

PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 August 2008 – 31 August 2008

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 August 2008 to 31 August 2008. The report includes a summary table of events by type throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to a comparative table surveying events over the past three months. The survey is compiled from Daily Situation Reports of the Palestinian Monitoring Group (PMG), Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD), 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 AUGUST 2008

- **On August 01**, settlers from Yitzhar settlement in Nablus district stoned civilian vehicles, injured 1 female civilian and her 7-year-old daughter.
- **On August 01**, the Israeli army assaulted in the old city of Hebron 3 civilians working in an institution that documents Israeli violations affiliated with the Israeli B'Tselem peace institution, and damaged a video camera.
- **On August 4**, a Palestinian child died of injuries sustained during confrontations with the Israeli army in the town of Ni'lin in Ramallah district.
- **On August 4**, the Israeli army stationed at the checkpoint that is set up near the village of al-Ramadin south of Hebron district opened fire towards 1 civilian and seriously wounded him.
- **On August 5**, a group of settlers from Kiryat Arba' settlement in the city of Hebron physically assaulted an 80-year-old civilian and caused fractures in his right arm.
- **On August 13**, the Israeli army raided the refugee camp of Dheishe in Bethlehem district, clashed with civilians, and injured 1 child.
- **On August 15**, a public march set out in the village of Bil'in in Ramallah district, with the participation of international peace activists and supporters, in protest of the Wall construction. The Israeli army clashed with civilian protestors and injured 1 child and 4 international peace activists
- **On August 19**, the Israeli army raided the town of Tamon in Toubas district, clashed with civilians and injured 2 children.
- **On August 21**, a public march set out in the town of Ni'lin in Ramallah district, with the participation of international peace activists and supporters, in protest of the Wall construction. The Israeli army clashed with civilian protestors, injured 9 civilians, including 4 children and 1 civilian who was critically wounded.
- **On August 23**, 1 civilian called Ansar Mohammad Hussein Abu Tabikh, from the town of Yatta in Hebron district, died of injuries sustained during an attack by his Israeli employer inside the Green Line.
- **On August 28**, a public march set out in the town of Ni'lin in Ramallah district, with the participation of international peace activists and supporters, in protest of the Wall construction. The Israeli army clashed with civilian protestors and injured 9 civilians, including 7 children.

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

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Deaths	2	0	2	Incl. 1 Palestinian shot by his employer, and 1 child who died of sustained injuries.
Injuries	97	0	97	Incl. 26 children; 2 civilians, including 1 elderly female civilian; 4 international peace activists; 1 journalist.
Attacks	129	21	150	The Israeli army carried out 37 attacks during raids into Palestinian residential areas; 88 attacks during confrontations between the Israeli army and Palestinians; 2 attacks from Israeli army military posts towards civilian houses and property; 1 attack perpetrated by settlers. In addition, Israeli navy boats opened fire on 19 occasions; 3 attacks from checkpoints.
Raids	857	2	859	12 in Jerusalem; 101 in Ramallah; 90 in Jenin; 50 in Toubas; 79 in Tulkarem; 68 in Qalqilya; 88 in Nablus; 91 in Salfit; 11 in Jericho; 113 in Bethlehem; 154 in Hebron; 2 in Khan Younis.
Arrests	311	27	338	The Israeli army arrested 14 Palestinian civilians in Jerusalem; 29 in Ramallah; 25 in Jenin; 16 in Toubas; 24 in Tulkarem; 17 in Qalqilya; 66 in Nablus; 8 in Salfit; 16 in Jericho; 36 in Bethlehem; 60 in Hebron; 4 in Northern Gaza ; 14 in Gaza; 5 in Central Gaza; 1 in Khan Younis; 3 in Rafah. The arrested civilians included 25 children, including 2 injured children; 2 female civilians; 6 university students; 4 fishermen; 1 attorney; 18 military officers.
House Demolitions	3	0	0	The Israeli army demolished 2 houses in the suburb of Beit Hanina and 1 house in the town of al-Isawiyyeh in the city of Jerusalem.
Attacks on Public & Private Property	64	4	68	Destruction of Property: The Israeli army destroyed civilian houses; furniture; plants; barracks; 1 electric network; commercial stores; fishing boats. Confiscation of Property: The Israeli army confiscated 2 pistols; 2 hunting rifles; 1 taxi; computers; fertilizers; IDs; radios; money; 39.55 dunums of land.
House Occupations	12	0	12	In the districts of Tulkarem (1); Nablus (4); Salfit (3); Bethlehem (1); Hebron (3).
Curfews	11	0	11	The Israeli army imposed curfew over residential areas in the districts of Nablus (2); Bethlehem (5); Hebron (4).
Closure of Crossing Points	0	115	115	The Israeli army closed international crossing points (Rafah Crossing to Egypt and Arafat International Airport) on 60 occasions and crossing points to Israel on 55 occasions.
Flying Checkpoints	443	0	443	Jerusalem (63); Ramallah (33); Jenin (33); Toubas (12); Tulkarem (18); Qalqilya (22); Nablus (22); Salfit (48); Jericho (7); Bethlehem (61); Hebron (124).
Medical Obstruction	5	0	5	The Israeli army entered and searched 3 clinics and 1 ambulance was denied access to carry injured civilians.
Attacks on Religious Sites	2	0	2	The Israeli army entered and searched 1 mosque in the village of al-Kom in Hebron district.
School Disruption	3	0	3	The Israeli army entered and searched 1 kindergarten and 1 school; denied pupils access to their school; notified of the demolition of part of a school.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	21	0	21	The Israeli army provoked the Palestinian National Security Forces on 9 occasions; the Civil Police on 7 occasions; the General Intelligence on 3 occasions; the Palestinian Security Apparatus on 2 occasions.
Settlement Activity	6	0	6	The Israeli military authorities razed land to expand a settlement and a checkpoint; razed land near civilian houses; razed agricultural land.
Settler Violence	56	0	56	Settlers attacked and damaged gravestones; set plants on fire; stoned civilian vehicles and civilians; razed agricultural land; expelled civilians from their land; assaulted civilians; opened fire towards civilians; ran over a flock of sheep; poisoned water wells; attempted to set 1 mosque on fire.
TOTAL	2022	169	2191	

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT	JUNE 2008	JULY 2008	AUG. 2008	COMMENTS
Deaths	30	6	2	Death toll dropped by 66.7% compared to July and by 93.3% compared to June.
Assassinations	2	1	0	No assassination operations against Palestinian civilians by the Israeli security forces were reported for this month.
Injuries	176	160	97	Drop of 39.4% compared to July and of 44.9% compared to June. Twenty-six children were injured during the month of August compared to 20 in July and 17 in June.
Attacks	257	155	150	Drop in the number of attacks by 3.2% compared to July and by 41.6% compared to June.
Raids	785	920	859	Drop of 6.6% compared to last July and a rise of 9.4% compared to June 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 507 in August, compared to 521 in July and 461 in June.
Arrests	327	428	338	Drop of 21% compared to July and a rise of 3.4% compared to June. Twenty-five children were arrested during the month of August compared to 30 children in July and 29 in June.
House Demolition	9	7	3	Drop of 57.1% compared to July and of 66.7% compared to June.
Attacks on Property	121	126	68	Drop of 46% compared to July and of 43.8% compared to June.
House Occupation	24	13	12	Drop of 7.7% compared to last month and of 50% compared to June.
Curfews	9	15	11	Curfews dropped by 26.7% compared to last July and rose by 22.2% compared to June.
Flying Checkpoints	519	551	443	Drop of 19.6% compared to July and of 14.6% compared to June.
Complete Closure of Crossing Points	132	112	115	Crossing points to Israel were closed on 55 occasions in July, compared to 112 in July and 72 in June. The Israeli army closed both Rafah Crossing and Yasser Arafat International Airport for 60 days. Yasser 'Arafat International Airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the second <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising) in 2000.
Medical Obstruction	3	8	5	Drop of 37.5% compared to July and a rise of 66.7% compared to June.
Attacks on Religious Sites	0	20	2	Drop of 90% compared to last July.
School Disruption	4	6	3	Drop of 50% compared to July and of 25% compared to June.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	15	12	21	Despite efforts made by Palestinian forces to control the security situation, the Israeli army continued to take positions near Palestinian security offices and headquarters. The Israeli army also detained Palestinian security commanders and officers, and arrested 18 Palestinian officers.
Settlement Activity	2	2	6	Rise of 200% compared to last July and June.
Settler Violence	30	46	56	Rise of 21.7% compared to July, and of 86.7% compared to June.
TOTAL	2445	2588	2191	The general 15.4% drop in the total incidents compared to July was due to the drop in the number of injuries, arrests, raids, flying checkpoints, and attacks on religious sites. The general 10.4% drop in the total incidents compared to the month of June was due the drop in the number of deaths, injuries, attacks, flying checkpoints, attacks on property, house occupation, and closure of crossing points.

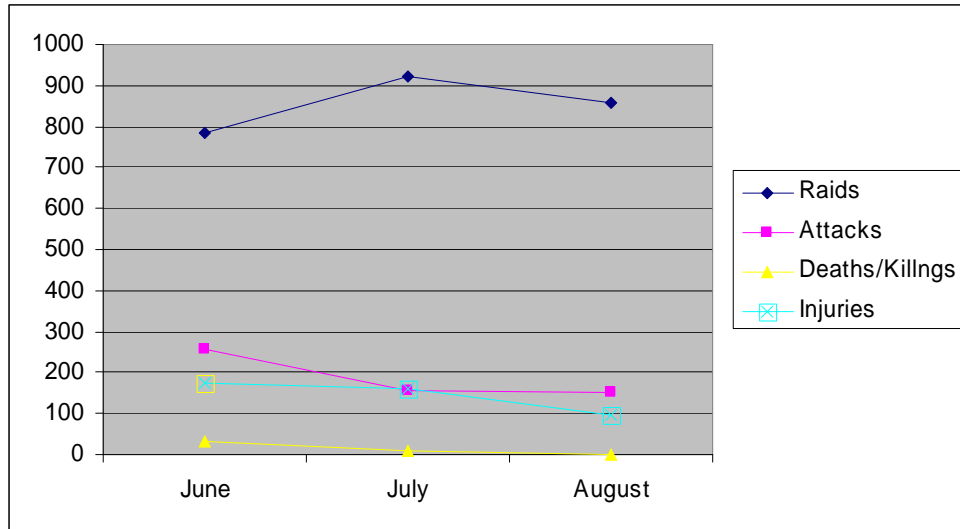
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES DURING THE MONTH OF August 2008

WEST BANK	NOTES
10	In the districts of Ramallah (1); Jenin (1); Tulkarem (1); Salfit (1); Bethlehem (4); Hebron (2). Palestinian Security Forces handed over to the Israeli side through the D.C.O. a number of settlers, and detonated a number of explosive devices.

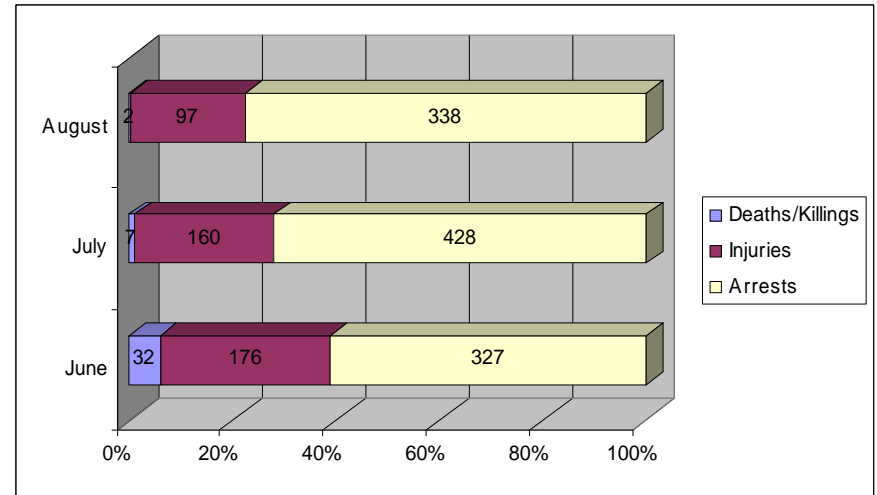
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

JUNE 2008	JULY 2008	AUG. 2008	NOTES
19	12	10	During the month of August, the Palestinian Security Forces handed over a number of settlers and Israeli soldiers who entered Palestinian-controlled Area A (August 7; July 6; June 5). In addition, the Palestinian security forces caught and damaged 3 combat devices in August (July 6; June 8).

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/Killings

Two Palestinian civilians were killed in August in Ramallah and Hebron districts. One civilian was shot dead by his employer while working inside the Green Line; one child died of injuries sustained during confrontations with the Israeli army in the town of Ni’lin.

2. Injuries

The total number of injuries reported in West Bank districts during the month of August was 97. Most injuries were reported in the districts of Ramallah (64). Of those injured, 26 were children; 2 civilians including 1 elderly female civilian; 4 civilians, including 1 female civilian, who were attacked by settlers; 1 journalist; 4 international peace activists.

3. Arrests

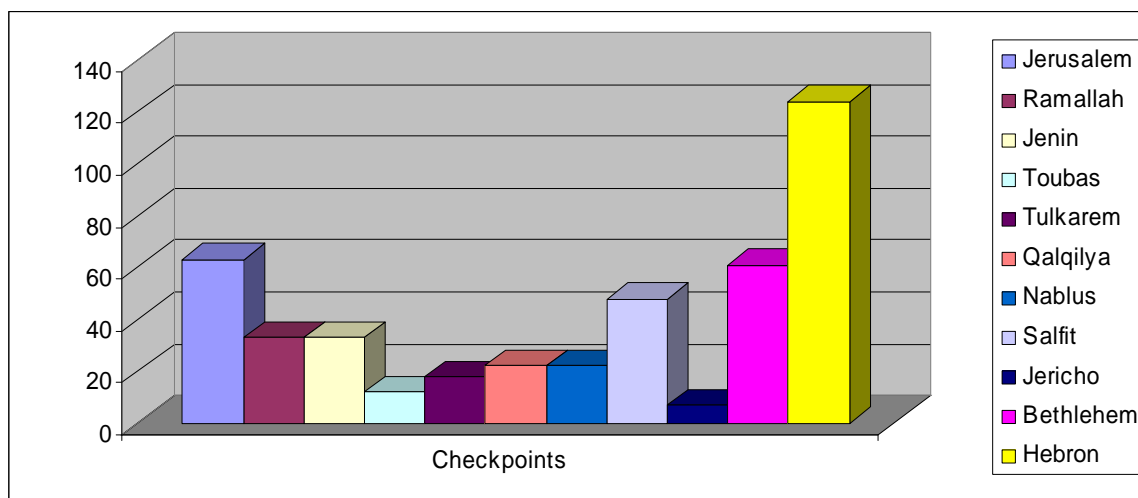
The Israeli army arrested 338 Palestinian civilians in August, 311 Palestinians in the West Bank and 27 in the Gaza Strip. The majority of arrests were reported to have taken place in the districts of Nablus (66); Hebron (60); Bethlehem (36). Among those arrested were 25 children, including 2 injured children; 2 female civilians, including 1 PLC deputy; 6 university students; 1 attorney; 4 fishermen; 18 military officers.

4. Closure

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

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

Further impeding civilian access, the Israeli army set 443 flying checkpoints in and around Palestinian residential locales throughout the West Bank during the month of August, compared to 551 flying checkpoints in July and 519 in June. The chart below shows the distribution of flying checkpoints in the West Bank for July 2008.



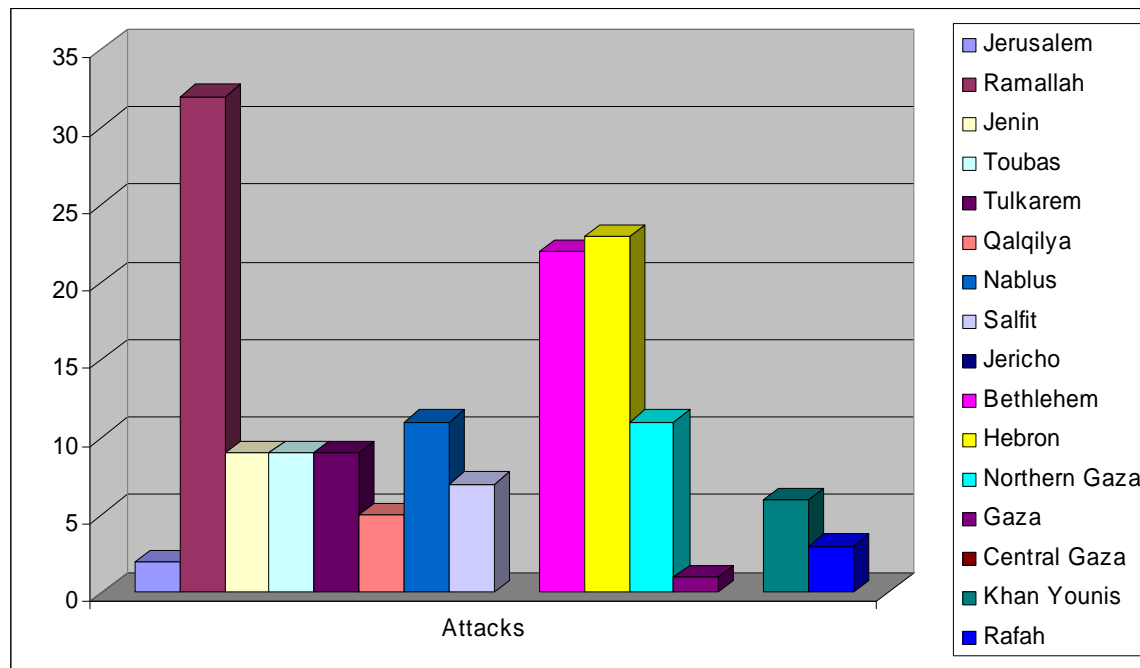
Distribution of flying checkpoints in the West Bank – August 2008

5. Attacks

A total of 150 attacks were reported during the month of August, 129 attacks in the West Bank and 21 in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army carried out 37 attacks during raids into Palestinian residential areas; 88 attacks during confrontations between the Israeli army and Palestinians; 2 attacks from Israeli army military posts towards civilian houses and property; 1 attack was carried out by settlers; 19 attacks from navy boats; 3 attacks from checkpoints

On 19 June 2008, through Egyptian mediation, armed individuals in the Gaza Strip and the Israeli army reached a ceasefire agreement, but during the month of August the Israeli army violated the agreement on 21 occasions (compared to 16 occasions last July), while armed individuals violated the agreement on 11 occasions and fired 11 mortars towards the Green Line, 3 of which fell in Palestinian areas (compared to 13 last June). In addition, armed individuals fired 18 mortars towards the Green Line (compared to 8 during last July), 6 of which fell in Palestinian areas.



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

6. Raids

(a). The Israeli army carried out a total of 859 raids into Palestinian residential locales during the month of August. The majority of Israeli army raids took place in the districts of Hebron (154); Bethlehem (113); Ramallah (101); Salfit (91); Jenin (90); Nablus (88).

(b). The Israeli army opened fire during 37 raids, approximately 4.3% of the total number of raids into Palestinian residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army imposed curfew 11 times on 6 residential locales in the West Bank during raids (compared to 15 times in July and 9 times in June). During the raids, the Israeli army occupied and converted into military posts 12 civilian houses and residential buildings.

(c) The Israeli army also continued to intensify its raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (Areas A under the Oslo Agreement), which the Israeli army re-occupied in 2002. The Israeli army conducted 507 raids, approximately 59% of the total number of raids, into Palestinian Authority controlled territory in the West Bank.

(d). In an unceasing attempt to thwart the Palestinian security plan in the city of Nablus and the refugee camps in it, the Israeli army raided the city and its refugee camps 166 times during the month of August (214 raids in July, 178 raids in June). In addition, the Israeli army opened fire on 27 occasions during raids (31 times in July, 28 times in June), injured 4 children (24 civilians last July, 10 civilians in June) Furthermore, the Israeli army arrested 72 civilians, including 6 children, 1 female civilian, 2 “wanted” civilians, 6 university students, and 3 military officers (compared to 116 arrests last July and 49 last June). Moreover, the Israeli army detained a Palestinian security patrol on duty, set up military posts in front of national security and civil police headquarters, and fired sound bombs towards them.

Below is a table showing Israeli raids, attacks and arrests in Nablus, Jenin and Toubas districts:

Jenin district	Raids	Attacks	Arrests
Jenin city	17	2	2
Jenin refugee camp	3		2
Nothern Jenin district	16		2
Southern Jenin district	23	3	6
Eastern Jenin district	5		2
Western Jenin district	22	4	
TOTAL	86	9	14
Nablus district	Raids	Attacks	Arrests
Nablus city	25	5	36
Balata refugee camp	6	1	11
Askar refugee camp	3	2	
Beit ein al-Ma’ refugee camp	4		
TOTAL	38	8	47

Toubas district	Raids	Attacks	Injuries	Arrests
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Toubas city	12	2	1	
Tamon town	12	3	2	
Iqaba village	4	1	1	
Tayaseer village	3			
Al-Far'a refugee camp	5	3		4
Other villages	6	1		6
TOTAL	42	10	4	10

7. House Demolitions

During the month of August, the Israeli army demolished 3 civilian houses in the West Bank, including 2 houses in the suburb of Beit Hanina and another in the town of al-Isawiyeh in Jerusalem district.

8. Provocation of Palestinian Military and Security Forces

The Israeli army provoked Palestinian forces in West Bank districts on 12 occasions during the month of August (not including the 10 Palestinian military officers who were arrested by the Israeli army). The provocation was reported to have taken place in the West Bank as follows:

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

Type of Provocation	West Bank	Notes
Attacks	3	Israeli army fired sound bombs towards Palestinian National Security Forces quarters in the city of Toubas, and towards the police stations in the town of Beit Fajjar in Bethlehem district.
Attempt to enter security quarters	1	The Israeli army attempted to raid Palestinian National Security Forces quarters in Jericho district.
Notifying military officers to report to Israeli military intelligence	1	The Israeli army notified 1 military officer in Jericho to report to the Israeli military intelligence.
Preventing Palestinian security force from carrying out their duties	4	The Israeli army detained Palestinian General Intelligence officials who were on duty in the village of Rumanna in Jenin district; provoked a police officer in Bethlehem district; provoked a national security patrol; attempted to arrest a police officer in the city of Hebron.
Taking position / setting up checkpoints near Palestinian security posts	5	The Israeli army took position in front of PA Security Apparatuses in the city of Toubas and in Hebron district, and in front of a preventive security apparatus in the city of Qalqilya, and set up checkpoint near a police station in the city of Hebron.
Detaining Palestinian security personnel & patrols	7	The Israeli army searched vehicles in front of the PA Security Apparatus in the city of Tulkarem; detained 1 national security in the town of 'Azzun in Qalqilya district; detained a police vehicle in Salfit district; detained a police officer at al-Karama (Allenby) Crossing; detained General Intelligence vehicle at al-Hamra checkpoint in Jericho district; detained 2 police vehicles in Bethlehem district.

9. Attacks on Public and Private Property

A total of 68 incidents of destruction and confiscation of public and private property were reported during the month of August, 64 in the West Bank and 4 in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army (and settlers) demolished furniture of civilian houses in Ramallah and Salfit districts; razed plants in Jenin, Nablus, Bethlehem, and Khan Younis districts; demolished barracks in Jenin district; caused damage to house furniture in the cities of Jenin, Qalqilya, Bethlehem and Hebron; damaged doors of commercial stores in Jenin, Tulkarem and Nablus districts; demolished electric networks in Toubas and Nablus districts; damaged vehicle windshields in the cities of Tulkarem, Qalqilya and Hebron; sunk 2 fishing boats in Northern Gaza.

Israeli troops confiscated sports equipment from a club in the city of Jerusalem; 2 pistols in Ramallah and Qalqilya districts; 2 hunting rifles in Jenin and Bethlehem districts; 4 taxis in Jenin and Tulkarem districts; computers in Tulkarem, Toubas and Nablus districts; fertilizers in the city of Tulkarem; IDs in Qalqilya and Hebron districts; NIS 250 (\$70) from a military officer in Hebron during detention

10. Settlement Activity

Settlers carried out settlement activities in West Bank districts on 6 occasions during the month of August. Settlers razed land in the village of Hares in Salfit district near Rafafa settlement; confiscated 1.5 dunums near Ramat Yashai settlement outpost in Tel Rmeideh neighbourhood in the old city of Hebron; confiscated 1.244 dunums in the town of Halhul in Hebron district for the purpose of forging a new bypass road and constructing a military watch tower; razed land in the village of Rumanna near Salem military camp; confiscated 36.8 dunums in the village of Bardala in the Northern Jordan Valley.

11. Settler Violence

Israeli settlers carried out 56 violent incidents in West Bank districts during the month of August.

Israeli settlers opened fire in Salfit district; demolished tombs in the city of Jerusalem; attempted to set one mosque on fire in the city of Hebron; assaulted and injured civilians in Toubas, Qalqilya, Salfit and Hebron districts; unleashed a wild dog that attacked 2 female civilians in the old city of Hebron; attempted to seize 2 civilian houses in the city of Jerusalem; stoned civilians and civilian vehicles in Jenin, Nablus, Qalqilya, Bethlehem, and Hebron districts; entered land in Jenin, Qalqilya, Nablus, and Salfit districts; attempted to open a new bypass road in Hebron district; poisoned a water well in Hebron district; ran over a flock of sheep in Jericho district.

12. Medical Obstruction

In August, the Israeli army carried out 5 incidents of medical obstruction in the West Bank. The Israeli army searched 1 clinic in Salfit district; denied access to ambulance to carry wounded civilians in Ramallah and Bethlehem districts.

13. School Disruption

The Israeli army carried out 3 incidents of school disruption during the month of August. The Israeli army entered and searched 1 school in the city of Qalqilya and 1 kindergarten in Bethlehem district; handed notification for the demolition of a part of a school in Jerusalem district.

14. Closure of Crossing Points

The Israeli army completely closed crossing points in the Gaza Strip, including Green Line crossing points on 115 occasions, in August. The Israeli army closed crossing points into the Green Line on 55 occasions. Al-Muntar (Karni) Crossing was opened 19 days only to let in good and cement. Karm Abu Salem – Kerem Shalom was opened on 8 occasions during the month of August. Sufa Crossing (designated for construction cargo transportation) was opened on 21 occasions. Al-Shuja'iyah (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing (designated for fuel transportation) was opened on 21 occasions.

Israel closed Rafah international crossing point and Arafat International Airport on 60 occasions. Rafah Crossing bordering with Egypt was closed the entire month of August, as was Yasser Arafat International Airport. The airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the current Intifada (Uprising) in 2002.

15. Palestinian Security Measures

During the month of August, Palestinian security forces carried out security measures 10 different times in the West Bank. The security measures were reported to have taken place in the districts of Ramallah (1); Hebron (2); Jenin (1); Tulkarem (1); Salfit (1); Bethlehem (4). The Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli side 7 settlers, asked the Israeli army to detonate a grenade near a school in Salfit district, and arrested 2 children carrying a suspicious object near al-Jalama checkpoint in Jenin district.