



Chronology

16 NOVEMBER 2017–15 FEBRUARY 2018

COMPILED BY PAUL KAROLYI

This is part 137 of a chronology begun in *JPS* 13, no. 3 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect North American Eastern Standard Time. For a more comprehensive overview of regional and international developments related to Israel and the Palestinians, see the quarterly Update on Conflict and Diplomacy in *JPS* 47 (3).

16 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** punitively seal shut the Yatta home of a Palestinian imprisoned on charges related to a 6/2016 attack on Israelis in **Tel Aviv** (see Update). Israeli forces demolish a Palestinian home in Ni'lin overnight. Israel Defense Forces (IDF) troops arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid near Bethlehem and patrol near Hebron and Nablus. In the **Negev**, **Israeli forces** demolish the Palestinian Bedouin village of al-Araqib for the 121st time since 2010. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 11/16; PCHR 11/23)

The **IDF** orders approximately 300 Palestinian Bedouins to evacuate their homes near the Ma'ale Adumim settlement ahead of the planned demolition of their village, Jabal al-Baba. Similar orders have been issued for a Bedouin village in the northern Jordan Valley and other villages near Jerusalem, but none has been enforced yet. (HA, MNA, WAFA 11/17; TOI 11/18)

17 NOVEMBER 2017

IDF troops shoot and seriously injure a Palestinian youth, allegedly after he drives his

car into Israeli civilians, first at the Efrat junction, and later at the Gush Etzion junction near Bethlehem, injuring 2. After the first collision, the Palestinian drove on to Gush Etzion, where he hit and moderately injured the 2d Israeli. He was shot when he exited his vehicle. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 3 villages near Ramallah (Nabi Salih, Bil'in, and Ni'lin) and Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya; no Palestinians are seriously injured. Two Palestinians are injured during clashes with IDF troops in 'Azun village near Qalqilya, and the IDF patrols near Salfit and Qalqilya. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian farmers working their lands outside Burin village; 1 Palestinian is injured. Settlers also throw stones at Palestinian homes and pepper-spray 2 Palestinian children east of Hebron and burn a small swath of Palestinian land near Nablus. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 11/17; PCHR 11/23)

The Associated Press reports that the **U.S. State Dept.** recently notified the Palestinians

that the **Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)** diplomatic office in Washington could be forcibly closed unless they enter peace negotiations with Israel (see Update). **Secy. of State Rex Tillerson** reportedly told the Palestinians that the decision stemmed from Palestinian Authority (PA) pres. **Mahmoud Abbas's** expressions of support for the **International Criminal Court** investigating and prosecuting Israelis in his 9/20 speech to the **UN General Assembly (UNGA)**. (AP, HA, TOI 11/17)

18 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids near Hebron and in Tulkarm; and patrol near Nablus, Hebron, and Qalqilya. **Approximately 200 Israeli settlers** visit a Jewish holy site near Hebron (the burial site of the prophets Gad and Nathan), sparking clashes between their IDF escort and stone-throwing Palestinian youths; there are no serious injuries. Israeli settlers also throw stones at Palestinian homes near Hebron, causing minor damage. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian agricultural lands near Khan Yunis, Juhur al-Dik, and al-Bureij refugee camp, causing no serious damage. (MNA, WAFA 11/18; PCHR 11/23)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the first of 3 planned days, allowing passage in both directions (see Update). This opening is the first with the Gaza side of the crossing under **PA** control. (TOI, WAFA 11/18)

PA FM Riyad al-Maliki says that the Palestinians will not give in to U.S. "extortion," following the 11/17 report of a U.S. threat to

close the PLO diplomatic mission in Washington. (HA, TOI, WAFA 11/18)

An **Israeli tank** fires a warning shell at **Syrian forces** congregating near the Golan Heights, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, TOI 11/18)

19 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 12 Palestinians and issue 3 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Bethlehem, Hebron, Jenin, and Qalqilya; and patrol near Hebron. Along **Israel's southern border**, errant gunfire from the northern **Sinai Peninsula** strikes an Israeli soldier, lightly injuring him. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya. (HA, TOI, YA 11/20; PCHR 11/23)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for a 2d day in a row, allowing passage in both directions (see Update). (WAFA 11/19)

For a 2d day in a row, an **Israeli tank** fires a warning shell at **Syrian forces** near the Golan Heights, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, TOI, YA 11/19)

20 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem, Nablus, and Hebron; and patrol near Jenin, Nablus, Salfit, and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 13 Palestinians and assault 1 during late-night raids in Silwan, Bayt Hanina, Ras al-Amud, Issawiyya, Hizma, and the Old City. Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land near Gaza City and open

fire on Palestinian agricultural areas near al-Bureij refugee camp, causing no damage. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA 11/20; PCHR 11/23)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 3d and final consecutive day, allowing passage in both directions (see Update). (MNA 11/20)

21 NOVEMBER 2017

Approximately 1,000 Israeli settlers visit Joseph's Tomb near Nablus overnight, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and stone-throwing Palestinians from nearby Balata refugee camp; 1 Palestinian is injured. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, Palestinians steal and torch the car of 3 Israeli settlers in central Nablus, prompting the IDF to escort the settlers out of the city. IDF troops also arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem, Ramallah, and Hebron; and patrol near Hebron and Salfit. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (IMEMC, TOI, WAFA 11/21; PCHR 11/23)

Representatives of **Hamas**, **Fatah**, and 11 other Palestinian factions meet in **Cairo** for the 1st of 2 planned days of reconciliation talks. (TOI, WAFA 11/21)

PA FM al-Maliki says that the Trump administration is reconsidering its threat, 1st reported on 11/17, to shutter the **PLO** office in Washington, following the Palestinians' refusal to comply with their demands. He says that in the meantime, the Palestinians have decided to freeze contacts with the U.S. "In practice, by closing the office they are freezing all meetings and we are

making that official." A **State Dept. spokesperson** responds, "In our view, communications are not frozen." She says that Trump administration officials are in contact with Palestinian officials "about the status of that PLO office in Washington, as well as having conversations with them about our larger efforts on the part of a lasting and comprehensive peace process." (HA, TOI 11/21)

22 NOVEMBER 2017

Concluding 2 days of talks in Cairo, representatives of Palestinian factions, including **Hamas** and **Fatah**, reaffirm the 10/12 reconciliation agreement (see *JPS* 47 [2]), emphasize the need for the PA to take control of Gaza, and call for a new round of elections for the **PA presidency**, the **Palestinian Legislative Council**, and the **Palestinian National Council** by the end of 2018. They do not reach a resolution on the issue of Hamas's military wing, however. (TOI, WAFA 11/23)

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish 2 Palestinian homes under construction in Batir village near Bethlehem, a residential structure and an animal barn in Jiftlik village near Jericho, and a residential building in Bayt Dajan village near Nablus. IDF troops arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Bethlehem, Jenin, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces demolish a Palestinian home under construction in Issawiyya and another in Shu'fat, and arrest 2 Palestinians during a late-night raid in Silwan. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on and then arrest 2 Palestinians as they are attempting to cross into Israel near Bayt Lahiya (1 Palestinian is injured). Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries.

(HA, MNA, WAFA 11/22; PCHR 11/23; PCHR 11/30)

An Israeli youth succumbs to injuries she sustained in a bombing attack on a bus stop in Jerusalem in 3/2011. (HA, TOI 11/22)

The Arab press reports that **PA pres. Abbas** has refused a phone call from **senior advisor to U.S. pres. Trump Jared Kushner**, apparently implementing the Palestinians' threat, reported on 11/21, to cut off communication with the U.S. in response to the Trump administration's threat to close the **PLO office in Washington**. Instead of taking the call, Abbas reportedly referred Kushner to the PLO office in Washington. (HA, TOI 11/22; HA 11/23)

23 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** confiscate a Palestinian garbage truck serving communities south of Nablus. Palestinian youths throw stones at IDF troops at a mobile checkpoint near Hebron, sparking minor clashes; there are no serious injuries. IDF troops issue 2 arrest summons to Palestinians during late-night raids near Hebron and Ramallah, and patrol near Hebron, Tulkarm, and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces demolish a home in Bayt Hanina, and arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Silwan. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA 11/23; PCHR 11/30)

24 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 3 villages near Ramallah (Nabi Salih, Bil'in,

and Ni'lin), Khirbat Qalqas near Hebron, Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border near Jabaliya refugee camp; 1 Palestinian and 1 German activist are injured. The IDF also arrests 1 Palestinian during a patrol near Jenin, and conducts further patrols near Hebron and Qalqilya. (MNA, WAFA 11/24; PCHR 11/30)

A **U.S. State Dept.** spokesperson announces that the **PLO office in Washington** will be allowed to remain open for at least another 90 days, after which **Pres. Trump** will decide whether or not to allow it to stay open indefinitely (see Update). The Trump administration has "advised the PLO Office to limit its activities to those related to achieving a lasting, comprehensive peace between the Israelis and Palestinians," the spokesperson explains. (HA, MNA, TOI 11/25)

Approximately 25–30 gunmen launch an attack on a crowded mosque in the **northern Sinai Peninsula**, killing at least 300 Egyptian civilians (see Update). In response, the **Egyptian army** kills at least 30 of the militants in a series of strikes on known hideouts in the area. A Palestinian official says that the attack prompted the Egyptian authorities to cancel a planned 3-day opening of the **Rafah border crossing** on 11/25–27. (AFP, HA 11/24; AP, HA, REU, TOI 11/25)

25 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 3 Palestinians during a late-night raid near Bethlehem; and patrol near Tulkarm, Qalqilya, Salfit, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, a Palestinian demolishes his own home in Umm Tuba to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (PCHR 11/30)

26 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians protesting the occupation in al-‘Arub refugee camp; 1 Palestinian is injured. They also arrest 13 Palestinians and confiscate 1 car during late-night raids in and around Hebron, Bethlehem, Tulkarm, Nablus, and Jenin; and patrol near Nablus, Qalqilya, Tulkarm, and Hebron. Israeli border police arrest a Palestinian in central Hebron, allegedly when he is found to be carrying a knife. Unidentified Palestinians open fire on an IDF post near Ramallah, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, approximately 62 **Israeli settlers** tour **Haram al-Sharif**. **Israeli forces** arrest 5 Palestinians during raids in Silwan. (TOI, WAFA 11/26; MNA 11/27; PCHR 11/30)

27 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian commercial structure being used as a warehouse in Bayt ‘Aynun near Hebron. They also arrest 3 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem, Jenin, and Salfit; and patrol near Hebron and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** begin an excavation project in a cemetery in Kafr ‘Aqab, confiscate 8 cars, and arrest 3 Palestinians during late-night raids across the city. Along **Gaza’s southern border**, **Egyptian forces** open fire on 4 Palestinians attempting to cross into Gaza, injuring 2 (all 4 are arrested). (MNA, WAFA 11/27; MNA 11/28; PCHR 11/30)

28 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 19 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Nablus,

Bethlehem, Tulkarm, Hebron, Ramallah, and Tubas; and patrol near Nablus. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at and physically assault Palestinian farmers working outside Yatta village near Hebron, sparking clashes between the Palestinians and IDF troops in the area; there are no serious injuries. The IDF then declares the area a closed military zone and arrests 6 Palestinians. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 4 Palestinians during raids in Silwan, al-Tur, and Issawiyya. (PCHR 11/30; PCHR 12/7)

After a cabinet meeting in Ramallah, the **PA** calls on all of its former civil servants in **Gaza** (who stopped working when **Hamas** took power in 6/2007), to return to their posts, thereby jeopardizing the future of tens of thousands of employees of the Hamas-run government. The PA had agreed to pay the current employees of the Hamas-run government through 2/2018. In a statement, the cabinet stresses that “the empowerment of the government in the Gaza Strip [. . .] is a necessary first step and the cornerstone for moving to resolve the rest of the issues.” **Hamas**, which has called for the issue to be resolved in a way that preserves the rights of its government’s employees, criticizes the announcement as a “violation” of past agreements. (AFP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 11/28)

29 NOVEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** order Palestinian farmers to leave their lands near Tubas for undisclosed reasons. They also evacuate and demolish a structure in the Netiv Ha’avot settlement outpost near **Jerusalem**. The remaining 15 buildings in the outpost are to be demolished by 3/2018. The IDF arrests 2 Palestinians during a late-night raid in Bethlehem, and patrols near Hebron and

Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, the **Israeli police** arrest an **Islamic Waqf** guard at **Haram al-Sharif** and ban him from entering the Old City for 20 days. Israeli forces also arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in Ras al-Amud. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, MNA, TOI, Wafa 11/29; PCHR 12/7)

Hours after employees of the **Hamas-run government** prevent former PA civil servants from entering government offices in **Gaza City**, **Fatah** and **Hamas** agree to temporarily delay the transfer of government ministries to 12/10. Under their 10/12 reconciliation agreement, administrative control over Gaza was supposed to be transferred to the PA by today (see *JPS* 47 [2]). The delay is meant to diffuse tensions that have arisen since, according to a joint statement. (AFP, HA 11/20)

30 NOVEMBER 2017

Israeli settlers shoot and kill a Palestinian farmer outside Qusra village near Nablus. The Palestinian press reports that they killed the man when he tried to stop them from entering his fields. According to the Israeli press, the settlers were hiking in the area when a group of Palestinian youths surrounded them and threw stones at them, provoking the shooting. Following the incident, minor clashes break out between Palestinian youths and IDF troops; 2 Israeli soldiers are lightly injured. Also, settlers throw stones at Palestinians and their property in Qusra and nearby Asira village; 10 Palestinians and 1 Israeli soldier are injured in the ensuing clashes.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces arrest 10 Palestinian farmers after they refused an evacuation order of their lands near Hebron. The IDF issues arrest summons for 2 Palestinians during raids

near Bethlehem, and patrols near Hebron, Tulkarm, and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli settlers assault a Palestinian and her daughter in the Old City, causing light injuries to both. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and later near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian agricultural lands near Gaza City on 2 separate occasions, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, MNA, TOI, Wafa 11/30; PCHR 12/7)

Unidentified persons in **Gaza** fire several mortar shells at **IDF troops** patrolling along Gaza's northern border, causing no injuries. The IDF launches strikes on **Hamas and Islamic Jihad in Palestine (PIJ)** positions in Bayt Hanun, Gaza City, and Rafah (3 Palestinians are injured). The IDF later says that **PIJ** was responsible for the mortars, and that the attack was likely retaliation for the Israeli demolition of a PIJ tunnel on 10/30 (see *JPS* 47 [2]). (HA, MNA, TOI 11/30; PCHR 12/7)

Unidentified persons stab to death an **IDF soldier** at a bus station in Arad, southern Israel (on 12/4, the Shin Bet will announce the arrest of 2 Bedouin Palestinians in connection with the stabbing). (HA, TOI 12/4)

1 DECEMBER 2017

Near **Jenin** in the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** carry out the **punitive demolition** of the home of a Palestinian imprisoned in connection with the killing of an Israeli settler on 10/4/2017. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at Friday protests against the 11/30 killing of a Palestinian farmer and Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall in 3 villages near Ramallah (Nabi Salih, Bil'in, and Ni'lin), Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, Khirbat Qalqas

near Hebron, and Qusra near Nablus; 1 Palestinian is injured. They also arrest 1 Palestinian and issue arrest summons for 2 more during raids in and around Bethlehem and Jenin.

Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian farmers working near al-Maghazi refugee camp and on agricultural lands near Bayt Lahiya, causing no injuries. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/1; PCHR 12/7)

The **Israeli Air Force (IAF)** launches an air strike at a military base outside **Damascus**, Syria. According to **Syrian** press sources, the target was an **Iranian military base** 13 km south of the city. The extent of the damage is not reported. (HA, TOI 12/2)

2 DECEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, thousands of Palestinian mourners march through Qusra in a funeral procession for the Palestinian shot by a settler 11/30. **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians, issue 1 arrest summons, and confiscate 2 cars during late-night raids in and around Qalqilya, Ramallah, and Hebron; and patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinians during raids in Abu Dis and Silwan.

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmers working near al-Maghazi refugee camp, al-Qarara, and Juhur al-Dik, causing no damage or injuries. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 12/2; PCHR 12/7)

Following days of unconfirmed reports and rumors from the White House, **PA pres. Abbas** calls upon the leaders of 8 Arab states to

pressure **U.S. pres. Trump** into delaying or cancelling his proposed move of the **U.S. embassy** in Israel to **Jerusalem**. According to a PA spokesperson, Abbas “warned categorically that taking such a step would lead to the destruction of the peace process” and create an “uncontrollable situation” in the region. (TOI 12/2)

3 DECEMBER 2017

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** visit **Haram al-Sharif**, sparking a minor confrontation with **Islamic Waqf** guards; there are no serious injuries. Israeli police later arrest 4 of the guards. Israeli forces also arrest 3 Palestinians during late-night raids in Silwan, al-Tur, and Kafr ‘Aqab. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 15 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Bethlehem, Hebron, Nablus, and Qalqilya; and patrol near Hebron and Qalqilya.

In 4 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Lahiya, causing no serious damage or injuries (5 fishermen are arrested and their boat is seized). (TOI 12/3; MNA, WAFA 12/4; PCHR 12/7)

A projectile fired from **Syria** lands in an open area in the **Israeli-controlled Golan Heights**, causing no damage or injuries. It's unclear if it was an intentional attack or errant fire from the Syrian civil war. (HA, TOI 12/3)

4 DECEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** gather outside Qusra village near Nablus where a Palestinian farmer was shot dead by a settler on 11/30. Palestinians throw stones and roll burning tires toward the settlers; **IDF troops**

violently disperse them, critically injuring 1. Elsewhere, IDF troops conduct raids in Kafr Dan near Jenin, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; there are no serious injuries. They also arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids near Nablus, Jenin, and Hebron; and patrol near Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 4 **Islamic Waqf** guards at **Haram al-Sharif** and 4 more Palestinians during raids in Biddu and Ras al-Amud. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, IMEMC, MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/4; PCHR 12/7)

The **Trump administration** announces that it has not yet reached a decision about relocating the **U.S. embassy in Israel**, despite the fact that today is the deadline for Trump to sign the presidential waiver delaying the move for 6 months. "We will share a decision on the waiver in the coming days," a spokesperson says. Because Trump did not sign the waiver in time, U.S. law allows Congress to demand that he move the embassy and cut funding to the State Dept. It's unlikely lawmakers will pursue either option. (HA, NYT, TOI, WAFA 12/4; HA, REU 12/5)

The **IAF** conducts air strikes on a **Syrian government military research center** near **Damascus** late at night, causing a disputed amount of damage. (HA, TOI 12/5)

5 DECEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** set up a mobile home on Palestinian land east of Nablus. **IDF troops** arrest 6 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Hebron, Tubas, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces demolish the foundation of a building under

construction in Shu'fat refugee camp. They also arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Bayt Hanina and al-Tur. (WAFA 12/5; PCHR 12/7)

After days of speculation and rumors, **U.S. pres. Trump** calls **PA pres. Abbas** to tell him that he plans to move the **U.S. embassy in Israel** to Jerusalem and to invite the Palestinian leader for a meeting at the White House before the end of the month. According to a PA spokesperson, Abbas warns Trump of the "dangerous repercussions." Trump also calls Israeli PM **Netanyahu**, **Saudi king Salman bin Abdulaziz**, **Jordanian king Abdullah**, **Russian pres. Vladimir Putin**, and **Egyptian pres. Abdel Fattah al-Sisi** to inform them of his decision. (AP, HA, MNA, NYT, REU, TOI, WAFA 12/5)

In response to Pres. Trump's plan to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and to move the U.S. embassy there, several Palestinian factions and Islamist groups jointly declare 3 "**days of rage**" to begin on 12/6. Later, the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem issues a travel warning calling on U.S. citizens to avoid the West Bank and the Old City of Jerusalem. (HA, TOI 12/5)

Lebanese PM Saad Hariri formally rescinds his resignation, which threw Lebanon and much of the Middle East into turmoil when he announced it on Saudi television on 11/4 (see *JPS* 47 [2] and Update). (AA, REU, TOI 12/5)

6 DECEMBER 2017

A Palestinian child succumbs to injuries sustained on 8/8/2014 during **Israel's summer 2014 assault on Gaza**. Four members of the boy's family were killed that day when an Israeli air strike targeted his family home. Meanwhile, thousands of Palestinians march through Gaza City in protest of **U.S. pres. Trump's**

reported decision to move the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. **IDF troops** violently disperse dozens of Palestinians protesting along the border near Khan Yunis (there are no serious injuries).

In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** temporarily closes the entrance to nearby Ya'bad village after reports of shots fired at an Israeli settler bus near Jenin. **IDF troops** clash with stone-throwing Palestinians in al-'Arub refugee camp near Hebron; there are no serious injuries. They also arrest 27 Palestinians during late-night raids near Nablus, Jenin, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Hebron and Bethlehem. In the Negev, **Israeli forces** demolish the Palestinian Bedouin village al-Araqib for the 122d time since 2010. (MNA, WAFA 12/6; PCHR 12/7; PCHR 12/14)

In a speech broadcast from the White House, **U.S. pres. Trump** announces that the U.S. recognizes **Jerusalem** as the capital of Israel and that his administration will begin the process of moving the **U.S. embassy** in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. "I have judged this to be in the best interest in the pursuit of peace between Israel and the Palestinians," he says (see Update). **PA pres. Abbas** says that the U.S. can no longer serve as mediator between the Israelis and Palestinians. **Israeli PM Netanyahu** welcomes the announcement, celebrating the "historic day." (AP, BBC, EI, HA, MNA, YA 12/6; HA, WAFA 12/7)

7 DECEMBER 2017

Thousands of Palestinians gather across the oPt to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. The **IDF** deploys additional battalions in the **West Bank** to quell the protests, and Israeli forces violently disperse them in Tulkarm, Bethlehem,

Nablus, Jenin, Shu'fat refugee camp, at a checkpoint near Ramallah, in the Old City of Jerusalem, and along Gaza's border near Khan Yunis and al-Bureij refugee camp; at least 30 Palestinians are injured, including 9 with live ammunition, and 16 are arrested. Palestinians also observe a general strike throughout most of the oPt. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 14 Palestinians during raids in Issawiyya, Ras al-Amud, and Wadi al-Juz. (HA, MNA, NYT, REU, TOI, WAFA 12/7; PCHR 12/14)

Unidentified parties fire 3 rockets from Gaza toward Israel; 2 fall short of the border, and 1 lands in an open area in southern Israel, causing no damage or injuries. The **IDF** targets 2 **Hamas** positions in **Gaza** with artillery shelling and air strikes. (HA, MNA, WAFA 12/7)

In response to U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital, the **Palestinian delegation at the UN** files a formal complaint, requesting that the **UN Security Council (UNSC)** work toward reversing Trump's decision. **Senior PA official Jibril Rajoub** says that **U.S. VP Mike Pence**, who is set to visit Israel and the oPt later this month, is "unwelcome in Palestine." He says the Palestinians "will not welcome Trump's deputy in the [oPt]." The response from the international community is near-universal condemnation, with few exceptions. **Israeli PM Netanyahu** says that some countries have reached out to discuss similar recognitions of Jerusalem. "I have no doubt than when the U.S. embassy will move there, and even before that, many embassies will relocate to Jerusalem," he adds. **Czech Republic pres. Miloš Zeman** says Trump's announcement made him "truly happy." (HA, REU, TOI, WAFA 12/7; HA 12/8)

8 DECEMBER 2017

For a 2d day in a row, Palestinians gather across the oPt to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. Israeli forces violently disperse them in al-Bireh, Hebron, Qalqilya, Bethlehem, Ramallah and nearby Nabi Salih, Nablus, Tulkarm, across East Jerusalem (Issawiyya, al-Tur, and the Old City), and along Gaza's border near Khan Yunis, Jabaliya refugee camp, al-Bureij refugee camp, Rafah, and Gaza City; 2 Palestinians are killed, approximately 100 are injured (including 4 journalists), and at least 20 are arrested. Meanwhile, IDF troops shoot, injure, and arrest a Palestinian at the entrance to al-Bireh near Ramallah. Israeli soldiers also arrest 1 Palestinian, assault a 2d, and issue an arrest summons to a 3d during a late-night raid near Hebron; and patrol near Hebron throughout the day. In 3 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (AP, HA, NYT, TOI, WAFA 12/8; EI, MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/9; PCHR 12/14)

Unidentified parties fire 3 rockets from Gaza toward Israel: 1 falls short of the border fence; 1 is intercepted by the **Iron Dome missile defense system**; and 1 lands in Sderot, damaging a number of cars. The **IAF** launches air strikes on 4 **Hamas** and **PIJ** sites in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza City, and Jabaliya refugee camp, killing 2 Hamas fighters and injuring at least 20 Palestinians, including a 6-month-old child. (EI, HA, MNA, REU, TOI, WAFA 12/9)

PLO secy.-gen. Saeb Erakat says that the Palestinians have decided not to engage in any talks with the **U.S.** until **Pres. Trump** reverses his 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. He also says that they are still evaluating what other steps to take in response. (AJ, TOI 12/8)

The **UNSC** convenes a special session to discuss **Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. **UNSC** members **England, France, Italy, Bolivia, Uruguay, Senegal, China, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, and Russia** jointly reject the new U.S. policy on Jerusalem. Later, **PA pres. Abbas** welcomes "the international consensus condemning Trump's announcement, as was apparent at the [**UNSC**] session this evening." (HA, WAFA 12/8)

The **Czech Foreign Ministry** denies rumors that **Pres. Zeman** intends to move the Czech embassy to Jerusalem and reaffirms Czech commitment to **European Union (EU)** policy regarding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, including the issue of **Jerusalem**. Later, **EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini** confirms that the Czech Republic intends to conform to the EU's position on Jerusalem. (HA, WAFA 12/8)

9 DECEMBER 2017

For a 3d day in a row, thousands of Palestinians gather at protests across the oPt and Israel against **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital and in commemoration of the **30th anniversary of the First Intifada**. **Israeli forces** violently disperse them in East Jerusalem, Ramallah, Hebron, Huwwara near Nablus, Aida refugee camp and nearby Bethlehem, Tulkarm, and along Gaza's border near Khan Yunis, Rafah, Gaza City, and Jabaliya refugee camp; at least 31 Palestinians are injured and at least 17 are arrested. Meanwhile, IDF troops arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid near Hebron. **Israeli settlers** damage approximately 20 olive trees on Palestinian land near Nablus.

Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and twice near Bayt Lahiya,

causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian agricultural areas near Bayt Hanun, causing no major damage. (HA, MNA, WAFA 12/9; PCHR 12/14)

Czech pres. Zeman accuses the EU of a pro-Palestinian bias. "The cowardly EU does everything so that the pro-Palestinian terror movement is dominant in relation to the pro-Israeli movement that I represent," he says. (DPA, TOI 12/9; HA 12/10)

10 DECEMBER 2017

For a 4th day in a row, Palestinians gather across the oPt to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. **Israeli forces** violently disperse them in Tulkarm, Salfit, Bethlehem, at Huwwara checkpoint near Nablus, al-'Arub refugee camp near Hebron, and along Gaza's border near Khan Yunis, Jabaliya refugee camp, Gaza City, al-Bureij refugee camp, and Rafah; at least 24 Palestinians are injured and 8 are arrested. Meanwhile, Israeli forces confiscate Palestinian agricultural equipment near Nablus. **IDF troops** arrest 21 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Jenin, Bethlehem, Nablus, and Salfit; and patrol near Hebron throughout the day. Palestinians throw rocks at Israeli settler cars near Jerusalem, lightly injuring 1 minor. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces uproot a number of trees in a cemetery outside the Old City and arrest a Palestinian attempting to stop them. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian lands near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya late at night, causing no damage or injuries. In **West Jerusalem**, **Israeli police** arrest a Palestinian youth after he allegedly stabs and injures 1 of

them at the Central Bus Station. They later uncover a message the alleged attacker posted on Facebook indicating that he was motivated, at least in part, by the 12/6 U.S. recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. (HA, TOI, WAFA 12/10; PCHR 12/14)

The **IDF** demolishes a tunnel leading from **Gaza** into Israel near Kibbutz Nirim. "The tunnel that was thwarted today was a very significant tunnel and [built] to higher standards than what we are used to seeing," a spokesperson says. (HA, NYT, TOI 12/10)

Senior PA official Nabil Shaath says that the PA no longer intends to sever all ties with the U.S. over Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. "We are not cutting our relationship with America. We are protesting the move of Mr. Trump," he says. Shaath says that some forms of communication have continued throughout the recent crisis, but that communication about the peace process has been "interrupted." (TOI 12/10)

Fatah Central Committee member Azzam al-Ahmad says that there have been "obstacles" blocking the **PA** from taking full control of Gaza, which was supposed to proceed by today after being delayed from the 12/1 deadline initially enshrined in the **10/12 national reconciliation agreement**. The 2 sides neglect to set a new deadline, and the future of the reconciliation process is therefore unclear (see Update). (AFP, TOI 12/10)

11 DECEMBER 2017

For a 5th day in a row, Palestinians across the oPt gather to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. **Israeli troops** violently disperse them in Tulkarm, Ramallah, Hebron, Jericho, and along Gaza's border near Bayt Hanun, Jabaliya refugee camp, Gaza City, Rafah, Khan Yunis,

and al-Bureij refugee camp; at least 45 Palestinians are injured and 3 are arrested. Meanwhile, the IDF uses cement blocks to seal the main road connecting Ramallah and Jalazun refugee camp; arrests 16 Palestinians during raids in and around Nablus, Hebron, Qalqilya, Bethlehem, Tulkarm; and patrols near Tulkarm and Tubas. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian land and other property near Khan Yunis, causing no damage. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 3 Palestinian youths on the way home from school in Ras al-Amud and 4 during raids in Shu'fat refugee camp and Silwan. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/11; HA 12/12; PCHR 12/14)

Unidentified parties launch a rocket from Gaza into southern Israel. It lands in an open area, causing no damage or injuries. The **IAF** conducts air strikes on 2 **Hamas** positions in southern Gaza. Later, unidentified parties fire another rocket from Gaza, into Israel near Ashqelon. It is intercepted by Israel's **Iron Dome** missile defense system. Late at night the IDF shells Hamas sites in northern Gaza, causing minor damage. (HA, YA 12/11; HA, TOI 12/12; PCHR 12/14)

12 DECEMBER 2017

Two **PIJ** engineers are killed and tens of bystanders are injured in an explosion in Umm al-Nasr village near Bayt Lahiya in northern Gaza. **PIJ** initially accuses Israel of targeting the engineers with a drone strike. An **IDF** spokesperson denies any Israeli involvement, and **PIJ** later says that the explosion was an accident and that the 2 men mishandled explosives. Separately, unidentified parties fire 2 rockets from Gaza toward Israel late at night; 1 falls short of the border and the other lands in an open area in southern Israel, causing no damage or injuries. The **IAF** conducts air strikes

on 2 **Hamas** military sites, injuring 3 Palestinians and causing major damage. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/12; HA, MNA, WAFA 12/13)

For a 6th day in a row, Palestinians across the oPt and Israel gather to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital (protests have steadily declined in size since 12/8). **IDF troops** violently disperse them in Tulkarm, Bethlehem and nearby al-'Arub refugee camp, and along **Gaza's border** near Gaza City, Khan Yunis, and Rafah; 14 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, an elderly Palestinian woman suffers a fatal heart attack late at night when Israeli soldiers raid her home near Jericho. They also shoot and seriously injure a Palestinian they claim was attempting to stab Israeli soldiers outside the Ariel settlement. An **IDF** spokesperson later states that the Palestinian was not carrying a knife, but was among a group that was "suspected of an attempt to attack on the border." Meanwhile, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian youth in central Hebron, allegedly after he is found to be carrying a knife; arrest 34 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Hebron, Nablus, Tubas, Jenin, and Tulkarm; and patrol near Tulkarm, Salfit, and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 19 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya and Silwan. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian agricultural areas near Bayt Hanun, causing no damage. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/12; MNA, WAFA 12/13; PCHR 12/14)

13 DECEMBER 2017

For a 7th day in a row, Palestinians across the oPt gather to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital (attendance continues to steadily decline).

Israeli forces violently disperse protestors in Hebron and 3 nearby villages (Dura, Bayt Umar, and Halhul), outside the Beit El settlement near Ramallah, Bethlehem, Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border near al-Bureij refugee camp, Bayt Hanun, Khan Yunis, and Rafah; at least 26 Palestinians are injured, including 1 journalist, and 5 are arrested. Meanwhile, IDF troops violently detain 2 Palestinian youths inside an ambulance in Halhul; arrest 3 Palestinians during late-night raids in Hebron and near Ramallah; and patrol in and around Hebron, Tulkarm, and Qalqilya. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian students outside a school in Burin village near Nablus, sparking minor clashes; there are no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya and Abu Dis. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 12/13; MNA, PCHR 12/14)

Unidentified parties fire 3 rockets from Gaza toward Israel in the evening; 2 are intercepted by the Iron Dome missile defense system and 1 falls in an open area, causing no damage or injuries. The **IAF** conducts air strikes on at least 5 **Hamas** sites across **Gaza**, causing damage but no injuries. The Israeli authorities announce that both the **Erez and Kerem Shalom border crossings** will be closed indefinitely as collective punishment for the week of rocket attacks emanating from Gaza. (HA, TOI 12/13; HA, PCHR, WAFA, YA 12/14; PCHR 12/21)

At an emergency meeting of the **Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)** in **Istanbul**, reps. of the 57 OIC members jointly declare **East Jerusalem** to be the capital of the State of Palestine and urge all countries to recognize Palestine. Addressing the attendees, **PA pres. Abbas** says that Israel's violations

and of international law free the Palestinians from prior commitments made in context of the peace process, threatens to abandon the PA's security coordination with the IDF, and announces the Palestinians' intention to go to the **UNSC** for full **UN** membership. (AFP, HA, NYT, REU, TOI, WAFA, YA 12/13)

14 DECEMBER 2017

For an 8th day in a row, Palestinians across the oPt gather to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. **Israeli forces** violently disperse them in and around Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarm, the Old City of Jerusalem, and along Gaza's border near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Hanun. At least 36 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** patrol near Hebron during the day. Approximately 233 **Israeli settlers** tour **Haram al-Sharif** in the morning, marking the start of Hanukkah. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 12/14; PCHR 12/21)

Approximately 100,000 Palestinians gather in **Gaza City** at a rally marking the 30th anniversary of the founding of **Hamas**. Top party officials address the crowd and pledge to continue protests against **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. (AP, TOI, YA 12/14)

A spokesperson for the **Israeli Knesset** announces that **U.S. VP Pence's** trip to Israel, which was set for 12/17–19, has been postponed amid the growing unrest across the Middle East over **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. “[The Americans] told us it was because of the votes on tax reform in Congress,” he says (see Update). (HA, TOI, YA 12/14)

15 DECEMBER 2017

For a 9th day in a row, Palestinians across the oPt gather to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. Attendance spikes today, as the protests coincide with weekly Friday protests against Israel's occupation, separation wall, and settlements. Israeli forces violently disperse demonstrations across East Jerusalem, Halhul village near Hebron, 2 areas near Ramallah (outside the Beit El settlement and in Nabi Salih), Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, Bethlehem, Tubas, Tulkarm, Huwwara checkpoint near Nablus, and along Gaza's border near Bayt Hanun, Khan Yunis, Jabaliya refugee camp, al-Bureij refugee camp, and Gaza City; 4 Palestinians are killed and approximately 150 are injured. (A video showing a 16-year-old Palestinian girl, **Ahed Tamimi**, shoving and slapping an Israeli soldier amid clashes in Nabi Salih near Ramallah, will go viral over the weekend. She will be arrested on 12/19; see Update). **Israeli forces** arrest 8 Palestinians and issue arrest summons to 2 during raids near Bethlehem and in East Jerusalem, and patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron. Separately, Palestinians throw stones at Israeli vehicles near Jerusalem, injuring 1 settler. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, IMEMC, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 12/15; PCHR 12/21)

The Israeli authorities announce that the **Erez border crossing** has reopened for Palestinians to enter and exit, but that the **Kerem Shalom crossing** is to remain closed indefinitely. Both were closed on 12/13. (TOI 12/15)

16 DECEMBER 2017

For a 10th day in a row, Palestinians across the oPt gather to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's**

12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. After attendance spiked on 12/15, the size and number of these protests decreases substantially. **Israeli forces** violently disperse protestors along **Gaza's** border and in Tulkarm and East Jerusalem; at least 8 Palestinians are injured, including 3 journalists. Meanwhile, thousands of Palestinian mourners march through Anata refugee camp and Gaza City in funeral processions for 2 of the Palestinians killed in the clashes on 12/15. **IDF troops** arrest 5 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Jenin, and Tulkarm; and patrol near Hebron. Off **Gaza's coast** late at night, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, MNA, WAFA 12/16; PCHR 12/21)

Egyptian diplomats circulate a draft resolution to the **UNSC** that "affirms that any decisions and actions which purport to have altered the character, status or demographic composition of the Holy City of **Jerusalem** have no legal effect, are null and void, and must be rescinded in compliance with relevant resolutions of the [UNSC]" and "calls upon all states to refrain from the establishment of diplomatic missions in the Holy City of Jerusalem." The **U.S.** is expected to veto the resolution. (HA, REU, YA 12/17)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for passage in both directions for the 1st of 4 planned days (see Update). (MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/16)

17 DECEMBER 2017

For an 11th consecutive day, Palestinians across Israel and the oPt gather to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. **Israeli forces** violently disperse them in Tulkarm, al-'Arub refugee

camp near Hebron, and along **Gaza's** border near Jabaliya refugee camp and Gaza City; 5 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, Israeli forces raze 500 dunams (approximately 123 acres) of Palestinian land near Nablus and cut down dozens of Palestinian trees near Hebron. **Israeli border police** arrest a Palestinian carrying pipe bombs into an Israeli military court near Nablus. IDF troops arrest 11 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Hebron, Ramallah, Qalqilya, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** tour **Haram al-Sharif** in the morning. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Dayr al-Balah and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, TOI, WAFA, YA 12/17; PCHR 12/21)

Unidentified parties fire 2 rockets into Israel; 1 lands in an open area and the other explodes in the yard of a home near Ashqelon, causing minor damage. The **IAF** conducts air strikes on 6 Hamas sites in northern Gaza, causing damage and no injuries. (HA, WAFA, YA 12/18)

The Egyptian authorities open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 2d of 4 planned days, allowing passage in both directions (see Update). (WAFA 12/17)

Israel's Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories reopens the **Kerem Shalom crossing**. The Israeli authorities closed it and the **Erez border crossing** on 12/13. (TOI 12/17)

18 DECEMBER 2017

For the first time since **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital, there are no major Palestinian demonstrations in the oPt. In the **West Bank**, the **IDF** shoots

and injures 2 Palestinians, arrests 14, and issues arrest summons to 1 during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem, Tulkarm, Qalqilya, Jenin, Nablus, and Ramallah; and patrols near Hebron and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 8 Palestinians during raids in Anata refugee camp, Issawiyya, and Silwan. Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land near Rafah and open fire on Palestinian agricultural areas near Bayt Hanun, causing no damage. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA 12/18; PCHR 12/21)

The **UNSC** votes on a resolution that Egyptian diplomats circulated on 12/16. The resolution states that any decisions about **Jerusalem's** status have no legitimacy under **international law**. Every member votes in favor, except the **U.S.**, which exercises its veto. **U.S. ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley** calls the resolution an "insult" that won't be forgotten. **Israeli PM Netanyahu** thanks Haley on Twitter: "You lit a candle of truth. You dispel the darkness. One defeated the many." (AP, HA, NYT, REU, TOI, WAFA, YA 12/18; HA, TOI, YA 12/19)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 3d of 4 planned days, allowing passage in both directions (see Update). (WAFA 12/18)

19 DECEMBER 2017

Hundreds of **Israeli settlers** visit **Joseph's Tomb near Nablus** late at night, sparking clashes between their **IDF** escort and Palestinians from nearby Balata refugee camp; 3 Palestinians are injured. IDF troops also arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Jenin, Hebron, and

Bethlehem; and patrol near Qalqilya, Salfit, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 5 Palestinians during raids in al-Ram, Silwan, Wadi al-Juz, and al-Suwana. A Palestinian demolishes his own home in Silwan to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians protesting **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital near Jabaliya refugee camp; there are no serious injuries. Israeli forces also conduct limited incursions along the border to level land near Dayr al-Balah and Khan Yunis, and open fire on agricultural lands near Bayt Hanun, causing no damage. (MNA 12/19; MNA, WAFA 12/20; PCHR 12/21)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** for the 4th and final day in a row, allowing passage in both directions (see Update). (WAFA 12/19; PCHR 1/4)

20 DECEMBER 2017

Hundreds of Palestinians across the **oPt** gather at protests against **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. **IDF troops** violently disperse them at the Qalandia checkpoint, central Jerusalem, Abu Dis village, Bethlehem, Ramallah, Hebron, Jericho, Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border near al-Bureij refugee camp; 11 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, IDF troops arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Hebron, and in Biddu (East Jerusalem). Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Khan Yunis, causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli forces fire sound bombs and artillery at Palestinian lands and other property near Gaza City and Khan Yunis, causing no serious damage. (HA, TOI, WAFA, YA 12/20; PCHR 12/21; PCHR 12/28)

Palestinian diplomatic delegations discuss the future of the peace process with local officials in **Moscow** and **Beijing**. PLO executive committee member Salih Ra'fat says that the delegations are part of the Palestinians' efforts to gather support in the wake of **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. Both **Russia** and **China** have expressed interest in becoming more active in the peace process, and the Palestinians are looking to replace the U.S. as sole mediator (see Update). (HA, TOI, WAFA 12/20)

U.S. pres. Trump threatens to cut economic aid to any country that votes in favor of a **UNGA** resolution rejecting his 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, which is set for a vote on 12/21. "They take hundreds of millions of dollars and even billions of dollars, and then they vote against us," he says. "Well, we're watching those votes. Let them vote against us. We'll save a lot. We don't care." (AP, HA, TOI, YA 12/20; HA 12/21)

21 DECEMBER 2017

Hundreds of Palestinians gather at protests across the **West Bank** against **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. **IDF troops** violently disperse them near Hebron and Qalqilya; 3 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, the **IDF** patrols near Hebron, Tulkarm, Salfit, and Qalqilya. **Israeli settlers** cut down 20 Palestinian-owned olive trees near Nablus. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire at Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya on 2 separate occasions, causing no damage or injuries (2 fishermen are arrested). Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian farmers and shepherds working near Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/21; PCHR 12/28)

The UNGA adopts Resolution ES-10/L.22 rejecting **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital, with 128 countries in favor, 35 abstaining, and 9 opposing, including the U.S. and Israel. After the vote, **PA pres. Abbas** calls it a "victory for Palestine" and a PA spokesperson thanks the countries that favored the measure, "despite all the pressure exerted on them." **U.S. ambassador to the UN Haley** formally invites the representatives of all the countries that voted "no" or abstained to a reception on 1/3 "to thank you for your friendship to the U.S." (AP, HA, MNA, NYT, REU, TOI, Wafa, YA 12/21; TOI 12/22)

22 DECEMBER 2017

Thousands of Palestinians gather at protests across the **oPt** for a 3d Friday in a row against **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital. **Israeli forces** violently disperse them near Bethlehem, Salfit, Nablus, at the Beit El checkpoint near Ramallah, the Old City of Jerusalem, and along Gaza's border near Jabaliya refugee camp, al-Bureij refugee camp, Khan Yunis, Rafah, and Gaza City. Two Palestinians are killed and at least 92 are injured. Later, Israeli forces temporarily close the main entrance to Luban al-Sharqiyya village near Nablus, following clashes in the village earlier in the day. The IDF arrests 2 Palestinians during a late-night raid near Bethlehem, and patrols near Hebron. Israeli police arrest 3 **Turkish** tourists at **Haram al-Sharif** (they will be released on 12/25). Elsewhere in **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** raid a community center in the **Old City** late at night, sparking minor clashes; 3 Palestinians are injured. (EI, HA, MNA, Wafa 12/22; MNA 12/23; MNA 12/25; PCHR 12/28)

23 DECEMBER 2017

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinians gathering along **Gaza's** border near Jabaliya refugee camp and Gaza City to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's** 12/6 recognition of **Jerusalem** as Israel's capital; 3 Palestinians are injured. **Off Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** raid a Palestinian journalist's home in Tulkarm, sparking a minor confrontation; 3 Palestinians are lightly injured. The IDF confiscates a car and issues 1 Palestinian an arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Hebron, and patrols in the area as well. Approximately 50 **Israeli settlers** sneak into Madama village near Nablus late at night, sparking clashes between their IDF escort and the Palestinian residents; 4 Palestinians are injured. In **East Jerusalem**, a Palestinian family demolishes their home in Silwan to avoid paying Israeli demolition fees. Israeli forces arrest 6 Palestinians during late-night raids in the Old City and Shu'fat. (MNA 12/23; PCHR 12/28)

A Palestinian succumbs to injuries sustained during clashes with the IDF along **Gaza's** border on 12/17. (MNA, TOI, Wafa 12/23; PCHR 12/28)

24 DECEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** again close the main entrance to Luban al-Sharqiyya village near Nablus, following recent clashes in the village (they temporarily closed it on 12/22 after the clashes first broke out). **IDF troops** arrest 24 Palestinians during late-night raids near Hebron, Ramallah, Nablus, Jenin, Bethlehem, and Qalqilya; and patrol in and around Hebron. (Wafa 12/24; PCHR 12/28)

A Palestinian youth succumbs to injuries sustained during clashes with the **IDF** along Gaza's border on 12/8. (TOI, WAFA 12/24; PCHR 12/28)

The Israeli press reports that **PA pres. Abbas** told his deputies that the U.S. is a "lost cause" and ordered them to sever all contacts with U.S. officials, expanding the high-level diplomatic break he ordered in the wake of **Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem**. (TOI 12/24)

Guatemalan pres. Jimmy Morales announces that his government intends to follow the U.S. lead and move its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. Guatemala was among the small group of countries that opposed the **UNGA resolution** on 12/21. (AP, CNN, TOI 12/24; WP 12/28)

25 DECEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 17 Palestinians and issue 4 arrest summons during late-night raids near Hebron, Salfit, Tulkarm, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 15 Palestinians during raids in Silwan and Issawiyya, and demolish a Palestinian residential structure and store in Silwan. Along **Gaza's border**, the **IAF** fires flare bombs at Palestinian property near Khan Yunis, causing no damage or injuries. (PCHR 12/28)

26 DECEMBER 2017

IDF troops violently disperse a Palestinian protest against **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** in Hebron; 3 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, the **IDF** conducts raids in al-'Arub refugee camp and nearby Sa'ir village, sparking further clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 4 are injured. **IDF troops** arrest 1 Palestinian during late-night

raids near Hebron, Qalqilya, and Salfit; and patrol near Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and Hebron. Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land near Jabaliya refugee camp and Khan Yunis. For a 2d day in a row, the **IAF** fires flare bombs on Palestinian property outside Khan Yunis, causing no serious damage. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 12/26)

27 DECEMBER 2017

Along **Gaza's border**, **Israeli forces** open fire on Palestinian farmland near Gaza City and Bayt Hanun, causing minor damage. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 6 Palestinians and issue 3 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Hebron, and Nablus; and patrol in and around Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct a raid in Anata village, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; there are no serious injuries. They arrest 2 Palestinians during another raid in Qalandia refugee camp. (MNA 12/27; WAFA 12/28; PCHR 12/28; PCHR 1/4)

28 DECEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** violently disperse Palestinian protesters gathering outside **Ofer Prison** in solidarity with imprisoned Palestinian activist **Ahed Tamimi** (see Update); there are no serious injuries. They shoot and injure 2 Palestinians during minor clashes near Ramallah. **Israeli border police** arrest a Palestinian, allegedly for carrying a bomb into a courthouse near Bethlehem. The **IDF** arrests 5 more Palestinians during late-night raids in Qalqilya and near Salfit, Jenin, and Hebron; and patrols near Hebron and Tulkarm. **More than**

20 Israeli settlers enter a Palestinian school in Burin village near Nablus, sparking clashes with stone-throwing students; 2 students are injured and 2 Palestinian vehicles are damaged. The settlers claim that some students from Burin threw stones at their cars earlier in the day. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Issawiyya. In 4 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries (2 fishermen are arrested). Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmlands near Dayr al-Balah, causing no serious damage. (IMEMC, MNA, TOI, WAFA 12/28; PCHR 1/4)

PA FM al-Maliki says that the Palestinian leadership has decided to request, at a summit planned for 1/6 in **Amman**, the implementation of the **Amman Summit resolutions of 1980**, which stipulated a **political and economic boycott** of any country that moves its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. He also says that the PA will lobby in countries where Israeli diplomats are pressing governments to move their embassies to Jerusalem, and that they will wait for a new composition of the **UNSC** before resubmitting their application for full membership at the **UN**. (WAFA, WP 12/28)

29 DECEMBER 2017

Thousands of Palestinians gather at protests across the **oPt** for a 4th Friday in a row against **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Israeli forces** violently disperse them in and around Hebron, al-Bireh, Bethlehem, Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, 'Izzariya (East Jerusalem), 2 areas near Nablus (Beita and Huwwara checkpoint), and in various locations along Gaza's border. At least 57 Palestinians are injured (5 seriously),

and at least 8 are arrested. Meanwhile, IDF troops patrol near Hebron, Qalqilya, and Salfit. In the Negev, **Israeli forces** demolish the Palestinian Bedouin village of al-Araqib for the 123d time since 2010. (HA, TOI, WAFA 12/29; PCHR 1/4)

Unidentified parties fire 3 rockets from Gaza toward Israel. Israel's **Iron Dome** missile defense system intercepts 2; the 3d hits a building, causing light damage and no injuries. Israeli forces conduct strikes on 2 sites in northern Gaza, causing some damage. **Israel's DM Lieberman** says that **Iran** supplied the projectiles fired at Israel today. (HA, TOI, WAFA 12/29; MNA 12/30; HA 1/3)

In an interview with the *Jerusalem Post*, **U.S. ambassador to Israel David Friedman** says that the **Trump administration** is "disappointed with some of the rhetoric" coming from the Palestinians in response to **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**. He calls it "ugly, needlessly provocative, and anti-Semitic." (JP, TOI 12/29)

30 DECEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** shut down the north entrances to al-Bireh and Ramallah, sparking minor clashes; there are no serious injuries. IDF troops arrest 4 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during late-night raids near Nablus, Bethlehem, and Hebron; and patrol near Hebron and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Biddu and Issawiyya. Along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian farmland near Dayr al-Balah, causing no serious damage. (WAFA 12/31; PCHR 1/4)

The **IAF** conducts air strikes on several **Hamas** sites in southern Gaza, causing

moderate damage. This is the 2d round of IAF strikes in Gaza in response to rocket fire on 12/29. Meanwhile, **Israel's Labor Party leader Avi Gabbay** criticizes **PM Netanyahu** for failing to stop the rocket fire from Gaza. (TOI, YA 12/30; WAFA 12/31; PCHR 1/4)

A Palestinian succumbs to injuries sustained in clashes with **IDF troops** along Gaza's border on 12/29. (HA, MNA, TOI 12/30; PCHR 1/4)

31 DECEMBER 2017

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in Dayr Nizam, al-Bireh, and Beitunia near Ramallah, sparking minor clashes with Palestinian youths in each village; 3 Palestinians are arrested. They arrest 21 more Palestinians and issue arrest summons to another during late-night raids in and around Nablus, Salfit, Tulkarm, Bethlehem, and Hebron; and patrol near Hebron and Tulkarm. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Issawiyya. (PCHR 1/4)

Following the rocket fire from **Gaza** on 12/29, **PM Netanyahu** reiterates that Israel holds **Hamas** accountable for any rockets fired toward Israel, and says that **Israeli forces** have struck Hamas sites 40 times in recent weeks. He is responding to **Labor Party leader Avi Gabbay's** 12/30 criticism. (TOI, WAFA 12/31)

The **Likud Central Committee** unanimously approves a resolution calling on the party's leaders, including **PM Netanyahu**, to extend Israeli sovereignty to **West Bank settlements** (see Update): "On the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the regions of Judea and Samaria [the **West Bank**], including **Jerusalem** our eternal capital, the Likud Central Committee calls on the Likud's elected officials to act to allow free construction and to apply the laws of Israel and its sovereignty to all liberated areas

of Jewish settlement in Judea and Samaria." (TOI 12/31; HA, NYT 1/1)

1 JANUARY 2018

Unidentified parties fire a rocket from the Khan Yunis area toward Israel. It lands in an open area near Eshkol, causing no damage or injuries. The **IAF** conducts air strikes on a **Hamas** military site north of Khan Yunis late at night, destroying it and causing minor damage to the surrounding buildings. Earlier, Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land along Gaza's border near Khan Yunis. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Qalqilya, Jenin, Bethlehem, Hebron, and Nablus; and patrol in the Hebron district. They also assault a Palestinian at a checkpoint near Hebron, claiming that he had a knife. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 3 Palestinians during a late-night raid in Anata refugee camp. (HA, TOI 1/1; MNA, WAFA, YA 1/2; PCHR 1/4)

Israel's Knesset passes into law an amendment to **Israel's Basic Law on Jerusalem** that strengthens Israeli control over the city (see Update). The law requires 80 of 120 members of Knesset (MKs) to approve any proposal that would cede Israeli territory to a "foreign party," which would be likely in any future peace agreement with the Palestinians. Previously, Israeli law required only a simple Knesset majority to approve such a transfer. (KNE, NYT 1/1; HA, JP, NYT, REU, TOI 1/2)

An Israeli military court indicts **Ahed Tamimi**, the teenaged Palestinian activist whose confrontation with IDF troops on 12/15 sparked a wave of protests and international solidarity, on 12 charges related to her slapping and shoving of an Israeli soldier on 12/15 and her past activism (see Update). (HA, MNA 1/1; EI 1/2)

2 JANUARY 2018

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian youths gathering near Khuza'a and Khan Yunis to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**; 2 Palestinians are moderately injured. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** set up residential tents on Palestinian-owned land near Nablus, establishing a new illegal settlement outpost. IDF troops conduct raids in Salim village near Nablus, sparking minor clashes with the residents; 1 Palestinian is injured. The IDF arrests 10 Palestinians during late-night raids near Hebron, Jenin, and Nablus; and patrols near Qalqilya and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces demolish a Palestinian home in Bayt Hanina and confiscate the contents of a Palestinian shop in Silwan. (MNA, WAFA 1/2; PCHR 1/4)

On Twitter, **U.S. pres. Trump** threatens to withhold future **economic aid** to the **Palestinians** because they are "no longer willing to talk peace" with **Israel** (see Update). Earlier, **U.S. ambassador to the UN Haley** responds to a question about U.S. support for Palestinians, and **UNRWA** in particular, by saying that the Trump administration plans to cut U.S. aid unless the Palestinians re-engage in the **U.S. peace initiative**. (BBC, JP, TOI, YA 1/2; AP, EI, HA 1/3)

3 JANUARY 2018

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian amid clashes sparked by an IDF raid in Dayr Nizam village near Ramallah (3 other Palestinians are injured). Meanwhile, the IDF arrests 7 Palestinians and issues 1 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Hebron, Jenin, and Nablus; and patrols near Hebron and Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** perform a marriage ceremony at

Haram al-Sharif, violating long-standing agreements barring non-Muslim religious rites at the sanctuary. Israeli forces arrest 3 Palestinians during late-night raids in Jabal Mukabir. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/3; PCHR 1/4; PCHR 1/11)

Unidentified parties fire 2 rockets from Gaza into southern Israel. They land in open areas, causing no damage or injuries. Late at night, the Israeli Air Force launches air strikes and artillery shelling in Gaza. (HA, JP, TOI 1/3; HA, JP, MNA, WAFA, YA 1/4; PCHR 1/11)

Responding to the U.S. threats to suspend economic aid on 1/2, a **PA spokesperson** says that the Palestinians will not back down from their decision to abandon the U.S. peace initiative. "Jerusalem is the eternal capital of the state of Palestine and it is not for sale for gold or billions," he says. **Fatah Central Committee member al-Ahmad** says that the Palestinians will not accept the U.S. as a "partner in the peace process" unless it reverses **Pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**. (AFP, TOI, WAFA 1/3)

PA minister of civil affairs Hussein al-Sheikh announces that **Pres. Abbas** instructed him to ask Israel to resume supplying 120 megawatts of **electricity** to **Gaza**, which would bring Israeli-supplied power back to the same levels as before the PA partially suspended electricity payments in 4/2017 (see Update). (JP, WAFA 1/3; HA 1/4)

4 JANUARY 2018

In Dayr Nizam, **IDF troops** clash with Palestinian mourners attending a funeral for the Palestinian killed in the village on 1/3; 1 Palestinian is injured. Earlier, the IDF blocks the road leading to the village to limit attendance at the funeral. Separately, IDF troops conduct raids in Dahaysha refugee

camp near Bethlehem, sparking clashes with Palestinian residents; at least 12 Palestinians are injured. IDF troops also clash with Palestinians during a late-night raid in Ramallah (there are no serious injuries), and patrol near Hebron, Tulkarm, Qalqilya, and Salfit. Responding to complaints from Israeli settlers, the IDF orders Palestinians to stop building a road linking 2 villages near Qalqilya. **Palestinian youths** throw Molotov cocktails at an Israeli settler bus near al-Fawar refugee camp, causing minor damage and no injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces assault 1 Palestinian and issue 1 arrest summons during raids in Silwan. In **Gaza**, thousands of protesters march through Gaza City, calling for more frequent openings of border crossings and relief from the humanitarian crisis. (AFP, HA, TOI, Wafa 1/4; MNA 1/5; PCHR 1/11)

5 JANUARY 2018

For the 5th consecutive Friday, **Israeli forces** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at protests against **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** in Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, Bil'in near Ramallah, and along Gaza's border near Jabaliya refugee camp; 1 Palestinian is injured. Meanwhile, IDF troops arrest 1 Palestinian and issue 1 arrest summons during late-night raids near Hebron, and patrol near Hebron and Qalqilya. (MNA, Wafa 1/5; PCHR 1/11)

Axios reports that the U.S. has frozen \$125 million in aid to **UNRWA**, following **U.S. pres. Trump's** threats to condition support for the agency on Palestinians' participation in his peace initiative. The sum comprises one third of annual U.S. support for the agency, and it was set to be delivered on 1/1. A **State Dept. official** later denies the story. "Just because

they were expecting the money on the 1st, and they did not get it at that time, does not mean it was suspended or canceled. Deliberations are ongoing, and we have until mid-January to make a final decision." (AX, FP, TOI 1/5; JP, REU, TOI 1/6)

6 JANUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid near Hebron, and patrol in and around Hebron throughout the day. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces violently disperse Palestinians gathering near the Old City to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**; 1 Palestinian is injured and another is arrested. (PCHR 1/11)

A group of **Arab diplomats** meets in Amman to coordinate their responses to **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**. Concluding the meeting, **Jordan's FM Ayman Safadi** announces that they have agreed to push for the recognition of a **State of Palestine** with **East Jerusalem** as its capital. They do not make any announcements concerning the implementation of the **Amman Summit resolutions of 1980**, which **PA FM al-Maliki** said the Palestinians would be pushing for at this meeting on 12/28. (TOI 1/6; HA 1/7; REU 1/8)

7 JANUARY 2018

Hamas announces that a member of its military wing died this morning in an "accidental explosion" in **northern Gaza**. Along **Gaza's border**, the **IAF** sprays herbicides on Palestinian farmlands near Gaza City. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct raids in al-Mazra'a near Ramallah and Salim village near Nablus, sparking clashes with Palestinian

youths in each; 1 Palestinian is injured and another is arrested. IDF troops also arrest 11 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Qalqilya and Bethlehem, and patrol near Qalqilya and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids in al-Tur, Qatanna, and the Old City. (TOI 1/7; PCHR 1/11)

Israel's Strategic Ministry publishes a "blacklist" of 20 organizations supporting the **Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement**, whose members are being denied entry into Israel (see Update). "We have shifted from defense to offense," **Strategic Affairs Minister Gilad Erdan** says. "The boycott organizations need to know that the State of Israel will act against them and not allow [them] to enter its territory to harm its citizens." Several individuals from listed organizations have reportedly already been denied entry because of their support for BDS. (AJ, HA, JP, WP 1/7; HA 1/8)

Israel's Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz instructs the **Israel Electric Corp.** to restore Israel's supply of electricity to **Gaza** to 120 megawatts per day, due to the "PA's willingness to renew payments" (see Update). (JP, MEMO, REU, YA 1/7)

8 JANUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure 4 Palestinians amid clashes outside Birzeit University near Ramallah and in Jericho, and arrest a Palestinian woman, allegedly for carrying a knife, at a checkpoint in central Hebron. They also arrest 14 Palestinians during further raids in and around Salfit, Jericho, Ramallah, Tulkarm, Jenin, Nablus, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Salfit, Jericho, and Nablus. Israeli forces seal the entrance to 'Usarin village near Nablus. **Israeli settlers** cut

down approximately 15 Palestinian-owned olive trees near Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Anata refugee camp and Qatanna. Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level lands near Khan Yunis and open fire on Palestinian farmlands near Gaza City. Off **Gaza's coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Lahiya, seriously injuring 1 fisherman (2 fishermen are arrested). (TOI, Wafa 1/8; PCHR 1/11)

The **Israel Electric Corp.** increases the amount of electricity being supplied to Gaza to 120 megawatts, following the **PA's** 1/3 request to end the 40% reduction requested by the Palestinian authorities last year in an effort to increase pressure on **Hamas** (see Update). (EI, HA, YA 1/8)

9 JANUARY 2018

Unidentified persons shoot and kill an Israeli settler driving near Nablus. After the shooting, the **IDF** imposes a partial lockdown on the Nablus region, setting up mobile checkpoints and conducting raids in nearby villages. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian vehicles in the area, lightly injuring 4 Palestinians.

Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinians gathering in al-Bireh and along Gaza's border near Khan Yunis to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**; 1 Palestinian is injured. Two more Palestinians are injured in unrelated clashes in Tuqu' near Bethlehem. IDF troops also arrest 3 Palestinians during raids near Hebron and Jenin, and patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron throughout the day. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, injuring 1 Palestinian (6 fishermen are arrested

and 2 boats are confiscated). Along **Gaza's border**, the **IAF** sprays herbicides on Palestinian farmlands near Khan Yunis and Dayr al-Balah, and Israeli forces shoot and injure a Palestinian near Rafah. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/9; EI, HA, MNA 1/10; PCHR 1/11)

Israeli forces conduct air strikes and fire ground-to-ground missiles at a **Syrian army depot** near **Damascus** overnight, according to the Syrian army. Syrian defense systems prevent a number of additional strikes, but the attack still causes moderate damage. (HA, TOI 1/9)

10 JANUARY 2018

Following the deadly shooting near Nablus on 1/9, the **IDF** shuts down the Huwwara checkpoint, slowing traffic in the Nablus area. **IDF** troops clash with Palestinian youths in Madama village near Nablus; 5 journalists are blocked from covering the conflict. **Israeli settlers** raze a swath of Palestinian farmland outside the Yitzhar settlement near Nablus. Elsewhere, **IDF** troops arrest 18 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Hebron, Nablus, Ramallah, and Jenin; and patrol near Hebron throughout the day. Around **500 Israeli settlers** enter 2 villages near Qalqilya, sparking minor confrontations with the Palestinian residents; there are no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids in al-Tur, Jabal Mukabir, Issawiyya, and the Old City. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian agricultural areas near Juhur al-Dik late at night, causing no major damage. (MNA, WAFA 1/10; PCHR 1/11; PCHR 1/18)

The **Higher Planning Commission of Israel's Civil Administration** advances plans for the construction of 1,122 new homes in 20 **West Bank settlements**, including 204 in

Oranit and more than 50 in the **Jordan Valley** (see Update). The commission also publishes tenders for the construction of 651 units. (HA, JP, JTA, PCN, TOI 1/11)

11 JANUARY 2018

IDF troops violently disperse Palestinian youths gathering along **Gaza's** border near al-Bureij refugee camp to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**; 1 Palestinian is killed and 3 are injured. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shut down a checkpoint between Tell village and Iraq Burin village near Nablus in the context of the ongoing search for the perpetrators of the 1/9 deadly shooting. The shutdown sparks protests and later clashes between the Israeli troops and Palestinians in the area; 1 Palestinian is killed and 4 are injured. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian protesters gathering outside Qalqilya; 1 Palestinian is injured. They also arrest 5 Palestinians and confiscate NIS 17,400 (approximately \$5,100) during late-night raids near Nablus and Tulkarm, and patrol near Tulkarm, Salfit, and Hebron. (HA, JP, TOI, WAFA, YA 1/11; PCHR 1/18)

Israeli PM Netanyahu instructs the **Defense Ministry** to connect the **illegal settlement outpost Havat Gilad** to the West Bank's electricity grid (see Update). The move comes 2 days after the killing of an Israeli settler who lived in Havat Gilad. (JP, TOI 1/11)

12 JANUARY 2018

For the 6th consecutive Friday, **Israeli forces** violently disperse Palestinian, Israeli, and international activists at protests against

U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, as well as the killing of 2 Palestinians on 1/11, Israel's settlements, separation wall, and occupation in Abu Dis, al-Bireh, Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, Budrus village near Ramallah, central Hebron, northern Bethlehem, 2 villages near Nablus (Beita and Bayt Furik), and along Gaza's border near Gaza City, Khan Yunis, al-Bureij refugee camp, and Jabaliya refugee camp; 65 Palestinians are injured and at least 2 are arrested. Also along **Gaza's border, IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian workers collecting plastic and other scraps from a landfill near Juhur al-Dik, causing no injuries. Meanwhile, IDF troops arrest 4 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Hebron, Nablus, and Jenin; and patrol near Tulkarm and Nablus. **Israeli forces** raze a tract of land near the site of the 1/9 deadly shooting. They also arrest 5 Palestinians as they exit **Haram al-Sharif**. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at a Palestinian home south of Nablus, breaking a number of windows. Thousands of Palestinian mourners march through Iraq Burin and al-Maghazi refugee camp in funeral processions for the 2 Palestinians killed on 1/11. (MNA, Wafa 1/12; HA, MNA 1/13; PCHR 1/18)

U.S. pres. Trump announces that he is formally extending the waivers on **U.S. sanctions on Iran**, upholding the U.S. obligations under the 7/14/2015 nuclear agreement one last time. This last extension, he says, will give the U.S. time to negotiate a "follow on" agreement with its European allies before the next deadline for extending sanctions relief, 120 days hence (see Update). "In the absence of such an agreement, the U.S. will not again waive sanctions to stay in the **Iran nuclear deal**," he says. "And if at any time I judge that such an agreement is not within reach, I will withdraw from the deal

immediately." At the same time, the **U.S. Treasury** imposes sanctions on 14 Iranian individuals, including the head of Iran's judiciary, **Sadeq Larijani**. (AP, BBC, NYT, TOI 1/12)

13 JANUARY 2018

Off **Gaza's coast, Egyptian naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near **Rafah**, killing 1 Palestinian fisherman. Nearby, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. Meanwhile, Israeli forces violently disperse Palestinians protesting **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** in central **Jerusalem**, Nabi Salih village near Ramallah, outside Jayyus village near Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border near Gaza City; 8 Palestinians are injured and 2 are arrested. Hours later, the **IDF** declares Nabi Salih a closed military zone. The village is home to the Tamimi family of activists, whose resistance to **the IDF** has garnered international headlines in recent weeks (see Update). **IDF troops** also arrest 12 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Tulkarm, Bethlehem, Nablus, Jenin, and Hebron; and patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** destroy approximately 80 Palestinian-owned olive trees in a grove near Nablus and torch a Palestinian tractor in nearby 'Urif village. (HA, MNA, TOI 1/13; TOI 1/14; PCHR 1/18)

Late at night, the **IAF** bombs and completely destroys a Palestinian tunnel south of **Rafah** in the **Gaza Strip**. There are no reported injuries. The **IDF** later rejects Palestinian claims that the tunnel was used for smuggling goods from **Egypt**, and alleges that it extended from Egyptian territory all the way to the area of the **Kerem Shalom border crossing**. The **Israeli**

authorities also announce the indefinite closure of the Kerem Shalom crossing, starting on 1/14. (TOI 1/13; HA, TOI 1/14)

Iran's Foreign Ministry says that Iran "will accept no changes" to the 7/14/2015 nuclear deal, responding to **U.S. pres. Trump's** 1/12 call for a "follow on" agreement to address a number of provisions he finds problematic (see Update). (FARS, TOI 1/13)

14 JANUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** arrest 12 Palestinians, issue 1 arrest summons, and confiscate 1 car during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem, Jericho, and Qalqilya; raze a tract of Palestinian land outside Burin village near Nablus; and patrol in and around Tulkarm and Qalqilya. (Wafa 1/14; PCHR 1/18)

The **PLO Central Council** convenes in Ramallah to coordinate a long-term strategy for responding to **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**. All major factions are invited, but both **Hamas** and **PIJ** opt not to attend. In a heated speech opening the session, **PA pres. Abbas** accuses U.S. pres. Trump of insulting the Palestinians and says he will not accept the Trump administration's peace plan (see Update). (NYT, REU, TOI, Wafa 1/14; HA 1/15)

Hamas official Mohammed Hamdan is seriously injured in a car bombing in the southern **Lebanese city Sidon** (see Update). Hamas accuses Israel of an attempted assassination. (AP, HA, TOI, Wafa 1/14)

15 JANUARY 2018

IDF troops block off the main road in Jayyus village near Qalqilya, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinians; 1 Palestinian is killed. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, IDF troops conduct raids in Burqin village near Jenin,

sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; 7 Palestinians are injured. They also patrol near Hebron and Nablus, and deliver stop-work orders to a mosque and a building under construction in Yatta village near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 9 Palestinians during late-night raids in Biddu, al-Tur, and Silwan. (HA, JP, Wafa 1/15; MNA 1/16; PCHR 1/18)

For a 2d day in a row, the **PLO Central Council** convenes in Ramallah to coordinate a long-term strategy for responding to **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**. In a concluding statement, the council calls for international support for Palestinian statehood, directs the **PLO Executive Committee** to revoke the PLO's **recognition of Israel** until the Israeli government recognizes the State of Palestine, and declares that the transitional period laid out in the **Oslo Accords** is no longer applicable to the current situation (see Update). (JP, TOI, Wafa 1/15; AFP, HA 1/16)

16 JANUARY 2018

Approximately 1,000 Israeli settlers visit Joseph's Tomb near Nablus overnight, sparking clashes between their **IDF** escort and Palestinians from nearby Balata refugee camp; 1 Palestinian is injured and another is arrested. The IDF later says that a cell-phone bomb was planted at Joseph's Tomb prior to the activists' visit, but that Israeli soldiers detonated it safely, causing no injuries. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 12 Palestinians during late-night raids near Bethlehem, Ramallah, Hebron, and Nablus; and patrol near Hebron. **Israeli settlers** vandalize several Palestinian vehicles in Bayt Ikhsa village near Jerusalem, and enter 'Azun village near Qalqilya, sparking clashes between their IDF

escort and stone-throwing residents (28 Palestinians are injured). In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli police prevent **Islamic Waqf** staff from doing routine maintenance at **Haram al-Sharif**. (MNA, TOI, Wafa 1/16; JP 1/17)

The **U.S. State Dept.** announces that the **Trump administration** has decided to withhold \$65 million from a \$125 million transfer of aid to **UNRWA**. “There is a need to undertake a fundamental reexamination of UNRWA, both in the way it operates and the way it is funded,” a spokesperson says, explaining that the \$65 million may be transferred after “future consideration” from the Trump administration. (JP, NYT, TOI 1/16; EI, HA, YA 1/17)

The **Israeli authorities** re-open the **Kerem Shalom border crossing** into **Gaza**, having closed it on 1/14 following Israeli air strikes in Gaza on 1/13. (MNA, Wafa, YA 1/16)

17 JANUARY 2018

IDF troops surround the Jenin refugee camp home of a Palestinian allegedly involved in the killing of an Israeli settler on 1/9, sparking a fire; the suspect’s cousin is killed and 2 Israeli soldiers are injured (after initial reports that the suspect was killed during the fire, his family later says that he escaped unharmed). Two other Palestinians suspected of participating in the 1/9 killing are arrested. The incident sparks broader clashes in Jenin refugee camp; 4 Palestinians are injured. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 10 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Hebron, Qalqilya, and Ramallah; and patrol near Hebron. Along **Gaza’s border**, **Israeli forces** conduct a limited incursion to level land near Khan Yunis. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian home in Bayt Hanina. A number of **Israeli settlers** tour **Haram al-Sharif**.

(MNA, Wafa 1/17; HA, JP, MNA, PCHR, TOI, Wafa 1/18; PCHR 1/25)

UNRWA announces an international funding campaign to raise enough money to make up for the shortfall created when the **U.S.** announced on 1/16 that it was withholding \$65 million in aid indefinitely (see Update). (AFP, TOI, Wafa 1/17; AP 1/18; EI 1/19)

Early in the morning, the **IAF** conducts air strikes on a military airport near **Damascus**, allegedly targeting a **Hezbollah** arms depot, according to local reports. Neither the **Syrian government** nor the **IDF** comment on the attack. (HA, TOI 1/17)

18 JANUARY 2018

In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** conduct raids in Hizma village late at night in response to reports of stones being thrown at an Israeli bus earlier in the day. The raids spark minor clashes, leading to no major injuries or arrests. Four Palestinians are arrested on further raids in the Old City. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians during raids in and around Jenin, and patrol near Ramallah, Salfit, and Hebron. (Wafa 1/19; PCHR 1/25)

The **U.S. State Dept.** announces that the **Trump administration** will not be providing the \$45 million in food aid to Palestinians that it pledged in 12/2017 in response to an **UNRWA** emergency appeal. Instead, the aid will be frozen indefinitely. The announcement comes 2 days after the State Dept. announced that the Trump administration would be withholding \$65 million in aid for UNRWA. (JP, REU, Wafa, YA 1/18; TOI, Wafa 1/19)

19 JANUARY 2018

For a 7th Friday in a row, **Israeli forces** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at protests across the

oPt against **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**, as well as Israel's occupation, settlements, and separation wall. Clashes in Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya and along Gaza's border near Jabaliya refugee camp, Khan Yunis, and Gaza City lead to at least 10 Palestinian injuries. Meanwhile, an IDF raid in Luban al-Sharqiyya sparks further clashes; 1 Palestinian child is injured. IDF troops also arrest 2 Palestinians and issue 3 arrest summons during late-night raids near Bethlehem and in Qalqilya. IDF troops arrest a Palestinian woman in central Hebron, allegedly for carrying a knife. A Palestinian driver is arrested at a Jordan valley checkpoint, and Israeli soldiers claim he rammed a group of them with his car. Israeli forces block the main entrance to Hizma village in **East Jerusalem** overnight, following clashes in the village late on 1/18. (HA, JP, Wafa 1/19; MNA 1/20; PCHR 1/25)

20 JANUARY 2018

Israeli forces violently disperse Palestinians gathering in Kafr Qaddum village near Qalqilya and in central **Jerusalem** to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**; 8 Palestinians are injured. An IDF raid in Jaba' near Jenin sparks further clashes; there are no serious injuries. Israeli forces maintain the closure of Hizma for a 2d day, following clashes in the village on 1/18. IDF troops arrest 10 Palestinians and issue 5 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Hebron and Bethlehem, and patrol near Qalqilya and Hebron. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage or injuries. (Wafa 1/20; Wafa 1/21; PCHR 1/25)

A Palestinian prisoner incarcerated at Israel's **Ramla Prison** succumbs to complications related to cancer. The Israeli authorities reportedly refused repeated calls for him to be released on humanitarian grounds. (MNA 1/20; PCHR 1/25)

In **Cairo, U.S. VP Pence** says that the Trump administration remains committed to restarting the Palestinian-Israeli peace process. After meeting with **Egyptian pres. al-Sisi**, Pence says he "heard out" al-Sisi's concerns about U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. (HA, REU 1/20)

21 JANUARY 2018

Israeli forces maintain the closure of Hizma for a 3d day, following clashes in the village on 1/18. Israeli soldiers conduct raids in the village in the evening, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; there are no serious injuries. Elsewhere in **East Jerusalem**, Israeli settlers tour **Haram al-Sharif** in the morning. Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian guard at the sanctuary and 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya and Silwan. In the **West Bank**, IDF troops arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids near Ramallah, Tulkarm, Jenin, Bethlehem and in Salfit; and patrol near Hebron and Qalqilya. In 3 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (Wafa 1/21; MNA 1/22; PCHR 1/25)

In Amman, **Jordan's King Abdullah** tells **U.S. VP Pence** that the only resolution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict will come through a 2-state solution and insists that **East Jerusalem** must be the capital of a future Palestinian state. "We hope that the U.S. will reach out and find the right way to move forward in these challenging circumstances," he adds. Pence

then visits a U.S. military base near the Jordan-Syria border before flying to Israel in the evening. (HA, JP, NYT, REU, YA 1/21)

22 JANUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, the **Israeli authorities** evict a Palestinian farmer from his property near Bethlehem, claiming the land is state-owned. **IDF troops** arrest 7 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Jenin, Nablus, and Qalqilya; and patrol near Tulkarm and Qalqilya. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 10 Palestinians during raids in Bayt Hanina, Silwan, al-Tur, and Qalandia refugee camp. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian farms near Juhur al-Dik, causing no major damage or injuries. (TOI, WAFA 1/22; PCHR 1/25)

U.S. VP Pence addresses a special session of the **Israeli Knesset**, reaffirming the Trump administration's commitment to forging a "lasting" Palestinian-Israeli peace deal and announcing that the **U.S. embassy in Jerusalem** will open by the end of 2019. (AA, GDN, HA, JP, NYT, YA 1/22)

23 JANUARY 2018

Palestinian shops, schools, government offices, banks, and other businesses across the oPt observe a general strike in protest of **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** on the occasion of **U.S. VP Pence's** visit to Israel. **IDF troops** violently disperse protests in al-Bireh, Aida refugee camp near Bethlehem, central Hebron, and nearby Sa'ir village; 2 Palestinians are arrested. Meanwhile, **Israeli border police** shoot and injure 2 Palestinians at the Za'atra checkpoint near Nablus, allegedly after they attempt to stab soldiers stationed in the area. The IDF

closes the checkpoint after the incident. IDF troops arrest 9 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Hebron, Ramallah, Salfit, Jenin, and Bethlehem; and patrol near Hebron. (JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 1/23; PCHR 1/25)

On his 2d and final day in Israel, **U.S. VP Pence** visits Yad Vashem, the Western Wall, and meets with **Israeli pres. Reuven Rivlin**. In an interview with Reuters, Pence discusses the U.S. peace initiative. "The White House has been working with our partners in the region to see if we can develop a framework for peace," he says. "I think it all just depends now on when the Palestinians are going to come back to the table." (HA, JP, REU, TOI, YA 1/23)

24 JANUARY 2018

Hundreds of Palestinians gather in Jabaliya refugee camp to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital** and the recent U.S. decision to cut aid to **UNRWA**. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** conduct a raid in Burqa village near Nablus, sparking clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian youths; 1 Palestinian is injured. Another Palestinian is injured in clashes sparked by an IDF raid in Bayt 'Aynun near Hebron. IDF troops arrest 4 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during raids near Bethlehem, Qalqilya, and Ramallah. Israeli forces demolish 3 residential shacks and a barn near Nablus and a home in Jiftlik village near Jericho; and patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 2 Palestinians during a raid in Qatanna. In the Negev, **Israeli forces** demolish the Palestinian Bedouin village al-Araqib for the 124th time since 2010. (WAFA, 1/24; MNA, PCHR, WAFA 1/25; PCHR 2/1)

Jawwal and Wataniya, the only 2 telecoms with more than 3 million customers each in

the **West Bank and Gaza**, launch **3G network technology** in the West Bank. (JP, REU, WAFA 1/24)

25 JANUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** deliver stop-work orders to 3 Palestinian homes under construction near Hebron. **IDF troops** violently disperse Palestinian minors throwing stones at Israeli vehicles near Hebron (1 Palestinian is injured), arrest 12 Palestinians, and issue 2 arrest summons during raids in and around Hebron, Jenin, and Ramallah; and patrol near Hebron, Salfit, Jericho, and Nablus. (WAFA 1/25; PCHR 2/1)

26 JANUARY 2018

For the 8th consecutive Friday, Palestinians across the **oPt** gather to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**. **IDF troops** violently disperse them along Gaza's border near Khan Yunis, Jabaliya refugee camp, and Gaza City; 6 Palestinians are injured. Meanwhile, IDF troops patrol in and around Jenin and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** torch a car and spray racist graffiti on nearby walls in Bayt Safafa overnight. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/26; PCHR 2/1)

27 JANUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 8 Palestinians during late-night raids near Jenin, Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem, and Tulkarm; and patrol near Hebron throughout the day. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian home in Issawiyya, sparking clashes with stone-throwing youths; 1 Palestinian is injured and another is arrested. Israeli forces then conduct raids in the village, arresting 2

Palestinians and blocking off the main entrance. **Off Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (WAFA 1/28; PCHR 2/1)

28 JANUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli soldiers** shoot and injure a Palestinian youth during clashes sparked by an IDF raid in Bayt Rima near Ramallah. Another IDF raid in Bayt Furik near Nablus sparks further clashes; 1 Palestinian is injured. IDF troops arrest 17 Palestinians and issue 3 arrest summons during raids near Hebron, Jenin, Tulkarm, and Nablus; and patrol near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces keep Issawiyya blocked off for a 2d day, following clashes on 1/27. They arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in the village. Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** open fire on Palestinian shepherds working near Juhur al-Dik, causing no injuries. (WAFA 1/28; WAFA 1/29; PCHR 2/1)

29 JANUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish 2 Palestinian residential buildings in Bayt Jala near Bethlehem. IDF troops arrest 21 Palestinians during raids in and around Hebron, Tulkarm, Ramallah, Bethlehem, Jenin, and Nablus; and patrol near Tulkarm and Salfit. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian vehicles near the site of the 1/9 killing of an Israeli settler, causing minor damage. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 33 Palestinians and confiscate 100 cooking gas containers during a 3d day of arrest raids in Issawiyya. (JP, WAFA 1/29; WAFA 1/30; PCHR 2/1)

Unidentified parties fire a rocket from Gaza into Israel late at night; it falls in an open

area, causing no damage or injuries. (JP, TOI 1/29; YA 1/30)

PA FM al-Maliki says that the Palestinian leadership plans to ask the UNSC in 2/2018 to reconsider Palestine's application for full UN membership. (JP, WAFA 1/29)

The Lebanese press reports that **Lebanese intelligence services** have identified 2 of the 4 people who attempted to assassinate a **Hamas** official on 1/14 in **Sidon** as **Israeli** agents. (HA 1/29)

30 JANUARY 2018

IDF troops shoot and kill a Palestinian minor amid clashes sparked by an IDF raid in al-Mughayyir village near Ramallah. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, IDF troops conduct a raid in Jenin refugee camp late at night, sparking minor clashes (2 Palestinians are injured and 2 more are arrested). They arrest 3 more Palestinians during late-night raids near Bethlehem, Hebron, and in Tubas; patrol near Qalqilya and Hebron; and deliver stop-work orders to a Palestinian building under construction in Ya'bad village near Jenin. Palestinians throw stones at Israeli settlers near Nablus, injuring 1. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces demolish 15 commercial and agricultural structures in Issawiyya. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (AFP, EI, MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/30; WAFA 1/31; PCHR 2/1)

31 JANUARY 2018

Twenty busloads of **Israeli settlers** visit Joseph's Tomb near Nablus overnight, sparking clashes between their **IDF** escort and Palestinians from nearby Balata refugee camp; 3 Palestinians are injured. Elsewhere

in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest a Palestinian outside a settlement near Hebron, allegedly for carrying a knife, arrest 17 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Qalqilya, Jenin, and Nablus; and patrol near Nablus throughout the day. **Israeli settlers** uproot approximately 100 Palestinian olive trees in a grove near Nablus. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid in Qalandia refugee camp. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian land near Bayt Hanun, causing no major damage. (MNA, TOI, WAFA 1/31; PCHR 2/1; PCHR 2/8)

Hamas announces that 1 of its members died this morning while working on a "resistance tunnel" in Gaza. The specific circumstances of his death are unknown. (TOI 1/31)

1 FEBRUARY 2018

Unidentified parties fire a rocket into Israel. It lands in an open area, causing no damage or injuries. Late at night, the **IAF** conducts air strikes on several **Hamas** military sites in Bayt Hanun and Bayt Lahiya, causing damage and no injuries. (TOI 2/1; HA, MNA, WAFA, YA 2/2)

Along **Gaza's border**, **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians attempting to cross into Israel armed with knives and a grenade. In 4 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Dayr al-Balah, causing no damage or injuries. In the **West Bank**, Israeli forces demolish a Palestinian home under construction in Bayt Dajan village near Nablus, and patrol near Hebron. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian vehicles traveling

south of Nablus, causing minor damage to some. (MNA, WAFA 2/1; PCHR 2/8)

2 FEBRUARY 2018

Unidentified parties fire a rocket from Gaza into southern **Israel** for a 2d day in a row. It lands in an open area, causing no damage or injuries. The **IAF** again conducts air strikes on Hamas military sites in **Rafah**, causing major damage to 2. (HA, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/3)

For the 9th consecutive Friday, Palestinians across the **oPt** gather to protest **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**. **Israeli forces** violently disperse them in **East Jerusalem** (Issawiyya and Abu Dis), Nablus, 4 villages near Ramallah (Bil'in, Ni'lin, Budrus, and Nabi Salih), al-Bireh, Kafr Qaddum near Qalqilya, and along Gaza's border near Jabaliya refugee camp, Bayt Lahiya, and Khan Yunis. 30 Palestinians are injured. Later, when an Israeli drives into Abu Dis, approximately 200 Palestinian minors torch his car and throw stones at him, causing minor injuries. Israeli forces escort the man from the village and clash with the stone-throwers; 9 Palestinians are injured. Elsewhere in **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Biddu. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** spray racist graffiti on walls in Nabi Salih village near Ramallah, the hometown of imprisoned Palestinian activist Ahed Tamimi. **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians during raids near Jenin; and patrol near Hebron throughout the day. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/2; PCHR 2/8)

3 FEBRUARY 2018

Israeli forces surround 2 Jenin-area homes of Palestinians suspected of participating in the

1/9 killing of an Israeli settler overnight, sparking a brief firefight and clashes with stone-throwing residents of the area; 1 Palestinian is killed, 7 are injured, and at least 4 are arrested. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** arrest 4 Palestinians and issue 1 arrest summons during late-night raids near Jenin, Bethlehem, and Hebron; and patrol near Hebron and Nablus. In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian farmers working near Hebron, causing no major injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 10 Palestinians during late-night raids in Abu Dis and Hizma. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA 2/3; PCHR 2/8)

The **PLO Executive Committee** meets in Ramallah and calls on the **PA** to immediately put together a plan for "disengagement" with Israel on all levels, including security coordination and economic cooperation. Meanwhile, **Arab League asst. secy.-gen. Said Abu Ali** says that the Arab League has adopted the Palestinian goal of pursuing a UN-mandated multilateral mechanism to administer a new round of Palestinian-Israeli peace talks. He says that various Arab MKs are working with several international groups to build support for the idea. (WAFA 2/3)

4 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** verbally and physically assault Palestinians gathering in central Hebron in solidarity with Palestinian minors imprisoned by Israel; there are no serious injuries. Israeli forces demolish a Palestinian home under construction in Bayt Dajan village near Nablus and 2 EU-funded schoolrooms in a Bedouin village near Jerusalem. **IDF troops** arrest 14 Palestinians

during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Hebron, Jenin, Bethlehem, and Qalqilya; and patrol near Hebron and Salfit. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Shu'fat refugee camp. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (MNA, WAFA 2/4; EI 2/6; PCHR 2/8)

The **Israeli cabinet** unanimously approves a proposal to establish a new settlement for the residents of **Havat Gilad**, the illegal settlement outpost of the settler killed by Palestinians on 1/9. **DM Lieberman** is authorized to explore the relocation of the residents to a new settlement and to evacuate Havat Gilad. (HA, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/4)

5 FEBRUARY 2018

A **Palestinian citizen of Israel** stabs and kills an **Israeli settler** outside the entrance to the settlement Ariel near Nablus. An Israeli soldier then chases down the alleged assailant in his car and rams him. After the alleged assailant eludes capture, the **IDF** conducts widespread raids in nearby Kafr Haris. In an apparent act of revenge, **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian vehicles near Nablus and Salfit, moderately injuring 1 Palestinian. Meanwhile, **IDF troops** assault and arrest a Palestinian journalist and his brother during a raid in Ramallah. They also arrest 20 Palestinians during raids in and around Tulkarm, Jenin, Nablus, Salfit, Qalqilya, and Ramallah; and patrol near Hebron and Tulkarm. A raid in Burqin village near Jenin sparks clashes with stone-throwing Palestinian minors; 1 Palestinian is injured. Israeli forces demolish a water pipeline used for agricultural purposes in the **northern Jordan Valley** and confiscate a number of tents being used to shelter sheep near

Tubas. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Silwan and the Old City. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/5; TOI 2/6; PCHR 2/8)

6 FEBRUARY 2018

IDF troops conduct a series of raids near Jenin, searching for the Palestinian who allegedly planned the 1/9 killing of an Israeli settler. After searching for hours, they surround a building in al-Yamun village where the man, Ahmad Nasser Jarrar, is hiding. When he does not surrender, they begin to demolish the building. According to the Israeli press, Jarrar is armed with a rifle and a bag of explosives when he eventually emerges. The Israeli soldiers then open fire, killing him and sparking clashes with residents of the area; there are no serious injuries. Meanwhile, IDF troops conduct raids in and around Nablus, searching for the Palestinian citizen of Israel responsible for the 2/5 killing of an Israeli settler. A raid in central Nablus sparks major clashes with stone-throwing residents of the area; 19 Palestinians are injured, including 1 fatally (he succumbs to his injuries hours later). Meanwhile, IDF troops arrest 16 Palestinians and assault 3 others during late-night raids near Bethlehem, Qalqilya, Hebron, Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarm, and Ramallah; and patrol near Hebron. Israeli settlers throw stones at Palestinian vehicles near Nablus, damaging 1 windshield. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a raid in Silwan. Along **Gaza's border**, IDF troops open fire on Palestinian shepherds working near Juhur al-Dik, causing no injuries. In 4 separate

incidents off **Gaza's northern coast**, Israeli naval forces open fire on Palestinian fishing boats, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, JP, MNA, WAFA 2/6; MNA 2/7; PCHR 2/8)

Following the **PLO Executive Committee** decision on 2/3, the **PA** forms a committee to explore ways the Palestinians could disengage from Israel. One proposal would have the PA adopt the Jordanian dinar as a replacement for the Israeli shekel. Meanwhile, **PA pres. Abbas** says, "Our hands are extended for peace through negotiations," insisting that the Palestinians are still interested in a peace agreement with Israel, just not with the U.S. as its main broker. (TOI, WAFA 2/6)

7 FEBRUARY 2018

An **Israeli security guard** shoots and kills a Palestinian minor after he stabs and lightly injures another guard at the entrance to Karme Tzur settlement near Hebron. After the incident, **IDF troops** raid the alleged attacker's home in Halhul village, sparking clashes with stone-throwing residents; there are no serious injuries. Elsewhere in the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** clash with Palestinians in Jericho; 21 Palestinians are injured. They also arrest 9 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Jenin, Nablus, and Ramallah; and patrol near Hebron and Nablus. **Israeli settlers** throw stones at Palestinian vehicles near Salfit, lightly injuring 1 driver and damaging 1 car. In **East Jerusalem**, Palestinian minors throw stones at a fence surrounding an Israeli settlement near Kafr 'Aqab, sparking minor clashes with Israeli forces; 1 Palestinian is injured. Israeli forces also demolish a Palestinian home in Silwan. Off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp, causing no damage or injuries.

(HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 2/7; MNA, PCHR, WAFA 2/8; PCHR 2/15)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the first of 3 days (see Update). (WAFA 2/7; OCHA 2/15)

The **IAF** conducts air strikes on a military "research center" near **Damascus**, according to the Syrian army. Israeli forces have reportedly targeted the site 3 times in the past 3 months. (DPA, HA, REU 2/7)

8 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, a Palestinian school in Hebron closes for the day after **IDF troops** shoot tear gas canisters onto school grounds amid minor clashes nearby. IDF troops arrest 3 Palestinians during raids in Ramallah and Jenin, and patrol near Tulkarm, Salfit, Qalqilya, and Hebron. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** issue an arrest summons to an **Islamic Waqf** guard during a raid at **Haram al-Sharif**. Along **Gaza's border**, Israeli forces conduct a limited incursion to level land near Khan Yunis. (MNA 2/8; PCHR 2/15)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the 2d of 3 days (see Update). (JP 2/8; OCHA 2/15)

Unidentified persons in **Syria** open fire on an Israeli drone flying over the Israeli-controlled **Golan Heights**. Errant bullets hit a home in Majdal Shams, causing minor damage. (HA, YA 2/8)

9 FEBRUARY 2018

For the 10th consecutive Friday, **Israeli forces** violently disperse Palestinians, Israelis, and international activists at protests against **U.S. pres. Trump's 12/6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital**, as well as

Israel's settlements, separation wall, and occupation, in al-Mazra'a and al-Bireh near Ramallah, 3 villages near Nablus (Beita, Dayr al-Hatab, and Madama), the Huwwara checkpoint, and along Gaza's border near Jabaliya refugee camp, al-Bureij refugee camp, and Gaza City; at least 41 Palestinians are injured (1 critically). Meanwhile, **Israeli border police** arrest a Palestinian in central Hebron, claiming he is carrying a knife. The IDF temporarily shuts down the Huwwara checkpoint near Nablus following clashes in the area earlier in the day. IDF troops arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid near Tubas, and patrol near Salfit and Hebron. In 4 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Gaza City, causing no damage or injuries. (HA, JP, MNA, TOI, WAFA 2/9; PCHR 2/15)

The **Egyptian authorities** open the **Rafah border crossing** in both directions for the 3d and final day (see Update). (OCHA 2/15)

10 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** arrest 7 Palestinians and issue 4 arrest summons during late-night raids near Tulkarm, Hebron, Bethlehem, and in Nablus; and patrol near Qalqilya and Hebron. They also arrest 2 Palestinian laborers and issue stop-work orders for a building under construction in Hebron. **Israeli settlers** assault Palestinian construction crews repairing a home on Shuhada Street in central Hebron, causing no major injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, Israeli forces assault a number of Palestinian children and eventually arrest 2 in the Old City. They arrest 5 more Palestinians during a raid in Silwan and Abu Dis. (WAFA 2/10; PCHR 2/15)

Weeks after receiving **Israeli PM Netanyahu** in India, **Indian PM Narendra Modi** arrives in Ramallah for a visit to the oPt. His arrival marks the first time a sitting Indian PM has visited the oPt. **PA pres. Abbas** asks Modi to help mediate Palestinian-Israeli peace talks. (TOI, WAFA 2/10)

An **IDF** helicopter destroys an **Iranian** drone flying from **Syria** into the **Israeli-controlled Golan Heights**, according to an IDF spokesperson (Syrian and Iranian officials deny sending a drone into Israel). The **IAF** then conducts a number of air strikes on a Syrian airbase near Palmyra, where the drone allegedly took off. During the Israeli sortie, Syrian aerial defense systems shoot down an **Israeli F-16**, injuring 1 pilot seriously (this marks the first time they have downed an Israeli aircraft since the IDF started flying missions into Syria). The IAF then conducts the "biggest and most significant attack . . . against Syrian air defenses" since the 1982 war in **Lebanon**, according to a senior IAF official. Israeli jets strike 12 Syrian and Iranian targets in southern Syria, killing 6 people (see Update). (AJ, HA, MNA, NYT, REU, TOI, WAFA, YA 2/10; HA, WAFA 2/11)

11 FEBRUARY 2018

In 3 separate incidents off **Gaza's coast**, **Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Bayt Lahiya and Jabaliya refugee camp, injuring and then arresting 2 fishermen. In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** raid an air-conditioning factory in Tulkarm, damaging some materials and causing a work stoppage. They also arrest 14 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during raids near Tulkarm, Hebron, Nablus, Bethlehem, and Salfit; and patrol near Hebron. A raid near Nablus sparks minor clashes with

stone-throwing Palestinian minors; there are no serious injuries. In **East Jerusalem**, following several reports of Palestinians throwing stones at Israeli forces and settlers, the Israeli authorities close the roads between Hizma and Issawiyya. Israeli forces arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid in Abu Dis.

(Wafa 2/11; Wafa 2/12; PCHR 2/15)

In an interview with *Israel Hayom*, **U.S. pres. Trump** says that he is not sure Israel and the Palestinians are interested in reaching a peace agreement. Specifically, he responded to a question about the U.S. promise to release a peace plan: “We are going to see what goes on. Right now, I would say the Palestinians are not looking to make peace, they are not looking to make peace. And I am not necessarily sure that Israel is looking to make peace. So we are just going to have to see what happens.” (HA, IHY, TOI 2/11)

12 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli forces** demolish a car repair shop near Hebron and an old structure near Salfit, and deny Palestinian farmers access to their lands near Bethlehem. IDF troops arrest 6 Palestinians during late-night raids near Tulkarm, Hebron, and Ramallah; and patrol near Qalqilya, Tulkarm, and Salfit. Palestinians throw stones at 2 IDF soldiers who drove into Jenin, causing minor injuries. **PA Security Forces** assist the IDF in extracting the soldiers from the city. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli settlers** slash the tires of several Palestinian cars in Silwan and leave price-tag graffiti nearby. Israeli forces arrest 9 Palestinians during late-night raids in Qalandia refugee camp, Issawiyya, Silwan, and Abu Dis. (HA, JP, TOI, Wafa, YA 2/12; PCHR 2/15)

13 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **IDF troops** shoot and injure a Palestinian minor amid clashes sparked by an arrest raid near Nablus, arrest 11 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Bethlehem, Ramallah, Hebron, Nablus, Qalqilya, Jenin; and patrol near Qalqilya, Salfit, and Hebron. **Israeli settlers** slash the tires of 5 Palestinian vehicles near Qalqilya and leave price-tag graffiti on the walls nearby. In **East Jerusalem**, **Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian shop and cut down a number of trees in Issawiyya. They also arrest 17 Palestinians during late-night raids in Issawiyya, Abu Dis, and al-Ram. Construction begins on a new center for Jewish religious studies in **Jerusalem’s** Old City, just a short distance from **Haram al-Sharif**. (MNA, Wafa 2/13; EI, PCHR 2/15)

The **Israeli police** recommend charging **PM Netanyahu** in 2 cases where there is sufficient evidence he accepted bribes “against the public interest.” **Atty.-gen. Avichai Mandelblit** is now tasked with deciding whether or not to formally charge the PM. Netanyahu says that the recommendations are “biased” and have “more holes than Swiss cheese.” (HA, NYT 2/13; NYT, YA 2/14)

14 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank**, **Israeli settlers** steal more than 50 sheep from Palestinian farmers near Nablus and throw stones at Palestinian homes in nearby Asira al-Qibliya, causing minor damage. **IDF troops** arrest 17 Palestinians and issue 2 arrest summons during late-night raids in and around Ramallah, Hebron, Jenin, Nablus, and Tulkarm; and patrol near Hebron. Raids in Nablus and Dura village near Hebron lead to minor clashes; 3 Palestinians are injured. **Israeli forces**

demolish 2 Palestinian homes near Hebron. In **East Jerusalem, Israeli forces** demolish a Palestinian home in Bayt Safafa and install a new watch post at **Damascus Gate**, tightening security at a major entrance to the **Old City**. They also arrest 1 Palestinian during a late-night raid in al-Ram. **Israeli settlers** shout at and assault Palestinian minors at **Haram al-Sharif**, seriously injuring one. (Wafa 2/14; MNA, PCHR, TOI 2/15; PCHR 2/22)

15 FEBRUARY 2018

In the **West Bank, Israeli forces** seal the entrances to Beita near Nablus with dirt mounds as collective punishment after reports of stone-throwing in the village. They also fire on a Palestinian driving near the village, damaging his car. **IDF troops** arrest 2 Palestinians during late-night raids in and around Nablus, sparking minor clashes; 4 Palestinian youths are injured. They also patrol near Tulkarm and Hebron during the day. **Israeli settlers** vandalize several Palestinian cars near Nablus overnight, leaving price-tag graffiti on nearby walls. Off **Gaza's coast, Israeli naval forces** open fire on Palestinian fishing boats near Jabaliya refugee camp and Bayt Lahiya, causing no damage and injuries. (MNA, Wafa 2/15; PCHR 2/22)

In Paris, **Israel's economy minister Eli Cohen** meets with the **PA's national economy minister Abeer Odeh**. "Promoting joint economic projects is in the interest of both sides and has security and political importance beyond the economic dimension," Cohen says. (JP 2/18)

CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AA	(Al Arabiya)
AFP	(Agence France-Presse)
AJ	(Al Jazeera)
AP	(Associated Press)
AX	(Axios)
BBC	(British Broadcasting Corporation World Service)
CNN	(Cable News Network)
DPA	(Deutsche-Pressre Agentur)
EI	(Electronic Intifada)
FARS	(Fars News Agency)
FP	(Foreign Policy)
GDN	(The Guardian)
HA	(Haaretz)
IHY	(Israel Hayom)
IMEMC	(International Middle East Media Center)
JP	(Jerusalem Post)
JTA	(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)
KNE	(Israeli Knesset)
MEMO	(Middle East Monitor)
MNA	(Ma'an News Agency)
NYT	(New York Times)
OCHA	(UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Weekly Briefing Notes)
PCHR	(Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Gaza)
PCN	(Peace Now)
REU	(Reuters)
TOI	(Times of Israel)
Wafa	(Palestine News Agency)
WP	(Washington Post)
YA	(Yedioth Ahronoth)