

PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 February 2008 – 29 February 2008

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 February 2008 to 29 February 2008. The report includes a summary table of events by type throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to a comparative table surveying events over the past three months. The survey is compiled from Daily Situation Reports of the Palestinian Monitoring Group (PMG), Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD), and Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The PMG monitors all aspects of ground conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including Israeli violations, Palestinian violations, and Palestinian achievements. The PMG Daily Situation Reports are a survey of daily events collated from information provided by Palestinian Authority civil ministries and security agencies. The information reported through the PMG process represents data available at the time of distribution only.

SAMPLE OF ISRAELI ARMY VIOLATIONS DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2008

- **On February 5**, an Israeli drone fired 3 missiles towards armed individuals east of the town of Jabalia in Northern Gaza district and injured 3 civilians.
- **On February 7**, the Israeli army fired one tank missile towards armed individuals near the School of Agriculture in Northern Gaza district, killing one teacher and injuring 3 children.
- **On February 8**, the Israeli army raided the village of 'Atuf in Toubas district, opened fire indiscriminately during patrol, and injured one child aged 8.
- **On February 10**, Israeli F16 warplanes fired one missile targeting a workshop in the city of Gaza and injured 10 civilians, including women and children.
- **On February 14**, a mentally retarded civilian died of injuries sustained during an Israeli military raid into the town of Qabatia in Jenin district on March 7, 2008. On the same day, a seriously ill female civilian from the town of Deir al-Ghusun in Tulkarem district died at one of the checkpoints when the Israeli army denied the Red Cross ambulance carrying her access to the Government Hospital in the city of Tulkarem.
- **On February 15**, the Israeli army positioned to guard the wall alongside the village of Qatannah north of the city of Jerusalem opened fire towards a number of children under the pretext of stone throwing, and injured 2 children aged 13 and 16.
- **On February 19**, the Israeli army raided the area east of the city of Deir al-Balah in Central Gaza, clashed with armed individuals during search of a number of civilian houses, and injured one child aged 7.
- **On February 24**, a settler ran over one civilian and killed him instantly near the military checkpoint set up near the village of Na'lin in Ramallah district.
- **On February 26**, the Israeli army raided Palestinian areas east of the town of al-Qarara, opened fire intensively, and killed one civilian who was working on his land.

- On February 27, the Israeli military forces launched land, sea and air attacks on the Gaza Strip districts. By the end of the month, 31 civilians died, including children and one toddler, and 101 civilians were injured, including 11 civilians and a number of women and children who were seriously wounded.

SUMMARY TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY – FEBRUARY 2008

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Assassinations	1	4	5	An Israeli special force unit killed 1 civilian in the city of Nablus. Additionally, the Israeli army killed 4 armed individuals in Northern Gaza and Gaza districts.
Deaths	7	69	76	Incl. 11 children, including a toddler aged 5 months; 1 female civilian who was denied access to hospital; 1 mentally retarded civilian; 1 prisoner in Israeli jails; 1 civilian who was run over by a settler; 1 school teacher; 49 armed individuals.
Injuries	57	208	265	Incl. 26 children, including a toddler; 1 mentally retarded civilian; 5 female civilians; 2 elderly civilians; 69 armed individuals.
Attacks	158	197	355	The Israeli army carried out 153 attacks during raids into Palestinian residential areas; 53 attacks during confrontations between the Israeli army and Palestinians; 65 attacks from Israeli army military posts towards civilian houses and property; 3 attacks from checkpoints; 1 attack perpetrated by settlers. In addition, Israeli navy boats opened fire on 14 occasions; combat helicopters and drones on 66 occasions.
Raids	807	50	857	46 in Jerusalem; 90 in Ramallah; 93 in Jenin; 58 in Toubas; 84 in Tulkarem; 67 in Qalqilya; 80 in Nablus; 62 in Salfit; 12 in Jericho; 87 in Bethlehem; 128 in Hebron; 15 in Northern Gaza; 6 in Gaza; 7 in Central Gaza; 4 in Khan Younis; 18 in Rafah.
Arrests	523	141	664	The Israeli army arrested 52 Palestinian civilians in Jerusalem; 40 in Ramallah; 67 in Jenin; 7 in Toubas; 36 in Tulkarem; 31 in Qalqilya; 106 in Nablus; 49 in Salfit; 124 in Jericho; 28 in Bethlehem; 16 in Hebron; 16 in Northern Gaza; 10 in Central Gaza; 82 in Rafah. The arrested civilians included 43 children; 4 injured civilians; 1 elderly civilian; 18 military officers.
House Demolitions	5	3	8	The Israeli army demolished 3 houses in Jerusalem; 2 houses in Jericho; 2 houses in Northern Gaza; 1 house in Rafah.
Attacks on Public & Private Property	104	49	153	Destruction of Property: The Israeli army destroyed commercial stores, equipment, barracks, trees & plants, buildings, wells, workshops, 1 factory, and fishing boats. Confiscation of Property: The Israeli army confiscated computers, files, arms, high frequency radio, money and gold.
House Occupations	36	27	63	In the districts of Ramallah (3); Toubas (1); Tulkarem (4); Qalqilya (3); Nablus (12); Salfit (9); Bethlehem (2); Hebron (2); Gaza (3); Central Gaza (6); Khan Younis (3); Rafah (15).
Curfews	17	0	17	The Israeli army imposed curfews over residential areas in the districts of Jerusalem (1); Nablus (5); Qalqilya (9); Hebron (2).
Closure of Crossing Points	0	145	145	The Israeli army closed international crossing points (Rafah Crossing to Egypt and Arafat International Airport) on 58 occasions and crossing points to Israel on 87 occasions.
Flying Checkpoints	564	0	564	Jerusalem (87); Ramallah (22); Jenin (113); Toubas (28) Tulkarem (65); Qalqilya (43); Nablus (30); Salfit (21); Jericho (10); Bethlehem (40); Hebron (105).
Medical Obstruction	3	0	3	The Israeli army denied Palestinian ambulances carrying 2 dead civilians and 1 seriously ill female civilian from Tulkarem and Jenin districts access to hospital.
Attacks on Religious Sites	2	0	2	The Israeli army searched 1 mosque in Hebron district and besieged another mosque in Bethlehem district.
School Disruption	6	0	6	The Israeli army searched 3 schools & a kindergarten in Bethlehem & Hebron, 1 college in Ramallah, and prevented students from reaching their schools in Hebron.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	16	0	16	The Israeli army provoked the Palestinian National Security Forces on 5 occasions; the civil police forces on 9 occasions; the preventive security apparatus on 1 occasion; customs police on 1 occasion.
Settlement Activity	5	0	5	Settlers razed agricultural land in Qalqilya district and built infrastructure for the construction of additional residential units in one settlement in Toubas district. In addition, settlers razed agricultural land and seized 766 dunums in Hebron district for the purpose of the wall construction.
Settler Violence	18	0	18	Settlers stormed al-Haram al-Sharif compound in the old city of Jerusalem; opened fire in Salfit district; physically assaulted civilians in Toubas & Hebron districts; killed 1 civilian in Ramallah district; raided villages in Ramallah & Nablus districts.
TOTAL	2337	748	3222	

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT	DEC. 2007	JAN. 2008	FEB 2008	COMMENTS
Deaths	63	95	76	Death toll dropped by 20% compared to January and rose by 20.6% compared to December.
Assassinations	2	0	5	This month witnessed an escalation in Israeli assassination operations against Palestinians who are considered “wanted” by the Israeli security forces.
Injuries	155	364	265	Drop of 27.2% compared to January and a rise of 71% compared to December. Twenty-six children were injured during the month of February, compared to 31 in January and 21 in December.
Attacks	358	356	355	Drop in the number of attacks by 0.3% compared to January and a rise by 0.8% compared to December.
Raids	770	775	857	Rise of 13.5% compared to last January and of 11.3% compared to December. The total number of Israeli army raids into Palestinian Authority-controlled territory (Area A – which the Israeli army has continued to reinvade since 2002) was 490 in February, compared to 318 in January and 427 in December.
Arrests	487	532	664	Rise of 24.8% compared to January and of 36.4% compared to December. Forty-three children were arrested during the month of February compared to 42 children in January and 31 in December.
House Demolition	5	15	8	Drop of 46.7% compared to January and a rise of 60% compared to December.
Attacks on Property	69	133	153	Rise of 15% compared to January and of 21.7% compared to December.
House Occupation	27	58	63	Rise of 8.6% compared to January and of 133.3% compared to December.
Curfews	14	28	17	Curfews dropped by 39.3% compared to last January and rose by 21.4% compared to December.
Flying Checkpoints	435	391	564	Rise of 44.3% compared to January and of 29.7% compared to December.
Complete Closure of Crossing Points	107	115	145	Crossing points to Israel were closed on 87 occasions in January, compared to 58 in January and 47 in December. The Israeli army closed both Rafah Crossing and Yasser Arafat International Airport for 58 days. During the month of January, Rafah Crossing was closed for the whole month, while Yasser ‘Arafat International Airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the second <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising) in 2000.
Medical Obstruction	4	11	3	Drop of 72.7% compared to January and of 25% compared to December.
Attacks on Religious Sites	3	2	2	Same percentage as last January and drop of 33.3% compared to December.
School Disruption	3	2	6	Rise of 200% compared to January and of 100% compared to December.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	9	16	16	Despite efforts made by Palestinian forces to control the security situation, the Israeli army continued to take position near Palestinian security offices and headquarters. The Israeli army also detained Palestinian security commanders and officers, and arrested 18 Palestinian military officers.
Settlement Activity	3	3	5	Rise of 66.6% compared to January and December.
Settler Violence	28	26	18	Drop of 30.8% compared to January and of 35.7% compared to December.
TOTAL	2542	2902	3222	The general 11% rise in the total incidents compared to January was due to the rise in the number of arrests, raids, closure of international crossings and crossings to the Gaza Strip, checkpoints and attacks on property. The general 26.8% rise in the total incidents compared to December was due to the rise in the rate of deaths, injuries, arrests, raids, provocation of Palestinian forces, closure of crossings, checkpoints, attacks on property, and house occupation.

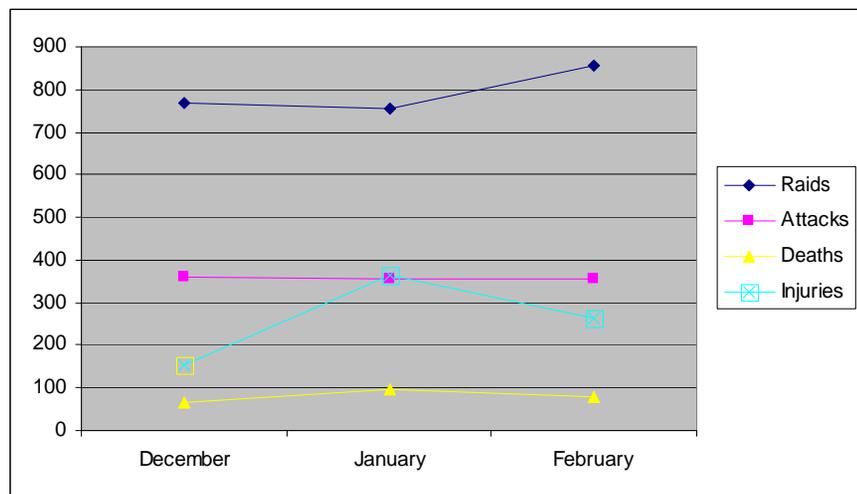
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2008

WEST BANK	NOTES
8	In the districts of Ramallah (1); Nablus (2); Jericho (5). Palestinian Security Forces handed over 6 stranded Israelis, including a female soldier and a female settler. In addition, the Palestinian Security Forces guarded Joseph's Tomb and put a stop to riots in the city of Nablus.

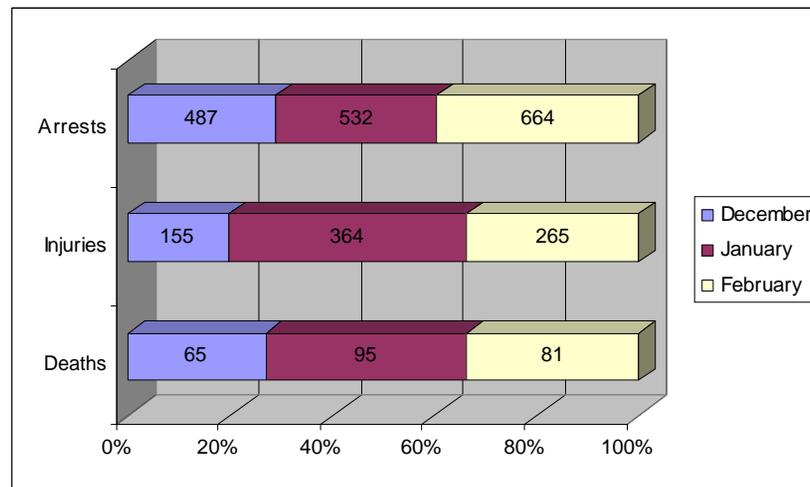
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

DEC. 2007	JAN. 2007	FEB. 2008	NOTES
8	16	8	During the month of February, the Palestinian Security Forces handed over settlers and Israeli soldiers who entered Palestinian-controlled Area A (February 6; January 4; December 5). In addition, the Palestinian Security Forces provided security to Joseph's Tomb and put a stop to riots in the city of Nablus.

COMPARISON OF ISRAELI RAIDS, ATTACKS AND PALESTINIAN HUMAN CASUALTIES OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS



COMPARISON OF INCIDENTS OF DEATHS, INJURIES, AND ARRESTS OVER THE PAST 3 MONTHS



ANALYSIS OF EVENTS

1. Assassinations

An Israeli special force unit assassinated 1 civilian whom the Israeli army considered “wanted,” injured 3 civilians, and arrested 4 civilians, including 2 injured civilians, in the city of Nablus. In two separate incidents, the Israeli army killed 4 armed individuals in an air attack on the town of Beit Lahia in Northern Gaza District and in the city of Gaza. In addition, the Israeli army injured 3 armed individuals, including 1 armed individual who was critically wounded.

2. Deaths

The Israeli army killed 76 Palestinian civilians in February, including 7 civilians in the West Bank and 69 in the Gaza Strip. The Israeli army killed Palestinians in the following districts: Ramallah (1); Jenin (3); Tulkarem (1); Nablus (2); Northern Gaza (27); Gaza (11); Central Gaza (5); Khan Younis (17); Rafah (9). Of these, the Israeli army killed 11 children, including 1 toddler; 1 female civilian; 1 mentally retarded civilian; 1 prisoner in Beer Sheva Israeli jail; 1 civilian who was assaulted by settlers; 1 school teacher; 49 armed individuals.

3. Injuries

The total number of injuries reported during the month of February was 265 (57 Palestinians in the West Bank and 208 in the Gaza Strip). Most injuries were reported in the districts of Northern Gaza (70); Gaza (71); Rafah (31); Khan Younis (20); Central Gaza (14); Hebron (13). Of those injured, 26 were children, including a toddler; 5 female civilians; 1 mentally retarded civilian; 2 elderly civilians; 1 civilian who was run over by a military jeep; 69 armed individuals.

4. Arrests

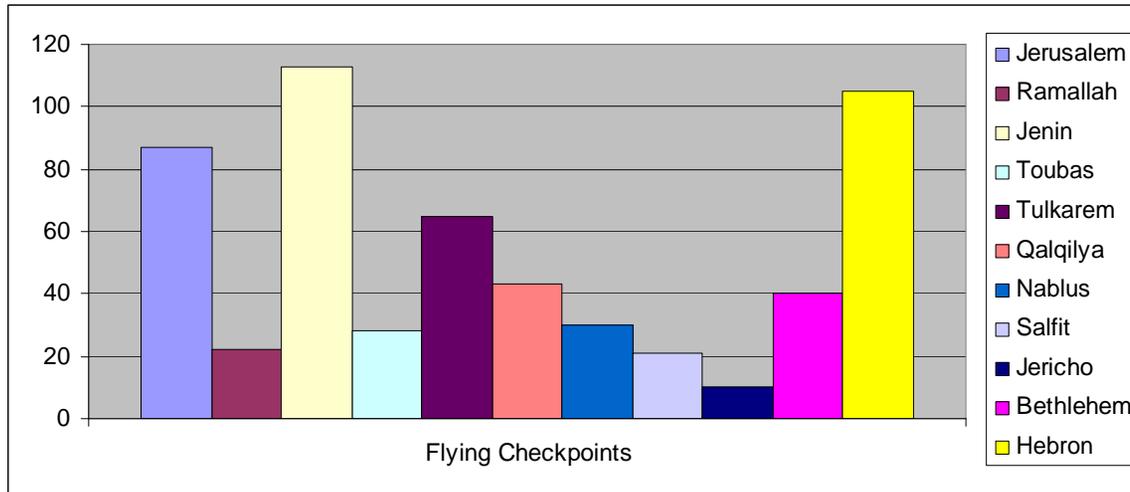
The Israeli army arrested 664 Palestinian civilians in February, including 523 Palestinians in the West Bank and 141 in the Gaza Strip. The majority of arrests were reported to have taken place in the districts of Hebron (124); Nablus (106); Rafah (82); Jenin (67); Jerusalem (52); Northern Gaza (49); Ramallah (40). Among these, the Israeli army arrested 43 children; 4 injured civilians; 1 elderly civilian; 12 university students; 18 military officers.

5. Closure

Especially on Fridays, the Israeli army has continued to intensify its restrictions at checkpoints located at the entrances to the city of Jerusalem and prevented civilians from accessing the al-Aqsa Mosque compound. Beginning on 17 April 2006, the Israeli army has continued to intensify its restrictions at permanent checkpoints set up throughout the West Bank districts. The Israeli army continued as well to isolate the northern districts from the central and southern districts of the West Bank, impeding civilian movement between these districts. Israeli troops positioned at the Za'tara junction checkpoint and at the entrances to the cities of Tulkarem and Nablus continued to impede access to civilian residents. Additionally, the Israeli army also continued to isolate the Jordan Valley and impede civilian access by adopting harsher measures at permanent checkpoints set up in Tayaseer.

Special permits are still required for private civilian vehicles to cross Huwara and Beit Iba checkpoints at the entrances to the city of Nablus and for vehicles leaving the city of Jericho through the checkpoint set up at the southern entrance to the city as well as through Ma'ale Efrayim, al-Hamra, and al-'Auja checkpoints leading to the area of the Jordan Valley. Considering it a “border crossing point,” the Israeli army continued to prevent Palestinian West Bank civilian vehicles from crossing Qalandya checkpoint towards the towns of al-Ram and Qalandya, as well as Dahiyat al-Bareed north of the city of Jerusalem.

Further impeding civilian access, the Israeli army set 546 flying checkpoints in and around Palestinian residential locales throughout the West Bank during the month of February, compared to 391 flying checkpoints in December and 435 in November. The chart below shows the distribution of flying checkpoints in the West Bank for February 2008.



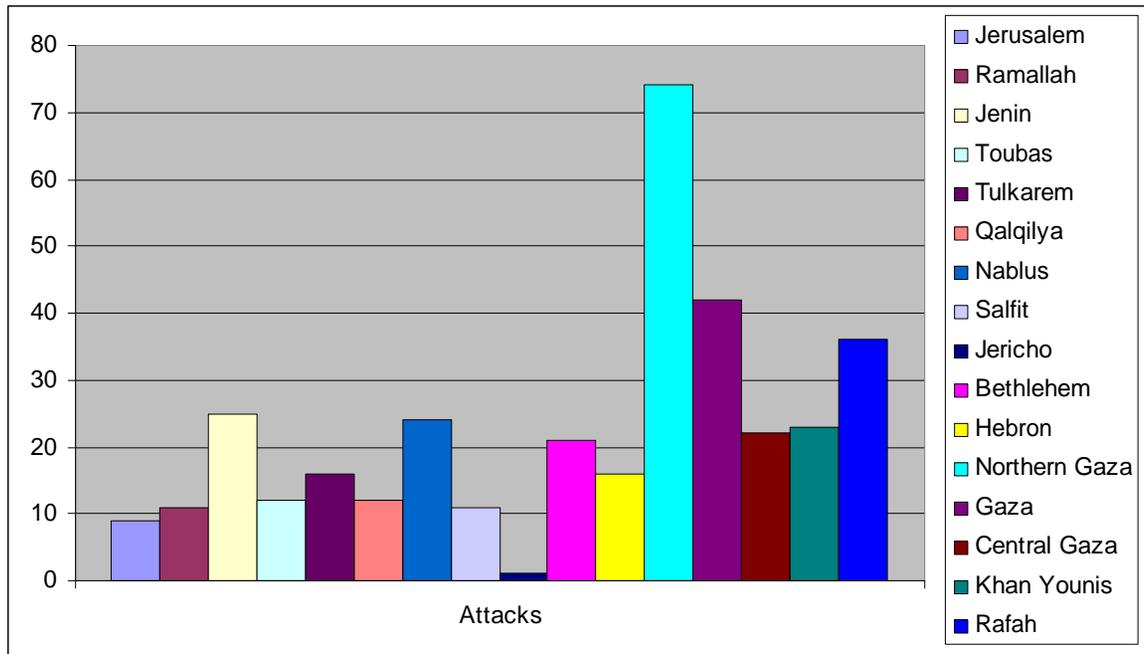
Distribution of flying checkpoints in the West Bank – February 2008

6. Attacks

A total of 355 attacks were reported during the month of February including 158 attacks in the West Bank and 197 in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army carried out 153 attacks during raids into Palestinian residential areas; 53 attacks during confrontations between the Israeli army and Palestinians; 65 attacks from Israeli army military posts towards civilian houses and property; 3 attacks from checkpoints; 1 attack was carried out by settlers; 14 attacks from navy boats. In addition, Israeli combat aircraft, helicopters and UAVs carried out 66 air attacks.

In addition, the Israeli army carried out 197 attacks (including air attacks) in the Gaza Strip districts. Armed Palestinian individuals fired 509 mortars towards areas inside the Green Line (of which 7 mortars fell in Palestinian areas, including one that fell on the area north-east of the town of Beit Lahia and caused a civilian to lose a leg and injured one child, and another that fell in the town of Beit Hanoun and killed one child aged 3 and injured her sister); opened fire towards the Israeli army on the Green Line on 11 occasions; detonated 1 explosive device.



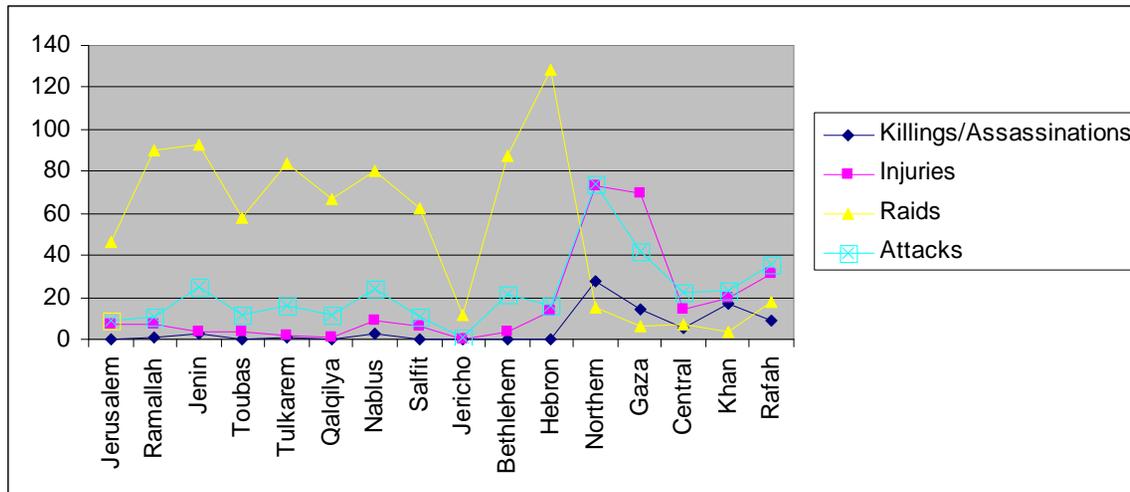
Israeli attacks in the West Bank and Gaza Strip – February 2008

Following the crisis in the Gaza Strip, the Israeli-Palestinian ceasefire agreement that entered into force at 06:00 on 26 November 2006 has no longer been effective.

7. Raids

1. The Israeli army carried out a total of 857 raids into Palestinian residential locales during the month of February, including 807 in the West Bank and 50 in the Gaza Strip. The majority of Israeli army raids took place in the districts of Hebron (128); Jenin (93); Ramallah (90); Bethlehem (87); Tulkarem (84); Nablus (80).

The Israeli army opened fire during 153 raids, approximately 17.9% of the total number of raids into Palestinian residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army imposed curfew 17 times on 6 residential locales in the West Bank during raids (compared to 28 times in January and 14 in December). During the raids, the Israeli army occupied and converted into military posts 63 civilian houses and residential buildings. The following graph shows the correlation between the number of raids and resulting human losses:



Correlation between the number of raids and resulting human losses – February 2008

2. The Israeli army also continued to intensify its raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (Areas A under the Oslo Agreement), which the Israeli army re-occupied in 2002. The Israeli army conducted 490 raids, approximately 57.2% of the total number of raids, into Palestinian Authority controlled territory in the West Bank.

3. In an unceasing attempt to thwart the Palestinian security plan in the city of Nablus and the refugee camps in it, the Israeli army raided the city and its refugee camps 46 times during the month of February (29 raids into the city of Nablus, 9 raids into the refugee camp of Balata, 1 raid into the refugee camp of Askar, and 7 raids into the refugee camp of Ein al-Ma'). In addition, the Israeli army killed 3 civilians whom it considered "wanted" and injured 9 civilians, including 1 child and 1 female civilians. Furthermore, the Israeli army arrested 40 civilians during the raids.

7. House Demolitions

During the month of February, the Israeli army demolished 8 civilian houses, including 5 in the West Bank and 3 in the Gaza Strip. The house demolition included 2 civilian house in the city of Jerusalem, 1 civilian house in the village of Sur Baher in Jerusalem district under the pretext of unlicensed construction, 2 civilian houses in the village of Jiftlik in Jericho district, 2 civilian houses in the town of Jabalia in Northern Gaza, and one 4-storey house in the city of Rafah during an air attack. In addition, the Israeli army handed notifications for the demolition of 8 houses in Salfit and Hebron districts.

9. Provocation of Palestinian Military and Security Forces

The Israeli army provoked Palestinian forces in West Bank districts on 16 occasions during the month of February (not including the 18 Palestinian military officers who were arrested by the Israeli army). The provocation was reported to have taken place in the West Bank as follows:

Types of Israeli Army Provocation against Palestinian Forces during the Month of February 2008

Type of Provocation	West Bank	Notes
Attacks	1	The Israeli army opened fire towards a Palestinian security checkpoint in Bethlehem district.
Preventing Palestinian security force from carrying out their duties	4	The Israeli army detained West Bank Palestinian security forces commander; detained and searched head of the Palestinian police in Jenin; obstructed security patrols in Tulkarem district; denied 2 military officers access to the city of Jericho to join a training course.
Raiding Palestinian security forces offices and locations security quarters	1	The Israeli army attempted to storm Palestinian police station in the town of Nouba in Hebron district.
Taking position / setting up checkpoints near Palestinian security posts	4	The Israeli army took position near a Palestinian National Security Forces checkpoint and set up post in front of a police station in the city of Hebron; set up posts in front of a police stations in the city of Tulkarem in the suburb of Shweiki in the city of Tulkarem.
Detaining Palestinian security personnel & patrols	6	The Israeli army detained 50 Palestinian police officers who were on their way for training in the city of Jericho; searched a customs police patrol in the city of Hebron and 3 police vehicles at flying checkpoints in Hebron district. In addition, the Israeli army detained a preventive security vehicle at the junction of al-Fawwar in Hebron district.
Total	16	

9. Attacks on Public and Private Property

A total of 153 incidents of destruction and confiscation of public and private property were reported during the month of February, including 104 in the West Bank and 49 in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army opened fire towards a civilian vehicle in Bethlehem district; dug a tunnel in the city of Jerusalem; caused cracks in a school in Qalqilya district; demolished and incurred damage to tens of civilian houses and buildings in Bethlehem, Ramallah, Northern Gaza, Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah districts; seized buildings and schools belonging to 2 Islamic associations in the city of Hebron; demolished 3 commercial stores in Jerusalem and Hebron districts; demolished 5 smith workshops and 1 factory in Gaza and Central Gaza districts; demolished vehicles during air attacks in Northern Gaza, Gaza and Rafah districts; incurred damage to civilian vehicles and 1 truck in Ramallah, Jenin, Qalqilya and Bethlehem districts; detained 3 civilian vehicles in Tulkarem district and used them for patrol; demolished barracks in Jenin, Qalilya, Salfit and Jericho districts; damaged driller and demolished wells and water pipes in Gaza district; incurred damage to plants and fruitful trees in Qalqilya, Hebron, Northern Gaza, Gaza, Central Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah districts; incurred damage to fishing boats.

Israeli troops confiscated 1 civilian house in the city of Jerusalem upon a verdict issued by the Israeli court; computers and files from a cultural centre in Jerusalem district and from a money changing store in Ramallah, Jenin, Tulkarem, and Hebron districts; a revolver in the city of Ramallah; 3 revolvers in Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Hebron districts; 7 rifles and ammo in Ramallah, Bethlehem and Hebron districts; 2 IDs in the city of al-Bireh; hundreds of Israeli shekels and gold from money changing stores in the cities of Ramallah, Jenin and Tulkarem; contents of a charity society in the city of Jenin; computers, furniture, equipment, files, seats and 5 school buses from 2 Islamic associations in the city of Hebron; computers and files from Islamic associations in the cities of Jenin and Hebron and other towns in Hebron district; a high frequency radio from a Palestinian police vehicle in Hebron district; chemicals from a medical company in the city of Nablus.

10. Settlement Activity

Settlers carried out settlement activities in West Bank districts on 5 occasions during the month of February. Settlers razed land, set up water tanks and put foundations for the construction of new residential units to expand Miskiyot settlement in Toubas district; razed agricultural land planted with olive trees near the town of 'Azzun in Qalqilya district; razed agricultural land near the town of Beit 'Ummar and confiscated 766 dunums in the towns of al-Thahiriyyeh and Dura and the village of Arab al-Ramadin in Hebron district for the purpose of wall construction.

11. Settler Violence

Israeli settlers carried out 18 violent incidents in West Bank districts during the month of February.

Israeli settlers stormed the al-Aqsa Mosque compound and the courtyards of al-Ibrahimiyyeh school in the city of Jerusalem; settlers ran over 1 civilian and killed him in Ramallah district; settlers physically attacked 1 civilian in Toubas district and a father and his son in the old city of Hebron; settlers stoned and threw glass bottles at civilians and civilian vehicles in the city of Qalqilya and the old city of Hebron; settlers opened fire indiscriminately near the town of Kafr al-Dik in Salfit district; settlers raided the town of Attara and the village of Beitin in Ramallah district, and the village of al-Naqoorah in Nablus district; settlers attacked 1 civilian house and its inhabitants in the old city of Hebron, blew up rocks in a settlement causing cracks in a school in Qalqilya district; settlers detained a civilian vehicle after trying to attack him in Salfit district.

12. Medical Obstruction

In February, the Israeli army carried out 3 incidents of medical obstruction in the West Bank. The Israeli army prevented an ambulance from carrying a sick female civilian across a checkpoint in Tulkarem district, and denied ambulances access to carry the dead bodies of 2 civilians from the town of Qabatia in Jenin district.

13. Attacks on Religious Sites

In February, 2 attacks on religious sites were reported to have taken place in the West Bank. The Israeli army searched one mosque in the town of Beit 'Ummar in Hebron district and besieged a mosque in the village of al-Zeer in Bethlehem district.

14. School Disruption

The Israeli army carried out 6 incidents of school disruption during the month of February in the West Bank districts. The Israeli army stormed and searched one school and one kindergarten in the city of Bethlehem, 2 schools in the city of Hebron, one building belonging to the Teachers' College in the city of Ramallah, and prevented students from reaching their schools in the city of Hebron.

15. Closure of Crossing Points

The Israeli army completely closed crossing points in the Gaza Strip, including Green Line crossing points on 145 occasions, in February. The Israeli army closed crossing points into the Green Line on 87 occasions. Beit Hanoun-Erez Crossing was opened partially to allow access to certain humanitarian cases, business people, medicine and vaccines, after prior coordination. The Israeli army also closed al-Muntar (Karni), Sufa Crossing (designated for construction cargo transportation) and Karm Abu Salim Crossing (designated for commercial trading with Egypt) were closed the entire month. Al-Shuja'iya (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing (designated for fuel transportation) was opened the entire month.

Rafah international crossing point and Arafat International Airport on 58 occasions. Rafah Crossing bordering with Egypt was closed the entire month of February, while Yasser Arafat International Airport was closed for the whole month. (The airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the current Intifada (Uprising) in 2002.

16. Palestinian Security Measures

During the month of February, Palestinian Security Forces carried out 8 security measures in the West Bank. The security measures were reported to have taken place in the districts of Ramallah (1); Nablus (2); Jericho (5). The Palestinian forces handed over to the Israeli army (through the D.C.O.) 1 female Israeli soldier and 5 settlers, including 1 female settler, that entered Ramallah and Jericho districts. Additionally, Palestinian Security Forces provided security for Joseph's Tomb and put stops to riots in the city of Nablus.