



OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

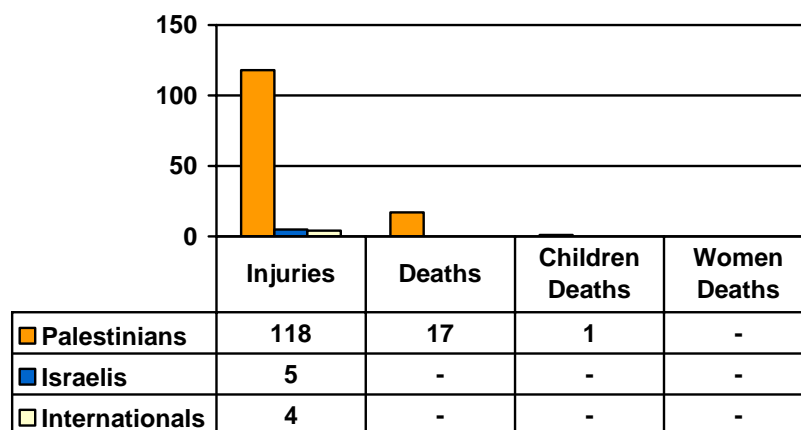
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Protection of Civilians – Weekly Briefing Notes

24 – 30 May 2006

Of note this period

- **High numbers of Palestinian deaths and injuries** were reported this week including: (1) four Palestinian deaths and 87 Palestinian injuries following a confrontation between the IDF and Palestinians in the central square of Ramallah city (Ramallah). One IDF soldier was also injured; and (2) four Palestinians deaths and 10 Palestinian injuries after an IDF Special Forces Unit entered approximately 2km into the Gaza Strip and ambushed Palestinian militants attempting to launch a homemade rocket. Palestinian injuries were also reported following IDF artillery shelling in the area (see below).
- **Two incidents reported by Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS):** (1) a PRCS ambulance was subjected to direct Israeli gunfire and delayed for forty minutes while transporting a woman in labour to a hospital inside Nablus city; and (2) four Palestinian paramedics were injured and two ambulances damaged in the northern Gaza Strip by an IDF artillery shell while transporting dead and injured from the area.

1. Physical Protection

- At least **28** homemade (Qassam) rockets were fired by Palestinian militants from the Gaza Strip toward targets inside Israel.
- During the week the IDF fired more than **190** 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. Casualties are reported in the incidents below.
- **24 May:** A confrontation between the IDF and Palestinians took place in the central square (Manara) in Ramallah city (Ramallah) leaving four Palestinians dead and 87 injured. One IDF soldier was also injured.
- **24 May:** A 20-year-old Palestinian man was injured in Ya'bad (Jenin) when an IDF jeep hit him while he was driving a motor bike.
- **25 May:** A 21-year-old Palestinian man from Balata camp (Nablus) died from injuries sustained on 15 April 2006.
- **25 May:** A 32-year-old Palestinian man was injured by a rubber-coated metal bullet in Qabalan (Nablus) when the IDF opened fire at Palestinians during a search and arrest campaign.
- **26 May:** A 26-year-old Palestinian man was injured by live ammunition in Camp No.1 (Nablus) during a search and arrest campaign.
- **26 May:** The IDF fired tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets at activists demonstrating against the construction of the Barrier in Bil'in (Ramallah) injuring eight demonstrators: (1) three Palestinians were hit by rubber-coated metal bullets (two in the neck and one in the leg); (2) an Israeli was assaulted by IDF soldiers; (3) two

- international (male and female) were hit in the chest with tear gas canisters; (4) an international female was hit in the neck; and (5) an international male was hit in the face with shrapnel from a sound bomb.
- **26 May:** An Israeli male security guard was injured during demonstrations against the construction of the Barrier in Budrus (Ramallah). The IDF fired tear gas and rubber coated metal bullets at demonstrators.
 - **26 May:** A 54-year-old Palestinian male farmer was killed when an IDF artillery shell hit his farm north of Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip).
 - **26 May:** Two Palestinian men aged 18 and 19 years old and one 15-year-old Palestinian boy were killed when handling an unexploded IDF artillery shell north of Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip).
 - **27 May:** Palestinians stabbed and injured one Israeli man in Sha'ar Benyamin settlement (Jerusalem).
 - **27 May:** A 21-year-old Palestinian male was injured by live ammunition in Qaffin village (Jenin) when the IDF opened fire at Palestinians during a search and arrest campaign.
 - **27 May:** A 20-year-old Palestinian man was injured by live ammunition in Balata camp (Nablus) during a search and arrest campaign.
 - **27 May:** The IDF assaulted a Palestinian man at a flying checkpoint near Arraba (Jenin).
 - **27 May:** A 23-year-old Palestinian man was injured when IDF soldiers manning the Container checkpoint (Bethlehem) assaulted him.
 - **28 May:** The IDF assaulted a Palestinian man at Huwwara checkpoint (Nablus).
 - **28 May:** Palestinians stabbed and injured one Israeli man in the Old City of Jerusalem.
 - **29 May:** A 28-year-old Palestinian man from the H2 area in Hebron city (Hebron) sustained injuries after being assaulted by IDF soldiers stationed in the area.
 - **29 May:** A 24-year-old Palestinian man was killed in exchange of fire between IDF soldiers and Palestinian gunmen near the border fence south east Beit Hanoun (Gaza Strip).
 - **29 May:** Three Palestinian men aged 20, 24 and 27 years old and another PA Force-17 member (25 years old) were killed in a gun battle with an IDF Special Forces Unit northwest of Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip). Ten other Palestinians were injured in the incident. Including four paramedics and two journalists (see 'Of Note this period' above for further details). An IDF Special Forces Unit entered approximately 2 km inside northern Gaza and ambushed Palestinian militants attempting to launch a homemade rocket.
 - **29 May:** A seven-year-old Palestinian girl was injured when an IDF artillery shell landed near her house north in Beth Lahia (Gaza Strip).
 - **30 May:** A 20-year-old Palestinian man was shot dead and four injured (18, 23, 27 and 50 years old) by live ammunition in Balata camp (Nablus) when the IDF opened fire during a search and arrest campaign in the camp.
 - **30 May:** A 24-year-old Palestinian man was shot dead and four injured (17, 20, 25 and 26 years old) in Qabatiya (Jenin) when the IDF opened fire after they surrounded a house during a search and arrest campaign.
 - **30 May:** A 29-year-old Palestinian man was shot dead in Anabta (Tulkarm) when an IDF Undercover Unit opened fire during a search and arrest campaign near the village.
 - **30 May:** A 25-year-old Palestinian woman and 26-year-old Palestinian man from Balata camp (Nablus) were shot dead allegedly for being collaborators (these fatalities are not included in the weekly total).

2. Shelter and Property

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures partially destroyed	People displaced / affected
24 May	Al Funduq, An nabi Elyas and Jinsafut, Qalqiliya	3	-	n/a
25 May	Beit Ummar, Hebron	1	-	0
30 May	Bruqin, Salfit	2	-	n/a
30 May	Al Walaja, Bethlehem	2	-	0
Total Week		8	0	n/a

- **24 May:** The IDF demolished a house under construction and a wall in Al Funduq (Qalqiliya) for reportedly being built without a permit.

- **24 May:** The IDF demolished a stone cutting factory in An Nabi Elyas (Qalqiliya) for reportedly being built without a permit.
- **24 May:** The IDF demolished a shed structure under construction in Jinsafut (Qalqiliya) for reportedly being built without a permit.
- **25 May:** The IDF demolished a 600m² makeshift shop in Beit Ummar for reportedly being built without a permit. This facility was the main source of income for three families (18 people).
- **30 May:** The IDF demolished two houses under construction in Bruqin (Salfit) for reportedly being built without permits.
- **30 May:** The Border Police demolished two chicken barns (75 and 220m²) in Al Walaja for reportedly being built without permits. These facilities were the main source of income of two families (11 family members).

Other related incidents:

- **24 - 27 May:** The IDF occupied three Palestinian houses in Beita village (Nablus) and converted them into military observation posts. The IDF occupied the roofs of these houses.
- **27 May:** The IDF issued demolition orders for six sanitation structures for reportedly being built without permits in the Palestinian hamlet of Asafi Al Foqa, located in the area of Masafer Yatta (Hebron). These structures were built with a donation from the British Government.

3. Natural Resources

Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting¹

Nablus Governorate:

24 May: The IDF issued military order No. T/40/06 requisitioning 5.4 dunums of land from Asira ash Shamaliya to establish a checkpoint.

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 Khfets 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

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

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.

- 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 that was earlier requisitioned by the IDF. According to the Israeli DCL this is part of a plan to create security areas around "isolated" settlements.

Hebron Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: land levelling for the construction of the Barrier continued in the area between the towns of Tarqumiya and Surif.
- 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 leveling continues at the Beit Yatir checkpoint close to the Palestinian hamlet of Imneizil.
- Land leveling for the construction of the road barrier along Road 317 and 60 is almost complete.

Bethlehem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: work for the construction of the Barrier around Rachel's Tomb continues.
- 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.
- Land levelling for the construction of the new terminal next to Al Jab'a checkpoint has continued.

Jerusalem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: ongoing 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 stopped since 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 was closed by the IDF and no access is permitted.
- Construction of a road (Road 70) linking 'Anata and Al 'Eizariyya is continuing.

Jericho Governorate:

No incidents to report.

The Gaza Strip:

24 and 25 May: Two IDF bulldozers, two tanks and two jeeps entered approximately 200 metres inside the Gaza Strip into areas east of Bureij camp and leveled land.

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
24 May	Huwwara, Nablus	18 hours
25 May	Qabalan, Nablus	5 hours
29 May	Kafr Ni'ma, Ramallah	1 hour
Total Week	Three Incidents	24 hours

24 May: The IDF imposed curfew on Huwwara village (Nablus) from 11:30am to 5:30am the next morning stating stones had been thrown from the village at settler vehicles passing on Road 60.

25 May: The IDF imposed curfew on Qabalan village from 12:00 - 5:00 pm stating stones had been thrown from the village at settler vehicles.

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:

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF and Israeli Police continue to escort Palestinian students from Tuba to their school in At Tuwani, south Hebron Governorate. 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

There is currently no communication between Israeli and Palestinian authorities and therefore no figures are available on the number of work and trade permits for Palestinians to enter Israel are available.² Palestinian workers and traders in possession of Israeli permits to enter Jerusalem and Israel are now applying directly to the Israeli authorities.

To be eligible for a permit workers and traders must be over 35 years old and married. Criteria for work permits in 'Atarot industrial area in Jerusalem is set for men above 21 years old.

Significant delays were reported by Palestinians trying to get magnetic cards from the Israeli DCL in Hebron city.

Closure (since 11 March) 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.

² According to the Israeli DCL in Bethlehem, 700 permits were issued for Palestinian merchants as well as 1,500+ permits were issued for labourers from the Governorate.

Nablus Governorate:

24 May: The IDF opened two entrances to the central fruit and vegetable market of Beita village (Nablus) closed since 28 April.

24 May: The IDF prevented the residents of the northern villages of Nablus from crossing through Asira ash Shamaliya checkpoint except for the residents of Asira ash Shamaliya village who were allowed to pass in public vehicles with permits for drivers.

24 May: The IDF opened the main entrance of As Sawiya village.

29 May: The IDF closed all checkpoints around Nablus (Huwvara, Beit Iba, Asira ash Shamaliya and Zaatara) for several hours due to a stated high security alert.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF are preventing all Palestinians males from Nablus between the ages of 15 – 30 years from leaving Nablus through Huwvara, Beit Iba and Zaatara checkpoints unless they have permits. Long delays are experienced at all checkpoints. Public taxis and buses are also denied access through Huwvara 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.
- The IDF continued to close a dirt road between Deir Sharaf and Al Naqura with an earth mound.
- The IDF continued to close the road connecting Beita with Osarin with earth mounds following earlier shooting at Israeli vehicles on Road 505.

Jenin Governorate:

24 May: The IDF lifted the closure around Jenin governorate and residents can now travel south, via Tulkarm, without age restrictions.

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:

25, 26 and 27 May: The IDF closed the main entrance of Tammun with a flying checkpoint and prevented the residents from going in and out of the town for several hours each day.

27 May: The IDF closed Road 587 between Tammun and Al Fará camp by flying checkpoints for several hours and prevented vehicular movement.

Ongoing incidents:

- The restrictions on Palestinian movement in and out of the Jordan Valley via Hamra, Tayasir and Efyriam checkpoints remained 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 Israeli Brigade Commander are 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 checkpoints, long delays have been reported particularly at Tayasir, where access is being authorised by IDF soldiers and waiting times vary considerably.

Tulkarm Governorate:

24 May: The IDF lifted the closure around Tulkarm governorate allowing residents to travel south without age restrictions.

24 May – ongoing: The IDF closed, with earth mounds, the dirt roads connecting Deir al Ghusun with the garbage dump site, the road to Balá and a road to Al Jarushiya.

24 May: The IDF closed the exit from the checkpoint leading to the road into Tulkarm, for construction. Residents of Jbarah now have to reach Tulkarm through Kafriat Tunnel. No vehicles from Tulkarm can reach Road 57 through Kafriat checkpoint.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to prevent Palestinians with Israeli IDs from entering Palestinian areas unless they have relatives living in Tulkarm.

- 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:

No incidents to report.

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:

All week: Atara partial checkpoint was in operation on a 24 hour basis with the IDF checking ID cards of Palestinians going into/out Ramallah. Long delays were reported particularly during rush hours and throughout the weekend.

Bethlehem Governorate:

24 May: The IDF has installed a new gate and security cabins at the entrance to the village of An Nu'man. During the reporting period, Israeli Border Police stationed there continued to restrict and delay access to the Palestinian village.

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

25 May: The IDF erected a military tower at the southern entrance of Al 'Arrub Camp.

25 May: The Meitar Border Police checkpoint has been moved further north to the site of the new terminal.

Ongoing incidents:

- The earth mound that replaced the Yatta Gate remains closed.
- Work on the road barrier along Road 317 continues east of Shani until the entrance of At Tuwani.

Jerusalem Governorate:

28 May: The IDF increased the restrictions on Palestinian movement with several flying checkpoints set up between Ar Ram and Abu Dis.

Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:

24- 26 May: Palestinians between the ages of 16 - 35 years old were not permitted to use the Jericho DCO checkpoint. The age restrictions were lifted on the 27 May.

27 May: At around 11am, Tayasir checkpoint was closed for several hours.

Gaza Strip

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF announced that Palestinians should keep a distance of at least 150 metres away from the border 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	'Aqraba (7), As Sawiya, Al Lubban ash Sharqiya, Jamma'n (2).	11
Jenin	Arraba (7), Sanur (7), Jaba (3), Bir al Basha (2), Misliya, Kafr Dan, Mirka, Qabatiya.	23
Tubas	Tubas city (2) Tammun (3), El Fará camp, Al Fará village, Áqqaba.	8
Tulkarm	No flying checkpoint to report.	0
Qalqiliya	DCO (7), 'Azzun (7), Habla tunnel, Al Fundug, Jinsafut, Wadi Qana (2). Ázun tunnel, Jayyus, Izbat at tabib (3)	24
Salfit	Yasuf, Deir Istiya, Haris, Iskaka, Bruqin.	5
Ramallah and Al Bireh	Rafat (2), Deir Dibwan, Turmusayya, Sinjil, Ein Arik.	6
Jerusalem	Between Ar Ram and Jaba village (5), Anata (2), Khan Il Ahmar, Abu Dis (2), Qalandiya junction.	11
Jericho	No flying checkpoints reported.	0
Bethlehem	Al 'Ubeidiya (3), Za'tara, Bethlehem city (3), 'Ayda camp (2), Al Khadr (3), Dar Salah, Beit Jala (2), Al 'Aza camp (3), Ad Duheisha (3), Beit Sahur (2), Ash Shawara.	24
Hebron	Yatta (2), Beit Ummar (4), Bani Na'im, Dura (2), H1 (5), Halhul, Al Arrub camp (4), Ad Dhahiriya (2), Ar Ramadin, Sa'ir (3), Ash Shuyukh (2).	27
Total West Bank		139

5. Additional Protection Issues

- **25 May:** A road side bomb went off when an IDF vehicle was patrolling the border fence south of Sufa crossing (Gaza Strip). No injuries were reported.
- **25 May:** IDF gunboats fired two shells and opened fire towards Palestinian fishing boats west of Rafah (Gaza Strip) forcing them to leave to the coast. No injuries were reported.

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 (4), Balata RC (2) Huwwara CP, Salim (1), Talluza (1), Áskar RC (2), Beit Iba CP, camp No.1 (1), Beit Imrin (1)	12	23
Jenin	Qabatiya (3), Ya'bad (1), Kafr Dan flying CP, Birqin (2), Al Yamun (2), Kafr Dan (1), Meithalun (1), Rumana (1) Ya'bad flying CP, .	11	25
Tubas	Tubas (1), Tubas Flying CP.	1	1
Tulkarm	Tulkarm (3), Áttil (2) Iktaba (1), 'Anabta (2), Far'n (1), Illar (1), Shuweika (2), Ánabta CP.	12	9
Qalqiliya	'Azzun (1), Ázzun flying CP, Qalqiliya city (3), Jit (1), Ras Átiya (2), An Nabi Elyas (2)	9	10
Salfit	Salfit city (3), Farkha (1), Marda (1), Haris (1), Deir Istiya (1).	7	3
Ramallah/Al Bireh	At Tira (1), Ramallah.	1	6
Jerusalem	CP/Flying CPs: Qalandiya CP	0	1
Jericho	No incidents to report.	0	0
Bethlehem	Beit Sahur (1), Al 'Aza camp (3), Dar Salah (1), Al 'Ubeidiya (3), 'Ayda camp (3), Al Khadr (1), Beit Jala (2), Za'atara (1), Bethlehem (3) , ad Duheisha Camp (3).	21	8
Hebron	Hebron City (7), Beit Ummar (4), Al 'Arrub Camp (3), Idhna (2), Dura (3), Tarqumiya (1), Beit Awwa (1), Beit Ula (1).	22	10
Total Week West Bank		96	96
Gaza Strip	No incidents to report.	0	0
Total Week oPt		96	96

Appendix: Checkpoints: 24 – 30 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. Open from 4am – 7pm for Palestinian workers and traders. Since 15 January an Israeli civilian company has been operating at the checkpoint. From 17 May workers and traders over 35 were again allowed to enter Israel after almost two months of closure. However, currently few permits have been issued to Palestinians.
Kafriat	Open 24 hours. It is manned and physically divided into three parts: (1) a section that controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; (2) a section that controls movement to Israel; and (3) a section that controls movement to and from Jubara. On 24 May the IDF closed the section leading to Tulkarm for constructions and residents of Jubara have to reach Tulkarm through Kafriat Tunnel. No vehicles from Tulkarm can reach Road 57 through Kafriat checkpoint.
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 for 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 subject to security checks.
Qalqiliya North	Open from 4am to 7pm for Palestinian permit holders. From 17 May workers and traders over 35 were again allowed to enter 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 from Nablus city aged between 15 and 30 are not allowed to exit Nablus unless they have permits. All residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas are 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 from Nablus city aged between 15 and 30 years old are not allowed to exit Nablus unless they have permits. All residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas are allowed to exit Nablus through this checkpoint.
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. Males from Nablus city aged between 15 and 30 years old are not allowed to exit Nablus unless they have permits. All residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas are allowed to exit Nablus through this checkpoint.

Shave Shomeron Northwest, main road to Jenin	Since 15 August the checkpoint is closed for Palestinians. On 28 March closed for all vehicles, including UN and international humanitarian organisations.
Maale Efrayim Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus	Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or are 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. From 23 May all residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas were allowed access south through this checkpoint.
17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya Road to the north villages of Nablus	Open from 6am to 8pm for UN and humanitarian organisations, ambulances and Palestinian private vehicles and taxis from the villages of Burqa, Sabastiya, Ijnisnya, Nisf Jubeil, Beit Imrin, 'Asira ash Shamaliya, Yasid and Talluza. Males from these villages aged between 15 and 30 are not allowed to exit the check point unless they have a permit. From 24 May closed for all villages except Asira ash Shamaliya.
Yizhar partial checkpoint (new)	Partial check point north of Huwwara village on Road 60 at the junction to Yizhar settlement.
Jenin:	
Al Jalama Main entrance to Israel	Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Friday. From 17 May workers and traders over 35 were again allowed to enter Israel after almost two months of closure.
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/AI Bireh:	
Qalandiya	Open for internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank ID. Long delays are 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, the only exception is for West Bank Palestinians working for international organisations.
Az Za'ayem 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 Northern entrance on Road 60 north.	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.
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.
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.
An Nwemeh (partial) North Jericho	Open. No soldiers present this week. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arrajat road; the only open road to Ramallah at the moment.

Bethlehem :

Gilo (Rachel's Tomb) North entrance to Bethlehem	New terminal-like crossing currently manned by the Israeli Border Police. 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. In order to cross into Jerusalem, West Bank Palestinians (including those working for the UN and other international agencies) have to walk through the terminal to undergo search procedures.
Ein Yalow Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line	Open 24 hours only for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations. As of 3 February no access for Palestinians.
Beit Jala DCO Entrance to Beit Jala	Rarely manned and open 24 hours. Movement allowed in both directions for all 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 staff have been requested to show additional identification in order to proceed to Jerusalem.
Settlers' Checkpoint – Efrata	Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by settlers with movement

Southern entrance to settlement	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 are allowed to 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 At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354	Crossing along Road 354 only for humanitarian organisations and 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 5pm; 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 access.
Meitar Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line	Open 24 hours. On May 25, the IDF relocated the checkpoint close to the new Meitar Terminal.
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	Open 24 hours and manned by the IDF. The checkpoint is restricting the movement of Palestinians living south of the checkpoint next to the settlement of Beit Yatir
Prayers Road, H2 Access to area of Ibrahim 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 the checkpoint 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. No longer open to international humanitarian organisations.
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 problematic during Friday prayers.
Ar Ramadin At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. All Palestinians are allowed after an ID check. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325. UN staff are requested additional identification in order to cross it.
"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.

Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints

Erez crossing	Closed for Palestinian labourers since 12 March. Open for internationals and humanitarian cases.
Rafah Passenger Terminal	<p>Since 26 March the terminal has had normal opening from 8am to 7pm;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 24 May: 528 arrivals, 555 departures. - 25 May: 538 arrivals, 596 departures. - 26 May: 608 arrivals, 515 departures. - 27 May: 715 arrivals, 539 departures. - 28 May: 497 arrivals, 800 departures. - 29 May: 538 arrivals, 873 departures. - 30 May: No data available.
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.
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. As of 29 May 2006, ICRC and UN vehicles are not 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	<p>26-27 May: Closed.</p> <p>28 May: Re-opened for WFP food aid of 372 tonnes of oil, 172 tonnes of sugar and 120 tonnes of hummus.</p> <p>29 and 30 May: Open for construction materials.</p>
Karni	<p>This week Karni was open in both directions for imported and exported goods, though exported goods were limited to approximately 20 truckloads per day.</p> <p>27 May: Closed for Shabat holiday.</p>
Kerem Shalom	Not operative.

– 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.