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Protection of Civilians – Weekly Briefing Notes

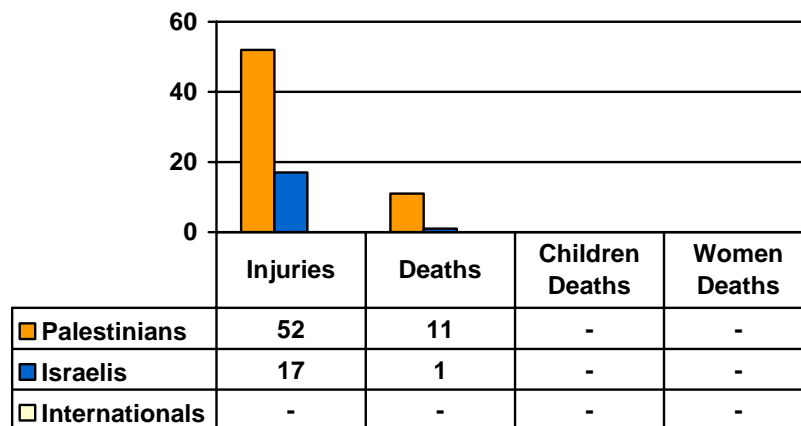
21 December 2005 – 3 January 2006

Of note this period¹

- A suicide bombing occurred at a flying checkpoint in the West Bank (Tulkarm) killing three Palestinians and one IDF soldier and injuring four Palestinians and three IDF soldiers.
- The IDF declared parts of the northern Gaza Strip a “no go” or enlarged buffer zone including the areas of the former evacuated Israeli settlements of Gaza North. The declared zone is estimated to include 8,700 dunums of land and affect the Palestinian residents (250) of Al Siafa community who are within the zone as well as an estimated 4,750 Palestinians in surrounding villages.
- External closure of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank was reported during the reporting period.
- Three sets of kidnappings of internationals in the Gaza Strip were reported. The five hostages were released unharmed after being held by Palestinian gunmen for between five hours and three days.
- The UN Reporting and Evacuation Center in Gaza City was attacked by a group of unknown gunmen who detonated explosives inside the building causing extensive damage.

1. Physical Protection

Casualties



- **21 December:** One 28-year-old Palestinian was killed; six Palestinians (aged between 15 and 18 years old) and one IDF soldier were injured during an exchange of fire between IDF soldiers and Palestinians in Jenin city (Jenin).
- **21 December:** Two Palestinians (23 and 27 years old) were injured during an exchange of fire between IDF soldiers and Palestinians in 'Askar camp (Nablus).
- **21 December:** A 15-year-old Palestinian boy from Bil'in (Ramallah) was injured by IDF soldiers while he was trying to join a group of International, Palestinian and Israeli activists who were staging a protest against settlement expansion in Modi'in Illit settlement bloc.
- **22 December:** Three Palestinians (24, 25 and 28 years old) were killed in Nablus city (Nablus) when the IDF surrounded a building and opened fire during a military operation.
- **22 December:** Two Palestinians were injured in Nablus city (Nablus) when the IDF opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers.

¹ This document is a combined Weekly Briefing Notes for the periods of 21 – 28 December 2005 and 29 December 2005 – 3 January 2006.

- **22 December:** Five Palestinians were injured in Qabatiya (Jenin) when the IDF opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers.
- **22 December:** Five IDF soldiers were lightly wounded when a Qassam rocket fired by Palestinian militants from the Gaza Strip struck their army base south of Ashkelon city (Israel).
- **22 December:** One 19-year-old Palestinian man was injured when the IDF fired artillery shells into Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip).
- **23 December:** Three Palestinians and one Israeli activist were injured in Bil'in (Ramallah) during a demonstration organised against the construction of the Barrier. Another three Palestinians were detained.
- **25 December:** One 18-year-old Palestinian was injured in 'Anabta village (Tulkarm) when the IDF opened fire during a search and arrest campaign.
- **25 December:** One 14-year-old Palestinian was injured at Kafriat checkpoint (Tulkarm) and transferred to hospital with a broken leg when he was assaulted by IDF soldiers.
- **27 December:** Two Palestinian were injured in Balata refugee camp (Nablus) during an IDF operation in the area.
- **27 December:** One IDF soldier was injured near Beita (Nablus) when Palestinians threw a fire bomb at IDF troops in the village during a search and arrest campaign.
- **28 December:** One Palestinian was injured when an IAF aircraft fired a missile towards a Palestinian house north of Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip).
- **29 December:** A Palestinian militant conducted a suicide bombing at a flying checkpoint near Kafriat checkpoint (Tulkarm) killing three Palestinians and one IDF soldier. Four Palestinians and three IDF soldiers were also injured in the bombing.
- **29 December:** A clash erupted between Israeli Border Police and Palestinians from Kharbatha al Misbah community (Ramallah) during a patrol near the area where a new road is being constructed. One Palestinian and three Israeli Border Police were injured.
- **30 December:** One Palestinian was injured and detained by the IDF during a demonstration organised in 'Abud (Ramallah) against the construction by Israel of "Special Security Arrangements" around Beit Arye and Ofarim Israeli settlements.
- **30 December:** Two Palestinian and one IDF soldier were injured in Jenin refugee camp (Jenin) during an IDF operation in the camp.
- **30 December:** A Palestinian was injured in Al Yamun village (Jenin) during clashes with the IDF.
- **30 December:** One Palestinian was injured in Balata refugee camp (Nablus) during clashes with the IDF.
- **31 December:** Two Palestinians were killed and another one seriously injured when an IAF aircraft fired a missile in north of Beit Lahia (Gaza Strip).
- **31 December:** Two Palestinians (13 and 16 years old) and an IDF soldier were injured in Jenin city (Jenin) during clashes between IDF soldiers and Palestinian stone throwers.
- **1 January:** An IDF soldier was injured after Palestinian gunmen fired at an IDF post near Qalqiliya city (Qalqiliya).
- **2 January:** Two Palestinian were killed and another five were seriously injured when an IAF aircraft fired a missile towards a car traveling west of Jabalia camp (Gaza Strip).
- **03 January:** Seven Palestinian teenagers were injured during clashes between IDF and Palestinian stone throwers in Jenin city (Jenin).

2. Shelter and Property

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures partially destroyed	People displaced / affected
27 Dec	Beit Lahia, Gaza Strip	-	1	0
28 Dec	Beit Hanina, Jerusalem	3	-	12
28 Dec	Beth Lahia, Gaza Strip	-	1	One Family
2 Jan	Bani Suhaila, Gaza Strip	-	1	0
3 Jan	Beit Hanina, Jerusalem	1	-	0
Total Week		4	3	Unknown

- **27 December:** An IAF helicopter fired two missiles at the main Fatah office in Beit Lahia (Gaza Strip) damaging the office. The air strike also caused a power cut in the northern area of the Gaza Strip.

- **28 December:** An IAF aircraft fired a missile at a house north of Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip) causing significant damage.
- **28 December:** Three houses were destroyed in Beit Hanina (Jerusalem) for reportedly being built without permits.
- **2 January:** An IAF helicopter fired a missile which damaged a cultural centre located in the Bani Suhaila area east of Khan Younis (Gaza Strip).
- **3 January:** One building (containing two empty apartments) was destroyed in Beit Hanina (Jerusalem) for reportedly being built without permits.

Other related incidents:

- **21 December:** The IDF occupied two apartments in a six storey building in Nablus city (Nablus) for 15 hours and converted it into an observation post. The IDF held the two families (12 persons including 8 children) in one room.
- **22 December:** The IDF occupied one Palestinian house in Qabatiya town (Jenin) for several hours and converted it into an observation post during a search and arrest campaign. The family was held in one room.
- **26 December:** The IDF occupied one Palestinian house in Seida (Tulkarm) for five hours and converted it into an observation post during a search and arrest campaign. The family was held in one room.
- **26 December:** The IDF occupied three apartments in Nablus city (Nablus) for several hours and used them as observation posts. Each family was held in one room of their apartment.
- **27 December:** An IAF aircraft fired two rockets at the entrance of Beit Hanoun (Gaza Strip) causing significant damage to a bridge.
- **27 December:** An IAF aircraft fired three missiles towards roads in the northern Gaza Strip, damaging three roads.
- **28 December:** An IAF aircraft struck the main Salah Ed-Din road opposite Beit Hanoun entrance with two rockets causing a significant damage to the road.
- **28 December:** An IAF aircraft fired a missile towards an open area in Al Moghraga area north of Nuseirat refugee camp (Gaza Strip) targeting an old railway bridge. The bridge was completely destroyed.
- **1 January:** The IDF occupied a commercial store in 'Izbat Shufa (Tulkarm) and used it as observation post. The owner of the store was prevented from opening his store.
- **1 January:** An IAF aircraft fired one rocket targeting the main Gaza Salah Ed-Din road (Gaza Strip) causing severe damage. Another two rockets hit roads west of the Bedouin village north of Beth Lahia.
- **3 January:** An IAF aircraft fired eight rockets at roads north of Beit Lahia (Gaza Strip). One of the rockets struck the main entrance of Beit Hanoun.
- **3 January:** A pottery shop on Road 90 in the village of Al Auja (Jericho) was damaged and pottery confiscated by the IDF.

3. Natural Resources

Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting²

Nablus Governorate:

20 December: The IDF started levelling land around Shave Shomeron settlement to build a new security zone and a wall/fence around the settlement.

26 December: Israeli settlers from Yits'har settlement cut down 90 olive trees belonging to Palestinians from Burin village.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues levelling land along side Road 505 near Jamma'in village to install a security fence.

Jenin and Tubas Governorates:

No incidents to report.

² 4 dunums = 1 acre; 10 dunums = 1 hectare

Tulkarm Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

Qalqiliya Governorate:

1 January: Israeli settlers from Matan outpost attacked Palestinians from Kafr Thulth while cultivating there land.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues levelling land near Immatin village and between 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth for the construction of the Barrier.
- Israeli contractors continued levelling land from Jayyus village located in the closed areas (areas between the Green Line and the Barrier) to expand Zfim settlement.

Salfit Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Israeli contractors continue levelling land north of Salfit city, Iskaka and Deir Istiya villages and south of Marda and Kifl Haris villages around Ari'el settlement and near Az Zawiya and Deir Ballut villages for the construction of the Barrier.
- The IDF continues levelling land alongside Road 505 near Marda and Haris villages to install a security fence.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

29 December: A group of Israeli settlers (approximately 25-30 youths) gathered and installed three tents on a hillside north of Al Mughayyir close to the Shvut Rakhel settlement. The Palestinian DCL complained to their Israeli counterparts who promised to remove them soon. The settlers remained in place during the remainder of the reporting period and have also installed an electricity generator.

2 January: The IDF issued a military order (T/213/05) to Palestinians in Beit Liqya requisitioning 27 dunums (2.7 hectares) of land to build a military base.

Ongoing incidents:

- The construction of the Barrier between Rantis and Budrus to south of Al Midya is completed. The construction of the Barrier between Kharbatha Bani Harith, Bil'in and Saffa villages (all west Ramallah) has also been completed.
- Construction of the Barrier is ongoing between Beituniya and Beit 'Ur al Fauqa, between At Tira and Beit Duqqu and south of Beit Liqya.
- The IDF is continuing land clearing in Beit Liqya village in order to build a new road between Beit Liqya (Ramallah) and Beit Anan (Jerusalem). According to the municipality in Beit Liqya, the purpose of this road construction is not clear since there is an old road that only needs some rehabilitation.
- The IDF is continuing land clearing on the western side of 'Abud village and the north western side parallel to bypass Road 465 for the construction of the "Special Security Arrangements" around Beit Arye and Ofarim settlements.

Hebron Governorate:

21 December: The IDF issued three military orders (T/185- 7/05) to requisition approximately 232 dunums (23.2 hectares) of land to build a "protective barrier" along Road 317 and 60. The new obstacle will run from the settlement of Karmel to that of Shani. No indication has been provided by the IDF to the Palestinian communities living south of the bypass roads of how they will be able to move across this new barrier.

Ongoing incidents:

- Land leveling continues west of the checkpoint of Tarqumiya where the new commercial checkpoint will be built.

Bethlehem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Land levelling and new housing construction is ongoing in the settlements of Efrat and its two northern outposts (Givat Hatamar and Givat Hadagan), as well as northeast of Neve Daniel (in its most recent expansion), and in Har Gilo and Betar Illit.
- Land levelling has started for the construction of the Barrier south-east of Har Gilo on land belonging to Beit Jala.

- Land levelling is taking place on the side of the “Tunnels” checkpoint to expand the site.

Jerusalem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- The construction of the Barrier is ongoing all along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate; exceptions to this are north of Maale Adumin and Road 1 (route subject to further inter ministerial examination) and between Ash Sheikh Sa'ad and As Sawahira Sharqiya (pending Israeli court decision).
- The IDF closed the road from Qalandiya checkpoint towards Atarot checkpoint; construction is taking place in the area to continue the part of the Barrier near Qalandiya and Al Ram area for the new arrangements at the Qalandiya checkpoint.
- The IDF is installing a fence along the newly constructed road between Bir Nabala and Beit Hanina Al Balad, parallel to the existing fence that runs alongside Road 45.
- The small entrance from Bir Nabala through the Barrier to Ar Ram has been blocked with a concrete barrier. All traffic going to Bir Nabala must now travel through Beit Hanina and Atarot, or through Qalandiya village.

Jericho Governorate:

No incidents to report.

The Gaza Strip:

No incidents to report

4. Access for Medical Assistance

Date	Location / Governorate	Affected Organisation	Denial	Delay	Shooting/Damage to Ambulance
30 Dec	Allenby Bridge/ Jericho	PRCS	-	90 min	-
31 Dec	Yitav checkpoint / Jericho	PRCS	-	120 min	-
Total Week	Incident 2		-	210 min	-

- **30 December:** A PRCS ambulance transporting a patient from Jericho to the Jordanian border was stopped at Allenby Bridge checkpoint and delayed for 90 minutes.
- **31 December:** A PRCS ambulance from Jericho PRCS centre was stopped at Yitav checkpoint and delayed for 120 minutes.

5. Access and Movement for Civilians

a) Curfew

Date	Location, Governorate	Duration
27-30 Dec	Huwwara, Nablus	58
27-30 Dec	Beita, Nablus	56
29 Dec – 3 Jan	Far'un and Khirbet Jubara, Tulkarm	113
Total Week		227

- **27 -30 December:** The IDF imposed curfew on Huwwara (Nablus) from 9:00pm on 27 December until the morning of 30 December.
- **27-30 December:** The IDF imposed curfew on Beita (Nablus) from 11:00pm on 27 December until the morning of 30 December.
- **29 December - 3 January:** The IDF imposed curfew on the Far'un and Khirbet Jubara (Tulkarm) from 12 pm on 29 December 2005 until the morning of 3 January.

b) Access to Education

West Bank:**Tubas:**

27 December: Students of Al Malih area on their way to Tayasir School (Tubas) were delayed at Tayasir checkpoint for two hours.

Nablus:

28-29 December: All schools in Beita (Nablus) were closed due to curfew imposed on the village.

Hebron:

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF and Israeli Police escorted Palestinian students from Tuba to their school in At Tuwani (Hebron). The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks carried by Israelis from the Ma'on settlement.

Gaza Strip:

28 December 2005 – 3 January 2006: 60 Students living inside the newly announced 'no-go' zone in the northern Gaza Strip and surrounding areas are now experiencing difficulties reaching their schools on time.

c) Access to Employment**West Bank:**

- On 25 December IDF announced a total closure on the West Bank coinciding with the Jewish holiday period of Hanukkah. Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to enter Israeli proper or East Jerusalem. The closure remained in place until the end of the reporting period.
- All shops along Road 90 in the Jordan Valley were informed by the IDF that they must close for one week starting at 1pm on 2 January 2006.

December

Governorate	Work Permits to Israel	Trade permits to Israel
Nablus	NA	605 (Chamber of commerce)
Jenin	NA	36 (Pal DCL)
Tubas	67	77 (Pal DCL)
Tulkarm	563	450 (Palestinian DCL)
Qalqiliya	122	370 (Palestinian DCL)
Salfit	NA	200 (Palestinian DCL)
Ramallah and Al Bireh	NA	1100
Jericho	NA	NA
Jerusalem	NA	NA
Bethlehem	NA	NA
Hebron	1371	NA
Total Permits Issued West Bank	NA	NA

Gaza Strip:

Since 16 December, Erez crossing has been closed to all Palestinians. Approximately 5,361 Palestinian workers holding valid permits cannot reach their work station in Israel.

d) Closures/Movement restrictions**Nablus Governorate:**

28 December: The IDF closed three roads connecting Beita village with the neighbouring villages with earth mounds.

29 December: The IDF prevented residents of Nablus from leaving the city through Huwwara checkpoint for several hours.

29 December: The IDF prevented residents of Huwwara and Beita villages from heading south through Zaatara (Tappuah) checkpoint.

31 December: The IDF closed Beit Iba checkpoint for 90 minutes while peace activists and Palestinians were demonstrating for the removal of the checkpoint.

3 January: At 2pm Maale Efrayim checkpoint was closed to all pedestrian and vehicular traffic (including commercial goods) until further notice.

3 January: At 2pm Hamra checkpoint was closed to all pedestrian and vehicular traffic (including commercial goods) until further notice. Prior to this Hamra checkpoint had been closed for all Palestinian non-residents of the Jordan Valley throughout the reporting period. Medical personnel and teachers are allowed access.

Ongoing incidents:

- Shave Shomeron checkpoint remains closed.
- All entrances connecting Sabastiya village with Road 60 remain blocked with earth mounds.
- The dirt road connecting Tulkarm with Road 60 near Sabastiya (at the junction with Road 57) continues to be blocked with earth mounds.
- The IDF is preventing all Palestinians from Jenin and Tulkarm from leaving Nablus through Huwwara and Beit Iba checkpoint.
- The IDF is restricting and denying access for Palestinians from the northern West Bank heading south through Zaatara checkpoint. Palestinians moving north through the checkpoint are not affected.

Jenin Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- All entrances to Ya'bad village remain closed by the IDF with road blocks and barbed wire. Only one alternative road towards Jenin city is open through Kufeir village.
- Road 585 from Mevo Dotan settlement entrance to Kharmesh settlement entrance remains closed with two checkpoints.
- The metal gate at a road leading from Ya'bad town and the two checkpoints on Road 585 near Mevo Dotan and Kharmesh settlements entrance are preventing all Palestinian movement between Jenin and Tulkarm.
- The IDF restricted the crossing of commercial trucks transporting goods to Barta'a enclave to 35 trucks a day carrying food products.
- The IDF closed all agricultural Barrier gates and prevented farmers from reaching their land.
- The IDF continue to close Al Jalama checkpoint for all Palestinians with valid permits. Prior coordination is required to allow vegetables through the commercial checkpoint into Israel and foodstuff from Israel into the West Bank.

Tubas Governorate:

3 January: At 2pm Tayasir checkpoint was closed to all pedestrian and vehicular traffic (including commercial goods) until further notice. Prior to this Tayasir checkpoint had been closed for all Palestinian non-residents of the Jordan Valley throughout the reporting period. Medical personnel and teachers are allowed access.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF closed Bisan checkpoint for Palestinian and Israeli commercial trucks transporting vegetables from Jordan Valley into Israel. The trucks had to go to Al Jalama crossing via Hamra checkpoint.

Tulkarm Governorate:

21 December: The IDF prevented farmers from Far'un from reaching their agricultural land in the closed areas (areas between the Green Line and the Barrier).

22 December: The IDF closed the road connecting Bal'a village with Road 60 near Jaba' junction.

29 December: The IDF closed the road connecting Tulkarm city with southern part of Tulkarm governorate and with Qalqiliya governorate with road blocks.

29 - 31 December: The IDF closed 'Anabta gate for vehicular movement.

29 December – 3 January: The IDF closed Kafriat checkpoint, 'Anabta gate and Al Jarushiya flying checkpoint for all Palestinians. School teachers were occasionally given access.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF closed the road between Bal'a and Al'Attara with an earth mound.
- The IDF intensified restrictions at Kafriat checkpoint and prevented the vehicular and pedestrian movement in and out of Tulkarm except for Tulkarm residents.
- The IDF announced Tulkarm governorate as a closed military area and restricted the movement of Palestinians in and out of the district.
- The IDF closed the roads to the garbage dump sites in Al Jarushiya and Deir al Ghusun with earth mounds.

- The IDF continues to close the roads between Deir al Ghusun and Iktaba, Bal'a and Tulkarm by earth mounds.

Qalqiliya Governorate:

21 December: The IDF held prisoners' relatives, at the north Qalqiliya crossing for more than four hours while they were on their way back from a visit.

31 December: The IDF closed the Barrier gates near Ras at Tira and 'Azzuna 'Atma for several hours.

Salfit Governorates:

30 December: The IDF closed Qarawat Bani Hassan road gate for several hours preventing all movement through the gate.

Ongoing incidents:

- The western entrance of Deir Istiya remains closed with an earth mound.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

26 December: At approximately 6pm the IDF closed Qalandiya checkpoint for approximately one hour. Tens of cars and hundreds of people were stranded at both sides of the checkpoint. Long delays were reported.

1 January: At approximately 1pm, the IDF stopped all Palestinian plated cars at a flying checkpoint on the bypass Road 60 (a few meters before the junction to Mikhmas village). The checkpoint was removed at approximately 3.15pm and Palestinians travellers experienced long delays.

2 January: At approximately 10pm, at least 12 IDF jeeps patrolled Al Masyoun neighborhood in Ramallah city. The IDF jeeps stopped near the Ministerial Council and prohibited all movements on the road for about one hour.

3 January: The IDF searched cars and checked IDs at the partial checkpoint of An Nabi Salih gate between 7am – 8 am. Delays were reported.

Hebron

Movement restrictions placed on private Palestinian vehicles on Road 60 have been increasingly relaxed. Restrictions on Road 60 still apply to any movement below the city of Hebron with frequent flying checkpoints beyond the crossing of "Nabi Younis". Movement along and across Road 317 is restricted by the IDF, particularly in front of the village of At Tuwani.

Ongoing incidents:

- Movement from Yatta to Hebron across the Dura – Fawar junction has been re-established following the period of tighter closure imposed after the killing of an Israeli settler on Road 60 near Bei Khaggai.

Bethlehem Governorate:

No movement restrictions are active on bypass roads in Bethlehem governorate (Road 367, 375 and 60). The IDF DCL office in Bethlehem announced (20 December) the easing of access to Bethlehem during the period between 24 December and 18 January to facilitate the movement of pilgrims to the West Bank town during the Christmas celebrations.

The Israeli Border Police is continuously present at the entrance to the village of An Nu'man village, east of Bethlehem, to stop illegal crossings into Jerusalem from the West Bank, causing delays for residents, including students trying to reach school in nearby Al Khas. Daily IDF presence is reported in front of the entrances of Al 'Arrub camp from Road 60.

Ongoing incidents:

- The road from Al Jab'a to Surif remains closed with road blocks.

Jerusalem Governorate:

Daily delays due to an IDF flying check point at the eastern entrance of Anata were observed.

Jericho Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to prohibit all Palestinians from going to the Jordan Valley unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of

an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas. However, Palestinians with permits are not allowed to stay overnight in the area.

Gaza Strip

28 December: The IDF declared a Gaza North 'no go' zone in a Palestinian area which lies in the extreme north of Gaza on the border with Israel. This area, in the former enclosed area of As Siafa, is home to more than 250 Palestinians.

Ongoing incidents:

- Construction continues of a concrete wall north of Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia. The borders are also being reinforced with the placement of new military bases and observation towers.
- The IDF informed the Palestinian DCO that the eastern part of Beit Hanoun (about one km along the security fence east of Beit Hanoun) had been declared a closed military zone.
- The IDF announced that Palestinians should keep a distance of at least 150 metres away from the perimeter fence in the eastern and northern Gaza Strip.

Reported flying checkpoints – West Bank:

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Al Badhan Road (10). Road 60 near; Yits'har junction (12). Road 57 between Tulkarm and Al Madina club (13). Aqraba entrance	36
Jenin	Entrance of Jenin city (2), Al Shuhada, Arraba, Bir Al Basha)	5
Tubas	Entrance off; Tammun.	1
Tulkarm	Between; Ar Ras and Kafriat tunnel (13). Entrance of; 'Anabta gate (13). Junctions off; Ar Ras, Al Jarushiya (13), Deir al Ghusun (12), 'Atill, Kur,	53
Qalqilya	Entrance off; Qalqilya – DCO (4), Jit junction, 'Azzun (14), Jayyus (12), Habla tunnel (10) Kafr Thulth (3), Sanniriya, Al Funduq	45
Salfit	Road 505 near; Marda.	1
Ramallah and Al Bireh	Road 60(1)	1
Jerusalem	Anata	1
Jericho	0	0
Bethlehem	Dar Salah(2), Al 'Ubeidiya, Za'tara, 'Ayda refuge camp(2), Al Khadr(2), Tuqu(2), Ash Shawawra, Husan, Beit Sahur, Battir. Artas,	15
Hebron	Zif gate(2), As Samu, Yatta(2), Beit Ummar, Dura(2), Hebron city - H1(4), Halhul(2), Tarqumiya, Idhna. Beit Kahil, Kharsa, Sa'ir, Al Arrub refugee camp(7)	26
Total West Bank		184

6. Additional Protection Issues

- During the reporting period **68** home made rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip toward targets inside Israel – Sederot, Shuva, Ashkelon and western Negev.
- During the reporting period, the IDF has fired more than **127** artillery tank shells and more than 23 air to ground missiles towards targets in the Gaza Strip, in particular in the northern areas.
- During the reporting period at least **11** access roads connecting to the towns and villages of Northern Gaza have been again targeted by F-16 missiles that left it with severe damages and transport disconnections.
- **21 December:** Two international teachers working in the Gaza Strip were kidnapped when they were on their way from Gaza City to their Beth Lahia school. They were released unharmed after seven hours.
- **28 December:** Three British nationals were kidnapped when their car traveling on a road between Rafah and Khan Younis (Gaza Strip) was stopped by a group of gunmen who took them to an unknown place. The Britons were held for over three days before being freed on 30 December before midnight.

- **1 January:** An Italian national was kidnapped by a group of gunmen in Khan Younis (Gaza Strip) and held for approximately five hours before being released by Palestinian security forces and police.
- **1 January:** The UN Reporting and Evacuation Center in Gaza City (Gaza Strip) was attacked by a group of unknown gunmen who broke into the building and placed explosive inside before detonating them. Extensive damages were reported to the building. One Palestinian guard was injured in the attack.
- **2 January:** A group of Israeli settlers entered the evacuated settlement of Sa Nur (Jenin) and remained for several hours until the IDF and Israeli Police removed them from the site.
- **2 January:** The IDF and Israeli Police removed an illegal outpost erected by Israeli settlers the previous week near the settlement of Pnei Khever (Hebron).
- **3 January:** The IDF served eviction notices to eight Israeli settler families illegally occupying Palestinian-owned buildings in the vegetable market, in the old Suq of Hebron. According to the order the settlers have to leave the houses by the 15 January 2006.

Searches/Arrests/Detentions

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention, number of searches noted at locations with brackets	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus city (5), Huwwara CP, Beita , Balata refugee camp	8	10
Jenin	'Anza (3), Rummana, Jenin city (3), Jenin Refugee camp (2), Al Yamun.	9	5
Tubas	Tubas city (3), 'Aqqaba, Tammun	5	0
Tulkarm	Qaffin, 'Illar (2), Seida, 'Attil (3), Deir al Ghusun	8	23
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya (2), 'Azzun	3	5
Salfit	Qarawat Bani Hassan.	1	0
Ramallah/Al Bireh	Beit Rimam Deir Ghassana, Atara, Qibya, Beituniya, Al Mughayyir, Qalandiya checkpoint	6	14
Jerusalem	Beit Duquq, Damascus Gate	1	2
Jericho	No incidents to report		
Hebron	Adh Dhahiriya(2), Yatta(3), Dura(3), Hebron city - H1(6), Halhul(3), Al Arrub refugee camp(5), Bani Na'eem, Idhna, Ash Shuyukh, Sa'ir , Beit Kahil, Beit Ummar, Tarqumiya, Ar Ramadin, Karma,	33	25
Bethlehem	Al 'Ubeidiya(2), Za'tara, Bethlehem city(4), , Beit Jala(3), 'Ayda refuge camp(5), Al Khadr(5), Tuqu, Dar Salah(3), Ash Shawawra, Adh Duheisha refugee camp, Husan, Artas, Beit Jala	20	15
Total Week West Bank		94	99
Gaza Strip		0	0
Total Week oPt		94	99

Appendix: Checkpoints 21 December 2005 – 3 January 2006

Checkpoint	Status
Tulkarm:	
Taybeh	Open from 5.30am to 5pm for UN and international organisations and Palestinians with permits.
Efrayim	The checkpoint is constructed as a crossing point into Israel for Palestinian workers and traders and others from Tulkarm Governorate with a special permit. On 29 June the checkpoint became operational from 4am – 7pm and Palestinian workers and traders are instructed to cross through.
Kafriat	The checkpoint is manned and physically divided into three parts: one that controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one that controls movement to Israel proper; and one that controls movement to and from Jubara. On 24 August the Tunnel near the checkpoint under Road 57 was opened reducing the need to use the checkpoint.
'Anabta	This gate was reestablished on 14 July 2005.
Qalqiliya:	
Qalqiliya DCO	Unmanned.
Jaljoulia	Access through this checkpoint is only granted for holders of permits into Israel and residents of Ras Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi Ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda. Ambulances from Qalqiliya town to these five villages need prior coordination with DCL. Only vehicles leaving the West Bank are subjects for security checks. On 25 December closed for all Palestinians even with valid permits.
Qalqiliya North (new)	The IDF opened a new crossing point on 28 November north of Qalqiliya Barrier gate to Palestinian permit holders such as workers, traders and humanitarian cases. The crossing is open from 4:00am to 7:00pm. On 25 December closed for all Palestinians even with valid permits.
Salfit:	
Deir Ballut	Officially open between 6am and 6pm. The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western part of Salfit District.
Kafr Qasem (Road 5)	Open 24 hours for UN and international organisations and Palestinians with permits. On 25 December closed for all Palestinians even with valid permits.
Nablus:	
Huwwara Southern main entrance	Open for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports require prior liaison with the IDF before access can be granted. Movement is allowed from 4:30am to 8pm.
Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade	Open for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports require prior liaison with the IDF before access can be granted.. Movement is allowed from 6am to 8pm.
Qusin Internal closure between Sarra and Nablus	Closed by a gate since mid-March 2004; traffic diverted through Beit Iba checkpoint.
Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan district of Jarzim with Nablus City	Only open for Samaritans. The gate is occasionally open for vehicles.
Beit Furik Eastern gate and checkpoint. After the closure regime main gateway between Nablus and the Jordan Valley	Open for villagers from Beit Furik, Beit Dajan, and open between 6am and 6pm.
Shave Shomeron Northwest, main road to Jenin	Since 15 August the checkpoint is closed for Palestinians. Only humanitarian vehicles are allowed access.
Zaatara (Tappouah) South, main road to	Vehicular movement for residents of northern west bank (Jenin, Tubas, Nablus, Tulkarm and Qalqiliya) is prohibited unless they have

Ramallah	a special permit.
Maale Efrayim Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus	Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas.
Hamra East, before closure regime main road to Jordan, Tubas, Jenin	Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas.
Jenin:	
Al Jalama Main entrance to Israel	Open between 7:00am to 4:00pm Sunday to Friday. Open for all goods from Israel into west bank and only vegetables are allowed into Israel after prior coordination..
Imreiha (Reikhan) Main gate to the Barta'a ash- Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave	Open between 7am to 9pm. Open for all goods from Israel into west bank and only vegetables are allowed into Israel after prior coordination.
Tubas:	
Bisan Main entrance to Israel	Open 24 hours for permit holders. Since 16 November closed for Israeli and Palestinian commercial trucks. On 5 December closed for all Palestinians.
Tayasir Gate Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley	Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas.
Ramallah/AI Bireh:	
Qalandiya	Between 21 December 2005 and 3 January 2006 open for internationals and blue ID holders (Jerusalemites) and Palestinians with West Bank IDs . Long delays during the evening rush hours.
Bet El/DCO	Open daily from 6am to 10pm. Access in vehicles only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, and Palestinians with special work permits.
Atara Bridge (partial)	Open.
An Nabi Salih gate (partial)	Open.
At Tayba (partial)	Open.
Makkabim On Road 443	Usually open for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders and foreign passport holders. Road 443 is off limits to oPt Palestinians, except those with permits to enter Israel/Jerusalem.
Ni'lin	Usually open for Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
Rantis	Usually open for Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
Jerusalem:	
Hizma Eastern entrance of junction Road 437/Psigat Ze'ev settlement	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
Az Za'ayem North eastern entrance on Road 1.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals.
Ar Ram Northern entrance on Road 60 north.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
Bir Nabala/Atarot Northern entrance on Road 404 /45 Road Atarot Junction.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
Ramot Alon North western entrance on Road 436	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinians with permits and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.
Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint	Open 24 hours for Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and UN and international organisations; Palestinians from the West Bank need a permit. West Bank vehicles are not allowed.
Container ("Wadi nar") East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank	Open for Palestinian vehicles with permits (taxi and municipality trucks), humanitarian reasons and for internationals. Permits not required for Palestinian pedestrians. Israeli- yellow plate cars are not allowed to cross. On 1 January delays were reported throughout the day due to a security alert.

Jericho:

DCO Main checkpoint off Road 1	Open daily 24 hours, after the IDF handed security control of Jericho to the Palestinian Authority on 16 March 2005. Open for everyone but Israelis. Vehicles with West Bank registrations can pass without permits.
Al Auja (Yitav) On Road 90	Open 24 hours for Palestinian living in Jericho District. Prohibited for Palestinians holding West Bank ID cards from other governorates unless they hold Israeli permits to allow them access to the area.
Gate opposite Allenby Checkpoint off Road 90	Gate manned by the IDF. Closed at all times. Soldiers open the gate for shuttle busses taking Palestinians to Allenby Border Crossing to Jordan.

Bethlehem :

Gilo/ Rachel's tomb North entrance to Bethlehem	New terminal-like crossing. Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with valid permits.
Ein Yalow Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line	Open 24 hours and only for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations. No movement of Palestinians beyond it unless with a permit.
Beit Jala DCO Entrance to Beit Jala	Temporarily manned. Movement allowed in both directions for all kind of vehicles including private cars. Open from 7am to 10pm.
Tunnels Road 60 at Har Gilo	Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians with permits. Land levelling is taking place to expand the site of the checkpoint.
Settlers' Checkpoint - Efrata Southern entrance to settlement	Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by settlers with movement beyond it restricted for Palestinians.
Gush Etzion On Road 60, at Etzion turn	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers are checking vehicles in both directions but are not always manning the checkpoint. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
Wadi Fukin Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line	Open 24 hours. Despite no external closure, workers and traders with valid permits are turned back.
Al Jab'a Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line	Open 24 hours.
Ein Gedi On Road 90, along Dead Sea.	On bypass Road 90. Used to be located close to the Avnot settlement but has now been moved south to the intersection with the settlement of Mitzpe Shalem. On the 24 of September, external closure was imposed on the Palestinian territory, Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to pass

Hebron

Beit Awwa At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354	Crossing along Road 354 only for humanitarian organisations and critical service providers.
Tarqumiya Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem districts	Open from 5am-7pm. Palestinians with valid permits are allowed to cross. Prisoners' families' visits took place this reporting period.
Meitar On Road 60, Green Line after intersection with Tene settlement road.	Open 24 hours.
Shani At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317.	Manned by the IDF; not used by Palestinians.
Beit Yatir On Road 316, at the turn for the settlement of Beit Yatir	Manned by the IDF. Open 24 hours. Residents of Imneizil village are allowed to cross but other Palestinians are asked for permits.
Prayers Road, H2 Access to area of Ibrahimi Mosque	Closed to Palestinians.
Shohada street, H2 Western entrance to Shohada street	Open to Palestinians living beyond it and in the Tel Rumeida area in accordance with a list held by the IDF at the checkpoint. Access possible only on foot.
Ibrahimi Mosque, H2 Access to the Mosque	Worshippers and visitors searched upon entry.
Bab Al Baladiyye , H2 Next to settlement of Beit Romano	The checkpoint is closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and a new gate has been installed across the road

	blocking physical access towards it.
Qarantina, H2 Junction with Shohada Street	Closed to Palestinians
Bab Al-Khan, H2 Entrance to Avraham Avinu settlement	Closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and north toward the market.
Tel Rumeida, H2 Beginning of street leading to settlement	Open only to Palestinians travelling on foot living between it and the settlement.
Al Kasaba, H2 Exit from the Kasaba, old city (Tomb of the Patriarchs)	Permanent checkpoint which filters Palestinian movement from the Kasaba area directed to the Tomb of the Patriarchs. Movement is segregated for incoming and outgoing movement. Palestinians exiting the Kasaba are processed through a combination of turnstiles, allowing one person at a time to pass, and a metal detector. The process is slow and extremely problematic during Friday prayers.
Ar Ramadin At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325	New permanent checkpoint established in September 2005, manned by IDF soldiers who check and search Palestinian civilians travelling to and from a cluster of Palestinian villages (4,000 people) around Ar Ramadin area. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325.
"Nabi Younis" Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on Road 60	New permanent checkpoint established in October 2005, manned by IDF soldiers who check Palestinian taxis and buses travelling on Road 60 or across the checkpoint toward Halhul or Sa'ir. Not always manned, new cameras have been installed on the military observation tower.
Al Fawwar Al Fawwar-Dura junction on Road 60	New checkpoint established in October 2005, manned by IDF soldiers. Palestinian taxis, buses and private vehicles are allowed to cross the junction between Dura and Al Fawwar. Not always manned.

Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints

Erez Crossing	Since 16 December, Erez crossing has been totally closed for Palestinians with some limited exceptions for humanitarian cases. The Crossing has remained open for internationals.
Rafah Passenger Terminal	Rafah Passenger Terminal was partially open all week (8 hours per day – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm). On 30 December the Terminal was closed for at least three hours and EU observers were evacuated to Kerem Shalom when dozens of armed PA police officers forcibly shot it down in protest over the killing of one of their colleagues in Gaza City.

Commercial checkpoints:

Tulkarm/Qalqiliya	
Taybeh	The back-to-back system has been operational from 5.30am to 5pm except on Saturday.
Nablus	
Awarta checkpoint Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003.	Open from 6am to 6pm, Sunday to Friday
Jenin	
Al Jalama Northern entrance/ main commercial check point.	Open between 7:00am to 4:00pm, Sunday to Friday
Ramallah/AI Bireh	
Beituniya Back-to-back checkpoint	Officially open 7am to 5pm, Sunday to Thursday, 7am to 1pm on Fridays and closed Saturdays. Open for commercial goods and a back-to-back system is in operation. Only Palestinians from Kafr 'Aqab and Sameeramees holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to pass through this checkpoint without using the back-to-back system. This checkpoint is not open for private cars or pedestrians. ICRC and UN vehicles are permitted to cross.

Jericho

Back-to-back checkpoint/DCO checkpoint	Open, but only for basic necessities, including dairy products. Other goods need a permit to be brought in. Closed from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning. Opening hours are 6am to 8pm.
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Gaza Strip

Karni	This week, Karni commercial crossing was partially open.
Sufa	On 28 December at 11:00 am Sufa crossing was closed till the end of day. On 29 December it was partially reopened for construction material.

– End –

Method and Sources

The information used to compile these Briefing Notes comes from a range of sources with a field presence in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The accuracy of the reported information is ensured through the corroboration of reports by two additional sources. Typically, the OCHA Field Coordination Unit (FCU) receives an initial incident report from a source, which is verified through visits to the incident site in addition to further corroboration with a third source, such as an NGO. In addition, OCHA FCU collects military orders as documentary evidence and provides information on incidents witnessed in person.

In the interests of timeliness and readability, the sources are not listed for each incident within the texts of the report. Listed below are the sources relied upon each week in compiling this Briefing:

- Physical protection: OCHA FCU, Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS), United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA), World Health Organization (WHO), Israel Defence Forces (IDF) website, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), offices of Palestinian Authority (PA) governors, Palestinian District Civilian Liaison (DCL).
- Shelter and property: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Natural Resources: OCHA FCU, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils, Land Defence Committee and Land Research Centre.
- Access for Medical Assistance: OCHA FCU, WHO, PRCS, Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), UN World Food Programme, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNRWA.
- Access and Movement for Civilians: Sources: Palestinian DCL, Christian Peacemakers Team (CPT).
- Curfews: OCHA FCU, Village Councils, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Access to Education: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, UNICEF, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils.
- Access to Employment: UNRWA, United Nations Office of the Special Coordinator for the Middle East (UNSCO), Palestinian Ministry of Labour (MoL), Palestinian DCL, Palestinian Chamber of Commerce, Israeli DCL.
- Closures/Movement Restrictions: OCHA FCU, UNRWA.
- Additional Protection issues: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), UNSCO, Palestinian DCLs, Palestinian Governors' offices, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, IDF.