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CHRONOLOGY

16 AUGUST-15 NOVEMBER 2007

COMPILED BY MICHELE K. ESPOSITO

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

16 AUGUST

In the West Bank, **Israel Defense Forces (IDF)** soldiers conduct arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron; patrol in and around Jenin. In Gaza, where Israel has completely sealed borders to all but humanitarian aid since Hamas's 6/15/07 ouster of Fatah (see Quarterly Update), 3 **Hamas** mbrs. are injured when rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs) they are handling explode prematurely. The **Hamas-dominated Executive Support Force (ESF)** detains **pro-Fatah Palestinian Authority (PA) Atty. Gen. Ahmad Mughami** when he returns to Gaza, which he had fled during the 6/07 intra-Palestinian clashes, and orders him to stay away fr. his offices; Mughami refuses to resign, is released. (NYT 8/17; OCHA 8/22; PCHR 8/23)

17 AUGUST

In Gaza, **Palestinians** begin experiencing longer blackouts resulting fr. fuel shortages since Israel closed the Nahal Oz pipeline on 8/15. **Hamas volunteers** undertake a clean-up campaign in Khan Yunis, where municipal sanitation workers have been on strike over salary issues. The **IDF** makes an air strike on an **Islamic Jihad** rocket-launching site nr. Bayt Lahiya in n. Gaza, causing no injuries. A 10-yr.-old Palestinian boy is injured when a Palestinian **rocket** fired fr. Gaza toward Israel hits a Palestinian home nr. Bayt Hanun, nr. the n. Gaza border. In the West Bank, the **IDF** kills 2 **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. in an exchange of fire nr. Jenin; sends troops into Kafr Dan nr. Jenin to patrol, firing on stone-throwing youths who confront them, killing a **14-yr.-old Palestinian boy**, prompting an exchange of gunfire with Palestinian resistance mbrs.

that leaves 1 **armed Palestinian** dead, 7 Palestinians wounded; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus (firing on residential areas, wounding a Palestinian woman in her home), in Qalqilya, nr. Hebron; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, injuring 5. (BBC 8/17; NYT 8/19; OCHA 8/22; PCHR 8/23)

18 AUGUST

IDF troops on the central Gaza border fire on 3 unarmed Palestinians attempting to sneak into Israel to find work, killing 1 **Palestinian**, arresting 2. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem; patrols in Nablus and neighboring 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a refugee camp (r.c.). A 13-yr.-old Palestinian boy is injured by unexploded **IDF** ordnance (UXO) nr. Tubas. (OCHA 8/22; PCHR 8/23)

19 AUGUST

In Gaza, the **IDF** sends tanks, bulldozers into al-Bureij r.c. to level land, sparking an exchange of gunfire that leaves 1 Palestinian bystander wounded. **Israel** authorizes the Nahal Oz fuel pipeline to reopen, but the **European Union (EU)**, which underwrites PA fuel imports, suspends payments for fuel supplies until it receives assurances that the **Hamas** government in Gaza will not receive tax revenues fr. the sale of electricity produced with the fuel imports. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin and in Bethlehem, Qalqilya, Tulkarm; patrols in al-Yamun nr. Jenin. In Gaza, **unidentified gunmen** raid **Fatah's** Dayr al-Balah offices, confiscating

computers, documents. (NYT 8/19; OCHA 8/22; PCHR 8/23)

20 AUGUST

The **IDF** shells a car driving nr. al-Bureij r.c., assassinating **2 ESF officers** (Muhammad Abu 'Arab, Ali Baroud) and **4 Hamas mbrs.** (Ismail Abu Abda, 'Abid Abu Hilu, Ahmad al-Qrainawi, Muhammad al-Qrainawi), wounding 1 bystander; sends troops into Abasan nr. Khan Yunis, bulldozing land, firing on residential areas, wounding 1 Palestinian. An **Islamic Jihad** mbr. is injured when explosives he is handling detonate prematurely. **Gaza's sole power plant**, which produces 25% of Gaza's electricity, shuts down after depleting its fuel reserves (see 8/19; 70% of Gaza's electricity is provided by Israel, 5% by Egypt). In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus and nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin, Ramallah, Tulkarm; fires on stone-throwing Palestinian youths outside 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a r.c., wounding 2; later patrols in 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a, exchanging fire with local gunmen, killing **1 armed Palestinian**. (HA, NYT 8/21; OCHA, WP 8/22; PCHR 8/23)

21 AUGUST

In Gaza, the **IDF** makes an air strike on a group of armed Islamic Jihad mbrs. nr. the n. Gaza border fence, killing **3 Islamic Jihad mbrs.**; makes an air strike on 2 Hamas mbrs. nr. the border barrier e. of Gaza City, killing **1 Hamas mbr.**, wounding 1; makes an air strike on an Islamic Jihad training site nr. Rafah, wounding 1 Islamic Jihad mbr.; fires a tank shell at **2 Palestinian children** (ages 9, 12) nr. a site previously used to launch rockets, killing them (the IDF claims that militants often use children to retrieve rocket launchers, so they were a viable target). **Palestinians** fire **3 rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing light damage but no injuries. In Bayt Hanun, a Palestinian is injured when explosives he is handling detonate prematurely. **Hamas** takes over management of the Rafah Labor Association, formerly headed by **Fatah**. (OCHA, WP 8/22; PCHR 8/23)

22 AUGUST

Fuel imports to Gaza resume for the 1st time since 8/15 after the **EU** receives assurances that **Hamas** will not benefit fr. elec-

tricity sales. The **IDF** bulldozes Palestinian land along the Gaza border e. of Jabaliya r.c. to improve lines of sight. The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing boats off the Rafah coast, damaging 10 boats, arresting 8 fishermen, forcing others to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes a **Palestinian home** nr. Salfit; patrols in Jenin town and r.c.; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, in 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a r.c. (3 IDF soldiers are wounded in an exchange of fire with armed Palestinians). (PCHR 8/23; OCHA 8/29; PCHR 8/30)

23 AUGUST

Overnight, the **IDF** makes an incursion into Khuza'a nr. Khan Yunis, storming houses, occupying homes and a school as observation posts, clashing with and calling in air strikes on armed Palestinians who confront them (wounding at least 6 Palestinians, including 2 civilians), bulldozing 6 dunams (d.; 4 d. = 1 acre) of Palestinian land, detaining 5 Palestinians (4 of whom are released later in the day). During the day, **IDF** troops on the Gaza border fire a surface-to-surface missile into Gaza at a group of Hamas mbrs., killing **1 Hamas mbr.**, wounding 1. **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. fire an RPG at an IDF patrol on the Gaza border nr. Dayr al-Balah, causing no damage or injuries. Nr. Gaza City, **1 Hamas mbr.** is killed, another wounded when a roadside bomb they are planting explodes prematurely. In 2 separate incidents in Hebron, **Jewish settlers** attack, vandalize Palestinian homes. In Wadi al-Juz in East Jerusalem, the **IDF** raids a home where some 25 Israeli Palestinian religious figures, including **Islamic Movement head Shaykh Raed Salah**, are having a dinner, ordering the group to disband because they are holding an "illegal meeting"; when the group refuses, the IDF fires percussion grenades into the home, injuring 4. (REU 8/23; OCHA 8/29; PCHR 8/30)

24 AUGUST

In Gaza, the **IDF** fatally shoots **2 armed Palestinians** on the border nr. Jabaliya; sends troops into al-Shuka nr. Rafah to bulldoze 6 d. of agricultural land nr. the Gaza airport; bulldozes Palestinian land along the border fence n. of Bayt Lahiya. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends undercover units into Sa'ida nr. Tulkarm to raid 2 Palestinian homes, mortally shooting **Islamic Jihad cmdr. Tariq Milhem** in an exchange of fire,

allowing him to bleed to death over 2 hrs., also fatally shooting his **11-yr.-old brother**, wounding 2 other family mbrs. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in, fires on residential areas of Balata r.c. nr. Nablus, wounding 1 Palestinian woman; conducts house searches in 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, injuring 2. **Jewish settlers** fire on a Palestinian wedding party nr. Nablus, wounding 2 Palestinians. **Jewish settlers** in Hebron assault an 11-yr.-old Palestinian boy riding his bike, breaking his arm. Meanwhile, **500 Fatah mbrs.** hold an unauthorized protest against the **Hamas-led government** outside the main security headquarters in Gaza City, throwing stones at **ESF** officers guarding the building, who fire into the air and beat back the demonstrators, injuring 15. Separately in Gaza City, **ESF** officers raid a wedding to halt celebratory gunfire, scuffling with guests, beating and injuring 1 Palestinian. (WT 8/25; OCHA 8/29; PCHR 8/30)

Under a temporary cease-fire brokered by the **Palestinian Clerics Association** btwn. the **Lebanese army** and **Fatah al-Islam (FI)** militants who have been fighting in and around the Palestinian refugee camp of Nahr al-Barid nr. Tripoli since 5/07 (see Quarterly Update), army soldiers escort the remaining **families of FI mbrs.** (22 women, 41 children) out of the r.c. in anticipation of a final assault. The army estimates that 70 FI mbrs. are left in the camp and are refusing to surrender. (NYT, WT 8/25)

25 AUGUST

In Gaza, 2 **armed Palestinians** representing the **Fatah-linked al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade (AMB)** and the **Popular Resistance Comms. (PRCs;** an umbrella group including mbrs. of all factions) infiltrate the Israeli border, open fire with automatic weapons at the **IDF** post at Erez crossing, lightly wounding 2 soldiers before being shot dead. The **IDF** directs heavy machine gun fire at Palestinian homes in al-Shuka, makes several air strikes on the area during the day, wounding 1 Palestinian. **Hamas** mbrs. detonate a roadside bomb under an **IDF** vehicle patrolling the Gaza border nr. al-Shuka, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends undercover units into Jenin in cars with Palestinian license plates, ambushing and assassinating **Islamic Jihad mbrs.**

Ala' Sorour and Mustafa Atiq, wounding 3 other Islamic Jihad mbrs.; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c., nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba in Hebron attack a Palestinian home in an area previously targeted by settlers for confiscation. The **IDF** forcibly removes some **100 Jewish settlers** who reoccupied the vacant Homesh settlement site earlier in the day. (IFM, WT 8/26; OCHA 8/29; PCHR 8/30)

26 AUGUST

In Gaza, the **IDF** makes an air strike on a suspected rocket-launching site nr. Bayt Hanun, causing no injuries. The **UNRWA** appeals to **Israel** to allow 5 truckloads of paper into Gaza so that textbooks may be printed for students, who resume classes on 9/1, arguing that the paper constitutes humanitarian aid; **Israel** refuses, saying the paper might be used to print books "with Hamas ideology . . . or for other propagandist endeavors." **UNRWA** also argues that **Israel** should resume imports of construction materials to Gaza for homes, schools, other infrastructure projects, the deterioration of which constitutes a public health concern. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts house searches in Nablus and neighboring Askar r.c. A **Jewish settler** in Hebron injures a Palestinian woman in a deliberate hit-and-run incident. The **Palestinian Union of Medical Professions** in Gaza announces a work slowdown, with mbrs. working only btwn. 8:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M., to protest the **Hamas** acting government's replacement of senior health officials at several clinics and hospitals (see Quarterly Update in *JPS* 145). (UNIS 8/27; OCHA 8/29; PCHR 8/30; OCHA 9/13)

Clashes with **FI** in Nahr al-Barid r.c. leave **3 Lebanese soldiers** dead. (WP 8/27)

27 AUGUST

IDF troops stationed on the Gaza border fatally shoot a **Palestinian shepherd** who strays nr. the border fence nr. Juhur al-Dik; troops conduct bulldozing operations in the area. The **IDF** makes an air strike on a suspected rocket-launching site nr. Bayt Hanun, causing no injuries. The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing vessels off the Bayt Lahiya coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** arrests Palestinian Awad Abu Suway, head of a Bethlehem group that organizes local nonviolent protests against the **separation**

wall, and his 65-yr.-old father; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin town and r.c. and in Hebron, Nablus, and neighboring Balata r.c. **PA police** rescue an **IDF soldier** who mistakenly drives into Jenin and is surrounded by an angry mob; police safely turn over the soldier to the IDF, but the crowd burns his vehicle; **Israel** praises the PA police, saying their actions are a sign of **PA Pres. Mahmud Abbas's** growing authority. A **Palestinian** civilian injured in an 8/14 **IDF** air strike on Khan Yunis dies. (AP 8/27; WP 8/28; OCHA 8/29; PCHR 8/30)

28 AUGUST

IDF troops on the Gaza border, shoot, wound, detain, and transport to Israel a mentally handicapped Palestinian who strays nr. the border barrier nr. Jabaliya. The **IDF** makes an incursion into Abu Safiyya nr. Bayt Hanun, searching homes, arresting 12 Palestinians. **Palestinians** fire a **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, hitting a home, injuring 1 Israeli. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Qalqilya, firing on stone-throwing Palestinians who confront them, injuring 14 (including 9 children). Meanwhile, armed clashes erupt in Khan Yunis when **ESF** officers attempt to arrest a wanted **Fatah** mbr., leaving 17 Palestinians injured. **Hamas** closes 4 private medical clinics in Gaza that were adhering to a Fatah work slowdown. In Nablus, **suspected Fatah mbrs.** kidnap, beat, release a **Hamas mbr.** (WT 8/29; IFM 8/29; OCHA 8/29; PCHR 8/30)

29 AUGUST

The **IDF** launches air strikes on 5 rocket-launching sites in nr. Bayt Hanun, killing **3 Palestinian children** (ages 8–12); Israel says it hit viable targets, claiming that **Hamas** was using the children to “adjust” the launchers, states its “sorrow for the cynical use the terror organizations make of the active participation of teenagers in terror attacks”; relatives of the children say they were playing in the vicinity of an **Islamic Jihad** launcher. The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of Rafah, forcing them to return to shore. **Palestinians** fire 1 rocket fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. Nr. Gaza City, a **Palestinian** dies when a roadside bomb he is planting explodes prematurely. In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes **6 Palestinian homes**

in Qalqilya; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Bethlehem. Meanwhile, **AMB mbrs.** in Ramallah fire on the car of a **Hamas-affiliated municipal council mbr.**, causing damage but no injuries. A **Hamas mbr.** dies of injuries received in an 8/23 **IDF** missile attack on Gaza. (AP, IFM, YA 8/29; NYT, PCHR, WP 8/30; OCHA 9/5; PCHR 9/6; NYT 9/26)

30 AUGUST

IDF troops on the n. Gaza border fire a surface-to-surface missile into Gaza for unclear reasons, causing no damage or injuries. The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of Bayt Lahiya, forcing them to return to shore. **Palestinians** fire a **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, lightly injuring 3 Israelis. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Jericho (very rare), nr. Tulkarm; patrols in the Old City of Nablus, clashing with Palestinian gunmen, leaving 1 **AMB mbr.** wounded. (OCHA 9/5; PCHR 9/6)

31 AUGUST

The **IDF** admits that 3 Palestinian children killed in an 8/29 strike on Bayt Hanun were playing tag, not retrieving a rocket launcher. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron; fires on stone-throwing Palestinian youths outside al-Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, wounding a 7-yr.-old boy; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, injuring 8 (similar demonstrations are held without incident in al-Walaja and Um Salamuna nr. Bethlehem). **Jewish settlers** fr. Givat Havat and Kiryat Arba in Hebron beat a Palestinian farmer working his land btwn. the 2 settlements. The **IDF** bars Jewish settlers fr. reaching the evacuated Homesh settlement site; settlers set fire to 2 **IDF** vehicles in protest. The **PA** closes **103 charitable associations** in the West Bank (80% affiliated with **Hamas**) for being “improperly registered” (see Quarterly Update). Responding to a call by **Fatah** to boycott Friday prayers in mosques and begin weekly prayer protests against **Hamas's** “persecution” of Fatah mbrs. in Gaza, some **5,000 Fatah supporters** hold prayers in a Gaza City park, then stage a march and rally denouncing Hamas, attacking Hamas-controlled

buildings with stones, pipe bombs. Some **7,000 Fatah supporters** hold a similar demonstration in Rafah, attacking the home of a prominent **Hamas** mbr. The **ESF** violently disperses both protests, firing into the air, beating demonstrators, and tossing percussion grenades, arresting scores, injuring 10–20 (including 2 journalists), wounding an Egyptian on the Egyptian side of the Rafah border. **Fatah** mbrs. stone an **ESF** patrol in al-Bureij r.c., causing no injuries. (NYT, WP 9/1; OCHA 9/5; PCHR 9/6; Conflicts Forum 10/8)

1 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron, in Balata r.c. and Nablus. In Gaza, **1,000s of Hamas supporters** rally at the Rafah border crossing to protest its continued closure by Israel; when the demonstrators attempt to break through the Rafah crossing to reach Egypt, **ESF mbrs.** fire into the air to disperse the crowd, killing **1 Palestinian teenager**, wounding several. In Gaza City, a bomb destroys an **ESF** vehicle parked outside the home of a senior **ESF** cmdr., causing no injuries; Hamas blames **Fatah**, which denies involvement. (NYT 9/2; OCHA 9/5; PCHR 9/6)

2 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** makes an air strike targeting a car in n. Gaza carrying **3 Islamic Jihad** mbrs. allegedly coming fr. a rocket-launching site, hitting the car after the men escape; sends troops into Bayt Hanun and makes 2 air strikes on agricultural lands in the area, causing no reported injuries, withdrawing troops in the afternoon; makes a helicopter air strike on a **Hamas** training base nr. Dayr al-Balah, missing the target, hitting an open area, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Hebron and Jenin town and r.c., and nr. Bethlehem, Ramallah, Tulkarm. Meanwhile, in Rafah, the **ESF** attempts to arrest an **Islamic Jihad** mbr. violating the acting Hamas government's ban on carrying weapons in public, sparking an exchange of fire that causes no injuries; the Islamic Jihad mbr. escapes. (NYT 9/4; OCHA 9/5; PCHR 9/6)

After a week of increased **Lebanese army** shelling of Nahr al-Barid and reinforcing of positions surrounding the camp, the remaining **FI** mbrs. holed up in the r.c. make a last-ditch, predawn effort to flee,

clashing with soldiers who kill more than **50 FI mbrs.**, capture 32, and take control of the camp; **5 Lebanese soldiers** are also killed, bringing the toll since the crisis began on 5/20/07 to at least 163 soldiers, 222 FI mbrs., 42 civilians. The army says it must conduct demining operations in the camp before refugees may return; **Lebanese PM Fuad Siniora** vows to repair all damage. (NYT, WP, WT 9/3; WT 9/4, 9/16)

3 SEPTEMBER

Islamic Jihad fires **7 rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries although 1 lands nr. a daycare center and school, causing panic; public and government officials call for immediate school closures until the Israeli government takes steps to halt rocket fire; Israeli officials urge cutting water, fuel, and electricity to Gaza or carrying out a massive military strike. In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes **4 Palestinian homes** in and nr. East Jerusalem; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Nablus (targeting **Hamas**; firing on stone-throwing Palestinians who confront them, wounding 9) and nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin. (NYT, WP, WT 9/4; OCHA 9/5; PCHR 9/6)

The **Lebanese army** continues to search Nahr al-Barid r.c. for fugitive **FI** mbrs., occasionally exchanging gunfire with hold-outs; no casualties are reported. Journalists entering the camp for the 1st time state that “shell blasts honeycombed nearly every building.” (WT 9/4)

4 SEPTEMBER

Israelis in Sederot close schools, demand government action after **Palestinians** fire 3 more **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. **Egyptian border police** demolish a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border. In the West Bank, the **IDF** raids, searches several Hamas-run charities in Nablus, confiscating documents, computers and sealing the offices; patrols in, fires on residential areas of 'Azun nr. Qalqilya (also firing on stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 2 children, ages 13 and 14), Sa'ir nr. Hebron (seriously wounding 1 Palestinian); conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Qabatya nr. Jenin and Tulkarm r.c., and nr. Hebron. The **Israeli High Court** rules that the **separation wall** around Bil'in, site of weekly nonviolent protests, must be moved westward to prevent the de facto annexation of more

than half of the village's agricultural land, rejecting the government's claim that a wide buffer zone was needed to protect nearby **Mod'in Ilit settlement** and determining that the original route took into consideration plans to expand the settlement "as much as possible"; the decision gives the government a "reasonable period of time" to take down and move portions of the wall, which is expected to return 250 acres of land to Bil'in residents. In Gaza City, the previously unheard-of **Security Members Martyrs Brigade** took responsibility for detonating a bomb under the car of a prominent **Hamas mbr.** in Gaza City, causing no injuries; the group is thought to be made up of Fatah security officers still in Gaza who have been underground since Hamas took over in mid-6/07. **Suspected Fatah mbrs.** also fire on an **ESF** patrol, causing no injuries. In Rafah, **ESF** officers fire on **Fatah mbrs.** writing pro-Fatah graffiti, wounding 3. (BBC 9/4; IFM, NYT, OCHA, WP, WT 9/5; PCHR, WT 9/6)

5 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** sends troops into n. Gaza, bulldozing Palestinian land and searching for rockets and rocket launchers, reportedly uncovering 4 rockets, 11 launchers; **Palestinians** fire 2 antitank missiles at the troops, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Hebron, Nablus (where 3 **IDF** soldiers are wounded when an explosive device detonates nr. their patrol) and nr. Qalqilya, Tulkarm. (IFM 9/5; PCHR 9/6; OCHA 9/12; PCHR 9/13)

6 SEPTEMBER

Overnight in Gaza, the **IDF** sends troops and tanks, supported by helicopters, into areas around Khan Yunis and al-Qarara, searching and occupying homes, temporarily detaining 150 Palestinians, bulldozing 66 d. of agricultural land, clashing with and shelling local gunmen, killing 4 **armed AMB and Hamas mbrs.**; troops withdraw in the afternoon. In central Gaza, 6 **Islamic Jihad mbrs.** attempt to break through the border fence to attack an **IDF** post inside Israel but are shot dead by **IDF** soldiers. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Tulkarm, in Jenin (firing on residential areas and stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 3 children ages 10–13). Some **30,000 Hamas supporters** rally in Gaza City in support of ousted

PA PM Ismail Haniyeh. **ESF** officers raid *al-Hadath* press office in al-Bureij r.c., confiscating documents, computers. (BBC 9/6; NYT, WP, WT 9/7; OCHA 9/12; PCHR 9/13)

Overnight, the **IDF** sends at least 5 war planes over **Turkey** and into n. **Syria** to make an air strike on an industrial building under construction in an open area nr. the Euphrates river, causing no injuries. **Syria** responds with anti-aircraft fire, causing no damage. **Syria** denounces Israel's actions and says it is measuring its response, while **Israeli PM Ehud Olmert's** office imposes a news blackout. By late in the day, **Israel, Syria** issue statements declaring that neither side intends to be drawn into a war. (BBC, REU 9/6; NYT, WP 9/7; WT 9/8; WP 9/13; NYT 9/18; HA 11/22) (see Quarterly Update)

7 SEPTEMBER

Late in the evening, the **IDF** sends undercover units dressed in **ESF** uniforms into Rafah to kidnap and take to Israel **Hamas military cmdr. Mihawish al-Nu'aymat** (also reported as Mohawah al-Qadi), who reportedly has information on captured **IDF** soldier Gilad Shalit. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Jenin town and r.c., Qabatya and nr. Hebron; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, injuring 1. A 13-yr.-old Palestinian boy is injured by **IDF** UXO nr. Nablus. Across Gaza, **Fatah supporters** for a 3d week hold Friday prayers outside in protest against **Hamas**; the **ESF** clashes with demonstrators in al-Bureij r.c., Gaza City, Jabaliya r.c., Khan Yunis, and Rafah, using batons and percussion grenades, leaving a total of 51 Palestinians injured, 20 **Fatah mbrs.** arrested, 3 journalists temporarily detained; reports differ as to whether the **ESF** tried to break up peaceful prayer services or only intervened afterward, when **Fatah supporters** began chanting anti-Hamas slogans and throwing stones at **ESF** officers. (NYT 9/8; OCHA 9/12; PCHR 9/13)

8 SEPTEMBER

IDF troops on the Gaza border e. of Gaza City fatally shoot a **Palestinian teenager** who strays nr. the border fence while hunting birds. **IDF** troops exchange cross-border fire with armed Palestinians nr. Jabaliya r.c., causing no reported injuries. A **Palestinian**

is killed when a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border collapses. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Tulkarm, in Hebron and Nablus, northwest of Jerusalem, and nr. Qalqilya. (OCHA 9/12; PCHR 9/13)

9 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** surrounds Hebron's al-Ansar Mosque during evening prayers, photographing and checking the IDs of worshipers as they leave; conducts arrest raids, house searches in 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a r.c., Jenin town and r.c., Nablus, Qabatya. The **ESF** raids, searches the homes of several **Fatah** mbrs., beating and injuring 8, detaining 14; 1 wanted **Fatah** mbr. evades arrest when neighbors stone **ESF** officers who come to detain him. **PA security forces** violently disperse a demonstration by students at the predominantly **Hamas** Hebron University protesting tuition increases, also beat and detain 2 journalists covering the event; in response, some **100 Hamas mbrs.** burn tires, attack the local PA police station. (OCHA 9/12; PCHR 9/13)

10 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends undercover units in a car with Palestinian license plates into 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a r.c., shooting, wounding, arresting a **Hamas** mbr.; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, Nablus and in Jenin town and r.c. (firing on stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 9, ages 11-16). **Jewish settlers** fr. Avraham Avino in Hebron beat 3 Palestinian children, ages 12-16. A **13-yr.-old Palestinian** dies of injuries sustained during a 9/6 **IDF** arrest campaign in Jenin. (OCHA 9/12; PCHR 9/13)

11 SEPTEMBER

Islamic Jihad and the **PRCs** in n. Gaza take joint responsibility for a predawn **rocket** strike on the **IDF's** Zikim base nr. the Gaza border that hits a tent full of sleeping soldiers, critically wounding 1, seriously wounding 2, moderately wounding 7, marking the highest casualty toll in a rocket strike to date; another 60 soldiers are lightly injured or treated for shock. The **IDF** responds with air strikes, shelling on suspected rocket-launching sites in n. Gaza, hitting a home in Bayt Hanun, wounding 4 Palestinian children and an adult. Palestinians retaliate by

firing 7 **mortars** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. The **Israeli DMin.** begins drafting an assessment for **DM Ehud Barak** of the impact of cutting water, electricity, fuel services to Gaza. In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes 21 agricultural structures in Anata nr. Jerusalem for being too close to the **separation wall** and a settler bypass road; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron and Nablus, nr. Jenin and Tulkarm; issues military orders shutting the Ibrahimi Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs to Muslims for 5 days during Ramadan so that Jewish settlers may celebrate concurrent Jewish holidays. **Jewish settlers** fr. Avraham Avino, escorted by **IDF** troops, occupy the roof of al-Aqtab Mosque (seized by the **IDF** in 1994 after the Ibrahimi Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs shooting), begin construction on it to expand their outpost. In Jabaliya r.c., **Hamas** mbrs. occupy the home of the **Fatah**-affiliated PA occupiers' affairs minister, who fled to Ramallah. (IFM, NYT, WP, WT 9/11; NYT, OCHA, WP, WT 9/12; PCHR 9/13; OCHA 10/19)

12 SEPTEMBER

Overnight, the **IDF** sends troops into Gaza's al-Maghazi r.c. to search homes, question Palestinians, bulldoze 15 d. of olive and guava groves; troops withdraw in the afternoon. In the West Bank, the **IDF** seals border crossings into Israel through 9/16 for Rosh Hashanah; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Hebron. **Suspected Fatah mbrs.** detonate a bomb outside, fire an RPG at an **ESF** post in Gaza City, causing damage but no injuries. (PCHR 9/13; OCHA 9/19; PCHR 9/20)

13 SEPTEMBER

In n. Gaza, the **IDF** makes 2 air strikes targeting a car carrying 4 **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. allegedly en route to fire rockets into Israel, missing the car initially, allowing the men to escape with minor injuries; exchanges fire with **Hamas** mbrs. across the border e. of al-Maghazi r.c., causing no reported injuries. The **Hamas government in Gaza** calls on militant groups to stop firing at border crossings with Israel to ensure the continued flow of humanitarian aid. A 14-yr.-old Palestinian is seriously injured by **IDF UXO** nr. Bayt Lahiya. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Jenin town and r.c., nr. Hebron. (NYT 9/14; OCHA 9/19; PCHR 9/20)

14 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** makes an air strike on a car carrying **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. in Gaza City, missing the target, damaging a house and lightly injuring 1 bystander. **Egyptian border police** demolish a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border. A Palestinian is injured when explosives he is handling detonate prematurely. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (injuring several) and a similar protest at al-Walaja (causing no reported injuries). **Palestinian gunmen** fire on a Jewish settler's vehicle nr. Karnei Shomron settlement nr. Qalqilya, injuring 2 settlers. Having sealed the West Bank border for Rosh Hashanah (see 9/12), the **IDF** allows only Palestinian men over age 60 to enter Jerusalem fr. the West Bank to attend prayers marking the 1st Friday of Ramadan. (OCHA 9/19; PCHR 9/20)

15 SEPTEMBER

Overnight in Gaza, the **IDF** launches arrest raids, house searches in al-Nazaz nr. Bayt Hanun, firing on residential areas (wounding 1 Palestinian), demolishing 1 **Palestinian home**, damaging 7 others, bulldozing 12 d. of agricultural land, temporarily detaining 7 Palestinians for questioning, withdrawing fr. the area in the evening; sends troops into al-Fakhari in s. Gaza to conduct arrest raids, house searches. **Palestinians** fire several **mortars** at the IDF post at Kerem Shalom crossing, causing no damage or injuries; the IDF responds by firing 2 surface-to-surface missiles at 2 mortar-launching sites, causing no reported injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends troops into Balata r.c., where they ambush, fatally shoot **wanted AMB mbr. Yusuf al-Assi** in an apparent assassination (Assi's name was not included in lists of AMB mbrs. given amnesty by Israel last quarter; see Quarterly Update in *JPS* 145); exchanges fire with Palestinian gunmen in 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a and neighboring Nablus, wounding 1 armed Palestinian; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron (also presenting a PA security officer with an order to surrender for questioning with Israeli intelligence). A **Jewish settler** in Hebron seriously injures a 7-yr.-old Palestinian boy in

a deliberate hit-and-run. (OCHA 9/19; PCHR 9/20)

16 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** withdraws troops fr. al-Fakhari, ending an arrest campaign that began on 9/15, temporarily detaining 4 Palestinians, arresting 3 others. An **IDF** tank operating inside Gaza nr. the Sufa crossing triggers a roadside bomb, causing damage but no injuries. **Palestinians** fire 2 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries; the **IDF** dispatches helicopters to fire on the Bayt Hanun launch site, causing no reported injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends troops into Jabal Juhan nr. Hebron to break up an armed clash between 2 Palestinian clans and impose a curfew, later firing on mbrs. of 1 clan who violate the curfew, killing 1 **Palestinian**, wounding 4; sends troops into Ramallah, firing on stone-throwing youths who confront them, mortally wounding a **16-yr.-old Palestinian**, denying access to an ambulance (he subsequently bleeds to death); denies an **ailing Palestinian** with a valid permit for medical treatment permission to cross a checkpoint to reach a Jerusalem hospital, allowing him to die; conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Arub r.c. nr. Hebron, Bethlehem, Jenin town and r.c. In Rafah, **unidentified assailants** detonate a bomb outside the home of a prominent local **Fatah** mbr., causing damage but no injuries. (OCHA 9/19; PCHR 9/20)

17 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, an **IDF** tank operating inside Gaza nr. the Nahal Oz crossing triggers a roadside bomb, causing damage but no injuries. **Palestinians** fire 2 RPGs at an **IDF** patrol inside Israel e. of al-Qarara; the **IDF** then sends undercover units, a tank into al-Qarara to search for the assailants, exchanging fire with **Hamas** mbrs.; no injuries are reported. **IDF soldiers, Palestinian gunmen** exchange fire across the border nr. the Erez crossing, causing no damage or injuries. **Palestinians** fire 2 **mortars** fr. the Bayt Hanun area toward Israel, but both land inside Palestinian territory, causing no damage or injuries. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Qalqilya. A **Jewish settler** kills a **14-yr.-old Palestinian** in a deliberate hit-and-run nr. Salfit. In Gaza, the **Palestinian Union of Medical Professions** ends the work

slowdown started on 8/26. (OCHA 9/19; PCHR 9/20)

18 SEPTEMBER

Overnight, the **IDF** makes a major incursion into 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a r.c. to arrest **Hamas** and **PFLP** mbrs., imposing a round-the-clock curfew, firing on residential areas, occupying several homes as military outposts, moving from building to building by breaking through walls (50 homes and 2 shops are damaged by the time the operation ends on 9/21), clashing with local gunmen, leaving **1 armed Palestinian**, **1 IDF soldier** dead. At dawn, Palestinians fr. neighboring Nablus obey calls from local mosques to march to the camp to force a lifting of the siege; when some throw stones at troops, the IDF responds with live fire, mortally wounding a **17-yr.-old Palestinian**, barring ambulances from reaching the scene, allowing him to bleed to death; 4 other Palestinians are wounded. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem, nr. Hebron; issues a military order confiscating 523 d. of Palestinian land in al-Khadir and Artas nr. Bethlehem for expansion of Efrat settlement. **Haniyeh** meets with **Islamic Jihad** leaders in Gaza to ask them to halt rocket fire into Israel during Ramadan, which ends ca. 10/13, but no agmt. is reached; **Damascus-based Hamas leader Khalid Mishal** intends to hold similar talks with Islamic Jihad leaders in Syria in the next few days. In Gaza City, **Hamas** and **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. armed with sticks and axes clash when Hamas mbrs. reportedly attempt to take over the Islamic Jihad-run Asqalan Mosque; 3 Palestinians are injured. (NYT, OCHA 9/19; NYT, PCHR 9/20)

US. Secy. of State Condoleeza Rice begins the 1st of 3 visits to the region this quarter for talks with Olmert, Abbas in preparation for Bush's proposed fall peace conference, now tentatively set for 11/15 in Washington. She returns to Washington on 9/20. (WP 9/18; WT 9/19; see also IFM, WT 10/17) (see Quarterly Update for details)

19 SEPTEMBER

Olmert convenes his **security cabinet**, which declares Gaza "hostile territory" controlled by a "terrorist organization" (**Hamas**); imposes additional sanctions on Gaza with the stated aim of reducing Palestinian rocket fire, including cutting back fuel and electricity services to the Strip, further

reducing imports to and travel from Gaza. Early in the morning, the **IDF** sends troops into al-Shuka to raid and search homes. The **IDF** also makes an air strike on a **PRC** training camp e. of Bayt Lahiya, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** continues operations in 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a for a 2d day, raiding and searching homes, fatally shooting a **mentally handicapped Palestinian** who steps onto his balcony, firing on stone-throwing youths who confront the troops, wounding 8; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Tulkarm and in Jenin, Qalqilya, Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Karmiel settlement nr. Hebron vandalize a nearby, fenced-in crop area planted by local bedouin to feed their herds. **Suspected Fatah mbrs.** fire on an **ESF** patrol nr. Shati' r.c. in Gaza, injuring 2 **ESF** officers. Nr. Gaza City, the **ESF** intervenes to prevent a group of **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. fr. firing rockets into Israel, sparking an exchange of gunfire that leaves no reported injuries. In Rafah, **unidentified gunmen** shoot, wound a **Hamas** mbr. (IFM 9/19; NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 9/20; NYT 9/22; IFM 9/24; OCHA 9/26; PCHR 9/27)

In Beirut, **unidentified assailants** detonate a car bomb assassinating **Christian Phalange party MP Antoine Ghanem** (the 8th anti-Syrian figure killed in the past 3 yrs.), reducing the governing coalition's parliamentary majority to 67 of 128 seats only 6 days before parliament is to convene to elect a new pres. by simple majority. **Ghanem's bodyguard** and **5 bystanders** are also killed; 56 are wounded (19 seriously). (REU 9/19; NYT, WP, WT 9/20; NYT, WT 9/21) (see Quarterly Update for details)

20 SEPTEMBER

Overnight, the **IDF** escalates operations in Gaza allegedly targeting rocket-launching sites, sending tanks, bulldozers, undercover units into areas of central Gaza, demolishing 14 **Palestinian homes**, leveling 90 d. of olive groves, killing 4 **Palestinians** (1 armed man and 2 civilians, including 1 teenager who is hit by shrapnel from a tank, then run over by an IDF bulldozer), arresting 20. The **IDF** continues operations in al-Shuka, arresting 20 Palestinians, partially demolishing 3 Palestinian homes, and bulldozing 11 d. of agricultural land before withdrawing in the evening. The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing boats off the Rafah coast, forcing them back to shore. In Nussayrat r.c., **IDF UXO** explodes, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF**

continues operations in 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a r.c., demolishing 2 **Palestinian homes** and 1 other building, firing on stone-throwing Palestinians who confront them, wounding 12; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Qalqilya, nr. Nablus. Meanwhile, in Gaza, **Haniyeh** meets again (see 9/18) with **Islamic Jihad** and other faction leaders to urge a halt to rocket fire on Israel; no agmt. is reached. (NYT, WP 9/21; OCHA 9/26; PCHR 9/27)

21 SEPTEMBER

Israel imposes a 2-day seal on its West Bank border for Yom Kippur. In Gaza, the **IDF** sends troops back into al-Shuka village, raiding and searching homes (reportedly stealing jewelry, money, personal articles from at least 1 residence), arresting 11 Palestinians. Nr. Bayt Lahiya, 4 Palestinians are injured when they accidentally trigger **IDF** UXO. In the West Bank, the **IDF** ends a 4-day incursion into 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a r.c., having arrested around 50 **Hamas** and **PFLP** mbrs., including 2 senior local Hamas cmdrs. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, injuring 4. Citing national preparation for Yom Kippur, **Israel** bars all West Bank Palestinians fr. attending Friday prayers in Jerusalem, raising anger during Ramadan. In Bayt Hanun, a **bomb** explodes in the Agricultural Union Comm. offices, causing damage but no injuries; no group claims responsibility. (REU 9/21; NYT 9/22; OCHA 9/26; PCHR 9/27; HA 9/30)

22 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** blows up the **home** of a wanted **Hamas** mbr. in Nablus; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Nablus, Salfit. In and around Hebron, a **Jewish settler** fr. Kiryat Arba attacks, moderately injures a Palestinian; **Jewish settlers** fr. Havat Ma'on attack a Palestinian family, injuring 3; a **Jewish settler** injures a Palestinian in a deliberate hit-and-run; several **Jewish settlers** stone a Palestinian vehicle on the Jerusalem-Hebron road, injuring the driver. Nr. Bethlehem, several **Jewish settlers** ambush, beat 2 Palestinian paramedics traveling nr. Nekudim settlement nr. Bethlehem with **IDF** permission to collect an ailing Pales-

tinian child; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene. (OCHA 9/26; PCHR 9/27)

In the wake of the 9/19 Beirut bombing, Lebanese PM **Siniora** postpones until 10/23 the start of the Lebanese presidential elections process, previously set for 9/25. By law, **Lebanese pres. Emile Lahoud** must step down on 11/24. (NYT 9/23; WP 9/24) (see Quarterly Update for details)

23 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus (targeting **AMB** mbrs., at least 1 of whom was among the **AMB** mbrs. granted amnesty by Israel in 7/06; see Quarterly Update in *JPS* 145); fires on residential areas, blowing up a 4-story **apartment building** owned by a Palestinian (displacing 4 families) in Jenin town and r.c. A **Jewish settler** nr. Jerusalem stabs, wounds a Palestinian. In Gaza's al-Bureij r.c., **unidentified assailants** set fire to the local **Fatah al-Yasir** offices. A **Hamas mbr.** wounded in an apparent factional shooting in Rafah on 9/19 dies. (OCHA 9/26; PCHR 9/27)

24 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** sends troops into areas southeast of Khan Yunis, bulldozing 4 **Palestinian homes**, 15 greenhouses, 57 d. of agricultural land. **Palestinians** fire an antitank missile at an **IDF** patrol inside Israel nr. the Qarni industrial zone, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus and nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Tulkarm. Nr. Gaza City, **Fatah** and **Hamas** mbrs. exchange gunfire, wounding 1 Palestinian. (OCHA 9/26; PCHR 9/27)

25 SEPTEMBER

Israel's Bank Hapoalim and **Discount Bank** announce plans to terminate all dealings with banks in Gaza, fearing prosecution in light of Israel's 9/19 declaration of Gaza as "hostile territory"; at Israel's request, the suspensions are delayed until Israel's Postal Bank can expand operations to assume sole control of clearing international financial transactions with Gaza. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Bireh (raiding the home of Palestinian Council [PC] mbr. Maryam Saleh [Change and Reform], confiscating a computer and documents, arresting her son), Nablus and

nr. Bethlehem, Ramallah. **Jewish settlers and right-wing activists** announce plans to set up 5 new unauthorized outposts in the West Bank; 1,000s of activists are expected to take part in the effort during the upcoming week-long Sukkoth holiday 9/27–10/2. (NYT 9/26; OCHA 9/26; PCHR 9/27)

26 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** imposes a general closure on the West Bank and Gaza until 10/2 for the Sukkoth holidays. During the day in Gaza, the **IDF** makes an air strike on a car nr. Gaza City, assassinating **5 Army of Islam mbrs.** (Hussein Ahil, Fawzi al-Ashram, Ayman Dalul, Osama al-Rifi, Sami al-Za'im), wounding at least 1; makes 2 air strikes on suspected rocket-launching sites in n. Gaza and 3 on similar sites nr. Jabaliya r.c., causing no injuries; launches a major incursion into Bayt Hanun, with 50 tanks and bulldozers, cutting electricity to n. Gaza and firing a tank shell at a **PRC gunman** who fires on the troops (killing the gunman and hitting a home, killing **3 Palestinians** inside), wounding 30 Palestinians in armed exchanges. Late in the evening, the **IDF** makes an air strike on a rocket-launching site nr. Bayt Hanun, killing **2 Hamas mbrs.**, wounding 3 Palestinians. **Islamic Jihad** fires some **10 rockets**, **20 mortars** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **PA security forces**, demonstrating their security cooperation with Israel, report turning over to the **IDF** 2 Qassam rockets they discovered in Bethlehem, giving no information on from whom they were seized; the **IDF** acknowledges receiving 2 pipelike "objects" that possibly could be used as rocket launchers. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in al-Bireh. Meanwhile, **PA security forces** raid 3 Islamic charities in Tubas, confiscating computers, files. In Gaza's Dayr al-Balah, **unidentified gunmen** fire on an **ESF** post; **ESF** officers return fire; no injuries are reported. (NYT, PCHR, WP, WT 9/27; OCHA 10/3; PCHR 10/4)

27 SEPTEMBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** ends its 2-day incursion into Bayt Hanun, withdrawing troops into Israel before dawn; makes an air strike on n. Gaza later in the day, killing **1 Islamic Jihad mbr. Palestinians** fire at least **3 rockets**, **5 mortars** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the

IDF conducts arrest raids, house searches in 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a r.c. **Jewish settlers** fr. Alfe Menashe cut down, burn 90 Palestinian olive trees nr. Qalqilya. **Unidentified gunmen** fire on a **PA security forces** car nr. Hebron, causing no injuries. In Rafah, **2 Hamas mbrs.** are injured when unknown assailants throw an explosive device at them; relatives of the wounded, most of whom are **Fatah** supporters, attempt to visit the men at the hospital but are blocked by **ESF** officers, sparking an exchange of fire that leaves 8 Palestinians wounded. (PCHR 9/27; NYT, WP 9/28; OCHA 10/3; PCHR 10/4)

28 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** patrols in Kafr Dan nr. Jenin; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, injuring 5. An **Army of Islam mbr.** dies of injuries received in an 9/26 **IDF** air strike on Gaza City. (OCHA 10/3; PCHR 10/4)

After nearly a wk. of talks with **Quartet reps.** and officials from **Israel**, the **PA**, **Egypt**, **Jordan**, **Qatar**, **Saudi Arabia**, **Syria**, and the **UAE** on the sidelines of UN mtgs. in New York, the **Bush admin.** formally announces that a Palestinian-Israeli peace summit has been planned for 11/15 in Annapolis, MD. (WT 9/29; see also NYT, WP, WT 9/24) (see Quarterly Update for details)

29 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bayt Fajjar nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Kafr Dan. **Jewish settlers** fr. Itamar nr. Nablus steal olives fr. Palestinian land in nearby Yanun. In Khan Yunis, **Fatah mbrs.** protest at the Omar Bin al-Khattab Mosque over **Hamas's** removal of the pro-Fatah imam; **ESF** officers fire on, beat demonstrators to disperse them, wounding 21 (5 with live ammunition, 16 with batons). (OCHA 10/3; PCHR 10/4)

30 SEPTEMBER

In an agmt. reached between **Hamas** and **Egypt**, apparently without Israeli knowledge, **85 Palestinians fr. Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and the PRCs** stranded in Egypt since the Gaza border was closed on 6/12 are transported in Egyptian busses to the Rafah crossing and allowed entry into Gaza before

dawn. The 80 include 2 Reform and Change legislators, a number of suspected **Hamas** and **Islamic Jihad** militants, and Palestinian civilians with suspected ties to Hamas whom the PA did not grant permission to return to Gaza with the 6,000 Palestinians allowed reentry last quarter (see Chronology in *JPS* 145). In Gaza, the **IDF** sends troops into areas e. of Jabaliya r.c., exchanging fire with Palestinian gunmen who confront them, killing **2 armed Palestinians**. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus and nr. Bethlehem, Jenin. Some **500 Jewish settlers** occupy a hill overlooking Road 60 nr. Hebron, barring Palestinian farmers fr. reaching their land. **Jewish settlers** also occupy sites nr. al-Nabi Yunis Junction in Hebron and nr. Efrat settlement (nr. Bethlehem), declare formation of 2 new unauthorized settlement outposts. (OCHA 10/3; PCHR 10/4)

1 OCTOBER

As a gesture to Abbas, Israel frees **57 Palestinian prisoners** from the West Bank (mostly **Fatah** mbrs. but also mbrs. of the **DFLP**, **PFLP**, and **PA security forces**) to mark Ramadan; the release of 29 prisoners fr. Gaza to "encourage the moderates" there is delayed until 10/2 after **Israeli pres. Shimon Peres** initially refuses to sign the releases, citing **captured IDF soldier Gilad Shalit's** continued detention in Gaza, finally signing them late in the evening. Meanwhile, the **IDF** on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fires at a crowd on the Palestinians side gathered to welcome home the prisoners, wounding a 14-yr.-old Palestinian boy. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Hebron, nr. Ramallah; removes **Jewish settlers** fr. 2 unauthorized settlement outposts occupied on 9/30 as well as fr. 2 new sites occupied today nr. Elon Moreh settlement nr. Nablus and Keddumim settlement nr. Qalqilya. In Gaza, some **300 PFLP mbrs.** stage a solidarity sit-in outside the home of a **UNRWA staff mbr.** who was temporarily kidnapped, beaten by unknown assailants earlier in the day. (NYT 10/2; OCHA 10/3; PCHR 10/4)

2 OCTOBER

Israel releases **29 Palestinian prisoners** fr. Gaza (see 10/1); once again, the **IDF** fires on Palestinians waiting at the Erez crossing to welcome the prisoners home,

wounding a Reuters cameraman. Late in the evening, the **IDF** sends troops into Khan Yunis, bulldozing agricultural land, searching and occupying Palestinian homes as observation posts, exchanging fire with local Palestinian gunmen, killing **1 armed Palestinian**. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Nur al-Shams r.c. nr. Tulkarm, nr. Ramallah. At least **15 Jewish settlers**, escorted by **IDF** soldiers, enter and stay overnight in Joseph's Tomb nr. Nablus. **100s of Jewish settlers** set up tents on the vacated Homesh settlement site, level land, set up sand barriers; the **IDF** restricts Palestinian movement in the area. In Gaza City, **4 AMB mbrs.** are killed when explosives they are carrying detonate prematurely outside an ESF post that they apparently planned to attack; 1 passerby is wounded. (OCHA, WP 10/3; NYT, PCHR 10/4; NYT 10/5)

3 OCTOBER

Israel seals its borders with the occupied territories until 10/6 to mark 3 minor Jewish holidays. The **IDF** makes an air strike on Rafah, assassinating **Hamas mbr. Muhammad Hassan**, wounding a 2d Hamas mbr.; sends tanks, bulldozers in to al-Fakhari nr. Khan Yunis, leveling agricultural land, firing on residential areas, killing **1 unarmed Palestinian**; sends tanks, a bulldozer into Gaza e. of Rafah to level land, clashing with local gunmen, causing no reported injuries; fires a surface-to-surface missile into Gaza at a group of armed men nr. Bayt Hanun, missing them, causing no reported damage; sends troops into s. Gaza to arrest 2 Palestinian farmers nr. al-Maghazi r.c. On the Rafah border, **2 Hamas mbrs.** are killed when a smuggling tunnel collapses. In the West Bank, the **IDF** shoots, wounds 2 Palestinian children in Hebron with live ammunition, mistaking a toy for a gun; fires on residential areas of 'Azun nr. Qalqilya, wounding a 14-yr.-old Palestinian boy; fires on stone-throwing youths in Bil'in, wounding a 9-yr.-old Palestinian boy, detaining 2 teens. In Rafah, **unidentified assailants** detonate an explosive device outside the Rafah municipal headquarters, causing no serious damage or injuries. (NYT, PCHR 10/4; OCHA 10/10; PCHR 10/11)

4 OCTOBER

Israel allows a technical team fr. Siemens to enter Gaza with a shipment of spare parts

and tools to perform maintenance on Gaza's power plant, expected to take about 3 wks. to complete. **IDF** troops on the Gaza border inside Israel fatally shoot a **Palestinian** who strays nr. the border fence nr. Nussayrat r.c.; sends tanks into Gaza nr. the Rafah crossing to bulldoze an **ESF** post. **Palestinians** fire a **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bil'in. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba steal at least 2 tons of grapes fr. a Palestinian farmer, attack and vandalize his home. **Suspected Fatah mbrs.** detonate a roadside bomb nr. an **ESF** patrol in Gaza, wounding 3 **ESF** mbrs. **Unidentified assailants** toss an explosive device at the **Fatah al-Yasir** offices in Khan Yunis, injuring 2 bystanders. **Gaza municipal employees** begin an open-ended strike to protest nonpayment of their salaries. (NYT 10/5; OCHA 10/9, 10/10; PCHR 10/11)

5 OCTOBER

The **IDF** makes an air strike on a car in Rafah carrying **Islamic Jihad's al-Quds Brigade leader 'Awad 'Abd al-Fattah al-Qiq**, missing the car, hitting a store, wounding 3 bystanders in an apparent assassination attempt. **Armed Palestinians** fire 5 **mortars**, machine guns at an **IDF undercover unit** attempting to infiltrate the Gaza border e. of al-Maghazi r.c., forcing the unit to retreat into Israel. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Balata r.c. (where armed Palestinians detonate an explosive device nr. an IDF jeep, wounding a soldier), Nablus; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, injuring 3. In Jabaliya r.c., **7,000 Islamic Jihad supporters** hold a peaceful rally to mark Jerusalem Day. In Dayr al-Balah, **300 PRC supporters** hold a peaceful rally to mark the 2d anniversary of the IDF assassination of PRC leader Jamal Abu Samhadana. **Suspected Fatah mbrs.** detonate a bomb outside the home of a local **Hamas** leader in Khan Yunis, causing no injuries. In Gaza City, **unidentified assailants** detonate an explosive device outside the home of a local **AMB** leader, causing damage but no injuries. An **unidentified Palestinian** throws a bomb at the house of a **Hamas** activist in Abasan, causing no serious damage or injuries; flees to a nearby IDF border post, where he sur-

renders to the IDF. (OCHA 10/10; PCHR 10/11)

6 OCTOBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** sends bulldozers into the Qarni industrial zone to erect sand berms; Palestinians fire anti-tank missiles at the troops, who respond with heavy machine gun fire; no injuries are reported. The **IDF** also sends troops into al-Qarara nr. Khan Yunis, where they exchange fire with local Palestinians, causing no reported injuries. The **IDF**, armed **Palestinians** trade machine gun and mortar fire across the border e. of al-Maghazi, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** ambushes, arrests 3 Palestinians driving in Birzeit nr. Ramallah (their political affiliation is not reported); conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron and in Qalqilya, Qabatya nr. Jenin. (OCHA 10/10; PCHR 10/11)

7 OCTOBER

IDF troops on the Israeli side of the Qarni crossing shoot, wound 2 Palestinian children (ages 11, 14) who stray nr. the border fence. **Islamic Jihad** fires a **Grad rocket** (more accurate, longer range [7.5-12.5 mi.] than homemade Qassam rockets [5-7.5 mi.]), 8 mortars fr. Gaza into Israel, striking 7 mi. fr. the border in Netivot, causing light damage and marking the 4th time a Grad has been fired; the IDF suspects that **Islamic Jihad** has about a dozen Grads, but the **Israeli FMin.** says **Hamas** is ultimately responsible. **Palestinians** also fire a **rocket** fr. Gaza toward Israel, but it lands nr. Bayt Hanun, injuring a Palestinian teenager. The **ESF** demolishes a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus (an IDF soldier is wounded in an exchange of gunfire in Balata r.c.), in al-Bireh and Ramallah, nr. Bethlehem and Jenin (targeting **Islamic Jihad**). A **prominent Gaza Christian, Protestant Holy Bible Society dir. Rami Ayyad**, is abducted and murdered, raising concerns among Gaza's Christians; no group takes responsibility. Ayyad had previously received anonymous death threats accusing him of proselytizing; **Hamas** vows to bring the murderers to justice. **Islamic Jihad mbr. 'Ali Abu Rmila**, wounded in an IDF assassination attempt on 8/25 that killed 2 other Islamic Jihad mbrs., dies of his injuries. (IFM, NYT, WP 10//8; OCHA 10/10; PCHR 10/11)

8 OCTOBER

The **IDF** makes an air strike targeting **wanted Hamas mbrs. Arafat al-'Arayir and Ziad Hillis** outside a mosque in Gaza City, seriously wounding both men. An **8-yr.-old Palestinian boy** is killed, his father injured when the boy accidentally triggers **IDF UXO**. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires on stone-throwing Palestinians nr. Qalandia crossing, wounding 1; shoots, wounds 5 Palestinians attempting to sneak into Jerusalem to find work. **Jewish settlers** fr. Keddumim nr. Qalqilya attack, damage 2 Palestinian vehicles driving near the settlement. **Jewish settlers** in Hebron throw garbage, dirty water at Palestinian worshippers attempting to reach the Ibrahim Mosque/Tomb of the Patriarchs to celebrate Laylat al-Qadr. (OCHA 10/10; PCHR 10/11)

9 OCTOBER

Israel confirms that it is building a 10-mi. Palestinian-only road around Ma'ale Adumim settlement, linking Jericho and Bethlehem and bypassing Jerusalem, to create "transportational contiguity" btwn. Palestinian communities that would otherwise be cut off by the separation wall; critics note that 56 acres of privately owned Palestinian land and 352 acres of "state land" have been appropriated for the construction, which will also allow for the expansion and linkage of Ma'ale Adumim, Mishor Adumim, and Kedar settlements. In Gaza, the **IDF** raids and searches homes in al-Shuka, occupying several houses as observation posts (troops are still in the village at the end of the day); sends troops into al-Fakhari nr. Khan Yunis, raiding several homes, leveling lands, firing on residential areas, causing no reported injuries; sends troops into Bayt Hanun, bulldozing at least 100 d. of citrus trees and fences around a college and cemetery, withdrawing in the evening. The **ESF** creates 2 new openings in the Rafah border fence nr. Rafah's Bloc J and al-Barahma, but no passage through the openings is reported. **Egypt** allows **30 Islamic Jihad mbrs. and Palestinian civilians** stranded in Egypt since **Israel** sealed the Gaza borders on 6/12 to return to Gaza through the Rafah crossing (see 9/30). In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem (arresting a mbr. of the Bethlehem municipal council), nr. Hebron, and in al-Bireh, Ramallah, Qalqilya (occupying homes as observation posts, firing on

Palestinian children as they leave school, wounding 2, ages 11 and 13). (NYT, OCHA, WP, WT 10/10; PCHR 10/11; OCHA 10/17)

10 OCTOBER

Israel gives residency status to **3,500 Palestinians** living "illegally" in the West Bank, marking the 1st application approvals in 10 yrs., but refuses to act on similar cases of 1,500 Palestinians in Gaza. The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing boats off the Rafah coast, forcing them to return to shore. **Palestinians** fire at least **1 rocket** fr. Gaza toward **Israel** that lands inside the Strip, injuring a Palestinian teenager inside his home. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends undercover units dressed as PA security officers into the Old City of Nablus, where they fatally shoot **2 Palestinians** in what may be an assassination (names and affiliations of the dead men are not reported); conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in al-Arub r.c., nr. Bethlehem, Hebron. **Armed Jewish settlers** close a road linking the villages of Dura and Khirbat Salama nr. Hebron; the **IDF** intervenes to reopen the road. In Hebron, **4 unidentified gunmen** fatally shoot a **suspected Palestinian collaborator** with **Israel**. (NYT, PCHR 10/11; OCHA 10/17; PCHR 10/18; REU 10/20)

11 OCTOBER

Overnight in Gaza, the **IDF** sends troops into Dayr al-Balah and al-Maghazi r.c., conducting arrest raids and house searches, bulldozing at least 55 d. of olive and citrus groves, firing on residential areas, killing **1 Palestinian**, wounding 3, withdrawing by evening. During the day, the **IDF** bulldozes 150 d. of citrus and olive groves, 2 greenhouses, 270 beehives e. of Bayt Hanun. In Bureij r.c., **2 Hamas mbrs.** are injured when explosives they are handling detonate prematurely. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends undercover units into Jenin in a vehicle with Palestinian license plates to ambush and assassinate **AMB mbr. Muhammad Abu Sorour**, also shooting, wounding, and arresting AMB mbr. Hilal al-Sa'di, who is traveling with him; conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Bireh, nr. Bethlehem and Nablus; demolishes the single shanty-like structure comprising the Netzer unauthorized settlement outpost nr. Bethlehem (which has been removed by the **IDF** and rebuilt by settlers several times since its 1st incarnation in 2005). In 'Azun nr. Qalqilya,

the **IDF** deliberately fires on the main electricity transformer, cutting power to the village; bulldozes 7 d. of Palestinian crops; issues military orders confiscating 390 d. of Palestinian land for construction of the **separation wall**. A **Jewish settler fr. Kiryat Arba** injures a 2-yr-old Palestinian girl in a deliberate hit-and-run. Some **700 Fatah mbrs.** in al-Maghazi r.c. hold a rally commemorating local Palestinians killed in the 6/07 clashes with Hamas. (NYT 10/12; OCHA 10/17; PCHR 10/18)

12 OCTOBER

IDF troops at the Nahal Oz crossing shell an alleged rocket-launching site e. of Gaza City, damaging several homes, killing **1 Hamas mbr.**, wounding 3 Hamas mbrs., a woman, 5 children. The **IDF** also bulldozes Palestinian land nr. the Qarni industrial zone. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem. (WP 10/13; OCHA 10/17; PCHR 10/18)

13 OCTOBER

The **IDF** sends troops into areas northwest of Bayt Lahiya to bulldoze 5 d. of citrus trees, temporarily detaining farmers working in the area, withdrawing by evening. **Palestinians** fire 2 **mortars** fr. al-Maghazi r.c. toward Israel; both land inside Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Ramallah, nr. Nablus (arresting a **PA General Intelligence** officer); fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in, injuring 4. **Jewish settlers** fr. Elon Moreh nr. Nablus deny local Palestinian farmers access to their land nearby the settlement; the **Palestinian District Coordination Office (DCO)** contacts its **IDF** counterpart, which refuses to intervene. (OCHA 10/17; PCHR 10/18)

14 OCTOBER

IDF troops on the Gaza border fire a shell into Gaza City, wounding a Palestinian teenager. The **IDF** also sends troops into Gaza Valley village to conduct arrest raids, house searches. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron. **Suspected Hamas mbrs.** kidnap and beat a **Fatah** activist in Khan

Yunis. In Gaza City, some **200 Palestinians** stage a sit-in outside the PC headquarters to protest the **PA's** refusal to issue passports and travel documents for Gazans (see Quarterly Update in *JPS* 145). (OCHA 10/17; PCHR 10/18)

Rice opens 4 days of shuttle diplomacy in the region in an effort to encourage Israel and the PA to bridge gaps on a joint statement to be released at the proposed 11/15 Annapolis summit and to build regional support for the conference. (IFM 10/14; NYT, WP, WT 10/15) (see Quarterly Update for details)

15 OCTOBER

IDF troops on the Gaza border e. of Gaza Valley fire on Palestinian farmers who stray nr. the border fence, seriously wounding 1. The **ESF** demolishes 2 smuggling tunnels under the Rafah border. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends undercover units into Qalqilya in 5 cars with Palestinian license plates in search of wanted **Izzeddin al-Qassam Brigades** mbr. Yahiya Abu Awad (who is not found), surrounding several homes, demolishing 1 **Palestinian home**, searching another, firing on stone-throwing Palestinians who confront them, seriously wounding 1; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin, and nr. Hebron, Ramallah, Salfit (imposing a curfew and firing on Palestinian children returning from school, wounding 3). (OCHA 10/17; PCHR 10/18)

16 OCTOBER

Overnight, the **IDF** launches major arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, clashing with armed Palestinians, killing **local AMB leader Basim Abu Saria** and a **71-yr-old Palestinian man**, wounding 8 Palestinians (2 gunmen, 1 cameraman for the German press agency, and 5 bystanders, including a woman and a child); during the operation, the **IDF** blows up an apartment in a 4-story complex, damaging 2 other apartments, 10 nearby buildings, 4 cars, 7 electricity relays, 3 water pipes, displacing 3 Palestinian families (20 persons). Also in the West Bank, the **IDF** sends troops into Anabta nr. Tulkarm, firing on stone-throwing youths who confront them, wounding 1; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Hebron and in al-Bireh, Jenin town and r.c., Ramallah. In 2 separate incidents nr. Nablus, **Jewish settlers** attack Palestinians harvesting olives; the **Palestinian DCO** contacts its **IDF** counterpart, which removes the

settlers; 1 Palestinian is injured. In Gaza, the **IDF** bulldozes 3 d. of Palestinian olive groves nr. Qarni crossing; **Palestinians** fire 3 **mortars** at the troops, who respond with heavy machine gun fire; no injuries are reported. (NYT, OCHA 10/17; PCHR 10/18)

17 OCTOBER

Overnight in Gaza, the **IDF** sends tanks and bulldozers supported by aircraft into Abasan, raiding and searching homes, occupying several houses as observation posts, bulldozing 23 d. of olive trees, demolishing 1 **Palestinian home**, clashing with local gunmen (including firing tank shells and making air strikes), leaving 1 **IDF soldier**, 1 **Hamas mbr.** dead, wounding 6 armed Palestinians and 1 bystander. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus and Tulkarm (arresting at least 1 **AMB mbr.** who was among the AMB mbrs. granted amnesty by Israel in 7/06; see 9/23), in Qabatya, and nr. Hebron, Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Karnei Shomron steal a harvest of olives fr. a Palestinian farmer nr. Qalqilya. In Gaza City, 4 **mbrs. of a Palestinian clan** are killed in clashes with **ESF** when the **ESF** attempts to arrest 1 family mbr. for firing on an **ESF** patrol earlier in the day; the **ESF** arrests 25 family mbrs. In Gaza City, 100 **Palestinians** demonstrate outside the UN Special Coordinator's Office (UNSCO) against the continued closure of the Rafah border. (NYT, PCHR 10/18; OCHA 10/24; PCHR 10/25)

18 OCTOBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in al-Shuka, exchanging fire with local gunmen, wounding 1 armed Palestinian, 1 bystander. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Sarra nr. Nablus, firing percussion grenades in residential areas, then firing rubber-coated steel bullets at Palestinians who confront them, causing no reported casualties; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem (confiscating 1 car, destroying 2) and Tulkarm (firing on residential areas, seriously wounding an 8-yr-old girl), and nr. Hebron, Jenin. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba barricade a road used by Palestinians nr. the settlement. An **ESF officer**, 3 **mbrs. of the Fatah-affiliated Hillis clan** are killed, 30 Palestinians are wounded in an armed clash in Gaza City that erupts when **ESF** officers came to a house looking

for clan members believed to have opened fire on a traffic police checkpoint on 10/16, wounding 3 bystanders. (NYT 10/19; OCHA 10/24; PCHR 10/25)

19 OCTOBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** sends tanks, a bulldozer into the Gaza airport site, exchanging heavy fire (heavy machine guns, mortars) with **Hamas mbrs.**, causing no reported injuries; occupies a strip of land in the al-Hawouz area northeast of Bayt Lahiya. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Mas'ha nr. Salfit, firing percussion grenades and live ammunition in residential areas, causing no reported injuries; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin, Nablus; begins bulldozing confiscated land nr. Salfit for the expansion of the Burkin industrial zone; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in nonviolent demonstrations against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (injuring 5, including a journalist covering the demonstration) and al-Ma'sara nr. Bethlehem (lightly injuring 3). **Hamas, Islamic Jihad mbrs.** exchange fire in Khan Yunis's al-Rihab Mosque, wounding 3 Palestinians, after Hamas allegedly attempts to seize control of the building. (OCHA 10/24; PCHR 10/25)

20 OCTOBER

The **IDF** fires a surface-to-surface missile at central Bayt Lahiya in an attempt to assassinate 3 **Hamas mbrs.**, missing them but injuring 3 bystanders, damaging 2 homes and a car. The **Israeli navy** fires on 2 **Islamic Jihad mbrs.** in a boat off the Gaza coast, killing them. The **IDF** also withdraws troops from a strip of land northeast of Bayt Lahiya occupied on 10/19. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah; raids and searches homes, checks IDs of residents in Bayt Jala nr. Bethlehem. **Jewish settlers** fr. Shavei Shomron nr. Nablus, escorted by **IDF** troops, attack Palestinians harvesting olives nearby. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beitar Ilit nr. Bethlehem beat a Palestinian passing by the settlement. **Jewish settlers** fr. Karnei Shomron steal a harvest of olives fr. a Palestinian farmer nr. Qalqilya. In Gaza City, mbrs. of a **Fatah-affiliated clan** fire on a car of **Hamas mbrs.**, sparking clashes that leave 3 **Palestinians** dead (1 clan member, 2 bystanders), 35 wounded. In Rafah, **ESF officers** attempt

to confiscate a vehicle fr. armed **Islamic Jihad mbrs.**, sparking an exchange of fire that leaves **1 Palestinian** bystander dead and 16 Palestinians (including bystanders) injured. (WP, WT 10/21; OCHA 10/24; PCHR 10/25)

21 OCTOBER

IDF troops on the n. Gaza border nr. Bayt Hanun fire a surface-to-surface missile at **4 Hamas mbrs.** nearly 1.5 mi. inside the border, wounding **1. Gaza hospitals** announce that they have suspended surgeries because **Israel** is blocking the import of anesthesia drugs. In the West Bank, the **IDF** deliberately fires on, disables an electricity network in Sa'ir nr. Hebron; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus. A **Jewish settler** fr. Ariel kills a **40-yr.-old Palestinian man** in a deliberate hit-and-run nr. Kafr Qasim. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beitur nr. Bethlehem attack a Palestinian passing nr. the settlement. In Rafah, an **Islamic Jihad mbr.** shoots, wounds a **Hamas mbr.** outside his home. Later in Rafah, **Hamas, Islamic Jihad mbrs.** exchange heavy fire (including RPGs), leaving **1 Islamic Jihad mbr.** dead and 12 Palestinians injured; the leaderships of Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and the PRCs intervene to end the fighting. In Gaza City, **100 Palestinians** stage a sit-in outside the Palestinian Council headquarters to protest the PA's halt to issuing passports and travel documents for Gazans. (Deutsche Presse-Agentur 10/21; OCHA 10/24; PCHR 10/25)

22 OCTOBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** makes an air strike on an **ESF** vehicle in al-Bureij r.c., wounding **1 ESF mbr.** **Palestinians** fire **7 rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel; the **IDF** responds by shelling suspected launching site; no injuries or damage are reported. In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes a major raid on Jenin targeting Islamic Jihad, demolishing **1 building**, fatally shooting **2 Islamic Jihad mbrs.** in an exchange of fire that also leaves **1 IDF soldier** wounded; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus. Around half of the **2,200 Palestinian prisoners** in Israel's Ketziot prison riot against searches by guards, leaving **14 prisoners**, **15 guards** injured. An **8-yr.-old Palestinian girl** wounded by the **IDF** during 10/18 arrest raids in Tulkarm dies. In Gaza City, **100 Palestinians** protest outside the UNSCO building against the PA's halt to issuing passports and travel docu-

ments for Gazans. (WT 10/23; NYT, OCHA, WP 10/24; PCHR 10/25)

Lebanese PM **Siniora** delays elections for a 2d time until 11/12 to give the governing coalition and opposition more time to agree on a compromise candidate. (NYT, WP 10/23) (see 9/22)

23 OCTOBER

The **IDF** makes an air strike on Gaza City, assassinating **PRC leader and Interior Min. official Mubarak Hasanat**; bulldozes at least **150 d.** of Palestinian citrus groves nr. Bayt Hanun, also demolishing a storehouse and fuel tank. The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishing boats off the Bayt Lahiya coast, forcing them to return to shore. **Palestinians** fire **8 rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing damage but no injuries; the **IDF** responds by shelling launching sites, causing no reported injuries. An **ailing 77-yr.-old Palestinian** dies at the Erez crossing when the **IDF** denies him transit to an Israeli hospital despite having the proper Israeli permits. **PA security forces** raid the home of a **Hamas mbr.** in Hebron, confiscating a computer, personal belongings. A **Palestinian prisoner** dies of injuries sustained in the 10/22 riot in Israel's Ketziot jail. (NYT, OCHA, WP 10/24; PCHR 10/25)

24 OCTOBER

After **PRC** members fire more than **20 rockets** into Israel (causing no damage or injuries) to protest the 10/23 assassination of PRC head Hasanat, Israeli DM **Barak** authorizes the **IDF** to cut electricity for several hrs. to parts of Gaza fr. which rockets were fired.; **Dep. DM Matan Vilnai** says that targeted power cuts will increasingly be used to punish the Palestinians as long as rocket fire continues and that he expects electricity to be cut by two-thirds in the coming weeks. In the evening, **IDF** fires a surface-to-surface missile at a suspected rocket-launching site e. of Gaza City, killing **2 Palestinian boys** (ages 14, 17), wounding **2 other Palestinians**; sends troops into Abasan, where they clash with armed Palestinians, wounding **2**. A **Hamas mbr.** is killed when a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border collapses. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem and Hebron, and in Jenin r.c. **Jewish settlers** fr. Yitzhar nr. Nablus prevent local Palestinians fr. harvesting their olive groves. Armed **Palestinians** fire on a bus stop

outside Ariel settlement, wounding 3 Jewish settlers. **ESF officers** storm and occupy a Fatah office in central Gaza; no injuries or arrests are reported. Some **5,000 Hamas supporters** stage marches in n. Gaza camps in support of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. (PCHR, WT 10/25; OCHA 10/31; PCHR 11/1)

25 OCTOBER

Israeli human rights groups petition the **Israeli High Court** to halt the government's 10/24 plan to cut electricity to Gaza to pressure Hamas, arguing collective punishment, forcing the **IDF** to suspend implementation. **Israel** says that it will continue to cut 1% of Gaza's electricity for 15 mins. at a time as a "symbolic" response to Palestinian rocket fire until Israel's atty. gen. rules otherwise. Overnight and into the afternoon, **IDF** troops conduct arrest raids, house searches in Khan Yunis, also bulldozing 30 d. of agricultural land. During the day, the **IDF** sends infantry units into the Bayt Lahiya area (to engage several armed Palestinians laying a roadside bomb, killing **1 Palestinian**, arresting another), the border area e. of Jabaliya r.c. (where they clash with armed Palestinians, killing **1 Palestinian**), and areas nr. Abasan (where they engage with armed Palestinians, killing **1 Palestinian**, wounding 4). **Palestinians** fire an RPG at an IDF jeep patrolling the Gaza border nr. al-Bureij r.c., missing the target, causing no damage or injuries. A Palestinian is injured in Dayr al-Balah when explosives he is handling detonate prematurely. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets on Palestinian children holding 2 peaceful demonstrations in Hebron and nearby al-Arub r.c. in support of Palestinian prisoners, injuring 3 (ages 13, 16, 17) and arresting 1 (age 14); conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, and in Tulkarm (also firing on residential areas, causing damage but no injuries). In Ramallah, **Palestinians** demonstrate for the release of **Hamas** mbrs. held by the PA; PA security forces disperse the protesters. An **ESF officer** dies of injuries received in the 10/18 clash with the Fatah-affiliated Hillis clan in Gaza City. (NYT, WT 10/29; OCHA 10/31; PCHR 11/1)

26 OCTOBER

IDF troops clash with armed Palestinians in, make 2 air strikes on Gaza City, killing at

least **4 Hamas and Islamic Jihad mbrs.**, wounding at least 5. The **IDF** also conducts land-leveling operations inside the Gaza border e. of Gaza City. **Egyptian border police** find, demolish 2 smuggling tunnels on the Rafah border. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Nablus (also raiding an Islamic charity, confiscating computers and files), nr. Jenin; fires percussion grenades, rubber-coated steel bullets at 2 groups of stone-throwing Palestinians in Hebron, injuring 4; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (injuring 3). **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Yishai nr. Hebron attack and vandalize a nearby Palestinian home; the **IDF** intervenes to halt the attack. **Palestinians** stone a Jewish settler vehicle nr. Ramallah, injuring 2 settlers. (NYT 10/27; OCHA 10/31; PCHR 11/1)

27 OCTOBER

The **IDF** sends troops into Wadi al-Silqa in central Gaza, raiding and searching homes, occupying several as observation posts, imposing a curfew, firing on anyone on the streets (wounding 2 unarmed Palestinians), bulldozing a greenhouse and 1 d. of land. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya, Tulkarm. In Khan Yunis, **suspected Fatah mbrs.** detonate a bomb under an **ESF** vehicle outside an ESF post, causing no injuries. (OCHA 10/31; PCHR 11/1)

28 OCTOBER

To increase pressure on **Hamas**, **Israel** announces that it will begin curtailing fuel shipments to Gaza by up to 11% and that it has permanently closed the Sufa crossing (closed on 10/26 and 10/27 for the weekend), leaving Kerem Shalom (fully controlled by Israel) the sole crossing point for goods and humanitarian aid. (Officially the government calls the move "self-defense.") Israel says that it will allow into Gaza "the minimum amount of food and medicines necessary to avoid a humanitarian crisis." In Gaza, the **IDF** shoots, wounds a Palestinian fisherman laying nets on the Bayt Lahiya coast; sends troops into al-Shuka, where they exchange tank and heavy machine gun fire with armed Palestinians firing RPGs, leaving

1 Hamas mbr., 1 IDF soldier dead, 2 IDF soldiers wounded; conducts land-leveling operations inside the Gaza border nr. Dayr al-Balah, firing on residential areas, causing no reported injuries. **Palestinians** fire an RPG at an IDF jeep patrolling the Gaza border e. of al-Maghazi r.c., missing the target, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus, nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin, Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Itamar nr. Nablus harass Palestinians harvesting olives nearby; the **IDF** intervenes, forcing the settlers to leave. In Gaza City, some **300 PA workers** stage a peaceful sit-in to protest nonpayment of their salaries. (NYT, WP, WT 10/29; OCHA 10/31; PCHR 11/1)

29 OCTOBER

Before dawn, **Hamas** mbrs. fire at least 2 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel fr. the property of an UNRWA school in Bayt Hanun, causing no damage or injuries. Nearly 2 hrs. later, the **IDF** sends troops into the area in response, occupying the school and surrounding area while classes are in session, clashing with and making an air strike on Hamas mbrs., leaving **3 Hamas** gunmen, **1 Palestinian civilian**, **1 IDF soldier** dead and 2 IDF soldiers, 2 Hamas mbrs., 7 bystanders (including 2 children) seriously wounded. The **Israeli navy** fires on Palestinian fishermen along the Rafah coast, damaging an UNRWA building; the **UNRWA** condemns the incidents. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus (exchanging fire with local Palestinians, leaving 1 IDF soldier wounded), in Qalqilya, and nr. Hebron, Jenin. In Hebron, **unidentified gunmen** fire on a **PSF** patrol, wounding 5 PSF officers. In Ramallah, **Palestinians** demonstrate for the release of **Hamas** mbrs. held by the PA; PA security forces disperse the protesters. (NYT, WP 10/30; OCHA 10/31; IFM, PCHR 11/1; NYT 11/2)

30 OCTOBER

The **IDF** makes an air strike on an **ESF** post in Abasan in s. Gaza, killing **4 ESF officers**; makes a 2d air strike on a suspected rocket-launching site in Jabaliya r.c., hitting a home, wounding 6 Palestinian civilians (ages 1, 3, 29, 30, 75, 82). **Palestinians** fire **2 rockets**, **5 mortars** fr. Gaza into Israel,

causing damage but no injuries; the **IDF** shells the launching site, causing no reported injuries. Late in the evening, the **IDF** sends troops into Dayr al-Balah, conducting arrest raids and house searches, occupying a home as an observation post, leveling land to improve lines of site; launches a similar operation in al-Shuka (Palestinian militants fire on the troops, detonate a roadside bomb, causing no injuries). In the West Bank, the **IDF** bulldozes the farming community of **Khirbat Qussa**, located btwn. the **separation wall** and the Green Line nr. Hebron, demolishing the **15 homes**, **12 cave dwellings**, and **27 sheep pens** comprising the village, evicting the 267 residents to the "Palestinian" side of the separation wall. The **IDF** also conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin, Nablus, Salfit; raids a number of stores and a bank in Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Brakha nr. Nablus prevent Palestinians fr. reaching their olive groves; the **IDF** intervenes, forcing the settlers to leave. The **IDF** also intervenes to prevent **Jewish settlers** fr. Elon Moreh nr. Nablus fr. blocking Palestinians access to their olive groves nearby. Inside Israel, some **100 Israeli police officers** make an overnight raid on the Galilee Druze village of Pekiin to arrest men suspected of vandalizing a cell phone antenna, firing live ammunition at stonethrowing residents who protest the predawn incursion, wounding 10s. An **AMB mbr.** wounded by the **IDF** in Nablus on 10/16 dies. (NYT, OCHA, PAP, WP 10/31; PCHR, WT 11/1)

31 OCTOBER

The **IDF** occupies strategic high points inside the Gaza border nr. Bayt Lahiya, firing surface-to-air missiles at a group of armed Palestinians (missing them, causing no damage or injuries) and on a car carrying a local **Islamic Jihad** military cmdr., wounding him in an apparent assassination attempt; conducts bulldozing operations inside the Gaza border nr. Bayt Lahiya; continues operations in al-Shuka. **Islamic Jihad mbrs.** fire an RPG at an IDF patrol inside the Israeli border nr. al-Bureij r.c., missing the target and causing no injuries; the **IDF** responds with heavy machine gun fire, killing **1 Islamic Jihad mbr.** **Egyptian border police** detain 3 **PRC** mbrs. who entered Egypt through a tunnel under the Rafah border. In the West Bank, the **IDF** imposes a round-the-clock curfew on 'Azun nr. Qalqilya after

Palestinian youths throw stones at Jewish settler vehicles, causing no injuries; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Nablus and neighboring Balata r.c., nr. Ramallah. **Unidentified gunmen** fire on **Abbas's** residence in Ramallah, causing damage but no injuries. (PCHR 11/1; OCHA 11/7; PCHR 11/8)

1 NOVEMBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** withdraws fr. al-Shuka, ending a 3-day arrest and bulldozing operation, having wounded 2 Palestinians, demolished 2 **Palestinian homes**; fires a tank shell at Palestinians collecting scrap metal nr. the n. Gaza border, wounding 6; makes 2 air strikes on suspected rocket-launching sites nr. Bayt Hanun, damaging an UNRWA school; sends bulldozers and tanks to uproot trees and level land to clear lines of sight nr. the Erez crossing, firing on residential areas of nearby Bayt Hanun, causing no reported injuries; conducts similar bulldozing operations along the border e. of Jabaliya r.c. and Rafah; demolishes 7 smuggling tunnels on the Gaza-Egypt border. **Palestinians** fire 9 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing light damage but no injuries; the **IDF** responds with air strikes, heavy machine gun, tank, surface-to-surface missile fire on launch sites across Gaza, wounding 10 Palestinians. In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes an overnight incursion into 'Azun nr. Qalqilya, imposing a curfew, firing on residential areas, wounding 2 Palestinian children (ages 13, 14) before withdrawing late in the morning; raids, searches, occupies 3 Palestinian homes in Hebron, citing the need to protect local settlers; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Nablus. In Hebron, **unidentified assailants** set fire to a **PA security forces** vehicle. (NYT 11/2; OCHA 11/7; PCHR 11/8)

2 NOVEMBER

For the 1st time since 6/07, **Abbas** meets with 4 **West Bank Hamas officials** in an effort to encourage them to split fr. their Gaza counterparts. In Nablus, the **PA** deploys a new 308-mbr. policing unit trained by Western advisers at a multimillion dollar training facility in Jericho; they will form part of a new National Security Force unit set up to "operate in coordination with Israeli forces to fight crime and terrorism" as part of **Abbas's** new security effort "to restore law and order" in the West Bank, in keeping

with road map requirements; the unit will patrol during the day only, while the **IDF** will continue night operations. In Gaza, the **IDF** makes an air strike on an **ESF** post nr. Rafah, killing 1 **ESF officer**, wounding 3. Nr. Bayt Hanun, 2 Palestinians are injured when a mortar they are preparing misfires. A Palestinian is injured when a smuggling tunnel under the Rafah border collapses. In the West Bank, the **IDF** lifts the round-the-clock curfew on 'Azun imposed on 10/31; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Tulkarm town, r.c. and nr. Qalqilya; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, percussion grenades, tear gas at Palestinian, Israeli, international activists taking part in the weekly nonviolent demonstration against the **separation wall** in Bil'in (injuring 1 demonstrator, 1 journalist). **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba and Harsina in Hebron attack, vandalize nearby Palestinian homes, also beating 1 Palestinian. (NYT, WT 11/3; NYT 11/6; OCHA 11/7; PCHR 11/8; NYT 11/14)

3 NOVEMBER

The **IDF** seizes a shipment of body armor from the U.S. meant for **PA presidential guard** units in Nablus (which will support the new policing unit deployed on 11/2). In Gaza, the **IDF** levels land inside the Gaza border e. of Dayr al-Balah. In the West Bank, the **IDF** withdraws fr. 3 Palestinian homes in Hebron occupied on 11/1; conducts arrest raids, house searches in Tulkarm, nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Givat Havon in Hebron stone a nearby Palestinian home, assault a 10-yr.-old Palestinian boy. (OCHA 11/7; PCHR, PAP 11/8; NYT 11/14)

4 NOVEMBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** makes an air strike on a concrete factory nr. Jabaliya r.c., killing 3 **Palestinian employees**, wounding a passerby; fires surface-to-surface missiles at the same site an hr. later as onlookers gather to view the damage, killing a **Palestinian child**, seriously wounding a 2d bystander; fires a missile at a group of Islamic Jihad mbrs. nr. the Bayt Hanun border, killing 1 **Islamic Jihad mbr.**; fires on another Islamic Jihad mbr. who approaches the border fence nr. al-Bureij r.c., wounding him; fires on Palestinian farmers working their field e. of Dayr al-Balah, wounding 1; bulldozes land inside the Gaza border n. of Bayt Lahiya; finds, demolishes 7 smuggling tunnels on the Gaza-Egypt border.

Palestinians fire at least 4 **rockets**, 4 **mortars** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries; the **IDF** responds with air strikes and surface-to-surface missile fire on the launch sites, causing no reported injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Tulkarm r.c., nr. Qalqilya. (IFM 11/4; OCHA 11/7; PCHR 11/8)

With **Abbas** and **Olmert** making little headway on a joint statement for the Annapolis summit, **Rice** returns to the region for a 3-day visit to press the parties to begin implementing their outstanding road map obligations to build mutual confidence and momentum for the upcoming summit. The U.S. has still not issued formal invitations, and the admin. is widely expected to push the meeting off until later in 11/07. (IFM 11/4; NYT, WP 11/5; NYT 11/6) (see Quarterly Update for details)

5 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** imposes a day-long curfew on 'Azun (see 11/2) after Palestinian youths allegedly stone Jewish settler vehicles in the area; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin and in Hebron, Nablus. In Jerusalem, **Israeli police** impersonating an **Israel TV (ITV) Channel 2** news crew arrest a Palestinian wanted for making unspecified threats; ITV's chmn. and Israeli journalist associations condemn the police, saying the deception could endanger real journalists. Nr. Hebron, a Palestinian boy is injured when he accidentally triggers **IDF UXO**. The PA's newly deployed **Nablus policing unit** (see 11/2) makes an arrest raid on Balata r.c., clashing with wanted **AMB** mbrs., leaving up to 10 Palestinians wounded; the PA stresses that it undertook the raid because the **AMB** was challenging its authority, not because of **AMB** actions against Israel. In Gaza, **1,000s of Palestinians** stage a protest march to the Rafah border to demand a lifting of the siege; **ESF** officers fire into the air to keep the demonstrators fr. reaching the crossing. (AP, HA, NYT 11/6; OCHA 11/7; PCHR 11/8; NYT 11/14)

6 NOVEMBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** sends troops into Wadi al-Silqa, raiding and searching homes, detaining 50 Palestinians for questioning, demolishing 3 **Palestinian homes**, damaging 4 others, bulldozing 80 d. of agricultural land,

before withdrawing late in the evening. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron and Jenin (firing on stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them, wounding 1), in Balata r.c. (demolishing the **home** of a wanted Palestinian), Qalqilya. In central Gaza, **unidentified gunmen** ambush, attempt to kidnap the al-Maghazi r.c. municipal dir., who escapes. Also in al-Maghazi, local leaders of **Fatah al-Yasir**, **Hamas**, the **PRCs** hold a demonstration to protest the upcoming Annapolis peace talks. In Hebron, the **PSF** orders classes at the Palestine Polytechnic University suspended, surrounds the campus to prevent recent tensions btwn. the **Hamas**-dominated student council and a **Fatah**-affiliated student group fr. erupting into violence. (OCHA 11/7; PCHR 11/8)

7 NOVEMBER

In Gaza, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches, ID checks in Um al-Nasser nr. Bayt Lahiya, detaining 67 Palestinians for questioning, firing on residential areas (particularly to hold back a group of journalists attempting to reach the area) and making an air strike on a previously destroyed Palestinian home. Overnight, the **IDF** raids Balata r.c., blows up the **home** of a senior **AMB** mbr., causing no reported injuries. Late in the evening, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Nablus and nr. Hebron, Jenin, Salfit, Tulkarm. The **U.S.** complains that **Israel** is not allowing **Abbas's security forces** to expand their control of the West Bank before the Annapolis conference, citing the 11/3 confiscation of body armor intended for the PA presidential guard and the continuing raids on Nablus since the new PA security force has been deployed there, undermining its credibility. (PCHR, PAP, WT 11/8; PCHR 11/15)

8 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes 2 **Palestinian homes** nr. Bethlehem; conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Jenin, in Balata r.c., nr. Bethlehem. (PCHR 11/15)

9 NOVEMBER

IDF troops on the n. Gaza border fatally shoot 2 **Palestinian children** (ages 14, 15)

who stray nr. the border fence. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Jenin town and r.c., and nearby Tubas, firing on residential areas, causing no injuries. (PCHR 11/15)

10 NOVEMBER

IDF troops on the Gaza border e. of Gaza City fire a surface-to-surface missile at an unmanned rocket launcher, striking nr. a civilian vehicle driving in the area, killing **1 Palestinian bystander**, wounding 6. (PCHR 11/15)

Lebanese PM **Siniora** postpones presidential elections a 3d time, until 11/21—3 days before Pres. **Lahoud** must step down. (WP, WT 11/11) (see 10/22)

11 NOVEMBER

The **IDF** sends 2 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers to take up positions in the fmr. Nisanit settlement site nr. the n. Gaza border. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Tulkarm town and r.c. and in Bethlehem (arresting **Change and Reform PC mbr. Khalid Tafish**), Ramallah (arresting **Change and Reform PC mbr. Salih**). On the 3d anniversary of **Yasir Arafat's** death, **1,000s of Fatah supporters** hold a memorial rally in Ramallah. (NYT, WP 11/13; PCHR 11/15)

12 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Nablus, nr. Qalqilya. In Gaza City, **Hamas and ESF mbrs.** violently disperse a massive rally (estimates range fr. 150,000 to 250,000) organized by **Fatah** to mark the 3d anniversary of **Arafat's** death, firing live ammunition and beating demonstrators, killing **7 Palestinians**, wounding around 85; the **AMB** accuses **Hamas** of arresting 250 **Fatah** supporters. (NYT, WP, WT 11/13; WP 11/14; PCHR 11/15; NYT 11/16)

13 NOVEMBER

IDF troops on the Gaza border e. of Dayr al-Balah fire on Palestinian farmers working their fields, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** demolishes a Palestinian shop nr. Salfit; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Nablus, Tulkarm. **Palestinians** stone a Jewish settler vehicle

nr. Ramallah, lightly injuring the driver. In Gaza, **Hamas** continues an arrest campaign targeting **Fatah** a day after a huge **Fatah** rally in Gaza City ended in violence, detaining up to **450 Fatah supporters** for "incitement." (NYT, WP 11/14; PCHR 11/15; OCHA 11/21)

14 NOVEMBER

The **IDF** withdraws fr. the fmr. Nisanit settlement site in n. Gaza, reoccupied on 11/11. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem, nr. Ramallah; patrols in Nablus and neighboring 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a, Balata camps. A **Palestinian** dies of injuries sustained in previous **Fatah-Hamas** clashes. (OCHA 11/21; PCHR 11/22)

15 NOVEMBER

IDF troops on the n. Gaza border fire a surface-to-surface missile at a group of Palestinians preparing to fire a **rocket** into Israel, killing **2 Palestinian resistance mbrs.**, wounding 4; exchange fire with Palestinian gunmen across the border nr. Erez crossing, causing no reported injuries; make air strikes on as many as 5 suspected rocket-launching sites in the Bayt Hanun area, causing no reported injuries; shell an open area nr. Bayt Hanun, causing no reported injuries. **Hamas** organizes large rallies in Gaza City (7,000), Rafah (3,000), al-Bureij r.c. (2,000), and Nusayrat r.c. (2,000) to protest ongoing Israeli excavations nr. the al-Aqsa Mosque. A **Palestinian** is killed when a smuggling tunnel under the Rafah border collapses. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Bethlehem; patrols in, fires on residential areas of Balata r.c., Nablus; erects checkpoints, checks IDs in al-Bireh. **Jewish settlers** fr. Aley Zahav and P'duel w. of Salfit vandalize a nearby Palestinian home, light a fire near the house, damage a car and an animal pen; **IDF** troops observe but do not intervene. In Gaza City, **unidentified assailants** detonate an explosive device outside an **ESF** post, causing damage but no injuries. Later, **unidentified assailants** detonate a bomb outside **Fatah al-Yasir** offices nearby, causing significant damage but no injuries. **ESF officers** find, dismantle another explosive device in Gaza City; the target of that attack is unclear. (OCHA 11/21; PCHR 11/22)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AP	(Associated Press [Internet])
BBC	(British Broadcasting Corporation World Service [Internet])
HA	(<i>Ha'Aretz</i> [Internet], Tel Aviv)
IFM	(Israeli Foreign Ministry, Jerusalem)
NYT	(<i>New York Times</i> , New York)
OCHA	(United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes, Jerusalem)
PAP	(<i>Palestine and Peace</i> , Australia)
PCHR	(Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
REU	(Reuters [Internet])
UNIS	(United Nations Information Service, Geneva)
WP	(<i>Washington Post</i> , Washington)
WT	(<i>Washington Times</i> , Washington)
YA	(<i>Yedi'ot Abaronot</i> , Tel Aviv)



Palestinians survey the remains of a multi-family home destroyed during Israel's 4-day incursion into 'Ayn Bayt al-Ma'a refugee camp, 21 September 2007. (Jaafar Ashtiyeh/AFP/Getty Images)