

PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 April 2009 – 30 April 2009

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 April 2009 to 30 April 2009. The report includes a summary table of events by type throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to a comparative table surveying events over the past three months. The survey is compiled from Daily Situation Reports of the Palestinian Monitoring Group (PMG), Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD), Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The PMG monitors all aspects of ground conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including Israeli violations, Palestinian violations, and Palestinian achievements. The PMG Daily Situation Reports are a survey of daily events collated from information provided by Palestinian Authority civil ministries and security agencies. The information reported through the PMG process represents data available at the time of distribution only.

SAMPLE OF ISRAELI ARMY VIOLATIONS DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2009

- **On 03 April**, Israeli navy boats opened fire on Palestinian fishing boats at sea off of As Sudaniya beach in the district of Northern Gaza, injuring 1 fisherman.
- **On 07 April**, Israeli troops positioned at a flying checkpoint set up in the town of Sur Bahir south of the city of Jerusalem opened fire on and killed a civilian.
- **On 07 April**, Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in the district of Nablus opened fire on a civilian. Having sustained critical bullet wounds, the civilian had his leg amputated.
- **On 08 April**, Israeli settlers raided the village of Khirbet Safa in the district of Hebron and opened fire towards civilians and houses. The Israeli army also raided the village at a later time. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians, during which the Israeli army injured 9 civilians, including a journalist. One of the injured, a civilian was placed in critical condition.
- **On 16 April**, a 4-month-old infant died at a hospital in the city of Jerusalem of injuries sustained during the Israeli offensive on the Gaza Strip. The infant inhaled toxic gas after Israeli combat aircraft shelled his family's house.
- **On 17 April**, Israeli troops positioned in the settlement of Hagai opened fire on and killed a 17-year-old child in the district of Hebron.
- **On 18 April**, Israeli troops positioned on a military watchtower in the area surrounding the settlement of Beit Il opened fire towards 2 children from Al Jalazun refugee camp north of the city of Ramallah, allegedly because they had thrown stones at the settlement. One of the children was killed and the other injured.
- **On 21 April**, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over and killed a civilian resident of Shu'fat refugee camp along the French Hill road in the city of Jerusalem.
- **On 24 April**, 2 mass demonstrations, which included international peace activists, took place in the town of Ni'lin and the village of Bil'in in the western Ramallah district in protest against Wall construction. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and protestors, during which the Israeli army injured 31 civilians, including 2 journalists. In addition, the Israeli army wounded an Israeli peace activist.
- **On 24 April**, armed Israeli settlers attacked the village of 'Urif in the southern Nablus district and opened intensive fire towards civilians and houses. The Israeli army also raided the village and opened fire towards civilians while they were attempting to confront settlers. As a result, the Israeli army injured 10 civilians, including 2 children.
- **On 29 April**, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over and injured a 15-year-old female child along a settler bypass road east of the town of Yatta in the district of Hebron.

SUMMARY TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY – APRIL 2009

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Deaths	5	3	8	Incl. a 4-month-old infant; 1 child; 1 civilian run over by an Israeli settler vehicle in the city of Jerusalem; and 2 armed Palestinian individuals.
Injuries	118	5	123	Incl. 9 children; 7 journalists; 1 fisherman; 2 medics; 1 elderly civilian; 2 Palestinian security officers; and 5 international peace activists. Israeli settlers also injured 3 children as well as a female school student.
Attacks	112	81	193	The Israeli army carried out 55 attacks during raids into Palestinian residential compounds; 61 attacks during confrontations with Palestinians; and 21 attacks from Israeli army military posts on civilian houses and property. Israeli navy boats also opened fire on 45 occasions and Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints on 4 occasions. In addition, Israeli combat aircraft carried out 2 air attacks on Palestinian territory. Israeli settlers also opened fire towards Palestinian civilians on 5 occasions.
Raids	910	14	924	32 in Jerusalem; 89 in Ramallah; 41 in Jenin; 55 in Tubas; 86 in Tulkarem; 98 in Qalqiliya; 126 in Nablus; 59 in Salfit; 22 in Jericho; 126 in Bethlehem; 176 in Hebron; 7 in Northern Gaza; 1 in Gaza; 2 in Central Gaza; 3 in Khan Yunis; and 1 in Rafah.
Arrests	329	12	341	The Israeli army arrested 20 Palestinians in Jerusalem; 48 in Ramallah; 35 in Jenin; 9 in Tubas; 13 in Tulkarem; 35 in Qalqiliya; 50 in Nablus; 10 in Salfit; 14 in Jericho; 30 in Bethlehem; 65 in Hebron; 7 in Northern Gaza; 1 in Central Gaza; 2 in Khan Yunis; and 2 in Rafah. Civilians arrested included 37 children; 1 female civilian; 1 mentally challenged civilian; and 1 journalist.
House Demolitions	3	1	4	The Israeli army demolished 2 houses in the city of Jerusalem; 1 residential flat in the district of Jerusalem; and 1 house in the district of Central Gaza.
Attacks on Public & Private Property	62	6	68	Destruction of Property: The Israeli army demolished barracks as well as destroyed house furniture; civilian vehicles; agricultural crops; vendors' stalls; and fishing boats. Confiscation of Property: The Israeli army confiscated money; 1 personal computer; cellular telephones; hunting rifles; pistols; and 1 fishing boat.
House Occupations	40	1	41	The Israeli army occupied and converted civilian houses into military posts in the districts of Jenin (1); Tubas (3); Tulkarem (2); Qalqiliya (2); Nablus (3); Salfit (6); Hebron (23); and Northern Gaza (1).
Curfews	16	—	16	The Israeli army imposed curfew over residential locales in the districts of Nablus (3); Qalqiliya (4); Salfit (3); and Hebron (6).
Closure of Crossing Points	—	110	110	The Israeli army closed international crossing points (Rafah Crossing to Egypt and Yasser Arafat International Airport) on 42 occasions and crossing points to Israel on 68 occasions.
Flying Checkpoints	440	—	440	The Israeli army set up flying checkpoints and searched civilians and vehicles in and around Palestinian residential areas in the districts of Jerusalem (77); Ramallah (37); Jenin (22); Tubas (9); Tulkarem (20); Qalqiliya (41); Nablus (27); Salfit (38); Jericho (11); Bethlehem (48); and Hebron (110).
Medical Obstruction	1	—	1	The Israeli army detained an ambulance and beat 2 medics in the district of Hebron.
Attacks on Religious Site	6	—	6	The Israeli army closed the Ibrahimi Mosque in the old city of Hebron; searched 1 mosque in the district of Hebron; surrounded 1 mosque in the city of Ramallah; and delivered a notice for demolition of a priests' shelter on the roof of a church in Jerusalem.
School Disruption	2	—	2	The Israeli army raided a kindergarten in the district of Hebron as well as a vocational training centre in the city of Hebron.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	15	—	15	The Israeli army provoked Palestinian National Security forces (on 6 occasions); Police (5); General Intelligence (1); Preventive Security (1); Customs Police (1); and Civil Defence (1).
Settlement Activity	7	—	7	In the districts of Qalqiliya, Bethlehem, and Hebron, the Israeli army expanded a settlement and a settler bypass road as well as levelled land.
Settler Violence	90	—	90	Israeli settlers gained access into yards of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound; opened fire; injured civilians, including children; beat civilians; threw stones at civilians and vehicles; seized control of a civilian house; and raided Palestinian towns, villages, and areas. An Israeli settler vehicle also ran over and killed a civilian.
TOTAL	2156	233	2389	

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT	FEB. 2009	MAR. 2009	APR. 2009	COMMENTS
Assassinations	1	1	—	Incidents of extra-judicial killing “wanted” Palestinian individuals were not reported this month.
Deaths	16	12	8	Death toll dropped by 33.3% compared to March and by 50% compared to February.
Injuries	93	114	123	Rise of 7.9% compared to March and 32.3% compared to February. In comparison to 20 children wounded in March and 11 in February, 12 children were injured in April.
Attacks	238	222	193	Decrease in the number of attacks by 13.1% compared to March and by 18.9% compared to February.
Raids	860	985	924	Drop of 6.2% compared to March, but a rise of 7.4% compared to February. The total number of Israeli army raids into Palestinian Authority-controlled territory (Area A – which the Israeli army has continued to reinvade since 2002) was 443 in April, compared to 541 in March and 402 in February.
Arrests	352	368	341	Decrease of 7.3% compared to March and 3.1% compared to February. In comparison with 44 children arrested in March and 38 in February, 37 children were arrested this month.
House Demolitions	7	5	4	Drop of 20% compared to March and 42.9% compared to February.
Attacks on Property	90	67	68	Rise of 1.5% compared to March, but a drop of 24.4% compared to February.
House Occupations	28	31	41	Increase of 32.3% compared to March and 46.4% compared to February.
Curfews	20	23	16	Drop of 30.4% compared to March and 20% compared to February.
Flying Checkpoints	346	396	440	Rise of 11.1% compared to March and 27.2% compared to February.
Complete Closure of Crossing Points	124	144	110	Crossing points to Israel were closed on 68 occasions in April, compared to 90 in March and 81 in February. The Israeli army also closed both Rafah Crossing and Yasser Arafat International Airport for 42 days, including Rafah Crossing for 12 complete days. Yasser Arafat International Airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the second <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising) in 2000.
Medical Obstruction	—	—	1	This month, the Israeli army detained an ambulance and beat 2 medics.
Attacks on Religious Sites	1	1	6	Sharp rise in attacks on religious sites compared to March and February.
School Disruption	6	7	2	Drop of 71.4% compared to March and 66.7% compared to February.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	16	24	15	Despite efforts made by Palestinian security forces to control the security situation, the Israeli army has continued to prevent Palestinian security forces from carrying out assigned security duties. The Israeli army raided and set up checkpoints near Palestinian security offices and headquarters. The Israeli army also detained Palestinian security patrols, served summons to a number of Palestinian security officers to report to the Israeli Intelligence authorities, and arrested 12 others.
Settlement Activity	7	8	7	Decrease of 12.5% compared to March, but the same number as February.
Settler Violence	30	57	90	Sharp rise of 57.9% compared to March and 200% compared to February.
TOTAL	2235	2465	2389	Total incidents dropped by 3.1% compared to March due to the decrease in deaths, arrests, raids into Palestinian residential compounds, attacks, incidents of provocation of Palestinian security forces, closure of crossing points, and curfews. In comparison to February, however, total events rose by 6.9% due to the increasing number of injuries, raids into Palestinian residential locales, flying checkpoints, house occupations, and incidents of settler violence.

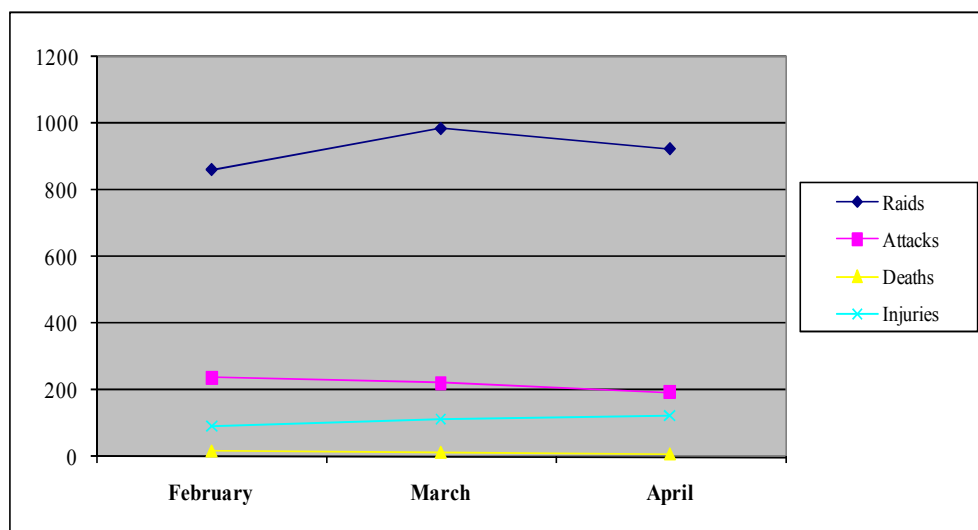
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2009

WEST BANK	NOTES
41	In the districts of Ramallah, Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, Nablus, Jericho, Bethlehem, and Hebron, Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 10 Israeli citizens, soldiers, and settlers; 18 illegal vehicles; as well as explosive devices, an explosive belt, a shell, a bomb, chemicals, and explosives. Palestinian security forces also arrested 2 armed Palestinian individuals and provided protection to an Israeli journalist.

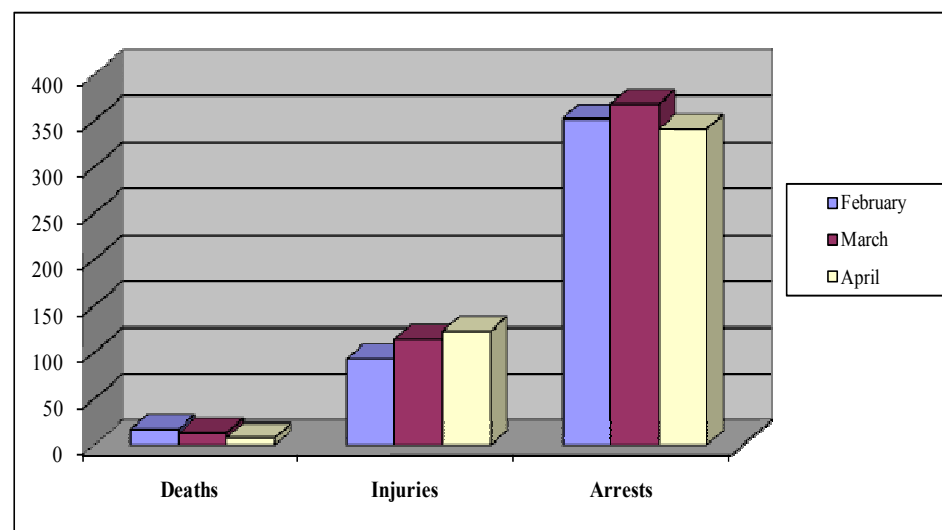
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

FEB. 2009	MAR. 2009	APR. 2009	NOTES
8	73	41	In April, Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 10 Israeli citizens, soldiers, settlers after they had gained access into PA-controlled territory (compared to 11 in March and 6 in February) and 18 illegal vehicles (57 in March and 1 in February). Palestinian security forces also handed over 10 explosive devices (5 in March and 1 in February). Additionally, Palestinian security forces arrested 2 armed individuals as well as provided protection to an Israeli journalist who entered a Palestinian city.

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



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



ANALYSIS OF EVENTS

1. Deaths

During the month of April, the Israeli army killed **8 Palestinians**, including 5 in the West Bank and 3 in the Gaza Strip. Of these, a 4-month-old infant died of injuries sustained as a result of inhaling a toxic gas during the Israeli offensive on the Gaza Strip. The Israeli army also killed 1 child as well as 2 armed Palestinian individuals. Additionally, Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint set up in the town of Sur Bahir in the district of Jerusalem killed 1 civilian. An Israeli settler vehicle also ran over and killed a civilian near Shu'fat refugee camp in the city of Jerusalem.

2. Injuries

The total number of injuries reported during April was **123** (118 Palestinians in the West Bank and 5 in the Gaza Strip). Of those injured, 12 were children, including 3 wounded by Israeli settlers; 1 elderly civilian; 2 medics; 7 journalists; 1 fisherman; 2 Palestinian security officers; and 5 international peace activists. Israeli settlers also injured a female school student.

3. Arrests

The Israeli army arrested **341** Palestinians in the month of April, including 329 civilians in the West Bank and 12 others in the Gaza Strip. Most arrests took place in the districts of Hebron (65); Nablus (50); Ramallah (48); Jenin (35); Qalqiliya (35); and Bethlehem (30). Among these, the Israeli army arrested 37 children; 1 female civilian; 1 mentally challenged civilian; 3 high school students; 4 university students; 2 teachers; 1 journalist; 9 fishermen; and 12 Palestinian security officers.

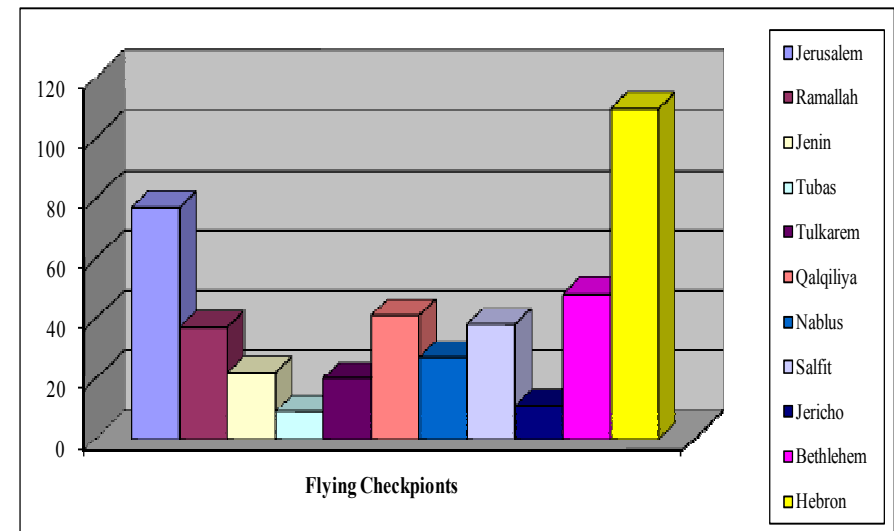
4. Closure

Beginning on 17 April 2006, the Israeli army has continued to intensify its restrictions at permanent checkpoints set up throughout the West Bank districts. In addition to the area of the Jordan Valley, the Israeli army has also continued to isolate the northern districts from the central and southern districts of the West Bank, impeding civilian movement between these districts. Especially on Fridays, the Israeli army has continued to intensify its restrictions at checkpoints located at the entrances to the city of Jerusalem, closing entrances to the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the old city of Jerusalem, and preventing civilians from accessing the Mosque.

Special permits are still required for private civilian vehicles to cross *checkpoints set up on roads leading to the area of the Jordan Valley*. Considering it a "border crossing point", the Israeli army continued to prevent Palestinian civilian vehicles from the West Bank from crossing *Qalandiya checkpoint* towards the towns of Ar Ram and Qalandiya as well as Dahiyat al Bareed north of the city of Jerusalem.

Further impeding civilian access, the Israeli army set up **440 flying checkpoints** in and around Palestinian residential locales throughout the West Bank during the month of April, compared to 396 flying checkpoints in March and 346 in February.

Additionally, the Israeli navy has continued to impose an intensified sea blockade on the coast of the Gaza Strip and to prevent Palestinian fishing boats from sailing. The Israeli army also opened fire towards Palestinian fishing boats, causing damage to 3 boats.

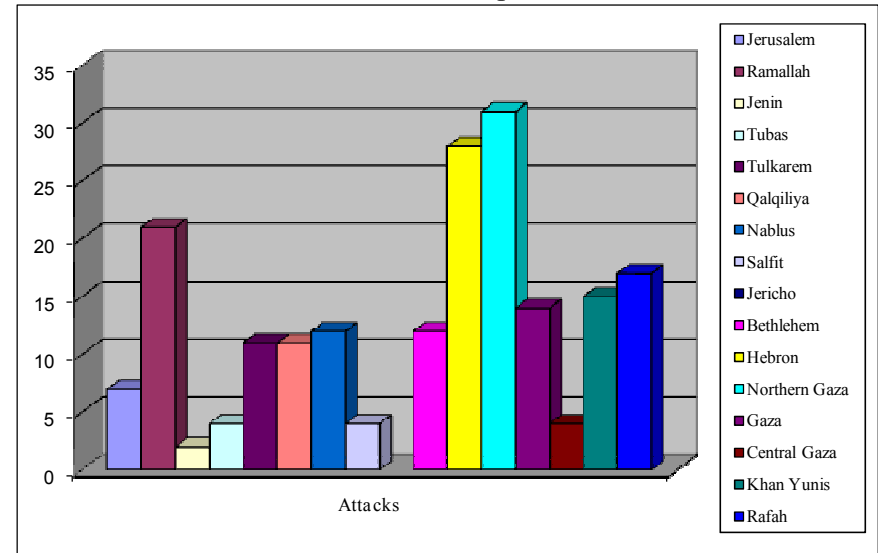


5. Attacks

A total of **193 attacks** were reported during the month of April, including **112 attacks** in the West Bank and **81** in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army carried out **55 attacks during raids** into Palestinian residential areas, **61 attacks during confrontations** between the Israeli army and Palestinians, and **21 attacks from Israeli army military posts** towards civilian houses and property. In addition, Israeli navy boats carried out **45 attacks** and Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints opened fire on Palestinian civilians on 4 occasions. The Israeli army air force also carried out **2 air attacks** on Palestinian territory in the Gaza Strip. Additionally, **Israeli settlers** opened fire towards civilians on 5 occasions.

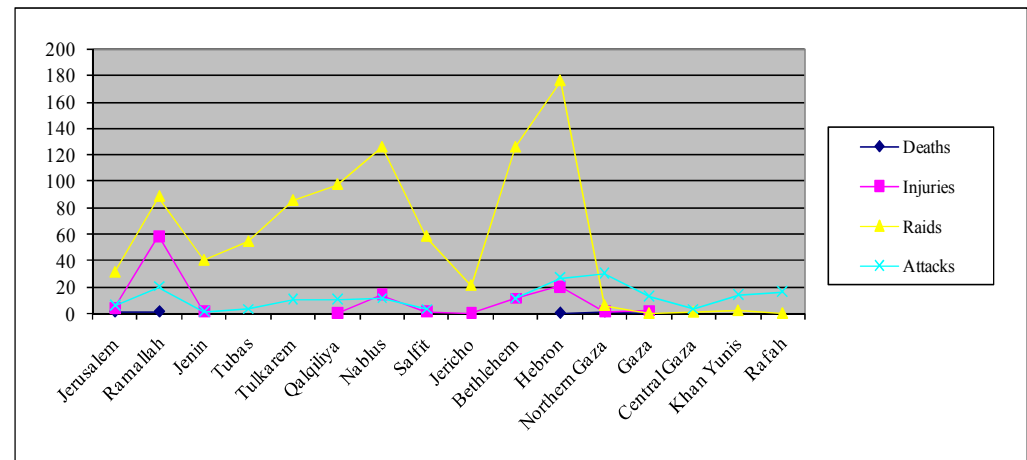
At 02:00 on 18 January 2009, the Israeli army declared a unilateral ceasefire following the large-scale offensive it had launched against the Gaza Strip. However, the Israeli army violated the ceasefire on **81 occasions** during the month of April (compared to 101 in March and 119 violations in February). Disregarding the Israeli declaration of a unilateral ceasefire, armed Palestinian groups fired **4 mortars** towards the Green Line (compared to 67 mortars fired in March and 77 in February). In addition, armed Palestinian individuals detonated 2 explosive devices under Israeli army patrols in the area surrounding Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing.



6. Raids

The Israeli army carried out a total of **924 raids** into Palestinian residential locales during the month of April, including **910 in the West Bank** and **14 in the Gaza Strip**. The majority of Israeli army raids took place in the districts of Hebron, Nablus, Bethlehem, Qalqiliya, Ramallah, and Tulkarem. The Israeli army **opened fire during 116 of the 924 raids**, which is approximately 12.6% of the total number of raids into Palestinian residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army **imposed curfews 16 times over 9 residential compounds** in the West Bank during raids (compared to 23 in March and 20 times in February). The Israeli army also **occupied and converted into military posts 41 civilian houses and residential buildings**.

The chart to the right shows the correlation between the number of raids & the resulting human losses in April.



The Israeli army also continued to intensify its raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (**Areas "A"** under the Oslo Agreement, which the Israeli army has continued to reinvade since 2002). The Israeli army conducted **443** of the 924 raids, approximately 47.9% of the total number of raids, into Palestinian Authority controlled territory in the West Bank.

The table below shows Israeli violations and relentless attempts to impede large-scale Palestinian security campaigns carried out in the districts of Jenin, Tubas, and Hebron, as well as in the city of Nablus:

Month \ Violations	Raids	Attacks	Killings	Injuries	Arrests	House Occupations	Provocation of Palestinian Forces	Total
April	304	25	1 (a child)	12 (incl. 1 female child, 2 journalists, and 1 civilian who was in critical health condition)	116 (incl. 20 children, 1 mentally challenged civilian, and 5 Palestinian security officers)	26	2	486
March	375	32	—	5 (incl. a child and a civilian critically)	124 (incl. 17 children; 2 female civilians; an 80-year-old civilian; 3 PLC members; and 2 Palestinian security officers)	19	4	559
February	266	37	1 child	8 (incl. 2 children)	79 (incl. 12 children and 1 Palestinian security officer)	2	1	394

7. Provocation of Palestinian Military and Security Forces

The Israeli army carried out 15 incidents of attacking and provoking Palestinian security forces and posts during the month of April.

Types of Israeli Army Provocation against Palestinian Forces during the Month of April

Type of Provocation		Notes
Raids	2	The Israeli army attempted to enter offices of the Palestinian Civil Defence in the city of Jericho and took photographs of Palestinian security officers guarding <i>Al Muqata'a</i> (complex of Palestinian security forces) in the city of Bethlehem.
Reporting to the Israeli Intelligence agency	3	In the districts of Ramallah, Tulkarem, and Jericho, the Israeli army served summons to 3 Palestinian security officers to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency.
Taking position/setting up checkpoints near Palestinian security posts	6	The Israeli army set up a position in front of the Palestinian National Security offices in the village of Al 'Auja in the district of Jericho; near a Palestinian National Security checkpoint in the town of Al Khadr in the district of Bethlehem; and near a Palestinian Police station in the town of Abu Dis in the district of Jerusalem. The Israeli army also set up a position in front of a Police station in the town of 'Aqraba in the district of Nablus; near a Police station in the town of Halhul in the district of Hebron; and near offices of the Palestinian General Intelligence agency in the town of Dura in the district of Hebron.
Detaining Palestinian security officers and patrols	4	Israeli troops positioned at the checkpoint set up on the overpass to the town of 'Atara in the district of Ramallah detained a Palestinian National Security vehicle. Israeli troops positioned at a flying checkpoint in the district of Jenin also detained a Police vehicle. At Huwwara checkpoint in the district of Nablus, Israeli troops detained a Police vehicle while it was transporting a convict. In addition, Israeli troops positioned at Al Jalama checkpoint in the district of Jenin detained a vehicle belonging to the Palestinian Customs Police.

Note: These statistics do not include the arrest of 12 Palestinian security officers.

8. Attacks on Public and Private Property

A total of **68 incidents** of destruction and confiscation of public and private property were reported over the month of April, including **62** in the West Bank and **6** in the Gaza Strip.

Israeli settlers damaged furniture of a house in the old city of Hebron. The Israeli army also searched a house and damaged furniture in the village of Khirbet Safa in the district of Hebron. Additionally, the Israeli army demolished a commercial shop in the city of Jerusalem; destroyed a number of vendors' stalls along Road # 90 in the area of the Northern Jordan Valley; and opened fire towards and damaged a civilian vehicle in the district of Jerusalem. Israeli troops positioned at the checkpoint set up on the overpass to the town of 'Atara in the district of Ramallah damaged a civilian vehicle. Israeli settlers also threw stones and caused damage to 3 civilian vehicles along the Jenin-Nablus main road and to a taxi along the Qalqiliya-Nablus main road. Israeli settlers also damaged an ambulance in the old city of Hebron. In addition, the Israeli army damaged 3 civilian vehicles in the districts of Qalqiliya, Nablus, and Hebron as well as a tractor in the district of Nablus. Moreover, the Israeli army destroyed a personal computer in the district of Jenin; caused damage to agricultural crops, including wheat and malt harvests, in the districts of Qalqiliya, Northern Gaza, Central Gaza, and Rafah; destroyed support walls on agricultural land in the district of Hebron; and demolished makeshift houses and sheep pens belonging to Bedouins in the district of Hebron as well as 5 barracks in the district of Nablus. Israeli navy boats also damaged 3 Palestinian fishing boats in the district of Northern Gaza. In the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood in the city of Jerusalem, the Israeli army distributed notices for evacuation of 2 civilian houses to be seized by extremist Jewish groups, who claim title to the land, on which the affected houses are constructed. In addition, the Israeli army distributed notices for evacuation of 3 makeshift houses in the vicinity of the village of Khirbet al Malih as well as 1 house in the village of Khirbet Safa in the district of Hebron. The Israeli army also demolished 4 barracks and tents near the village of Fasayil in the district of Jericho as well as 7 makeshift houses and barracks in the Northern Jordan Valley in the district of Nablus.

The Israeli army also confiscated a huge rock from the historic Umayyad palaces in the city of Jerusalem; 2 pistols in the districts of Ramallah and Jericho; 4 hunting rifles in the districts of Bethlehem, Ramallah, and Jenin; and 1 pistol from a Palestinian security officer in the city of El Bireh. Furthermore, Israeli troops positioned at a flying checkpoint set up at the entrance to the village of Bardala in the area of the Northern Jordan Valley seized ID cards belonging to 2 civilians. In addition, the Israeli army confiscated a forklift and an all-terrain vehicle in Al Far'a refugee camp in the district of Tubas; caravans and concrete mixers in the city of Beit Sahur in the district of Bethlehem; a personal computer in the village of Kafr al Labad in the district of Tulkarem; 4 horses in the city of Qalqiliya; and a civilian's coat in the village of Haris in the district of Salfit. In the Salfit district, Israeli troops positioned at the Za'tara junction checkpoint seized a sum of ILS 4,000 (approx. USD 995) from a civilian. Additionally, Israeli troops positioned at a flying checkpoint set up at the entrance to the town of Deir Istiya confiscated 3 cellular telephones; prepaid cellular telephone cards at a value of ILS 1,800 (approx. USD 430).

9. Settlement Activity

A total of **7 incidents of settlement activity** were reported to have taken place in the West Bank during the month of April.

The Israeli army began constructing a new settlement quarter in the settlement of Talpiot on 3.5 *dunums* (0.864 acres) of land belonging to the village of As Sawahira al Gharbiya in the district of Jerusalem. In the district of Tulkarem, the Israeli army levelled civilian land for expansion of the settler bypass road connecting the settlements of 'Einav and Avnei Hefetz. The Israeli army also levelled land and uprooted a number of fruit-bearing trees near the entrance to the village of 'Izbat at Tabib in the district of Qalqiliya. In the district of Nablus, the Israeli army surveyed land in the village of Qaryut for construction of a 3-km-long settler bypass road to connect the settlement of Shilo to the settlement outpost of Huval. Additionally, the Israeli army levelled land in the area surrounding the tunnel underneath Road # 60 connecting the city of Bethlehem to villages in the western Bethlehem district. In the district of Hebron, the Israeli army also excavated and levelled agricultural land in the town of Beit Ummar; uprooted dozens of grapevines; demolished support walls to install an electricity network serving Jewish settlements; and levelled land located between the areas of As Sahla and Al Hisba (the fruits and vegetables market) in the old city of Hebron.

10. Settler Violence

Over the month of April , Israeli settlers carried out **90 incidents of violence** in the West Bank districts.

Protected by the Israeli army, Israeli settlers raided yards of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the city of Jerusalem on 5 occasions. An Israeli settler vehicle also ran over and killed a civilian in the city of Jerusalem. Another Israeli settler vehicle ran over and injured a female child along a settler bypass road in the district of Hebron. In addition, Israeli settlers opened fire towards a child near the settlement of Yitzhar south of the city of Nablus, leaving him with critical injuries. Israeli settlers also seized control of a house and attempted to seize another in the old city of Jerusalem. In the district of Ramallah, Israeli settlers prevented residents of the village of Khirbet Abu Falah from accessing their agricultural land; raided the village of ‘Ein Siniya and the town of Al Mazra’a al Gharbiya; detained civilians; abducted 4 civilians; and raided the village of At Tira. Furthermore, armed Israeli settlers gained access into Joseph’s Shrine in the city of Nablus, as well as into the villages of Al Badhan, Yasuf, and Khirbet Tana. Assisted by the Israeli army, Israeli settlers also attacked the village of ‘Urif in the district of Nablus and opened fire towards civilians and houses, injuring 10 civilians, including 2 children. On several occasions, Israeli settlers raided the village of Khirbet Safa in the district of Hebron and opened fire towards civilians and houses. After intervening, confrontations took place between the Israeli army and civilians, during which the Israeli army injured 9 civilians, including a journalist and a civilian who sustained critical wounds. In the district of Nablus, Israeli settlers raided the areas of Al Far’a, Al Bayadh, Jabal al ‘Ein, the archaeological site in the village of Sabastiya, and Al ‘Aqrabaniya plain. Israeli settlers from the settlement of Yakir also raided the village of Qarawat Bani Hassan in the district of Salfit, opened indiscriminate fire, and beat a child. In the district of Hebron, Israeli settlers gained access into an area east of the town of Idhna; the areas of An Nabi Yunis and Al Jumjuma near the town of Halhul; the area of Al ‘Uddeisa between the towns of Sa’ir and Bani Na’im; and land belonging to the village of Khirbet Safa. In the district of Jenin, Israeli settlers gained access into the evacuated settlement of Homesh; threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling along the Jenin-Nablus main road, breaking windshields of 3 vehicles; and beat 2 civilians. On several occasions, Israeli settlers gained access into the evacuated military post of ‘Ush Ghurab east of the city of Beit Sahur in the district of Bethlehem and threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling along the Qalqiliya-Nablus main road, along the Wadi Qana road (connecting the districts of Qalqiliya and Salfit), and near the village of Husan in the district of Bethlehem, causing damage to a taxi. In the district of Salfit, Israeli settlers beat a civilian and broke the windshield of his vehicle. Near the Za’tara junction checkpoint, Israeli settlers also threw stones at a bus transporting female students who were on a school trip, injuring a female student. Furthermore, Israeli settlers beat 3 civilians, including a female civilian and a 10-year-old child, in the vicinity of the village of Salem in the district of Nablus; a civilian at the entrance to the town of Kifl Haris in the district of Salfit, leaving him with injuries; 2 civilians near the village of Fasayil in the district of Jericho; and a civilian along with his children in the district of Bethlehem. In the district of Hebron, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Ma’on east of the town of Yatta beat a number of civilians as well as detained 9 children inside the settlement. Settlers from the settlement of Bat ‘Ein also severely beat 2 civilians (brothers) while they were working on their land near the town of Beit Ummar, leaving one of them with injuries. In the district of Hebron, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Karmi’el also beat a number of residents of the village of Um al Kheir, leaving a pregnant woman with contusions and a civilian with a broken arm. In the district of Nablus, Israeli settlers levelled 150 *dunums* (37.065 acres) of land cultivated with fruit-bearing trees in the village of Burin near the settlement of Bracha. In the district of Salfit, Israeli settlers levelled civilian land in the town of Haris for expansion and instalment of a water network for the settlement of Rivava, as well as levelled a piece of land in the town of Deir Istiya. Near the junction to the settlement of Kfar ‘Etzion, a group of Israeli settlers closed the main road leading to the city of Hebron. Israeli settlers also grazed sheep on land cultivated with wheat and malt crops near the settlement of Ma’on in the village of At Tuwwana east of the town of Yatta and uprooted fruit-bearing trees in the vicinity of the village of Khirbet Safa in the district of Hebron.

In the **old city of Hebron**, which is under full Israeli security control, an Israeli settler released a Police dog on an 11-year-old female child, which bit her and left her with injuries. Israeli settlers also attacked Qurtuba Girls Basic School and threw stones at civilians, injuring a child in the head. In addition, Israeli settlers assaulted a number of children in Tal Rumeida neighbourhood; severely beat a civilian in Wadi an Nasara neighbourhood, leaving him with contusions; and stoned civilian vehicles on several occasions. Israeli settlers also threw stones at an ambulance while it was transporting an ill female civilian

in Tal Rumeida neighbourhood, breaking its rear glass window. In addition, Israeli settlers threw stones at a Palestinian Police station; seized control of and restored 4 commercial shops near the settlement outpost of Abraham Avino in order to prepare them for their own use. Although they were evacuated earlier, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Kiryat Arba' placed 2 caravans near Ar Rajabi building in an attempt to seize it again. Additionally, Israeli settlers constructed a new settlement outpost near the settlement of Harsina; attacked a civilian house and damaged furniture; and cut down 2 olive trees in Tal Rumeida neighbourhood.

11. School Disruption

During the month of April, the Israeli army carried out **2 incidents of school disruption** in the West Bank. In the district of Hebron, the Israeli army raided a kindergarten and brought down the Palestinian flag on the roof in the village of Khirbet Safa, and raided a vocational training centre of the Palestinian Ministry of Social Affairs in the city of Hebron.

12. Attacks on Religious Sites

The Israeli army carried out **6 attacks on religious sites** this month. On 3 occasions, the Israeli army closed the Ibrahimi Mosque in the old city of Hebron and denied access to worshippers to perform prayers. The Israeli army also searched a mosque in the village of Hafayir in the district of Hebron; surrounded a mosque in the city of Ramallah and prevented civilians from performing the dawn prayers; and delivered a notice for demolition of a 2-floor shelter on the roof of the Church of the Catholic Armenian in the city of Jerusalem. The shelter is used to accommodate priests and clergymen arriving from the Vatican.

13. Closure of Crossing Points

The Israeli army completely closed crossing points in the Gaza Strip, including crossing points into the Green Line, on **110** occasions over the month of April. The Israeli army closed crossing points into the Green Line on **68** occasions, including ***Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing*** and ***Sufa Crossing*** throughout the month (30 days each). Meanwhile, the Israeli army opened ***Ash Shuja'iya (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing*** for 19 days for transportation of limited quantities of fuel; ***Al Muntar (Karni) Commercial Crossing*** for 10 days for transportation of food supplies; and ***Karm Abu Salem (Karem Shalom) Crossing*** for 23 days for transportation of food supplies and humanitarian aid. Additionally, the Israeli army closed international crossing points on **42** occasions. ***Rafah Crossing*** was open for **18** days to hundreds of civilians, journalists, and patients who had received medical treatment in Egyptian, Saudi, and Libyan hospitals. Access was also allowed for foreign nationals, a fact-finding commission, and an international delegation that included landmine experts. Medical units, medical supplies, and tons of medicines were also transported to the Gaza Strip through Rafah Crossing. In addition, hundreds of civilians, including patients, students, and civilians holding residence cards and visas, as well as physicians, and a foreign delegation departed the Gaza Strip through Rafah Crossing. ***Yasser Arafat International Airport*** (closed throughout 30 days) has remained closed since the outbreak of the second *Intifada* (Uprising).

14. Palestinian Security Measures

During the month of April, Palestinian security forces carried out **41 security measures** in the West Bank districts of Ramallah, Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, Nablus, Salfit, Jericho, Bethlehem, and Hebron. Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 2 Israeli citizens, who were in possession of counterfeited ILS 30,000, in the district of Tulkarem; 1 Israeli female settler in the city of Jericho; 2 Israeli soldiers in the city of Nablus; 2 Israeli settlers who attempted to gain access into the city of Jericho; 1 Israeli female settler in the city of Bethlehem; and 2 Israeli settlers in the town of Tuqu' in the district of Bethlehem. Palestinian security forces also provided protection to an Israeli journalist in the city of El Bireh. In the city of Salfit, Palestinian security forces located and handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 1 explosive belt; 1 explosive device; and 4 Molotov cocktails. Palestinian security forces also handed over chemical materials used for manufacturing explosives, as well as explosive devices, 12 kg of ammoniac, and 81 kg of sulphur in the city of Qalqiliya. In the district of Nablus, Palestinian security forces handed over an old tank shell and a hand grenade. In addition, Palestinian security forces handed over 4 illegal vehicles located in the city of Qalqiliya; 14 vehicles in the district of Bethlehem; and 1 Israeli settler vehicle in the district of Hebron. Additionally, Palestinian security forces arrested 2 armed Palestinian individuals after they had opened fire in the district of Ramallah.