مجموعة الرقابة الفلسطينية



PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP

DAILY SITUATION REPORT 08:00 18 February 2009 – 08:00 19 February 2009

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Physical Assault	1		1	A civilian left with broken arm, Qalqiliya
Injuries	1	1	2	Incl. a child run over by a settler vehicle
Attacks	2	2	4	Incl. 1 in a raid and 1 from a mil. post
Raids	28	1	29	Incl. 4 in Bethlehem and 8 in Hebron
Air Patrols	2	2	4	3 by combat helicopters and 1 by UAVs
Arrests	15		15	Incl. 2 children in Nablus
Detentions	19		19	Incl. 2 Palestinian security officers
Wall Construction	24		24	Incl. Jer., Raml'h., Salfit, & Qalqiliya
Destruction of Property	5		5	Incl. shop doors & furniture destroyed
Confiscation of Property	1		1	Agricultural medicines in Qalqiliya
Attack on Property	2		2	Money robbed from civilians, Qalqiliya
House Occupations	3		3	Converted into military posts, Qalqiliya
Curfew	1		1	Over the town of Jayyus in Qalqiliya
Closure of Checkpoints	15	—	15	Incl. access impeded at 9 checkpoints
Flying Checkpoints	14		14	Incl. 5 in Bethlehem and 4 in Hebron
Closure (per District)	8		8	Incl. Jerusalem, Tulkarem & Hebron
Closure of Main Roads	54		54	Incl. 3 in Jerusalem and 5 in Ramallah
Closure of Crossing Points	—	4	4	3 crossings partially open
School Disruption	1	—	1	School converted into interrogation centre
Settlement Activity	1	—	1	Land levelled for road construction
Settler Violence	4		4	Incl. a civilian vehicle burned in Jenin
Provocation of Pal. Forces	2		2	Summons served to 2 security officers
Palestinian Attack		1	1	2 mortars fired towards the Green Line
TOTAL	203	11	214	

EVENTS

WEST B	ANK
ALL DISTRICTS	• The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions at checkpoints set up on the main roads connecting the West Bank districts, thereby isolating the northern districts from the southern districts as well as the Jericho district and the Jordan Valley from the remainder of the West Bank.
JERUSALEM	 Closure: (i) The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions at checkpoints located at the entrances to the city of Jerusalem. The Israeli army also continues to close the entrances to Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the old city of Jerusalem and impede civilian access to the mosque. (ii) On 05 January 2009, the Israeli authorities issued Military Order # S/02/09 on the closure of and denial of civilian access to the "demarcation area" along the Wall in the area surrounding the city of Jerusalem. Accordingly, local residents and civilians holding permits can access this area through crossings and gates set up at the entrances to the city of Jerusalem. (The demarcation area is defined by a set of military orders relating to land confiscation for Wall construction). Closure of Main Roads: (i) The Israeli army continues to close with barbed wire and cement blocks the entrance opposite the junction to Dahiyat al Bareed in the city of Jerusalem, after levelling the area, and to deny civilian access. (ii) The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks and dirt barricades the entrance to the village of Jaba'. (iii) Beginning on 16 February 2009, the Israeli army has continued to close the iron gate along the Wall section, separating the area of Dahiyat al Bareed from the town of Ar Ram. Checkpoint: The Israeli army continues to close the Vall gate in the town of Abu Dis with cement blocks. (ii) The Israeli army continues to close the Wall gate in the town of Abu Dis with cement blocks. (iii) The Israeli army continues to deny civilian access through the Wall gate on Ash Shayah road in the area between the villages of As Sawahira ash Sharqiya and As Sawahira al Gharbiya, only allowing civilians holding Jerusalem IDs to cross, after subjecting them to thorough searches using electronic devices. Wall Construction: Wall construction continues in the area of Al 'Eizariya to Ash Shayyah, from Beit Surik

RAMALLAH & EL BIREH	 <u>Closure of Main Roads</u>: The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades and cement blocks the road connecting the villages of Ras Karkar and Kharbatha Bani Harith; the entrances to the villages of Sinjil, Saffa, and 'Ein Yabrud; and the junction to the villages of Kafr Malik – 'Ein Samiya. <u>Checkpoint</u>: The Israeli army continues to intensify restrictions at the checkpoint on the overpass to 'Atara town and impede civilian access. <u>Raids</u>: (i) At 21:35, the Israeli army raided the cities of Ar Ram and El Bireh and patrolled these areas until 01:35. (ii) At 02:25, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the city of El Bireh. <u>Detentions/Confiscation of Property</u>: At 12:30, Israeli troops positioned at the checkpoint set on the overpass to the town of 'Atara detained 2 Palestinian Preventive Security officers. After searching their vehicle, Israeli troops also confiscated an M16 rifle. Following coordination with the Israeli authorities (through the DCO), Israeli troops released the detained officers. <u>Wall Construction</u>: Wall construction continues west of 'Abud town and in the areas of Al Midya to Ni'lin and Ni'lin to Deir Qaddis.
JENIN	 Closure of Main Road: The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the road leading to the town of 'Arraba east of the settlement of Dotan. Flving Checkpoint: At 11:00, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint on the junction to the villages of Al Hashimiya and Kafr Qud and searched civilians and vehicles. Raids/Air Patrol/Detentions/Destruction/Confiscation of Property: At 20:10, Israeli troops, dispatched a helicopter, raided and combed an area between the town of Az Zababida and the village of Raba. At 16:20, the Israeli army raided the town of Ya'bad and searched 3 houses, after detaining residents outside. Having destroyed their doors, the Israeli army also searched 2 commercial shops and confiscated agricultural medicines. Settler Violence: At 15:00, a group of Israeli settlers accessed the debris of the evacuated settlement of Homesh and threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling near the settlement. Israeli settlers also set fire to a vehicle belonging to Ibrahim Shalash Rashid Hammour. Consequently, the Israeli army evacuated settlers from the area. Wall Gates: Passage through the Wall gates is restricted to civilians granted special Israeli permits, which affects the educational and health conditions of civilians living behind the Wall.
TUBAS	 <u>Checkpoint</u>: The Israeli army continues to close Tayasir checkpoint in the eastern Tubas district, denying civilian access to the Northern Jordan Valley, except for civilians whose IDs indicate that their place of residence is the Northern Jordan Valley. At 17:00, Israeli troops positioned at the checkpoint served summons to a number of civilians to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency.

	Raids/Air Patrol:
	(i) At 10:30, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the village of Al Far'a.
	(ii) At 22:00, Israeli troops, dispatched by combat helicopters, raided and
	combed the area of Khallet ath Thahab near the village of Al Far'a.
TULKAREM	 <u>Closure</u>: The Israeli army continues to declare the district of Tulkarm a closed military zone and to impede civilian access to and from the district. <u>Closure of Main Roads</u>: (i) The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the western entrance to the village of Shufa. (ii) The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the road connecting the town of Kafr al Labad to the village of Shufa. <u>Checkpoints</u>: The Israeli army continues to intensify restrictions at 'Einav checkpoint set up on Tulkarem-Nablus main road and at Jubara checkpoint (the southern entrance to the city of Tulkarem). <u>Flying Checkpoint</u>: At 11:25, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint at the entrance to the village of Nazlet 'Isa and searched civilians and vehicles. <u>Raids</u>: (i) At 15:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the village of Ramin. (ii) At 24:00, the Israeli army raided and combed the area of Wadi al Ashqar between the towns of Bal'a and 'Anabta. <u>Wall Gates</u>: Passage through the wall gates is restricted to civilians granted special Israeli permits.
QALQILYA	 <u>Closure of Roads</u>: The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks agricultural roads east of the town of 'Azzun. <u>Checkpoint</u>: The Israeli army continues to intensify restrictions at the checkpoint set up at the eastern entrance to the city of Qalqiliya and to impede civilian access. <u>Raid/Curfew/House Occupations/Detentions/Destruction of Property</u>: Beginning at 02:15 on 18 February 2009, the Israeli army has remained positioned in the town of Jayyus as well as continued to impose curfew and close with dirt barricades all main roads leading to the town. The Israeli army occupied and converted into military posts a number of houses, searched other houses, detained many civilians, and interrogated them in the town's school, after having converted it into an interrogation centre. In addition, the Israeli army damaged contents of the school and furniture of a number of houses. Having stolen ILS 450 from him, Israeli troops also severely beat 'Ammar Shahrour, leaving him with bone fractures in his arm. Furthermore, Israeli troops robbed ILS 3200 from Yousef Mahmoud Wakid, served summons to 2 Palestinian National Security officers to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency, and withdrew at 17:15. <u>Wall Gates</u>: (i) Passage through the Wall gates is restricted to civilians granted special Israeli permits.

	(ii) The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions at 'Azzun 'Atma
	Wall gate and to search civilians, including students, with a metal
	detector.
	• <u>Wall Construction</u> :
	(i) Having completed the Wall-related infrastructure, land levelling for
	Wall construction ceased in the towns of 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth as well
	as in the villages of Immatin and Kafr Laqif.
	(ii) Wall construction continues south of the town of Jayyus.
	<u>Closure of Main Roads</u> :
	(i) The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks the roads of
	Sarra-Jit; Til-Burin; Beit Furik-Salem; the road between the town of
	'Aqraba and the main road; and the eastern entrance to the village of Al
	Lubban Ash Sharqiya. The Israeli army also continues to close with
	with dirt barricades the road between the villages of Til and Madama;
	the southern entrance to the village of Qaryut; the eastern entrance to
	the village of Al Lubban Ash Sharqiya; the western entrance to the
	town of 'Aqraba; the southern entrance to the village of Duma; the
	northern entrance to the town of Qabalan; the western entrance to the
	village of Majdal Bani Fadil; and the settler bypass road connecting the
	village of Deir al Hatab to the settlement of Alon Moreh.
	(ii) The Israeli army continues to restrict civilian daily passage along the
	Jenin-Nablus road between the junction to Deir Sharaf village and the settlement of Shavei Shomron between 06:00 and 21:00.
	<u>Checkpoints</u> : The Israeli army continues to regulate times for crossing
	checkpoints set up around the city of Nablus:
	(i) At Tur neighborhood checkpoint (set up on Jerzim Mount) is closed on
NABLUS	Fridays and Saturdays as well as during Jewish holidays. On all other
	days, it is open for civilian residents of the neighborhood only.
	(ii) Beit Furik checkpoint is open to civilian residents of the town of Beit
	Furik and the nearby village of Beit Dajan.
	(iii) Beginning on 14 February 2009, the Israeli army has allowed
	Palestinians holding Israeli-issued IDs to access the city of Nablus
	by their private vehicles through all checkpoints around the city. To
	prevent traffic jams, the Israeli army allows vehicles to leave the
	city through Beit Furik and Beit Iba checkpoints. In addition, the
	Israeli army has allowed free access to all physicians, who are
	residents of the city of Nablus.
	(iv) Beginning on 15 February 2009, the Israeli army has allowed free
	access by private vehicles to all civilian residents of the city of
	Nablus, who are above 50 years of age and in company with their
	families, through checkpoints set up around the city of Nablus.
	• <u>Raids</u> :
	(i) At 02:10, the Israeli army raided the city of Nablus and 'Ein Beit el
	Ma' refugee camp, searched a number of houses, and arrested 4
	civilians.

	 (ii) At 02:45, the Israeli army raided the town of 'Asira ash Shamaliya, searched a number of houses, and arrested 4 civilians. The Israeli army remains positioned in the area as of 08:00 this morning. <u>Arrests</u>: At 10:00, Israeli troops positioned at the checkpoint set up at the entrance to the town of Beit Furik arrested 2 children: (i) Jihad Hamdi Khatatbeh, 16 years old; (ii) Ahmed Anis Mleitat, 17 years old. The Israeli army arrested 4 civilians in the city of Nablus and in 'Ein Beit el Ma' refugee camp: (iii) Mahmoud Taher Samarah; (iv) Ashraf Rizq al Kurdi; (v) Nael Khamis 'Awadh; and (vi) Marwan Mahmoud Hasan Hamdah. The Israeli army arrested 4 civilians in the town of 'Asira ash Shamaliya: (vii) Ala' 'Awwad Shouli; (viii) 'Ammar Jarar'ah; (ix) Ubayy Hamadneh; and (x) Huthayfah Kamal Yousef Sawalhah. <u>Detention</u>: At 11:05, Israeli troops positioned at Huwwara checkpoint detained Iyad Jamil Sharab, a Palestinian National Security officer, and released him at a later time.
SALFIT	 <u>Closure of Main Roads</u>: The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the northern entrance to Salfit city and the eastern entrance to the village of Yasuf. The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks and iron gates the northern entrance to the town of Bruqin and the western entrance to the town of Kafr Ad Dik. <u>Checkpoints</u>: The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions at Deir Ballut and Za'tara checkpoints and prevent civilian vehicles from heading towards the village of Kafr Ad Dik. <u>Wall Construction</u>: Wall construction continues in the area northwest of the city of Salfit, and in the village of Marda and the town of Kafr Hares north of the settlement of Ariel.
JERICHO	 <u>Closure</u>: The Israeli army continues to close Road # 90 between the city of Jericho and the village of Al 'Auja with cement blocks and to prevent farmers not holding Jericho Governorate IDs from reaching their land, forcing them to apply for access permits. The Israeli army also continues to deny access to the city to holders of Israeli IDs. <u>Checkpoints</u>: The Israeli army continues to intensify its restrictions and impede civilian access at Al Hamra checkpoint set up along Al Badhan road connecting the districts of Jericho and Nablus as well as on the checkpoint set up on the junction to the village of Al 'Auja along Al Mu'arrajat road that connects the districts of Jericho and Ramallah.

	 <u>Raids</u>: At 01:00, the Israeli army raided the city of Jericho and 'Aqbat Jaber refugee camp. While searching 2 houses in the refugee camp, confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians. The Israeli army also arrested 2 civilians. <u>Arrests</u>: The Israeli army arrested 2 civilians in 'Aqbat Jaber refugee camp: Bassam Hasan al Maqitti; and Kayed Ali ath Thallam.
BETHLEHEM	 Closure: The Israeli army continues to close the roads to the village of An Nu'man, with the exception of the road leading to the Wall gate in the south-eastern area of the village. According to Military Order # 07/02/S, the Israeli army has continued since 15 September 2007 to deny civilian access to an area measuring 22 dunums (5.436 acres) of land in the area of Mazmuriya in the cities of Beit Sahur and Bethlehem. The land was confiscated pursuant to Military Order # 07/31/T. Closure of Main Roads: The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the two sideways east and south of Al Walaja village and the roads of Beit Jala-Wadi Ahmad, Talita-Nazlet as Sidr in the city of Beit Jala, Al Khadr town-Road # 60, Al Khadr town-Beit Jala housing, Wadi Rahal-Efrat and the side road east of the town of Beit Fajjar. Flving Checkpoints: At 16:55, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint at the entrance to the town of Tuqu' and searched civilians and vehicles. At 17:50, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint and searched civilians and vehicles on the junction to the area of An Nashash (the southern entrance to the city of Bethlehem). At 04:00, the Israeli army set up another flying checkpoint at the entrance to the village of Dar az Zir and searched civilians and vehicles until 21:15. Raids: At 09:50, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of Al Khadr. At 16:35, the Israeli army raided the village of Dar Salah, set up a checkpoint, searched civilians and vehicles, and withdrew at 20:45. At 00:30, the Israeli army raided the city of Bethlehem and patrolled the area until 23:55. At 00:30, the Israeli army raided the city of Bethlehem and patrolled the area until 01:45. Arrest: At 20:30, Israeli army raided the city of Bethlehem and patrolled the area until 01:45.

	• <u>Wall Construction</u> : Wall construction continues in the area northwest of the
	town of Al Khadr; northwest of the city of Beit Jala; in the area of Wadi
	Rahhal east of Ifrat settlement; and in the area surrounding the village of Al
	Walaja.
	• <u>Closure</u> :
	(i) The Israeli army continues to close the following locales in the old city
	of Hebron: Ash Shuhada' Street and the area of As Sahleh with cement
	blocks and barbed wire; the old gold market with an iron gate; the area
	of Khuzq al Far near the settlement of Abraham Avino with a dirt
	barricade and an iron gate; and the entrance to the area of Al Khan with
	an electronic gate, isolating the area from Al Laban Market and the area
	of As Sahleh. The Israeli army also continues to install an iron gate at
	the entrance to the area of Al Hisba (the fruits and vegetables market)
	in the old city of Hebron, thereby controlling civilian access in the area.
	(ii) The Israeli army continues to prevent civilian vehicles from travelling
	along the road connecting the settlement of Kiryat Arba' to the
	Ibrahimi Mosque in the old city of Hebron.
	(iii) On 05 January 2009, the Israeli army issued Military Order # 09/06/S
	for closure of the area located along the Green Line south of the town
	of Yatta, evacuation of civilian residents, and prevention of civilian
	access to the area. According to Military Orders # 05/03/T and 05/04/T,
	land in this area was confiscated for Wall construction.
	Closure of Main Roads:
	(i) The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks the entrance to
	the town of As Samoa'; the area of Al Hawawir leading to the town of
HEBRON	Halhul; the road connecting the town of Surif to the village of Al Jab'a;
	the eastern entrance to the village of Kharsa; the entrance to Al Qeisi
	neighborhood in the old city of Hebron; as well as the entrances to Al
	'Arrub refugee camp and the village of At Tuwani.
	(ii) In accordance with Military Order # 378, the Israeli army continues to
	prohibit Palestinian vehicles from travelling along Ash Shalala Old
	Street that leads to the old city of Hebron, only allowing Israeli vehicles
	as well as Israeli army vehicles to travel along this street.
	(iii) The Israeli army continues to close with dirt barricades the road
	between the villages of Al Karmil and At Tuwani and all roads leading
	to bypass Road # 60.
	(iv) The Israeli army continues to open the iron gate on the junction of
	Farsh Al Hawa, which leads to Road # 35 that leads to Tarqumiya
	Crossing, from 05:00 until 07:00 and from 09:00 until 13:00.
	(v) The Israeli army continues to close with cement blocks the southern
	entrance to the town of Adh Dhahiriya.
	Flying Checkpoints:
	(i) At 17:00, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint on the overpass
	to the town of Halhul and searched civilians and vehicles.
	(ii) At 06:55, the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint on the junction
	to the village of At Tabaqa and searched civilians and vehicles.

(iii) At 07:00, the Israeli army set up 2 flying checkpoints, one on the
overpass to the town of Halhul and the other at the entrance to the
town of Beit Kahil, and searched civilians and vehicles.
• <u>Raids</u> :
(i) At 10:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of Bani Na'im.
(ii) At 13:30, the Israeli army raided the town of Idhna and arrested 1 civilian.
(iii) At 16:30, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the city of Hebron. At 00:50, the Israeli army raided the city again and searched a house and wedding hall.
(iv) At 20:40, the Israeli army raided Al 'Arrub refugee camp. While, searching 2 houses, confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians.
(v) At 02:00, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of Adh Dhahiriya.
(vi) At 02:20, the Israeli army raided and patrolled the town of Nuba.
• <u>Arrest</u> : The Israeli army arrested Wael Sabri Mohammed 'Asfour in the town of Idhna.
• <u>Settlement Activity</u> : At 08:00, the Israeli army began land levelling east of the town of Yatta for construction of a settler bypass road leading to the settlement of Karmi'el.
• <u>Settler Violence</u> : At 15:20, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over 8-year-old 'Adli Mohammed al Ja'bari bear the settlement of Kiryat Arba' in the old city of Hebron, leaving him with injuries and contusions.
• <u>Wall Construction</u> : Wall construction continues in the section of Tarqumiya checkpoint terminal; in the area between the settlement of Eshkolot and the village of Imneizil southeast of the town of Yatta; and in the village of 'Arab ar Ramadin.

GAZA STRIP

ALL DISTRICTS	 At 02:00 on 18 January 2009, the unilateral ceasefire declared by the Israeli authorities came into effect. At a later time on the same day, armed Palestinian groups announced an agreement to cease fire for a week. Later, armed Palestinian groups extended the ceasefire until 05 February 2009. Despite the fact that the extension period expired, the ceasefire continues to hold pending negotiations carried out by Egypt. <u>Attacks</u>: Violating the ceasefire, the Israeli army raided Palestinian territory and opened fire from its location on the Green Line, injuring a farmer. Also breaching the ceasefire, armed Palestinian individuals fired 2 mortars towards the Green Line.
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NORTHERN GAZA	• <u>Closure of Crossing Point</u> : Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing is closed.	
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GAZA	 <u>Closure of Crossing Points</u>: Al Muntar (Karnei) Crossing was partially open for entry of 70 trucks transporting wheat and animal feed. Ash Shuja'iya (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing was partially open for transportation of limited quantites of fuel, including cooking gas. <u>Raid/Air Patrol</u>: At 23:30, the Israeli army, including several armoured vehicles covered by combat helicopters and UAVs, raided Palestinian territory east of Az Zaytun neighbourhood east of Gaza city. An armed confrontation took place between the Israeli army and armed Palestinian individuals. The Israeli army withdrew from the area at a later time. <u>Palestinian Attack</u>: At dawn on 19 February 2009, 2 unidentified mortars were fired towards the Green Line.
CENTRAL GAZA	Activities not reported.
KHAN YUNIS	• <u>Attack/Injury</u> : In the morning of 19 February 2009, the Israeli army opened intensive fire from its location on the Green Line towards a number of farmers east of the town of 'Abasan al Kabira, injuring Mohammed al Bureim.
RAFAH	 <u>Closure of Crossing Points</u>: Yasser 'Arafat International Airport remains closed. Rafah (Al 'Awdah) Crossing is closed. Sufa Crossing is closed. Karm Abu Salim (Karem Shalom) Crossing is partially open for entry of 130 trucks transporting food supplies, goods, and humanitarian aid.