Faru'n (1), Shuweika (1), Kafr Sur (2), Deir al Ghusun (1)   | 6                             |
| Qalqiliya              | Qalqiliya entrance (DCO) (7), Habla Tunnel (2), Izbat Jalu'd (7), 'Azzun (4), 'Azzun tunnel (2), Jayyus (3), Al Funduq (1), An Nabi Elyas (2), Wadi Qana (2), 'Izbat at Tabib (3), Kafr Thulth (1), Kafr Qaddum (2), Kafr Laqif (1), Jainsafut (2) | 39                            |
| Salfit                 | Bruqin (2), Iskaka (1), Deir Istiya (1)  | 4                             |
| Ramallah/Al Bireh      | -  | 0                             |
| Jericho                | -  | 0                             |
| Jerusalem              | Beit Hanina/Al Ram (7), Sheikh Jarrah - St.John's (3), Shu'fat (3)   | 13                            |
| Bethlehem              | Bethlehem (1), Ash Shawareh (1), Beit Jala (1), Beit Fajjar (1), Al 'Ubeidiya (1), Dar Salah (2), Doha (1), Tequ' (3)  | 11                            |
| Hebron                 | H1 Area of Hebron City (3), Sa'ir (2), Dura (2), Yatta (2), Adh Dhahiriya, Halhul (1), Surif, Hadab Al Fawwar (1)  | 11                            |
| <b>Total West Bank</b> |  | <b>102</b>                    |

## 6. Search/Arrests/Detentions

**Table 4: 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 (5), Balata RC (2), Camp No.1 (2), Burqa (2), Kafr Qalil (2), Sarra (1), Huwwara CP   | 14                  | 11                            |
| Jenin                       | Jenin City (3), Jenin RC (4), Qabatiya (3)  | 10                  | 3                             |
| Tubas                       | -   | 0                   | 0                             |
| Tulkarm                     | Tulkarm (2), Faru'n (1), Qaffin (1)   | 4                   | 2                             |
| Qalqiliya                   | Qalqiliya (6), 'Azzun (5), Habla (2), Jayyus (1), Kafr Qaddum (2), Hajja (1), Ras 'Atiya (3), Jit (2), Kafr Thulth (1), Qalqiliya (DCO) flying CP                                     | 23                  | 4                             |
| Salfit                      | Kafr ad Dik (1)   | 1                   | 2                             |
| Ramallah                    | 'Ein 'Arik (1), Beit Ur at Yahta (1), Ramallah (2)  | 4                   | 7                             |
| Jericho                     | -   | 0                   | 0                             |
| Jerusalem                   | -   | 0                   | 0                             |
| Bethlehem                   | Bethlehem (1), Beit Jala (1), Duheisha RC, Al Azza RC (1), Beit Fajjar , Ad Doha (1), Dar Salah (1), Obeidiya (2), Ayda RC  | 7                   | 5                             |
| Hebron                      | H1 Area of Hebron City (4), Dura (3), Yatta (2), Kharas, Sa'ir (1), Adh Dhahiriya (1), Nuba, Idna, As 'Samu, Khursa, Taffuh (1), Al 'Arrub RC(1), Hadab Al Fawwar (1), Ash Shyouk (1) | 15                  | 20                            |
| <b>Total Week West Bank</b> |   | <b>78</b>           | <b>54</b>                     |
| <b>Gaza Strip</b>           |   |                     |                               |
| North Gaza <sup>1</sup>     | Southeast of Beit Hanoun (1)  | 1                   | 15                            |
| Central Gaza                | Al Maghazi RC (1)   | 1                   | 3                             |
| Khan Younis <sup>1</sup>    | South of Sufa crossing (1), Al Fukhari area (1)   | 2                   | 0                             |
| <b>Total Gaza Strip</b>     |   | <b>4</b>            | <b>18</b>                     |
| <b>Total oPt</b>            |   | <b>82</b>           | <b>72</b>                     |

<sup>1</sup> On 15 September, 15 Palestinian were held for interrogation during an IDF house search campaign southeast of Beit Hanoun. They were all released after some hours.

**Table 5: Searches, Arrests, and Detentions Conducted by Palestinian Security Forces**

| Governorate                 | Location of arrests/detention (number of searches, number of arrests) – additional information | Total # of Searches | Total # of Arrested/ Detained |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Qalqiliya                   | Qalqiliya City (2, 2)  | 2                   | 2                             |
| <b>Total Week West Bank</b> |  | <b>2</b>            | <b>2</b>                      |
| <b>Gaza Strip</b>           |  |                     |                               |
| Central Gaza <sup>1</sup>   | Abu Al Ajeen (1, 1)  | 1                   | 1                             |
| <b>Total Gaza Strip</b>     |  | <b>1</b>            | <b>1</b>                      |
| <b>Total oPt</b>            |  | <b>3</b>            | <b>3</b>                      |

<sup>1</sup> Carried out by the Executive Support Force (ESF). On 14 September, the ESF opened fire at a 32-year-old drug dealer while he was travelling in his vehicle in Abu Al Ajeen area and then arrested him (Central Gaza).

## Appendix: Checkpoints: 12 – 18 September 2007

| Checkpoint   | Status   |
|--|--|
| <b>Tulkarm:</b>  |  |
| <b>Ephraim</b>   | Open from 0430 to 1900 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0430 to 1300 hours on Fridays for Palestinian workers and traders with permits to enter Israel. Between 12 and 16 September, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday.  |
| <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. Between 12 and 16 September, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday.  |
| <b>Kafriat Tunnel / Ar Ras</b>   | The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin. Delays were reported during the week.   |
| <b>'Anabta</b>   | Located at the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. Delays were reported during the week.   |
| <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. Between 12 and 16 September, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday.  |
| <b>Qalqiliya North</b>   | Open from 0400 to 1900 hours Sunday to Thursday and from 0400 to 1400 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 CP</b>  | Located at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.  |
| <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. Delays were reported during the week.  |
| <b>Kafr Kasem</b><br><i>On Road 5.</i>   | Open 24 hours for UN, international organisations and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel. Between 12 and 16 September, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday.   |
| <b>Nablus:</b>   |  |
| <b>Huwwara</b><br><i>Southern main entrance</i>  | Open from 0600 to 2400 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 were reported during the week. During the month of Ramadan, the IDF extended the opening hours from 2300 until 2400 hours.   |
| <b>Beit Iba</b><br><i>Western entrance, mainly for trade</i>   | Open from 0500 to 2400 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. Delays were reported during the week. During the month of Ramadan, the IDF extended the opening hours from 1930 until 2400 hours. |
| <b>Al Tur</b><br><i>Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area of Jarzim with Nablus City</i> | Open from 0600 to 1800 hours from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritan families living east of the checkpoint. Between 12 and 16 September, it was closed due to the Jewish holiday.   |
| <b>Beit Furik</b><br><i>Eastern gate and checkpoint.</i>   | One of the major linkages between Nablus and the Jordan Valley. Open 0530 to 2400 hours for villagers from Beit Furik and Beit Dajan. All residents heading south have to enter Nablus and cross through Nablus checkpoints. During the month of Ramadan, the IDF extended the opening hours from 2100 until 2400 hours.   |
| <b>Shave Shomeron</b><br><i>Northwest, main road to Jenin</i>  | 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>Za'atara (Tappouah)</b><br><i>South, main road to Ramallah</i>                                    | Open 24 hours. Controls Palestinian movement on Roads 60 and 505 southwards.   |
| <b>17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed)</b><br><i>On road leading to Nablus's northern villages</i>     | As of 29 August, the IDF closed the checkpoint for all except ambulances in emergency cases.   |

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| <b>Yizhar, Partial CP</b>  | Located north of Huwwara village on Road 60.   |
| <b>Al Badhan, Partial CP</b>   | Located on Road 57 leading to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin. Closed three times for two to three hours.   |
| <b>Jenin:</b>  |  |
| <b>Al Jalama</b>   | Is an entrance to Israel. Open between 0600 to 1930 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1400 hours on Fridays.  |
| <b>Imreiha (Reikhan)</b><br><i>Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave</i> | Open between 0500 to 2030 hours for Palestinians living in the enclave as well as UN and international organisations crossing in their vehicles. Pedestrians can cross until 2200. 34 vehicles with their plate numbers on a list at the checkpoint are allowed to transport foodstuff into the closed area behind the Barrier from 0500 to 1700. Other materials need prior coordination.   |
| <b>Mevo Dotan (New)</b><br><i>On Road 585 near Ya'bad</i>                                      | Open from 0700 to 1900 hours for all Palestinians.   |
| <b>Tubas:</b>  |  |
| <b>Bisan</b><br><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><br><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 were reported on a daily basis.   |
| <b>Maale Efrayim</b><br><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><br><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, the checkpoint is open for all West Bank Palestinians. Access is only permitted to commercial trucks and people traveling in public transportation. West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley via this checkpoint is no longer required. During the reporting period, verbal harassment by IDF soldiers manning the checkpoint was experienced by three farmers passing through the checkpoint.  |
| <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. Manned by IDF reserve soldiers.  |
| <b>'Atara Bridge</b>   | Manned by Border Police. No permits are required to cross the checkpoint. As of 1 December, random checks of Palestinian vehicles and IDs going through the checkpoint in both directions. Delays and traffic jams were reported on a daily basis due to the slow checking of vehicles by the Israeli Border Police.   |
| <b>An Nabi Salih gate, Partial CP</b>  | Open.  |
| <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.  |
| <b>Makkabim</b><br><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, and foreign  |

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|   | passport holders. Palestinian merchants with BMC cards, workers inside Israel, coordinated medical cases and holders of Israeli permits for personal needs are allowed through the checkpoint.  |
| <b>Rantis</b>   | Open daily 24 hours for Israelis and holders of Jerusalem IDs and foreign passports. West Bank Palestinians are not allowed to cross irrespective of their possession of 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.   |
| <b>Hizma</b><br><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).  |
| <b>Az Za'ayyem</b><br><i>North eastern entrance, on Road 1</i>  | Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs 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><br><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. The iron gate between Dahiyet al Bareed and Al-Ram was completely closed for the entire week. Vehicular traffic (including public transportation) has been driving through a gap in the wall (distant from the gate) that still exists between the two neighbourhoods. |
| <b>Bir Nabala / Atarot</b><br><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><br><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><br><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><br><i>North eastern entrance on Road 1</i>                               | Open 24 hours. Access is permitted for Jerusalem ID holders, Palestinians holding West Bank IDs and valid permits, and internationals with valid Israeli visas (all pedestrians). No vehicles are allowed to cross.   |
| <b>Abu Dis</b><br><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 / Masyion</b><br><i>On the new road between Rafat and Bir Nabala village</i>      | This checkpoint has been moved further north on the new Israeli-built Rafat road and is closer to the Ramallah neighbourhood of Masyion.  |
| <b>Jaba'</b> <i>Between Jaba' Junction and Qalandiya CP</i>   | Random checks by the IDF soldiers.  |
| <b>Atarot/Al Kawasmi</b>  | This checkpoint has become a permanent checkpoint and constantly manned.  |

**Jericho:**

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| <b>DCO</b><br><i>Main checkpoint off Road 1</i>               | 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, residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayem, As Sawahira, 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><br><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><br><i>Checkpoint off Road 90</i> | Gate manned by the IDF but remains closed. Soldiers open the gate only for shuttle busses taking Palestinians to Jordan via Allenby Border crossing.   |
| <b>An Nwemeh, Partial CP</b><br><i>North Jericho</i>          | Open. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arrajat road, which is the only road out of Jericho for residents of Ramallah and the northern West Bank.  |
| <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 Palestinians with West Bank IDs, except those with permits to work in Israeli settlements.  |

**Bethlehem :**

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| <b>Gilo (Rachel's Tomb)</b><br><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 asked to prove that they reside in areas falling within the 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. Between 12 and 15 September, Palestinian workers from the Governorates of Bethlehem and Hebron holding valid work permits were prevented from reaching their work places inside Israel as the IDF imposed a general closure due to the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashana. The closure was lifted between 16 and 18 September, but Palestinian workers were obliged to stay overnight at the checkpoint in order to cross and reach their work places on time. On 14 September, IDF soldiers and members of the Border Police denied access to Palestinians under 60 years of age who were travelling to Al Aqsa Mosque to perform the first Friday prayers in Ramadan. This is despite the fact that the Palestinian DCL had issued a communiqué stating that the Israeli DCL informed them that men and women over the age of 50 (rather than 60) can access Jerusalem without a "prayers permit." |
| <b>An Nu'man</b><br><i>On the main entrance of Khamat 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. As of 31 August, the checkpoint is open to settlers between 0600 hours and 1800 hours to allow them to travel on the newly opened Jerusalem-Gush Herodion Highway.  |
| <b>Ein Yalow</b><br><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, Partial CP</b><br><i>Entrance to Beit Jala</i>                                   | Rarely-manned. Open 24 hours and movement is allowed in both directions for all vehicles.   |
| <b>Tunnels</b><br><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 IDs 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. Palestinian ambulances use the back-to-back system to send Palestinian patients to hospitals in East Jerusalem or Israel. Currently, there are six lanes leading to the   |

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|   | Tunnels Terminal, four of which lead north from Road 60 into Jerusalem while the other two lead from Jerusalem to the south.   |
| <b>Settlers' Checkpoint – Efrata</b>  | Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by Israeli settlers and there are restrictions on the movement of Palestinians beyond it.   |
| <b>Gush Etzion</b><br><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><br><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><br><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><br><i>On Road 90, along Dead Sea</i>  | Open 24 hours; restricted for Palestinian movement.  |
| <b>Hebron :</b>   |  |
| <b>Beit Awwa, Partial CP</b><br><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 occasional ID checks. However, it has been reported by MSF (Médecins Sans Frontier/Doctors Without Borders) that thorough checks and maltreatment have been experienced by staff especially while trying to reach Palestinian families living along the road leading to the settlement of Negohot.  |
| <b>Tarqumiya</b><br><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. However, between 12 and 15 September, Palestinian workers from the Governorates of Bethlehem and Hebron holding valid work permits were prevented from reaching their work places inside Israel as the IDF imposed a general closure due to the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashana. Between 16 and 18 September, the closure was lifted, so workers were allowed to cross and reach their work places.   |
| <b>Meitar</b><br><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, between 12 and 15 September, Palestinian workers from the Governorates of Hebron holding valid work permits were prevented from reaching their work places inside Israel as the IDF imposed a general closure due to the Jewish holiday of Rosh ha Shana. Between 16 and 18 September, the general closure was lifted so Palestinian workers were allowed to cross and reach their work places. On the days the closure was lifted, there were reports of Palestinian workers with valid work permits sleeping overnight at the checkpoint to ensure for themselves a reasonable chance of accessing Israel. |
| <b>Shani</b><br><i>At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317</i>   | Manned by the IDF. Only Israeli plated cars are allowed to cross. Palestinian workers cannot use the checkpoint to access Israel.  |
| <b>Beit Yatir</b><br><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><br><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><br><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>Ibrahimi Mosque, H2</b><br><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. On 14 September, the checkpoint was closed for a period of time as the IDF was investigating a suspicious object in the vicinity of the mosque.   |
| <b>Bab Al Baladiyye , H2</b><br><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><br><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   |

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|   | humanitarian organisations, though the TIPH have reported being able to use it.   |
| <b>Bab Al-Khan, H2</b><br><i>Entrance to Avraham Avinu</i>  | Closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and north toward the market.  |
| <b>Tel Rumeida, H2</b><br><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 with an IDF-issued permit.  |
| <b>Al Kasaba, H2</b><br><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><br><i>Near the Abu Rish Mosque at the end of Al Shohada St.</i>                 | Manned by the IDF. The only official access point for international organisations into the Old City of Hebron. Palestinians have to go through a mobile metal detector. On 7 September, an MSF team was delayed for 35 minutes before being allowed entry into the H2 area and after having made repeated phone calls to the Israeli DCL.   |
| <b>Ar Ramadin</b><br><i>At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325</i>                     | Manned by the Israeli Border Police. All Palestinians with Ar Ramadin address are allowed to cross after an ID check. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325.   |
| <b>Halhul – Sa'ir, Partial CP</b><br><i>At the entrance to Halhul (also called 'Nabi Yunis' CP)</i> | Located on the junction between the two towns on Road 60. Monitored from the nearby observation tower.  |
| <b>Al Fawwar, Partial CP</b><br><i>Al Fawwar-Dura junction</i>                                      | On Road 60. Monitored from the nearby observation tower.  |
| <b>Tarqumiya – Idhna, Partial CP</b>  | On Road 35. Manned on a temporary basis by the Israeli Border Police.   |
| <b>Ras Al Joura, Partial CP</b>   | Near the junction between Road 35 and Road 60. Manned on a temporary basis by the IDF.  |
| <b>Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints</b>   |   |
| <b>Erez crossing</b>  | <p>Erez was open on two days this week for Palestinian traders as well as for 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 to Israel and the West Bank. Appendix for daily log of movement is based on estimated figures due to the absence of staff at the Palestinian DCL at the present time:</p> <p>This week, Erez was open for people with special coordination arrangements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 September: Erez was open.</li> <li>• 13, 14 and 15 September: Erez was closed because of the Jewish holidays.</li> <li>• 16 September: Erez was open.</li> <li>• 17 September: Erez was open for entry into Gaza only.</li> <li>• 18 September: Erez was open.</li> </ul> <p>The crossing remains closed for Palestinian workers since 12 March 2006.</p> |
| <b>Rafah Passenger Terminal</b>   | Rafah crossing was closed all week. It was last open on 9 June.   |
| <b>Commercial checkpoints:</b>  |   |
| <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 for goods traffic from 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday and closed on Fridays and Saturdays.   |
| <b>Nablus</b>   |   |
| <b>Awarta checkpoint</b><br><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. About 120 commercial trucks have permits to pass the checkpoint; all other loads must be transferred from one truck to another (the back-to-back system).  |
| <b>Jenin</b>  |   |
| <b>Al Jalama</b>  | Open between 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to  |



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| <i>Main commercial checkpoint</i>                  | 1200 hours on Fridays.   |
| <b>Ramallah/AI Bireh</b>                           |  |
| <b>Beituniya</b><br><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 the bill of 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 not allowed to cross as it has become solely open for the movement of goods. |
| <b>Hebron</b>                                      |  |
| <b>Tarqumiya</b>                                   | Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates .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.  |
| <b>Gaza Strip</b>                                  |  |
| <b>Karni</b>                                       | The conveyor belt operated for two days to transfer grains and Animal Feed into Gaza (17 and 18 September). However, It remained general closed for all other items and for exports. Karni crossing has generally been closed since 12 June.   |
| <b>Sufa</b>  | This week, Sufa crossing was open on two days out of the five scheduled operating days for the import of non-aggregate materials. On 12, 13, 14, and 15 September, it was closed for the Israeli holidays and the weekend. On 17 September, Sufa was closed for unknown reasons.   |
| <b>Kerem Shalom</b>                                | This week, Kerem Shalom was open on one day for the crossing of commercial and humanitarian goods. Between 12 and 15 September, Kerem Shalom was closed for the Israeli holidays and the weekend. On 17 and 18 September, it was closed for unknown reasons.   |
| <b>Nahal Oz Energy Pipelines</b>                   | Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on three days out of the five scheduled operating days. On 13, 14 and 15 September, it was closed.   |

- 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.