



OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

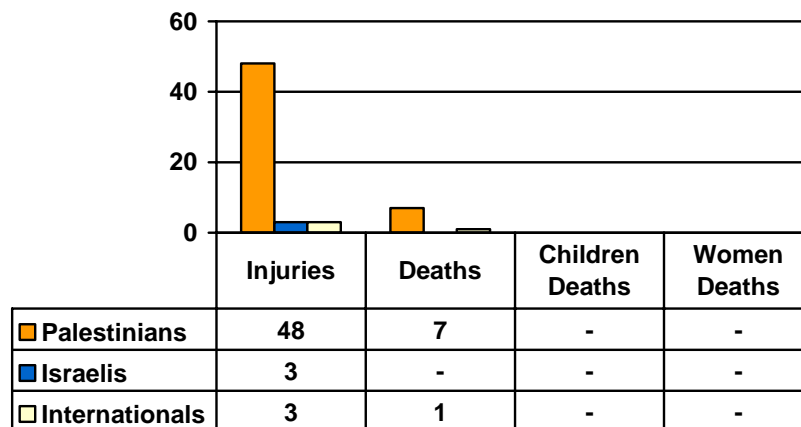
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Protection of Civilians – Weekly Briefing Notes

10 – 16 May 2006

Of note this period

- **External closure of the oPt** that had been in place for Palestinian workers and traders since 12 March was partially lifted on 8 May. Palestinian workers and traders with valid permits from the West Bank were again able to enter Israel. To be eligible for a permit workers and traders must be over 35 years old and married. Workers from the northern West Bank must be over 50 years old. The external closure has not been lifted in the Gaza Strip.

1. Physical Protection

- At least **37** home made (Qassam) rockets and **one Katyusha** rocket were fired by Palestinian militants from the Gaza Strip toward targets inside Israel - Sederot, shuva, Ashkelon and western Negev.
- During the week the IDF fired more than **246** artillery tank shells, particularly into the northern areas and east of Gaza City (Gaza Strip). The IAF also conducted **five** air strikes in the Gaza Strip.
- **10 May:** Two Palestinian women aged 22 and 55 years old were injured after IDF fired artillery shells into Palestinian areas north of Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip).
- **10 May:** A 9-year-old Palestinian boy from the town of Bani Na'im (Hebron) was injured by a live bullet during an IDF incursion into the town.
- **10 May:** A 17-year old Palestinian boy from the town of Bani Na'im (Hebron) sustained multiple body injuries when a group of IDF soldiers assaulted him during an incursion in the town.
- **10 May:** A 48-year old Palestinian woman from the town of Bani Na'im (Hebron) suffered a heart attack when IDF soldiers took over her house and turned it into a military observation point.
- **10 May:** A 49-year old Palestinian man from the H2 area of Hebron city (Hebron) was injured by live bullet in his house when IDF soldiers opened fire towards him during a search and arrest campaign.
- **10 May:** A 24-year-old Palestinian man from Al Fawwar Camp (Hebron) sustained multiple body injuries when a group of Israeli Police assaulted him in a raid for Palestinian workers without valid permits in Jerusalem.
- **11 May:** Four Palestinian minors aged 12, 15, 16 and 18 years old were injured in Jenin city (Jenin) by live ammunition during a military operation after clashes took place between the IDF and Palestinian stone throwers.
- **11 May:** Two Palestinians were injured in Rujeib village (Nablus) during a search campaign after they flew down while trying to flee the area.

- **11 May:** A 16-year-old Palestinian boy was injured when the IDF opened fire towards Palestinians waiting to cross a flying checkpoint between Al Far'a camp and Tubas city (Tubas).
- **12 May:** A 28-year-old Palestinian man was killed during an exchange of fire between the IDF and Palestinian gunmen in Nablus City (Nablus) during an IDF operation.
- **12 May:** Clashes took place between Palestinian, Israeli and international activists and Israeli Border Police at a demonstration against the construction of the Barrier in Bil'in (Ramallah). Two internationals and five Palestinians were injured by rubber-coated metal bullets to the upper parts of their bodies.
- **12 May:** A 15-year-old Palestinian boy from the town of Tarqumiya (Hebron) sustained a head injury after he was assaulted by Israeli Border Police manning the Tunnels checkpoint.
- **12 May:** Israeli settlers from the outpost Gevat 'Arousi near Bracha settlement attacked a Palestinian stone cutting factory near Huwwara checkpoint (Nablus), injuring the Palestinian owner and setting fire to three offices and a tractor. The Israeli police are investigating the incident.
- **13 May:** Israeli settler children from the Tel Rumeida settlement in H2 area of Hebron city (Hebron) threw rocks at and injured a 75-year-old international volunteer accompanying Palestinian school children to their home after school.
- **13 May:** The Israeli Border Police fired rubber coated metal bullets at Palestinian, Israeli and international activists demonstrating against the construction of the Barrier in Dahiyat al Bareed (Jerusalem). Five Palestinians and two Israeli Border Police were injured during the clashes.
- **14 May:** The IDF assaulted and injured two Palestinians at a flying checkpoint north of Aqqaba (Tubas).
- **14 May:** A 16-year-old American citizen died from injuries he sustained in a Palestinian suicide attack in Tel Aviv on 17 April.
- **14 May:** The IDF shot and killed a 24-year-old Palestinian intelligence officer while surrounding the intelligence office in Jenin city (Jenin).
- **14 May:** Five Palestinians (aged 20[2], 23[2] and 30 years old) were killed by the IDF and 17 Palestinians injured during a military operation in Qabatiya (Jenin).
- **15 May:** Four Palestinian militants were injured after an IAF drone fired three rockets towards their vehicle in Abassan area east of Khan Younis (Gaza Strip).

2. Shelter and Property

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures partially destroyed	People displaced / affected
14 May	Road 90, Jericho	7	-	0
14 May	Road 90, Tubas	6	-	0
15 May	Qabatiya, Jenin	1	-	n/a
Total Week		14	0	n/a

- **14 May:** The IDF demolished 13 vegetable stands belonging to Palestinian merchants along Road 90 in the Jordan Valley area (in Jericho and Tubas governorates).
- **15 May:** The IDF demolished a two-storey Palestinian building during a military operation in Qabatiya (Jenin).

Other related incidents:

- **10 May:** The IDF issued an order to stop construction on a new school in Khirbet Jbara (Tulkarm) for reportedly being built without a permit.
- **10 May:** The IDF issued a demolition order for the second floor of a house located in the town of Halhul (Hebron) for reportedly being built without a permit.
- **13 May:** The IDF issued a demolition order for a house located in the community of Al Buweib near the town of Yatta (Hebron) for reportedly being built without a permit.
- **13 May:** The IDF used explosives to destroy a 'suspect' Palestinian vehicle near the entrance of 'Azzun (Qalqiliya).
- **14 May:** The IDF issued a demolition order for four houses located in the town of Beit Ummar (Hebron) for reportedly being built without a permit.

3. [Natural Resources](#)

Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting¹

Nablus Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continue installing 3m high concrete slabs along Road 60 from Shave Shomeron checkpoint south to Deir Sharaf Junction to build a security zone and a wall/fence around the settlement.

Jenin and Tubas governorates:

No incidents to report.

Tulkarm Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

Qalqiliya Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: the IDF continues levelling land near Immatin village and between 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth.

Salfit Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: 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.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: construction continues between Kharbatha al Misbah and Bil'in and is in the final stages in the section between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and At Tira villages. Land levelling for the last section of the Barrier in Beit Sira is continuing between the village and Makkaim settlement. The construction of the "special security arrangements" as part of the Barrier around Ofarim and Beit Arye settlements is continuing parallel to bypass Road 465 and east of 'Abud village. The IDF has stopped the construction of the Barrier in 'Abud village pending an Israeli court decision and a case filed by the villagers against the requisition of the village's land to create "special security arrangements" around Beit Arye and Ofarim settlements.
- The IDF continues land levelling around Ateret to create a buffer zone around the settlement. The land belongs to Palestinians from Atara and Umm Safa villages and was requisitioned. According to the Israeli DCL this is part of a plan which is to create security areas around the "isolated" settlements.

Hebron Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Land levelling continues west of the checkpoint of Tarqumiya for a new commercial checkpoint.
- Road paving continues at the agricultural terminal next to Meitar.
- Land levelling continues at the Beit Yatir checkpoint close to the Palestinian hamlet of Imneizil.
- Land levelling for the construction of the road barrier along Road 317 and 60 is almost complete.

Bethlehem Governorate:

15 May: IDF soldiers placed cement blocks on the turn for the village of Al Khadr on Road 60 and relocated the back-to-back for taxis to the southern entrance to Bethlehem (Al Nashshash). It is understood that the relocation was implemented to allow IDF

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

contractors to work on the connection across Road 60 to the western villages for Palestinians, according to the Barrier plans around Gush Etzion group of settlements.

Ongoing incidents:

- Land levelling continues on the side of Tunnels checkpoint to expand the site.
- Continued construction of a protection fence next to Al Khadr Boys School along the southern side of Road 60.

Jerusalem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: all along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate; exceptions to this are northeast of Al 'Eizariya towards Ma'ale Adumim settlement. Construction has begun along 3km of the Barrier south of Ma'ale Adumim and Kedar but has been stopped since the 3 March pending a court case.
- Construction of a road barrier is continuing on Road 1, east of Az Za'ayem. Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards who are intending to drive to Jerusalem, have to drive south to Ma'ale Adumim and then return through Az Za'ayem checkpoint.
- A fence has been installed between Ar Ram/ Dahiyat al Bareed checkpoint and the Barrier just north of the checkpoint. The fence prevents vehicles to access Atarot or Beit Hanina from the Ar Ram/ Dahiyet al Bareed area. A gap in the Barrier between Ar Ram and Bir Nabala/ Atarot is now manned by an IDF checkpoint and allows passage of school children, humanitarian cases and residents of Ar Ram that live west of the Barrier.

Jericho Governorate:

No incidents to report.

The Gaza Strip:

10 and 11 May: Two IDF tanks and two bulldozers entered about 300m into the Palestinian area south east of Beth Hanoun and carried out a land levelling operation.

15 May: Two IDF bulldozers and two tanks entered about 400m into the Palestinian area north Beth Hanoun and carried out a land levelling operation.

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.

4. Access and Movement for Civilians

a) Curfew

Date	Location, Governorate	Duration
15 May	Huwwara, Nablus	25.5 hours
Total Week	One Incident	25.5 hours

15 May: The IDF imposed a curfew on Huwwara village from 5:30 am on 15 of May to 7:00 am 16 May stating stones had been thrown from the village at the IDF and Israeli settler vehicles driving through the village.

Ongoing incidents:

- Palestinians' movement inside As Siafa area in the northern Gaza Strip continues to be restricted following the IDF announcement of parts of the northern Gaza Strip a "no go" or enlarged buffer zone on 28 December. The 250 Palestinian residents of As Siafa (within this buffer zone) continue to limit their movement during the day and do not move after dark. Entry into the area is only possible with prior coordination from the IDF.

b) Access to Education

Hebron:

10 May: IDF soldiers removed the road blocks placed by Israeli settlers from the settlement of Ma'on south of the town of Yatta. The blocks prevented the school children's convoy from Umm Tuba to reach their school in the hamlet of At Tuwani.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF and Israeli Police continue to escort Palestinian students from Tuba to their school in At Tuwani, south Hebron Governorate. The number of jeeps in the IDF escort was increased from five jeeps on order from the Israel Minister of Defense. The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks carried by Israelis from the Ma'on settlement.
- Imneizil elementary school was delayed as teachers coming from the Palestinian towns of Yatta and Samu' were unable to reach the school on time because they are being stopped at Beit Yattir checkpoint.
- Students walking from the Palestinian village of Al Jab'a (Bethlehem) to their school in Surif (Hebron) were delayed by IDF soldiers stationed at Surif gate.

Gaza Strip:**Ongoing incidents:**

- The 27 students from As Siafa living inside the "no-go" or enlarged buffer zone in the northern Gaza Strip and surrounding areas are experiencing difficulties reaching their schools on time.

c) Access to Employment

Due to the lack of communication between the Israeli authorities and the Palestinian institutions; no figures on the number of work and trade permits to enter Israel are available. Palestinian workers and traders in possession of Israeli permits to enter Jerusalem and Israel are directly applying to the Israeli authorities.

Closure remains in place in the Gaza Strip with no Palestinian workers and traders allowed access into Israel.

d) Closures/Movement restrictions

The general closure imposed on the oPt since 11 March was lifted for the West Bank on 8 May but remains in place for the Gaza Strip. Workers and traders must be over 35 years old and married to be eligible for a permit. In the northern West Bank the age restrictions for Palestinian workers is 50 years old.

Nablus Governorate:

10 May: The IDF closed the main entrance of As Sawiya with concrete blocks and all dirt roads connecting the village with Road 60 with earth mounds.

13 May: The IDF closed Zaatara checkpoint for several hours due to a suspicious object.

16 May: The IDF denied access at Asira ash Shamaliya checkpoint to private vehicles from Burqa, Sabastiya, Ijnisnya, Nisf Jubeil, Beit Imrin, 'Asira ash Shamaliya, Yasid and Talluza.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF are preventing all Palestinians from Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarm and Tubas and all male Palestinians between the ages of 15 – 30 years from leaving Nablus through Huwwara and Beit Iba checkpoints. Long delays are experienced at these checkpoints. Public taxis and buses are also denied access through Huwwara and Beit Iba checkpoints.
- The IDF continue to close Shave Shomeron checkpoint for all vehicles, including UN and humanitarian organisations.
- The IDF continued to close Al Badhan road with three earth mounds preventing Palestinians vehicular movement between Jenin, Tubas and Nablus governorates.
- All residents of Jenin, Tulkarm, Qalqiliya and Tubas continue to be denied access south of Zaatara checkpoint.
- Humanitarian organisations and ambulances continue to face major access problems at 'Asira ash Shamaliya checkpoint. The checkpoint has since 4 May been opened for Palestinian vehicles with permits from "Burqa, Sabastiya, Ijnisnya, Nisf Jubeil, Beit Imrin, 'Asira ash Shamaliya, Yasid and Talluza" villages. Pedestrians are not allowed to cross.
- The IDF continued to close a dirt road between Deir Sharaf and Al Naqura with an earth mound.
- A road near the entrance of Huwwara boy's school was closed with an earth mound by the IDF.
- The IDF closed the main entrance of Beita village and the road connecting it with the nearby Odala village with earth mounds. The vegetable market in the village is severely affected by the closure.

Jenin Governorate:

10 May: The IDF opened Al Jalama checkpoint for workers over 50 and traders over 35 years old with permits, allowing them entry to Israel.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues restricting the crossing of commercial trucks transporting goods to Barta'a enclave. Food products require prior coordination.
- The flying checkpoints around Jenin governorate are denying access of Palestinians less than 30 years old heading south from the governorate.

Tubas Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- The restrictions on Palestinian movement in and out of the Jordan Valley via Hamra, Tayasir and Efyriam checkpoints remain in place. The three checkpoints are closed for Palestinians aged between 16-30 years old. All permits issued by the Civil Administration have been cancelled and only those issued by the Brigade Commander are still active. Teachers, school pupils, health staff and Palestinians with Jordan Valley addresses on their ID cards should be able to cross the checkpoints. Despite the limited number of people who are authorised to cross the checkpoint, long delays have been reported particularly at Tayasir, where the access is being authorised by the IDF soldiers and waiting times vary considerably.

Tulkarm Governorate:

10 May: The IDF opened Efrayim checkpoint for workers over 50 and traders over 35 years old with permits and allowed them to entry to Israel.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to prevent Palestinians with Israeli IDs from entering Palestinian areas unless they have relatives living in Tulkarm.
- The IDF continues to deny access for residents of Tulkarm and Jenin at Kafriat tunnel checkpoint. Only residents of Kafriat area are allowed through.
- The IDF has closed the seasonal agricultural gates in Tulkarm governorate until the coming season, only Qaffin gate remains open for the beneficiaries of an ICRC program.

Qalqiliya Governorate:

10 May: The IDF opened Qalqiliya north checkpoint for workers over 50 and traders over 35 years old with permits and allowing them entry to Israel

13 May: The IDF closed the northern entrance of Azzun for two hours allegedly due to a suspicious vehicle.

Salfit Governorates:

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close the gate at the northern entrance of Kafr ad Dik.
- The IDF continues to close the agricultural gates in the Barrier near Mas-ha and Az Zawiya and prevented farmers from accessing their land.
- The IDF continues to close Qarawat Bani Hassan road gate preventing Palestinian vehicular movement.
- The IDF continues to close the road connecting Bruqin village with Barqan industrial area and Road 5 with three earth mounds preventing Palestinian vehicular movement from northern West Bank towards south.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

9 May (previously unreported): At around 2 pm, the IDF closed Beituniya commercial checkpoint due to a security alert.

10 – 16 May: Atara partial checkpoint was in operation daily on a 24 hour basis. The IDF checked ID cards of Palestinians going into/out Ramallah. Long delays were reported particularly during rush hours and through out the weekend.

Bethlehem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- The road from Al Jab'a to Surif remains closed off by road blocks and was reinforced after IDF soldiers added new cement blocks.

Hebron governorate

10 - 16 May: Significant delays were reported by Palestinians trying to get magnetic cards from the Israeli DCL in the H2 section of the Hebron city.

Ongoing incidents:

- The earth mound that replaced the Yatta Gate remains closed.
- Work on the Road Barrier along 317 continues east of Shani until the entrance of At Twani. Land levelling for the Road Barrier continues between the Shima Industrial Zone and the Israeli settlement of Tene.

Jerusalem Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:

11 May: The IDF removed the closure at the Jericho DCO checkpoint and Palestinians were again able to travel through the checkpoint; subjected to regular checking.

Gaza Strip**Ongoing incidents:**

- 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.
- The IDF continues to enforce the “no go” or enlarged buffer zone in the Palestinian areas which lies to the 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. As a result of the intensive IDF artillery shelling, more than half the families have relocated to surrounding localities outside the buffer zone.

Reported flying (random) checkpoints – West Bank:

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Road 60 near; Yits'har junction (7), 'Aqraba (7). Btw; Asira ash Shamaliya and Taluza, Taluza and Al Badhan.	16
Jenin	Arraba (7), Sanur (7), Arraba village (2) Jenin city, Zabda, Az Zababida (3).	21
Tubas	Tubas city, 'Aqqaba, Tammun (2) El Far'a.	5
Tulkarm	Bal'a.	1
Qalqiliya	Entrance Qalqiliya – DCO (7), 'Azzun (4), Habla tunnel, Wadi Qana. Azun tunnel.	14
Salbit	Yasuf (3), Az Zawiya (2), Qarawat Bani Hassan, Kafr ad Dik.	7
Ramallah and Al Bireh	Entrance off; Turmussayya.	1
Jerusalem	Near: Hizma.	1
Jericho	No flying checkpoints reported.	0
Bethlehem	Al 'Ubeidiya (2), Za'tara, Bethlehem city (2), 'Ayda camp (2), Al Khadr (3), Dar Salah, Beit Jala (3), Al 'Aza camp (3), Ad Duheisha (3), Beit Sahur (2), Ash Shawara.	23
Hebron	Yatta (2), Beit Ummar (4), Bani Na'im (2), Dura (2), H1 (4), Halhul (2), Beit Kahil, Al Arrub camp (4), Ad Dhahiriya (2), Ar Ramadin, Sa'ir (3), Ash Shuyukh.	28
Total West Bank		117

5. Additional Protection Issues

- **9 May:** The Israeli Navy intercepted 550 kilos of explosives (TNT) that were trying to be smuggled into the Gaza Strip.
- **10 May:** Three Palestinian men were killed and more than eleven were injured in the Gaza Strip during internal gun fighting between Fatah and Hamas gunmen (casualty figures are not included in the weekly total in Section 1).
- **14 May:** IDF naval gunboats opened fire towards Palestinian fishing boats west of Rafah (Gaza Strip). No injuries were reported.
- **14 May:** PA security forces discovered and destroyed a tunnel in Al Shouka area east of Rafah (Gaza Strip) near the border fence with Egypt.

Searches/Arrests/Detentions

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention, number of searches noted at locations with brackets	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
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Nablus	Nablus city (5), Balata RC (2) Huwwara CP, Odala (1), Rujeib (3), Talfit (1), Beit Furik (1), Askar RC (2) Beit Iba CP	15	28
Jenin	Jenin city (1), 'Arraba (1), Az Zababida flying CP, Arraba flying CP, Sanur flying CP, Silat al Harithiya (1), Al Hashimiya (1).	4	7
Tubas	Tubas (1), Tammun (1).	2	-
Tulkarm	'Attil (1), Illar (1) Tulkarm city (1), Balá (1), Dhinnaba (2).	6	10
Qalqiliya	'Azzun (1), flying CP Ázzun Átma, Qalqiliya city (3).	4	7
Salfit	Salfit (1), Marda (1), Farkha (1).	3	6
Ramallah/Al Bireh	Ramallah (2), Al Jalazun camp (1), Shuqba (1), Qibiya (1).	5	15
Jerusalem	Al 'Eizariyya (1).	1	2
Jericho	No incidents to report.	0	0
Bethlehem	Husan (1), Beit Sahur (1), Al 'Aza camp (3), Dar Salah (1), Al 'Ubeidiya (2), 'Ayda camp (3), Al Khadr (2), Beit Jala (3) , Za'atara (1), Bethlehem (3) , ad Duheisha Camp (3).	23	8
Hebron	Adh Dhahiriya (3), Yatta (4), Dura (2), H1 (6) , Al Arrub camp (3), Bani Na'im (2), Idhna (1), Ar Ramadin (1), As Samu' (1), Ash Shuyukh (1), Beit Ummar (3), Surif (1) , Al 'Arrub camp (2)	30	10
Total Week West Bank		93	93
Gaza Strip	No incidents to report.	0	0
Total Week oPt		93	93

Appendix: Checkpoints: 10 – 16 May 2006

Checkpoint	Status
Tulkarm:	
Taybeh	Open between 5.30am to 5pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians with permits. The gate leads to the back-to-back checkpoint.
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. Since 15 January an Israeli civilian company operating at the checkpoint. On 10 May workers over 50 and traders over 35 are allowed entering Israel after almost two months of closure.
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.
Kafriat Tunnel	The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin.
'Anabta	Partial check point on the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. Manned daily during the reporting period.
Qalqiliya:	
Jaljoulia	Open 24 hours. 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.
Qalqiliya North	The crossing is open from 4:00am to 7:00pm for Palestinian permit holders. On 10 May workers over 50 and traders over 35 are allowed entering Israel after almost two months of closure.
Jit junction partial checkpoint (new)	Partial checkpoint at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.
Salfit:	
Deir Ballut	Open from 6am and 6pm The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western part of Salfit District. Since 2 May the IDF prevented all Palestinians from the northern West Bank accessing the checkpoint from traveling south.
Kafr Qasem (Road 5)	Open 24 hours for UN and international organisations and Palestinians with permits. Closed for Palestinians since 11 March.
Nablus:	
Huwwara Southern main entrance	Open from 6am to 8pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only after prior liaison with the IDF. Males aged between 15 and 30 and all residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas are not allowed to exit Nablus.
Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade	Open from 6am to 8pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only after prior liaison with the IDF. Males aged between 15 and 30 and all residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas are not allowed to exit Nablus.
Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan district of Jarzim with Nablus City	Open 6am to 6pm from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritans families living east of the checkpoint. 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 6am to 6pm for villagers from Beit Furik, Beit Dajan.
Shave Shomeron Northwest, main road to Jenin	Since 15 August the checkpoint is closed for Palestinians. On 28 March closed for all vehicles, UN and international humanitarian organisations included.
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. Palestinians between (16-30)

	years old are not permitted through the checkpoint regardless of their place of residence.
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. A security zone has been declared by the IDF around Al Hamra checkpoint. No land has been confiscated; however any Palestinian crossing the area that is not owner of the land will be arrested. Landowners' names have been compiled in a list at the checkpoint. Delays for traders crossing the checkpoint are reported on a daily basis. Palestinians between (16-30) years old are not permitted through the checkpoint regardless of their place of residence.
Zaatara (Tappouah) South, main road to Ramallah	Since 19 April the IDF prevented all Palestinians from the northern West Bank accessing Zaatara checkpoint from traveling south. On 6 May IDF allowed residents of Nablus over 30 years old to head south of the checkpoint.
17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya Road to the north villages of Nablus	Open from 6am to 8pm for UN and humanitarian organizations, ambulances and Palestinian private vehicles and taxis from the villages of "Burqa, Sabastiya, Ijnisnya, Nisf Jubeil, Beit Imrin, 'Asira ash Shamaliya, Yasid and Talluza". Major delays and erratic denials of access were reported at the checkpoint.
Jenin:	
Al Jalama Main entrance to Israel	Open between 7:00am to 4:00pm Sunday to Friday. On 10 May workers over 50 and traders over 35 are allowed to enter Israel.
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. 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.
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. Palestinians between (16-30) years old are not permitted through the checkpoint regardless of their place of residence. Very long delays are reported on daily basis.
Ramallah/Al Bireh:	
Qalandiya	Open for internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank ID. Long delays are being reported particularly during morning and evening rush hours. Improvements were added to the checkpoint due to the opening of extra lanes for yellow plated cars to go to Jerusalem.
Bet El/DCO	Open between 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. The partial checkpoint was in operation During the reporting period. Long delays experienced.
An Nabi Salih gate (partial)	Open. The partial checkpoint was in operation on 5, 6, 7 May. Delays were reported.
At Tayba (partial)	Open.
Makkabim On Highway 443	Usually open for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders and foreign passport holders. Road 443 is off limits to West Bank Palestinians, except those with permits to enter Israel/Jerusalem.
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 and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross, exceptions only for West Bank Palestinians working in international organisations.
Az Za'ayyem North eastern entrance on Road 1.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross.
Ar Ram	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, Palestinians

Northern entrance on Road 60 north.	with valid 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, Palestinians with valid 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 and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross.
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 plated cars are not allowed to cross. Long delays are reported.
Ras Abu Sbeitan (Olive) North eastern entrance on Road 1	Open 24 hours, Palestinians pedestrians with West Bank ID cards with valid permits can use the checkpoint. Long delays are reported.
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. 11 May: Reopened for Palestinian movements after being restricted for the previous two weeks. Delays are reported.
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. Closed on 14 March.
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. Closed on 14 March.
An Nwemeh (partial) North Jericho	Open. No soldiers present this week. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arrajat road; the only road to Ramallah at the moment.
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. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to enter Bethlehem only if driven by an Arab Israeli.
Ein Yalow Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line	Open 24 hours and only for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations. Palestinians with permits are not allowed through it as of 3 February 2006.
Beit Jala DCO Entrance to Beit Jala	Rarely manned and open 24 hours. Movement allowed in both directions for all kind of vehicles including private cars.
Tunnels Road 60 at Har Gilo	Open 24 hours for international members of international humanitarian organisations. As of 3 February, Palestinians with permits are not allowed to cross and are redirected to Gilo checkpoint. The checkpoint is still used by Jerusalem ID holders and will remain the main access point for commercial goods originating from Palestinian areas into Jerusalem. UN local staff expected to show Palestinian ID and permit in order to proceed to Jerusalem.
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 checking northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
Wadi Fukin Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israelis and international organisations.
Al Jab'a Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israelis and international organisations. Land levelling is on-going to enlarge the checkpoint..
Ein Gedi On Road 90, along Dead Sea.	Open 24-hours; restricted to Palestinian movement.
Hebron :	
Beit Awwa	Crossing along Road 354 only for humanitarian organisations and

At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354	critical service providers: no other movement allowed.
Tarqumiya Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem districts	Workers are usually allowed to cross from 5am – 5pm. The back-to-back section is open from 7am to 7pm; goods are moving across smoothly and all cargo is checked by the IDF Military Police. During the reporting period, family visits to Palestinians detained in Israel were allowed to cross.
Meitar Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line	Open 24 hours.
Shani At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317.	Manned by the IDF; the soldiers manning the checkpoint are not allowing teachers coming from As Samu towards Imneizil school from accessing Road 317.
Beit Yatir On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizil	Manned by the IDF. Open 24 hours.
Prayers Road, H2 Access to area of Ibrahimi Mosque	Closed to Palestinians. During the reporting period, both Israeli settlers and IDF soldiers prevented Palestinian residents from accessing this road.
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. Palestinians and internationals have to go through a metal detector in the shape of a caravan to access the area.
Ibrahimi Mosque, H2 Access to the Mosque	Worshippers and visitors searched upon entry. Residents living in the vicinity of the Mosque must hold a special permit to gain access to their homes.
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. Entry point for Palestinian fire trucks and ambulances. Moreover, it is the only entry point for international humanitarian organizations wanting to access the Old City.
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. Israeli settlers living in the settlement of Tel Rumeida attacked and injured an elderly international volunteer while escorting members of Abu Aisha family living beyond the checkpoint.
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 problematic during Friday prayers.
Ar Ramadin At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325	Manned by IDF soldiers and Border Police. All Palestinians are allowed after an ID check. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on road 325. Israeli UN staff expected to show additional identification to the UN ID.
"Nabi Younis" Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint at the entrance to Halhul, monitored by the nearby observation tower.
Al Fawwar Al Fawwar-Dura junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint monitored from the nearby observation tower. Public works are currently underway to create road dividers on Road 60 next to the checkpoint.
Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints	
Erez crossing	Closed for Palestinian labourers since 12 March. Open for internationals and humanitarian cases. On 15 May it was closed between 7am and 10am also for internationals for security stated purposes.
Rafah Passenger Terminal	Since 26 March the terminal opening hours have been between 8am to 7pm; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 May: 517 arrivals, 570 departures. - 11 May: 520 arrivals, 547 departures. - 12 May: 562 arrivals, 580 departures. - 13 May: 540 arrivals, 592 departures. - 14 May: 610 arrivals, 595 departures. - 15 May: 622 arrivals, 635 departures. - 16 May: 509 arrivals, 487 departures.

Commercial checkpoints:

Tulkarm/Qalqiliya	
Taybeh	An Israeli private company took over the responsibility of controlling checkpoint. The back-to-back system has been operational from 7am to 5pm except on Saturday. 3 May the checkpoint closed due to an Israeli National day
Nablus	
Awarta checkpoint Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003.	Open from 6am to 5pm, Sunday to Thursday, Friday from 6am to 2pm and closed on Saturday. Males aged between 15 and 30, including drivers and commercial workers, and all residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas are not allowed to exit Nablus. 3 May the checkpoint closed due to an Israeli National day
Jenin	
Al Jalama Northern entrance/ main commercial check point.	Open between 7am to 4pm, Sunday to Friday.
Ramallah/AI Bireh	
Beituniya Back-to-back checkpoint	Officially open between 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	
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.
Gaza Strip	
Sufa	Open all week for construction material except on Friday and Saturday.
Karni	Open 10, 11, 12 and 14 May for imported goods only. Closed 13 May (Weekend). Container operations on hold on 15 May due to construction work. On 16 May, only open for one and a half hour before closed at 12:30pm.
Kerem Shalom	Not in operation – no available goods.

– 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.