

## **PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP**



### **MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS**

**01 December 2006 – 31 December 2006**

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 December 2006 to 31 December 2006. The report includes a summary table of events by type throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in addition to a comparative table surveying events over the past three months. The survey is compiled from Daily Situation Reports of the Palestinian Monitoring Group (PMG), Negotiations Affairs Department, Palestine Liberation Organization. The PMG monitors all aspects of ground conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including Israeli violations, Palestinian violations, and Palestinian achievements. The PMG Daily Situation Reports are a survey of daily events collated from information provided by Palestinian Authority civilian ministries and security agencies. The information reported through the PMG process only represents data available at the time of distribution.

## SUMMARY TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY – DECEMBER 2006

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
<b>Assassination</b>	1	—	<b>1</b>	Israeli Special Forces extra-judicially killed 1 civilian in 'Ein Beit el Ma' refugee camp in the city of Nablus and injured 7 others, including 5 children and 1 female civilian. Of those injured, 5 civilians were in critical condition, including 4 children aged 3, 5, and 12 years. In addition, 1 civilian died later of injuries sustained.
<b>Deaths</b>	13	5	<b>18</b>	The Israeli army killed 1 Palestinian in Jerusalem; 2 Palestinians in Jenin; 3 in Tulkarem; 1 in Qalqiliya; 4 in Nablus; 1 in Salfit; 1 in Hebron; 1 in Northern Gaza; 3 in Gaza; and 1 in Rafah. Of these, the Israeli army killed 3 children, including a 13-year-old female child; 1 female civilian as a result of a heart attack; and 3 armed Palestinian individuals.
<b>Injuries</b>	61	17	<b>78</b>	The Israeli army injured 9 Palestinians in Ramallah; 13 in Jenin; 5 in Tulkarem; 5 in Qalqiliya; 12 in Nablus; 1 in Salfit; 9 in Bethlehem; 7 in Hebron; 14 in Northern Gaza; and 3 in Rafah. Among these were 32 children (including 1 female child run over by an Israeli settler vehicle and 1 child due to the explosion of a sound grenade); 1 female civilian; 1 international peace activist; & 1 press photographer.
<b>Attacks</b>	133	62	<b>195</b>	The Israeli army carried out 4 attacks in Jerusalem; 26 in Ramallah; 27 in Jenin; 12 in Tulkarem; 9 in Qalqiliya; 23 in Nablus; 6 in Salfit; 3 in Jericho; 10 in Bethlehem; 13 in Hebron; 27 in Northern Gaza; 4 in Gaza; 4 in Central Gaza; 10 in Khan Yunis; & 17 in Rafah.
<b>Raids</b>	609	31	<b>640</b>	23 in Jerusalem; 105 in Ramallah; 59 in Jenin; 83 in Tulkarem; 33 in Qalqiliya; 78 in Nablus; 32 in Salfit; 13 in Jericho; 90 in Bethlehem; 93 in Hebron; 13 in Northern Gaza; 6 in Gaza; 5 in Central Gaza; and 7 in Khan Yunis.
<b>Arrests (per person)</b>	421	—	<b>421</b>	The Israeli army arrested 28 Palestinians in Jerusalem; 60 in Ramallah; 76 in Jenin; 32 in Tulkarem; 24 in Qalqiliya; 87 in Nablus; 8 in Salfit; 8 in Jericho; 51 in Bethlehem; & 47 in Hebron, including 45 children; 4 female civilians; 3 injured civilians; 1 mentally challenged civilian; 1 elderly civilian; and 2 school teachers.
<b>House Demolitions</b>	4	—	<b>4</b>	The Israeli army demolished 3 houses in the district of Jerusalem and 1 house in the district of Bethlehem.
<b>Attacks on Public &amp; Private Property</b>	40	4	<b>44</b>	<b>Destruction of Property:</b> The Israeli army destroyed and damaged the wall of a convent as well as a cemetery; civilian houses; the offices of a charitable association; commercial shops; a road; civilian vehicles; agricultural crops; and 1 water well. <b>Confiscation of Property:</b> The Israeli army confiscated computers, 2 rifles, 1 pistol, money, gold jewellery, radio broadcasting equipment, and 1 telecommunications device.
<b>House Occupations</b>	19	—	<b>19</b>	<b>Ramallah:</b> (2); <b>Jenin:</b> (8); and <b>Nablus:</b> (9).
<b>Curfews</b>	4	—	<b>4</b>	The Israeli army imposed curfew over Palestinian residential areas in the districts of <b>Jenin</b> (2); <b>Nablus</b> (1); and <b>Hebron</b> (1).
<b>Closure of Crossing Points</b>	—	124	<b>124</b>	The Israeli army closed crossing points to Israel on <b>70</b> occasions, including the crossings of <b>Al Muntar (Karnei)</b> (11); <b>Ash Shuja'iyah (Nahal 'Oz)</b> (13); <b>Sufa</b> (18); and <b>Karm Abu Salim (Karem Shalom)</b> (28). The Israeli army also closed international crossing points on <b>54</b> occasions, including <b>Rafah Crossing</b> (23). <b>Yasser 'Arafat International Airport</b> remained closed throughout the month (31).
<b>Flying Checkpoints</b>	391	—	<b>391</b>	<b>Jerusalem</b> (36); <b>Ramallah</b> (40); <b>Jenin</b> (102); <b>Tulkarem</b> (54); <b>Qalqiliya</b> (30); <b>Nablus</b> (23); <b>Salfit</b> (23); <b>Jericho</b> (7); <b>Bethlehem</b> (8); & <b>Hebron</b> (68).
<b>Medical Obstruction</b>	5	—	<b>5</b>	The Israeli army denied access to 2 ambulances to transport an injured civilian in the district of Jenin as well as 1 female civilian bitten by an Israeli Police dog in the city of Nablus. Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in the district of Nablus also prevented an ambulance from crossing. In addition, the Israeli army raided 2 hospitals in the cities of Nablus and Hebron.
<b>School Disruption</b>	8	—	<b>8</b>	The Israeli army fired tear gas grenades towards a girl's school in the district of Nablus; repeatedly took position in a girl's school in the city of Jenin; and raided as well as searched an elementary school in the district of Hebron. Additionally, the Israeli army raided schools in the districts of Jenin and Hebron and surrounded other schools in the district of Nablus.
<b>Provocation of Palestinian Forces</b>	13	3	<b>16</b>	The Israeli army provoked Palestinian National Security forces on 9 occasions and Palestinian Police forces on 7 occasions.
<b>Settlement Activity</b>	9	—	<b>9</b>	<b>Ramallah:</b> (1); <b>Jenin:</b> (3); <b>Tulkarem:</b> (2); <b>Nablus:</b> (2); and <b>Bethlehem:</b> (1).
<b>Settler Violence</b>	19	—	<b>19</b>	<b>Ramallah:</b> (2); <b>Jenin:</b> (7); <b>Nablus:</b> (2); <b>Jericho:</b> (1); and <b>Hebron:</b> (7).
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1750</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>1996</b>	

## COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT TYPE	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	COMMENTS
<b>Assassinations</b>	2	—	1	The Israeli army resumed assassinations against Palestinian faction activists, whom the Israeli authorities describe as “wanted individuals”.
<b>Deaths</b>	60	145	18	Sharp drop in death toll (incl. those civilians assassinated by the Israeli army) by 86.9% compared to November and 69.4% compared to October. The Israeli army killed 3 children during the month of December, compared to 25 children killed in November and 3 in October.
<b>Injuries</b>	182	468	78	Sharp decrease of 83.3% compared to November and 57.1% compared to October (32 children injured this month, compared to 96 in November and 36 in October).
<b>Attacks</b>	357	535	195	Drop in the number of attacks by 63.6% compared to November and 45.4% compared to October.
<b>Raids</b>	692	722	640	The total number of Israeli army raids on Palestinian Authority controlled territory (Area A – which the Israeli army has continued to reinvade since 2002) rose to 366 in December, compared to 365 in November and 367 in October. Compared to 82 raids in November and 43 in October, the Israeli army raided areas in which security responsibility was transferred back to the Palestinian Authority (Area A) in the city of Tulkarem, its suburbs, Nur Shams & Tulkarem refugee camps, and the eastern areas of the city as well as the city of Jericho, ‘Aqbat Jaber refugee camp, and the village of Al ‘Auja (in which security responsibility was transferred back to the Palestinian Authority in March 2005) on 55 occasions. The Israeli army also raided Palestinian Authority controlled area in the Gaza Strip districts on 31 occasions, compared to 66 raids last month and 103 in October.
<b>Arrests (per person)</b>	383	603	421	Drop of 30.2% compared to November and a rise of 9.9% compared to October (45 children arrested in December, compared to 36 last month and 29 in October).
<b>House Demolitions</b>	13	42	4	Decrease of 90.5% compared to November and 69.2% compared to October.
<b>Attacks on Property</b>	66	145	44	Drop of 69.7% compared to November and 33.3% compared to October.
<b>House Occupations</b>	34	62	19	Drop of 69.4% compared to November and 44.1% compared to October.
<b>Curfews</b>	7	13	4	Curfews dropped by 69.2% compared to November and 42.9% compared to October.
<b>Flying Checkpoints</b>	389	367	391	Rise of 6.5% compared to November and 0.5% compared to October.
<b>Complete Closure of Crossing Points</b>	141	117	124	Crossing points to Israel were closed on <b>70</b> occasions in December (compared to 63 in November and 86 in October). Throughout the month of December, Rafah Crossing was open for a total of 8 days only, including 3 days for civilians departing to perform pilgrimage to the Holy Shrines in the city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia. The continued closure of Rafah Crossing has worsened the humanitarian crisis of Palestinian civilians stranded on the Egyptian side of the Crossing, as well as ill civilians, students, and merchants departing to Egypt. Yasser ‘Arafat International Airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the current <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising).
<b>Medical Obstruction</b>	2	9	5	The Israeli army continued to prevent ambulances from evacuating injured civilians, impede access to ambulances at checkpoints, and raid hospital.
<b>Attacks on Religious Sites</b>	5	6	—	No incidents of attacks on religious sites were reported to have taken place during the month of December. However, Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints continued to prevent worshippers from accessing religious sites in Jerusalem.
<b>School Disruption</b>	2	8	8	The Israeli army continued to raid schools as well as fired tear gas grenades inside these schools.
<b>Provocation of Palestinian Forces</b>	32	19	16	Despite efforts by Palestinian security forces to control the security situation, the Israeli army continued to open fire towards Palestinian security offices and locations. The Israeli army also detained Palestinian security officers and vehicles and arrested 20 security officers.
<b>Settlement Activity</b>	3	5	9	The Israeli army continued to confiscate civilian land for construction and protection of Israeli settler bypass roads.
<b>Settler Violence</b>	19	25	19	Israeli settler attacks against Palestinian civilians as well as their property and land decreased by 24% compared to November.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2389</b>	<b>3291</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>Total incidents sharply dropped by 39.4% compared to November and 16.5% compared to October due to the sharp decrease in deaths, injuries, arrests, attacks, attacks on property and demolished or occupied civilian houses.</b>

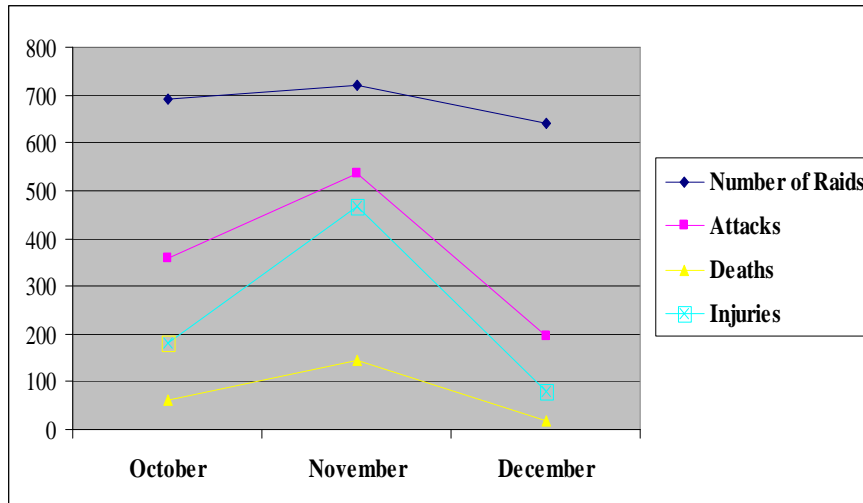
### PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2006

WEST BANK	GAZA	TOTAL	NOTES
9	2	11	<b>9 in the West Bank</b> ( <i>Tulkarem</i> : (2); <i>Qalqiliya</i> : (1); <i>Jericho</i> : (1); <i>Bethlehem</i> : (1); and <i>Hebron</i> : (4)) and <b>2 in the Gaza Strip</b> (in <i>Gaza</i> ). Palestinian security forces blocked an attempt by armed Palestinian individuals to fire 1 mortar towards the Green Line as well as confiscated the mortar along with its launching pad. In addition, Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli army (through the DCO) 1 explosive device; 1 tear gas grenade; 4 Israeli citizens on 3 occasions; and 5 illegal vehicles as well as 2 motorcycles on 4 occasions. Palestinian security forces also coordinated with the Israeli army (through the DCO) to defuse 1 mortar that was ready to be launched towards the Green Line.

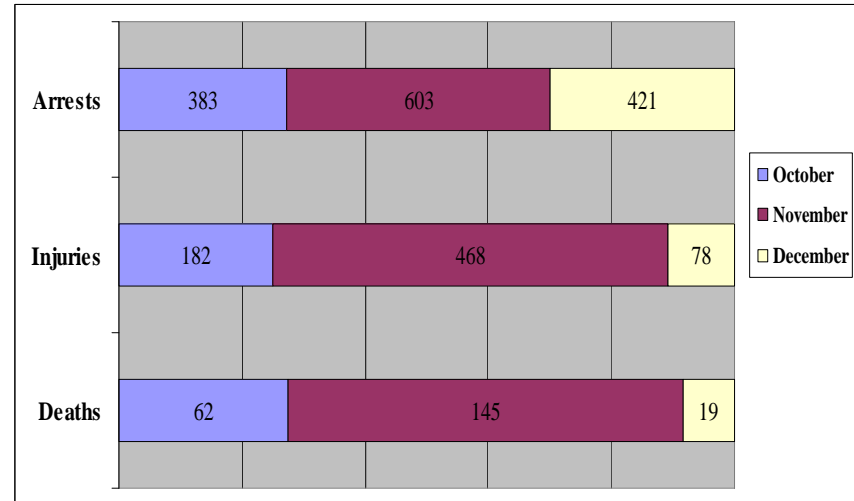
### PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	NOTES
13	8	11	In December, Palestinian security forces handed over 4 illegal vehicles (3 in November & 5 in October) and weapons, mortars, and explosive devices on 2 occasions (1 in November & 3 in October). Palestinian security forces also seized/defused explosive devices on 2 occasions (1 in November & 2 in October) as well as handed over Israeli citizens on 3 occasions.

#### 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



## SAMPLE OF ISRAELI ARMY KILLINGS DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2006

- **On 03 December**, an Israeli army patrol travelling along the settler bypass road leading to the settlement of Alon Moreh east of the city of Nablus opened fire towards a number of children, allegedly for throwing stones. As a result, Israeli troops killed 1 child from 'Askar refugee camp.
- **On 04 December**, the Israeli army raided the city of Tulkarem. While raiding and searching a coffee shop, the Israeli army opened fire, killing 1 civilian and injuring 2 others, including 1 child. The Israeli army also arrested 12 civilians, including 1 injured civilian, as well as 1 Palestinian General Intelligence officer.
- **On 10 December**, the Israeli army opened fire towards and injured 15-year-old Tha'er Fannoun along the road to the village of Nahhalin in the western Bethlehem district.
- **On 10 December**, in violation of the Israeli-Palestinian ceasefire agreement that entered into force at 06:00 on 26 November 2006, the Israeli army opened fire from one of its locations on the Green Line towards a number of civilians in the area of Al 'Atatira north of the town of Beit Lahiya in the district of Northern Gaza, injuring a civilian in the chest and arm.
- **On 10 December**, Muhannad Firas Zeidan, a child, was injured due to the explosion of a sound grenade that was left by the Israeli army in the village of 'Awarta at Tahta in the southern Ramallah district.
- **On 11 December**, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over and injured 5-year-old Mohammed Shihab Jaber at the entrance to the Ibrahimiya School in the old city of Hebron.
- **At dawn on 12 December**, the Israeli army raided the city of Qalqiliya and fired sound grenades towards 1 house, resulting in the death of a female civilian who had a heart attack.
- **On 14 December**, the Israeli army raided 'Ein Beit el Ma' refugee camp in the city of Nablus and opened intensive fire, extra-judicially killing Mohammed Amin Ramahah (described by the Israeli authorities as a "wanted individual"). The Israeli attack also resulted in the injury of 7 civilian bystanders, including 5 children and 1 female civilian. Of these, 5 civilians, including 4 children (aged 3, 5, and 12 years), were in critical condition. On 18 December, 'Ammar az Zaqzouq also died of injuries sustained.
- **On 19 December**, Israeli troops guarding the Wall in the vicinity of the village of Far'un in the southern Tulkarem district opened fire towards 2 female children, claiming that they had approached the Wall. The Israeli attack resulted in the killing of 13-year-old Du'a' Nasser Hamed.

## ANALYSIS OF EVENTS

### 1. Assassination

The Israeli army extra-judicially killed 1 civilian in 'Ein Beit el Ma' refugee camp in the city of Nablus and injured 7 others, including 5 children and 1 female civilian. Of these, 5 civilians, including 4 children (a 3-year-old female child, a 5-year-old female child, a 12-year-old female child, and a 12-year-old male child), were in critical condition. One of the injured civilians later died of injuries sustained.

### 2. Killings

Compared to 145 Palestinians killed in November and 60 in October, **18 Palestinians were killed in December**, including 13 Palestinians in the West Bank and 5 in the Gaza Strip. The majority of deaths took place in the district of Nablus (4), the district of Nablus (4), the district of Tulkarem (3), the district of Gaza (3), and the district of Jenin (2). Of these, the Israeli army killed 3 children, including a 13-year-old female child; 1 female civilian of a heart attack in the district of Qalqiliya; and 3 armed Palestinian individuals.

### **3. Injuries**

Compared to 468 Palestinians injured in November and 182 in October, the total number of injuries reported during the month of December was **78** (61 Palestinians in the West Bank and 17 in the Gaza Strip). Of those injured, 32 were children, including 1 female child who was run over by an Israeli settler vehicle in the district of Hebron, 2 children by Israeli settler acts of violence, and 1 child as a result of the explosion of a sound grenade left by the Israeli army. In addition, an Israeli Police dog bit and injured 1 female civilian in the district of Nablus. The Israeli army also injured 1 international peace activist and 1 press photographer.

### **4. Arrests**

Compared to 603 Palestinians arrested last month and 383 in October, the Israeli army arrested **421** Palestinians in December throughout the West Bank. The majority of arrests were reported to have taken place in the districts of Nablus (87), Jenin (76), Ramallah (60), Bethlehem (51); and Hebron (47). Among these, the Israeli army arrested 45 children; 4 female civilians; 1 mentally challenged civilian; 1 elderly civilian; 3 injured civilians; 1 former political prisoner; 17 university students; 2 school teachers; 1 school principal; 2 chairmen of village councils; and 20 Palestinian security officers.

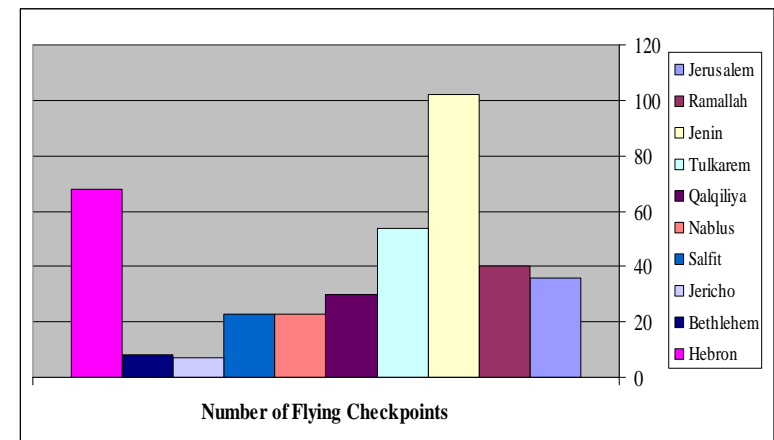
### **5. Closure**

Beginning on 17 April 2006, the Israeli army has continued to intensify its restrictions at permanent checkpoints set up throughout the West Bank districts, after a Palestinian individual carried out a suicide attack in the city of Tel Aviv inside the Green Line, as well as isolate the northern districts from the central and southern districts of the West Bank, impeding civilian movement between these districts. In addition, the Israeli army has continued to close the city of Jerusalem to civilian residents of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, preventing civilians from entering the city on Fridays to pray in Al Aqsa Mosque. For several months, the Israeli army has continued to declare the city of Tulkarem a “closed military zone”. The Israeli army also intensified its restrictions at ***‘Einav and Jubara checkpoints*** (the eastern and southern entrances to the city of Tulkarem respectively), impeding civilian access. Additionally, the Israeli army intensified its restrictions at ***all checkpoints set up at the entrances to the city of Nablus***. Israeli troops positioned at the ***Za’tara junction checkpoint*** also continued to impede access to civilian residents of the northern districts travelling towards the central districts of the West Bank. Moreover, the Israeli army continued to isolate the area of the Jordan Valley from the rest of the West Bank. Israeli troops positioned at ***Tayasir and Al Hamra checkpoints*** as well as the ***checkpoint set up west of the village of Al ‘Auja*** continued to impede access to civilian residents of the districts of Jenin, Nablus, Ramallah, and Jericho into the Jordan Valley.

Special permits are still required for private civilian vehicles to cross ***Huwwara and Beit Iba checkpoints*** at the entrances to the city of Nablus. Beginning on 15 December, the Israeli army has no longer required that private civilian vehicles possess special permits to cross ***As Sawahira ash Sharqiya (the “Container”) checkpoint***, which separates the central districts from the southern districts of the West Bank. 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 **391 flying checkpoints** in and around Palestinian residential locales throughout the West Bank during the month of December, compared to 367 flying checkpoints in November and 389 in October.

Additionally, the Israeli army closed **32 roads, junctions, and entrances** to Palestinian residential areas throughout the West Bank. The Israeli army has also continued to close the commercial centre in the old city of Hebron for an extended period of time.



The Israeli navy also continued to impose an intensified sea blockade on the coast of the Gaza Strip and prevent Palestinian fishing boats from sailing. In addition, Israeli navy boats attacked 5 Palestinian fishing boats and killed 1 Palestinian fisherman.

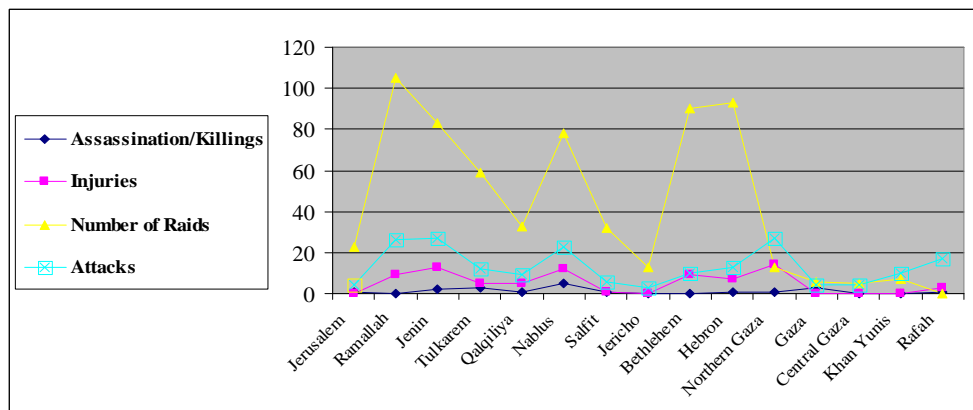
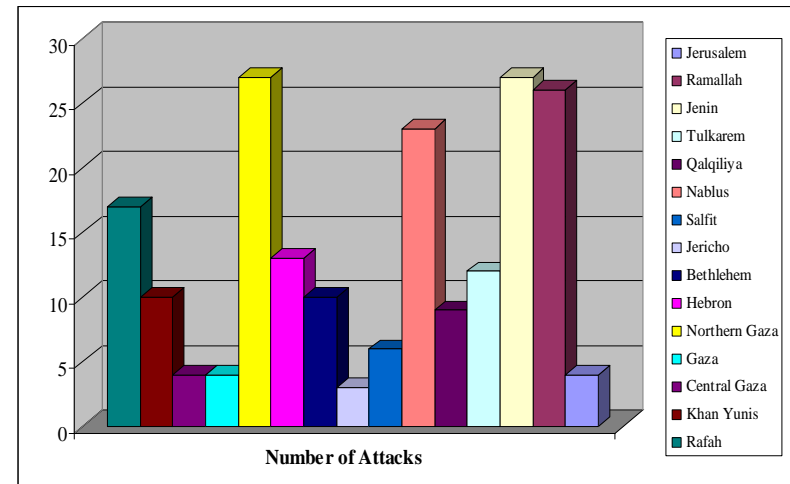
## 6. Attacks

A total of **195 attacks** were reported during the month of December (compared to 535 attacks in November and 357 in October), including **133 attacks** in the West Bank and **62** in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army carried out **76 attacks during raids** on Palestinian residential areas, **37 attacks during confrontations** between the Israeli army and Palestinians, and **53 attacks from Israeli army military posts** towards civilian houses and property. In addition, Israeli navy boats carried out **25 attacks** and Israeli settlers opened fire towards Palestinian civilians on **4 occasions**. The ceasefire agreement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides that entered into force at 06:00 on 26 November 2006 remains in effect, despite the fact that the Israeli army carried out 62 attacks in the Gaza Strip districts. In addition, armed Palestinian individuals fired 125 mortars towards the Green Line on 41 occasions. Of these, 9 mortars landed on Palestinian territory.

## 7. Raids

The Israeli army carried out a total of **640 raids** on Palestinian residential locales during the month of December (compared to 722 raids during November and 692 during October), including **609 in the West Bank** and **31 in the Gaza Strip**. The majority of Israeli army raids took place in the districts of Ramallah (105), Hebron (93), Bethlehem (90), and Jenin (83). The Israeli army **opened fire during 76 of the 640 raids**, approximately 11.9% of the total number of raids on Palestinian residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army **imposed curfew 4 times over 3 residential locales** in the West Bank during raids (compared to 13 times in November and 7 in October). The Israeli army also **occupied and converted into military posts 19 civilian houses and residential buildings**, including 8 in the district of Nablus.



Although the Israeli army carried out 31 raids into Palestinian Authority controlled territory in the Gaza Strip districts, the ceasefire agreement that entered into force at 06:00 on 26 November 2006 remains effective.

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 **366 of the 640 raids**, approximately 57.2% of the total number of raids, in Palestinian Authority controlled territory in the West Bank.

*The chart to the left shows the correlation between the number of raids & resulting human losses.*

Following the Sharm ash Sheikh Summit (08 February 2005), security control of **the city of Jericho and the village of Al ‘Auja** was transferred back to the Palestinian Authority on 16 March 2005. On 21 March 2005, security control of **the city of Tulkarem and its eastern areas** was also transferred back to the Palestinian Authority. Palestinian and Israeli commanders agreed that the Israeli army would not enter these areas. However, **the Israeli army violated the agreement as it raided** the city of Jericho and the village of ‘Ein ad Duyuk on **1 occasion** each, as well as the village of Al ‘Auja on **8 occasions**, during which the Israeli army injured and arrested 1 Palestinian security officer. Since 13 July 2005, the Israeli army has continued to reinvade the city of Tulkarem and its suburbs, as well as Nur Shams and Tulkarem refugee camps, and carried out **28 raids** into the area in December, during which the Israeli army killed 2 civilians, including 1 child, and arrested 22 civilians, including 1 child, as well as 1 Palestinian security officer. Additionally, the Israeli army raided the eastern areas of the Tulkarem district on **17 occasions**, including the town of ‘Anabta (10), the town of Kafr al Labad (1), the town of ‘Illar (5), and the village of Seida (1). During these raids, the Israeli army injured 2 civilians.

### **8. House Demolitions**

The Israeli army **demolished 4 civilian houses** during the month of December throughout the West Bank, ostensibly for being built without the required construction licences. The Israeli army demolished 1 house in Ras al ‘Amud neighbourhood in the city of Jerusalem; 2 houses in the village of Al ‘Sawiya near the city of Jerusalem; and 1 house in the village of Al Walaja near the Green Line in the district of Bethlehem.

### **9. Provocation of Palestinian Military and Security Forces**

The Israeli army carried out **16** incidents of attacking and provoking Palestinian security and military forces and posts during the month of December. **13** incidents took place in the West Bank and **3** in the Gaza Strip, as follows:

**Types of Israeli Army Provocation against Palestinian Forces during the Month of December 2006**

Type of Provocation	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total	Notes
<b>Preventing Palestinian security forces from carrying out security duties</b>	—	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	The Israeli army refused to coordinate with Palestinian security forces to dismantle 4 mortar launching pads in the district of Northern Gaza.
<b>Attacks and shelling</b>	—	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	On 1 occasion, Israeli navy boats opened fire towards a Palestinian National Security location in the district of Northern Gaza. The Israeli army also opened fire towards another Palestinian National Security location east of the area of Al Qarara in the district of Khan Yunis.
<b>Raiding Palestinian security offices &amp; locations</b>	<b>2</b>	—	<b>2</b>	The Israeli army raided and searched 2 Palestinian Police stations in the old city of Hebron as well as in the town of As Samoa’ in the district of Hebron.
<b>Taking position / setting up checkpoints near Palestinian security posts</b>	<b>8</b>	—	<b>8</b>	The Israeli army took position near the offices of the Palestinian National Security Headquarters in the cities of Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, and Bethlehem; near 1 Palestinian National Security location in the district of Hebron; near 1 Palestinian National Security checkpoint in the city of Beit Jala; in front of 1 Palestinian Police station in the city of Tulkarem on 2 occasions; and near 1 Palestinian Police station in the district of Hebron.
<b>Detaining Palestinian security patrols</b>	<b>3</b>	—	<b>3</b>	The Israeli army halted 1 Palestinian National Security vehicle as well as detained officers onboard the vehicle in the city of El Bireh. Israeli troops positioned at ‘Atara checkpoint in the district of Ramallah also detained 1 Palestinian Police officer along with a Police vehicle. In addition, the Israeli army halted 1 Palestinian Police patrol in the district of Jenin.
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	

**Note:** These statistics do not include the killing, injury, or arrest of Palestinian security officers.

### **10. Attacks on Public and Private Property**

A total of **44 incidents of destruction and confiscation of public and private property** were reported during the month of December, including **40** in the West Bank and **4** in the Gaza Strip.



A wall around *Al Mahabba* Convent and Al 'Eizariya cemetery collapsed due to land levelling for Wall construction on land belonging to the town of Al 'Eizariya in the district of Jerusalem. The Israeli army also damaged a number of civilian houses in the districts of Jenin, Tulkarem, Salfit, Bethlehem, and Hebron; destroyed the doors of a number of commercial shops in the city of Jenin; closed the central fruit and vegetable market in the district of Nablus; and forced civilians to close their commercial shops in the town of As Samoa' in the district of Hebron. Additionally, the Israeli army damaged furniture in the offices of a charitable association in the district of Hebron; destroyed the doors of 1 school in the district of Hebron; used explosives to destroy 3 civilian vehicles in the districts of Tulkarem and Nablus; and damaged 1 civilian vehicle in the district of Nablus. Furthermore, the Israeli army levelled a road connecting the town of Qabatiya to the village of Misliya in the district of Jenin; uprooted dozens of olive trees in the district of Ramallah; levelled agricultural land in the district of Tulkarem; and destroyed 1 water well as well as uprooted grapevines in the town of Al Khadr in the district of Bethlehem. Israeli settlers also cut down 70 olive trees in the district of Hebron. In addition, the Israeli army destroyed agricultural crops east of Gaza city and olive trees in the district of Khan Yunis; detained 2 civilian bulldozers as they were carrying out excavations in the city of Salfit; and caused 1 bulldozer to turn over while it was levelling land near the border fence north of the town of Beit Lahiya in the district of Northern Gaza. Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in the district of Jericho also detained 1 civilian vehicle.

The Israeli army also confiscated 1 telecommunications device while arresting 1 Palestinian security officer in the district of Ramallah. In addition, the Israeli army confiscated 1 rifle and 1 pistol in the district of Ramallah as well as 1 hunting rifle in the city of Bethlehem; computers and files from the cities of Ramallah and El Bireh; 1 computer from the district of Tulkarem; 2 computers and files from the offices of a charitable association in the district of Hebron; and broadcasting equipment from a local radio station in the city of Hebron. Additionally, the Israeli army confiscated a video tape from a press cameraman in the city of Tulkarem and stole a sum of money as well as gold jewellery estimated at JD 7,000 from a civilian house in the city of Bethlehem and 1 cellular telephone along with a sum of NIS 1,000 (approximately USD 240) from a house in the city of Ramallah. Moreover, the Israeli army confiscated food packages from the offices of a charitable association in the district of Hebron.

### **11. Settlement Activity**

Compared to 5 in November and 3 in October, a total of **9 incidents of settlement activity** were reported to have taken place during the month of December.

The Israeli army issued a military order extending and amending Military Order # T/16/95 for the confiscation of 145.3 *dunums* of land belonging to the town of Al Mazra'a al Qibliya and the villages of Beitillu, Ras 'Ammar, and Ras Karkar (instead of the villages of Beitillu and Al Janiya, as was stated in the original military order mentioned above), for construction of a settler bypass road to connect the settlements of Talmon and Nahaliel. In addition, the Israeli army announced a decision to accommodate Israeli settlers in Nahal Maskiyyot in the area of the Northern Jordan Valley in the district of Jenin as well as to construct 30 housing units therein. The Israeli army also levelled civilian land to erect a security fence around the settlement of Avnei Hefetz in the district of Tulkarem; erected a fence along an Israeli settler bypass road in the district of Bethlehem; levelled civilian land adjacent to the Israeli settler bypass road north of the village of Zawata in the district of Nablus; and levelled land around Tayasir checkpoint in the district of Jenin as well as around a checkpoint in the district of Nablus in order to expand these checkpoints.

### **12. Settler Violence**

Israeli settlers carried out **19 incidents of violence** in the West Bank districts during the month of December (compared to 25 in November and 19 in October). The majority of incidents of Israeli settler violence took place in the districts of Jenin and Hebron (7 each).

Israeli settlers opened fire towards a 6-year-old child in the district of Hebron, leaving him with critical injuries to the neck, as well as towards 1 civilian in the district of Ramallah. Israeli settler vehicles also ran over a 5-year-old child in the old city of Hebron and 1 female child along the settler bypass road north of the town of Halhul in the district of Hebron. In addition, Israeli settlers opened indiscriminate fire during their raid on the village of Madama in the district of Nablus as well as in the centre of the village of Al 'Auja in the district of Jericho. Furthermore, Israeli settlers beat 1 female civilian along with her son in the district of Hebron; threw stones at civilian vehicles in the district of Nablus; uprooted dozens of olive trees on land belonging to the village of Deir Abu Mash'al in the district of Ramallah; levelled 40 *dunums* of agricultural land as well as cut down 70 olive trees in the district of Hebron; and levelled land for

construction of new housing units in 4 Israeli settlements in the area of the Northern Jordan Valley. Additionally, Israeli settlers repeatedly entered 2 settlements, which were evacuated a year ago, in the district of Jenin, and raided 1 school under construction in the city of Hebron.

### **13. Medical Obstruction**

Compared to 9 incidents in November and 2 in October, the Israeli army carried out **5 incidents of medical obstruction** during the month of December throughout the West Bank. The Israeli army denied access to 2 ambulances to transport an injured civilian in the town of Qabatiya in the district of Jenin, as well as to offer first aid to a female civilian who had been bitten by an Israeli Police dog in the city of Nablus. In addition, Israeli troops positioned at a checkpoint in the district of Nablus prevented ambulances from crossing. The Israeli army also raided Nablus Public Hospital in the city of Nablus and *Al Mizan* Hospital in the city of Hebron.

### **14. School Disruption**

Compared to 8 incidents in November and 2 incidents in October, the Israeli army carried out **8 incidents of school disruption** during the month of December in the West Bank. The Israeli army fired tear gas grenades towards a girl's school in the district of Nablus; took position in another girl's school in the city of Jenin; and raided 1 school in the town of Ya'bad in the district of Jenin, 1 school in the town of As Samoa', and 1 elementary school in the village of Karma in the district of Hebron. The Israeli army also surrounded 2 schools in the village of Burqa and the town of Huwwara in the district of Nablus.

### **15. Attacks on Religious Sites**

Compared to 6 attacks in November and 5 in October, no incidents of attacking religious sites have been reported this month.

### **16. Closure of Crossing Points**

The Israeli army completely closed crossing points in the Gaza Strip, including crossing points into the Green Line, on **124** occasions this month (compared to 117 in November and 141 in October). The Israeli army closed crossing points into the Green Line on **70** occasions, including *Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing*, which is partially open only to foreign nationals, VIPs, and critically ill civilians. The Israeli army also closed *Al Muntar (Karnei) Commercial Crossing* for 11 days completely and 2 days partially; *Ash Shuja'iyah (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing* (designated for fuel transportation) for 13 days completely and 1 day partially for transportation of cement; *Sufa Crossing* (designated for construction cargo transportation) for 18 days completely and 2 days partially; and *Karm Abu Salim (Karem Shalom) Crossing* (designated for commercial trading with Egypt) for 28 days completely and 2 days partially. Additionally, the Israeli army closed international crossing points on **54** occasions, including *Rafah Crossing* for 23 days completely. Rafah Crossing was open for 8 days, including 3 days to civilians departing to Saudi Arabia to perform pilgrimage to the Holy Shrines in the city of Mecca. *Yasser Arafat International Airport* (closed for 31 days) remains closed since the outbreak of the current *Intifada* (Uprising). Although the Israeli army withdrew from the Gaza Strip, the Israeli authorities have continued to prohibit the operation of the airport.

### **17. Palestinian Security Measures**

Palestinian security forces carried out **11 security measures**, including 9 in the West Bank and 2 in the Gaza Strip, as follows.

<b>Weapons Seized</b>	Palestinian security forces seized 1 mortar along with its launching pad, after having blocked an attempt by armed Palestinian individuals to fire the mortar towards areas inside the Green Line.
<b>Weapons Handed Over</b>	Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli army (through the DCO) 1 explosive device located in Tulkarem refugee camp and 1 tear gas grenade located in the district of Hebron. Palestinian security forces also requested (through the DCO) that the Israeli army coordinate for the Palestinian Engineering Unit to dismantle a mortar that was about to be launched from Palestinian territory at a distance of 500 metres from the Green Line east of Gaza city.
<b>Israeli Citizens Handed Over</b>	Palestinian security forces handed over 1 Israeli female civilian located in the city of Jericho; 2 Israeli citizens in the city of Bethlehem; and 1 Israeli citizen in the town of Dura in the district of Hebron.
<b>Illegal Vehicles Handed Over</b>	Palestinian security forces handed over 1 illegal vehicle seized in the city of Tulkarem; 1 vehicle and 2 motorcycles in the city of Qalqiliya; and 3 vehicles in the district of Hebron.