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Chronology

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CHRONOLOGY

16 FEBRUARY–15 MAY 2004

COMPILED BY MICHELE K. ESPOSITO

This section is part eighty-two of a chronology begun in JPS 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect Eastern Standard Time. For a more comprehensive overview of events related to the al-Aqsa intifada and of regional and international developments related to the peace process, see the Quarterly Update on Conflict and Diplomacy in this issue.

16 FEBRUARY

The **Israel Defense Force (IDF)** fires on residential areas of Rafah, fatally shooting a **Palestinian** standing nr. his home; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, seriously wounding a 2d Palestinian man outside his shop; erects 2 new observation towers outside Khan Yunis; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Dura nr. Hebron. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received during the 2/11 **IDF** raid on Gaza City. (VOP 2/16 in WNC 2/18; PCHR 2/19)

17 FEBRUARY

The **IDF** fires on Palestinian farmers working their fields nr. Khan Yunis, seriously wounding 1; fires on a Khan Yunis cemetery, wounding 1 Palestinian; detains 4 Palestinian fishermen off the coast of Dayr al-Balah; bulldozes 45 dunams (4 dunams = 1 acre) of Palestinian agricultural land, irrigation works nr. Rafah; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, in Dahaysha refugee camp (r.c.), nr. Jenin, in Qalqilya; orders confiscation of 141 dunams of land in al-Mughayar village e. of Jenin for construction of the **separation wall**. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received earlier. (VOP 2/17 in WNC 2/19; PCHR 2/19)

18 FEBRUARY

In an incident in Dayr al-Balah, **IDF** soldiers grant permission to an **international delegation**, including 3 **UN staff members**, to visit and question a local **Palestinian family**, provided they stay only 30 mins. and not enter the family's home; the delegation complies, but as it is leaving, an **IDF** soldier deliberately shoots the 15 yr.

old son of the family fr. a distance of 20 m., hitting him in the back, partially paralyzing him; the international team transports the boy to a Gaza City hospital. **IDF** also fires on residential areas of Brazil r.c., wounding an 11-yr-old Palestinian boy; bulldozes 15 dunams of land, demolishes a **Palestinian home** nr. Jenin, 1 in Salfit nr. Nablus, a poultry farm in Dayr al-Balah; conducts arrest raids in Bayt Hanina, Gaza City, nr. Jenin. Armed **Jewish settlers** attack a Palestinian neighborhood in Hebron, seriously beating a **13-yr.-old Palestinian girl**. In Jenin, **unidentified assailants** open fire on **Palestinian Authority (PA) health minister Jawad al-Tibi**, **Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction head Muhammad Ishtiyya** during a visit to inaugurate a new hospital; neither is injured. (VOP 2/18 in WNC 2/20; PCHR 2/19; VOP 2/19 in WNC 2/21; LAW, PCHR 2/26; HA, DUS 2/28)

U.S. National Security Council Middle East Adviser Elliott Abrams, **Dep. National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley**, **Asst. Secy. of State William Burns** arrive in **Israel** for 3 days of talks with senior Israeli, Palestinian officials on **Israeli PM Ariel Sharon** plan for unilateral disengagement fr. Gaza. (MM 2/18; VOP 2/18 in WNC 2/20; BBC, HA, MM, WT 2/19; VOP 2/19 in WNC 2/21; MM, NYT, WP, WT 2/20; HA 2/22; WP 2/26; *Forward* 2/28) (see Quarterly Update)

19 FEBRUARY

The **IDF** transfers a **West Bank administrative detainee** to Gaza for 4 yrs. (see Quarterly Update); fires on 4 Palestinians, allegedly **al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade (AMB)** mbrs. attempting to infiltrate Gaza's Gush Katif settlement, killing 2 **Palestinians**,

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capturing 1; fires tear gas, rubber-coated steel bullets into a school playground, wounding 3 children; bulldozes 120 dunams of land in al-Mughraqa; conducts house searches in al-Qarara nr. Khan Yunis. In Khan Yunis, **unidentified gunmen** open fire on the office of **Palestinian Council (PC) mbr. Ibrahim Abu Naja**, a close ally of **PA head Yasir Arafat**, causing significant damage but no injuries. (PCHR 2/19; HA 2/20; LAW, PCHR 2/26)

20 FEBRUARY

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids in Bayt Sahur, Bethlehem, Qalqilya, and nr. Dayr al-Balah; bulldozes 8 dunams of olive groves, 4 greenhouses in Dayr al-Balah; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, Nablus. **Palestinians** fire an antitank missile at an **IDF** patrol in Gaza, lightly injuring 2 soldiers. **Palestinians** also fire a **mortar** at an **IDF** patrol outside a Jewish settlement in Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. In Hebron, **3 IDF soldiers** are wounded in a friendly fire incident. Nr. Qalqilya, **100s of Jewish settlers** block the **IDF** fr. removing a caravan fr. an unauthorized settlement outpost. (VOP 2/20 in WNC 2/24; HA 2/21; LAW, PCHR 2/26)

21 FEBRUARY

The **IDF** fatally shoots a **Palestinian** who strays too close to the Gaza border fence nr. al-Bureij. r.c.; bulldozes 20 dunams of land outside Gaza City, 3 dunams in Rafah; fires on residential areas of Rafah. Nr. Bethlehem, **Jewish settlers** fire on local Palestinians fr. moving vehicles, seriously wounding at least 3. (JP 2/21; VOP 2/21 in WNC 2/24; NYT 2/22; LAW, PCHR 2/26)

22 FEBRUARY

An **AMB suicide bomber** fr. Husan detonates a device on a bus in Jerusalem, killing **8 Israelis**, wounding 50. Israel says that the attack is proof that Israel needs to build the **separation wall**. The **IDF** immediately sends troops into Husan, seals nearby Bethlehem. The **IDF** also bars an ambulance fr. crossing a checkpoint to reach a Hebron hospital, allowing an ailing **Palestinian woman** to die; fires in residential areas of Rafah; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Aida r.c., Balata r.c., Bethlehem; issues orders expropriating 27 dunams of Palestinian land until 12/05 for construction

of a security fence around Gaza's **Netzarim settlement**. A **Hamas mbr.** dies in Khan Yunis when a missile he is trying to fire prematurely explodes. Palestinians report that the **IDF** has recently begun barring Palestinians under age 35 fr. crossing checkpoints around Nablus. On the eve of the International Court of Justice hearings on the wall (see Quarterly Update), **Israel** begins dismantling a 5-mi. stretch of the barrier running east of the n. West Bank village of Baqa' al-Sharqiyya; the wall running west of the village will remain; Israel also reportedly plans not to build a 12.5 mi. stretch of wall cutting Jenin off fr. the Jordan Valley, not to dig deep trenches around Ben-Gurion Airport, to remove 2,953 feet of wall in the Qalqilya area. **Palestinians** across the territories begin holding demonstrations against the wall to coincide with the hearings. **Jewish settlers** throw rocks, bottles at Palestinian cars in East Jerusalem. (AFP, NYT, WP, WT 2/22; VOP, XIN 2/22 in WNC 2/24; HA, MM, NYT, WP, WT 2/23; AFP, MENA 2/23 in WNC 2/25; *al-Quds* 2/23 in WNC 2/26; AP 2/25; PCHR 2/26; MM 3/12)

23 FEBRUARY

The **IDF** fires live ammunition at Palestinian youths who throw stones at troops at the end of an otherwise peaceful demonstration in Hebron against the **separation wall**, wounding 8 Palestinians, including 1 medic; fires live ammunition, tear gas, rubber-coated steel bullets to break up peaceful demonstrations against the wall in Bethlehem, Jenin, Qalqilya, Ramallah, Tulkarm; conducts arrest raids, blows up the **home** of the 2/22 Palestinian suicide bomber in Husan; demolishes a 2d **Palestinian home** in Salfit; conducts arrest raids in Balata r.c., Bayt Jala, Bethlehem, Dahaysha r.c., Tarqumiyya nr. Hebron, Wadi al-Silqa nr. Dayr al-Balah; fires on Palestinian fisherman off Dayr al-Balah, halts 1 boat, arrests 6 fishermen. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ofra attack Palestinians in Silwad nr. Ramallah. (PM 2/23; LAW, PCHR 2/26; *Guardian* 2/27)

24 FEBRUARY

The **IDF** opens fire on Palestinians attempting to block bulldozers fr. clearing land nr. Bayt Surik for construction of the **separation wall**, wounding at least 1; demolishes a **Palestinian home** in Sawahara al-Sharqiyya nr. Jerusalem for construction of the wall; begins construction of a new 42 km wall

segment btwn. Elkana settlement nr. Qalqilya and Ofer detention center s. of Ramallah; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Artas nr. Bethlehem, in Rafah, in camps and villages around Hebron and Jenin; raids, seals a Tulkarm charitable organization allegedly linked to **Hamas**, confiscating equipment, furniture. **PA security officials** confirm that **Hizballah** helped fund the 1/29 and 2/22 suicide bombings. (AFP, MM 2/24; VOP 2/24 in WNC 2/26; AP, NYT 2/25; HA, LAW, PCHR 2/26)

25 FEBRUARY

The **IDF** imposes a curfew on Ramallah, along with **Shin Bet** raids 4 banks to seize \$6.7 m.-\$9 m. from 400 accounts allegedly “linked to terrorist activities” (see Quarterly Update); troops clash with local Palestinians, leaving 57 wounded. The **IDF** also imposes a curfew on Husan; begins bulldozing land nr. Netzarim settlement confiscated on 2/23; demolishes a **Palestinian home** in Bayt Hanina; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Aida r.c., Balata r.c., Bayt Fajr, Bayt Jala, Bethlehem. In the n. Israel village of Be’enei, **Israeli authorities** demolish 3 **Israeli Arab homes** that were “illegally built,” bulldoze 10.5 dunams of olive groves, clash with residents (wounding 3, arresting 6). (AP, HA, IDF press release, PRCS 2/25; AFP, VOP 2/25 in WNC 2/27; HA, LAW, NYT, PCHR, REU, WP, WT 2/26; VOP 2/26 in WNC 2/28; CSM, *Guardian*, MM 2/27; AYM, JT 2/27 in WNC 3/2; JT 3/2 in WNC 3/4; MM, PR 3/3; MM 3/4; PCHR 3/11)

26 FEBRUARY

The **IDF** transfers a **West Bank administrative detainee** to Gaza for 5 yrs.; opens fire on stone-throwing Palestinian youths at the end of a **separation wall** demonstration nr. Bayt Surik and Biddu, killing 2 **Palestinians**, wounding 20; blows up 2 **Palestinian homes** in Aida r.c.; conducts arrest raids in al-Arub r.c.; fires on residential areas of al-Qarara. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids in Ramallah, temporarily blocking access to **Arafat’s** compound, occupying the Palestinian Medical Relief offices as an observation post, shooting and wounding 1 Palestinian. In Gaza, 2 **AMB mbrs.** crawl through a sewer pipe to get into the Erez Industrial Zone (inside Gaza), where they fatally shoot 2 **IDF soldiers** before being shot dead themselves. A group of **Israelis** stabs,

beats, seriously injures a **Palestinian** in West Jerusalem; police arrest 1 Israeli. (HA, MM, REU 2/26; VOP 2/26 in WNC 2/28; MM, NYT, WP, WT 2/27; VOP 2/27 in WNC 3/2; PR 3/3; PCHR 3/4)

27 FEBRUARY

An **Islamic Jihad suicide bomber** on a bicycle detonates a device nr. Gaza’s Kefar Darom settlement, killing only himself, causing no injuries. **Palestinian gunmen** open fire on an Israeli vehicle just inside Israel nr. Beersheba, killing 2 **Israelis**, escaping; the **AMB, Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine–General Command (PFLP–GC)** claim responsibility. The **IDF** storms the **al-Aqsa Mosque** compound after Friday prayers, claiming to break up a demonstration there, firing rubber-coated steel bullets and percussion grenades, lightly injuring several Palestinians and sparking stone-throwing toward the Western Wall by Palestinian youths, which causes no injuries. The **IDF** also demolishes 84 **Palestinian shops** in Bayt Hanun, in an apparent move to expand the buffer zone around the Erez crossing; raids Husan, imposes a curfew, surrounds 3 mosques, fires tear gas inside, injuring 24 worshipers; fires on Palestinians who throw stones at soldiers at the end of peaceful demonstrations against the **separation wall** in Budrus, Qibya, causing no injuries; conducts arrest raids nr. Hebron, Ramallah; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis; withdraws troops fr. the Palestinian Medical Relief offices in Ramallah, occupied on 2/26. **Palestinians** fire a **Qassam rocket** at Neve Dekalim settlement, causing damage but no injuries. (VOP 2/27 in WNC 3/2; NYT, PCHR, WT 2/28; PR 3/3; PCHR 3/4)

28 FEBRUARY

The **IDF** assassinates **Islamic Jihad military cmdr. Muhammad Judah**, firing missiles at his car as he drives through Jabaliya r.c., also killing his 2 passengers, **Islamic Jihad mbr. Amin Daduh** and his brother Ayman Daduh (not a mbr. of the group), wounding 11 bystanders (including 3 children). The **IDF** also fires on Palestinian schoolchildren nr. Nablus, seriously injuring an 11-yr.-old boy; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis; conducts house searches, fires on residential areas, damages vehicles in Surif nr. Hebron. In Gaza City, 20 **Palestinian gunmen** raid the **PA Land Authority** offices, demanding that property

be transferred to their names. In Khan Yunis, **40 AMB mbrs.** raid the **Palestinian Broadcasting Company** offices in what they say is a protest against economic conditions, demand jobs in the PA. (AFP, NYT, WP, WT 2/28; LBC, PSCT, VOP 2/28 in WNC 3/2; NYT, PR 3/3; PCHR 3/4)

29 FEBRUARY

In an apparent assassination, the **IDF** raids Balata r.c., fatally shoots **wanted AMB mbr. Muhammad Oweiss**, allows him to bleed to death. At Oweiss's funeral later in the day, the **IDF** fires on mourners outside the mosque, killing **wanted AMB mbr. Rihad Abu Shallah**, wounding 3 bystanders. The **IDF** also fires on residential areas of Rafah; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bethlehem, Jenin, Nablus. **Israel's High Court** orders a 1-wk. halt to construction of the **separation wall**, while it considers a petition fr. the Israeli-Palestinian group, **Popular Comm. Against the Wall**. In Gaza City, **1,000s of Palestinians** take part in the funeral of Islamic Jihad military leader **Judah**, assassinated on 2/28. In Yatta nr. Hebron, **Jewish settlers** seize Palestinian land, begin constructing concrete platforms for mobile homes. (NYT, WP 3/1; PCHR 3/4; Gush Shalom press release 3/6)

1 MARCH

The **IDF** fires on residential areas of Gaza City; fires on stone-throwing youths in Burqa nr. Nablus. **Unidentified gunmen** assassinate **Arafat's close adviser Khalil Zabin**, shooting him 12 times as he leaves his Gaza City office (see Quarterly Update). **Jewish settlers** fr. Tekoa nr. Bethlehem seize, bulldoze 20 dunams of land in neighboring al-Rashayda. (VOP 3/1 in WNC 3/3; BBC, MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/2; VOP 3/2 in WNC 3/4; CSM, PR 3/3; PCHR 3/4; PR 3/17)

In Washington, **Sharon chief of staff Dov Weisglass**, **Israel's National Security Adviser Giora Eiland** meet with **U.S. Secy. of State Colin Powell**, **U.S. National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice** to discuss "practical steps" to carry out Sharon's disengagement plan. (WT 3/1; MM, NYT 3/2; WP 3/3; MM 3/5; HA, MM 3/10) (see Quarterly Update)

2 MARCH

The **IDF** announces plans to "intensify our antiterror operations" in Gaza, saying

the aim is to "eliminate as many terrorists as possible" before a unilateral Israeli pullout fr. the Strip. **IDF** troops raid Yatta, fatally shoot an unarmed **Palestinian** outside his home when he allegedly fails to obey orders to halt, begin to bulldozes his house, then suddenly leave, raising suspicions that the man killed was not the man the soldiers intended to target. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids in Balata r.c., Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah, Tulkarm; conducts house searches in Bayt Hanun; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis. **Jewish settlers** install 6 mobile homes at Einav e. of Tulkarm. (HA, WT 3/3; VOP 3/2 in WNC 3/4; PCHR 3/4)

3 MARCH

An **IDF** helicopter fires missiles at a car driving outside Gaza City, assassinating **3 senior Hamas mbrs. Tarad Jamal** (local military cmdr.), **Ibrahim Dayri**, **Ammar Hassan**; fatally shoots an **AMB mbr.** brandishing an assault rifle who approaches an **IDF** patrol in Tulkarm. The **IDF** also transfers a **West Bank administrative detainee** to Gaza; raids Hebron University, damages an exhibit on Palestinian culture; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis (seriously wounding a 6-yr.-old Palestinian inside his home), Rafah, Tulkarm r.c.; conducts arrest raids in Husan and al-Khadir nr. Bethlehem, Nablus, Tulkarm. **Palestinians** toss an explosive device at a Jewish settler vehicle nr. Hebron, lightly wounding **1 Jewish settler**. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received during the separation wall protest at Biddu on 2/26. (HA, PR 3/3; LBC, VOP 3/3 in WNC 3/5; MM, NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 3/4; PCHR 3/11)

4 MARCH

Israel seals the West Bank, Gaza through 3/7 for the Purim holidays. The **IDF** makes a major raid on Rafah in search for smugglers' tunnels, fatally shooting a **14-yr.-old Palestinian boy** nr. his school, wounding 9, firing on an ambulance, demolishing **1 Palestinian home**, severely damaging 21 homes plus water and electrical works, bulldozing 23 dunams of land; no tunnels are found. In an apparent assassination, the **IDF** also shells the home of the **Palestinian Resistance Comms. (PRC) Rafah head Awni Kulab**, killing him, seriously injuring his wife and son; conducts arrest raids nr. Hebron, in Qalqilya; bulldozes 600 dunams of Palestinian land btwn. the **separation wall**

and the Green Line outside Qalqilya. **Jewish settlers** conduct patrols with **IDF** soldiers in Hebron, photograph Palestinian homes, raid and vandalize 1. (AFP, MM, REU 3/4; VOP 3/4, *al-Quds*, VOP 3/5 in WNC 3/12; NYT, WT 3/5; PM 3/9; PR 3/10; PCHR 3/11)

5 MARCH

The **IDF** sends troops into Ramallah to surround **Arafat's** headquarters, check identities of anyone going in or out; tightens roadblocks around al-Ram and the n. Jordan Valley; reinforces troops in, fires on residential areas of Rafah; fires on residential areas of Jaba' nr. Jenin, seriously wounding a 10-yr.-old Palestinian playing outside his home; conducts arrest raids in Balata r.c., Bethlehem, Nablus, Qalqilya. A **10-yr.-old Palestinian** dies of injuries received in the **IDF** assassination of 2 Islamic Jihad mbrs. on 2/28. **Jewish settlers** in Hebron uproot 150 Palestinian trees along the road fr. Kiryat Arba to the al-Ibrahimi Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs. (VOP 3/5 in WNC 3/12; WT 3/6; MM 3/8; LAW, PCHR 3/11; MEI 3/19)

6 MARCH

In Gaza, **4 armed Palestinians** in jeeps disguised to look like **IDF** jeeps try to attack the **IDF** post at Erez crossing; the **1st attacker** detonates his jeep outside a gate, apparently as a diversion; the **2d attacker** drives to a **PA Preventive Security Forces (PSF)** post at the crossing, detonates his jeep, killing himself, **2 PSF officers**, wounding 19 PSF officers, Palestinian taxi drivers; the **3d and 4th attackers** crash their jeep into the **IDF** post, trade gunfire with **IDF** soldiers before being shot dead; no **IDF** soldiers are injured. The **AMB, Hamas, Islamic Jihad** issue a joint statement accepting responsibility, naming 2 **AMB**, 1 **Hamas**, Islamic Jihad mbr. as the attackers. The **IDF** withdraws troops surrounding **Arafat's** Ramallah compound (see 3/5); lifts a curfew on Husan that has been in place since 2/27; fatally shoots a **PSF officer** in Tulkarm and fires on a **PSF** post in Bayt Hanun (wounding 1 **PSF officer**) for no apparent reason; fires on residential areas of Rafah; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bethlehem, nr. Hebron; bulldozes 15 dunams of land along the Hebron-Bethlehem road for construction of a 2-km fence to protect Jewish settler vehicles traveling on a nearby bypass road. **Jewish settlers** fr. Hebron raze 110 dunams of Palestinian land nr. Yatta (see

2/29). (NYT, WP, WT 3/7; PR 3/10; LAW, PCHR 3/11)

7 MARCH

The **IDF** attempts a predawn raid on Bureij r.c., Nussayrat r.c. in Gaza, but meets fierce resistance (rifle fire, rocket-propelled grenades, homemade antitank weapons, Molotov cocktails) fr. **Palestinian militants**, who prevent them fr. entering the camps and almost cut off their exit; the **IDF** is forced to call in helicopter gunships, reinforcements to evacuate; at least **14 Palestinians** (9 **Hamas** mbrs., 1 **PRC** mbr., 4 bystanders) are killed, 83 injured during the 8-hr. battle; no **IDF** soldiers are killed or wounded. The **IDF** also beats, injures 12 Palestinian protesters in Bayt Duqqu n. of Jerusalem; blows up a **Palestinian home** nr. Jenin; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, seriously wounding a woman inside her home; conducts arrest raids in Bethlehem, Jenin, al-Qarara. (NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 3/7; DUS, VOP 3/7 in WNC 3/12; BBC, CSM, HA, MM 3/8; PR 3/10; LAW, PCHR 3/11; MEI 3/19)

8 MARCH

The **IDF** lifts the seal on the West Bank, Gaza imposed on 3/4; fires on Palestinians working their fields in s. Gaza who stray too close to Morag settlement, killing a **Palestinian teenager**; fires on the boy's funeral procession later in the day, wounding 1; fatally shoots a **Palestinian** grocer in Salfit during an arrest raid; fires live ammunition, rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international demonstrators holding a peaceful protest against the **separation wall** nr. Bayt Laqia, injuring 10s; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Nablus, Qalqilya, and in Nablus, al-Qarara; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, Rafah. A **Jewish settler** beats up a young **Palestinian woman** in Hebron; **IDF soldiers** observe but do not intervene. A **16-yr.-old Palestinian** dies of injuries received when he was deliberately run over by a **Jewish settler** in East Jerusalem a wk. ago. (MM 3/8; VOP 3/8 in WNC 3/12; BBC, WP 3/9; PR 3/10; PCHR 3/11; MEI 3/19)

9 MARCH

The **IDF** raids Jenin, fatally shooting a **Palestinian woman** hanging laundry on her roof, wounding an **Agence**

France-Press (AFP) photographer; places a closure on Qalqilya; fires on residential areas in Khan Yunis, nr. Qalqilya and Ramallah; conducts arrest raids nr. Jenin and in Balata r.c., Bayt Furik, al-Bireh, Dahaysha r.c., Nablus, Tulkarm r.c.; reimposes a curfew on Husan (see 3/6). **Rafah PRC head Kulab's pregnant wife**, injured during his 3/4 assassination, dies. (JTA, MM 3/9; PR 3/10; LAW, PCHR 3/11; HA 3/18)

Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) leader Muhammad Abbas (alias Abu Abbas), responsible for the 1985 Achille Lauro hijacking in which 1 American died, dies in U.S. custody in Iraq, where he was captured by U.S. forces in 4/03. (BBC, NYT, PR 3/10; WJW 3/11; NYT 3/12; PR 3/17; *al-Majallab* 3/21 in WNC 3/30)

10 MARCH

IDF undercover units ambush, assassinate **5 wanted AMB mbrs.** driving nr. Jenin. The **IDF** also sends troops, bulldozers into Rafah, firing on residential areas, bulldozing 1 **Palestinian home**, partially demolishing 6; demolishes 1 **Palestinian home** nr. Bethlehem; bars passage of an ambulance to a Khan Yunis hospital, allowing a **1-mo.-old Palestinian infant** to die at the checkpoint; fatally shoots a **14-yr.-old Palestinian** allegedly about to throw a Molotov cocktail at troops outside al-Arub r.c., hitting him 15 times in the back; fires on residential areas of Gaza City; conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Arub r.c., Balata r.c., Bayt Furik, al-Duha nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Saida nr. Tulkarm. **Palestinians** fire an antitank rocket at an **IDF** post at Gush Katif settlement, causing no damage or injuries. (AFP 3/10; VOP 3/10 in WNC 3/12; AFP, HA, LAW, PCHR, WP, WT 3/11; PCHR 3/18)

11 MARCH

The **IDF** raids a high school nr. Nablus, arrests a 10th grader; raids a mosque in al-Bireh, arresting 1 Palestinian; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, wounding a man on his roof; conducts house searches, arrest raids in Nablus, Rafah. In implementation of a new security plan (Quarterly Update), the **PA** deploys large numbers of **PSF** officers on the streets of Gaza City. (MM 3/11; HA 3/14; PR 3/17; PCHR 3/18)

The U.S.'s **Abrams, Burns, Hadley** arrive in Israel for further consultations on Sharon's disengagement plan. Meanwhile in

Washington, **Israeli DM Shaul Mofaz** briefs U.S. **VP Dick Cheney, Powell** on Israel's latest thinking regarding evacuating settlements, maintaining security control in Gaza postwithdrawal. In Cairo, **Israeli FM Silvan Shalom** meets with **Egyptian pres. Hosni Mubarak** and **FM Ahmad Maher**, who provide assurances that Egypt would secure its border with Gaza following an Israeli pull-out. (AFP, HA, JP, MM, NYT, REU 3/11; MENA 3/11 in WNC 3/13; MM, WP 3/12; MA 3/12 in WNC 3/16; PR 3/17; MEI 3/19)

12 MARCH

The **IDF** fires on residential areas nr. Bethlehem, Qalqilya; demolishes several **Palestinian homes** in Rafah, conducts house searches, arrest raids in Bethlehem; fires tear gas, percussion grenades at Palestinians demonstrating peacefully against the **separation wall** nr. Ramallah. The **IDF** also issues orders confiscating 32,000 dunams of West Bank land along the Green Line nr. Ariel settlement for construction of a 3-mi. segment of the **separation wall**. (VOP 3/12 in WNC 3/16; WT 3/13; PCHR 3/18)

13 MARCH

The **IDF** fatally shoots **2 armed Palestinians** who enter a closed military zone along the Gaza border with Israel; fatally shoots a **mentally handicapped Palestinian** nr. Nablus; raids, evacuates, closes a secondary school in Ya'bad nr. Jenin; fires on residential areas of al-Qarara, wounding a 14-yr.-old Palestinian outside his home; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus. (VOP 3/13 in WNC 3/16; WP 3/14; PCHR 3/18)

14 MARCH

An AMB mbr. and **a Hamas mbr.**, both fr. Gaza's Jabaliya r.c., stage a double **suicide bombing** inside Israel's Ashdod port, some 30 mi. north of the Strip, killing **11 Israelis**, wounding 20, and marking the 1st suicide bombing inside Israel staged fr. Gaza and the 1st targeting civilian infrastructure. **Hamas, AMB** issue a communiqué stating that "joint, qualitative operations" involving various factions will be their practice in the future. In response, the **IDF** launches air strikes against 3 metal foundries, a printing press (alleged weapons factories) in Gaza City, wounding 1 Palestinian. The **IDF** also fatally shoots **3 armed Palestinians** attempting to

infiltrate Netzarim settlement; fatally shoots a **Palestinian** during an arrest raid in Rafah; fires on Palestinians playing soccer on a field nr. Neve Dekalim settlement, wounding 1; fires rubber bullets, stun grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, international demonstrators protesting the **separation wall** nr. Mod'in Ilit settlement, wounding 10; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Aida r.c., al-Qarara and nr. Nablus, Qalqilya. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ma'ale Shomron nr. Qalqilya bulldoze 150 dunams of adjacent Palestinian land. **Jewish settlers** fr. Asfar nr. Hebron confiscate 60 dunams of nearby Yatta village land (see 3/6). (BBC, HA 3/14; VOP 3/14 in WNC 3/16; MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/15; MM 3/16; QA, *al-Quds* 3/16 in WNC 3/18; MM, PR 3/17; HA, PCHR, WJW 3/18; MEI 3/19; JPI 3/26; WP 4/1)

15 MARCH

Israel's security cabinet approves an aggressive new campaign (dubbed **Operation Continuous Story**) against Palestinian militants in Gaza following the 3/14 Ashdod bombings. The **IDF** closes Gaza's Erez crossing "indefinitely"; raids a mtg. of PA officials and local administrators in Jenin, arresting several participants, including the mayors of 2 local communities, 1 local council mbr.; fires on a **PSF** post at Netzarim junction in Gaza, seriously injuring 1 PSF officer, severely damaging the building; places a curfew on, fires on residential areas of Husan; shells residential areas of Rafah, demolishing 1 **Palestinian home**, heavily damaging 1, occupying a 3d as an observation post; seizes 4 **Palestinian homes** in Tulkarm, 2 in Balata r.c. as observation posts; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem, nr. Hebron; fires on stone-throwing youths in Balata r.c., wounding 1 teenager, 3 bystanders; fires live ammunition, rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at a group of Palestinian, Israeli, international protesters demonstrating against the **separation wall** nr. Ramallah, wounding 15. The **IDF** also allows 1 **West Bank administrative detainee** deported to Gaza in 9/02 to return to her West Bank home. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beitar Ilit nr. Bethlehem, accompanied by **IDF** soldiers, bulldoze 5 dunams of adjacent Palestinian olive groves. (VOP 3/15 in WNC 3/17; AFP, HA 3/16; MM, PR, REU, WP 3/17; MM, PCHR 3/18; MEI 3/19; PCHR 3/25)

16 MARCH

Overnight, the **IDF** destroys the educational studies campus of Gaza City's **al-Aqsa University**, blowing up 2 buildings and bulldozing the 5.5 dunam campus, 30 dunams of surrounding agricultural land. During the day, **IDF** helicopters fire missiles at the home of **Islamic Jihad leader Muhammad al-Hindi** in Gaza City, missing him but assassinating **Islamic Jihad mbrs. Nassir Yasin and Husni Sarafiti**, wounding at least 7 bystanders. **IDF** helicopters also fire missiles at the Rafah home of **PRC leader Faraj Abu Jarrar**, assassinating him, killing fellow **PRC mbr. Mahmud Abu Nahal**, wounding at least 6. The **IDF** also demolishes a **Palestinian home** nr. Nablus, 1 nr. Ramallah, 1 in Tulkarm r.c.; conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Bireh, Hebron, Jenin, al-Maghazi, Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Carmiel nr. Hebron, accompanied by **IDF** soldiers, bulldoze more than 10 dunams of nearby Yatta agricultural land. **Jewish settlers** fr. Mafdal Oz nr. Hebron seize, raze 13 dunams of nearby Palestinian agricultural land; **Jewish settlers** fr. Itamar nr. Nablus beat, threaten to kill a Palestinian fr. nearby Awarta village. Late in the evening, large formations of **IDF** armored vehicles gather outside the main entry points to the Gaza Strip in apparent preparation for a major incursion; Israeli security officials say that **Sharon** has authorized the **IDF** and **Shin Bet** to "act without limitations against top figures from all terror organizations." (HA, MM, PCHR 3/16; PSCT, VOP 3/16 in WNC 3/18; HA, NYT, PR, REU, WP 3/17; NYT, PCHR, WP 3/18; PR 3/24)

17 MARCH

The **IDF** sends tanks, troops into Rafah in search of smugglers' tunnels; comes under heavy fire from Palestinians but sustains no injuries; demolishes 31 **Palestinian homes** completely, 18 partially, damages 46 others; pulls out late in the evening without finding any tunnels. During the incursion, **IDF** helicopters fire missiles at 2 groups of Palestinian militants who approach soldiers, killing 2 **Palestinians**, wounding at least 7; fires a missile at a group of Palestinian children, killing 2 **Palestinian teenagers**, injuring 3; 8 other Palestinian bystanders are wounded during the day. Palestinians in Jabaliya r.c. barricade the camp in expectation of a major incursion. In the West

Bank, the **IDF** demolishes 3 **Palestinian homes** nr. Nablus, Ramallah, Tulkarm; conducts arrest raids in and around Bethlehem and Hebron, on the al-Najah University campus in Nablus, in Bayt Laqia and Qalqilya. **PSF officers** at a newly installed PSF checkpoint in central Gaza City attempt to stop, search a carload of **Hamas mbrs.**, who toss grenades, open fire on the officers, killing 1 **Palestinian bystander**, wounding 17 (more than 10 of them PSF officers). (HA, MM, REU 3/17; IDF Radio, PSCT, VOI, VOP 3/17 in WNC 3/19; MM, NYT, PCHR, WP 3/18; UNRWA press release 3/19; PR 3/24; PCHR 3/25)

18 MARCH

The **IDF** creates new sand barriers, fires on stone-throwing Palestinian youths in al-Maghazi; demolishes a **Palestinian home** in Bethlehem, ejects a Palestinian family fr. their home in Husan, converts it into an observation post; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis (wounding a woman inside her home), Rafah; fires stun grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international demonstrators protesting the **separation wall** nr. Mod'in Ilit. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received in Israeli's 3/17 missile attack on Rafah. (HA, PRCS 3/18; WT 3/19; PCHR 3/25)

19 MARCH

Hamas detonates a roadside bomb nr. Mughraqa, disabling an **IDF** tank, injuring 4 soldiers. In response, the **IDF** demolishes 5 **Palestinian homes** in Mughraqa. The **IDF** also fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis (killing a 7-yr.-old **Palestinian girl** playing outside her home), Rafah (wounding an 8-yr.-old boy); demolishes a **Palestinian home** in Bethlehem; conducts arrest raids nr. Hebron, Netzarim settlement. A **Palestinian** youth attempts to stab an **Israeli border policeman** in Jerusalem; is shot, wounded, arrested. **AMB gunmen** fatally shoot **George Khoury**, son of a prominent Israeli Arab attorney, nr. East Jerusalem's French Hill settlement, mistaking him for a **Jewish settler**; AMB issues an apology to the family, calling Khoury a martyr. Another **Palestinian** dies of injuries received during the IDF missile attack on Rafah on 3/17. (MM 3/19; VOP 3/19 in WNC 3/23; NYT, WP, WT 3/20; NYT, WP, WT 3/21; PR 3/24; HA, PCHR 3/25)

20 MARCH

The **IDF** fatally shoots a **Palestinian** in Balata r.c. **Jewish settlers** detain 3 **Palestinians** grazing their animals nr. Tekoa settlement, beat them, take them to the settlement and hold them for 7 hrs. (PCHR 3/25)

21 MARCH

The **IDF** raids Abasan nr. Khan Yunis in pursuit of **wanted Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades mbr. Basim Kadih**, fatally shooting him in an apparent assassination, also killing his **wife**, sparking an exchange of gunfire in which 3 **Hamas mbrs.** are killed (including 1 who is run over by an IDF jeep, then executed by an IDF soldier, who gets out of the jeep, shoots him in the head), wounding 10 others (at least 6 of whom are hit with live ammunition in the head and chest). The **IDF** then demolishes 5 **Palestinian homes** in Abasan, including Kadih's, and bulldozes 4 dunams of land. The **IDF** also fatally shoots 2 **Palestinians** nr. the Kissufim crossing; demolishes 2 **Palestinian homes** in Dahaysha r.c.; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis; fires on Palestinian, Israeli demonstrators protesting against the **separation wall** nr. Kharbata northwest of Ramallah, wounding at least 5 people, including a 9-yr.-old Palestinian boy, an Israeli hit in the eye; conducts arrest raids in Balata r.c., Nablus. 2 **Palestinians** die of injuries received earlier. (PCHR, XIN 3/21; VOP 3/21 in WNC 3/23; HA, WP 3/22; PCHR 3/25)

22 MARCH

The **IDF** assassinates **Hamas spiritual leader and founder Shaykh Ahmad Yasin**, firing 3 internationally banned flechette missiles at him as he leaves a Gaza City mosque after morning prayers, also killing 3 **bodyguards**, 4 **bystanders**, wounding at least 17 Palestinians, including Yasin's 2 sons. Immediately, **100,000s of Palestinians** take to the streets throughout the territories to protest the assassination. The **IDF** seals Gaza; clashes with Palestinian demonstrators in Balata r.c. (killing an **al-Najah Radio correspondent** in Balata r.c., apparently thinking his mobile phone was a weapon), Bethlehem, Dayr al-Balah, Hebron (fatally shooting 1 **Palestinian** watching fr. his balcony), Jenin, Khan Yunis (killing 3 **Palestinians**), Nablus; fires on residential areas of Rafah, Qalqilya, Tal Zu'rub; imposes a curfew on areas around Jenin, fires on

residential areas; temporarily occupies a **Palestinian home** as an IDF post nr. Dayr al-Balah. 100s of Palestinian youths in East Jerusalem gather at checkpoints to throw stones at IDF soldiers; **Palestinian prisoners** in 2 Israeli jails riot. Palestinians fire **Qassam rockets**, mortars, antitank rockets at Gush Katif and Netzarim settlements, nearby IDF posts, the western Negev, damaging 2 apartments in Netzarim but causing no injuries. An ax-wielding **Palestinian** fr. the West Bank village of Bidiyya wounds **3 Israelis** outside an army base in Tel Aviv before being arrested. An **unidentified assailant** said to be Arab stabs, lightly wounds **3 Israelis** on a Jaffa bus. **4 Palestinians** are arrested for beating up a **Jewish settler** in East Jerusalem. **Jewish settlers** detain, beat a **Palestinian** man in the Jordan Valley. An estimated **200,000 Palestinians**, including reps. of all Palestinian factions, take part in Yasin's funeral services later in the day, with **21 PSF officers** forming an honor guard for Yasin's coffin, Gaza churches ringing their bells, mosques broadcasting Qur'anic verses. Meanwhile, **Israeli defense chiefs** meet, agree to target the entire remaining **Hamis leadership** immediately, without waiting for another Hamis attack. **Israel** also announces that it will close the only mental health clinic serving East Jerusalem Palestinians (1,200 patients) because of "security concerns." (AP, BBC, CSM, HA, MA, MM, NYT, REU, WP, WT 3/22; AP, ATL, ITAR-TASS, MNR, MENA, IDF Radio, IRNA, ITAR-TASS, JP, VIRI, VOI, VOP, XIN 3/22 in WNC 3/24; al-Arabiyya TV [Dubai], Syrian Arab News Agency 3/22 in WNC 4/27; AFP, BBC, CSM, HA, JT, MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/23; AFP, AYM, DUS, HA, *al-Hayat al-Jadida*, JT, MA, MENA, *al-Ra'i*, THWR, TSHR, VIRI, YA 3/23 in WNC 3/25; MM, NYT, PR, WP 3/24; ATL, ITAR-TASS, *Izvestiya*, JT, *al-Ra'i*, SA, VOP, XIN 3/24 in WNC 3/26; AYM 3/24 in WNC 4/3; JT, MM, PCHR, WJW 3/25; ITAR-TASS, MENA, NHR, VIRI 3/25 in WNC 3/27; MM 3/26; MNR 3/27 in WNC 3/30; AYM 3/30, VOP 3/31 in WNC 4/2; MEI 4/2; PCHR 4/15)

In Washington, **Shalom** holds further talks on Sharon's disengagement plan with **VP Dick Cheney, Powell, Rice**. (WP 3/23)

23 MARCH

The **IDF** discovers, disarms a bomb underneath a truck with Israeli license plates at a checkpoint outside Nablus; fatally shoots **2 armed Palestinians** attempting to infiltrate Morag settlement; fires tear gas to

disperse a group of Palestinians in Hebron demonstrating against the Yasin assassination, causing an **elderly Palestinian** to suffocate, die; fires on stone-throwing youths outside al-Fawwar r.c. nr. Hebron, on residential areas of Rafah (wounding a Palestinian construction worker at an UNRWA school site, a Palestinian inside her home); conducts arrest raids, house searches in Jayyus nr. Qalqilya; bulldozes 62 dunams of Palestinian land in al-Qarara. In the Hebron area, **Palestinians** throw stones at IDF troops, Jewish settler vehicles on bypass roads, causing no injuries but forcing the IDF to close the bypass routes temporarily. The **Israeli navy** fires on a "suspicious object" in the water 2 mi. off Gaza's shore; **Palestinian fishermen** say they were targeted. **Palestinian gunmen** fire at a **Jewish settler** bus nr. Ofra, causing no injuries. **Palestinians** also fire a mortar at Gush Katif settlement, an antitank rocket at an IDF patrol in Gaza, causing no damage or injuries in either incident. In Israel, **1,000s of Israeli Arabs** in Nazareth march in protest of Yasin's assassination. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received in the IDF missile attack on Rafah on 3/17. (AFP, AP, HA 3/23; HA, WT 3/24; PCHR 3/25)

Hamis names hard-line **spokesman 'Abd al-'Aziz Rantisi** as acting political head in Gaza and **Hamis politburo chmn. Khalid Mishal**, currently in exile in Damascus, acting head of the whole movement. (HA, MM 3/23; VOP 3/23 in WNC 3/25; al-Arabiyya TV [Dubai] 3/23 in WNC 4/27; HA, MM, NYT, REU, WP, WT 3/24; IDF Radio, LBC, MA, *al-Quds*, SA, VOI 3/24 in WNC 3/26; WP, WT 3/25; AYM 3/25, *al-Quds* 3/26 in WNC 3/30)

24 MARCH

The **IDF** catches a **16-yr.-old Palestinian boy** wearing a suicide bomb at a checkpoint s. of Nablus, defuses the bomb, detains the boy; the Balata r.c. **AMB** takes responsibility, angering many Palestinians. The **IDF** also sends 25 tanks, bulldozers into Khan Yunis to raze 5 farms, **7 Palestinian homes** that allegedly "provided cover" for Palestinian gunmen, also demolishing a main road and effectively dividing the town in half; fires on stone-throwing Palestinians in Hebron (wounding 8), residential areas nr. Qalqilya; conducts arrest raids in Aida r.c., 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a r.c., Balata r.c., Dahaysha r.c., Jayyus, Nablus, Tubas nr. Jenin; temporarily occupies a **Palestinian home** nr.

Nablus as an observation post. **Palestinian gunmen** fire on an **IDF** patrol outside Gaza's Gadid settlement, lightly injuring 1 soldier; also fire on IDF soldiers nr. Ramallah, nr. Netzarim settlement, causing no damage or injuries. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received on 2/11. (BBC, HA, REU, WT 3/24; VOP 3/24 in WNC 3/26; MM, NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 3/25; AYM 3/26 in WNC 3/30; PR 3/31; PCHR 4/1; MEI 4/2; PR 4/7)

In Washington, **Weiglass**, **Eiland** present U.S. officials (including **Rice**) Sharon's "preferred plan" for unilateral disengagement fr. Gaza plus 6 settlements in the West Bank (Ganim, Hermesh, Homesh, Mevo Dotan, Qadim, Sa-Nur). (MM 3/24; MM 3/26; HA 3/28) (see Quarterly Update)

25 MARCH

The **IDF** fatally shoots **2 armed Hamas mbrs.** attempting to infiltrate Gaza's Tal Katifa settlement fr. the sea; demolishes **3 Palestinian homes** in Khan Yunis completely, 10 partially; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin and in Balata r.c., Nablus, Qabatya nr. Jenin, Salfit; imposes a curfew, fires on residential areas of Burqa. **71 prominent Palestinians** issue a public call for nonviolent protest against the Yasin assassination, renunciation of violence; the **AMB, Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades** denounce the statement. **3 Palestinians** (fr. Gaza City, Hebron, Rafah) die of injuries received earlier. (VOP 3/25 in WNC 3/27; MM, NYT 3/26; VOP 3/26 in WNC 3/30; MA, NYT 3/27; PR 3/31; PCHR 4/1; MEI 4/2; PR 4/7)

26 MARCH

The **IDF** fires on stone-throwing youths in Dahaysha r.c., killing **1 Palestinian**; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, Rafah (wounding a Palestinian playing soccer), conducts arrest raids in Anabta nr. Tulkarm, Bayt Sahur, Jenin, Salfit. In Nablus, an **AMB mbr.** dies when his car mysteriously explodes in what may be an assassination. **UN officials** note that nearly all food and other humanitarian aid to Gaza has ceased since Israel closed the Erez crossing on 3/15, warn that a humanitarian crisis could ensue if Israel does not ease restrictions. On the 1st Friday after **Yasin's** assassination, **10,000s of Palestinians** protest across the West Bank and Gaza. (VOP 3/26 in WNC 3/30; NYT, WT 3/27; AFP 3/30; PR 3/31; PCHR 4/1)

27 MARCH

The **IDF** sets up a new checkpoint outside Qalqilya; raids Balata r.c., fires on stone-throwing youths, trades gunfire with Palestinian militants; a **6-yr.-old Palestinian** is killed inside his home during the exchange, but the source of the gunfire is in question. The **IDF** also raids Sabastia nr. Nablus, evacuates 2 secondary schools, imposes a curfew; shells residential areas of Rafah, bulldozes tracts of already demolished homes; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Dahaysha r.c. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba rampage through Hebron for 18 hrs., harassing Palestinians, throwing stones and bottles at Palestinian homes, setting up mobile homes on Palestinian land. (WP, WT 3/28; PR 3/31; PCHR 4/1)

28 MARCH

The **IDF** allows Palestinian workers into the Erez Industrial Zone for the 1st time since 3/15, but keeps the Erez crossing sealed; fatally shoots **wanted AMB mbr. Jamil al-Tal** in his home nr. Hebron in an apparent assassination; blows up a **Palestinian home** in Bidiyya nr. Qalqilya; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bethlehem, Dahaysha r.c., Tulkarm r.c., and nr. Hebron. A **PFLP gunman** shoots, wounds an **IDF soldier** outside a Jewish settlement in Gaza. (MENA 3/28 in WNC 3/30; NYT 3/29; PCHR 4/1, 4/8)

Israeli State Atty. Edna Arbel, Israel's top prosecutor, recommends that **Sharon** be indicted on charges of accepting a bribe for his role in a 1999 deal under which **prominent Israeli businessman and Likud activist David Appel** paid about \$100,000 to Sharon's son **Gilad Sharon** (for "marketing advice") and \$580,000 to the Sharon family ranch in the Negev in exchange for Sharon (then FM) lobbying Greece in support of Appel's project to build a Greek island resort; the project never came to fruition. If indicted, Sharon could be forced to step down as PM. (NYT, WP, WT 3/28; MM, NYT, WP, WT 3/29; NYT, WT 3/30; MM 4/6)

29 MARCH

The **IDF** reinforces roadblocks in East Jerusalem; demolishes the **Palestinian home** in Rafah that **American ISM activist Rachel Corrie** died defending on 3/16/03; fires on residential areas of, bulldozes some

land in Rafah; fires on, wounds a Palestinian construction worker at the same UNRWA school site where a worker was wounded on 3/23; conducts arrest raids in Askar r.c., Husan, Jenin, Nablus, Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Harsina nr. Hebron uproot a stand of 300 grapevines owned by nearby Palestinians. (VOP 3/30 in WNC 4/1; PCHR 4/1)

30 MARCH

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids in Jenin, Nablus, Ramallah. **Palestinians** throughout the territories, **Israeli Arabs** inside Israel hold demonstrations to mark the 28th anniversary of Land Day, when Israeli forces confiscated 5,500 acres of land fr. Arab villages in the Galilee for the construction of Jewish enclaves, sparking clashes in which 9 Israeli Arabs were killed, 96 were injured, 300 were arrested; **IDF** troops clash with demonstrators in Beitunia. **Palestinians** fire an **antitank rocket** at IDF forces outside Gaza's Neve Dekalim settlement, causing no damage or injuries. A group of **81 prominent Palestinians** (mostly veteran leftists, some Fatah mbrs.) issue a call for nonviolent protest similar to that made on 3/25, but also warning that Palestinian violence will not cease until Israel halts its attacks on, oppression of the Palestinians. (AFP, MM, XIN 3/30; PR, WT 3/31; YA 3/31 in WNC 4/2; PCHR 4/1; MEI 4/2)

31 MARCH

The **IDF** fatally shoots a **Palestinian** who strays too close to Gaza's Neve Dekalim settlement; demolishes a **Palestinian home** nr. Ramallah; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin. In Silwan, East Jerusalem, **50 Jewish settlers** (11 families) escorted by **heavily armed Israeli border police** occupy a multistory building, a **Palestinian home** they claimed to have purchased, evicting Palestinian residents, sparking clashes btwn. the **IDF**, **Palestinians** (9 of whom are arrested). The **IDF** dismantles **2 unauthorized settlement outposts**: 1 nr. Hebron comprising a single tent that served as a synagogue, the other nr. Bethlehem comprising 2 containers; **300 Jewish settlers** scuffle with the troops at the Hebron site, resulting in some moderate injuries. **Palestinians** fire an **antitank rocket** at IDF forces nr. Rafah, causing no damage or injuries. (AP, PR, REU 3/31; VOI, VOP 3/31 in WNC 4/2; NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 4/1; MM 4/6; PCHR 4/8)

Abrams, Burns, Hadley return to the region for consultations with Israeli, Palestinian officials on Sharon's disengagement plan. (WP 3/27; HA 3/28; MM, NYT, WT 4/1; VOP 4/1 in WNC 4/3; HA, MM, NYT, WT 4/2)

1 APRIL

The **IDF** chases **wanted AMB mbrs.** into the admin. offices of a psychiatric hospital in Bethlehem, exchanges gunfire with them, arrests 9 (including the AMB local cmdr.), causing no injuries, but terrifying patients, detaining hospital workers. The PA, hospital officials denounce both sides for endangering the patients. The **IDF** also fires on residential areas outside Qalqilya; conducts arrest raids nr. Jenin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Efrat bulldoze 4 dunams of olive and almond trees in neighboring Palestinian village of al-Khadir. **UNRWA** halts food aid to Gaza, unable to restock foodstuffs because of **Israel's** restrictions on entry to Gaza (see 3/26). (MM, UNRWA press release 4/1; WP, WT 4/2; PR 4/7; PCHR 4/8)

2 APRIL

Israeli riot police clash with Palestinian worshipers at **al-Aqsa Mosque** after Friday prayers in the greatest violence there since Sharon's 9/00 visit that sparked the al-Aqsa intifada; after some worshipers throw stones at police guarding Jews praying at the Wailing Wall, Israeli police wielding batons, firing stun grenades and rubber bullets charge the al-Aqsa Mosque compound, injuring at least 45, arresting 14, driving 1,000s of worshipers into the mosque; Palestinians are allowed to leave after more than an hr. when Waqf officials negotiate their peaceful dispersal. An **armed Palestinian** infiltrates Avnei Hefetz settlement nr. Tulkarm, fires on a house, killing **1 Jewish settler**, wounding 1 before being shot dead by the **IDF**. The **IDF** also fires on stone-throwing youths in Bethlehem, killing a **16-yr-old Palestinian**; fires on 2 "suspicious figures" nr. the Gaza boundary fence with Israel, killing **1 Palestinian**; stages a major raid into Rafah, demolishing **38 Palestinian homes**; conducts arrest raids in Aida r.c. and nr. Hebron, Ramallah. (MM 4/2; WP, WT 4/3; NYT, WT 4/4; PCHR 4/8)

3 APRIL

The **IDF** blows up a 3-story **Palestinian home** in Rafah suspected of hiding a smuggler's tunnel; conducts major predawn arrest raids, house searches in Nablus, detaining 29 Palestinians. (WT 4/4; PCHR 4/8)

4 APRIL

Israel DM **Mofaz** says the comprehensive closure on the West Bank, Gaza that has been in place since the 3/22 Yasin assassination will be in place until early 5/04. The **IDF** closes the only entrance to Qalqilya, sets up several new checkpoints on the Qalqilya-Nablus road; raids Tulkarm r.c., fatally shoots **wanted Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades mbr. Khalid Kharwish** in an apparent assassination, wounds 10 others, raids a hospital emergency room to arrest a critically wounded Palestinian militant; fatally shoots **3 unarmed Palestinian laborers** who were apparently attempting to sneak across the Gaza border fence into Israel to find work; conducts arrest raids in Bethlehem; raids, shuts down the **Arab Women's Care Society** in East Jerusalem, arresting several employees, confiscating records, seizing its bank accounts on the grounds that the group, licensed by the Israeli Interior Min. as a charitable society in 1994, is run by **Hamas**; blows up a **Palestinian home** in Tulkarm r.c.; bulldozes an area of land nr. Hebron, erects a new observation tower; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis; conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Bireh, Hebron, al-Khadir, Nablus. The **IDF** also begins work on a 2-km stretch of the **separation wall** btwn. Dahiyat al-Barid checkpoint n. of Jerusalem and the Qalandia checkpoint s. of Ramallah that will isolate, prevent the expansion of Dahiyat al-Barid and al-Ram. (al-Arabiyya TV 4/4 in WNC 5/7; WT 4/5; VOP 4/5 in WNC 4/7; NYT 4/6; PR 4/7; PCHR 4/8)

The **PLF** names **Omar Shibli** (Abu Ahmad) as secy.-gen., succeeding Muhammad Abbas who died in U.S. custody in Iraq on 3/9. (*Daily Star* 4/3; PR 4/7)

5 APRIL

The **IDF** tightens restrictions on Palestinian movement in Gaza, dividing the Strip into thirds; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Rafah. **Jewish settlers** harass, assault Palestinians (including a group of elementary school students) on al-Shuhada

Street in Hebron; **IDF soldiers** observe but do not intervene. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received in the attempted IDF assassination of Islamic Jihad's Hindi in Gaza City on 3/16. (PCHR 4/8)

6 APRIL

The **IDF** raids Balata r.c., fires on stone-throwing Palestinians; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Dayr al-Balah, in Tulkarm r.c.; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis. **Jewish settlers** fr. Susia nr. Hebron severely beat a **75-yr.-old Palestinian farmer** who attempts to work his land adjacent to the settlement. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received on 3/6. (VOP 4/6 in WNC 4/8; PRCS 4/7; XIN 4/7 in WNC 4/9; PCHR 4/8)

7 APRIL

The **IDF** cuts down 180 olive trees in a Palestinian grove nr. Biddu northwest of Jerusalem to make way for the **separation wall**, sparking clashes in which 35 Palestinians, 2 IDF soldiers are injured; the IDF later replants some of the stumps on a new plot, but Palestinians have little hope they will survive through the dry season. The **IDF** also imposes a curfew on Nablus and surrounding villages, conducts arrest raids, fires on stone-throwing Palestinians; conducts arrest raids in Dahaysha r.c., al-Duha nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Jayyus, Ramallah, Tulkarm; occupies a Palestinian home in Dayr al-Balah as an observation post; demolishes a well and 3 greenhouses, bulldozes 4 dunams of land nr Rafah. Armed **Jewish settlers** seize 2 **Palestinian homes** in Silwan; the **IDF** erects 2 observation posts nearby to protect them, prevent clashes like those of 3/31. (PM 4/7; VOP 4/7 in WNC 4/9; PCHR, PM, WT 4/8; PCHR 4/15)

8 APRIL

The **IDF** clashes for a 2d day with non-violent Palestinian protesters demonstrating against the **separation wall** nr. Biddu, leaving 8 Palestinians injured, including an **AFP photographer**; raids, searches the **PA Prisoners Affairs Min.** offices in al-Bireh, arresting 1 employee; begins constructing a 900-m road outside Gaza's Tal Katif settlement that will cut off Palestinian growers' access to an estimated 186 dunams of citrus and date groves; occupies a **Palestinian home** nr. Hebron as an observation

outpost; conducts arrest raids in Yatta; conducts house searches in 'Aida nr. Bethlehem, al-Qarara, Wadi al-Silqa. The **IDF** also fires on a construction site at an UNRWA school in Rafah, seriously injuring a Palestinian construction worker in the 3d such incident since 3/23. **Palestinians** fire 2 **antitank rockets** at an IDF patrol nr. Kefar Darom settlement, causing no damage or injuries. (PM 4/8; VOP 4/8 in WNC 4/10; YA 4/9 in WNC 4/13; PCHR 4/15)

9 APRIL

The **IDF** fires on residential areas of, conducts house searches in Khan Yunis; fires on fishermen off the Gaza coast, wounding a 12-yr.-old Palestinian; conducts arrest raids nr. Bethlehem, in and around Nablus and Tulkarm town, in Tulkarm r.c. **Hamas** holds its 1st ever public fundraising drive for the **Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades**, passing collection boxes at Gaza mosques. AP reports sources as estimating that \$3 m. was raised, but Hamas officials say the figure is closer to \$1.5 m.; still other reports put the figure at \$120,000. (WT 4/10, 4/12; PCHR, WT 4/15)

10 APRIL

The **IDF** fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, killing a **12-yr.-old Palestinian girl** inside her home; bulldozes 4 dunams of land in Khan Yunis; raids, searches a kindergarten in Nablus while classes are in session; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at stone-throwing youths outside a school in Dura, injuring 12; conducts arrest raids in Issawiyya, villages nr. Tulkarm. (WT 4/11; PCHR 4/15)

11 APRIL

IDF undercover officers surround the home of a wanted Palestinian in Aqraba nr. Nablus, fatally shoot **wanted man's brother** in an apparent botched assassination. The **IDF** also fires on stone-throwing youths nr. Jenin, in Nablus; occupies a **Palestinian home** nr. Hebron as an observation post; fires on residential areas of Jenin; conducts arrest raids in Jenin, in and nr. Tulkarm. **Palestinians** detonate **roadside bomb** by an **IDF** patrol nr. Nablus, causing no damage or injuries; fire 2 **Qassam rockets** at the western Negev, damaging a roadway but causing no injuries; fire **antitank rockets** at IDF patrols nr. Rafah and Gadid settlement, causing no damage or injuries. Armed

Jewish settlers break into, take over a mosque in Hebron, remove its contents, set up cots inside; IDF soldiers are notified by Palestinians but do not intervene. **Jewish settlers** fr. Elon Moreh nr. Nablus vandalize Palestinian property in nearby Azmut, steal a horse. (HA, IDF Radio, VOI, VOP 4/11 in WNC 4/13; VOP 4/12 in WNC 4/14; PR 4/14; PCHR 4/15)

12 APRIL

The **IDF** bulldozes a **Palestinian home** nr. Netzarim settlement; conducts arrest raids in Aida r.c., Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin, Nablus, Qalqilya, Tulkarm town and r.c., Ramallah. In Gaza, 3 **Palestinian gunmen** (1 each fr. the **AMB**, **Islamic Jihad**, **Hamas**) attempt to infiltrate Netzarim settlement and IDF post; the **IDF** fatally shoots 2 of the gunmen, the 3d escapes. **Jewish settlers** fr. Susia attack Palestinian farmers in their fields nearby, damage 14 dunams of crops. (VOP 4/12 in WNC 4/14; HA, NYT 4/13; PR 4/14; PCHR 4/15)

13 APRIL

The **IDF** conducts predawn arrest raids, house searches in Nablus in search of **wanted Hamas activist Jafar Masri**, arrests Masri's wife and brother but does not find him. The **IDF** also begins work on a stretch of the **separation wall** outside of Husan; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Tulkarm r.c., Yatta; demolishes a **Palestinian home** nr. Nablus; bulldozes a **Palestinian home**, levels several others that were previously heavily damaged in Rafah; bulldozes 1.5 dunams of agricultural land nr. Khan Yunis; announces that it has arrested 4 **bedouin**, 7 **Egyptians**, a **Nablus Palestinian** allegedly involved in a scheme to smuggle weapons fr. Egypt to Nablus. **Palestinian gunmen** fire on an **IDF** bus outside Hermesh settlement nr. Baqa' al-Sharqiyya, wounding 1 IDF soldier. A **Palestinian** stabs, wounds 2 Israeli police officers in French Hill settlement in East Jerusalem, is arrested. The **IDF** evacuates an **illegal settlement outpost** nr. Hebron that has been evacuated 7 times previously (most recently on 3/31), says 5 more outposts are due to be removed soon. At the same time, 50 **armed Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba rampage through Palestinian areas of Hebron, vandalizing 6 Palestinian homes, injuring 4 Palestinians; **IDF** soldiers observe but do not intervene. **Jewish**

settlers fr. Yitzhar bulldoze Palestinian land in neighboring 'Ayn Abus. (HA, Israel Radio News 4/13; HA, NYT, WP 4/14; PCHR 4/15)

14 APRIL

The **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas at Palestinians demonstrating against the separation wall nr. Biddu, wounding 12; blows up 2 **Palestinian homes** in Bethlehem, 1 in Nablus; conducts arrest raids in and around Bethlehem and in al-Arub r.c., East Jerusalem, Hebron, Jenin, Nablus; demolishes a **PSF** post, bulldozes 1.5 dunams of agricultural land nr. Dayr al-Balah. In Gaza City, **3,000 Palestinians** demonstrate for the release of jailed **Fatah tanzim leader Marwan Barghouti**, other Palestinian prisoners. **Jewish settlers** attempting to rebuild the illegal outpost in Hebron removed on 4/13 scuffle with **IDF** troops; **2 settlers** are injured. Late in the evening, the **IDF** begins sending troops into Rafah allegedly to search for smugglers' tunnels, firing on residential areas. (HA 4/14; VOP 4/14 in WNC 4/16; PCHR 4/15, 4/22)

Meanwhile in Washington, **Bush** meets with **Sharon**, formally endorses Sharon's unilateral disengagement plan, marking a dramatic shift in U.S. policy toward the peace process (HA, MM, REU 4/14; JP, VOP 4/14 in WNC 4/16; *al-Ra'i* 4/14, AFP, DUS, THWR, TSHR, VOP, XIN 4/15 in WNC 4/17; HA, JP, MM, NYT, REU, WP, WT 4/15; CSM, HA, FT, JT, MEI, MM 4/16; AFP, DUS, ITAR-TASS, MENA, NHR, *al-Ra'i* 4/16 in WNC 4/20; NHR 4/16 in WNC 4/27; WP 4/17; JTA 4/19; PR 4/21; MEI 4/30) (see Quarterly Update, Special Docs.)

15 APRIL

The **IDF** continues its major raid on Rafah, firing a missile at a building allegedly hiding Palestinian gunmen (killing a **Palestinian bystander** who attempts to flee the area, wounding 24), demolishing 29 **Palestinian homes** completely, 9 partially. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids in Jenin, Kafr al-Dik in the n. West Bank; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, Nablus. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries sustained in the 3/22 Yasin assassination. (MM, PCHR 4/15; VOP, YA 4/15 in WNC 4/17; NYT, WT 4/16; PCHR 4/22)

16 APRIL

The **IDF** continues operations in Rafah, withdrawing early in the morning; bars Palestinians ages 16–35 fr. traveling through the Rafah checkpoint, Palestinians under age 45 fr. praying at **al-Aqsa Mosque**; shells a Palestinian car that accidentally enters a closed military zone in Tulkarm, seriously injuring the driver; opens fire on Palestinians demonstrating against the **separation wall** nr. Beitunia, fatally shooting **1 Palestinian**; bulldozes 25 dunams of land in al-Qarara, 8 dunams nr. Dayr al-Balah; conducts house searches, arrest raids in Dura, al-Walaja nr. Bethlehem. **Jewish settlers** fr. Hebron seriously beat a Palestinian, fracturing his shoulder. (AFP 4/16; VOP 4/16 in WNC 4/20; WT 4/17; PCHR 4/22)

17 APRIL

The **IDF** assassinates Hamas leader **Rantisi**, firing 2 missiles at his car as he drives through Gaza City, also killing his **bodyguards Akram Nassar and Ahmad Ghurra**, wounding 4 bystanders. **10,000s of Palestinians** throughout the West Bank, Gaza take to the streets to protest. **Hamas** vows retaliation, says it has appointed Rantisi's replacement but will not identify him for security reasons. (Senior spokesman Mahmud Zahar, senior political leader Ismail Haniyeh are considered the likely successors.) The **IDF** strike comes hrs. after a **Palestinian suicide bomber** detonates a device inside the Erez Industrial Zone in Gaza, killing an **Israeli border policeman**, injuring 3; the **AMB, Hamas** claim joint responsibility. **IDF undercover units** raid Hebron and capture, beat, arrest an Arab Bank employee. The **IDF** also seals all West Bank and Gaza crossings except the Rafah checkpoint; tightens restrictions on Palestinian movement throughout the territories; fatally shoots a **mentally handicapped Palestinian** who strays too close to a Jewish settlement nr. Gaza City; denies passage to a **Palestinian** who suffers a heart attack at a Nablus checkpoint, allowing him to die; shells residential areas of Khan Yunis, cutting some electricity, seriously injuring a 9-yr.-old girl inside her home and 6 others elsewhere; fires on, shells residential areas of Dayr al-Balah, Tulkarm (seriously injuring a 5-yr.-old girl); fires on residential areas nr. Rafah; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Dayr al-Balah, Jenin; bulldozes 6 dunams

of land in Bayt Hanun. (HA, MA, REU 4/17; AFP, MENA, MNR, PSCT, VOP 4/17, AFP, ATL, HA, IRNA, JP, LBC, MENA, MNR, *al-Quds*, VOP, YA 4/18 in WNC 4/20; NYT, WP, WT 4/18; CSM, MM 4/19; ITAR-TASS 4/19 in WNC 4/21; DUS, *al-Ra'i* 4/19, JT 4/20 in WNC 4/22; AYM 4/19, *al-Quds*, SA 4/21 in WNC 4/23; MM, PR 4/21; PCHR 4/22; WP 4/25; MEI 4/30)

18 APRIL

The **IDF** fires on international, Israeli, Palestinian peace activists staging a non-violent demonstration against the **separation wall** nr. Biddu, killing **1 Palestinian**, wounding 8; demolishes the **PA Agriculture Min. dir. gen.'s home** in Dayr al-Balah; fires on stone-throwing youths in Bethlehem, Burqa, Hebron, Qalandia, villages nr. Ramallah, Silwad; fires on residential areas of Dayr al-Balah, Rafah, Tulkarm; conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Arub r.c., Dahaysha r.c., Dura. **Hamas** fires **5 Qassam** rockets at Israeli targets in Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. In Gaza City, **10,000s of Palestinians** take part in the funeral of **Rantisi**, his bodyguards; the **Church of the Nativity** closes its doors for the afternoon in protest of the Rantisi assassination. Late in the evening, **2 Israeli Arabs** fire on an **Israeli border patrol** in the Galilee, causing no damage or injuries; the patrol returns fire, killing 1, wounding 1; the **AMB** takes responsibility. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba bulldoze 5 dunams of nearby Palestinian land, clash with Palestinians who attempt to stop them; the **IDF** intervenes to arrest 3 Palestinians, does not halt the bulldozing. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries received on 4/16. (PSCT, VOP 4/18 in WNC 4/20; AFP, AP, NYT, WP, WT 4/19; PR 4/21; PCHR 4/22)

19 APRIL

The **IDF** conducts major house searches and arrest raids in Silwad, home of the exiled **Damascus-based Hamas political leader Khalid Mishal** and **Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades West Bank cmdr. Ibrahim Ma'ari Hamid**, arresting 70 Palestinians (including Hamid's 5 brothers, 9 of Hamid and Mishal's sons, among other relatives). The **IDF** also fatally shoots a **Palestinian** at a checkpoint nr. Gaza's Kissufim crossing into Israel; shoots, mortally wounds a stone-throwing **Palestinian** in al-Fawwar r.c., denies medics access, allowing him to bleed to death; handcuffs a **12-yr.-old**

Palestinian boy to the hood of a jeep nr. Biddu, using him as a human shield to prevent Palestinians demonstrating against the **separation wall** there fr. throwing stones at them; raids 3 Palestinian schools in Silat al-Dahir nr. Jenin, orders teachers and students home, declares schools closed for 2 days; stages a late-night raid on al-Fawwar r.c. nr. Hebron, fatally shooting a **Palestinian**, occupying a 3-story apartment building as a base, conducting house-to-house searches; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Dayr al-Balah, Jenin, and in Dura (confiscating files fr. the offices of an Islamic charity), Jalazun r.c., Nablus, Rafah; bulldozes a **Palestinian home** in Dayr al-Balah. **Palestinians** attack an IDF post at Hawara checkpoint s. of Nablus, killing **1 IDF soldier**; attack an Israeli border patrol unit in Hebron, overturning their jeep, injuring 3 officers; fire **2 Qassam rockets** at Gaza's Nisanit settlement, wounding 1 Jewish settler; fire several rockets into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. (VOI, VOP, YA 4/19 in WNC 4/21; NYT 4/20; VOP 4/20 in WNC 4/22; PCHR 4/22; PR 5/5)

20 APRIL

The **IDF** makes a major raid into Bayt Lahiya in an operation aimed at halting mortar and rocket fire that has damaged 3 homes and lightly injured 9 Jewish settlers since 4/18, opens fire on stone-throwing youths and some armed Palestinians, killing **5 Palestinians**, wounding at least 24. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids nr. Jenin; bars **foreign journalists** fr. entering Nablus for the next 72 hrs. (AFP 4/20; VOP 4/20 in WNC 4/22; MM, NYT, WP, WT 4/21; AYM 4/21 in WNC 4/27; PCHR 4/22)

21 APRIL

The **IDF** continues operations in Bayt Lahiya, clashing with stone-throwing youths and some armed Palestinians, fatally shooting **9 Palestinians** and injuring more than 50, firing on and disabling 1 ambulance and injuring 2 medics. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids in and around Bethlehem; conducts arrest raids and house searches, bulldozes 48 dunams of land nr. Dayr al-Balah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar set up tents btwn. the settlement and nearby Palestinian village of Burin, throw stones at Palestinian houses and cars. **UNRWA** resumes food aid to Gaza (suspended 4/1), saying that **Israel** has eased restrictions on the import of food to the

Strip in the past 2 wks., is generally being cooperative. Overnight, **armed Palestinians** storm the PA's Saraya Prison in Gaza City, free **3 PRC mbrs.** being held in connection with the 10/03 Erez roadside bombing that killed 3 U.S. security officers. (VOP 4/21 in WNC 4/23; NYT, PCHR, PRCS, WP, WT 4/22; *Guardian* 4/23; PR 4/28; PCHR 4/29)

22 APRIL

Fearing an Israeli attack, **Arafat** expels **20 wanted AMB mbrs.** fr. his Ramallah headquarters, where they have been hiding for several mos. in fear the IDF will assassinate them. Later in Tulkarm r.c., the **IDF** fatally shoots **3 AMB mbrs.** in an apparent assassination but it is not known whether they were among the 20 fr. Ramallah. In continuing clashes in Bayt Lahiya, the **IDF** fatally shoots a **9-yr.-old Palestinian girl** and a **16-yr.-old Palestinian boy**, bulldozes a center for handicapped Palestinians and **1 Palestinian home**; a **4-yr.-old Palestinian girl** dies of tear gas inhalation. The **IDF** also sends tanks, 25 bulldozers into Rafah, demolishing **22 Palestinian homes** completely and 2 partially, leaving 60 families homeless; demolishes **2 Palestinian homes** in Dayr al-Balah; fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis; conducts arrest raids in Tubas. **Palestinians** fire an antitank missile at an IDF post outside Kefar Darom settlement, seriously injuring 2 IDF soldiers. The **IDF** retaliates by tearing up nearby Palestinian farmland with tanks, ordering a Palestinian family to evacuate their home. Late in the evening, **unidentified assailants** attack, severely beat **AFP photographer Jamal Aruri** outside his Ramallah home. (AFP, BBC, MM, PCHR 4/22; MA, VOI, YA 4/22 in WNC 4/24; AFP, NYT, WP 4/23; VOI, YA 4/23 in WNC 4/27; NYT, WP, WT 4/24; PR 4/28; PCHR 4/29; PR 5/5)

23 APRIL

The **IDF** fatally shoots **3 wanted AMB mbrs.** in Qalqilya in an apparent assassination, injuring a 4th; arrests a **Palestinian woman** in Hebron who allegedly attempted to stab a soldier; conducts arrest raids in Jenin and Qalqilya, nr. Tulkarm; fires on residential areas of Rafah. In an apparent botched assassination, the **IDF** raids a village outside Nablus, fatally shoots **1 Palestinian** whom it claims was an armed Hamas mbr. who had fired on the troops while attempting to avoid arrest; local Palestinians say the

man killed, **'Amr Abu Laymun**, was an unarmed college professor with no affiliation to Hamas. (AFP 4/23; NYT, WP, WT 4/24; PR 4/28; PCHR 4/29)

24 APRIL

The **IDF** raids Jenin, fatally shoots **wanted AMB mbrs. Said Hardan, Kamal Masa'id** in an apparent assassination, also killing a **Palestinian bystander**, shooting and wounding a **Palestinian journalist** who arrives to cover the scene. Later in the day in Jenin, the **IDF** fires on a car carrying 2 wanted AMB mbrs., wounding both, barring ambulances fr. reaching the area for 1 hr., allowing **AMB mbr. Husni Daraghma** to bleed to death; the other AMB mbr., **Iyad Daraghma**, is seriously wounded. The **IDF** also bulldozes 11 dunams of land outside Nablus; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Susia severely beat a **Palestinian farmer**, steal his tractor; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. (VOP 4/24 in WNC 4/27; NYT, WT 4/25; PR 4/28; PCHR 4/29)

25 APRIL

The **IDF** fires on stone-throwing Palestinians in Nablus, wounding 9; conducts arrest raids on Hebron University campus; fires on residential areas in Hebron, Khan Yunis; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. **Palestinian gunmen** fire on Israeli border police patrol nr. Hebron, killing **1 border policeman**, wounding 2; critically wound an Israeli Arab security guard at an industrial site outside Efrat settlement. The **AMB** announces that it has executed a suspected **Palestinian collaborator** it kidnapped on 4/24 outside Jerusalem. **Dozens of Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar, escorted by **IDF** soldiers, rampage through the neighboring Palestinian village of Ourif, firing on homes, burning olive trees. (NYT, WT 4/26; VOP 4/26 in WNC 4/28; PR 4/28; VOP 4/28 in WNC 4/30; PCHR 4/29; PR 5/5)

26 APRIL

The **IDF** fatally shoots a **mentally handicapped girl** who strays too close to a Jewish settlement in Gaza; fires on a group of Palestinian children who pass too near an IDF position outside Nisanit settlement, killing a **15-yr.-old Palestinian boy**; shells residential areas of Khan Yunis; conducts house searches in Shaykh Ajlin nr. Gaza City. In

Maghazi r.c., **3 Palestinians die** when a rocket they are preparing explodes prematurely. Late in the evening, the **IDF** raids Tulkarm r.c., sparking an armed exchange with local **AMB** mbrs. that leaves **2 AMB mbrs.** dead, 4 bystanders and 1 **AMB mbr.** wounded. A **14-yr.-old Palestinian** dies of injuries received in a 3/18 **IDF** raid nr. Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ma'on burn 35 dunams of Palestinian crops and a tractor in Yatta; bar fire trucks fr. reaching the scene. **Jewish settlers** fr. Metaniel also burn 15 dunams of olive and almond groves in Sammu' village outside Hebron. (VOP 4/26 in WNC 4/28; MM, WT 4/27; PR 4/28; PCHR 4/29)

27 APRIL

The **IDF** opens fire on stone-throwing youths in Tulkarm r.c., wounding 6. In Gaza, **unidentified armed Palestinians** raid a **Hamas** hideout in an attempt to steal explosives, sparking an exchange of gunfire that leaves **2 attackers, 1 Hamas mbr.** dead. In Gaza's Gush Katif settlement, some **70,000 Israelis, Jewish settlers** rally against **Sharon's** disengagement plan. (WP 4/28; PCHR 4/29; NYT 4/30)

28 APRIL

The **IDF** fires on a jeep approaching Kefar Darom settlement at high speed; the jeep, disguised as an Israeli civilian vehicle and packed with explosives, explodes, killing the **Palestinian** driver, wounding **4 IDF soldiers; Hamas** claims responsibility. The **IDF** also briefly detains **al-Quds University pres. and peace activist Sari Nusseibeh** for hiring illegal Palestinian workers; demolishes **2 Palestinian homes** in Sura nr. Nablus; conducts arrest raids nr. Hebron. In Gaza, an early morning explosion damages the entrance to the home of **PSF Gaza cmdr. Ghazi al-Jabali**; no one takes responsibility. (MM, PR 4/28; NYT, PCHR 4/29; NYT 4/30; PCHR 5/6)

29 APRIL

The **IDF** conducts a major raid on al-Fara' r.c. nr. Jenin, occupying a cultural center as an observation post, firing on stone-throwing Palestinians (injuring 12, including a **Palestinian cameraman** covering the scene for al-Jazeera), hitting a **65-yr.-old Palestinian woman** in the head with a tear gas canister, killing her. The

IDF also apologizes for the 4/23 killing of college professor **Abu Laymun**, whom it initially claimed was an armed Hamas activist, admits it erred; fatally shoots a stone-throwing **Palestinian** in Haris nr. Ariel settlement; tightens freedom of movement in Hebron; demolishes **16 Palestinian homes** in Hebron (built by a British aid organization), 12 in Khan Yunis (damaging another 8); fires on residential areas of Rafah; conducts arrest raids in Husan. **Jewish settlers** seize 6 dunams of Palestinian land s. of Bethlehem and w. of al-Khadir. **Palestinians** fire an **antitank rocket** at an **IDF** position in Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, MA 4/29; VOP, YA 4/29 in WNC 5/1; NYT 4/30; PCHR 5/6)

30 APRIL

The **IDF** fires on stone-throwing youths in n. Gaza, on residential areas of Rafah; conducts house searches, arrest raids in Beitunia, Bethlehem, al-Bireh, Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Shaked and Hinnanit nr. Jenin, escorted by **IDF** soldiers, rampage through the neighboring village of Um al-Rihan, beating several Palestinians, threatening to destroy an elementary school, claiming that its students threw stones at their cars. (VOP 4/30 in WNC 5/4; PCHR 5/6)

1 MAY

The **IDF** fires on residential areas of Khan Yunis, killing an **8-yr.-old Palestinian boy**, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians in which another 14 Palestinians (10 of them children) are wounded; fires on stone-throwing youths nr. Nisanit settlement, fatally shooting a **15-yr.-old Palestinian** in the head with live ammunition; fatally shoots a **Palestinian** man who approaches an **IDF** patrol in Nablus (reports vary as to whether he was armed); fires on Palestinians in Bayt Lahiya and Rafah, wounding 3; bulldozes 2 dunams of land in al-Qarara; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. (VOP 5/1 in WNC 5/4; NYT, WP, WT 5/2; PR 5/5; PCHR 5/6)

2 MAY

Palestinian gunmen (1 **Islamic Jihad mbr.**, 1 **PRC mbr.**) ambush a Jewish settler vehicle nr. Gush Katif, killing a **Jewish settler woman**, her **4 children**, wounding 2 **IDF** soldiers in a car escorting them; the soldiers return fire, killing the 2 gunmen. The

IDF retaliates by assassinating the **senior Nablus AMB military cmdrs. Nadir Abu Layl and Hashim Abu Hamdan**, firing a missile at their car as they drive through Nablus, also killing **2 AMB mbrs.** traveling with them, injuring 3 bystanders. The **IDF** then rockets a building in Gaza City that houses a **Hamas** radio station (possibly attempting to assassinate a senior Hamas mbr. who reportedly was being interviewed at the time), the offices of **al-Ayyam** and **al-Quds** newspapers, a **Fatah** radio station; no one is injured. The **IDF** also raids Wadi al-Silqa nr. the site of the ambush, orders all Palestinian residents to leave their homes, searches homes, arrests 1 Palestinian, bulldozes **15 Palestinian homes**. The **IDF** also bulldozes **4 Palestinian homes** and 6 dunams of land nr. Morag settlement, **2** Palestinian homes in Rafah; fires on a funeral procession in Khan Yunis, wounding 2 Palestinians; fires on residential areas of Tubas, sparking protests, then opening fire on stone-throwing youths; conducts arrest raids in and around Jenin. Late in the evening, **4 Jewish settler families**, escorted by **IDF** soldiers and 100s of mbrs. of the radical **Ateret Cohanim settler group**, expel 2 Palestinian families fr. their homes in Abu Dis, occupy the buildings, surround them with a fence, claiming they stand on part of an 80-dunam plot they purchased in 1927. (VOP 5/2 in WNC 5/4; BBC, HA, NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 5/3; YA 5/3 in WNC 5/5; MM 5/4; PR 5/5; PCHR 5/6; PR 5/12; MEI 5/14)

Likud mbrs. reject **Sharon's** unilateral disengagement plan, with nearly 60% opposed. Sharon says he will draft a revised plan in consultation with his party, but meanwhile will move forward with planning a withdrawal. (XIN 5/2 in WNC 5/4; NYT, WP, WT 5/3; AYM 5/3 in WNC 5/5; MM, NYT, WP 5/4; *al-Quds* 5/4 in WNC 5/6; AYM, DUS 5/4 in WNC 5/7; JTA 5/5; JPI, MEI 5/14) (see Quarterly Update)

3 MAY

The **IDF** says it plans to step up military operations in s. Gaza over the next few days; fires on residential areas nr. Nisanit settlement in north-central Gaza and in Jenin, Rafah; shells and fires on residential areas s. of Khan Yunis. A **16-yr.-old Palestinian** dies of injuries received on 5/1, when he accidentally strayed into a closed military zone nr. Bayt Lahiya. **Jewish settlers** lay cornerstone for new 21-unit neighborhood in Gaza's Neve Dekalim settlement. **Jewish**

settlers fr. Hebron beat 2 Palestinian farmers working their field in nearby Yatta, damage their crops. (HA 5/3; VOP 5/3 in WNC 5/5; AP, MA 5/4; PR 5/5; PCHR 5/6)

4 MAY

The **IDF** launches a major predawn raid on Khan Yunis, fatally shooting **2 Palestinians**, wounding 23, demolishing **34 Palestinian homes** completely, 8 partially before withdrawing during the day; reinvades Khan Yunis after dark, demolishing another **16 Palestinian homes** completely, 1 partially. During the day, **IDF** also deploys troops to surround **Arafat's** headquarters in Ramallah; shells residential areas of the Old City of Nablus, Rafah; fires on stone-throwing youths nr. Nisanit settlement; conducts arrest raids, bulldozes 10 dunams of land in Wadi al-Silqa; conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Arub r.c., Jenin, Nablus, al-Qarara, and nr. Dayr al-Balah. Nr. Tulkarm, a **10-yr.-old Palestinian** is killed, 2 children are wounded when they accidentally detonate unexploded **IDF** ordnance while playing. A **17-yr.-old Palestinian** dies of injuries received on 4/23. (BBC, MM, PCHR, PM, WP, XIN 5/4; VOP 5/4 in WNC 5/6; WT 5/5; PCHR 5/6)

The **Quartet** (the European Union, Russia, UN, and U.S.) gives qualified endorsement to Sharon's disengagement plan. (MM, WP 5/4; FT, JTA, MM, NYT, PR, WP, WT 5/5; VOP 5/5 in WNC 5/7; MM 5/6; AYM 5/9 in WNC 5/12; VOP 5/11 in WNC 5/13) (see Quarterly Update)

5 MAY

The **IDF** fatally shoots **wanted senior Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades mbr. Imad Janajra** (target of assassination on 4/23 when the **IDF** killed a college professor in a case of mistaken identity) outside Nablus in an apparent assassination; raids Dayr al-Balah, demolishes 1 building, fires on stone-throwing Palestinians, killing **1 Palestinian**, seriously wounding 17, including a **Palestinian photographer** covering the scene for AFP; fires on 2 Palestinians who approach Gaza's Qarni crossing through a closed military zone, killing **1 Palestinian** while the other escapes; begins construction of the **separation wall** nr. Qalandia; conducts large-scale arrest raids in Hebron, taking at least 60 Palestinians to an unknown destination; conducts smaller arrest raids in Bethlehem, Nablus, Tulkarm (reportedly detaining

Hamas's Tulkarm head Rifat Nafif); confiscates 22 dunams of Palestinian land in Far'un nr. Tulkarm; bulldozes 7 dunams of land, 1 **Palestinian home** in Wadi al-Silqa; demolishes a 3-story **apartment building** and 7 **Palestinian homes**, severely damages 9 homes, bulldozes 3 dunams of land in Rafah; fires at stone-throwing youths outside Nisanit settlement. Without explanation, **Israel** releases **Hamas cofounder Muhammad Taha**, held in administrative detention since 3/03, in Gaza. (VOI, VOP, XIN 5/5 in WNC 5/7; NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 5/6; VOI 5/6 in WNC 5/8; VOP 5/8 in WNC 5/11; PCHR 5/13)

6 MAY

The **IDF** fatally shoots a **Palestinian** in Hebron who allegedly attempts to grab a soldier's weapon; fires on stone-throwing Palestinian youths nr. Nisanit settlement, wounding 5; conducts house searches, arrest raids in Anabta, Kafr Dik, Qalqilya, Tubas; occupies a Palestinian home in Husan as an observation post; begins construction of a fence along the Kissufim-Katif Bloc road in Gaza, designed to prevent Palestinian attacks on Jewish settler vehicles. (AFP, MM 5/6; VOI 5/6 in WNC 5/8; VOI 5/9 in WNC 5/12; PCHR 5/13)

Responding to Bush's 4/14 endorsement of Sharon's plan, the **UN General Assembly** passes (140-6) a res. affirming the Palestinians "right to self-determination and sovereignty over their territory." **Israel**, the U.S., 4 Pacific Island nations vote against. (HA 5/6; ITAR-TASS, MENA 5/7 in WNC 5/11; PR 5/12; MEI 5/14)

7 MAY

Overnight, the **IDF** raids Nur al-Shams r.c. outside Tulkarm to arrest wanted Islamic Jihad mbrs.; **Islamic Jihad mbrs. Sa'id Musay'i, Wa'il 'Khadir** are fatally shot when they open fire on the troops, a 3d mbr. surrenders. The **IDF** also fatally shoots a **Palestinian** on a Nablus rooftop who allegedly is armed; fires on stone-throwing Palestinians in Beita; blows up a car in Nablus allegedly rigged as a car bomb; blocks the entrances to Kafr Dik village nr. Qalqilya; demolishes 2 **Palestinian homes** nr. Rafah, 1 nr. Khan Yunis; bulldozes 17 dunams of land nr. Khan Yunis; erects a new IDF post in Khan Yunis; conducts arrest raids nr. Jenin. The **PSF** fortifies **Arafat's** headquarters in Ramallah, placing wrecked cars and

concrete-filled barrels around the entrance to impede the **IDF** in the event of a raid. (AFP 5/7; MA, VOI, VOP, YA 5/7 in WNC 5/11; NYT 5/8; PCHR 5/13)

8 MAY

The **IDF** fires on stone-throwing Palestinians in Jalazun r.c., wounding 2; conducts arrest raids in Balata r.c., Jenin, Rafah; demolishes 1 **Palestinian home** nr. Khan Yunis; bulldozes 14 dunams of land in Rafah. Around 15 **armed masked men** raid the **PC** offices in Gaza City, then destroy the **Fatah** headquarters in Bureij r.c., in both cases destroying furniture and equipment but making no demands. (MA, VOP, YA 5/8 in WNC 5/11; PR 5/12; PCHR 5/13)

9 MAY

In Gaza, 2 **Islamic Jihad gunmen** open fire on Jewish settlers holding a memorial service at the roadside site nr. Khan Yunis where 5 Jewish settlers were killed on 5/2, causing no injuries; **IDF** troops return fire, killing both men, and then demolish 11 **Palestinian homes**, bulldoze 22 dunams of land that allegedly provided cover for the gunmen. The **IDF** also fatally shoots a **Palestinian** who strays too close to the separation wall nr. Abu Dis; conducts arrest raids in Bethlehem, Qabatya. **Palestinians** fire a **Qassam rocket** at the Negev, causing no damage or injuries. (VOI 5/9 in WNC 5/11; AP, MM, NYT 5/10; VOP 5/10 in WNC 5/12; PR 5/12; PCHR 5/13)

Sharon tells his cabinet that he plans to present a revised unilateral disengagement plan in about 3 wks. The announcement divides the cabinet, with some mbrs. threatening to quit if Sharon does not go through with his original plan, others vowing to quit if he does. (HA, VOI, YA 5/9 in WNC 5/11; NYT, WP 5/10; MM 5/11)

10 MAY

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids in Askar r.c., Balata r.c.; blows up 2 **Palestinian homes** in Rafah, 1 nr. Dayr al-Balah; demolishes 2 **Palestinian homes**, bulldozes 40 dunams of land in al-Qarara. (MM 5/10; PCHR 5/13)

11 MAY

The **IDF** stages a major raid on Gaza City, meeting heavy resistance; **Hamas** and

Islamic Jihad mbrs. detonate a roadside bomb, destroying an IDF armored personnel carrier (APC), killing **6 IDF soldiers** (the highest IDF toll since 11/02); **AMB, Islamic Jihad mbrs.** take the soldiers' remains. The IDF sends in massive reinforcements, vows to conduct house-to-house searches until the remains are found, bulldozing roads and water systems, cutting electricity, uprooting trees, crushing Palestinian cars, fatally shooting **8 Palestinians**, wounding more than 120. **Hamas officials, Muslim authorities, the PA, and International Comm. of the Red Cross** unsuccessfully appeal to the Palestinian militants to release the remains. The **IDF** also imposes a curfew on, fires on residential areas of Ya'bad nr. Jenin; demolishes **2 Palestinian homes** in Rafah; conducts arrest raids in Bethlehem, Dura, Tulkarm, Yamun nr. Jenin. **UNRWA** reports that the **IDF** has demolished or damaged beyond repair **131 Palestinian homes** in Gaza since 5/1, leaving more than **1,100 Palestinians** homeless. (BBC, HA, MM, NYT 5/11; PSCT, VOI, VOP 5/11 in WNC 5/13; MM, NYT, PR, WP, WT 5/12; HA, JP, MA, QA, YA 5/12 in WNC 5/14; PCHR, WJW, WT 5/13; QA 5/13 in WNC 5/18; MEI 5/14)

12 MAY

The **IDF** fatally shoots at least **7 Palestinians** (including 1 man who is shot, bleeds to death inside his home), wounds at least 50 (including **1 Palestinian journalist**), demolishes **2 apartment buildings** in ongoing clashes in Gaza City before withdrawing in the afternoon, after **Egyptian mediators** secure the return of the bodies of 6 IDF soldiers killed on 5/11. In Rafah, however, **Islamic Jihad mbrs.** fire a rocket propelled grenade into the IDF-controlled buffer zone (the Philadelphi Route) along the border with Egypt, hitting an APC carrying explosives for demolishing smugglers' tunnels and Palestinian homes, killing **5 IDF soldiers**, injuring 3. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids nr. Bethlehem, Tulkarm; fires on residential areas of Balata r.c. (barring ambulances fr. reaching the wounded, arresting 1 injured man). (AFP, MM 5/12; PSCT, VOI, VOP 5/12 in WNC 5/14; BBC, HA, MM, NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 5/13; VOI 5/13 in WNC 5/15; QA 5/13 in WNC 5/18; PR 5/19; PCHR 5/20)

13 MAY

The **IDF** sends reinforcements into Rafah to search for the remains of the 5 soldiers

killed on 5/12, firing missiles at 2 groups of Palestinians laying roadside bombs (killing **11 Palestinians**, seriously injuring 1), fatally shooting **1 Palestinian**, wounding 10s, occupying and demolishing a number of **Palestinian homes**. The **IDF** also sends troops back into Gaza City, demolishing **6 apartment buildings** completely, severely damaging several others plus a mosque, firing missiles at a group of Palestinians allegedly planting explosives, killing **4 Palestinians**, wounding 13. In addition, the **IDF** fires live ammunition, tear gas at 100s of Palestinians who have been waiting to cross the Abu Huli checkpoint in s. Gaza for 2 days, seriously injuring 1; conducts major arrest raids in Bayt Awa nr. Hebron, in and around Tulkarm r.c. and town; demolishes a **Palestinian home** in Ramallah; occupies 2 Palestinian homes in al-Qarara as observation posts. **Palestinians** fire a **Qassam rocket** at a Jewish settlement in Gaza, lightly damaging 2 houses, lightly injuring 1 settler. (AFP, AP, BBC, HA, NYT, WP 5/13; MA, MENA, PSCT, VOI, VOP, YA 5/13 in WNC 5/15; NYT, WP, WT 5/14; VOI, YA 5/14 in WNC 5/18; PCHR 5/20)

14 MAY

Clashes btwn. the **IDF, Palestinians** continue in Rafah for a 4th day, leaving **2 IDF soldiers, 2 Palestinians** dead. Palestinians report near-continuous IDF shelling. The **IDF** announces plans to bulldoze 100s of **Palestinian homes** along the Rafah border with Egypt to widen (by "a couple of hundred meters") the Philadelphi Route (now 4.5 mi. long and 250 m wide); bulldozes more **Palestinian homes**, as **1,000s of Palestinians** flee the area. Human rights groups report that the IDF has demolished **72 Palestinian homes** in Rafah completely, another 27 partially since 5/12. The **IDF** also fires on a Palestinian car nr. Netzarim settlement, wounding a pregnant Palestinian; demolishes **5 Palestinian homes** in al-Qarara, 1 nr. Ramallah; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bethlehem; fires on residential areas of Tulkarm. (BBC, MM 5/14; MA, MENA, VOI, VOP, YA 5/14 in WNC 5/18; NYT, WP, WT 5/15; PCHR 5/20)

15 MAY

The **IDF** fires missiles at the Gaza City office and home of Islamic Jihad's Gaza head **Hindi**, who is not there at the time, wounding 8 Palestinians; shells residential areas of

Khan Yunis, Rafah; fires on stone-throwing youths nr. Kefar Darom settlement, wounding 1 seriously. The **IDF** also temporarily halts house demolitions in Gaza on order fr. the **Israeli High Court**, which agrees to hear a petition against the bulldozing by a Palestinian human rights group. In Tel Aviv, more than **120,000 Israelis** attend a **Peace Now** rally calling for a full Israeli pull-out fr. Gaza. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries

received during the IDF's 5/11 raid on Gaza City. (NYT, WT 5/15; PSCT, VOP 5/15, HA, JP, VOI, YA 5/16 in WNC 5/18; NYT, WP, WT 5/16; PCHR 5/20)

Powell meets with **PA PM Ahmad Qurai'** in Amman, urges him to "seize the opportunity" presented by Sharon's unilateral disengagement. (VOP, XIN 5/15, AYM, MA, MENA, XIN 5/16 in WNC 5/18; NYT, WP, WT 5/16; WP 5/17)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP	(Agence France-Presse, Paris)
AP	(Associated Press [Internet])
ATL	(Anatolia, Ankara)
AYM	(<i>al-Ayyam</i> , Ramallah)
BBC	(British Broadcasting Corporation World Service [Internet])
CSM	(<i>Christian Science Monitor</i> , Boston)
DUS	(<i>al-Dustur</i> , Amman)
FT	(<i>Financial Times</i> , London)
HA	(<i>Ha'aretz</i> [Internet], Tel Aviv)
IRNA	(Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran)
JP	(<i>Jerusalem Post</i> [Internet], Jerusalem)
JPI	(<i>Jerusalem Post International Edition</i> , Jerusalem)
JT	(<i>Jordan Times</i> , Amman)
JTA	(Jewish Telegraphic Agency [Internet])
LAW	(Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment, Jerusalem)
LBC	(Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation, Beirut)
MA	(<i>Ma'ariv</i> , Tel Aviv)
MEI	(<i>Middle East International</i> , London)
MENA	(Middle East News Agency, Cairo)
MM	(<i>Mideast Mirror</i> , London)
MNR	(al-Manar TV, Beirut)
NHR	(<i>al-Nabar</i> , Beirut)
NYT	(<i>New York Times</i> , New York)
PCHR	(Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
PM	(Palestine Monitor [Internet])
PR	(<i>Palestine Report</i> , Jerusalem)
PRCS	(Palestine Red Crescent Society [Internet])
PSCT	(Palestine Satellite Channel Television, Gaza)
QA	(<i>al-Quds al-Arabi</i> , London)
REU	(Reuters [Internet])
SA	(<i>al-Sbarq al-Ausat</i> , London)
THWR	(<i>al-Thawra</i> , Damascus)
TSHR	(<i>Tisbrin</i> , Damascus)
VIRI	(Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Tehran)
VOI	(Voice of Israel, Jerusalem)
VOP	(Voice of Palestine, Jericho)
WJW	(<i>Washington Jewish Week</i> , Rockville, MD)
WNC	(World News Connection [Internet], Washington)
WP	(<i>Washington Post</i> , Washington)
WT	(<i>Washington Times</i> , Washington)
XIN	(Xinhua-New China News Agency, Beijing)
YA	(<i>Yedi'ot Abarot</i> , Tel Aviv)