



## OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

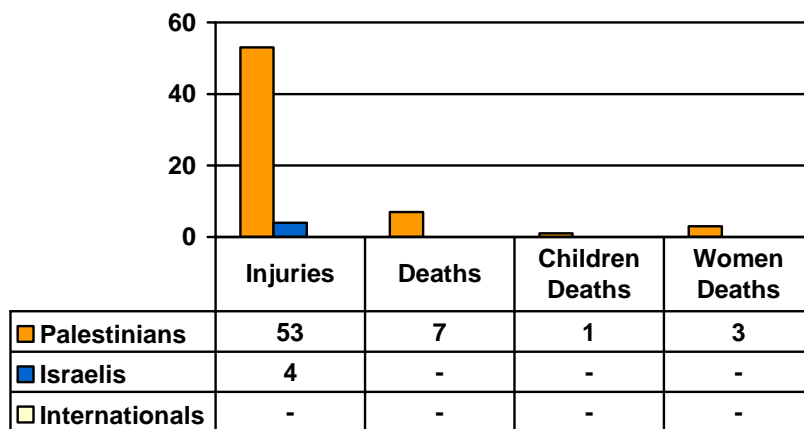
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## Protection of Civilians – Weekly Briefing Notes

17 – 23 May 2006

Of note this period

- **Internal fighting in the Gaza Strip** left the driver of the Jordanian Embassy in Gaza dead and seven Palestinians injured after the Palestinian Interior Minister approved the deployment of a new 'Executive Support Force' in the Gaza Strip of approximately 3,000 armed persons.
- **Four Palestinians were killed** including a grandmother, mother and her four year old son following an IAF missile strike on a car travelling in Gaza Strip. The three family members were not in the vehicle targeted by the air strike. Three other people (including a three-year old child) were reported injured.

1. Physical Protection

- At least **39** home made (Qassam) rockets 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 **218** artillery tank shells, particularly into the northern areas and east of Gaza City (Gaza Strip). The IAF also conducted **one** air strike in the Gaza Strip.
- **17 May:** Two Palestinians (22 and 26 years old) were killed and three injured, including two women, by the IDF during a military operation in Nablus city (Nablus).
- **17 May:** A 73-year-old Palestinian man died from a heart attack during an IDF military operation near his home in Nablus city (Nablus).
- **17 May:** A 20-year-old Palestinian was injured by live ammunition in Qabatiya (Jenin) when the IDF surrounded a house and opened fire during a search and arrest campaign.
- **17 May:** One Palestinian man was injured after the IDF opened fire in the direction of a group of Palestinian stone throwers next to the Islamic Cemetery east of Jabalia camp (Gaza Strip).
- **18 May:** Two Israeli settlers (a husband and wife) were injured on Road 505 near Osarin village (Nablus) when Palestinian gunmen opened fire at their vehicle.
- **19 May:** A 19-year-old Palestinian man was injured by live ammunition in 'Anza village (Jenin) when the IDF opened fire at Palestinians during a search and arrest campaign.
- **19 May:** Seven Palestinians were injured by rubber-coated metal bullets during a demonstration against the construction of the Barrier in Shu'fat refugee camp (Jerusalem). One Israeli Border Police was injured.
- **19 May:** 26 Palestinian men were injured during a demonstration against the construction of the Barrier in Bil'in (Ramallah). Fifteen of the Palestinians were injured by rubber-coated metal bullets, five were hit by tear gas canisters and six were assaulted by Israeli Border Police.
- **20 May:** The IDF assaulted a Palestinian man at Zaatara check point (Nablus).

- **20 May:** A 70-year-old Palestinian man was injured by IDF live fire in Nablus city (Nablus) during a search and arrest campaign.
- **20 May:** A 35-year-old Palestinian in a vehicle targeted by an IAF air strike and three Palestinian bystanders, including two women aged 25 and 45-year-old and one four-year-old child boy (a grandmother, mother and her son) were killed in Gaza city. Three other people (including a three-year old child) were reported injured.
- **20 May:** A 12-year-old Palestinian boy was injured when a group of Israeli settlers from Kiryat Arba settlement assaulted him along Prayers Road in the H2 area, Hebron city (Hebron).
- **20 May:** A 62-year-old Palestinian man from the Palestinian town of Beit Ummer (Hebron) was injured after a group of Israeli settlers from Bat Ayin settlement assaulted him while he was working his land.
- **21 May:** A 13-year-old Palestinian boy was injured when an IDF artillery shell landed near his house east of Beth Hanoun (Gaza Strip).
- **21 May:** A 48-year-old Palestinian woman was shot dead in Balata camp (Nablus) when IDF opened fire during a search and arrest campaign in the camp.
- **21 May:** A 12-year-old Palestinian boy was injured by live ammunition in Tubas city (Tubas) when IDF opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers during a search and arrest campaign.
- **21 May:** A 17-year-old Palestinian boy was injured by a rubber-coated metal bullet in Tammun (Tubas) when the IDF opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers during a search and arrest campaign.
- **21 May:** The IDF and Israeli Police continue to escort Palestinian children from Tuba to their school in Al Tuwani, south Hebron. Five Palestinian students (aged between 7 – 12 years) from the convoy suffered minor injuries when four Israeli settlers disrupted their convoy.
- **22 May:** A 12-year-old Palestinian boy was injured by a rubber-coated metal bullet in Az Zababida (Jenin) when the IDF opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers during a search and arrest campaign.
- **22 May:** One Israeli settler was injured in Al Lubban ash Sharqiya (Nablus) when Palestinians stoned Israeli vehicles travelling on Road 60 near the village.

## 2. Shelter and Property

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures partially destroyed	People displaced / affected
17 May	Nablus city, Nablus	-	2	n/a
23 May	Ramallah city, Ramallah	-	1	0
<b>Total Week</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>n/a</b>

- **17 May:** During a military operation in Nablus city, the IDF damaged two apartments in one building after they set fire to the building.
- **23 May:** The IDF damaged a house in Ramallah city when they used dynamites enter into a building.

### Other related incidents:

- **17 May:** The IDF destroyed three Palestinian plated private vehicles in Nablus city during a military operation.

## 3. Natural Resources

### Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting<sup>1</sup>

#### 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.

<sup>1</sup> 4 dunums = 1 acre; 10 dunums = 1 hectare

**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:**

**17 May:** The IDF issued a military order No. 10/06 (resulting from military orders issued in 1996 for security in the Tomb of the Patriarchs) ordering the placement of bullet-proof windows around the burial place of the Prophet Abraham in the Ibrahimi Mosque, located in the H2 section of Hebron city (Hebron).

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:**

**18 May:** Sewage from the Israeli settlement of Betar Illit spilled into lands belonging to the Palestinian village of Wadi Fukin (Bethlehem).

**21 May:** Land levelling for the construction of the proposed tunnel near Al Khadr began and is ongoing. The proposed tunnel will connect between the western villages (Husan, Nahhalin, Wadi Fukin, Battir and Al Walaja) and the city of Bethlehem.

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: Barrier construction is 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 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.
- Construction of a road (Road 70) linking 'Anata and Al 'Eizariyya is continuing.

#### Jericho Governorate:

No incidents to report.

#### The Gaza Strip:

**17 May:** Four IDF tanks and three bulldozers entered approximately 400 metres into Palestinian areas north of Beit Hanoun and levelled land.

**19 May:** The IDF burnt the dry grass that is located approximately 200 metres away from the border fence north east of Bureij Camp

**21 May:** The IDF bulldozers entered approximately 100 metres into Palestinian area south east of Gaza city and levelled land.

**23 May:** Five IDF bulldozers supported by two tanks entered about 400 metres into the Palestinian area north of Bureij camp and east of Johr Ed-Dik. The bulldozers levelled the land near the border fence.

**23 May:** IDF bulldozers supported by two tanks and two jeeps entered about 150 metres into the Palestinian area east of Khuza'a village. The bulldozers levelled land along the security fence.

##### 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
17 May	Camp No.1, Nablus	2 hours
18 May	Beita, Nablus	12 hours
<b>Total Week</b>	<b>Two Incidents</b>	<b>14 hours</b>

**17 May:** The IDF imposed curfew on Camp No.1 (Nablus) from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm during a search and arrest campaign in the camp.

**18 May:** The IDF imposed curfew on Beita village from 7:00 pm on 18 May to 7:00 am next morning after stating that there had been gunfire from the village at settler vehicles in the area (two Israeli injuries were reported and are included in Section 1.

##### 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:**

**21 May:** IDF soldiers threw teargas canisters into one of the Palestine Polytechnic University's buildings in H1 area of Hebron city which caused some breathing problems amongst students (injuries not included in Section 1).

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF and Israeli Police continue to escort Palestinian students from Tuba to their school in At Tuwani, south Hebron Governorate. On 21 May five students from the convoy suffered minor injuries when four Israeli settlers disrupted their convoy. 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.<sup>2</sup> Palestinian workers and traders in possession of Israeli permits to enter Jerusalem and Israel are directly applying to the Israeli authorities. Workers and traders must be over 35 years old and married to be eligible for a permit. 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 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.

### **Nablus Governorate:**

**17 May:** The IDF closed Zaatara checkpoint for several hours due to an alleged suspicious object.

**18 May:** The IDF closed Yizhar flying checkpoint for several hours to install concrete blocks in the middle of Road 60. The flying check point has been reclassified as a partial checkpoint.

**19 May:** The IDF closed the road connecting Beita with Osarin with a trench and earth mounds after shooting at Israeli vehicles on Road 505.  
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**21 May:** The IDF opened the main entrance of Beita village and removed the earth mound.

**23 May:** The IDF began allowing access to Palestinians from Jenin and Tulkarm through Huwwara, Beit Iba and Zaatara checkpoints without age restriction.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

**23 May:** Palestinian males from Nablus city between the ages of 15 – 30 are now required a permit to exit the city through all the check points surrounding the city. The restrictions on Males only so they need permits

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF are preventing all Palestinians males from Nablus between the ages of 15 – 30 years from leaving Nablus through Huwwara, 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 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.
- The IDF continued to close a dirt road between Deir Sharaf and Al Naqura with an earth mound.

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#### **Jenin Governorate:**

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.

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#### **Tubas Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- The restrictions on Palestinian movement in and out of the Jordan Valley via Hamra, Tayasir and Efyriam checkpoints remains 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.

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#### **Tulkarm Governorate:**

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.

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#### **Qalqiliya Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

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#### **Salbit 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.

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#### **Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

**All week:** Atara partial checkpoint was in operation all week.

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#### **Bethlehem Governorate:**

**All week:** Israeli Border Police stationed at the entrance of the village of Khallet an Numan continued to restrict access in and out of the 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.
- During the reporting period, Israeli Border Police stationed near the entrance to the village Khallaet an Numan continued to restrict and delay access of the local people in and out of the village.

### Hebron governorate

Ongoing incidents:

- The earth mound that replaced the Yatta Gate remains closed.

### Jerusalem Governorate:

**20 May:** At around 2 pm, the IDF closed all Jerusalem checkpoints and established flying checkpoints at main roads due to a security alert. The Israeli DCL intervened to facilitate access of school children buses coming from Jerusalem into Ramallah.

### Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:

No incidents to report.

### 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), Beita, Osarin, Jamma’n.	10
Jenin	Arraba, Sanur (3), Siris, Bir al Basha, Kafr Dan.	7
Tubas	Tubas city (2) Tammun (2) El Fará camp.	5
Tulkarm	Iktaba, Deir al Ghusun, Balá, Farún (2), Ramin, Al Jarushiya.	7
Qalqiliya	Entrance Qalqiliya – DCO (7), ‘Azzun (7), Habla tunnel, Wadi Qana (7). Ázun tunnel (2), Jayyus (2), Bet. ‘Azzun and Kafr Thulth (2)	28
Salfit	Yasuf, Marda, Qarawat Bani Hassan (3) Bruqin (2).	7
Ramallah and Al Bireh	No flying checkpoints reported.	0
Jerusalem	Near Qalandiya CP	1
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
<b>Total West Bank</b>		<b>116</b>

## 5. Additional Protection Issues

- **17 May:** The Palestinian Interior Minister approved the deployment of a new ‘Executive Support Force’ in the Gaza Strip of approximately 3,000 armed persons.
- **20 May:** The Head of Palestinian General Intelligence in the Gaza Strip was injured in an assassination attempt following internal fighting. One of his aides was killed and another nine were injured in the attempted killing (casualties not included in Section 1).

- **22 May:** A 45-year-old Jordanian diplomat was killed and seven Palestinians injured during clashes between Palestinian gunmen and the Executive Support Forces in Gaza city (casualties not included in Section 1)..

### 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), Askar RC (2) Beit Iba CP, camp No.1 (1), Beit Imrin (1)	12	36
Jenin	Jenin city (1), Qabatiya (1), Az Zababida (1), 'Anza (1), Silat al Harithiya (1), Al Yamun (1), Kafr Dan (1), Siris (1), Barta'a ash Sharqiya (1).	9	19
Tubas	Tammun (1), Tammun Flying CP.	1	5
Tulkarm	Deir al Ghusun (1), Qaffin (1) Iktaba (1), 'Anabta (1).	4	4
Qalqiliya	'Azzun (1), Ázzun Átma gate, Qalqiliya city (2)	3	1
Salfit	Marda (1),	1	3
Ramallah/Al Bireh	Kafr 'Ein (1), 'Abud (1), Ramallah (1), Qarawat Bani Zeid (1).	4	12
Jerusalem	At CPs/Flying CPs; Container 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	13
Hebron	Hebron City (7), Beit Ummar (4), Al 'Arrub Camp (3), Idhna (2), Dura (3), Tarqumiya (1), Biet Awwa (1), Beit Ula (1).	22	26
<b>Total Week West Bank</b>		<b>77</b>	<b>120</b>
Gaza Strip	No incidents to report.	0	0
<b>Total Week oPt</b>		<b>77</b>	<b>120</b>



## Appendix: Checkpoints: 17 – 23 May 2006

Checkpoint	Status
<b>Tulkarm:</b>	
<b>Taybeh</b>	Open between 5.30am to 5pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians with permits. The gate leads to the back-to-back checkpoint.
<b>Efrayim</b>	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 operating at the checkpoint. On 17 May workers and traders over 35 are allowed to enter Israel after almost two months of closure. (Currently no permits have been issued)
<b>Kafriat</b>	Open 24 hours. It 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.
<b>Kafriat Tunnel</b>	The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin.
<b>'Anabta</b>	Partial check point on the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57. Manned daily during the reporting period.
<b>Qalqiliya:</b>	
<b>Jaljoulia</b>	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.
<b>Qalqiliya North</b>	The crossing is open from 4:00am to 7:00pm for Palestinian permit holders. On 17 May workers and traders over 35 are allowed entering Israel after almost two months of closure.
<b>Jit junction partial checkpoint (new)</b>	Partial checkpoint at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.
<b>Salfit:</b>	
<b>Deir Ballut</b>	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.
<b>Kafr Qasem (Road 5)</b>	Open 24 hours for UN and international organisations and Palestinians with permits. Closed for Palestinians since 11 March.
<b>Nablus:</b>	
<b>Huwwara</b> 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.
<b>Beit Iba</b> 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 are not allowed to exit Nablus unless they have permits. All residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas are allowed to exit Nablus.
<b>Al Tur</b> 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.
<b>Beit Furik</b> 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 are not allowed to exit Nablus unless they have permits. All residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas are allowed to exit Nablus.
<b>Shave Shomeron</b> 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.
<b>Maale Efrayim</b>	Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on

Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus	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.
<b>Hamra</b> 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.
<b>Zaatara</b> (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. On 23 May all residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Tubas are allowed heading south.
<b>17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya</b> 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". Males from these villages aged between 15 and 30 are not allowed to exit the check point unless they have permits.
<b>Yizhar partial checkpoint (new)</b>	Partial check point north of Huwwara village on Road 60 at the junction to Yizhar settlement.
<b>Jenin:</b>	
<b>Al Jalama</b> Main entrance to Israel	Open between 7:00am to 4:00pm Sunday to Friday. On 17 May workers and traders over 35 are allowed to enter Israel.
<b>Imreiha (Reikhan)</b> 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.
<b>Tubas:</b>	
<b>Bisan</b> Main entrance to Israel	Open 24 hours for permit holders. Since 16 November closed for Israeli and Palestinian commercial trucks.
<b>Tayasir Gate</b> 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.
<b>Ramallah/AI Bireh:</b>	
<b>Qalandiya</b>	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.
<b>Bet El/DCO</b>	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.
<b>Atara Bridge (partial)</b>	Open. The partial checkpoint was in operation During the reporting period. Long delays experienced.
<b>An Nabi Salih gate (partial)</b>	Open. The partial checkpoint was in operation on 5, 6, 7 May. Delays were reported.
<b>At Tayba (partial)</b>	Open.
<b>Makkabim</b> 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.
<b>Ni'lin</b>	Usually open for Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Rantis</b>	Usually open for Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.
<b>Jerusalem:</b>	
<b>Hizma</b> 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.
<b>Az Za'ayyem</b> 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.
<b>Ar Ram</b> 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.
<b>Bir Nabala/Atarot</b> 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.
<b>Ramot Alon</b> 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.
<b>Shu'fat Refugee Camp/ Anata Checkpoint</b>	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.
<b>Container ("Wadi nar")</b> 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.
<b>Ras Abu Sbeitan (Olive)</b> 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.
<b>Jericho:</b>	
<b>DCO</b> 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.
<b>Al Auja (Yitav)</b> 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.
<b>Gate opposite Allenby</b> 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.
<b>An Nwemeh (partial)</b> North Jericho	Open. No soldiers present this week. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arrajat road; the only road to Ramallah at the moment.
<b>Bethlehem :</b>	
<b>Gilo (Rachel's Tomb)</b> 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. It is currently manned by the Israeli Border Police. 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.
<b>Ein Yalow</b> 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.
<b>Beit Jala DCO</b> Entrance to Beit Jala	Rarely manned and open 24 hours. Movement allowed in both directions for all kind of vehicles including private cars.
<b>Tunnels</b> 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.
<b>Settlers' Checkpoint – Efrata</b> Southern entrance to settlement	Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by settlers with movement beyond it restricted for Palestinians.
<b>Gush Etzion</b> On Road 60, at Etzion turn	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers checking northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
<b>Wadi Fukin</b>	Open 24 hours for Israelis and international organisations.

Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line	
<b>Al Jab'a</b> 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..
<b>Ein Gedi</b> On Road 90, along Dead Sea.	Open 24-hours; restricted to Palestinian movement.
<b>Hebron :</b>	
<b>Beit Awwa</b> At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354	Crossing along Road 354 only for humanitarian organisations and critical service providers: no other movement allowed.
<b>Tarqumiya</b> 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.
<b>Meitar</b> Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line	Open 24 hours.
<b>Shani</b> 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.
<b>Beit Yatir</b> On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizil	Manned by the IDF. Open 24 hours.
<b>Prayers Road, H2</b> 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.
<b>Shohada street, H2</b> 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.
<b>Ibrahimi Mosque, H2</b> 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.
<b>Bab Al Baladiyye , H2</b> 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.
<b>Qarantina, H2</b> 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.
<b>Bab Al-Khan, H2</b> Entrance to Avraham Avinu settlement	Closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and north toward the market.
<b>Tel Rumeida, H2</b> 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.
<b>Al Kasaba, H2</b> 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.
<b>Ar Ramadin</b> 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.
<b>"Nabi Younis"</b> Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint at the entrance to Halhul, monitored by the nearby observation tower.
<b>Al Fawwar</b> 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.
<b>Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints</b>	
<b>Erez crossing</b>	Closed for Palestinian labourers since 12 March. Open for internationals and humanitarian cases.
<b>Rafah Passenger Terminal</b>	Since 26 March the terminal has had normal opening from 8am to 7pm;

- 17 May: 581 arrivals, 519 departures.
- 18 May: 498 arrivals, 601 departures.
- 19 May: 514 arrivals, 438 departures.
- 20 May: 619 arrivals, 520 departures.
- 21 May: 399 arrivals, 563 departures.
- 22 May: 516 arrivals, 492 departures.
- 23 May: Data not available

**Commercial checkpoints:**

<b>Tulkarm/Qalqiliya</b>	
<b>Taybeh</b>	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
<b>Nablus</b>	
<b>Awarta checkpoint</b> 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
<b>Jenin</b>	
<b>Al Jalama</b> Northern entrance/ main commercial check point.	Open between 7am to 4pm, Sunday to Friday.
<b>Ramallah/AI Bireh</b>	
<b>Beituniya</b> 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.
<b>Jericho</b>	
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.
<b>Gaza Strip</b>	
<b>Sufa</b>	Closed 17 – 20 May. 21 – 23 May: Open from 7:30am to 5:30pm for imports of construction material.
<b>Karni</b>	17 May: Open from 12.30pm till 5.15pm for imports and exports. 18-21 May: Open for imports only from 09.00am - 05.00pm. 22 May: Open for imports and exports from 09.00am - 05.00pm. Closures of about two hours were reported on 18 and 21 May because of security concerns reported by the IDF. 23 May: Open for imports and exports although was closed between 11:30 am and 12:45 pm because of security concerns reported by the IDF.
<b>Kerem Shalom</b>	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.