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Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

21 February – 27 February 2007

Of note this week

The IDF conducted its largest scale operation in Nablus city since three years codenamed "Hot Winter". The operation concentrated on the old city of Nablus to arrest eight allegedly wanted Palestinians. During the operation the IDF imposed a curfew on the old city, 3,000 families under curfew, arrested/detained 41 Palestinians during house-to-house searches. One Palestinian man was killed and eight injured.

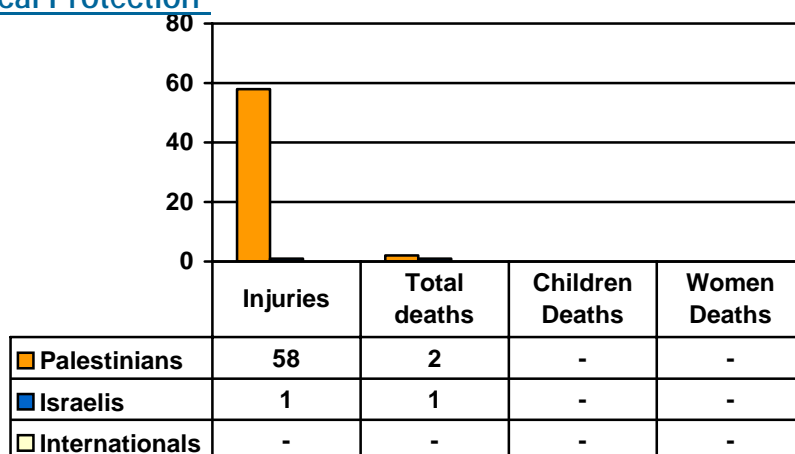
West Bank:

- Twenty eight Palestinian structures, mostly livelihood structures, were demolished by the IDF throughout the West Bank this week, affecting the lives of 182 Palestinians including 83 children.
- A group of Israeli settlers from the settlement of Beit Hadassa, located in the H2 section of Hebron city attacked a Palestinian house located across from the settlement late at night destroying the front door, some water pipes as well as furniture. Settlers also uprooted 30 olive trees belonging to Palestinians in Hebron.
- Israeli Security Forces were on high alert in and around the Old city of Jerusalem in anticipation of further demonstrations and clashes after the Friday Prayers in Al Aqsa mosque. All major roads leading to the old city were blocked, access to the old city of Jerusalem was limited for those who live in the old city; and Israeli ID holders over 50 years old. Only about 6,000 Muslims were at the site to attend Friday prayers. Palestinians in Ras el Amud stoned Israeli policemen who responded with stun grenades and tear gas canisters, no injuries were reported. Demonstrations were held again this week by the Qalandiya checkpoint on Friday during the hours of noon day prayers, protesting the construction work nearby the Al Aqsa mosque. The IDF responded with live rounds and rubber-coated metal bullets.

Gaza Strip

- 17 homemade rockets were fired from Gaza towards IDF Kissufim military base and Israel, of which four exploded prematurely injuring six Palestinian workers near a construction site. Four mortar shells were also fired towards Israel although no injuries were reported.
- In two separate incidents, IDF vessels fired machine guns sporadically for 30 minutes in the direction of Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of Deir El Balah and west of Rafah. The fishing boats returned to shore. The IDF also opened fire on a group of farmers east of Gaza City injuring one farmer.
- Twelve Palestinians were killed and more than 35 injured during internal violence and other incidents in the Gaza Strip including two women and one man reportedly killed during honour crimes. Despite the continued violence, the Fatah-Hamas cease-fire appears to be holding.

1. Physical Protection¹



¹ Note that this excludes casualties resulting from Palestinian-Palestinian (internal) violence reported in Section 2.

West Bank:

- **21 February:** A 21 year-old Palestinian man was shot dead in Jenin city (Jenin) when IDF undercover unit opened fire at his vehicle.
- **21 February:** At 4:10 pm at Qalandiya checkpoint (Ramallah) Palestinians stoned IDF soldiers. The IDF responded with live rounds and rubber-coated metal bullets injuring two Palestinians.
- **24 February:** Three Palestinians aged 15, 20 and 40 years were injured in Nablus city by rubber-coated metal bullets when the IDF opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers.
- **23 February:** At 1:30 pm in Bil'in (Ramallah) the IDF fired tear gas canisters and rubber-coated metal bullets at Palestinian, Israeli and international activists demonstrating against the construction of the Barrier and marking the second anniversary of these weekly demonstrations. Twenty Palestinians and one Israeli activist were reported injured.
- **23 February:** At 2:30 pm at Qalandiya checkpoint, clashes broke out when Palestinians stoned IDF soldiers. The IDF responded with live rounds and rubber-coated metal bullets and 19 Palestinians were reported injured.
- **25 February:** A 16 year-old Palestinian boy was physically assaulted and injured by IDF soldiers' at Ras 'Atiya Barrier gate (Qalqiliya).
- **25 – 27 February:** The IDF conducted its largest scale operation in Nablus city since three years codenamed "Hot Winter". The operation concentrated on the old city of Nablus to arrest eight allegedly wanted Palestinians. During the operation the IDF imposed a curfew on the old city and conducted a house to house search campaign. In total, 41 Palestinians were arrested/detained during the operation. The IDF occupied two PA schools and converted them into detention and interrogation centres. The IDF also surrounded with jeeps the three local hospitals – Al Watani; Rafidiya and Al Itihad, checking all patients entering and leaving. Three homes were reportedly demolished, one completely, as well as burning one coffee house and one apartment. An unknown number of houses were occupied by the IDF and families were confined to single rooms. On 25 February, throughout the day, confrontations took place between the IDF and Palestinian stone throwers during which six Palestinians aged 16 (burns to the face), 18 (rubber-coated metal bullets), 17 (shrapnel), 19 (live ammunition), 24 (live ammunition) and 48 (rubber-coated metal bullets) years were injured in Nablus. On 26 February, a 42 year-old Palestinian man was shot dead and his 24 year-old son injured by live ammunition in the old city of Nablus. On 27 February, another 19 year-old Palestinian male was injured by rubber-coated metal bullets.
- **26 February:** A 43 year-old male Israeli settler from the settlement of Bat Ayin (Bethlehem) was killed by suspected Palestinians after being stabbed multiple times near the settlement.
- **27 February:** An 18 year-old Palestinian man from the village of Umm Salamona (Bethlehem) had his arm broken by IDF soldiers when a group of men protested against the construction of the Barrier on the villages' lands. Another three men, aged 22, 48 and 50 years, received multiple bodily injuries as a result of the attack. Two of the injured men were arrested by the IDF.

Gaza:

- **22 February:** A Palestinian farmer was injured when IDF soldiers stationed east of Gaza City opened fire in the direction of a group of farmers.

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **23 February:** An explosive device was detonated out at sea opposite the El Waha area. The Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade claimed a mine had been planted targeting an IDF boat.
- **23 February:** Egyptian Security Forces destroyed a tunnel located under the Philadelphia corridor opposite the Al Barazil area in the Sinai
- **24 February:** IDF vessels fired machine guns sporadically for 30 minutes in the direction of Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of Deir El Balah. No injuries or damages were reported.
- **27 February:** IDF vessels fired machine guns for five minutes in the direction of Palestinian fishing boats west of Rafah. The fishing boats returned to shore. No injuries were reported.
- **27 February:** IDF soldiers stationed at an observation post east of Rafah opened fire in the direction of a group of farmers. No injuries were reported.

2. Palestinian internal violence and other incidents²

Gaza Strip:

- **21 February:** A 33 year-old Palestinian man was killed by an old mine when he was farming his land in Abu Al Ajeen, east of Deir El Balah.
- **21 February:** Six Palestinian workers were injured when a homemade rocket fired from an area east of Beit Lahia towards the Green Line landed and exploded in the Gaza Strip near a construction site.
- **22 February:** A 55 year-old Palestinian man was shot and killed by his cousin in Khan Younis. Local reports linked the motive to a family dispute.
- **23 February:** A 25 year-old Hamas activist was killed by local family members following a family dispute. This was followed by an exchange of gunfire between his family and the other family.
- **23 February:** A 45 year-old Palestinian man was stabbed to death by unknown people in the Al Junaina area in Rafah. Local reports link the incident to a honour crime.
- **24 February:** Three Palestinians aged between 30 and 73 years were killed (including a woman) and 17 others injured when ESF members surrounded the Kaware' family's home in the Ma'en area of Khan Younis. Heavy armed clashes continued for several hours between the two sides.
- **24 February:** Four Palestinians were injured when an explosive device was detonated in front of the flat of Colonel Suleiman Khader, Head of National Security forces in the middle area. The explosion resulted in infrastructural damage and a small fire. The motive behind the attack is unknown.
- **25 February:** A Palestinian man accidentally shot and wounded himself in the head while cleaning his weapon in Al Jala'a Street in Gaza City.
- **25 February:** An ESF member was shot and injured by local family gunmen at Khan Younis Camp.
- **25 February:** A Palestinian boy was injured in Deir el Balah when an explosive device he was handling detonated. He was taken to Al Aqsa hospital.
- **25 February:** Three Palestinians were injured when a tunnel under the Philadelphi corridor, opposite the Al Salam area, collapsed while people were working on the construction of the tunnel.
- **26 February:** A 23 year-old Palestinian man died of wounds sustained during armed clashes between the ESF and the Kaware' family in Khan Younis on 25 February.
- **26 February:** A Hamas member was injured when he accidentally shot and wounded himself while cleaning his weapon in Khan Younis.
- **26 February:** Two Palestinian women, aged 31 and 40 years, were killed by unknown gunmen in Al Salatin west of Beit Lahia. Local reports linked the incident to honour killings.
- **27 February:** A 40 year-old Palestinian woman was found shot to death at Al Nafag Street in Gaza City. She was transferred to Shifa Hospital. The motive is unknown.
- **27 February:** A bystander, later identified as a PA security member, was injured during internal disputes that erupted between two local families in Deir EL Balah.
- **27 February:** The body of a 20 year-old Palestinian man was found in the tunnel that collapsed on 23 February after PA National Security Forces, using Rafah municipality bulldozers, excavated the tunnel.

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **21 February:** An explosive device was detonated in front of the home of PA police officer Zahir Doughmash in the Tal Al Hawwa area of Gaza City. The entrance to the home was damaged but no injuries were reported. The motive behind the incident is unknown.
- **24 February:** An exchange of gunfire erupted between gunmen from two local families near the Al Quds University. No injuries were reported.
- **24 February:** Unknown Palestinians detonated a device in an internet café owned by Usama Ke'dan and located in the main street of Rafah. The café was destroyed. Local reports link the attack to the provision of internet access for "immoral purposes".

² Casualties recorded in this section relate to Palestinian inter-factional fighting, family and community disputes and reckless use of weapons. Also reported in this section are casualties indirectly related to the conflict such as incidents involving Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), traffic accidents between Israeli and Palestinians in the oPt and deaths resulting from delay in receiving medical treatment at a checkpoint or during a military operation/curfew. These casualties are not recorded in the total in Section 1.

- **25 February:** ESF members entered two commercial shops in Nuseirat Camp and arrested the owners. The motive behind the arrests is unknown.
- **25 February:** Unknown gunmen opened fire on an ESF military base located at the main entrance of Bureij Camp. The ESF responded and exchanged gunfire for 10 minutes. No injuries were reported.
- **26 February:** An UNRWA staff member was arrested by PA police in the Gaza Strip. He had tried to cross the street in his car, which is normally blocked to non-UN traffic. The policeman controlling the intersection did not lower the chain when the staff member approached in his UNRWA car, as per normal practice. An argument ensued between the staff member and police who surrounded his car. During his arrest, a struggle occurred, during which he was hit in the face and kicked in the legs by a police officer who forced the staff member into the back of a police vehicle. He was later released.
- **26 February:** An exchange of gunfire erupted between ESF members and a local family in the Moghraga area east of Al Zahra City after ESF attempted to evict the family from a plot of land they claim they owned. Several mukhtars intervened and both sides have committed to have the dispute resolved by the local mukhtars in one month. No injuries were reported.
- **27 February:** 100 members from the Palestinian National Initiative demonstrated in front of UNCSO to protest the IDF incursion in the West Bank. A letter addressed to the UN Secretary-General was delivered. The demonstration ended peacefully.
- **27 February:** Six homemade rockets were fired from an area east of Al Qarara towards Kissufim. Two of the rockets landed and exploded in the Gaza Strip near two houses owned by local families. Minor damage to the two houses was reported and some sheep were killed. No injuries were reported. The military wing of Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility.
- **27 February:** Unknown gunmen abducted Hamas activist in Rafah. Local reports linked the motive to a family dispute.

West Bank:

- **22 February:** At 1:30 pm a Palestinian youth was mistakenly killed by the stray bullet of a Palestinian Policeman in Ramallah city. The family and relatives of the victim demonstrated between Al-Manara and the Clock squares. Later, clashes took place between the PA police and Palestinians in Qaddura and Al Am'ari Refugee Camps, no injuries were reported.

Shelter and Property

Date	Location, Governorate	Structures demolished	Structures damaged	People displaced	People affected
21.2.07	Bet Ikse, Jerusalem	1	-	NA	
21.2.07	Kharayib Umm al Lahim	1	-	12 (including 10 children)	
22.2.07	Idhna, Hebron	3	-	-	16 (including 8 children)
22.2.07	'Arab ar Rashayida, Bethlehem	6	-	-	40 (including 15 children)
23.2.07	Ar Ramadin, Hebron	1	-	-	70 (including 25 children)
25.2.07	Nablus old city/ Nablus	1	2	3	-
26.2.07	Farún/Tulkarm	6	-	NA	-
26.2.07	Jerusalem	3	-	8	-
27.2.07	Khallet Sakariya, Bethlehem	6		-	33 (including 14 children)
Total		28	2	23 (including	159 (including

			10 children)	62 children)
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- **21 February:** At 1:00 pm in Beit Iksa (Jerusalem), the IDF demolished an animal pen belonging to Palestinians allegedly for lack of a building permit.
- **21 February:** At 1:30 pm in Kharayib Umm al Lahim (Ramallah), the IDF demolished a Palestinian house allegedly for lack of a building permit as they claimed it is in Area 'C'. Twelve people were displaced as a result including ten children.
- **22 February:** The IDF demolished a cow farm, a chicken farm and a makeshift house used for storage in Idna (Hebron) allegedly for lack of a building permit. The IDF submitted a new demolition order against a structure in the town after the demolitions took place with the stated reason of building in Area C without having the proper permit
- **22 February:** The IDF demolished six animal pens in Arab Ar-Rashayida (Bethlehem) allegedly for being built without a permit in Area C.
- **23 February:** A communal water cistern in Ar-Ramadin (Hebron) allegedly for lack of a building permit in Area C.
- **23 February:** The IDF submitted 11 demolition orders to the owners of houses and seasonally-occupied rooms in Khallet Sakariya (Bethlehem). The new demolition orders were issued under the pretext of building in Area C without having the proper permit
- **25 – 26 February:** During the IDF incursion into Nablus, the IDF demolished: one house completely with explosives leaving one family (3 persons) homeless in Nablus old city, a first floor apartment with explosives in a two-storey building and demolished one room in another house in Nablus old city (both uninhabited), and one coffee shop in the old city and one apartment in al Makhfiya area outside the Old City were burnt when IDF used fire grenades. Many doors and walls of houses and stores were damaged as well during the military operation.
- **26 February:** The IDF demolished six houses under construction in Farún village (Tulkarm) due to lack of building permits and being close to the Barrier. Constructions of these houses were started in 1997.
- **26 February:** At 8:00 am the IDF and Border Police headed to Eizariyya (Jerusalem) with bulldozers. Two hours later three shacks belonging to one family of the Jahalin Bedouin were demolished. The family has six children between the ages of 1-13 years.
- **27 February:** The IDF demolished five seasonally inhabited rooms, used for temporary housing during harvest season and for storage, and a water cistern allegedly for being built without a permit in area C.

4. [Natural Resources](#)

Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting³

Nablus Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 15 January 2007 the IDF have continued to level eight dunums of land near Huwwara checkpoint to expand the checkpoint. The land belongs to Palestinians from Burin village and was requisitioned on 10 July 2005 by requisition order T/106/05.
- Since 17 September 2006 land levelling continues for a road barrier installed north of Road 505, east of Za'atara checkpoint.
- Since 15 June 2006 land levelling has continued north of Shave Shomeron settlement (west of Nablus) to install a fence.

Jenin Governorate:

27 February: The IDF issued a requisition order to confiscate 198.4 dunums of land belong to residents of Ya'bad, Zabda and Barta'a to expand Road 585.

Tubas Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Tulkarm Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

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

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

Qalqiliya Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: land levelling and construction work continue near Immatin village, between 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth and between Azzun and Kafr Laqif.

Salfit Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: Israeli contractors continue construction and land levelling north of Salfit City, Iskaka and Deir Istiya villages and south of Marda and Kifl Haris villages around Ariel settlement.

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.
 - Construction continues near Umm Safa, parallel to bypass Road 465, to create a buffer zone around Ateret settlement. The land was earlier requisitioned by the IDF and belongs to Palestinians from Atara and Umm Safa villages.
 - The last section of the Barrier in Beit Sira village is complete between Beit Sira and Makkabim settlement. A 400-metre section between the village and Beit Nuba is under construction and a gate is being installed.
 - Following a decision by the Israeli High Court approving a new route of the Barrier in 'Abud, construction resumed parallel to bypass Road 465, as well as between 'Abud and Ofarim and Beit Arye settlements.

Jerusalem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
 - Construction continues along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate. Exceptions to this are northeast of Al 'Eizariya towards Ma'ale Adummim settlement. Construction continues along 3 km stretch of the Barrier south of Ma'ale Adummim and Kedar but has stopped since 3 March 2006 pending a court case.
 - Construction near Ar Ram checkpoint between Dahiyat Al Bareed and Atarot is ongoing. Detours are taken through the Palestinian neighbourhoods of Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed due to the construction continue, however access is severely restricted and vehicles crossing through the Barrier have been stopped on several occasions this week. During the week, further construction of the Barrier in Dahiyat Al Bareed meant that the opening was only occasionally open. Pedestrians can still use this opening but the Barrier will soon seal off this neighbourhood entirely from al Ram and the West Bank. Vehicles are currently using a rough road a few metres beyond the previous gate. Construction of the Barrier in this neighbourhood is progressing at a rapid pace.
- The construction of a road barrier continues on Road 1, east of Az Za'ayyem. Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards driving to Jerusalem now have to drive south to Ma'ale Adummim and then return through Az Za'ayyem checkpoint.
- Construction of an Israeli police station in E1 continues.
- The road between Anata and Al 'Eizariya is under construction (Road 70). Another road (Road 80) is planned that will link Abu Dis to Road 1 east of the planned Barrier around Ma'ale Adummim. The road will be open for Palestinians only.

Jericho Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Bethlehem Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:

- Construction continues next to Al Khadr Boys School along the eastern side of Road 60 adjacent to the school playground.
- Land levelling continues in the section of Road 60 between the Palestinian village of Al Khadr and Al Nashshash (southern entrance of the city of Bethlehem).
- Land levelling in the vicinity of the settlement of Har Gilo continues.
- Land levelling in the vicinity of the settlement of Efrat, near Artas village, continues.
- Land levelling and digging for the construction of the tunnel near Al Khadr village has accelerated. Levelling is also taking place along the western side of Road 60. Concrete partitions were placed during the reporting period. Additional sections of the Barrier have been erected in this section during the reporting period.
- Paving continues on the side of Tunnels checkpoint to expand the site. Six lanes have been paved so far and four inspection cabins were installed.
- Work continues on the road leading to the Talita Khoumy School. A one-metre high road barrier was installed and land levelling has continued on both sides of the road.
- Land levelling for the construction of the new terminal next to Al Jab'a checkpoint continues.
- Construction work at Nu'man terminal is ongoing.

Hebron Governorate:

25 February: Israeli settlers from the outpost of Avigail, located south of the town of Yatta (Hebron), uprooted 30 trees belonging to Palestinian farmers from the community of Muntiqat Shi'ib Al Butoom.

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: construction continues west of Eshkolot settlement.
- Land leveling including paving continues west of the checkpoint of Tarqumiya for a new commercial checkpoint.
- Construction of the agricultural terminal at Meitar checkpoint is ongoing.
- Paving continues at the Beit Yatir checkpoint close to the Palestinian hamlet of Imneizil. An observation tower was installed and the terminal is almost complete.

Gaza Strip:

No incidents to report.

5. [Access and Movement for Civilians](#)

a) Curfew

25 and 26 February: The IDF imposed a curfew on the old city of Nablus for two days (48 hours) during a military operation in the city.

b) Access to education

21-27 February: During the reporting period the IDF and Israeli Police came late on an average of one and a half hours to escort Palestinian students from their elementary school in At Tuwani (south Hebron) to their residence place in Tuba. The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks by Israeli settlers from the Ma'on settlement.

25 and 26 February: Two universities (An Najah and Al Quds Open University) and all the PA and UNRWA schools were closed due to the operation in Nablus.

c) Access to employment

The general closure of Erez by Israeli authorities since 11 March remains in place for the Gaza Strip residents.

All Palestinians are required to apply at the DCL office in Beit El to obtain Israeli permits. The criteria for people to be eligible for an Israeli permit are similar for both workers and traders; a Palestinian should be above 35 year old, married with a child with no security files. Criteria to

apply for work permits inside Atarot industrial zone; a person should be above 21 years old, married with a child.

d) Closures/movement restrictions

Nablus Governorate:

25 and 26 February: The IDF surrounded the three local hospitals in Nablus city – Al Watani; Rafidiya and Al Itihad, checking all patients entering and leaving.

26 February: The Nablus municipality primary health care centre in the Old City tried to open. Fifty UPMRC and international volunteers were detained by IDF in centre.

25 February: Israeli settlers from Bracha outpost prevented Palestinian farmers from Burin to reach their land near the settlement.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close Shave Shomeron checkpoint for all vehicles, including UN and humanitarian organisations.

Jenin Governorate:

22 and 23 February: The IDF imposed a tight closure on Jalbun village after they arrested an alleged suicide bomber, a resident of Jalbun, near Tel Aviv on 20 February. The IDF set up flying checkpoints and closed the dirt road connecting the village with Faquá with an earth mound and prevented the residents from exiting the village.

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 30 August, the IDF have allowed 40 commercial trucks (with a freight load of under two tonnes) to transport food products to Barta'a enclave. A list with the plate numbers of the trucks is present at the checkpoint. Other materials still require prior coordination.

Tubas Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Tulkarm Governorate:

Ongoing incidents:

- Ongoing since 10 January: The IDF allowed Palestinians with Israeli IDs to enter Tulkarm.

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, forcing Palestinians to make a detour of 30 minutes to reach the village and disconnecting the three Palestinian villages of Az Zawia, Rafat, and Deir Ballout from Salfit city.
- The agricultural gates in the Barrier continue to be closed by the IDF near Mas-ha and Az Zawiya preventing farmers from accessing their land.

Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:

During the reporting period: Long delays were reported at Qalandiya checkpoint. Only one pedestrian lane was in operation. Delays of at least one hour were experienced during the morning and evening rush hours.

Bethlehem Governorate:

23 February: The IDF began operating the Tunnel terminal. The only access point for Palestinian traffic into and out of Bethlehem has become Al Nashash at the southern end of Bethlehem city. Coming from Beit Jala to join Road 60 south is not possible any more.

25 February: The IDF closed down the main access point to the villages of Batir and Husan (Bethlehem) from Road 60 near the proposed Al Khader Tunnel. Access to these villages is only possible through the Western Villages by-pass road.

Hebron Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Jerusalem Governorate:

No incidents to report.

Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 9 January, Bisan checkpoint, north of Tubas, is open for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley and Jericho to export their agricultural produce into Israel using a back-to-back system. Palestinians from the West Bank in possession of BMC cards (traders permits) in addition to an Israeli permit, are allowed through this checkpoint into Israel. Palestinians working for international organisations continue to be prohibited from using Bisan checkpoint.
- Since 14 September 2006, the IDF announced that only Palestinians with Jericho residency and Jerusalem ID and residents of Bethlehem and Hebron holders would be able to exit via the Jericho DCO checkpoint, forcing all others to either request a permit or travel on the Al Mu'arrajat old road to reach the rest of the West Bank. Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers and residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayem and As Sawahira village are allowed to exit Jericho via the DCO checkpoint.

Gaza Strip

During the reporting period:

- Karni crossing was open all the week except on 24 (scheduled to close) and 25 February. On 25 February, Karni was closed as a result of Palestinians workers' strike.
- Erez crossing was partially open for the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, critical medical cases and Palestinian 'senior' traders. (Non-diplomats require prior coordination with the IDF which is being decided on a case-by-case basis). The crossing continues to be closed for Palestinian workers (since 12 March 2006).
- Nahal Oz was open all the week, except on 24 February was closed (the pipelines are scheduled to close on Saturdays)
- Sufa crossing was open all the week except on 23 and 24 February the crossing was closed. Sufa is scheduled to be closed on Saturdays.
- Kerem Shalom was open for one day during the week (21 February).
- Gaza fishermen are permitted to fish up to six nautical miles off the coastline.

Ongoing incidents:

- Following Israel's unilateral disengagement from the Gaza Strip in September 2005, the IDF announced that Palestinians should keep a distance of at least 150 meters from the perimeter fence along the eastern and northern borders of the Gaza Strip
- On 28 December 2005, the IDF declared the former northern settlement bloc to be a 'no-go' zone. Officially, entry into the area for the 250 residents and international organizations requires prior coordination with the IDF, however this is not enforced.

Reported flying (random) checkpoints – West Bank

Governorate	Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets	Total # of flying checkpoints
Nablus	Jammaín (1)	1
Jenin	'Arraba (7), Az Zababida (3), Sanur (2), Ash Shuhada (1) Al; Mansura (1), Jalbun (2), Faqqua (2), Fahma (1), Kafr Raí (1), Al Kufeir (2), Ti'nnik (1)	23
Tubas	El Fará camp (1)	1
Tulkarm	Beit Lid (1), Áttil (1), Balá (3), Kafr Sur (1), Íllar (1)	7
Qalqiliya	Entrance Qalqiliya – DCO (7), Ázzun (7), Habla tunnel (2), An Nabi Elyas (3), Ras 'Atyia (2), Kafr Thulth (2), Izbat Salman (1) Ázzun tunnel (1), Izbat at Tabib (3)	28
Salfit	Bruqín (1), Deir Istiya (1), Yasuf (1), Marda (1)	4
Ramallah / Al Bireh	-	-
Jericho / Jordan Valley	-	-
Jerusalem	Shu'fat (5), Al Ram (7)	12
Bethlehem	Al 'Ubeidiya (1), Za'tara (2), Bethlehem city (3), 'Ayda refuge camp (2), Al Khadr (1), Beit Jala (4), Ad Duheisha (3), Beit Sahur (2), Tuqu (4), Husan (2), Beit Fajjar (2)	26

Hebron	Yatta (2), Dura(2), Hebron city – H1(4), Halhul (3) , Al Arrub refugee camp (5), Sa'ir (2), Surif (1), Adh Dhahiriya (3), Bani Na'eem (2), Tarqumiya(1), Beit Ummar (3)	25
Total West Bank		127

6. [Additional Protection Issues](#)

Searches/Arrests/Detentions

Governorate	Location of arrests/detention, number of searches noted at locations with brackets	Total # of Searches	Total # of Arrested/ Detained
Nablus	Nablus city (5), Balata refugee Camp (3), Beit Furik (1), Camp No1 (2), Tell (1), Asira ash Shamaliya (1) Zaatara CP , Al Badhan CP	13	58
Jenin	Jenin city (5), Jenin RC (5), Jalbun (1), Qabatiya (5), Misliya (1), Az Zababida (1), Meithalun (1), Rummana (1) Ti'nnik flying CP	20	19
Tubas	Tubas (1), Tammun (1), El Fará camp flying CP	2	1
Tulkarm	Tulkarm city (4), Tulkarm refugee camp (1), Farún (2), Beit Lid (1), Íllar (1), Átill (1), Balá (1), Nur Shams (1)	12	4
Qalqiliya	Qalqiliya (7), 'Azzun (7), Jayyus (4), Kafr Qaddum (3), Habla (2), Izbat Salman flying CP	23	3
Salfit	Salfit city (2), Iskaka (1), Marda (1), Kifl Haris (1), Deir Ballut CP	5	1
Ramallah/Al Bireh	Bil'in (1), Qalandiya checkpoint, Qalandiya camp, Al Amari camp (1), Ramallah (4) Bilin, Na'ale settlement.	6	18
Jericho Jordan Valley	-	0	0
Jerusalem	Gilo Settlement	-	1
Bethlehem	Beit Sahur (2), Al 'Aza refugee camp (3), Dar Salah (2), Al 'Ubeidiya (2), 'Ayda refuge camp (3), Al Khadr (3), Beit Jala (3), Za'tara (4), Bethlehem (4), Tuqu (1), Ash Shawawra (2), Beit Fajjar(1), Husan (1), Beit Jala (2).	35	10
Hebron	Hebron City (4), Al 'Arrub Camp (4), Dura (4), Beit Awwa (1), Yatta (3), Adh Dhahiriya (2), Sa'ir (2), As Samu(2), Bani Na'eem(1), Dier Samit (1)	27	17
Total Week West Bank		143	132
Gaza Strip		-	-
Total Week oPt		143	132

Appendix: Checkpoints: 21 February – 27 February 2007

Checkpoint	Status
Tulkarm:	
Efrayim	Open from 5am to 6:30pm Sunday to Thursday and 5am to 12pm on Fridays for Palestinian workers and traders.
Kafriat	Open 24 hours. The checkpoint is manned and physically divided into three parts: one that controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one that controls movement to Israel; and one that controls movement to and from Jbara.
Kafriat Tunnel	The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin.
'Anabta	The checkpoint is located on the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57.
Qalqiliya:	
Jaljoulia	Open 24 hours. Access through this checkpoint is only granted for holders of permits into Israel and residents of Ras Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi Ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda. Ambulances from Qalqiliya town to these five villages need prior coordination with DCL. Only vehicles leaving the West Bank are subject to security checks.
Qalqiliya North	Open from 4am to 7pm Sunday to Thursday and from 4am to 12am on Fridays for Palestinian permit holders.
Jit junction partial checkpoint	Partial checkpoint at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.
Salfit:	
Deir Ballut	Open from 6am to 6pm. The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western part of Salfit governorate.
Kafr Qasem (Road 5)	Open 24 hours for UN, international organisations and Palestinians with permits.
Nablus:	
Huwara Southern main entrance	Open from 6am to 11pm 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. Public transportation and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint between 6am and 9pm. Commercial trucks are not allowed to pass.
Beit Iba Western entrance, mainly for trade	Open from 5am to 7.30pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only following prior liaison with the IDF. Long delays and queues were reported. Public transportation, commercial trucks carrying aggregates and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint.
Al Tur Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area 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.
Beit Furik Eastern gate and checkpoint. After the closure regime main gateway between Nablus and the Jordan Valley	Open 5:30am to 9pm for villagers from Beit Furik and Beit Dajan. All residents heading south have to enter Nablus and cross through Nablus checkpoints.
Shave Shomeron (Closed) Northwest, main road to Jenin	Closed since 15 August 2005 for all traffic.
Zaatara (Tappouah) South, main road to Ramallah	Open 24 hours. The checkpoint controls Palestinian movement on Road 60 and 505 southwards and no need for permits.
17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed) Road to the north villages of Nablus	The checkpoint is only open for humanitarian organisations and humanitarian emergency cases.
Yizhar partial checkpoint	Partial check point north of Huwwara village on Road 60.
Aqraba partial checkpoint	Partial check point on the junction to Aqraba village with Road 505.
Al Badhan partial checkpoint	Partial checkpoint on Road 57 leading to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin.

Jenin:

Al Jalama Main entrance to Israel	Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Thursday and 7am to 12am on Fridays.
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. 40 vehicles with their plate numbers on a list at the checkpoint are allowed to transport foodstuff into the closed area behind the Barrier. Other materials need prior coordination.
Mevo Dotan (New) on road 585 near Ya'bad	Open from 7am to 7pm for all Palestinians

Tubas:

Bisan Main entrance to Israel	Main entrance to Israel Bisan checkpoint is north of Tubas. Since 9 January the cp is officially open between 10am to 6pm Sunday to Thursday, 6am to 12pm on Fridays and closed Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Opened for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley and Jericho to export their agricultural produce into Israel via Bisan using the back-to-back system. Palestinians from the West Bank in possession of businessman cards, in addition to an Israeli permit, are allowed through this checkpoint into Israel. Palestinians working for international organisations continue to be prohibited from using Bisan checkpoint.
Tayasir Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley.	Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley. Officially open between 5am-10pm. 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. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Very long delays are reported on daily basis.
Maale Efrayim Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus	Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus. Officially open between 6am-10pm. 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. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks.
Hamra East, before closure regime main road to Jordan, Tubas, Jenin	East, before closure regime main road to Jordan, Tubas, Jenin. Officially open between 3am-10pm. 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. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Delays for Palestinian commercial vehicles crossing the checkpoint are reported on a daily basis.

Ramallah/AI Bireh:

Qalandiya	Open for internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Only drivers of vehicles and their family members are allowed through inside the vehicle. Passengers, both West Bank ID holders and Jerusalemites, have to cross through the pedestrian lanes. As of 10 December, Israeli private Security Guards are present at the checkpoint at a second line behind the IDF for extra random security checks. Long delays are being reported on a daily basis.
Bet El/DCO	From 20 August the checkpoint has been in operation from 6am to 8pm. Access in vehicles is reserved only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, and Palestinians with special work permits.
Atara Bridge	Manned by Border Police. No permits required to cross the checkpoint. As of 1 December, random checks of Palestinian vehicles and IDs going through the checkpoint in both directions.
An Nabi Salih gate (partial)	Open. Delays up to 20 minutes were reported on daily basis during travelling rush hours.
At Tayba (partial)	Open. Some delays reported.
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	Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders. Palestinians with West Bank IDs not allowed through regardless of any valid permits to enter Israel.
Rantis	Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, 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 have been requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February 2006 West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are
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	not allowed to cross through this checkpoint unless they belong to one of the new 'facilitated' categories; Palestinians working in international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and prominent businessmen (BMC Card holders). The head of the East Jerusalem Hospital Network reported that medical staff have not been permitted to use Hizma, and that in fact the Commander-in-Chief of the checkpoint claimed that the decision of allowing the medical staff to use it had been reversed.
Az Za'ayem North eastern entrance on Road 1.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem, West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross unless they belong to one of the new 'facilitated' categories; Palestinians working in international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and prominent businessmen (BMC Card holders).
Ar Ram Northern entrance on Road 60 north.	Open for internationals, diplomats, Palestinians working with international organisations and residents of the southern part of Dahiyat al Bareed (soon to be within the Barrier) with their names and ID numbers registered on a list held at the checkpoint. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross. Delays were reported during morning rush hour. Problems of access were reported by Americans carrying passports with valid entry visas.
Bir Nabala / Atarot Northern entrance on Road 404 /45 Road Atarot Junction.	Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, and Palestinians with valid permits and internationals. UN staff have been 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.
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. Commercial trucks are not allowed through this checkpoint unless the merchandise itself is from Shu'fat camp. All other commercial trucks from the West Bank must use Beituniya checkpoint.
Container ("Wadi nar") East of Abu Dis, main transit between north and south West Bank	Open for all Palestinian vehicles without permits and for internationals. Israeli yellow-plated cars are not allowed to cross.
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. No vehicles are allowed through this checkpoint.
Abu Dis Between Abu Dis and Ras al 'Amoud	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
Lazarus	Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.
Bir Nabala / Rafat At the new road between Rafat and Bir Nabala village	Delays are experienced on daily basis due to the fact that each passing vehicle is undergoing a check.
Jaba' At the road between Jaba' Junction and Qalandiya checkpoint	Random checks by the IDF soldiers. Some delays were reported.
Jericho:	
DCO Main checkpoint off Road 1	Main checkpoint off Road 1. Open daily 24 hours. No permits required for Jericho residents and foreign passports and Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards. As of 14 September, West Bank ID holders need permits to leave Jericho via the DCO. All vehicles including public taxis and commercial trucks have to have checkpoint permits to exit Jericho via this checkpoint unless they have Jericho or Jerusalem registration. Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers and residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayem and As Sawahira village are allowed to exit Jericho via the DCO checkpoint.
Al Auja (Yitav) On Road 90	Open 24 hours for Palestinians living in Jericho Governorate. Palestinians non-residents of Jericho and hold West Bank IDs going north towards al Auja and the Jordan Valley area are prohibited though unless they hold Israeli permits to allow them access to the area. No permit required for those travelling to Ramallah. Long delays up to 40 minutes were reported by people travelling to Ramallah and

	Al 'Auja.
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 road to Ramallah at the moment.
Bethlehem :	
Gilo (Rachel's Tomb) Terminal at north entrance to Bethlehem leading to Jerusalem.	Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with valid permits. West Bank Palestinians (including those working for the UN and other international agencies) have to walk through the terminal to undergo search procedures. Jerusalem ID holders passing into Bethlehem are being asked to prove that they reside in areas falling within Jerusalem boundaries. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to enter Bethlehem only if driven by an Arab Israeli. Palestinians holding valid work permits can access East Jerusalem and Israel through this checkpoint. UN national staff can pass through the checkpoint without having to be physically checked. The checkpoint is currently manned by the Israeli Border Police.
Khallet an Nu'man On the main entrance of Khallet an Nu'man from Beit Sahur side .	Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Only Palestinians living in the village, listed vehicles and drivers of service providers are allowed through. Extended family members are not allowed to visit Palestinian residents. International organisations wishing to enter the village are required to hold a permit, show their organisation's ID and their national IDs and/or passports.
Ein Yalow Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations only. Commercial trucks also are allowed to go through.
Beit Jala DCO Entrance to Beit Jala	Rarely-manned and open 24 hours. Movement allowed in both directions for all vehicles.
Tunnels Road 60 at Har Gilo	Open 24 hours for international members of international humanitarian organisations. 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 are being requested to show additional identification in order to proceed to Jerusalem. Commercial trucks are only allowed to go through between 11am and 4pm. Security at the checkpoint is now jointly managed by a private security firm and the border police. On 23 February the IDF began manning the Tunnel terminal.
Settlers' Checkpoint – Efrata Southern entrance to settlement	Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by Israeli settlers with movement beyond it restricted for Palestinians.
Gush Etzion On Road 60, at Etzion turn	Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers checking northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.
Wadi Fukin Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations.
Al Jab'a Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line	Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations. Land levelling is ongoing to enlarge the checkpoint.
Ein Gedi On Road 90, along Dead Sea.	Open 24 hours; restricted for Palestinian movement.
Hebron :	
Beit Awwa At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354	Crossing along Road 354. Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Open from 7am to 7pm.
Tarqumiya Entrance for commercial goods (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates	Workers are usually allowed to cross from 5am to 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. Family visits to Palestinians detained in Israel were permitted. Agricultural products destined for Gaza and Israeli markets were allowed to go through.
Meitar Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line	Manned by Border Police. Open 24 hours. On 25 May 2006, the IDF relocated the checkpoint close to the new Meitar Terminal. As of 20 August 2006, Palestinians holding valid work permits were allowed access to Israel through this checkpoint.
Shani At turn for Shani settlement on	Manned by the IDF. Only Israeli plated cars are allowed to travel through it. Palestinian workers cannot use the checkpoint to access

Road 317.	Israel.
Beit Yatir On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizel	Open 24 hours and manned by the IDF. The checkpoint is restricting the movement of Palestinians living south of it next to the settlement of Beit Yatir. Next to the checkpoint construction work is taking place for the construction of a new terminal.
Prayers Road, H2 Access to area of Ibrahimi Mosque	Closed to Palestinians. During the reporting period, both Israeli settlers and IDF soldiers prevented Palestinian residents from accessing this road.
Shohada street, H2 Western entrance to Shohada street	Open to Palestinians living beyond it and in the Tel Rumeida area in accordance with a list held by the IDF at the checkpoint. Access possible only on foot. Palestinians and internationals have to go through a mobile metal detector.
Ibrahimi Mosque, H2 Access to the Mosque	Worshippers and visitors are 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. A mobile metal detector unit was occasionally in use during the reporting period, as IDF soldiers were searching Palestinians trying to access the Old City and the Ibrahimi Mosque.
Qarantina, H2 Junction with Shohada Street	Closed to Palestinians. Entry point for Palestinian fire trucks and ambulances. No longer allowed for the use of international humanitarian organisations, though the TIPH have reported being able to use it.
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 the checkpoint and the settlement. A military order was issued on 17 July 2006 that declared the area beyond the checkpoint as a "Closed Area" barring the entry of anyone beyond the checkpoint except Israeli citizens, IDF and Israeli Police or those who have an IDF-issued permit.
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 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. During the reporting period long queues of Palestinians wanting to access the Ibrahimi Mosque for prayers were reported as IDF soldiers checked their IDs.
Abu Rish, H2 Near the Abu Rish Mosque at the end of Al Shohada St.	Manned by the IDF. The only access point for international organisations into Hebron Old City. Palestinians have to go through a mobile metal detector.
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. Harassment of commuters and long search process took place during the reporting period
"Nabi Younis" Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint at the entrance to Halhul, monitored from the nearby observation tower.
Al Fawwar Al Fawwar-Dura junction on road 60	Partial checkpoint monitored from the nearby observation tower.
Tarqumiya – Idhna The junction between the two towns on Road 35	Partial checkpoint. Manned on a temporary basis by the Israeli Border Police.
Ras Al Joura Near the junction between Road 35 and Road 60	Partial checkpoint. Manned on a temporary basis by the IDF.
Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints	
Erez crossing	<p>Closed for Palestinian labourers since 12 March. Open for internationals and Palestinian humanitarian cases.</p> <p>Since 12 September 2006 a number of Palestinian traders started to be able to enter Israel for the first time since 12 March. The crossing point is only open to 'senior' traders i.e. over 35 years, married, with children.</p> <p>21 - 27 February: Erez was open for internationals, traders and</p>

	<p>medical cases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 February: 350 merchants and 13 senior traders crossed • 23 February: 211 merchants and 14 senior traders crossed • 24 February: 215 merchants and 18 senior traders crossed • 25 February: 322 merchants and 32 senior traders crossed • 26 February: 320 merchants and 28 senior traders crossed • 27 February: 311 merchants and 26 senior traders crossed.
Rafah Passenger Terminal	<p>21 and 23 - 27 February: Rafah terminal was closed.</p> <p>22 February: Rafah terminal opened from 10:00 to 18:30 for arrivals only allowing 520 to enter.</p>
Commercial checkpoints:	
Tulkarm/Qalqiliya	
Taybeh	An Israeli private company has the responsibility of controlling the checkpoint. The back-to-back system has been operational from 8am to 5pm Sunday to Thursday and 8am to 12pm on Fridays.
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. Commercial trucks need permits to pass the checkpoint.
Qusin Checkpoint (NEW)	Open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm for Palestinian plated commercial trucks with permits. The checkpoint is on the road leading to road 60/55 to Tulkarm, Qalqiliya and the rest of the West Bank south of Nablus
Jenin	
Al Jalama Northern entrance/ main commercial check point.	Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Thursday and 7am to 12pm on Fridays.
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 and Jewish holidays. Open for commercial goods and a back-to-back system is in operation. Only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to pass through this checkpoint without using the back-to-back system. Palestinians holding Israeli IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed through without using the back –to-back system only if bill lading stipulates Kafr 'Aqab and /or Sameeramees offloading destination. This checkpoint is not open for private cars or pedestrians. UN staff are allowed through the checkpoint following prior coordination with the Israeli DCL.
Gaza Strip	
Sufa	Open all the week except on 23 and 24 February the crossing was closed.
Karni	Open all the week except on 24 and 25 February the crossing was closed (on 25 February Karni was closed as a result of Palestinians workers' strike).
Kerem Shalom	Kerem Shalom was closed all the week, except on 21 February was open.
Nahal Oz Energy Pipelines	Open all the week, except on 24 February was closed

– 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.