



## OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

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# Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

## 12 – 18 December 2007

### Of note this week

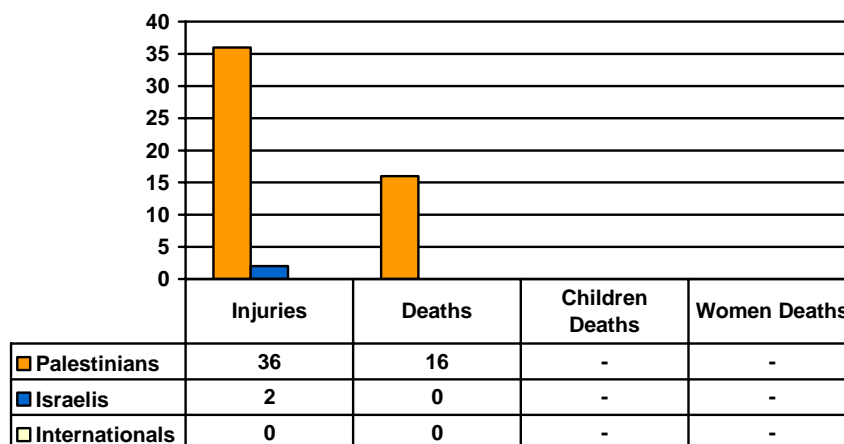
#### Gaza Strip:

- The IDF killed 16 Palestinians and injured 22 others, of whom 15 were killed and 17 injured in IAF air strikes on the North Gaza, Gaza and Rafah governorates.
- **12 December:** A 20 Mega Watt generator was brought into Gaza from Egypt through Kerem Shalom crossing. The generator is to be used at the Gaza power plant with the purpose of providing 15-20% of the electricity required in the Strip. Thirteen Egyptian engineers were allowed entry into Gaza to install the generator.
- On 16 and 17 December, and following prior coordination with the PA in Ramallah, Israel allowed 703 Palestinian pilgrims to leave Gaza via Erez and then proceed to Allenby Bridge en route to Jordan and then Mecca.
- 38 Qassam rockets and 54 mortars were fired from the Gaza Strip towards Israel. On two separate occasions, two Israeli children were injured by Qassam rockets.

#### West Bank:

- The IDF injured 14 Palestinians in the West Bank, including 12 during demonstrations in the Ramallah governorate.
- **13 December:** PA teachers and Education directorates held a one-day strike in Bethlehem and Hebron governorates demanding that the PA solve their salary problems.
- The IDF entered one TV station and two press offices in Nablus governorate and one media centre in Hebron governorate and confiscated computers and files.
- **13 December:** The IDF confiscated the garbage truck belonging to Qatanna and Al Qubeiba villages after the driver was caught using the solid waste dump site located in area "C" without possessing an Israeli permit. As a result, garbage has been piling up in the two villages (Jerusalem).
- **15 December:** The PA banned all celebrations marking the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Hamas.
- 40 flying checkpoints, 15 IDF search operations and 67 arrests were reported.

#### 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:

- **12 December:** An Israeli girl was injured after five Qassam rockets were fired from northeast of Beit Lahiya towards Sderot (North Gaza).
- **12 December:** A 21-year-old Palestinian (Islamic Jihad member) was killed when the IDF fired a tank shell towards a group of armed Palestinians trying to launch a rocket from an area east of Deir El Balah (Central Gaza).
- **13 December:** One Palestinian was injured when IDF soldiers stationed at Kerem Shalom military base fired a surface-to-surface missile targeting a group of Islamic Jihad members east of Rafah (Rafah).
- **13 December:** Two Palestinians (aged 25 and 27 years; Islamic Jihad members) and another 37-year-old Palestinian civilian were killed when an IAF aircraft fired a missile targeting a vehicle travelling on Salah Ed-Din Street in Gaza City (Gaza).
- **14 December:** Three Palestinians were injured when the IDF opened fire towards Al Zaitoun area southeast of Gaza City. This took place in response to the firing of live ammunition towards an IDF outpost located at the border (Gaza).
- **16 December:** Three Palestinians ( Hamas members) were injured when an IAF aircraft fired two missiles targeting a group of armed Palestinians east of Gaza City (Gaza).
- **16 December:** One Palestinian ( Hamas member) was injured during armed clashes between Hamas members and an IDF special forces unit that had entered Al Shuja'iyah quarter east of Gaza City, intending to kidnap a Hamas military wing leader. At the same time, four Palestinians ( Hamas members) were injured when an IAF helicopter fired a missile targeting the area (Gaza).
- **16 December:** One Israeli baby was lightly injured when one Qassam rocket fired from east of Beit Lahiya struck a house south of Ashkelon (North Gaza).
- **17 December:** Two Palestinians (aged 37 and 38 years; Islamic Jihad members) were killed and another five civilians were injured when an IAF aircraft fired a missile targeting a vehicle carrying Islamic Jihad members on An Naser Street in Gaza City (Gaza).
- **17 December:** Four Palestinians (aged 23, 24, 25 and 34 years; Islamic Jihad members) were killed when an IAF aircraft fired a missile targeting a group of Islamic Jihad members southwest of Zaitoun quarter in Gaza City (Gaza).
- **18 December:** Four Palestinians (aged 27, 32, 34 and 36 years; Islamic Jihad members) were killed and another five Palestinian bystanders were injured when an IAF aircraft fired a missile targeting a group of Islamic Jihad members as they were leaving a mosque in Jabaliya Camp (North Gaza).
- **18 December:** Two Palestinians (aged 21 and 22 years; Hamas members) were killed when an IAF aircraft fired one missile targeting an Executive Support Forces (ESF) base inside the former Morag settlement in Rafah (Rafah).

### Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **12 December:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from north of Beit Hanun towards Sderot (North Gaza).
- **12 December:** Five IDF armoured vehicles entered the area southeast of Beit Hanun and IDF soldiers were deployed in the area. No further action was taken (North Gaza).
- **12 December:** Armed Palestinians fired five Qassam rockets from east of Jabaliya towards the western Negev. The military wing of Islamic Jihad and the Palestinian Resistance Committees (PRC) claimed responsibility. According to Israeli media reports, five Qassam rockets were fired towards Sderot, three of which landed in open areas and two near the Gaza security fence (North Gaza).
- **12 December:** An IAF aircraft fired one missile targeting an open area near the main entrance of Beit Hanun. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **12 December:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from east of Jabaliya towards Sderot. However, the rockets landed in the Gaza Strip and hit a Palestinian house in Sheikh Zayed City. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **12 December:** Three mortar shells were fired from east of Rafah towards Kerem Shalom crossing. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility (Rafah).
- **12 December:** Five IDF armoured vehicles that had entered an area southeast of Beit Hanun withdrew to the border (North Gaza).
- **12 December:** A Qassam rocket exploded prematurely when armed Palestinians attempted to launch it from northeast of Beit Lahiya towards Sderot (North Gaza).
- **12 December:** Israeli patrol boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats at sea, forcing them to return to the shore. No injuries were reported (Rafah).

- **12 December:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from north of Beit Hanun towards Sderot, one of which exploded prematurely in the Gaza Strip. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **12 December:** Egyptian security forces discovered and destroyed a tunnel located opposite Al Salam quarter underneath the border with Egypt. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **13 December:** One Qassam rocket was fired from east of Sheikh Zayed City towards Sderot (North Gaza).
- **13 December:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from east of Jabaliya targeting the Green Line (North Gaza).
- **13 December:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from east of Sheikh Zayed City targeting Sderot. The IDF responded with a surface-to-surface missile aimed at the rocket launching site. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **13 December:** Armed Palestinians fired two Qassam rockets from east of Shuja'iyah towards Nahal Oz IDF military base (Gaza).
- **13 December:** An exchange of gunfire took place between armed Hamas members and the IDF at the IDF Kissufim military base. No injuries were reported (Khan Younis).
- **14 December:** Armed Palestinians fired one Qassam rocket from north of Beit Hanun targeting the western Negev (North Gaza).
- **15 December:** An IDF patrol boat opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats west of Khan Younis, forcing them to return to the shore. No injuries were reported (Khan Younis).
- **15 December:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from north of Beit Hanun towards Sderot. One of the rockets landed in the Gaza Strip. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **16 December:** Armed Hamas members fired 19 mortar shells from east of Gaza City towards Nahal Oz (Gaza).
- **16 December:** Three mortar shells were fired from east of Al Maghazi Camp towards the Green line (Central Gaza).
- **16 December:** One Qassam rocket was fired from east of Jabaliya towards the Green Line (North Gaza).
- **16 December:** Three mortar shells were fired from Al-Qarara area northeast of Khan Younis towards IDF Kissufim military base (Khan Younis).
- **16 December:** An IDF tank stationed at the border fired three shells targeting an open area east of Shuja'iyah quarter in Gaza City. No injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **16 December:** Armed Palestinians fired two mortar rounds from southeast of Al Maghazi Camp towards Israel (Central Gaza).
- **16 December:** An IDF patrol boat opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats at sea west of Khan Younis, forcing them to return to the shore. No injuries were reported (Khan Younis).
- **16 December:** Egyptian security forces discovered and destroyed two tunnels located opposite the Barahma area underneath the border with Egypt. No injuries were reported (Rafah).
- **16 December:** Eight mortar shells and an RPG were fired from Al Qarara towards the IDF Kissufim military base (Khan Younis).
- **17 December:** Ten IDF armoured vehicles entered the former Erez Industrial Zone area under the cover of heavy gunfire. The IDF withdrew at night. On **18 December** at 0800 hours, IDF tanks returned to the Erez Industrial Zone (North Gaza).
- **17 December:** Ten IDF armoured vehicles entered the former Erez Industrial Zone area under the cover of heavy gunfire. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **17 December:** One Qassam rocket was fired from east of Beit Lahiya towards Sderot (North Gaza).
- **17 December:** One Qassam rocket was fired from east of Al Maghazi Camp towards Sderot (Central Gaza).
- **17 December:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from north of Beit Hanun towards Sderot (North Gaza).
- **17 December:** IDF patrol boats opened fire towards the coastal road northwest of Beit Lahiya. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **17 December:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from east of Gaza City towards the Green Line (Gaza).
- **17 December:** Four mortar shells were fired from east of Al Maghazi Camp towards the Green Line. Hamas claimed responsibility (Central Gaza).
- **17 December:** Two Qassam rockets were fired from east of Al Maghazi Camp towards the Green Line (Central Gaza).

- **17 December:** IDF patrol boats opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats at sea west of Khan Younis, forcing the fishermen to return to the shore. No injuries were reported (Khan Younis).
- **18 December:** Hamas claimed responsibility for firing three mortar shells from the Abu Al Ajeen area east of Deir El Balah towards the IDF Kissufim military base (Central Gaza).
- **18 December:** Islamic Jihad members fired four mortar shells from northeast of Rafah towards Sufa crossing (Rafah).

#### West Bank:

- **12 December:** A 12-year-old Palestinian boy was injured by live ammunition fired by the IDF in Qaffin village during a confrontation between the IDF and Palestinian stone throwers (Tulkarm).
- **13 December:** A 30-year-old Palestinian man was injured by live ammunition fired by the IDF near Imneizil when he tried to bypass the Beit Yatir checkpoint. The man was subsequently arrested (Hebron).
- **14 December:** Five Palestinians were physically assaulted and injured by the IDF during a demonstration held on Road 443 by Palestinian, international and Israeli protestors to protest against the Israeli policy of banning Palestinians from using bypass Road 443 (Ramallah).
- **14 December:** Seven Palestinians were injured by rubber-coated metal bullets fired by the IDF in a demonstration organised by Palestinian, Israeli and international protestors against Barrier construction in Bil'in village. The protestors demanded that the IDF implement the Israeli High Court of Justice decision to change the route of the Barrier in the village (Ramallah).

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

- **14 December:** Palestinian and international protestors held a demonstration against Barrier construction in Al Me'sara village (Bethlehem).
- **15 December:** The Israeli DCL reported that six Molotov cocktails were hurled by Palestinians at Israeli vehicles travelling on bypass Road 443. Two vehicles sustained some damage but no injuries were reported (Ramallah).
- **17 December:** The IDF installed a number of surveillance cameras atop the roofs of some high buildings in Khallet Hadur area in Hebron City (Hebron).

## 2. [Physical Protection – other incidents involving casualties<sup>2</sup>](#)

#### Gaza Strip:

- **12 December:** One Palestinian was killed when a tunnel under construction collapsed in As Salam area south of Rafah (Rafah).
- **13 December:** A 26-year-old Palestinian detainee was found dead in his cell at Saraya prison in Gaza City. He was arrested by the police affiliated with the dismissed Hamas government one week earlier (Gaza).
- **14 December:** One Palestinian (Hamas member) was wounded north of Beit Hanun upon mishandling an explosive device (North Gaza).
- **14 December:** Three Palestinians (aged 18, 20 and 21 years) were killed and another 35 were injured when two hand grenades exploded during the funeral procession of a Palestinian killed in an IAF air strike in Gaza City a day earlier (Gaza).
- **14 December:** Three Palestinians were injured in a family feud in Khan Younis. Knives and sticks were used during the dispute (Khan Younis).
- **15 December:** A 16-year-old Palestinian boy was injured when a homemade bomb exploded prematurely while he was tampering with it in Khan Younis (Khan Younis).
- **16 December:** One Palestinian was injured in a family dispute in Gaza City that involved the exchange of fire. The police intervened and brought the situation under control (Gaza).
- **16 December:** One Palestinian was injured during armed clashes that erupted between anti-drug police forces and drug dealers in Abu Al Ajeen area east of Deir El Balah. The police was attempting to make arrests (Central Gaza).

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

<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.

- **13 December:** Unknown gunmen halted a vehicle belonging to a local Palestinian at the main entrance to Zahra City in an attempt to abduct him. He managed to escape and the gunmen fled the scene. The motive behind the attempted abduction is unknown (Gaza).
- **16 December:** An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) exploded underneath a vehicle owned by a Hamas member while it was parked near a mosque in Tel Al Hawwa quarter in Gaza City. No injuries were reported (Gaza).

#### West Bank:

- **14 December:** Three Palestinians were killed in a land ownership dispute between two Palestinian families in Hizma village (Jerusalem).

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

- **17 December:** All employees of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) in the West Bank suspended their work for three hours to demand that their salary problems be solved.

#### Inter-factional violence

##### Gaza Strip:

- **14 December:** 17 people were injured when the Gaza police affiliated with the dismissed Hamas government opened fire after Fatah supporters threw stones at a Hamas vehicle that was broadcasting a call for people to attend a rally in Gaza City. The police arrived, dispersed the crowd and made several arrests (Khan Younis).

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

- **12 December:** A dispute took place between a Fatah-affiliated family and Hamas members while they were painting slogans in preparation for the rally to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of Hamas. No injuries were reported (North Gaza).
- **15 December:** Armed clashes erupted between the Gaza police affiliated with the dismissed Hamas government and members of a Fatah-affiliated family in Sabra quarter in Gaza City. No injuries were reported (Gaza).
- **15 December:** An IED was detonated on Salah Ed-Din road while a bus carrying Hamas supporters was travelling along the road. No injuries were reported (Central Gaza).
- **16 December:** A dispute erupted between members of a Fatah-affiliated family and Hamas members who were flying party flags in the quarter where the family resides in Beit Lahiya. The police arrived and brought the situation under control. No injuries were reported (North 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
14 December 2007	Bruqin, Salfit	-	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>		-	1	-	1

- **14 December:** A group of Israeli settlers gathered on a bypass road near Bruqin village and threw stones at Palestinian houses and vehicles in the village. A Palestinian vehicle was damaged. The IDF intervened and dispersed the settlers (Salfit).

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

- **12 December:** The IDF entered Afaq TV station and confiscated all the transmission equipment, files and a computer. The IDF told one of the employees that the station will be closed until further notice because it allegedly supports a terrorist organization (Nablus).
- **12 December:** The IDF entered An Najah and Al Ruwad press offices and confiscated computers (Nablus).
- **13 December:** The IDF forcibly entered a media centre in Surif and confiscated computers and files. The media centre is allegedly affiliated with Hamas (Hebron).
- **13 December:** The IDF confiscated the garbage truck belonging to Qatanna and Al Qubeiba villages after the driver was caught using the solid waste dump site located in

area “C” without possessing an Israeli permit. As a result, garbage has been piling up in the two villages (Jerusalem).

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 incidents to report.

#### 4. [Natural Resources](#)

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

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

Ongoing incident:

- **11 December to date:** The IDF continues to level land to add another lane to Yitzhar partial checkpoint.
- **8 August to date:** The IDF continues construction work to upgrade the lanes at Beit Iba checkpoint.

###### **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:
  - **As of 6 November:** Barrier construction has totally stopped in the Ramallah governorate, including construction on ‘Abud land to encircle Beit Arye and Ofarim settlements—as part of the extension of the “Ariel finger.” According to the DCL officer in Ramallah, the decision was made due to technical reasons at the Ministry of Defence.
  - 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 stopped 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 of four “fabric of life” roads, which is part of a Gol plan to build roads for Palestinians as an alternative to main roads now inaccessible 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 of a road between Beit Liqya and Beit ‘Anan has been completed and is now operational.

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

- Construction continues of a road between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and Tira via an underpass under Road 443. The road is in its final stage but work to complete it has been frozen temporarily due to budget constraints.
- Land levelling continues in order to construct a road between Beit Ur at Tahta and Beituniya. Work to complete the road has been frozen temporarily due to budget constraints.

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#### Jericho Governorate:

No incidents to report.

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#### 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 an appeal filed by a few Bedouin families who would be displaced if construction continues.
  - 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 rest of the West Bank. The gate between Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed was closed all week for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, so all vehicular traffic took the detour route through Dahiyat 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.
  - **26 November to date:** Barrier construction was stopped between Al Jib and An Nabi Samwil villages.
- 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 (Road 70) is in the final construction stage to allow Palestinians to enter and exit Al 'Eizariya without using the entrance lane near Al Za'ayim checkpoint. 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.

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#### Bethlehem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - The Barrier contractor resumed the installation of 12-meters-high concrete blocks along the eastern side of Road 60 to the south of the Tunnel checkpoint
  - The Barrier contractor continues to halt the installation of 8-meters-high concrete blocks along Road 60 between Al Khadr Tunnel and Al Nashash (southern entrance of Bethlehem City).
  - The Barrier contractor resumed land levelling and asphaltting the section of the Barrier to the east of Efrat Settlement.
  - Land levelling and installation of 12-meters-high concrete blocks was suspended in the Barrier section between the two tunnels.
  - Land levelling for the construction of the Barrier was resumed around the Israeli settlement of Har Gilo.
- Land levelling for the construction of Al Khadr Tunnel was resumed during the reporting period. This tunnel will be the only access point for the Palestinian towns within the proposed Gush Ezion enclave.
- Construction of buildings for new terminal continued next to Al Jab'a checkpoint.
- Land leveling and installation of new buildings at An Nu'man terminal is ongoing.
- Land leveling and construction of new buildings is taking place in Betar Ilit, Elizar, and Efrat settlements.

**Hebron Governorate:**

## Ongoing incidents:

- Construction of a building continued next to Beit Yatir checkpoint.
- Pavement of roads and construction of new buildings continued west of Tarqumiya checkpoint.
- Construction of new buildings continued in Karmil, Susyia, Kiryat Arb'a and Shani settlements.
- Land leveling for building a new road – parallel to Road 60 between Shim'a settlement and Metar checkpoint – continued during the reporting period.

**Gaza Strip:**

- **13 December:** Three IDF tanks and two bulldozers entered approximately 300 metres into Gaza east of Deir El Balah to conduct a levelling and excavation operation. The IDF operation is still ongoing (Central Gaza).
- **18 December:** Two IDF tanks and two bulldozers entered approximately 200 meters into the area east of Al Maghazi Camp to conduct a levelling and excavation operation. The IDF operation is still ongoing (Central Gaza).

**5. Access and Movement for Civilians****a) Incidents of curfews**

## Ongoing incidents:

- **17 May to date:** Palestinians living in Gaza Strip areas (northeast of Beit Hanun 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**

- **13 December:** All students in the PA schools in Bethlehem and Hebron governorates were sent home as PA teachers held a one-day strike.
- **15 December:** The administration of Hebron University closed the university for one day when Palestinian students affiliated with Hamas attempted to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Hamas on the university campus.
- **During the reporting period:** The IDF and Israeli Police escorting Palestinian students to and from their elementary school in At Tuwani (south Hebron) to their homes in Tuba and Magyar Al Abid came on schedule to meet the students. The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks by Israeli settlers from the Ma'on settlement. However, while the escort decision stipulates that the soldiers walk with the children, the soldiers usually stay in the jeep while the students walk alone in front of the IDF jeep (Hebron).

**c) Access to employment**

- **During the reporting period:** Palestinian workers from the Governorate of Hebron holding valid permits to work in Israel arrive at around 0300 hours in front of the Meitar checkpoint, located south of the town of Adh Dhahiriya (Hebron), in order to reach their work places 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 start queuing at 0300 hours in order to cross and reach their work places inside Israel (Hebron and Bethlehem).

## Ongoing incidents:

- **12 March 2006 to date:** 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:**

- **8 December to date:** The IDF closed the southern entrance of Qaryut village with an earth mound. The road connects the village to Road 60. Palestinians travelling southwards have to take a long detour route to reach their destinations.



**Ongoing incidents:**

- **29 October to date:** The IDF continues to close the southern entrance of Jamma'n village with road blocks. The closure was placed four days after a drive-by shooting incident on an adjacent road (Road 505).
- **29 October to date:** The IDF continues to close a gate connecting 'Asira Ash Shamaliya village with 'Asira Ash Shamaliya checkpoint, denying access through the checkpoint, including to ambulances with emergency cases.
- **28 March to date:** The IDF continues to close Shave Shomron checkpoint for all Palestinians, ambulances, UN and international organisations (Nablus).
- **29 August to date:** The IDF continues to close 'Asira ash Shamaliya checkpoint, preventing access for all except ambulances with emergency cases (Nablus).

**Jenin Governorate:**

**17 December:** An agreement was reached between the IDF and the PA to allow Palestinians with Israeli citizenship to enter Jenin Governorate through Al Jalama checkpoint during *Al Adha* holiday.

**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 into Barta'a enclave. A list with the plate numbers of the trucks is present at the checkpoint. Other materials require prior coordination.

**Tubas Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Tulkarm Governorate:**

**12 December:** The IDF closed the road connecting Dhinnaba and Kafr al Labbad with an earth mound, forcing Palestinians to take a long detour route to reach their destinations.

**Qalqiliya Governorate:**

**12 December:** The IDF removed the roadblocks at the main entrance of 'Azzun village. The entrance was last closed by the IDF on 9 December while it was imposing a curfew on the village.

**Ongoing incidents:**

- **23 November to date:** The IDF closed the northern entrance of Jinsafut with an earth mound preventing Palestinian vehicular movement.
- **18 May to date:** The IDF continues to close the road connecting Izbat at Tabib with 'Azzun village with an earth mound.
- **13 July to date:** IDF soldiers positioned at the partial checkpoint placed at the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City (DCO) continue to prevent Palestinians with Israeli citizenship from entering Qalqiliya City.

**Salfit Governorate:**

**18 December:** The IDF closed the road connecting Haris to Kifl Haris with an earth mound.

**Ongoing incidents:**

- **27 November to date:** The IDF continues to close the entrance of Kifl Haris with road blocks.
- The IDF continues to close the gate at the northern entrance of Kafr ad Dik.

**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 is 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.

**Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:**

**18 December:** According to the Israeli DCL, Hamra and Tayasir checkpoints (Tubas) will be open to Palestinian vehicles accessing the Jordan Valley area during *Al Adha* holiday between 19 and 22 December.

**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 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.

- **26 April to date:** 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 through Hamara and Tayasir checkpoints only. Access is only possible with public transportation as West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from entering the Jordan Valley.

#### **Jerusalem Governorate:**

**During the reporting period:** Delays of up to 20 minutes for Palestinians travelling to Ramallah continue to be reported at Jaba' checkpoint during the morning and evening rush hours.

#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

#### **Hebron Governorate:**

**15 December:** The IDF closed the metal gate at the main entrance of Beit Ummar for one hour after Palestinians threw stones at Israeli vehicles travelling on Road 60 near the town (Hebron).

#### **Gaza Strip**

Functioning of Gaza crossing points:

- Erez was open on six days this week for the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, and critical medical cases with special coordination arrangements. Senior Palestinian businessmen were also allowed to cross this week. 683 Palestinian pilgrims were permitted to cross Erez and travel to Allenby Bridge en route to Jordan. (Appendix for daily log of movement is based on information provided by the Palestinian civil affairs office due to the absence of Palestinian DCL staff at the present time).
- Rafah crossing continues to be closed. It was last open on 9 June. However, it was most recently opened on 7 December on an exceptional basis to allow for the passage of pilgrims.
- Karni crossing: the conveyor belt/chute operated on three days (12, 17 and 18 December) to transfer wheat grain and animal feed into Gaza. However, the crossing has remained closed for other imports and all exports since 12 June.
- Sufa crossing continues to be closed since 28 October, following a Gol decision to close it indefinitely. Although the Gol subsequently announced that the crossing will be re-opened on 25 November, it continues to be closed. However, this week, 85 truckloads of livestock were exceptionally allowed entry into Gaza on 16 and 17 December. Prior to its closure, Sufa had been the principal alternative commercial crossing following the closure of Karni crossing in mid-June.
- Kerem Shalom crossing was open on five days this week for the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods. On 14 and 16 December, the crossing was closed. Since the closure of Sufa on 28 October, Kerem Shalom is now effectively the only crossing allowing the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods into Gaza.
- Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on six scheduled operating days.
- Gaza fishermen continue to be 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. Entry into the area for the 250 Palestinian 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 of Beit Hanun and north and northwest of Beit Lahiya 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.

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

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Talluza (1), Al Badhan (1), Dir Sharaf (1)	3
Jenin	Al Jarba (2), Bypass road east Jenin (1), Road 60 (1), Ya'bad (1), Bir Al Basha (1), Silat Adh Dhahar (1), Rummana (1)	8
Tubas	Al Far'a RC (1), Siris (1)	2
Tulkarm	Bal'a (2), Illar (1), Al Jarushiya (1), Dhinnaba (1)	5
Qalqiliya	'Azzun (2), Izbat at Tabib (1), Jayyus (1), Kafr Qaddum (2)	6
Salfit	Haris (1)	1
Ramallah/Al Bireh	-	0
Jericho	-	0
Jerusalem	-	0
Bethlehem	Bethlehem western entrance's intersection with Rd 60 (1), Dar Salah (2), Ash Shawawra (1)	4
Hebron	H1 Area of Hebron City (5), Yatta (2), Beit Ummar (2), Al 'Aroub RC (1), Imneizil (1)	11
<b>Total West Bank</b>		<b>40</b>

## 6. [Search/Arrests/Detentions](#)

**Table 3: Searches, Arrests, and Detentions Conducted by the Israeli Authorities (IDF, Border Police, Civil Administration...etc)<sup>1</sup>**

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 (2), Balata RC (1), 'Askar RC (1), Camp # 1 (1), 'Asira ash Shamaliya (1), Beit Furik (1)	7	32
Jenin	Tura al Gharbiyya (1), Jenin (1), Sanur (1), At Tayba (1), Qabatiya (2)	6	16
Tubas	Al Far'a RC (1)	1	1
Tulkarm	Shuweika (2), Qaffin (1), 'Illar (1), Ramin (1)	5	19
Qalqiliya	Flying CP on Road 55, Kafr Qaddum (2), Qalqiliya CP, Qalqiliya (1), 'Azzun (2)	5	11
Salfit	Yasuf (1), Bruqin (1)	2	0
Ramallah <sup>1</sup>	Qalandia RC (1), Khirbatha al Msbah (1), Deir Abu Misha'al (1), Rantis (1)	4	16
Jericho	-	0	0
Jerusalem	-	0	0
Bethlehem	Bethlehem City (2), Battir (1), Tuqu' (1), Ad Duheisha RC (1), Nahhalin (1)	6	13
Hebron	H1 Area of Hebron City (5), H2 Area of Hebron City (1) Adh Dhahiriya (1), Yatta (1), Beit Ummar (1), Al 'Arrub RC (1), Surif (1), Bani Na'im (1), Ash Shuyukh (1), Beit Ula (1), Dura (1), flying CP Imneizil, Gush 'Etzion CP	15	12
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>51</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>51</b>	<b>120</b>

<sup>1</sup> Figures exclude the number of West Bank Palestinians arrested in Israel due to the lack of work permits.

**Table 4: 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
Nablus	Yasid (1,4), Nablus(3,8), 'Asira al Qibliyah (1,14), Balata Village (1,1), PA CP in Nablus (0,1)	6	28
Jenin	Jenin (0,2)*, Jenin (2,3)	2	5
Tulkarm	Tulkarm (0,2)*	0	2
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya (1,10), 'Azzun(2,16)	3	26
Salfit	Salfit (0,2)*	0	2
Ramallah	Ni'lin (1,1)	1	1
Hebron	H1 area of Hebron City (1,1), Bani Na'im (1,1), Dura (1,1)	3	3
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Gaza Strip**</b>			
Gaza	Gaza City (1,1)—one of the advisors to the PA Prime Minister in Ramallah	1	1
Central Gaza	Al Bureij RC (1,5)—five Fatah supporters arrested by armed Hamas members	1	5
Khan Younis	Khan Younis (1,2+)—following a dispute between Hamas and Fatah supporters; Bani Suhaila (1,5)—five Fatah supporters	2	7+
<b>Total Gaza Strip</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>13+</b>
<b>Total oPt</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>80+</b>

\* Were summoned to go to the PA security headquarters and were arrested upon arrival.

\*\* Carried out by the Gaza police affiliated with the dismissed Hamas government.

## Appendix: Checkpoints: 12 – 18 December 2007

Checkpoint	Status
<b>Tulkarm :</b>	
<b>Ephraim (Green Line CP)</b>	Operating 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.
<b>Kafriat</b>	Operating 24 hours. Divided into three parts: one controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one controls movement to Israel; and one controls movement to and from Khirbet Jbara.
<b>Ar Ras/ Kafriat</b>	Controls traffic heading south from Tulkarm including Jenin residents.
<b>Jubara</b>	Manned gate at the Barrier serving Jubara community behind the Barrier.
<b>Enav</b>	Located at the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57.
<b>Qalqiliya:</b>	
<b>Jaljoulia</b>	Operating 24 hours. Access is only granted to holders of permits to enter Israel and residents of Ras at Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda, which are isolated behind the Barrier. Ambulances travelling from Qalqiliya City to these five villages need prior coordination with the DCL.
<b>Qalqiliya North (Green Line CP)</b>	Operating from 0400 to 1900 hours Sunday to Thursday and from 0400 to 1400 hours on Fridays. The checkpoint is used by Palestinian workers and merchants with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Qalqiliya DCO Partial CP</b>	Controls the main eastern entrance of Qalqiliya City.
<b>Izbat Jalu'd Partial CP</b>	Located south of Habla village. Controls movement to the southern entrance of Qalqiliya City.
<b>Ras 'atiya</b>	Barrier Checkpoint.
<b>'Azzun Atme</b>	Barrier Checkpoint.
<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>	Operating from 0600 to 1800 hours. Controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western Salfit governorate.
<b>Kafr Kasem On Road 5</b>	Operating 24 hours for UN, international organisations and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Nablus:</b>	
<b>Huwwara Southern main entrance</b>	Operating from 0500 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 cross between 0600 and 2100 hours. Commercial trucks are not allowed to pass.
<b>Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade</b>	Operating from 0500 to 2100 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 cross.
<b>Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area of Jarzim with Nablus City</b>	Operating from 0630 to 1930 hours from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritan families living east of the checkpoint.
<b>Beit Furik Eastern checkpoint</b>	A major linkage between Nablus and the Jordan Valley area. Operating from 0500 to 2100 hours. Palestinians travelling out of Beit Furik and Beit Dajan must enter Nablus City through this checkpoint and then cross through other Nablus checkpoints to reach their destinations.
<b>Shave Shomeron Northwest, main road to Jenin</b>	Closed since 15 August 2005 for Palestinians as well as for ambulances, UN and humanitarian organisations. For the latter category, the checkpoint was temporarily opened between 1 and 28 March 2007, after which it was re-closed.
<b>Tappuah South, main road to Ramallah</b>	Operating 24 hours. Controls Palestinian movement southwards on Roads 60 and 505.
<b>17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed) On road leading to Nablus's northern villages</b>	As of 29 August 2007, the IDF closed the checkpoint for all except ambulances in emergency cases. Since 29 October 2007, the IDF has closed a gate connecting 'Asira Ash Shamaliya village with 'Asira Ash Shamaliya checkpoint, preventing all access through the checkpoint including to ambulances with emergency cases.
<b>Yizhar, Partial CP</b>	Located north of Huwwara village on Road 60.
<b>Majdal Bani Fadel Partial CP</b>	Controls access to areas north of Road 505.

<b>Al Badhan, Partial CP</b>	Located on Road 57 leading to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin.
<b>Jenin :</b>	
<b>Al Jalama (Green Line CP)</b>	A crossing for workers to enter Israel. Operating between 0600 to 1930 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1400 hours on Fridays.
<b>Reikhan/ Barta'a</b> <i>Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave</i>	Operating between 0500 to 2030 hours for Palestinians living in the enclave behind the Barrier 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 hours. Other materials need prior coordination.
<b>Salim DCO (Green Line CP)</b>	Entrance to the Israeli DCL.
<b>Mevo Dotan</b> <i>On Road 585 near Ya'bad</i>	Operating from 0700 to 1900 hours for all Palestinians.
<b>Tubas :</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> <i>Main entrance to Israel On the Green Line</i>	Located north of Tubas. Since 9 January 2007, 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. Palestinians holding both businessman cards and permits to enter Israel are allowed to cross. 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 the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin. Operating from 0300 to 2200 hours. As of 26 April 2007, this checkpoint is open for all Palestinians from the West Bank governorates using public transportation as well as commercial trucks. West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from crossing. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley via this checkpoint is no longer required.
<b>Maale Efrayim</b> <i>Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus</i>	Connects Jericho and Nablus governorates. Operating from 0600 to 2200 hours. Only Palestinians with a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or possess an Israeli permit that allows them to be present in the Jordan Valley area are permitted to cross. 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 the Jordan Valley and Nablus. Operating from 0300 to 2200 hours. As of 26 April, the checkpoint is open for all West Bank Palestinians using public transportation and commercial trucks. West Bank private vehicles continue to be prohibited from crossing. An Israeli permit to access the Jordan Valley via this checkpoint is no longer required.
<b>Ramallah/Al 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. Some delays were reported this week.
<b>An Nabi Salih gate, Partial CP</b>	Usually Open.
<b>At Tayba</b> <i>At intersection between Road 458 and Road 449 (Al Mu'arrajat road that links Road 90 to Road 458)</i>	Manned by the IDF. Controls movement between Ramallah governorate and the Jordan Valley. 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> <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>	Operating daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, and foreign 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>	Operating 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>Jericho:</b>	
<b>DCO</b> <i>Main checkpoint off Road 1</i>	Operating 24 hours/day. No permits are required for Jericho residents, holders of foreign passports, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers, residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az

	Za'ayyem and As Sawahira, and residents of Bethlehem and Hebron. As of 14 September 2006, West Bank ID holders who do not belong to the above categories need permits to cross. As of 26 September 2007, Palestinians from the Ramallah governorate (both pedestrians and in vehicles) are allowed to exit Jericho via this checkpoint. All vehicles including public taxis and commercial trucks have to have checkpoint permits to cross unless they have Jericho or Jerusalem registration.
<b>Al Auja (Yitav)</b> <i>On Road 90</i>	Operating 24 hours/day for Palestinians living in Jericho Governorate. Palestinians who are non-residents of Jericho and hold West Bank IDs travelling northward to Al Auja and the northern Jordan Valley area are prohibited from crossing unless they hold Israeli permits that allow them access to the area. No permit is required for those travelling from and to Ramallah.
<b>Gate opposite Allenby</b> <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> <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>Dead Sea</b> <b>Became Permanent as of:</b> <b>1 July 2007</b>	Located on Road 90 alongside the Dead Sea. As of 31 October 2007, it is manned by the Border Police. Operating 24 hours/day 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 holders of permits to work in Israeli settlements.
<b>Jerusalem :</b>	
<b>Qalandiya</b>	Open for internationals, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Only drivers and their family members are allowed to cross while staying inside the vehicle. All other persons, both West Bank and Jerusalem ID holders, have to cross through the pedestrian lanes. As of 10 December, Israeli private security guards are present at the checkpoint along with the IDF for extra random security checks. Delays were experienced by pedestrians on a daily basis this week.
<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 IDs/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. As of 3 February 2006, Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross unless they also are employees at international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers or BMC Card holders.
<b>Az Za'ayyem</b> <i>North eastern entrance, on Road 1</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs, internationals, Palestinians working for international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and BMC Card holders. Palestinian permit holders who do not belong to one of these categories are not allowed to cross since this is not one of the four Israeli-designated terminals into Jerusalem.
<b>Ar Ram</b> <i>Northern entrance, on Road 60</i>	Open for internationals, diplomats, Palestinians working for international organisations and residents of the southern part of Dahiyat al Bareded whose names and ID numbers are registered on a list at the checkpoint. All other Palestinians, both holders of Jerusalem IDs and permit holders, are not allowed to cross since this is not one of the four Israeli-designated terminals into Jerusalem.
<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 IDs/national passports in addition to their UN ID cards.
<b>Ramot Alon</b> <i>North western entrance on Road 436</i>	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with East 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.
<b>Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint</b>	Operating 24 hours for Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and UN and international organisations. West Bank Palestinians need permits to cross. West Bank vehicles are not allowed to cross. Commercial trucks transporting merchandise from places other than Shu'fat Camp are not allowed to cross and must use Beituniya checkpoint.
<b>Container ("Wadi nar")</b> <i>East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank</i>	Operating for all Palestinian vehicles without permits and for internationals. Israeli yellow-plated cars are not allowed to cross.
<b>Az Zaytoun (olive)</b> <i>North eastern entrance on Road 1</i>	Operating 24 hours. Access is permitted for Jerusalem ID holders, other 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> <i>Between Abu Dis and Ras al</i>	Closed. Access is allowed only for military and Barrier construction contractors.

<i>'Amoud</i>	
<b>Lazarus</b>	Closed. Access is allowed only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
<b>Bir Nabala / Rafat / Masyion</b> <i>On the new road between Rafat and Bir Nabala village</i>	Was moved northward to the new Israeli-built Rafat road and has become closer to the Ramallah neighbourhood of Masyion.
<b>Jaba' Between Jaba' Junction and Qalandiya CP</b>	Random checks by IDF soldiers. Delays of up to 20 minutes were reported on a daily basis during the morning and evening rush hours for Palestinians traveling to Ramallah.
<b>Atarot junction</b> <i>At roundabout leading to bypass Road 45</i>	Manned by the Border Police. Vehicle checks for those traveling towards Qalandiya and Beit Hanina are conducted.
<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. Operating 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinian permit holders. West Bank Palestinians (including those working for the UN and other international agencies) must walk through the terminal to undergo search procedures. Jerusalem ID holders travelling to Bethlehem City are asked to show their IDs. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to cross only if driven by a Palestinian with Israeli citizenship. Palestinians holding valid work permits can access East Jerusalem and Israel through this checkpoint. During the reporting period, Palestinian workers from Bethlehem and Hebron governorates holding valid work permits were obliged to stay overnight at Gilo checkpoint in order to reach their work places inside Israel on schedule.
<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 An Nu'man and 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 2007, the checkpoint is open to settlers from 0600 to 1800 hours to allow them to travel on the newly opened Jerusalem-Gush Herodion highway.
<b>Ein Yallow/AI Walaja</b> <i>Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line</i>	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Operating 24 hours only for Israeli-plated cars, international organisations and commercial trucks.
<b>Beit Jala DCO, Partial CP</b> <i>Entrance to Beit Jala</i>	Rarely-manned. Operating 24 hours and movement is allowed in both directions for all vehicles.
<b>Tunnels</b> <i>Road 60 at Har Gilo</i>	Operating 24 hours. Manned by the Israeli Border Police and private security personnel since 23 February 2007. Palestinians working for international organisations are requested to show their local IDs and permits to cross into Jerusalem. Other Palestinian permit holders are not allowed to cross and are redirected to Gilo checkpoint. Commercial trucks are permitted to cross from 1100 to 1600 hours. Palestinian ambulances use the back-to-back system to send patients to hospitals in East Jerusalem or Israel.
<b>Mizpe Shalem – Efrata Settlers' CP</b>	Open 24 hours. Manned by Israeli settlers and there are restrictions on the movement of Palestinians beyond it.
<b>Gush Etzion</b> <i>On Road 60, at Etzion roundabout</i>	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers sometimes check northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
<b>Wadi Fukin</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 375. Not on the Green Line</i>	Operating 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations.
<b>AI Jab'a</b> <i>Crossing to Israel on Road 36. Not on the Green Line</i>	Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations. Land levelling is ongoing to enlarge the checkpoint.
<b>Betar Illit</b> <i>Access to the settlement of Betar Illit and nearby Palestinian lands.</i>	Palestinian land owners can access the land upon showing personal IDs.
<b>Mitzpe Shalem</b> <i>On Road 90, along Dead Sea</i>	Operating 24 hours; restricted for Palestinian movement.
<b>Hebron :</b>	
<b>Beit Awwa, Partial CP</b> <i>At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354</i>	Crossing on Road 354. Manned by the Border Police. Operating 24 hours with occasional ID checks. Employees for MSF (Médecins Sans Frontier/Doctors Without Borders) reported experiencing thorough checks and maltreatment, especially while trying to reach Palestinian families living along the road leading to the settlement of Negohot.
<b>Tarquimiya</b> <i>Entrance for commercial goods</i>	Palestinian workers from Bethlehem and Hebron governorates holding valid work permits are allowed to cross from 0500 to 1700 hours.



<i>(back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates. Not on the Green Line.</i>	'Family visits' coordinated by ICRC for Palestinians detained in Israel have been carried out as normal through this checkpoint. During the reporting period, long delays of trucking movement were reported due to the new procedures enforced by the IDF after the opening of the new Targumiya Terminal.
<b>Meitar</b> <i>Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line.</i>	Manned by the Border Police and operating from 0500 to 1900 hours. Checks are conducted using palm identification. Palestinian workers with valid permits are permitted to cross. During the reporting period, Palestinian workers were allowed to reach their work places inside Israeli through this checkpoint. Incidents of Palestinian workers holding valid work permits sleeping overnight at the checkpoint to ensure for themselves a reasonable chance of accessing Israel have also been reported.
<b>Shani</b> <i>At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317. On the Green Line.</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> <i>On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizel. Not on the Green Line</i>	Operating 24 hours and manned by the IDF. Restricts the movement of Palestinians living near the settlement of Beit Yatir south of the checkpoint. The Terminal is operational and the checkpoint was pushed back behind the roundabout. Palestinians living in Imneizil can now 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 the checkpoint and in the Tel Rumeida area. Access is possible only on foot. Palestinians and internationals have to go through a mobile metal detector.
<b>Ibrahimi Mosque, H2</b> <i>Access to the Mosque</i>	Worshippers and visitors are searched upon entry. Residents living near 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 allows passage to international humanitarian organisations although TIPH staff have reported being able to use it.
<b>Bab Al-Khan, H2</b> <i>Entrance to Avraham Avinu</i>	Closed to Palestinians travelling to Shohada Street and north toward the market.
<b>Tel Rumeida, H2</b> <i>Beginning of street leading to settlement</i>	Open to Palestinian pedestrians living between the checkpoint and the settlement. A military order was issued on 17 July 2006 that declared the area beyond the checkpoint a "Closed Area", barring the entry of anyone except Israeli citizens, the IDF, Israeli Police and those with an IDF-issued permit.
<b>Al Kasaba, H2</b> <i>Exit from the Kasaba, old city (Tomb of the Patriarchs)</i>	Filters Palestinian movement from the Kasaba area directed to the Tomb of the Patriarchs. Palestinians exiting Al Kasaba must go through several turnstiles and a metal detector that allow one person to pass at a time. The process is slow 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 official access point for international organisations into the Old City of Hebron. Palestinians have to go through a mobile metal detector.
<b>Ar Ramadin</b> <i>Not on the Green Line.</i>	This checkpoint was removed on 17 October 2007. Located at intersection between Ar Ramadin entrance and Road 325.
<b>Halhul – Sa'ir, Partial CP</b> <i>Also called 'Nabi Younis' CP)</i>	Located at Halhul's entrance on the junction between Halhul and Sa'ir on Road 60. Monitored from the nearby observation tower.
<b>Al Fawwar, Partial CP</b> <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/Chekpoints</b>	
<b>Erez crossing</b>	Erez was open on six days this week for the movement of Palestinian traders as well as diplomats, international humanitarian workers, and critical medical cases with special coordination arrangements. Appendix for daily log of movement is based on information provided by the Palestinian civil affairs office, due to the absence of Palestinian DCL staff at the present time:  <b>16 December:</b> Erez was open for internationals and Palestinians with special coordination arrangements. In addition, 487 pilgrims were allowed to leave Gaza via Erez and then proceed to Allenby Bridge en route to Jordan.

	<p><b>17 December:</b> Erez was open for internationals and Palestinians with special coordination arrangements. In addition, 216 pilgrims were allowed to leave Gaza via Erez and then proceed to Allenby Bridge en route to Jordan.</p> <p>The crossing remains closed for Palestinian workers since 12 March 2006.</p>
<b>Rafah Passenger Terminal</b>	Rafah crossing continues to be closed. It was last open on 9 June.
<b>Commercial checkpoints:</b>	
<b>Tulkarm/Qalqiliya</b>	
<b>Taybeh (Green Line CP)</b>	A private Israeli company controls traffic movement. The back-to-back system is operational for goods traffic from 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday. Closed on Fridays and Saturdays.
<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 and 0600 to 1300 hours on Fridays. Closed on Saturday. About 120 commercial trucks have permits to cross whereas all other loads must be transferred using the back-to-back system.
<b>Jenin</b>	
<b>Al Jalama (Green Line CP)</b> <i>Main commercial checkpoint</i>	Open between 0800 to 1600 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1200 hours on Fridays.
<b>Tubas</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> <i>Main entrance to Israel</i>	Located north of Tubas. Since 9 January 2007, the checkpoint is open from 1000 to 1800 hours Sunday through Thursday and 0600 to 1200 hours on Fridays. Closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley area to export their agricultural produce to Israel using the back-to-back system.
<b>Ramallah/AI Bireh</b>	
<b>Beituniya</b> <i>Back-to-back checkpoint</i>	Operating from 0700 to 1700 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1300 hours on Fridays. Closed on Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for commercial goods (back-to-back system). Only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to cross without using the back-to-back system, but only if the bill of lading stipulates Kafr 'Aqab and/or Sameeramees as offloading destinations. It is not open for private cars or pedestrians. As of 1 July, UN staff and diplomats are not allowed to cross.
<b>Hebron</b>	
<b>Tarqumiya</b> <i>West of Hebron on Road 35</i>	Entrance for commercial goods from both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates. The back-to-back section is open from 0700 to 1700 hours Sunday to Thursday and 0700 to 1300 on Fridays. All cargo is checked by the Border Police and a container x-ray machine is in place. Long delays of commercial trucks were reported this week.
<b>Gaza Strip</b>	
<b>Karni</b>	The conveyor belt operated on three days this week (12, 17, and 18 December) for the transfer of grains and animal feed into Gaza. However, since 12 June, it has remained closed for all other imports and all exports.
<b>Sufa</b>	Sufa crossing continues to be closed since 28 October. However, on 16 and 17 December, the crossing was open for the import of livestock only.
<b>Kerem Shalom</b>	Kerem Shalom was open on six days this week for the entry of commercial and humanitarian goods. On 14 and 16 December, the crossing was closed for the export of strawberries and flowers.
<b>Nahal Oz Energy Pipelines</b>	Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open on six scheduled operating days. On 15 December, they were closed for the weekend.

**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 Organisation (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.