

PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 May 2006 – 31 May 2006

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 May 2006 to 31 May 2006. 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, Palestine Liberation Organization. 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 civilian ministries and security agencies. The information reported through the PMG process only represents data available at the time of distribution.

SUMMARY TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY – MAY 2006

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Assassinations	1	1	2	Israeli Special Forces and Israeli army combat aircraft carried out 2 assassination operations in the cities of Tulkarem and Gaza, extra-judicially killing 1 civilian and 1 Palestinian security officer. In Gaza city, missiles fired by Israeli army combat aircraft also hit a civilian vehicle near a targeted vehicle, killing 3 civilian bystanders (a female civilian as well as her 4-year-old son and sister).
Deaths	19	19	38	The Israeli army killed 4 Palestinians in Ramallah; 7 in Jenin; 8 in Nablus; 11 in Northern Gaza; and 8 in Gaza, including 2 children, 2 female civilians, 2 elderly civilians, and 3 Palestinian security officers. In addition, 3 civilians were killed due to the explosion of an artillery shell, which had been fired by the Israeli army but did not explode.
Injuries	145	43	188	The Israeli army injured 3 Palestinians in Jerusalem; 63 in Ramallah; 35 in Jenin; 3 in Tulkarem; 25 in Nablus; 7 in Jericho; 4 in Bethlehem; 5 in Hebron; 26 in Northern Gaza; 11 in Gaza; and 6 in Khan Yunis, including 42 children, 2 female civilians, 2 elderly civilians (1 male, 1 female), 3 medics, 4 journalists, and 3 Palestinian security officers. Of those injured, 5 civilians are from the same family.
Attacks	157	176	333	The Israeli army carried out 6 attacks in Jerusalem; 23 in Ramallah; 39 in Jenin; 17 in Tulkarem; 5 in Qalqiliya; 37 in Nablus; 6 in Salfit; 3 in Jericho; 8 in Bethlehem; 13 in Hebron; 79 in Northern Gaza; 33 in Gaza; 20 in Central Gaza; 17 in Khan Yunis; and 27 in Rafah.
Raids	691	30	721	28 in Jerusalem; 125 in Ramallah; 84 in Jenin; 74 in Tulkarem; 31 in Qalqiliya; 108 in Nablus; 31 in Salfit; 12 in Jericho; 112 in Bethlehem; 86 in Hebron; 6 in Northern Gaza; 8 in Gaza; 3 in Central Gaza; 7 in Khan Yunis; and 6 in Rafah.
Arrests (per person)	461	8	469	The Israeli army arrested 15 Palestinians in Jerusalem; 76 in Ramallah; 65 in Jenin; 36 in Tulkarem; 21 in Qalqiliya; 130 in Nablus; 8 in Salfit; 9 in Jericho; 48 in Bethlehem; 53 in Hebron; 1 in Northern Gaza; 1 in Khan Yunis; and 6 in Rafah, including 37 children.
House Demolitions	7	—	7	The Israeli army demolished 2 houses in the city of Jerusalem; 2 houses in the district of Jenin; 1 house in the district of Qalqiliya; and 2 houses in the district of Salfit. The Israeli army also distributed notices for the demolition of 4 houses in the district of Jerusalem, 7 houses north of the city of Jerusalem, as well as 1 house in the district of Bethlehem.
Attacks on Property	74	14	88	Destruction of Property: The Israeli army damaged furniture of 4 houses; 9 civilian vehicles; 2 electricity networks; 5 commercial shops; trees on 6 occasions; 2 green houses; and 3 Palestinian security posts. Confiscation of Property: The Israeli army confiscated computers on 3 occasions; 6 civilian vehicles; 6 rifles; and 2 pistols.
House Occupations	31	—	31	The Israeli army occupied civilian houses and converted them into military posts in the following districts: <i>Jenin:</i> (5); <i>Nablus:</i> (14); <i>Tulkarem:</i> (2); <i>Bethlehem:</i> (1); and <i>Hebron:</i> (9).
Curfews	19	—	19	The Israeli army imposed curfew over Palestinian residential compounds in the following districts: <i>Ramallah:</i> (3); <i>Jenin:</i> (1); <i>Nablus:</i> (7); <i>Jericho:</i> (6); and <i>Hebron:</i> (2).
Closure of Crossing Points	—	99	99	The Israeli army closed crossing points to Israel on 68 occasions. <i>Yasser Arafat International Airport</i> remains closed since the outbreak of the current <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising).
Flying Checkpoints	450	—	450	In Jerusalem (35); Ramallah (72); Jenin (105); Tulkarem (28); Qalqiliya (53); Nablus (21); Salfit (49); Jericho (16); Bethlehem (8); and Hebron (63).
Medical Obstruction	10	1	11	The Israeli army denied access to ambulances to evacuate injured civilians on 5 occasions; opened fire towards ambulances on 2 occasions; injured 3 medics during an air attack; beat 1 ambulance driver as well as 1 medic; and raided 1 clinic.
Attacks on Religious Sites	6	—	6	The Israeli army closed the Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron, prohibited the call to prayers from being broadcast, and prevented young civilians from accessing the mosque. The Israeli army also surrounded 1 mosque.
School Disruption	12	—	12	The Israeli army disrupted classes in 18 schools as well as raided 2 schools and 1 university.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	16	50	66	The Israeli army provoked Palestinian National Security forces on 57 occasions; Palestinian Police forces on 6 occasions; the Palestinian General Intelligence agency on 1 occasion; and Palestinian Civil Defence forces on 2 occasions.
Settlement Activity	4	31	35	<i>Nablus:</i> (1); <i>Bethlehem:</i> (1); <i>Hebron:</i> (2); <i>Northern Gaza:</i> (5); <i>Gaza:</i> (8); <i>Central Gaza:</i> (4); <i>Khan Yunis:</i> (8); and <i>Rafah:</i> (6).
Settler Violence	20	—	20	<i>Ramallah:</i> (4); <i>Qalqiliya:</i> (1); <i>Nablus:</i> (3); <i>Salfit:</i> (1); <i>Bethlehem:</i> (1); and <i>Hebron:</i> (10).
Palestinian Security Measures	11	9	20	<i>Ramallah:</i> (2); <i>Jenin:</i> (1); <i>Tulkarem:</i> (2); <i>Jericho:</i> (1); <i>Hebron:</i> (5); <i>Northern Gaza:</i> (8); and <i>Rafah:</i> (1).
TOTAL	2134	481	2615	

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT TYPE	MAR.	APR.	MAY	COMMENTS
Assassinations	3	10	2	Decrease in assassinations of Palestinian faction activists, whom the Israeli authorities describe as 'wanted individuals' compared to a rise in the number of wanted individuals killed during armed confrontations with the Israeli army, after surrounding houses in which they were located.
Deaths	16	21	38	Increase in death toll (incl. those individuals assassinated by the Israeli army) by 29% compared to April and 110.5% compared to March. Compared to 6 children killed in April and 5 in March, the Israeli army killed 2 children during the month of May.
Injuries	145	235	188	Drop of 20% compared to April and a rise of 29.7% compared to March (42 children injured this month, compared to 89 in April and 27 in March).
Attacks	304	416	333	Drop in the number of attacks by 20% compared to April and a rise of 9.5% compared to March.
Raids	675	703	721	Rise of 2.6% compared to April and 6.8% compared to March. The total number of Israeli army raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (Area A- which the Israeli army continues to reoccupy since 2002) dropped to 434 in May, compared to 452 in April, but rose compared to 386 in March. On 55 occasions, the Israeli army raided areas in which security responsibility was transferred back to the Palestinian Authority (Area A) in the city of Tulkarem, its suburbs, Nur Shams & Tulkarem refugee camps, and the eastern areas of the city as well as the city of Jericho and the village of Al 'Auja (in which security responsibility was transferred back to the Palestinian Authority in March 2005), compared to 62 raids on these areas in April and 54 raids in March. The Israeli army also raided Palestinian Authority controlled area in the Gaza Strip districts on 30 occasions, compared to 7 raids last month and 10 in March.
Arrests (per person)	511	573	469	Drop of 18.2% compared to April and 8.2% compared to March (37 children arrested compared to 65 last month and 59 in March).
House Demolitions	7	1	7	The Israeli army continued to demolish civilian houses in the eastern quarters of the city of Jerusalem as well as throughout Palestinian districts.
Attacks on Property	55	70	88	The Israeli army continued to destroy civilian houses, vehicles, and commercial shops. The Israeli army also destroyed Palestinian security headquarters and locations.
House Occupations	34	74	31	A decrease in the number of houses and buildings occupied and converted into military posts, which the Israeli army has used for surveillance purposes or as points for opening fire on Palestinian residential compounds during raids.
Curfews	21	13	19	Curfews rose by 46.2% compared to April but dropped by 9.5% compared to March.
Flying Checkpoints	464	394	450	Rise of 14.2% compared to April and a drop of 3% compared to March.
Complete Closure of Crossing Points	78	83	99	Crossing points to Israel were closed on 68 occasions in May (compared to 53 in April and 47 in March). Yasser Arafat International Airport remained closed throughout the month (31 occasions).
Medical Obstruction	2	7	11	The Israeli army continued to prevent ambulances from evacuating injured civilians and raided as well as damaged hospitals.
Attacks on Religious Sites	2	12	6	Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints continued to prevent worshippers from accessing religious sites in Jerusalem. The Israeli army also surrounded mosques.
School Disruption	7	10	12	The Israeli army continued to raid schools and universities as well as disrupt classes in schools.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	62	114	66	The Israeli army continued to raid Palestinian Authority controlled territory. Despite efforts made by Palestinian security forces to control the security situation and prevent armed Palestinian individuals from carrying out armed operations against Israeli targets, the Israeli army continued to target Palestinian security offices and locations through artillery, air, and naval attacks. The Israeli army also raided Palestinian security locations. In addition, Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints continued to arrest and assail Palestinian security officers.
Settlement Activity	23	9	35	Incidents of settlement activity sharply increased by 288.9% compared to April and by 52.2% compared to March. The Israeli army also continued to confiscate civilian land for construction of military posts and surveillance points.
Settler Violence	34	30	20	Decrease of Israeli settler attacks against Palestinian civilians, civilian property and land by 33.3% compared to April and 41.2% compared to March.
Palestinian Security Measures	22	12	20	Palestinian security forces handed over 11 illegal vehicles, (1 in April and 14 in March); weapons, mortars, and explosive devices on 5 occasions (1 in April and 1 in March); and 1 Israeli settler (none in April and 4 in March). Compared to 2 in April and 13 in March, no incidents of Palestinian security forces arresting suspected Palestinian individuals were reported this month. Additionally, Palestinian security forces blocked 3 attempts to carry out operations or fire mortars towards Israeli targets inside the Green Line and seized mortars in May (2 in April and 7 in March). Whereas no explosive devices were defused in April and March, Palestinian security forces dismantled 7 explosive devices this month. No incidents of Palestinian security forces sealing off tunnels were reported during the month of May (compared to 1 in April and 0 in March).
TOTAL	2465	2787	2615	Total incidents dropped by 6.5% compared to April and rose by 6.2% compared to March. In April, incidents dropped due to a decrease in injuries, arrests, and incidents of provocation of Palestinian security forces, in addition to a low number of Israeli army attacks.

SAMPLE OF ISRAELI ARMY VIOLATIONS DURING THE MONTH OF MAY 2006

- **On 01 May**, the Israeli army raided the city of Tulkarem and killed '*Afaf az Zalat*, a female civilian, and injured her 2 daughters, *Ahlam* and *Ibtisam*.
- **On 06 May**, the Israeli army fired 92 artillery shells towards the district of Northern Gaza near Palestinian National Security locations, killing 60-year-old *Mousa as Sawarkeh* and injuring 5 civilians and 1 Palestinian National Security officer while he was stationed at his security post.
- **On 14 May**, the Israeli army raided the city of Jenin. While surrounding the Palestinian General Intelligence office, the Israeli army opened fire and critically injured *Ali Jabarin*, who later died of his injuries after the Israeli army prevented ambulances from accessing the area to transport him to hospital. In addition, the Israeli army raided the neighbouring town of Qabatiya, surrounded 1 house, and killed 5 civilians, including 2 brothers:
 - (i) *Jihad Kmeil*;
 - (ii) *Mu'tassem Ja'ar*;
 - (iii) *Ilyas al Ashqar*
 - (iv) *Tha'er Hanaysheh*; and his brother
 - (v) *Mujahed Hanaysheh*.
- **On 20 May**, an Israeli army UAV fired missiles towards 1 civilian vehicle in Gaza city, extra-judicially killing *Mohammed ad Dahdouh*. The UAV missiles also hit another civilian vehicle, killing 3 civilian bystanders (a female civilian as well as her son and sister):
 - (i) *Muhannad Amin*, 4 years old;
 - (ii) *Hanan Amin*, a female civilian; and
 - (iii) *Na'imeh Amin*, a female civilian.
- **On 24 May**, Israeli undercover Special Forces (from the *Duvdevan* Unit) raided the city of Ramallah, raided 1 building, and killed 3 civilians and 1 Palestinian National Security officer:
 - (i) *Aysar Abu 'Arrah*, a Palestinian National Security officer;
 - (ii) *Meelad Abu al 'Arayes*;
 - (iii) *Ja'far Hussein*; and
 - (iv) *Ghaleb 'Allam*.The Israeli army also injured 42 civilians (including 1 child) and 1 Palestinian National Security officer and arrested 5 civilians.
- **On 30 May**, the Israeli army killed 5 civilians and 2 Palestinian National Security officers in several Palestinian residential locales:
 - (i) *Tareq Zakarneh*, in the town of Qabatiya in the district of Jenin;
 - (ii) *Usama an Nimri*, a Palestinian National Security officer extra-judicially killed in the town of 'Anabta in the district of Tulkarem; and
 - (iii) *Hani as Saqqa*, in Balata refugee camp in the city of Nablus.In addition, the Israeli army killed the following civilians near the town of Beit Lahiya in the district of Northern Gaza:
 - (iv) *Mohammed Matar*;
 - (v) *Yousef Abu Mi'za*;
 - (vi) *Mohammed Abu Shanab*;
 - (vii) *Sabri Abu Qleiq*, a Palestinian National Security officer;The Israeli army also injured 17 civilians, including 1 journalist. Of these, 5 civilians, including 3 medics, sustained critical injuries.

ANALYSIS OF EVENTS

1. Assassinations

In the context of the Israeli army's escalation of assassinations against "wanted individuals" during the month of May, the **Israeli army carried out 2 assassination operations**. An Israeli army UAV fired missiles towards 1 civilian vehicle in Gaza city, extra-judicially killing 1 civilian. The UAV missiles also hit another civilian vehicle near the targeted vehicle, killing 3 civilian bystanders (a female civilian as well as her 4-year-old son and her sister) and injuring 5 other civilians (from the same family), including 2 children. In the town of 'Anabta, Israeli Special Forces set up an ambush, extra-judicially killed 1 Palestinian National Security officer, and arrested another Palestinian security officer. Israeli army combat helicopter also fired 1 missile towards a civilian vehicle in Gaza city in a failed attempt to extra-judicially kill civilians.

2. Killings

Compared to 21 Palestinians killed in April and 16 in March, **38 Palestinians were killed in May**, including 19 Palestinians in each of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Israeli army killed 4 Palestinians in Ramallah; 7 in Jenin; 8 in Nablus; 11 in Northern Gaza; and 8 in Gaza. Of these, the Israeli army killed 2 children, 2 elderly civilians, 2 female civilians, 3 Palestinian security officers, and 1 civilian while he was attempting to enter the city of Nablus through an unpaved detour road. In addition, 3 civilians were killed due to the explosion of an artillery shell which had been fired by the Israeli army towards Palestinian territory but did not explode.

3. Injuries

Compared to 235 Palestinians injured in April and 145 in March, the total number of injuries reported during the month of May was **188**. The Israeli army injured 145 civilians in the West Bank and 43 in the Gaza Strip, including 42 children, 2 female civilians, 1 female school student, 2 elderly civilians (1 male and 1 female), 3 medics, 4 journalists, 1 civilian run over by an Israeli settler, and 3 Palestinian security officers. In addition, 3 civilians sustained injuries due to the explosion of an artillery shell, which had been fired by the Israeli army but exploded later. 1 civilian was also injured due to the explosion of an Israeli army UXO.

4. Arrests

The Israeli army arrested **469** Palestinians during the month of May, including 461 in the West Bank and 8 in the Gaza Strip. The majority of arrests were reported to have taken place in the districts of Ramallah (76), Jenin (65), Hebron (53), Bethlehem (48), and Tulkarem (36). The Israeli army arrested 37 children (including 1 mentally challenged child and 1 injured child), 5 female civilians, 1 physically disabled civilian, 1 physician, 1 school teacher, a chairman of a local council, a deputy chairman of a local council, 26 university students, 1 high school (*Tawjihi*) student, and 46 Palestinian security officers.

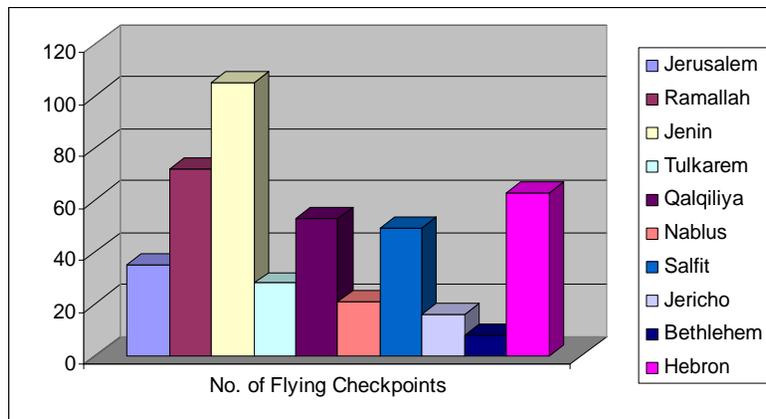
5. Closure

The Israeli army eased the military blockade which it has imposed on the West Bank districts since 11 March 2006, while it continued to intensify the blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip districts. Beginning on 28 December 2005, the Israeli army has also continued to impose a buffer zone (through open fire as well as artillery and air attacks) in the northern area of the district of Northern Gaza near the Green Line.

Beginning on 17 April 2006, the Israeli army has continued to intensify its restrictions at checkpoints set up throughout the West Bank districts, after a Palestinian individual carried out a suicide attack in the city of Tel Aviv inside the Green Line, as well as isolate the northern districts from the central and southern districts of the West Bank, preventing civilian movement between these districts. In addition, the Israeli army has continued to close the city of Jerusalem, preventing civilians from entering the city throughout the month of May. The Israeli army also continued to impose a closure on the city of Tulkarem and intensify its restrictions and close checkpoints around the city, impeding civilian access. Additionally, the Israeli army closed **'Einav**

checkpoint (the eastern entrance to the city of Tulkarem) throughout the month of May, denying access to civilian vehicles. The Israeli army also prevented civilian residents of the Tulkarem district from crossing **Jubara checkpoint** (the southern entrance to the city of Tulkarem) and closed **Tayasir checkpoint** between the district of Jenin and the Jordan Valley and Jericho. At **checkpoints set up around the city of Nablus**, Israeli troops positioned at **Huwwara** and **Beit Iba checkpoints** (which separate the district of Nablus from the central and northern districts of the West Bank respectively) denied access to civilians between 15 and 30 years of age. In addition, Israeli troops positioned at **Za'tara checkpoint** prevented civilian residents of the northern districts from crossing towards the central districts of the West Bank. The Israeli army also closed **Al Hamra checkpoint** (which separates the district of Nablus from the Jordan Valley and the district of Jericho). Additionally, the Israeli army continued to intensify its restrictions at **checkpoints set up around the city of Jericho**. The Israeli army also continued to close all roads to Road #60 leading to the city of Jerusalem, thereby isolating the city of Bethlehem from its towns and villages located west of Road #60.

Special permits are still required for private civilian vehicles to cross **Huwwara** and **Beit Iba checkpoints** at the entrances to the city of Nablus, and **As Sawahira ash Sharqiya (the "Container") checkpoint** between the districts of Ramallah and Bethlehem to Hebron. In addition, Palestinian civilian vehicles from the West Bank are no longer permitted to cross **Qalandiya checkpoint** towards the town of Ar Ram, the village of Qalandiya, and Dahiyat al Bared north of the city of Jerusalem.



The Israeli army set up **450 flying checkpoints** in and around Palestinian residential locales throughout the West Bank during the month of May, compared to 394 flying checkpoints in April and 464 in March.

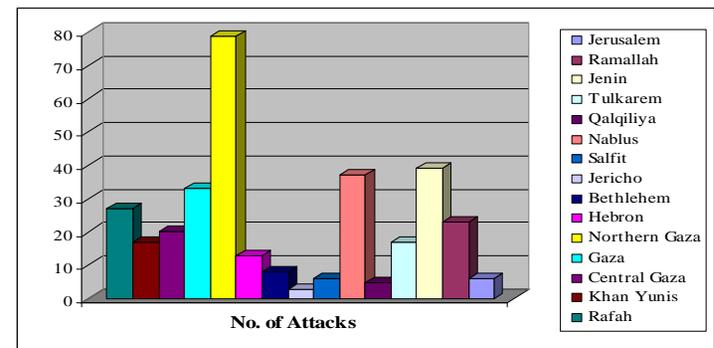
At various times, the Israeli army closed 35 roads, junctions, and entrances to Palestinian residential compounds, 34 of which remain closed. With regard to the settlement evacuation area, the Israeli army continues to close the Jenin-Nablus main road between the junction to the village of Deir Sharaf and the settlement of Shavei Shomron. In addition, the Israeli army continues to close Road #90 between the city of Jericho and the village of Al 'Auja. The Israeli army has also continued to completely isolate and close all roads leading to the village of An Nu'man east of the city of Bethlehem for several months. Upon completion of Wall construction, residents in the village of An Nu'man will be under threat of forced displacement from the village.

Furthermore, the Israeli army continues to close the commercial centre of Hebron, Shalala Street, the area of Khuzq al Far near the settlement outpost of Abraham Avino, and the entrance to the area of Al Khan in the old city of Hebron.

6. Attacks

A total of **333 attacks** were reported during the month of May (compared to 416 attacks in April and 304 in March), including **157 attacks** in the West Bank and **176** in the Gaza Strip. The majority of Israeli army attacks took place in Northern Gaza (79), Jenin (39), Nablus (37), Gaza (33), Rafah (27), and Ramallah (23).

The Israeli army carried out **103 attacks during raids** on Palestinian residential areas, **170 attacks from Israeli army military posts** towards civilian houses and property, and **42 attacks during confrontations** between the Israeli army and civilians. Israeli army combat



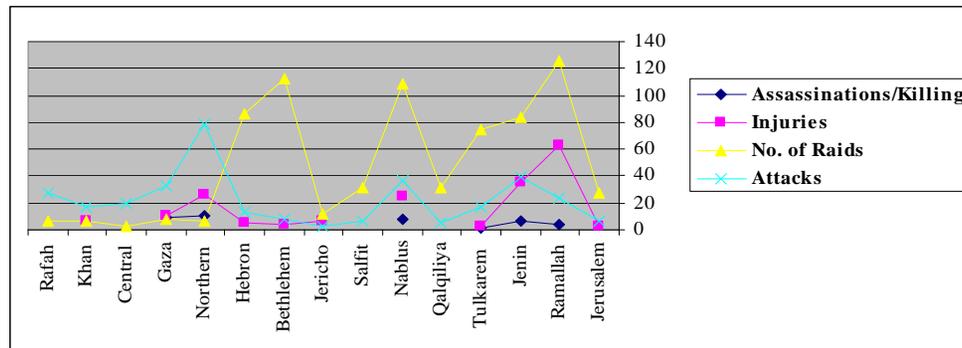
aircraft also carried out **8 air attacks** (including 1 air attack by F16 combat aircraft, 4 by combat helicopters, and 3 by UAVs) and Israeli naval boats carried out **9 attacks**. In addition, Israeli settlers opened fire towards Palestinian civilians on **1 occasion**.

7. Raids

The Israeli army carried out a total of **721 raids** on Palestinian residential locales during the month of May (compared to 703 raids during April and 675 during March), including **691 in the West Bank** and **30 in the Gaza Strip**. The majority of Israeli army raids took place in Ramallah (125), Bethlehem (112), Nablus (108), Hebron (86), Jenin (84), and Tulkarem (74). The Israeli army **opened fire during 103 of the 721 raids**, approximately 14.3% of the total number of raids on Palestinian residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army **imposed curfew 19 times over 13 residential locales** in the West Bank during raids (compared to 13 times in April and 21 in March).

The Israeli army continued to intensify its raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (**Areas “A”** under the Oslo Agreement, which the Israeli army reoccupied in 2002). The Israeli army conducted **434** of the 721 raids, approximately 60.2% of the total number of raids, in Palestinian Authority controlled territory in the West Bank.

The chart below shows the correlation between the number of raids & resulting human losses.



Following the Sharm ash Sheikh Summit (08 February 2005), security control of **the city of Jericho and the village of Al ‘Auja** was transferred back to the Palestinian Authority on 16 March 2005. On 21 March 2005, security control of **the city of Tulkarem and its eastern areas** was also transferred back to the Palestinian Authority. Palestinian and Israeli commanders agreed that the Israeli army would not enter these areas. However, **the Israeli army violated the agreement as it raided** the city of Jericho and the village of Al ‘Auja on **5 occasions each**, during which the Israeli army injured 7 civilians, including 3 children; arrested 1 civilian as well as 2 Palestinian security officers; imposed curfew over the village of Al ‘Auja on 4 occasions; and levelled land on 1 occasion. Since 13 July

2005, the Israeli army has continued to reoccupy the city of Tulkarem, its suburbs, as well as Nur Shams and Tulkarem refugee camps and carried out **33 raids** into the area during the month of May, during which the Israeli army killed 1 female civilian; injured 2 female civilians; arrested 8 civilians as well as 2 Palestinian security officers; and demolished 1 house. Additionally, the Israeli army raided the eastern areas of the Tulkarem district on **8 occasions**, including the town of ‘Anabta (5), the town of Bal’a (2), and the town of Kafr al Labad (1), during which the Israeli army extra-judicially killed 1 Palestinian security officer; injured 1 civilian; and arrested 1 civilian as well as 2 Palestinian security officers.

Palestinian authorities have disagreed with Israeli authorities about the interpretation of the agreement regarding the area of **the town of ‘Illar and the village of Seida**; Palestinian authorities consider these areas to be under Palestinian security control, but Israeli authorities say that they would accept a limited Palestinian presence only in these areas. The Israeli army raided the town of ‘Illar on **4 occasions**, during which the Israeli army arrested 3 civilians and 1 Palestinian security officers.

8. House Demolitions

The Israeli army **demolished 7 houses** in the West Bank during the month of May. In the eastern quarters of the city of Jerusalem, the Israeli army demolished 1 house in the town of Beit Hanina and another house in the neighbourhood of Al Mukabbir Mount, claiming that they were built without the required licenses. The Israeli army also demolished 1 house in the village of Hajja in the district of Qalqiliya and 2 houses in the town of Bruqin in the district of Salfit, claiming that they were built without the required licenses. In addition, the Israeli army raided the town of Qabatiya in the district of Jenin and demolished a 2-storey house as well as another house in the village of Al Hashimiya in the same district.

The Israeli army also distributed notices for the demolition of 4 houses north of the city of Jerusalem, claiming that they were in close proximity to the Wall. In addition, the Israeli army distributed notices for the demolition of 7 houses in the village of Qatanna in northern Jerusalem, claiming that they were built without the required licenses. Furthermore, the Israeli army delivered a notice for the demolition of 1 house in the village of Al Maniya south of the town of Tuqu' in the district of Bethlehem.

9. Provocation of Palestinian Military and Security Forces

The Israeli army carried out **66** incidents of attacking and provoking Palestinian security and military forces and posts during the month of May. **16** incidents were reported to have taken place in the West Bank and **50** in the Gaza Strip.

Types of Israeli Army Provocation against Palestinian Forces

Type of Provocation	No.	Notes
Preventing Palestinian security forces from carrying out their security duties	2	The Israeli army prevented fire trucks from the Palestinian Civil Defence Department from extinguishing a fire set to forest trees in the city of Nablus. In addition, the Israeli authorities refused to coordinate for the Palestinian Engineering Unit to comb the area near the Green Line east of the town of Beit Hanun in the district of Northern Gaza in search of artillery shells fired by the Israeli army but which had not exploded.
Raiding Palestinian security offices	1	The Israeli army searched the Palestinian Civil Defence offices in the town of Beituniya in the district of Ramallah.
Attacks and firing artillery shells	47	The Israeli army surrounded and opened fire towards the Palestinian General Intelligence office in the city of Jenin. On 4 occasions, the Israeli army opened fire towards Palestinian National Security locations in the districts of Gaza, Central Gaza, Khan Yunis, and Rafah. In the northern area of the district of Northern Gaza, where the Israeli army has imposed a buffer zone, the Israeli army fired a total of 1,065 artillery shells towards Palestinian National Security offices and locations on 42 occasions. The Israeli army also fired 1,096 artillery shells towards Palestinian residential locales in the same area. Of these, numerous artillery shells landed near Palestinian National Security locations. Of all artillery shells fired, 33 shells did not explode. Israeli army artillery attacks resulted in the killing 2 civilians, including 1 elderly civilian, and the injury of 8 civilians, including 1 child and 1 female child, as well as 1 Palestinian National Security officer. Additionally, 1 Palestinian National Security location was destroyed and 2 other locations damaged as a result of the artillery attacks.
Taking position / setting up checkpoints near Palestinian security posts	12	6 in front of and near Palestinian Police stations in the districts of Ramallah (1), Jenin (1), Tulkarem (1), and Hebron (3) as well as 3 near Palestinian National Security headquarters in the district of Qalqiliya (on 2 occasions) and headquarters in the district of Hebron (on 1 occasion). The Israeli army also launched 3 aerostats equipped with surveillance cameras over Palestinian National Security locations in the northern area of the district of Northern Gaza.
Detaining Palestinian security officers and vehicles	2	Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in the district of Salfit detained 1 Palestinian National Security vehicle. In addition, Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in the district of Bethlehem searched and confiscated the registration documents of another Palestinian security vehicle.
Confiscating / detaining weapons	2	The Israeli army confiscated 1 rifle in the city of Ramallah as well as detained 2 Kalashnikov rifles belonging to 2 Palestinian security officers carrying out their security duties in the city of Jericho.

Note: These statistics do not include the arrest of 46 Palestinian security officers.

10. Attacks on Public and Private Property

Compared to 70 incidents in April and 55 in March, **88 incidents of destruction and confiscation of public and private property** were reported during the month of May, including **74** in the West Bank and **14** in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army damaged 1 house and 1 flat in the district of Northern Gaza; demolished 1 wall as well as used explosives to destroy the entrance to a house in the district of Nablus; demolished the wall of a house in the district of Qalqiliya; destroyed the door of a house in the district of Ramallah; and damaged furniture of 4 houses in the cities of Jerusalem, Nablus, and Hebron as well as in the district of Tulkarem. In addition, the Israeli army issued military orders for the cessation of the construction of 5 houses in the towns of Beit Ummar and Halhul and the village of Zif in the district of Hebron, claiming that they were being built without the required licenses. The Israeli army also demolished 1 commercial shop in the city of Jerusalem; damaged commercial shops in the districts of Ramallah, Nablus, Salfit, and Hebron; destroyed vendors' stalls in the districts of Jenin and Nablus; destroyed 1 Palestinian National Security location; and damaged 2 other Palestinian National Security locations in the district of Northern Gaza. Additionally, Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in the district of Bethlehem tore to pieces a military uniform belonging to a Palestinian security officer. The Israeli army also prevented civilians from harvesting agricultural crops in the district of Jenin. Furthermore, Israeli settlers damaged olive trees in the districts of Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, Nablus, and Hebron; set fire to agricultural crops in the Northern Jordan Valley; and burnt a number of barracks in the district of Nablus. Israeli army artillery attacks on the district of Northern Gaza also resulted in the burning of agricultural crops. In addition, the Israeli army destroyed 2 green houses and 1 plant nursery in the district of Hebron; demolished 1 barracks in the district of Qalqiliya; demolished 1 poultry barracks as well as delivered a notice for the demolition of another barracks in the district of Bethlehem; opened fire towards and damaged 1 ambulance in the city of Nablus; and broke the windshields of a number of civilian vehicles in the district of Jerusalem. An Israeli army jeep also ran into 1 civilian vehicle in the district of Jenin. Additionally, Israeli army air attacks resulted in the destruction of 2 civilian vehicles in Gaza city as well as another vehicle in the district of Khan Yunis. The Israeli army also destroyed 2 civilian vehicles (using explosives) in the district of Qalqiliya as well as 2 other vehicles in the district of Nablus. Moreover, Israeli settlers set fire to 2 civilian vehicles and damaged another vehicle in the city of Hebron. In addition, the Israeli army damaged 1 civilian vehicle in the city of Tulkarem and 1 motorcycle in the district of Jenin; damaged *Al Jazeera* Satellite Channel office in the city of Ramallah; demolished the wall of *Al Aqsa* University in the district of Khan Yunis; and damaged 1 fishing boat in the district of Rafah as well as the contents of a social club in the city of Tulkarem. The Israeli army also closed a central fruit and vegetable market as well as damaged a quantity of vegetables in the district of Nablus; fired artillery shells towards the town of Beit Lahiya in the district of Northern Gaza, damaging an electricity network and cutting off electricity to the area on 2 occasions; and excavated land in search of archaeological artefacts east of the town of 'Azzun in the district of Qalqiliya.

The Israeli army also confiscated computers, cassettes, and books from the offices of the Cultural Forum in the village of Sur Bahir in the district of Jerusalem as well as files and computers from the offices of a charitable association in the city of Ramallah and from a social club in the city of Tulkarem. In addition, Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in the district of Nablus confiscated an ID card and a sum of NIS 300 from a Palestinian security officer. The Israeli army also confiscated 5 rifles and 2 pistols in the districts of Ramallah, Jenin, and Tulkarem; 1 hunting rifle from a house in the district of Tulkarem; and 2 fishing boats at sea opposite the beaches of the cities of Khan Yunis and Rafah. In addition, the Israeli army confiscated 2 civilian vehicles in the district of Ramallah, 2 in the district of Jenin, 1 in Tulkarem, and 1 in Qalqiliya.

11. Settler Violence

Israeli settlers carried out **20 incidents of violence** in the West Bank districts during the month of May (compared to 30 in April and 34 in March). An Israeli settler vehicle ran over 1 civilian near the entrance to the village of Haris on the Trans-Samaria Highway in the district of Salfit. In addition, Israeli settlers beat 1 child, 2 civilians in the old city of Hebron, and pupils at an elementary school in the village of At Tuwani in the district of Hebron; threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling along the Ramallah-Jericho main road as well as stones and empty bottles at civilian houses, a bus transporting school students,

and civilian vehicles in the district of Hebron. In addition, Israeli settlers raided the village of Ras Karkar in the district of Ramallah; attempted to raid the village of Beita in the district of Nablus; attacked a stone quarry and burnt barracks therein in the district of Nablus; attacked 1 house and attempted to steal a herd of sheep in the village of Burin in the district of Nablus; attempted to construct a settlement outpost near the villages of Al Khas and An Nu'man in the district of Bethlehem; and levelled 86 *dunums* (21.5 acres) of land cultivated with olive trees in the village of Sanniriya in the district of Qalqiliya. Israeli settlers also grazed sheep on land cultivated with fruit-bearing trees in the town of Beit Ummar in the district of Hebron; opened fire towards a herd of camel; and stole 1 horse in the city of Ramallah. In the old city of Hebron, Israeli settlers burnt 2 civilian vehicles; damaged another vehicle; and built a playground for settlers' children on civilian land in the old city of Hebron.

12. Settlement Activity

Compared to 9 in April and 23 in March, a total of **35 incidents of settlement activity** were reported to have taken place in the West Bank and Gaza Strip districts during the month of May, including 4 in the West Bank and 31 in the Gaza Strip.

Types and Sites of Settlement Activity

DISTRICT	Land Confiscation for Wall Construction	Land Confiscation / levelling for military purposes	Total
Nablus		5.4 <i>dunums</i> in the town of 'Asira ash Shamaliya for construction of a checkpoint	1
Bethlehem	30 <i>dunums</i> in the village of Al Jab'a		1
Hebron		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 <i>dunums</i> south of the town of As Samoa' for construction of a military post near the checkpoint leading to the settlement of Shani • A wire fence erected along the main street opposite Al 'Arrub refugee camp 	2
Northern Gaza		Land levelled near the Green Line north and east of the town of Beit Hanun as well as east of the town of Jabalya	5
Gaza		Land levelled near the Green Line east and south of Gaza city as well as north of Ash Shuja'iya (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing	8
Central Gaza		Land levelled east of Al Bureij refugee camp	4
Khan Yunis		Land levelled near the Green Line east of the area of Al Qarara and southeast of the area of Khuza'a	8
Rafah		Land levelled near the Green Line north and south of Sufa Crossing as well as near Karm Abu Salem (Karem Shalom) gate.	6
Total	1	34	35

13. Medical Obstruction

Compared to 7 incidents in April and 2 in March, the Israeli army carried out **11 incidents of medical obstruction** during the month of May, including 10 in the West Bank and 1 in the Gaza Strip. In the city of Nablus, the Israeli army opened fire towards 1 ambulance as well as beat an ambulance driver and a medic. The Israeli army also opened fire towards 1 ambulance transporting the corpse of a killed civilian in the district of Nablus; searched 1 ambulance transporting the corpse of another killed civilian in the district of Tulkarem; and prevented ambulances from transporting killed and injured civilians in the town of Qabatiya, the cities of Jenin and Nablus, and Balata refugee camp on several occasions. In addition, the Israeli army prevented an ambulance from transporting 1 female civilian and her son, who were beaten, in the city of Hebron. An Israeli army air attack on the district of Northern Gaza also resulted in the injury of 3 medics while they were evacuating the corpses of killed civilians. Additionally, the Israeli army raided 1 clinic in the city of Beit Sahur in the district of Bethlehem.

14. School Disruption

Compared to 10 in April and 7 in March, the Israeli army carried out **12 incidents of school disruption** throughout the West Bank districts during the month of May. The Israeli army raided the Polytechnic University in the city of Hebron, the girls school in the village of 'Anata in the district of Jerusalem, and 1 school in the village of Zabda in the district of Jenin. In addition, the Israeli army disrupted classes in 18 schools in the towns of Qabatiya and 'Illar in the districts of Jenin and Tulkarem as well as in the villages of Al Badhan and Az Zubeidat in the districts of Nablus and Jericho. Israeli troops positioned at Huwwara checkpoint also prevented 11 teachers under 30 years of age from accessing their schools in the villages of Qusra and Jurish in the district of Nablus. Additionally, the Israeli army imposed curfew over the old city of Hebron, preventing students from accessing 2 schools. The Israeli army also prevented students from reaching a university in the district of Ramallah.

15. Attacks on Religious Sites

The Israeli army carried out **6 attacks on religious sites** in the West Bank during the month of May (compared to 12 attacks reported in April and 2 in March). The Israeli army closed the Ibrahimi Mosque in the old city of Hebron and prevented worshippers under 30 years of age from accessing the mosque. In addition, the Israeli army prohibited the call to prayers from being broadcast at the mosque on 3 occasions. The Israeli army also surrounded 1 mosque in the village of 'Anata in the district of Jerusalem.

16. Closure of Crossing Points

The Israeli army completely closed crossing points in the Gaza Strip, including crossing points into the Green Line, on **99** occasions this month (compared to 83 last month and 78 in March). The Israeli army closed crossing points into Israel on **68** occasions, including *Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing* for 1 day completely and open partially throughout the month only to foreign nationals, VIPs, and humanitarian cases with prior coordination. In addition, the Israeli army closed *Al Muntar (Karnei) Commercial Crossing* for 23 days completely and 3 days partially; *Ash Shuja'iyah (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing* for 6 days; *Sufa Crossing* for 12 days completely and 1 day partially; and *Karm Abu Salim (Karem Shalom) Crossing* for 26 days. *Yasser Arafat International Airport* (31 days) remains closed since the outbreak of the current *Intifada* (Uprising). The Israeli authorities also prohibited the operation of the airport.

17. Palestinian Security Measures

Palestinian security forces carried out **20 security measures**, including 11 in the West Bank and 9 in the Gaza Strip. Palestinian security forces blocked an attempt to smuggle and confiscated a sum of 650,000 Euros at Rafah Crossing. Palestinian security forces also blocked attempts to fire mortars as well as seized 5 mortars along with 2 mortar-launching pads and combed the area near the Green Line north of the town of Beit Lahiya in the district of Northern Gaza on 2 occasions. In addition, Palestinian security forces requested (through the DCO) that the Israeli army defuse 1 shell as well as dismantle 1 mortar in the district of Hebron. Palestinian security forces also handed over explosives and 2 hand grenades located in the city of Hebron; detonated 1 LAW anti-tank missile launcher, 1 flare, and live ammunition in the district of Jenin; and defused shells, landmines, hand grenades, and 4 artillery shells (which had been fired by the Israeli army but did not explode) in the district of Northern Gaza. Additionally, Palestinian security forces handed over 7 illegal vehicles seized in the city of Ramallah, 4 vehicles in the city of Tulkarem; as well as 1 Israeli settler who mistakenly entered the city of Jericho.