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Chronology

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## CHRONOLOGY

16 AUGUST–15 NOVEMBER 2010

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*This section is part 108 of a chronology begun in JPS 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). 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

As the quarter opens, **Israel** has eased (as of 6/2010) its blockade on Gaza, replacing the blanket ban on imports with two lists of prohibited and regulated items, allowing in more (and more varied) food items, construction materials, and commercial goods, but keeping imports only slightly above subsistence and continuing to bar exports. The **Israel Defense Forces (IDF)** enforces a 300-meter-deep no-go zone inside the full length of the Gaza border and limits the Palestinian fishing zone off Gaza to 500–1,000 m off the immediate Bayt Lahiya (northern) and Rafah (southern) coasts, and 3 nautical miles elsewhere—placing 17% of Gaza's total landmass, including 35% of its viable agricultural areas, and 85% of the maritime areas allocated under the Oslo accords off-limits to Palestinians. In the West Bank, Israel's easing of restrictions on Palestinian movement between major population centers (which began in summer 2009) continues, and IDF operations are relatively few. Today, **IDF** troops on the s. Gaza border e. of Khan Yunis fire on a group of Islamic Jihad mbrs. burying explosive devices nr. the border fence, killing **1 Islamic Jihad mbr.**; the Palestinians return fire, lightly wounding 1 IDF soldier. Hrs. later, **un-identified Palestinians** fire 2 **Qassam rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-'Arub refugee camp (r.c.) and 2 villages nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Shvut Rachel nr. Nablus uproot 100 nearby Palestinian olive trees. **Israel's Housing Min.** approves construction of a new

settler-only bypass road to link Ma'ale Adumim settlement e. of Jerusalem with the new E1 settlement area in East Jerusalem; explaining the decision, the Housing Min. states that "the decision to freeze construction in [West Bank settlements] does not include services for existing structures." (JP, YA 8/16; NYT 8/17; PCHR 8/19; OCHA 8/20)

### 17 AUGUST

In the morning, members of the **Palestinian Popular Resistance Comm. (PRCs)**, retaliating for the death of an Islamic Jihad mbr. on 8/16, fire 2 **mortars** across the s. Gaza border at IDF troops operating inside Israel, lightly injuring 2; the **IDF** returns fire but no injuries are reported. Late in the evening, the **IDF** responds with 6 **air strikes** targeting a deserted house near the c. Gaza border e. of Gaza Valley village (destroying it, a well, and damaging a nearby factory) and several smuggling tunnels on the Rafah border, causing no injuries. During the day, **IDF** troops make a brief incursion in to s. Gaza to level lands e. of Abassan to clear lines of sight; fire warning shots at Palestinians staging a nonviolent march to the Erez crossing to protest Israel's imposition of a no-go zone along the border, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, **Jewish settlers** fr. Karnei Shomron settlement nr. Qalqilya stone passing Palestinian vehicles, causing no injuries. An **Israeli court** rules that **Israel** is responsible for the 1/2007 death of a 10-yr.-old Palestinian girl who was fatally shot by Israeli border police while observing a Palestinian demonstration from a

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distance; the border police alleged she was hit by a rock thrown by protesters, but the court finds that “there cannot be any dispute . . . that Abir was hit by a rubber bullet fired by border police, meaning the fire was conducted either due to negligence or violation of the rules of engagement.” (JP 8/17; AFP 8/18; PCHR 8/19; OCHA 8/20)

**Lebanon** passes a law granting the country’s approximately 400,000 **Palestinian refugees** the same rights to work as other foreigners and giving them access to social security benefits, easing decades of restrictions that had barred them from all but menial jobs. (NYT 8/18) (see Quarterly Update for details)

#### 18 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes a late-night incursion into Issawiyya outside Jerusalem, taking over a hilltop and firing into the air; no casualties are reported. (PCHR 8/19, 8/26; OCHA 8/27)

#### 19 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. (PCHR 8/26; OCHA 8/27)

#### 20 AUGUST

**U.S. Secy. of State Hillary Clinton** announces that the U.S. will host **Palestinian Authority (PA) Pres. Mahmud Abbas** and **Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu** in Washington on 9/2 for their 1st face-to-face peace negotiations since late 2008, with the U.S. believing a final status deal could be reached within a yr. The **Quartet** simultaneously issues a statement reiterating its endorsement of direct talks toward a final agreement that “ends the occupation which began in 1967” and results in the creation of a Palestinian state; calls on “both sides to observe calm and restraint, and to refrain from provocative actions and inflammatory rhetoric.” **Netanyahu’s** office quickly welcomes the proposal. (AP 8/20; NYT, WP 8/21) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in

Bil’in, Ni’lin, al-Ma’sara, and Dayr Nizam/Nabi Salih. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation, and 1 Norwegian activist is arrested. (PCHR 8/26; OCHA 8/27)

#### 21 AUGUST

No Israeli-Palestinian violence is reported. (PCHR 8/26; OCHA 8/27)

#### 22 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Bidya village nr. Salfit at midday and in Qalqilya and Rafat w. of Salfit in the evening without making any arrests; conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya in the evening, nr. Ramallah late at night. **Jewish settlers** escorted by **IDF** troops enter Nablus to pray at Joseph’s Tomb. (PCHR 8/26; OCHA 8/27)

#### 23 AUGUST

**Abbas** accepts the 8/20 **U.S.** invitation to open direct talks with **Israel** in Washington on 9/2 but states that “If Israel resumes settlement activities in the Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem, we cannot continue negotiations.” (NYT, WT 8/24) (see Quarterly Update for details)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Tubas. The **IDF** also forces 3 Palestinian families to demolish their **homes** in the Jerusalem suburb of Sur Bahir, displacing 21 individuals; **Jewish settlers** raid a Palestinian home nr. Tulkarm, hold the family hostage inside while they burn 5 dunams (d.; 4 d. = 1 acre) of agricultural land. (PCHR 8/26; OCHA 8/27)

#### 24 AUGUST

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the fmr. Jewish settlement sites nr. the border, causing no injuries. **IDF** troops make a brief incursion into n. Gaza nr. Bayt Lahiya, patrolling the border area without incident. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Azun village nr. Qalqilya in the afternoon without incident; sends undercover units in vehicles

with Palestinian license plates into Bayt Umar village nr. Hebron, where they raid a home and arrest 1 Palestinian; conducts late-night house searches in Tulkarm and nr. Bethlehem and Salfit, arresting 1 Palestinian and summoning others for interrogation. (PCHR 8/26; OCHA 8/27)

## 25 AUGUST

**Israel** increases industrial fuel imports to Gaza, allowing Gaza's electricity plant to run on 2 turbines instead of 1 for the first time since 2/2010, cutting rolling power outages across the Strip from 8–12 hrs./day to 4–6 hrs./day. **Unidentified Palestinians** fire a **mortar** fr. n. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. Twice during the morning, **IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the fmr. Jewish settlement sites nr. the border, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 3 villages nr. Jenin, 1 village nr. Ramallah, 1 village nr. Salfit late at night without conducting searches or making arrests; conducts synchronized late-night arrest raids, house searches in 3 other villages nr. Ramallah. During the day in Ramallah, **plainclothes PA security forces (PASF) and/or general intelligence officers** break up a meeting of **200 Palestinian opposition** figures convened to draft a statement protesting Abbas's 8/23 decision to resume direct negotiations with Israel; uniformed PASF officers waiting outside the venue question the participants as they leave (see Quarterly Update for details). (AP, YA 8/25; PCHR 8/26; OCHA 8/27; HA 8/30; WT 9/1; PCHR 9/2; OCHA 9/3)

## 26 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts patrols without incident in 3 villages nr. Tulkarm and 1 nr. Jericho during the day, and in 2 villages nr. Salfit and 1 nr. Qalqilya late at night. **Jewish settlers** attempt to break into al-'Ayn Mosque in Silwan in East Jerusalem but are confronted by Palestinians and removed by Israeli security forces. (PCHR 9/2; OCHA 9/3)

## 27 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts daytime patrols in Azun nr. Qalqilya and

Taybeh nr. Ramallah without incident.

**Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the **separation wall**, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, al-Ma'sara, and Dayr Nizam/Nabi Salih. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation, 6 Palestinians (including 1 journalist) and 1 American activist are injured, and 4 Palestinian paramedics and 2 Israeli activists are arrested (all are released the same day). **Senior Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) officials** take part in the Bil'in demonstration to commemorate the 9th anniversary of the assassination of PFLP Secy. Gen. Abu Ali Mustafa. **Jewish settlers** fr. Suissa settlement nr. Hebron stone and beat Palestinian shepherds grazing flocks nr. the settlement. (PCHR 9/2; OCHA 9/3)

## 28 AUGUST

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the fmr. Jewish settlement sites nr. the border, wounding 2 Palestinians and 2 donkeys. Late at night, the **IDF** sends troops into the no-go zone e. of Bureij r.c. in c. Gaza in pursuit of **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. operating near the border; the sides exchange fire and the **IDF** calls reinforcements and shells the area, lightly injuring 3 Islamic Jihad mbrs. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Haris village nr. Salfit in the afternoon, conducting no searches and making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Qalqilya, Ramallah, and nr. Hebron. (PCHR 9/2; OCHA 9/3)

## 29 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts daytime patrols in 2 villages nr. Salfit and late-night patrols in Azun nr. Qalqilya, conducting no searches and making no arrests. (PCHR 9/2; OCHA 9/3)

## 30 AUGUST

In the West Bank, the **IDF** moves back into Azun village in the morning (see 8/29), raiding an auto repair shop and confiscating 6 cars with Israeli license

plates; conducts afternoon patrols in 4 other villages nr. Qalqilya, 1 nr. Tulkarm, withdrawing without incident; conducts late-night patrols in Tulkarm, nearby Anabta, and Kafr al-Dik nr. Salfit, conducting no searches and making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron. In Jerusalem, **Israeli security forces** raid the Wadi Hilwa quarter of Silwan, detaining 5 Palestinians for questioning, releasing all but 1 the same day. (PCHR 9/2; OCHA 9/3)

### 31 AUGUST

**Hamás's military wing, the Izzed-din al-Qassam Brigades (IQB)**, takes responsibility for shooting at a Jewish settler vehicle driving nr. Hebron (in area C, under full Israeli control, where the PASF is not allowed to operate), killing 4 **Jewish settlers**, including a pregnant woman, marking the deadliest West Bank attack on Israelis in more than 2 yrs. and the first staged by Hamás since before the 1/2006 elections. Both **Abbas** and **Netanyahu** say the attack should not derail peace talks. The **YESHA settlement council** vows to renew construction in West Bank settlements immediately, before the temporary freeze ends, to demonstrate Israelis' "resolve against terrorism." Following the attack and throughout the night, the **IDF** seals the entrances to Hebron, Halhul, and al-Fawar r.c. and imposes a curfew on nearby Bani Na'im village, raiding and searching homes and detaining Palestinians with suspected connections to Hamás. Meanwhile, **Jewish settlers** implementing their "price-tag" doctrine to punish Palestinians for any state acts against settlers, beat Palestinian farmers working their land nr. Emanuel settlement nr. Salfit and stone Palestinian vehicles traveling on the Nablus-Qalqilya road (2 separate incidents) as well as on a road bypassing Yitzhar settlement nr. Nablus. **Jewish settlers** fr. Kiryat Arba in Hebron attempt to break into a nearby Palestinian home but are prevented by the IDF. Late at night, the **IDF** patrols 2 villages nr. Salfit; no incidents are reported. The **UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)** reports that in the previous wk. **3 Palestinians** were killed in 2 separate tunnel collapses on the Rafah border. (NYT, WP, WT 9/1; PCHR 9/2; OCHA 9/3)

### 1 SEPTEMBER

On the eve of ceremonies reopening direct Israeli-Palestinian talks, **U.S. Pres. Barack Obama** holds separate meetings with **Abbas**, **Netanyahu**, **Egyptian pres. Husni Mubarak**, and **Jordan's King Abdullah**. In the evening, Obama hosts the leaders for a working dinner at the White House. (WP 9/1; NYT 9/2) (see Quarterly Update for details)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** continues to impose a curfew on Palestinian areas nr. the site of the 8/31 attack nr. Hebron and carries out house-to-house searches for the Hamás mbrs. involved, rounding up scores of Palestinians with suspected ties to the organization. In the evening, **IQB gunmen** shoot at another Jewish settler vehicle nr. Ramallah, in area C, wounding 2 settlers (1 seriously). The **IDF** also conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron, and nr. Ramallah, Salfit, Tulkarm. **Jewish settlers** retaliating for the 8/31 Hamás attack stake out a 15-d. plot of Palestinian land (exact location not reported) for a new settlement outpost but leave the area by nightfall, stone Palestinian vehicles on the Nablus-Qalqilya road, and vandalize a Palestinian home and set fire to adjacent grass land in Hebron. Meanwhile, in Gaza, **IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction material in the demolished Erez industrial zone, causing no injuries. The **IDF** also makes an incursion into the s. Gaza border areas e. of al-Shuka, accompanied by drones and helicopters, but withdraws 6 hrs. later without incident. (NYT, PCHR 9/2; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/17)

### 2 SEPTEMBER

**Direct Israeli-Palestinian negotiations** are formally relaunched at a ceremony at the State Dept. in Washington, with **Abbas** and **Netanyahu** pledging to meet again on 9/13-14 in Egypt and then every 2 weeks thereafter to "keep momentum going." Clinton, Abbas, Netanyahu, and **U.S. special envoy George Mitchell** meet, after which Abbas and Netanyahu meet privately for 90 mins. Mitchell then announces that the leaders have decided to work toward a "framework agreement" within a year that would outline "the compromises each side must be ready to

make” to achieve peace as a 1st step before attempting to iron out a comprehensive peace treaty. (NYT, WP, WT 9/3) (see Quarterly Update for details)

For a 3d day in a row, **IQB gunmen** fire on a Jewish settler vehicle driving in West Bank area C, causing no injuries. Asked if Hamas’s political leadership approved the recent string of shootings, West Bank **IQB spokesman Abu Ubaidah** says the operations are “in harmony with the attitude of the political wing.” The **PASF** says that since the 1st shooting on 8/31, they have detained 300 Hamas mbrs. Late in the evening, the **IDF** patrol in villages nr. Jericho, Nablus, Qalqilya, and Salfit, making no arrests; conducts arrest raids in Hebron (shooting and wounding 1 Palestinian, releasing him to the Palestinian Red Crescent Society) and neighboring al-‘Arub r.c. **Jewish settlers** fr. Halamish settlement nr. Ramallah stone Palestinian vehicles driving by the settlement. **Jewish settlers** fr. Shilo settlement nr. Ramallah stone Palestinian cars on the Ramallah–Nablus road. Unidentified **Jewish settlers** stone Palestinian vehicles driving nr. Nablus. PCHR reports that **Israel’s Gihon Water Company** recently sent letters to churches and nunneries in the Old City of Jerusalem warning that their water service will be cut off if they do not immediately pay water consumption fees accumulated since 1967; historically, religious establishments in Jerusalem have been exempt from such fees. (PCHR 9/2; WP 9/4; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/17)

### 3 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** occupies 2 Palestinian homes nr. a settler-only bypass road in Hebron as observation posts; conducts evening and late-night patrols in villages nr. Nablus, Qalqilya, Salfit, and Tulkarm, making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron. **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil’in, Ni’lin, and Dayr Nizam/ Nabi Salih. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and 1 Palestinian and 9 internationals are arrested. **Jewish settlers** gather at the evacuated Homesh settlement site nr.

Nablus, stone passing Palestinian vehicles. (PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/17)

### 4 SEPTEMBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire a homemade Qassam **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In response to this attack and the 8/31–9/2 Hamas shootings in the West Bank, the **IDF** carries out 2 air strikes on Rafah tunnels (killing 2 **Palestinians**, injuring 2) and 1 on a tunnel on the Gaza-Israel border e. of Abassan in s. Gaza (causing no reported injuries). In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Tulkarm in the morning, making no arrests; occupies a Palestinian home in Hebron as an observation post; conducts evening and late-night patrols in villages nr. Nablus, Qalqilya, and Tulkarm, making no arrests. For a second day, **Jewish settlers** gather at the evacuated Homesh settlement site nr. Nablus and stone passing Palestinian vehicles. (CNN, JP 9/5; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/17)

### 5 SEPTEMBER

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the evacuated settlement sites nr. the n. border, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrol in and around Qalqilya and in villages nr. Salfit late at night, making no arrests. (PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/17)

### 6 SEPTEMBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire a **mortar** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sends undercover units into Sourif village nr. Hebron in 2 cars with Palestinian license plates, raiding a home and arresting 5 **Palestinians**; conducts evening and late-night patrols in villages nr. Hebron, Qalqilya, and Tulkarm, making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-‘Arub r.c. and nr. Hebron and Salfit. (JP 9/6; PCHR 9/8; OCHA 9/17)

### 7 SEPTEMBER

Overnight, **unidentified Palestinians** fire a Qassam **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel,

causing no damage or injuries. (JTA 9/7; PCHR, YA 9/8, 9/16; OCHA 9/17)

### 8 SEPTEMBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire a **mortar** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing light damage but no injuries. **Israel** seals the West Bank through 9/11 for the Rosh Hashanah holiday. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night patrols without incident in Bayt Laqya nr. Ramallah. (AFP, JP, HA, YA 9/8; PCHR 9/16; OCHA 9/17)

### 9 SEPTEMBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 **Qassam rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. (JP 9/9; PCHR 9/16; OCHA 9/17)

### 10 SEPTEMBER

Overnight, the **IDF** carries out 7 **air strikes** on Gaza (3 on Rafah tunnels and 4 on Hamas targets: 2 in Gaza City, 1 each on Bayt Hanun and Dayr al-Balah) and fires 6 tank shells across the border at Bayt Hanun in retaliation for recent Palestinian rocket and mortar fire, injuring 2 Hamas mbrs. In response, **unidentified Palestinians** fire another **Qassam rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night patrols in villages nr. Qalqilya, Salfit, and Tulkarm, checking Palestinian IDs but making no arrests. **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in and Ni'lin. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation, 1 Palestinian is moderately injured. (JP, YA 9/10; AFP 9/12; PCHR 9/16; OCHA 9/17)

### 11 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** conducts evening and late-night patrols in villages nr. Ramallah, Salfit, and Tulkarm, making no arrests; conducts a late-night house search in Dura nr. Hebron, summoning 1 Palestinian for questioning. (PCHR 9/16; OCHA 9/17)

### 12 SEPTEMBER

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire 5 tank shells at Palestinian shepherds tending a flock 600 m. fr. the border fence, killing **3 Palestinian civilians** (a 91-yr.-old man, his teenage grandson, and another teenager) and their 30 sheep. In response, the **PRCs** fire 2 **Qassam rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Marda nr. Salfit late at night, without incident; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Bethlehem and nr. Qalqilya. (YA 9/12; AFP, WP, YA 9/13; PCHR 9/16; OCHA 9/17; JPI 9/24)

### 13 SEPTEMBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. **IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire on Palestinians inside the Strip conducting a nonviolent protest march to the border to denounce Israel's imposition of a no-go zone. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Tulkarm and neighboring Nur Shams r.c.; conducts late-night patrols in 7 villages e. of Qalqilya, making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Jenin town and r.c.; conducts synchronized late-night incursions into 4 villages northwest of Salfit, searching a home and summoning 1 Palestinian for questioning in 1 case, patrolling without incident in 3 cases. **Jewish settlers** fr. Shvut Rachel nr. Ramallah seize and raze 15 d. of Palestinian agricultural land for expansion of the settlement. (JP, UPI, YA 9/13; JP, NYT 9/14; PCHR 9/16; OCHA 9/17)

### 14 SEPTEMBER

The **2d round of direct talks** opens in Sharm al-Shaykh, Egypt, with **Mubarak** hosting **Abbas**, **Netanyahu**, and **Clinton** for the first day of meetings with talks now set to continue in Jerusalem on 9/15 and Ramallah on 9/16, and thereafter alternating between Jerusalem and Jericho. The U.S. tries but is unable to secure Israeli-Palestinian agreement on the agenda for the talks. (YA 9/14; NYT, WP, WT 9/15; JPI 9/24) (see Quarterly Update for details)

As **Abbas** and **Netanyahu** meet in Egypt, **Israel's Jerusalem city planners** schedule a meeting for 10/7/2010 to debate construction of 1,362 new settlement housing units in Givat HaMatos s. of the Old City btwn. Gilo and Talpiot settlements. In addition, the Israeli construction company **Na'out HaPisga**, citing business losses, resumes construction of 2,400 settlement housing units in Mod'in Ilit settlement west of Ramallah that had been halted under the settlement freeze (see Quarterly Update for details). In Gaza, **IDF** troops make a brief incursion into c. Gaza e. of Gaza Valley village to level land in the no-go zone to clear lines of sight, firing 4 artillery shells at armed Palestinians in the area, seriously wounding 1 and cutting electricity to nearby areas. Late in the evening, **armed Palestinians** on the n. Gaza border fire an antitank missile at IDF troops operating inside Israel, causing no damage or injuries; IDF troops fire back, killing 1 **armed Palestinian**, seriously wounding at least 1 other. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches, patrols in 5 villages nr. Qalqilya between late afternoon and late evening; also conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. In Tel Aviv, **Israeli police** fatally shoot an **East Jerusalem Palestinian** who is handcuffed and in custody on charges of car theft, claiming that the Palestinian attacked an officer, who accidentally shot him. OCHA reports that since 9/1, 1 **Palestinian** was fatally electrocuted in a tunnel accident on the Rafah border. (HA 9/14; PCHR 9/16; OCHA 9/17; JPI 9/24)

## 15 SEPTEMBER

**Abbas**, **Netanyahu**, **Clinton**, and **Mitchell** continue direct talks at Netanyahu's residence in Jerusalem, meeting for 2 hrs. They allow a joint photo opportunity but do not address the press. (WP 9/15; NYT, WP, WT 9/16; PCHR 9/23; OCHA 9/24) (see Quarterly Update for details)

Just as the Jerusalem talks begin, **Gaza's PRCs** fire 1 **rocket** and 9 **mortars** fr. Gaza into Israel (the highest 1-day total since 3/09), causing no damage or injuries. **Israeli police** claim 2 of the mortars contained white phosphorous and that the rocket, which landed in Ashkelon, appeared to be a manufactured Grad type,

rather than a homemade Qassam; the IDF, however, calls the rocket a Qassam. (Ashkelon is in range of both Qassams and Grads.) The Israeli daily *Yedi'ot Abaronot* (9/16) cites an unidentified mbr. of an unnamed Gaza militant group as confirming that 2 mortars contained white phosphorous taken from unexploded IDF ordnance (UXO) from Operation Cast Lead, saying the Gaza factions are experimenting with modifying Israeli UXO for use against Israel. The **IDF** retaliates with **air strikes** on a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border (killing 1 **Palestinian civilian**, wounding 3), a factory n. of Khan Yunis (destroying it and damaging several surrounding homes, greenhouses, and businesses, but causing no reported injuries), and a vacant home southwest of Khan Yunis (destroying it). **IDF** troops also make a brief morning incursion 400 m. into s. Gaza e. of Khan Yunis to level land to clear lines of sight. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts separate synchronized late-night patrols in 2 villages e. of Qalqilya and 2 villages nr. Ramallah, making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron, nr. Jenin. (HA, JP, YA 9/15; CNN, JP, PCHR, WT, YA 9/16)

## 16 SEPTEMBER

**Clinton** meets with **Abbas** in Ramallah, then stops in Amman to brief **King Abdullah** on the Sharm al-Shaykh talks. **Clinton** and **Mubarak** issue statements saying that they have jointly recommended a short 3 or 4 mo. extension to the settlement freeze during which Israel and the PA would focus on border issues in hopes of solving which settlements would stay and go under final status. Abbas states: "We all know there is no alternative to peace other than negotiating peace, so we have no alternative but to continue peace efforts." (NYT, WP 9/17)

**Mitchell** goes to Damascus to brief **Syrian pres. Bashar al-Asad** on the peace talks, saying for the first time that the U.S. intends to push for renewed Israeli-Syrian peace talks parallel to Israeli-Palestinian talks. (*Asia Times* 9/16)

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts synchronized late-night patrols in 2 villages e. of Qalqilya, making no arrests; similar late-night patrols without incident in villages nr. Salfit; late-night arrest raids, house

searches in Hebron, Tulkarm. (PCHR 9/23; OCHA 9/24)

### 17 SEPTEMBER

**Mitchell** goes to Beirut to brief **Lebanese officials** on the Israeli-Palestinian talks, informing them that the U.S. will push for a comprehensive Israeli-Arab peace that would include Lebanon and Syria. (*Asia Times* 9/16)

**Israel** seals the West Bank through 9/18 for the Yom Kippur holiday. Overnight in the West Bank, an **IDF special forces unit** raids the home of **local IQB cmdr. Iyad Abu Shilbaya** in Nur Shams r.c. nr. Tulkarm, fatally shooting him at close range in his bedroom, in what Hamas and the PA both call an assassination. The IDF says it received intelligence that Abu Shilbaya might be armed and fired on him "when they felt their lives were threatened." **Hamas** vows revenge against Israel and the **PA**, accusing the **PASF** of collusion, noting that they arrested Abu Shilbaya just days before. Simultaneously with the assassination, the IDF conducts arrest sweeps in Nur Shams, detaining 11 suspected Hamas mbrs. During the day, **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, and Nabi Salih/Dayr Nizam. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and 1 Palestinian is moderately injured. (WP 9/18, 9/22; PCHR 9/23; OCHA 9/24)

### 18 SEPTEMBER

The **IDF** begins installing 12-m-high concrete barriers along a new segment of the **separation wall** northeast of Jerusalem that will separate Shu'fat r.c., Anata village, and the neighborhoods of Ras al-Khamis, Ras Shihada, and al-Salam from c. Jerusalem. In the West Bank, the **IDF** seals off the entrance of Issawiyya village leading to Jerusalem for the Yom Kippur holiday, sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths, injuring 7 Palestinians; conducts late-night patrols without incident in Dayr Ghassana village nr. Ramallah; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr.

Ramallah, Salfit. The **IDF** also fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists conducting a nonviolent march from Bayt Umar village to Karame Tzur settlement outside Hebron to protest land confiscations and settlement expansion; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation; 2 Palestinians, 1 American, and 1 British activist are arrested; and 1 Palestinian activist, 1 Israeli activist, 1 Japanese activist, and a Swedish journalist are moderately injured. (PCHR 9/23; OCHA 9/24)

### 19 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night patrols in Tulkarm town and r.c. and in 3 villages nr. Qalqilya, 2 nr. Ramallah, 2 nr. Salfit, facing stone-throwing youths in 1 instance (firing rubber-coated steel bullets at them, causing no injuries) and making no arrests; conducts synchronized late-night arrest raids, house searches in Jenin town and r.c. and 3 neighboring villages; conducts additional late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Harsina settlement nr. Hebron uproot 70 grapevines from nearby Palestinian land. In Gaza, **25 unidentified gunmen** (suspected Salafists) set fire to a popular water park, completely destroying it, and beat the 2 night watchmen. (PCHR 9/23; OCHA 9/24; JPI 10/1)

### 20 SEPTEMBER

**Israeli DM Ehud Barak** comes to the U.S. with a backchannel proposal for Israel to extend its temporary settlement freeze (set to expire on 9/26) for a short period in exchange for rewards and guarantees from the U.S. He shuttles between New York and Washington discussing the proposal with various senior U.S. officials. Separately, **Israel's chief negotiator Yitzhak Molcho**, **Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erakat** arrive in the U.S. for their own meetings with U.S. officials regarding the upcoming expiration of the settlement freeze and the consequences for peace talks. (NYT 9/21; WT 9/22; JPI 10/1) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Israel** for the 1st time since 6/07 allows 20 used cars to be imported to Gaza. **Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing

them back to shore. **Unidentified Palestinians** fire a Qassam rocket fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts morning patrols in 2 villages nr. Qalqilya, randomly checking Palestinian IDs, but making no arrests; late-night patrols in a village nr. Tulkarm, making no arrests. **Jewish settlers** fr. Ramat Gilad settlement nr. Qalqilya begin working a Palestinian olive grove near the settlement, telling local Palestinians who challenge them that they purchased the land; they leave when the Palestinian owner arrives. In East Jerusalem, **Israeli authorities** stage a predawn raid on several houses in Silwan village, arresting 4 Palestinians. In addition, **Jewish settlers** seize a Palestinian house in the suburb of Bayt Safafa (home to 20 people), sparking fights between settlers and the Palestinian owners. Israeli police and municipal officials intervene, arresting 2 Palestinians, and issuing an order to demolish the house (not immediately implemented). (JP 9/20; NYT 9/21; PCHR 9/23; OCHA 9/24)

#### 21 SEPTEMBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire a Qassam rocket fr. Gaza toward Israel, but it lands inside the Strip, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem, in al'Arub r.c. nr. Hebron (detaining 1 Palestinian teenager on charges of throwing stones, releasing him later in the day after his family pays a \$400 fine), and nr. Jenin. OCHA reports that 13 Palestinians have been injured in tunnel collapses along the Gaza border since 9/15, not including those injured in Israeli air strikes on 9/15. (YA 9/21; PCHR 9/23; OCHA 9/24)

#### 22 SEPTEMBER

**Israel** seals the West Bank and Gaza crossings through 9/30 for Sukkoth holidays. A **private Israeli security guard** posted outside Beit Yonatan settlement building in the Silwan neighborhood of East Jerusalem (where some 400 settlers live among 30,000 Palestinians), fatally shoots a **Palestinian**, sparking massive street clashes across East Jerusalem between **stone-throwing Palestinian**

**youths and Israeli security forces** who fire tear gas, stun grenades, and water cannons. The security guard, who is questioned and released by Israeli police, says he opened fire with his automatic weapon because he felt he was in mortal danger when local Palestinians blocked and stoned his car while he was patrolling around the building. Meanwhile, the **IDF** raids a Hebron school and detains 2 Palestinian teenagers for beating up a settler youth who harassed them, releasing them in the afternoon; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron; patrols late at night, without incident in villages west of Ramallah. Some **60 armed Jewish settlers** storm a residential section of al-Mazra'a village nr. Ramallah, occupy rooftops, and photograph the area before withdrawing without incident. (NYT, PCHR, WP 9/23; OCHA 9/24; PCHR 9/30; OCHA 10/1)

#### 23 SEPTEMBER

Clashes continue in and around Issawiyya between **Israeli security forces and stone-throwing Palestinian youths** for a 2d day. The **IDF's** heavy use of tear gas in residential areas of Issawiyya causes a **Palestinian toddler** to suffer breathing difficulties; the child is evacuated to Israel's Hadasah Hospital but dies. The **IDF** also patrols late at night in Khirbat Abu Falah village nr. Ramallah; no incidents are reported. In Gaza, a **Hamas military court** sentences a Palestinian to death by firing squad for collaborating with Israel. (NYT 9/24; PCHR 9/30; OCHA 10/1)

#### 24 SEPTEMBER

On the evening of the settlement freeze expiration on 9/26, **Clinton** meets with **Abbas** in Washington to brief him for the first time on the Israeli-U.S. negotiations over a U.S. incentives package (see 9/20) and urges him not to walk away from direct talks immediately if Netanyahu allows the freeze to expire before a deal can be reached. (NYT 9/26) (see Quarterly Update for details)

Clashes in and around Issawiyya between **Israeli security forces and stone-throwing Palestinian youths** continue for a 3d day. Off Gaza's n. coast, **Israeli naval vessels** fire on a Palestinian fishing

boat, killing 1 **Palestinian fisherman**. **Unidentified Palestinians** fire a Qas-sam rocket fr. n. Gaza toward Israel but it lands inside the Strip, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 'Anin village nr. Jenin in the afternoon without incident. **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih/Dayr Nizam. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and 4 Palestinians are moderately injured (including 1 hit in the leg by live ammunition). (YA 9/21; JP 9/24; WP 9/25; PCHR 9/30; OCHA 10/1)

## 25 SEPTEMBER

Secy. of State **Clinton** races to broker a deal with Israeli officials to extend the settlement freeze 1 day before it is scheduled to expire, while **Mitchell** meets with **Abbas** in New York to urge him not to walk away from peace talks immediately if Netanyahu allows the freeze to expire. On the ground **Jewish settlers** begin positioning construction equipment in some settlements. In addition, **Jewish settlers** in Revava settlement nr. Salfit seize 30 d. of Palestinian agricultural land, raze crops, and install 2 mobile homes as a "new quarter" of the settlement. **Jewish settlers** fr. Nokdim settlement nr. Bethlehem place 3 mobile homes on nearby Palestinian land. **Jewish settlers** fr. Barqan settlement nr. Salfit raze adjacent Palestinian land to expand the settlement's industrial zone. **Jewish settlers** fr. Givat Ze'ev settlement enter Beitunia town nr. Ramallah and make preparations to celebrate the Sukkoth holiday; the IDF removes them. (NYT, WP 9/26)

Meanwhile, **Israeli-Palestinian clashes in Issawiyya**, which began on 9/22, taper off by the end of the day, leaving a total of 99 Palestinians (including 17 children) and 9 Israelis injured (7 lightly, 2 moderately), and 70 Palestinians under arrest; during the rioting, Palestinians set fire to or damage 8 Israeli cars and vandalize an Israeli tourist information center. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Iraq Burin village nr. Nablus in the afternoon, firing tear gas and stun

grenades at stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them, causing no serious injuries; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists conducting a nonviolent march from Bayt Umar village to Karne Tzur settlement outside Hebron to protest land confiscations and settlement expansion; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and 2 Palestinians and 3 Americans are injured. An Egyptian hospital reports that an **armed Palestinian** transported to Egypt for treatment has died of injuries sustained in the 9/14 IDF shelling nr. Gaza Valley village. (NYT, WP 9/26; PCHR 9/30; OCHA 10/1)

Delegations headed by **Hamas Political Bureau chief Khalid Mishal** and **senior Fatah official Azzam al-Ahmad** meet for 3 hours in Damascus, afterward issuing a statement confirming a restart of **national unity talks**. (AP 9/24; AP, REU 9/25; JP 9/27; MNA 11/1) (see Quarterly Update for details)

## 26 SEPTEMBER

**U.S. officials** spend the day trying to broker a compromise with Israel that will guarantee that direct talks will continue. Despite U.S. appeals, **Netanyahu** allows the freeze to expire at midnight local time (6:00 P.M. EDT). **Abbas** agrees not to follow through on threats to halt direct talks immediately to give U.S. diplomacy more time to work, but says he plans to consult with Fatah and PLO leaders, as well as the Arab League regarding how to move forward. (At his request, an Arab League session is set for 10/4, essentially leaving a week to resolve the freeze issue; the date is later changed to 10/6.) Even before the freeze ends, **Israel's Dep. PM Silvan Shalom** lays the cornerstone for construction of a new yeshiva at a ceremony in Beit Romano settlement in Hebron attended by settlement leaders and right-wing Knesset members. **Likud party mbrs.** and 1,000s of settlers bussed in from around the West Bank attend a rally in neighboring Revava settlement to count down the end of the moratorium. In nearby Kiryat Netafim settlement, **Jewish settlers** hold a groundbreaking ceremony for construction of a new day-care center. Dozens of armed **Jewish settlers** from Ma'on settlement nr. Hebron guarded by IDF soldiers escort bulldozers to a nearby site where

they begin laying the foundations for new homes at nearby Havat Maon outpost. After midnight, construction begins at several settlements across the West Bank. (NYT, WP, WT 9/27; NYT, WP 9/28; PCHR 9/30)

Meanwhile, timed with the lifting of the settlement freeze, **9 Jewish activists** depart Cyprus on a catamaran, hoping to break the blockade of Gaza to deliver a token shipment of medicine and water purification equipment. In the West Bank, **unidentified Palestinian gunmen** fire on 2 Jewish settler vehicles driving nr. Hebron, moderately wounding 1 Jewish settler; no group takes responsibility. The **IDF** sends troops into Azun village nr. Qalqilya to patrol streets, set up checkpoints, and check Palestinian IDs, arresting 1 Palestinian; seals an entrance to Marda village nr. Salfit; conducts late-night patrols in Jenin town and r.c., making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin and Nablus. In Gaza, **IDF** troops on the s. Gaza border e. of Khan Yunis fire warning shots at Palestinians conducting a nonviolent protest march to the border fence to protest Israel's imposition of a buffer zone, seriously wounding 1. (NYT 9/27; WT 9/28; PCHR 9/30; OCHA 10/1)

#### 27 SEPTEMBER

In the first full day after the expiration of the settlement freeze, the **Israeli government** approves construction of a new settler-only bypass road linking Kiryat Arba to the Tomb of the Patriarchs/al-Ibrahimi Mosque in c. Hebron, which could require the removal of 10s of Palestinian homes and confiscation of Palestinian agricultural land. **Jewish settlers** begin construction of 56 new houses in Karme Tzur. Armed **Jewish settlers** accompanied by **IDF** soldiers begin leveling 8 d. of Palestinian land in Wadi al-Hussein neighborhood in Hebron seized by settlers in 2008. **State Dept. spokesman P.J. Crowley** says the U.S. is "disappointed" Israel allowed the freeze to expire, saying **Mitchell** phoned **Abbas** to thank him for not suspending talks immediately and that **Clinton** had held a "business-like" phone conversation with Netanyahu about the freeze. (NYT, WP 9/28; PCHR, WJW 9/30; OCHA 10/1)

Secy. of State **Clinton** meets with **Syrian FM Walid Moualem** in New York to broach the possibility of reviving the Israeli-Syrian peace track, with the U.S. and

Syria agreeing to develop some ideas on how to proceed. (NYT, WP 9/28)

In Gaza, **IDF** troops make a day-long incursion into s. Gaza to level lands in the no-go zone e. of al-Qarara to clear lines of sight. In the West Bank, the **IDF** seals an entrance to Jayyus village nr. Qalqilya; seals 2 entrances to Azun village, checking Palestinian IDs, saying stones were thrown from the village at passing IDF patrols (no arrests are made); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Tulkarm; conducts late-night patrols in Jenin and 2 nearby villages, making no arrests. (PCHR 9/30)

#### 28 SEPTEMBER

**Israeli naval vessels** intercept a catamaran of Jewish activists off the Gaza coast, escorting it to Ashdod port without incident (see 9/26). The **IDF** carries out **air strikes** on a group of armed Palestinians preparing to fire a rocket into Israel from an area nr. al-Bureij r.c. in c. Gaza (killing **3 Islamic Jihad mbrs.**) and on the Nussayrat r.c. home of a Gaza Education Min. employee, causing heavy damage but no injuries. **IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the evacuated settlement sites near the border, wounding 1 deaf Palestinian. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols late at night, without incident in Qiffin village nr. Tulkarm; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. (CNN, JP, MNA, NYT 9/28; NYT, WT 9/29; PCHR 9/30; OCHA 10/1)

#### 29 SEPTEMBER

**David Makovsky, director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy**, leaks details of the significant inducements currently offered by the **White House** to **Israel** if it would extend its partial settlement freeze for 60 days (to avoid a crisis before U.S. midterm elections). The U.S. goal would be to reach an agreement on borders within the 60-day time period. (NYT, WP 10/1; *al-Sharq al-Awsat* 10/4; JAZ, NYT 10/7; WT 10/13; JPI 10/22) (see Quarterly Update, for details)

**Mitchell** returns to the region for meetings with **Abbas** and **Netanyahu**. (NYT, WP 10/1)

For the 2d day in a row, **IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in evacuated settlement sites nr. the border, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** raids several Palestinian homes in the bedouin community of al-Hadidiyya in the Jordan Valley after complaints by local **Jewish settlers** that the bedouin were stealing water from Ro'i settlement. (PCHR 9/30; OCHA 10/1; PCHR 10/7; OCHA 10/8)

### 30 SEPTEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** raids, searches the home of **Hebron magistrate court judge Jamal 'Abd al-Majid Shadid**, arresting him without charge; patrols without incident in 5 villages nr. Tulkarm and 1 nr. Ramallah between late morning and late evening, making no arrests. (PCHR 10/7; OCHA 10/8)

### 1 OCTOBER

**Mitchell** ends a 2-day shuttle mission between **Netanyahu** and **Abbas** in a failed effort to secure an understanding on settlements and the future of direct talks. He leaves to tour the Arab states to urge them to endorse a continuation of direct talks at the upcoming Arab League session, now set for 10/8. (NYT, WP 10/2; AP 10/3)

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction material in the evacuated settlement sites nr. Bayt Hanun and briefly make an incursion into the area, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih/Dayr Nizam. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and a 13-yr.-old Palestinian is lightly injured. (PCHR 10/7; OCHA 10/8)

### 2 OCTOBER

**Abbas** convenes the **PLO Exec. Comm.** along with the **Fatah Central Comm.** in Ramallah to discuss the lapsed settlement freeze, issuing a statement

afterward that the Palestinian leadership is in agreement that direct negotiations should not resume without a halt to Israeli settlement construction. The statement is welcomed by **Hamas**. **Abbas** then leaves for Jordan and Egypt to urge Arab support for the Palestinian decision. (AP, HA, NYT, REU, WP 10/3; XIN 10/4; MNA 10/5) (see Quarterly Update for Details)

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire a **mortar** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists conducting a non-violent march from Bayt Umar village to Karme Tzur settlement outside Hebron to protest land confiscations and settlement expansion; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and a 14-yr.-old Palestinian is lightly injured. (JP 10/2; PCHR 10/7; OCHA 10/8)

### 3 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, **Israeli border police** fire on a group of Palestinian laborers climbing over the separation wall nr. al-Tur village to reach their jobs in East Jerusalem, killing **1 Palestinian**; the **IDF** conducts late-night patrols in Anabta village nr. Tulkarm without incident; conducts late-night searches of homes and a shop nr. Qalqilya, ordering 2 Palestinians to report for questioning. **Jewish settlers** fr. Adi Ad settlement outpost nr. Ramallah raid a nearby Palestinian olive grove and attempt to steal olives, but the **IDF** intervenes, forcing them to leave. An **Israeli military court** convicts 2 soldiers of using a 9-yr.-old Palestinian boy as a human shield during the 2008–9 Operation Cast Lead in Gaza; the soldiers are not immediately sentenced but could face jail terms. The case was not 1 of the 4 human shields cases mentioned in the UN's 9/09 Goldstone report. (NYT 10/4; PCHR 10/7; OCHA 10/8)

### 4 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in 2 villages nr. Tulkarm and 1 nr. Jenin in the morning; enters Azun village nr. Qalqilya in the evening, closing the main road No. 55 toward the village, sealing all the entrances to the village, and searching nearby fields for 2 hrs. looking for Palestinian youths who threw stones at

passing troops (no arrests are made); conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Jenin town and r.c. and nr. Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** set fire to a mosque in Bayt Fajjar nr. Bethlehem and write “revenge” and “price tag” in Hebrew near the doorway. **Netanyahu** denounces the incident and orders security forces to “act firmly to quickly uncover the criminals and bring them to justice.” DM **Barak** calls the assailants “terrorist(s) in every sense of the word.” (JAZ, MNA, YA 10/4; NYT, WP 10/5; PCHR 10/7; OCHA 10/8)

## 5 OCTOBER

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the fmr. settlement sites, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night patrols in Zayta village nr. Tulkarm, detaining 2 Palestinian men for questioning, but releasing them when they withdraw hrs. later. In an act of reconciliation, **rabbis fr. the Gush Etzion settlement bloc**, escorted by the IDF and PASF, bring new Qur’ans to the Bayt Fajjar mosque burned on 10/4, saying they are “sorry and ashamed” by the arson. A **PA security court in Ramallah** sentences **IQB mbr. Alaa Hisham Diab** to 20 yrs. in prison for his participation in a 5/09 shootout in Qalqilya that left 3 PASF officers and 2 IQB mbrs. dead. **Hamas** denounces the verdict, saying that the apparent “lack of legality of the courts that issue these verdicts” and the timing of “these verdicts . . . while there is talk of coming closer to reaching internal reconciliation” are disturbing (see 9/25, Quarterly Update for details). (AFP, MNA 10/5; UNSCO, WP, WT 10/6; PCHR 10/7; OCHA 10/8)

## 6 OCTOBER

In a bid to secure the backing of right-wing coalition partners for a package of U.S. guarantees for a short extension of the settlement freeze, **Netanyahu** proposes legislation that would require those becoming Israeli citizens to pledge a loyalty oath to “the State of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state,” as opposed to simply “the State of Israel” as it is now worded. (NYT 10/7, 10/8; WP 10/11)

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 Qasam **rockets** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing

no damage or injuries. The **IDF** retaliates with a late-night **air strike** on an IQB training site in the Shaykh Ridwan area of Gaza City, destroying a building, damaging 30 surrounding buildings and 3 cars, and injuring 6 Palestinian civilians. In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes a brief incursion into Tulkarm early in the morning to photograph the entrances of a police station, the local PASF and PA General Intelligence headquarters, and a PASF medical services building, withdrawing without incident; blocks Palestinians from joining a solidarity rally with Jewish settlers outside Bayt Fajjar village (site of a mosque arson on 10/4), sparking clashes between stone-throwing Palestinian youths and soldiers (no serious injuries reported); patrols late at night, without incident in 2 villages n. of Jenin; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in ‘Ayn Bayt al-Ma’a r.c. and Zawata village, both nr. Nablus. The Israeli daily *Ha’Aretz* reports that nearly 350 housing units are currently under construction in **West Bank settlements**, including 56 in Keddumim nr. Qalqilya, 54 in Ariel n. of Salfit, 56 in Karne Tzur; 24 within Ma’ate Binyamin regional council area (nr. Jerusalem and Ramallah), 34 in Kiryat Arba, and 1 each in Barqan, Dolev, Kefar Adumim, Kochav HaShachar, Oranit, Revava, Sha’are Tikva, Tekoa, and Yakir. (HA, JP 10/6; NYT, PCHR, REU, YA 10/7; PCHR 10/14; OCHA 10/15)

## 7 OCTOBER

In the afternoon, the **IDF** makes an **air strike** on a car crossing a bridge btwn. c. Gaza’s Nussayrat r.c., and al-Mughraqa village in an attempt to assassinate **local Fatah cmdr. ‘Abd al-Ra’uf Ahmad Safadi**, striking in front of the car, injuring Safadi, a passenger in his car, and 2 children nearby (ages 2 and 10). In addition, **IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the fmr. settlement sites, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** makes a predawn raid on Bardala village in the Jordan Valley, raiding and searching several homes and summoning 2 Palestinians for questioning; patrols without incident in Fasayil village nr. Jericho in the morning and in al-‘Auja village nr. Jericho and Bayt Liqya village nr. Ramallah in the afternoon; conducts late-night house

searches nr. Tulkarm, making no arrests. (PCHR 10/14; OCHA 10/15)

## 8 OCTOBER

Meeting in Libya, **Arab League FMs** strongly endorse the 10/2 Palestinian decision to halt direct talks with Israel until Israel halts settlement construction, pledging to meet again in 1 mo. to discuss alternatives and decide on next steps; a meeting is set for 11/9. (REU 10/8; MNA, NYT, UNSCO, WP 10/9; *al-Abram Weekly* 10/8-14) (see Quarterly Update for details)

Overnight, in the West Bank, the **IDF** raids a Palestinian residential building in Hebron, killing **2 IQB mbrs.** in an exchange of fire (with the IDF firing machine guns, medium-caliber bullets, and grenades) and then bulldozing the structure, also destroying an adjacent store, heavily damaging 4 houses and another store nearby, and arresting 12 Palestinians. The IQB mbrs. allegedly were behind the 8/31 shooting of 4 Jewish settlers nr. Hebron; Palestinians do not consider their deaths willful killings or assassinations. The **IDF** also patrols in 3 villages n. of Tulkarm late at night, making no arrests. **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih/Dayr Nizam. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and a 13-yr.-old Palestinian is moderately wounded. In East Jerusalem, a **Jewish settler** deliberately attempts to run down a group of Palestinian stone-throwing children with his car in Silwan, injuring 2 (both age 10). Also in East Jerusalem, **2 settlement guards** posted outside a Palestinian house previously seized by settlers beat a local Palestinian working on his home nearby; the **IDF** observes but does not intervene until the Palestinian begins to fight back, at which point they arrest him and order him to stay away from his home for 1 wk. (WP 10/9; PCHR 10/14; OCHA 10/15)

## 9 OCTOBER

The **PRCs** claim responsibility for firing a **mortar** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing

damage but no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in Dayr Istya in the afternoon; prevents Palestinians fr. accessing their land nr. Qalqilya to harvest olives; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya; fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists conducting a non-violent march from Bayt Umar village to Karne Tzur settlement outside Hebron to protest land confiscations and settlement expansion; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and 4 internationals and 3 Palestinians are arrested (the internationals are released the same day). (PCHR 10/14; OCHA 10/15)

## 10 OCTOBER

**Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Ramallah, Salfit. **Jewish settlers** level 7 d. of land nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Havat Gilad settlement nr. Qalqilya harvest and steal the olives fr. a nearby Palestinian grove. (PCHR 10/14; OCHA 10/15)

The **Israeli cabinet** approves (22-8) submission of a bill to the Knesset that would require a loyalty oath as Netanyahu proposed on 10/6, but clarifying that Israeli Palestinians would not be required to make the pledge to maintain citizenship. (NYT, WP 10/11; NYT 10/19; JPI 10/22)

## 11 OCTOBER

In his first statement since the 10/8 Arab League decision, **Netanyahu**, at the opening of the fall session of the Knesset, publicly offers a "limited" extension of its partial settlement freeze if the Palestinians recognize Israel as the nation-state of the Jewish people. **Abbas** rejects this as a key concession that Israel seeks as a basis to reject Palestinian refugees' right of return to their homes in Israel, noting that the PLO formally recognized the State of Israel in an exchange of letters before signing the 1993 Oslo Accord. The **State Dept.** suggests that Abbas make a counter offer to keep the process going. (AFP, NYT, WP 10/11; AFP, HA 10/12)

Meanwhile, **Israel's** ministerial comm. on legislation sends a bill to the Knesset

for a second reading that would require a national referendum before any territory could be ceded in a peace agreement. (JTA, NYT 10/11) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the n. Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. In the West Bank, **IDF undercover units** make an incursion into Silwan in East Jerusalem, arresting 4 Palestinian boys (ages 12–13), firing rubber-coated steel bullets, stun grenades at stone-throwing youths who confront them, seriously wounding a 14-yr.-old Palestinian boy; all 4 boys arrested are released on 10/12. The **IDF** also conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya. An **Israeli military court** sentences **Abdullah Abu Rahma, head of the Popular Committee Against the Wall** in the West Bank village of Bil'in who organizes the weekly demonstrations against the **separation wall**, to 1 year in jail (including time served) and a \$1,250 fine; Abu Rahma was arrested in 12/09 and convicted in 8/2010 of incitement and participating in illegal demonstrations. **PA PM Salam Fayyad** holds a groundbreaking ceremony to inaugurate a new agro-industrial park in the Jordan Valley, which is expected to create 10,000 new Palestinian jobs (see Quarterly Update for details). (JTA 10/12; Israel National News, WT 10/13; PCHR 10/14; OCHA 10/15; *Irish Times* 10/21; UNSCO 10/22)

## 12 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in villages nr. Jenin and Tulkarm during the day, Nablus and Qalqilya late at night; prevents Palestinians fr. reaching their land nr. Salfit to cultivate olives; conducts arrest raids, house searches in villages nr. Jenin during the day, nr. Jenin and Nablus late at night. **Jewish settlers** fr. Karme Tzur, escorted by **IDF** troops, level at least 10 d. of adjacent Palestinian land to expand the settlement. (PCHR 10/14; OCHA 10/15)

## 13 OCTOBER

**IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction material inside the demolished Erez industrial zone

straddling the border, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Bayt Liqya late at night, without incident; conducts synchronized late-night arrest raids, house searches in 3 villages nr. Jenin. (PCHR 10/14; PCHR 10/21; OCHA 10/22)

## 14 OCTOBER

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the fmr. settlement sites, wounding 1. In the West Bank the **IDF** conducts evening patrols without incident in 3 villages nr. Jenin, Jericho, and Tulkarm; makes a late-night incursion into Bayt Liqya nr. Ramallah, firing rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at stone-throwing youths who confront them, causing no serious injuries. (PCHR 10/21; OCHA 10/22)

## 15 OCTOBER

**Israel** announces plans to build 238 new settlement housing units in Pisgat Ze'ev and Ramot settlements in East Jerusalem. The **PA** and **U.S.** denounce the move as contrary to peace. Also in East Jerusalem, the **IDF** fires rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and water with a colored dye at Palestinians holding a sit-in in the al-Bustan area of Silwan after Friday prayers to protest Israel's plans (announced in 3/2010) to demolish homes and businesses in the area to create the City of David, an archeological park to accommodate settlers; local Jewish settlers join in, stoning Palestinians and vandalizing Palestinian homes; 15 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, the **IDF** conducts synchronized daytime patrols in 2 villages and 1 open area nr. Jenin, making no arrests. **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih/Dayr Nizam. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation; 2 Israeli and 3 Palestinian activists are arrested (the Israelis are quickly released). **Jewish settlers** fr. Elon Moreh nr. Nablus fire on and chase off Palestinian farmers harvesting olives nr. the settlement, causing no reported injuries. **Jewish**

**settlers** fr. Zohar settlement e. of Qalqilya set fire to Palestinian olive groves and prevent Palestinian fire engines fr. reaching the area, allowing 100 d. to burn. (NYT, WP 10/16; PCHR 10/21; OCHA 10/22)

#### 16 OCTOBER

**Israel** carries out 2 **air strikes** on armed Islamic Jihad mbrs. preparing to fire rockets fr. the n. Gaza border area, killing 2 **Islamic Jihad mbrs.** In the West Bank, the **IDF** beats and fires rubber-coated steel bullets at Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists conducting a nonviolent march from Bayt Umar village to Karme Tzur settlement outside Hebron to protest land confiscations and settlement expansion, moderately injuring 1 American activist. **Jewish settlers** fr. Brakha settlement nr. Nablus attack, drive off Palestinians harvesting olives nearby. (WP 10/18; PCHR 10/21; OCHA 10/22)

#### 17 OCTOBER

**IDF** troops make a brief incursion into s. Gaza nr. Abasan to level areas to clear lines of sight, firing at the surrounding area but causing no reported damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts synchronized daytime patrols in 3 villages nr. Jenin, making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Fara'a r.c. nr. Tubas, Hebron, and Tulkarm (twice). **Jewish settlers** fr. Etzion settlement nr. Hebron pump wastewater onto nearby Palestinian lands (polluting 50 d. of arable land) and confiscate a bulldozer from a Palestinian working on land nearby (also taking his cell phone and ID card). (PCHR 10/21; OCHA 10/22)

#### 18 OCTOBER

The **IDF** makes another (see 10/17) brief incursion into s. Gaza nr. Abasan to level land to clear lines of sight. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts synchronized daytime patrols in 3 villages nr. Tulkarm, making no arrests; conducts synchronized late-night patrols in 2 villages southeast of Jenin, making no arrests; conducts similar late-night patrols in Bal'a village nr. Tulkarm; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. Of note: **Islamic Jihad** in Gaza issues a statement

that "the leadership has taken a crucial decision to disown all members who go out on impromptu missions or under the banner of other organizations, such as those who refer to themselves as Salafists." The statement notably does not explicitly bar mbrs. participation in the PRCs, an umbrella group comprising mbrs. of all Palestinian factions, suggesting that Islamic Jihad, like Hamas, is increasingly worried about radical Islamist groups in Gaza. (AFP 10/18; PCHR 10/21; OCHA 10/22)

#### 19 OCTOBER

The **IDF** makes 2 brief incursions into Gaza to clear lines of sight along the border e. of Jabaliya r.c. in the n. and al-Qarara in the s., exchanging gunfire with Palestinians in the s., causing no reported injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in Bayt Liqya and Jit nr. Qalqilya during the day and in Jinsafut village nr. Qalqilya late at night; conducts late-night house searches nr. Hebron, making no arrests. **Israel** releases **Hamas-affiliated Palestinian Council mbr. Ali Romanin**, who was detained by the **IDF** in 2006 as a bargaining chip following the capture of **IDF** soldier Gilad Shalit. **Jewish settlers** fr. Beitar Ilit nr. Bethlehem set fire to 30 d. of nearby Palestinian agricultural land, damaging at least 600 trees. OCHA (10/22) reports that in the previous week an ailing 2-yr.-old **Palestinian girl** fr. Gaza died as a direct result of Israel delaying her transfer to an Israeli hospital for treatment. (MNA 10/19; PCHR 10/21; OCHA 10/22)

#### 20 OCTOBER

An explosion inside a **Hamas** security compound in Rafah damages more than 30 houses, 4 schools, and 1 clinic nearby, injuring 26 Palestinian civilians (including 18 children, 15 of whom were inside their classrooms), mostly by flying glass; the reason for the explosion is unclear. The **IDF** makes a brief incursion into s. Gaza e. of Khan Yunis to level land along the border to clear lines of sight, firing on surrounding areas to keep Palestinians away, seriously wounding a 65-yr.-old Palestinian harvesting olives 1,000 m away. In the West Bank, the **IDF** raids a coal plant nr. the separation wall w. of Jenin, confiscating 40 tons of wood and sealing the building, saying

that local **Jewish settlers** claimed it was a nuisance; makes a daytime incursion into Barta'a nr. Jenin, raiding several stores and interrogating several Palestinians, but making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron, Ramallah. **Jewish settlers** fr. Eli settlement nr. Nablus vandalize and set fire to part of a Palestinian school nearby. **Jewish settlers** fr. Elon Moreh nr. Nablus fire on and chase off Palestinians harvesting olives nearby. **Jewish settlers** fr. Keddumim nr. Qalqilya throw stones at Palestinian vehicles driving on the nearby Nablus-Qalqilya road, causing no injuries. (PCHR 10/21; OCHA 10/22; PCHR 10/28; OCHA 10/29)

## 21 OCTOBER

The Israeli human rights group **Peace Now** estimates that **Jewish settlers** have started work on 600 settlement housing units in at least 36 settlements since the freeze ended on 9/26. At least half of the construction is to lay foundations for new houses—a priority for settlers in anticipation of reimposition of the temporary settlement freeze, which allowed construction to continue on units that already had their foundations poured. (NYT, WP 10/22) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Egypt** allows an aid convoy of 140 vans to enter Gaza through the Rafah crossing; the humanitarian goods were provided by London-based pro-Palestinian activists. **Unidentified Palestinians** fire a **mortar** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. **IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials inside the destroyed industrial zone, wounding 2. **IDF** troops also enter Gaza briefly to retrieve an unmanned Israeli drone that crashed nr. the northern border. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in villages nr. Jericho, Ramallah, Tulkarm; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. Palestinians report (PCHR 10/21) that in the previous week: (a) the **IDF** confiscated 130 d. of Palestinian agricultural land nr. Qalqilya for construction of a “security road” past Keddumim settlement, and (b) **Jewish settlers** seized and leveled 100 d. of Palestinian agricultural land located between the separation wall and the Green Line, accessible to the Palestinian owners only

through a gate in the fence that the **IDF** opens only occasionally. In East Jerusalem, **Israeli police** raid and search a Palestinian clothing store. (AFP, JP, PCHR 10/21; NYT 10/22; PCHR 10/28; OCHA 10/29)

## 22 OCTOBER

**Gaza municipal officials** are forced to shut down 1 of 2 turbines at Gaza's power plant; rolling blackouts spike from 4–6 hrs./day to 16 hrs./day. **IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials inside the demolished industrial zone, wounding 1. In the West Bank, **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, al-Ma'sara nr. Bethlehem, and Nabi Salih/Dayr Nizam. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters and occupy 1 Palestinian home in Nabi Salih as an observation post; 10s of demonstrators suffer tear gas inhalation, 2 Palestinians and 3 international activists are arrested (the internationals are quickly released), and a Palestinian home in Nabi Salih is set on fire by a tear gas canister. **Jewish settlers** fr. Keddumim settlement nr. Qalqilya vandalize nearby Palestinian homes and a cemetery, spraying graffiti on buildings threatening Palestinians to leave the area or face attack and on gravestones saying: “Here lies the Palestinian state.” (PCHR 10/28; OCHA 10/29)

## 23 OCTOBER

In the West Bank, **Palestinians** burn an **IDF** barrier blocking a road into Jayyus village nr. Qalqilya to protest the closure of the road; **IDF** troops enter late in the evening to reestablish the barrier. The **IDF** also beats and fires rubber-coated steel bullets at Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists conducting a nonviolent march from Bayt Umar village to Karme Tzur settlement outside Hebron to protest land confiscations and settlement expansion, injuring and arresting 1 American activist; breaks up a nonviolent protest by Palestinians in Hebron against the closure (since 1994) of Shuhada street; patrols without

incident in Ya'bad village nr. Jenin late in the evening; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Eli nr. Nablus, cut down 14 Palestinian olive trees nearby. (PCHR 10/28; OCHA 10/29)

#### 24 OCTOBER

At his weekly cabinet session, **Netanyahu** confirms "intensive contacts" are underway with the U.S. on an incentives package to restart peace talks "in such a way that it cannot be halted in a few weeks or months." On or around this date, Netanyahu sends his chief negotiator **Molcho** back to Washington with new proposals for an incentives package; no details are released (IGPO 10/24; WP 10/25; NYT 10/27)

**Israeli** municipal authorities in Jerusalem approve a modified development plan for the Western Wall area that will involve underground tunnels, car parks, bus and police stations, Talmud and tourism centers, and opening of a new gate in the ancient wall around Jerusalem to provide access for Jewish settlers fr. the Silwan area. **Palestinian residents of Silwan** protesting the new moves clash with **IDF** troops who enter the neighborhood to disperse them, firing rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades, seriously wounding an 11-yr.-old Palestinian boy. **Islamic Jihad** fires 3–4 **mortars** fr. Gaza toward Israel, with only 1 landing inside Israel; no damage or injuries are reported on either side of the border. **Gaza's power plant** receives a fuel shipment from Israel allowing the plant's 2d turbine (shut down on 10/22) to resume operation; rolling blackouts drop back down to 4–6 hrs./day. The **IDF** makes a day-long incursion into s. Gaza to level lands along the border fence e. of al-Qarara to clear lines of sight. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches nr. Jenin in the afternoon and nr. Qalqilya late at night. **Jewish settlers** fr. Keddumim heavily damage a Palestinian vehicle that breaks down on the road nr. the settlement. (JP 10/25; MNA 10/25; PCHR 10/28; OCHA 10/29)

#### 25 OCTOBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 5 **mortars** fr. Gaza toward Israel, 2 landing in

Israel and 3 inside Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in 2 villages nr. Tulkarm in the morning; conducts late-night arrest raids, searches nr. Hebron, Salfit. **Jewish settlers** fr. Taffuh nr. Salfit attempt to steal a horse fr. a Palestinian harvesting olives but leave when other Palestinians arrive. The **PA** says that foreign journalists who visit the West Bank through Israeli media facilitators are "unwelcome"—a move seen as an attempt by the PA to control its media image abroad. (JP 10/25; PCHR 10/28; OCHA 10/29; JPI 11/5)

#### 26 OCTOBER

**IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials from the ruins of Palestinian homes nr. the Erez industrial zone, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in Jenin and nearby villages in the morning, making no arrests; patrols without incident in villages nr. Jericho, Ramallah, Tulkarm in the evening; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Nablus. OCHA reports (10/29) that in the previous week, 3 **Palestinians** were killed in tunnel-related accidents (2 electrocuted, 1 fell) and 3 were injured (electrocution, suffocation). (PCHR 10/28; OCHA 10/29)

#### 27 OCTOBER

**IDF** troops on the e. Gaza border fire on **Islamic Jihad** mbrs. planting roadside bombs nr. the border fence e. of Jabaliya r.c., killing 1 **Islamic Jihad mbr.** and damaging a nearby Palestinian home. Earlier in the day, **unidentified Palestinians** fire 1 **mortar** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. **IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in demolished buildings nr. the border fence n. of Bayt Lahiya, wounding 1. In the West Bank, **IDF** troops and intelligence units raid the homes of 2 local **Hamas** leaders and 1 local **Islamic Jihad** leader in Jenin, stating they had not come to arrest the men but to speak with them; the intelligence officers' questions focus on relations between the PA and Hamas, the prospects for national reconciliation,

Israeli-Palestinian negotiations and prospects for peace, the PA dismissal of Hamas mbrs. fr. public jobs, and the financial and political bans on Hamas. The **IDF** also bulldozes 18 d. of Palestinian agricultural land in Issawiyya nr. Jerusalem; patrols in Bayt Liqya late at night without incident; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in Jalazun r.c. nr. Ramallah and nr. Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin; conducts late-night patrols in Tulkarm, stopping Palestinian drivers to search their vehicles and check their IDs. **Palestinians** in Dayr al-Khattab village nr. Nablus report that in the previous wk. settlers fr. nearby Elon Moreh settlement pumped wastewater onto the villages agricultural lands, damaging 220 olive trees. Inside Israel, **100s of Israeli police** escort **10s of right-wing Jewish extremists** chanting "death to terrorists" on a march through the Israeli-Palestinian town of Umm al-Fahm in a show of force, sparking stone-throwing clashes with Palestinian residents; Israeli police respond with tear gas, stun grenades, and batons; 10 people are arrested, and around 24 injured (including 2 Israeli Arab MKs). (*Financial Times*, YA 10/27; NYT, PCHR 10/28; PCHR 11/4; OCHA 11/5)

#### 28 OCTOBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire a **mortar** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts evening and late-night patrols in village nr. Jericho and in Ramallah, making no arrests. (JP 10/28; PCHR 11/4; OCHA 11/5)

#### 29 OCTOBER

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials inside the former settlement sites, wounding 1. Also in Gaza, **10,000s of Palestinians** turn out for a rally commemorating **Islamic Jihad's** 23d anniversary. Addressing the crowd by telephone from Damascus, the movement's head, **Abdallah Shallah**, denounces the PA for having resumed direct talks with Israel, calls any formal agreement with Israel "forbidden religiously and politically," and says the duty of all Palestinians should be to "eliminate" Israel. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in and around Tulkarm twice

during the day, making no arrests. **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih/Dayr Nizam. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and 7 Palestinians are moderately injured. **Jewish settlers** from Shvut Rachel settlement nr. Ramallah, who have leveled 280 d. of adjacent Palestinian agricultural land since 10/24, place 9 new mobile homes on the cleared plot, effectively expanding the settlement. (NYT 10/30; PCHR 11/4; OCHA 11/5)

#### 30 OCTOBER

**Unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 **mortars** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** raids an olive press in Jit nr. Qalqilya, arresting the owner and confiscating a bulldozer. (JP 10/30; PCHR 11/4; OCHA 11/5)

#### 31 OCTOBER

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction material in the fmr. settlement sites, wounding 1. **Hamas's acting FM Mahmud Zahhar** warns that Gazans who fire rockets at Israel violate an agreement among Palestinian factions not to initiate strikes on Israeli targets and face possible arrest. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in 2 villages nr. Jericho and Jenin in the morning, making no arrests; makes a late-night raid into Mazra'a village nr. Ramallah, patrolling streets and firing rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, stun grenades at stone-throwing youths who confront them, causing no serious injuries; makes a late-night raid on a Palestinian apartment building in Ya'bad village nr. Jenin, photographing it and questioning the owner; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in al-Askar r.c. and nearby Nablus, in Hebron, and nr. Salfit. **Jewish settlers** fr. Shilo settlement throw stones at Palestinians driving on the nearby Nablus-Ramallah road, causing no injuries. In East Jerusalem, **Israeli security forces** raid and search a Palestinian home in the al-Bustan area of Silwan early in the morning,

arresting 2 Palestinians. (*al-Hayat* 10/31; PCHR 11/4; OCHA 11/5)

### 1 NOVEMBER

**Israeli naval vessels** fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the Gaza coast, forcing them to return to shore. **IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials in the fmr. settlement sites, causing no injuries. In the West Bank, the **IDF** sets up a temporary checkpoint inside Tulkarm, stopping Palestinians to check their IDs, withdrawing without incident; makes a daytime raid on a carpentry shop nr. Salfit, arresting 1 Palestinian; enters Madama village nr. Nablus in the evening, imposing a curfew, ordering shops to close, searching several homes, but making no arrests; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. **Jewish settlers** fr. Karme Tzur nr. Hebron, escorted by **IDF** troops, level Palestinian agricultural land (grape vines, almond trees); 70 d. have been leveled in the past 3 wks. (PCHR 11/4; OCHA 11/5)

### 2 NOVEMBER

**IDF** troops on the n. Gaza border fire on Palestinians scavenging for construction materials at a demolished garbage collection center, wounding 1. **IDF** troops on the s. Gaza border shoot, wound an unarmed Palestinian who strays nr. the border fence e. of Abasan. In the West Bank, the **IDF** enters Tulkarm in the morning, patrolling streets and photographing the Palestinian Technical College; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Tulkarm. In East Jerusalem, **Israeli authorities** demolish a Palestinian car wash, auto repair shop, and 2 other portable structures in Bayt Hanina. (OCHA reports that another 7 Palestinian structures were demolished in Issawiyya and al-Tur between 10/27 and 11/2.) Meanwhile, at a dedication ceremony in Dahiyat al-Barid (in East Jerusalem but on the Palestinian side of the separation wall), PA PM **Fayyad** announces that the PA has renovated 15 schools in East Jerusalem in defiance of Israel's ban on PA activity in East Jerusalem, saying "we are translating steadfastness into facts on the ground." Fayyad had planned to attend the inauguration of the new schools in Shaykh Jarrah and Shu'fat

as well, but decided not to after **Netanyahu** pointedly renewed (11/1) his ban on allowing Palestinian leaders to carry out official business in the city and ordered security services to halt the visit if Fayyad proceeded. The **Court of First Instance in Gaza** sentences a Palestinian man to death by hanging for kidnapping and killing a 9-yr.-old girl in 2004. (JTA, UNSCO 11/2; NYT 11/3; PCHR, WJW 11/4; OCHA 11/5; see also AFP, HA 11/1)

### 3 NOVEMBER

In the morning, **Israeli** drones make an **air strike** on a car driving w. of Gaza City, assassinating **Army of Islam (AOI) senior mbr. Muhammad al-Nemnem**, wounding 2 bystanders; Israel later accuses Nemnem of involvement in "attacks against Israeli and U.S. targets in the Sinai Peninsula." The **IDF** makes a brief incursion into c. Gaza e. of al-Bureij r.c. to level land and clear lines of sight; an Israeli tank fires a shell at the surrounding area, but no damage or injuries are reported. In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in al-Yamun village in the afternoon; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron and in Nabi Salih. In East Jerusalem, **Israeli security forces** conduct early morning arrest raids, house searches in Silwan, detaining 5 Palestinians (including 4 children ages 13–16). Of note: Israel prevents **fmr. PA PM and negotiations adviser Ahmed Qurai'** from crossing into Jordan via the Allenby crossing, citing a previously unannounced decision by the government that from now on only Pres. **Abbas** and PM **Fayyad** would receive special treatment; Israeli security officials say the decision had to do with Qurai'"s recent statements denouncing Israel's settlement policy. The **PASF** for the 1st time arrests a Palestinian for selling goods made in a Jewish settlement, enforcing the PA's 4/2010 law prohibiting the sale of settlement-produced products (see Quarterly Updates in *JPS* 156–57); the defendant is jailed in Bethlehem pending trial. (MNA, YA 11/3; NYT, PCHR, UNSCO 11/4; OCHA 11/5; OCHA, PCHR 11/11)

### 4 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** bulldozes Palestinian land around Eli settlement;

patrols without incident in villages nr. Jenin, Ramallah, and Tulkarm; patrols in Bayt Liqya late in the evening, firing rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, stun grenades at stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them, causing no serious injuries. **Jewish settlers** escorted by **IDF** troops enter Nablus to pray at Joseph's Tomb and afterward harass local Palestinians. (OCHA, PCHR 11/11)

## 5 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in Jenin in the morning and in Azun late at night. **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih/Dayr Nizam. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 10s suffer tear gas inhalation and 1 Israeli activist and 1 Palestinian photographer are slightly injured. (OCHA, PCHR 11/11)

## 6 NOVEMBER

In retaliation for Israel's assassination of an AOI mbr. on 11/3, the **PRCs** fire a Qassam **rocket** fr. Gaza into Israel, causing no damage or injuries. In response, the **IDF** makes 2 **air strikes** destroying a smuggling tunnel on the Rafah border (causing no injuries) and hitting a Hamas target in Khan Yunis (lightly injuring 1 Palestinian in a home nearby). In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in 2 villages nr. Qalqilya, 1 nr. Jenin; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Bethlehem and neighboring Dayhaysa r.c. and nr. Hebron. (AFP, YA 11/6; OCHA, PCHR 11/11)

## 7 NOVEMBER

The **Arab League** postpones its planned 11/9 meeting until after the 11/16-20 Eid al-Adha holiday to give ongoing U.S.-Israeli talks a final chance to reach an arrangement that would allow continuation of Israeli-Palestinian direct talks. (MNA 11/7; *Foreign Policy* 11/9) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**Netanyahu** arrives in the U.S. on a 5-day visit to attend the **Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA)** general assembly in New Orleans and consult with U.S. officials (excluding Obama, who left on 11/5 for a 10-day trip to South East Asia). On the sidelines of the JFNA assembly today, he meets with **VP Joe Biden** for talks that focus primarily on **Iran** (see Quarterly Update for details). (WP 11/9; WJW 11/11)

**IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials inside the industrial zone, wounding 1. **IDF** troops make a brief incursion into c. Gaza to level lands along the border fence e. of Gaza Valley village. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts a rare daytime house search nr. Jenin; patrols without incident 2 villages nr. Jenin during the day; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Qalqilya (also detonating explosives in a store on the 1st floor of a Palestinian building, causing heavy damage), Ramallah. (OCHA, PCHR 11/11)

## 8 NOVEMBER

**Israel's Interior Min.** says it will move forward with plans to build 1,300 new Jewish settlement housing units in East Jerusalem (978 in Har Homa/Jabal Abu Ghunaym, 320 in Ramot). At the same time, **Israel** issues construction tenders for 800 units in the West Bank settlement of Ariel, which Israel intends to keep under final status. Meanwhile, **Israel's Jerusalem municipal authorities** issue a report stating that the municipality is currently building more than 13,500 housing units for Jews in various Arab neighborhoods in East Jerusalem. The **UN**, **U.S.**, and **PA** denounce the plans (see Quarterly Update for details). In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in Zayta village nr. Tulkarm in the morning; patrols in Bayt Liqya late at night, firing rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, stun grenades at stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them, causing no serious injuries. (HA, JAZ, MNA, YA 11/8; HA, NYT, WP, WT 11/9; OCHA, PCHR 11/11)

Pres. **Obama** dispatches **U.S. Sen. John Kerry**, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, on a 3-day regional tour of the Middle East, with stops

in **Syria** (to warn Damascus against interfering in Lebanon), **Turkey** (to urge Turkey to repair its ties with Israel), **Lebanon** (to show support for Pres. Michel Suleiman), and **Israel** and **Ramallah** (to explore ways of reviving the peace talks). (XIN 11/8; AP 11/9; NYT 11/11) (see Quarterly Update for details)

## 9 NOVEMBER

Pres. **Obama**, asked during his trip to Indonesia about his reaction to Israel's 11/8 construction announcement, states sharply that "this kind of activity is never helpful when it comes to peace negotiations. I'm concerned that we're not seeing each side make the extra effort . . . to get a breakthrough. Each of these incremental steps can end up breaking trust." Hours later, **Netanyahu's** office responds saying "Jerusalem is not a settlement. It is the capital of the State of Israel. . . . Israel sees no link between the peace process and its development plans in Jerusalem." (IFM, Israel Radio News [Internet], MNA, REU 11/9; NYT, WT 11/10)

**Israeli tax authorities and border police** seal the entrances to the Jerusalem suburb of Issawiyya, checking Palestinians leaving and entering the village and raiding businesses in search of Palestinian tax evaders. Border police fire rubber-coated steel bullets at stone-throwing Palestinian youths who confront them, injuring 19 Palestinian children (ages 10–15); 1 Israeli border policeman is also injured. Also in East Jerusalem, **Israeli authorities** raid, search 2 Palestinian homes in Silwan, arresting 2 Palestinians. **Silwan residents** report that in recent weeks, Israeli authorities have stepped up arrests of young Palestinian men in Issawiyya and Silwan, and that Jewish settlers and settlement guards in Silwan have been accosting local Palestinians more frequently, generating almost daily low-grade clashes. The **IDF** conducts arrest raids, house searches in Issawiyya later in the evening; and conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches in and around Hebron and nearby al-'Arub r.c., in al-Bireh (searching the home of **Palestinian Council secy. Mahmud al-Ramahi**, but making no arrests; Ramahi was one of the Hamas-affiliated elected PC mbrs. that Israel arrested after the 2006 capture of Shalit to pressure Hamas but he

was recently released; 7 Hamas-affiliated PC mbrs. are still jailed by Israel), and nr. Tulkarm. Meanwhile, the **IDF** makes brief incursions into n. Gaza nr. Bayt Lahiya and c. Gaza e. of al-Maghazi r.c. to bulldoze Palestinian lands along the border fence to clear lines of sight. **Unidentified Palestinians** fire 2 **mortars** fr. Gaza toward Israel, 1 landing in Israel and 1 inside Gaza, causing no damage or injuries. OCHA (11/11) reports that in the previous wk., the **IDF** imposed at least 8 new barriers to Palestinian travel around Hebron. (YA 11/9; NYT 11/10; OCHA, PCHR 11/11)

## 10 NOVEMBER

In Gaza, **IDF** helicopter gunships fire on Palestinians scavenging construction material fr. the destroyed Dahaniyya airport in s. Gaza, causing no injuries. **IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials inside the industrial zone, wounding 1. **IDF** troops make a brief incursion into n. Gaza to level lands along the border fence n. of Bayt Hanun to clear lines of sight. In the West Bank, the **IDF** seals Issawiyya in an effort to contain ongoing stone-throwing clashes with local Palestinians angry over Israel's recent Judaization efforts, tax raids, and increased arrests of local youths (see 11/9). After weeks of monitoring by the **PA General Intelligence Service, PA police** in Qalqilya arrest **atheist blogger Walid Husayin** for posting satirical rants against the Qur'an on Facebook, marking the first time the PA has arrested anyone for their religious views; the charges against him of heresy for "insulting the divine essence" can carry a sentence of life in prison. (AP, PCHR, WorldMag online 11/11; NYT 11/12, 11/16; OCHA 11/24; PCHR 11/25)

## 11 NOVEMBER

In New York, Secy. of State **Clinton** and **Netanyahu** meet for 7 hrs. (including at least 2 hrs. one-on-one) to finalize an incentives package and discuss other steps toward reviving peace talks. (NYT, WP 11/12) (see Quarterly Update for details)

**IDF** troops on the s. Gaza border shell an open area and vacant home e. of Abasan village where a group of armed

Palestinians were assembling, causing no reported casualties. In the West Bank, the **IDF** enters Jit village nr. Qalqilya to evacuate and close a secondary school where children were holding an assembly commemorating the 6th anniversary of Yasir Arafat's death; sends undercover units into Jab'a village nr. Jenin in the afternoon, raiding a home and detaining 1 Palestinian; patrols in Zabbuba village nr. Jenin in the afternoon, firing on stone-throwing youths who confront them, causing no injuries; conducts late-night house searches in and around Hebron and in Bil'in, making no arrests; conducts late night patrols without incident in Tulkarm town and r.c. **Jewish settlers** stone Palestinian vehicles on the Nablus–Ramallah road. (OCHA 11/24; PCHR 11/25)

#### 12 NOVEMBER

**IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction material inside the demolished industrial zone, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** conducts synchronized late-night incursions into Salfit and 2 nearby villages, searching several homes and summoning 4 Palestinians for interrogation. **Palestinians** (accompanied by Israeli and international activists in some locations) hold weekly nonviolent demonstrations against the separation wall, land confiscations, and settlement expansion in Bil'in, Ni'lin, Nabi Salih/Dayr Nizam. **IDF** soldiers fire rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades at the protesters; 2 Palestinians are lightly injured by tear gas canisters and 10s suffer tear gas inhalation. (OCHA 11/24; PCHR 11/25)

#### 13 NOVEMBER

**IDF** troops on the Israeli side of the Erez crossing fire warning shots at Palestinians scavenging for construction materials inside the demolished industrial zone, wounding 1. In the West Bank, the **IDF** enters Burin village nr. Salfit at midday,

searching 2 homes and summoning 2 Palestinians for interrogation; fires tear gas and stun grenades to disperse Palestinians and international activists demonstrating against Israeli land seizures nr. Bayt Umar nr. Hebron and Iraq Burin village nr. Nablus, causing only light injuries; conducts late-night patrols without incident in a village nr. Qalqilya; conducts late-night house searches in Dahaysha r.c. nr. Bethlehem and a village nr. Qalqilya, summoning 1 Palestinian for interrogation and arresting another. (OCHA 11/24; PCHR 11/25)

#### 14 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols in al-'Araqa village nr. Jenin in the morning, questioning Palestinians on the street and summoning 4 for interrogation; conducts patrols without incident in 3 villages nr. Ramallah and Salfit during the day and in Qabatya nr. Jenin late at night; conducts late-night arrest raids, house searches nr. Hebron. **IDF** soldiers also make a late-night incursion into Tulkarm where they raid a home and business, confiscating money, personal property, and business assets, saying they are implementing an Israeli court order to confiscate \$650,000 that the father of the family (currently jailed in Israel) confessed to receiving from **Hamas** as compensation for his company, which was destroyed by arson in 6/2007 during rioting over Hamas's takeover of Gaza (see Quarterly Update for details). A **Jewish settler** fr. Einav settlement deliberately runs down a Palestinian roadside vendor nr. Tulkarm, moderately injuring him; the **IDF** detains the settler at a nearby checkpoint for questioning. (WP 11/15; OCHA 11/24; PCHR 11/25)

#### 15 NOVEMBER

In the West Bank, the **IDF** patrols without incident in Ya'bad village nr. Jenin in the morning; conducts late-night house searches nr. Hebron, making no arrests. (OCHA 11/24; PCHR 11/25)

## CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP	(Agence France-Presse, Paris)
AP	(Associated Press [Internet])
CNN	(Cable News Network [Internet])
HA	( <i>Ha'Aretz</i> [Internet], Tel Aviv)
IFM	(Israeli Foreign Ministry, Jerusalem)
IGPO	(Israeli Government Press Office, Jerusalem)
JAZ	(al-Jazeera Satellite Channel Television, Doha)
JP	( <i>Jerusalem Post</i> [Internet], Jerusalem)
JPI	( <i>Jerusalem Post International Edition</i> , Jerusalem)
JTA	(Jewish Telegraphic Agency [Internet])
MNA	(Ma'an News Agency, Bethlehem)
NYT	( <i>New York Times</i> , New York)
OCHA	(United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes, Jerusalem)
PCHR	(Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
REU	(Reuters [Internet])
UNSCO	(UN Special Coordinator's Office Daily Press Brief, Jerusalem)
UPI	(United Press International [Internet])
WJW	( <i>Washington Jewish Week</i> , Rockville, MD)
WP	( <i>Washington Post</i> , Washington)
WT	( <i>Washington Times</i> , Washington)
XIN	(Xinhua–New China News Agency, Beijing)
YA	( <i>Yedi'ot Abaronot</i> , Tel Aviv)



In East Jerusalem's al-Ram neighborhood (on the West Bank side of the separation wall), members of the Palestinian Authority Security Forces stand guard as Palestinian PM Salam Fayyad takes part in a ceremony to mark the reopening of 1 of 15 schools renovated by the PA in defiance of Israel's ban on PA activity in East Jerusalem, 2 November 2010. (Ahmad Gharabli/AFP/Getty Images)