

PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP



MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

01 February 2009 – 28 February 2009

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 February 2009 to 28 February 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 FEBRUARY 2009

- A total of 7 civilians, including 1 child and 2 female civilians, died of critical injuries sustained **during the Israeli attack on the Gaza Strip districts.**
- **On 02 February**, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over a 6-year-old child near Al Fawwar junction in the southern Hebron district, leaving him with critical injuries.
- **On 05 February**, the Israeli army raided the town of Qabatiya south of the city of Jenin and extra-judicially killed an armed Palestinian individual ('wanted' by the Israeli authorities).
- **On 06 February**, Israeli navy boats opened intensive fire towards Palestinian fishing boats at sea as well as towards the beach of the city of Rafah, injuring a fisherman.
- **On 12 February**, Israeli troops guarding the Wall section in the vicinity of the village of Qatanna north of the city of Jerusalem opened fire towards and injured a 13-year-old child.
- Following Friday prayers **on 13 February**, the Israeli army opened fire as well as fired sound and tear gas grenades towards civilians in the old city of Hebron, killing 1 child.
- **On 18 February**, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over an 8-year-old child near the settlement of Kiryat Arba' in the old city of Hebron, leaving him with injuries and contusions.
- **On 19 February**, the Israeli army opened intensive fire towards a number of farmers in the area of Al Farahin in the district of Khan Yunis, injuring 1 farmer.
- **On 20 February**, 2 mass demonstrations, including international peace activists, took place in the town of Ni'lin and in the village of Bil'in in the district of Ramallah in protest against Wall construction. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and protestors, during which the Israeli army injured 9 civilians. A number of protestors also sustained injuries as a result of tear gas inhalation.
- **On 26 February**, an Israeli unexploded ordnance (UXO) exploded in the village of Yarza east of the city of Tubas, killing *Jamal Abdul Nasser Fuqaha*, 16 years old, as well as injuring 2 other children.

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

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
Assassination	1	—	1	An armed Palestinian individual in the town of Qabatiya in the district of Jenin.
Deaths	3	13	16	Incl. 3 children; 2 female civilians; and 5 armed Palestinian individuals.
Injuries	62	31	93	Incl. 11 children (of whom 2 wounded by Israeli settlers); 1 elderly civilian; and 1 fisherman.
Attacks	119	119	238	The Israeli army carried out 44 attacks during raids into Palestinian residential compounds; 70 attacks during confrontations with Palestinians; and 29 attacks from Israeli army military posts towards civilian houses and property. Israeli navy boats also opened fire on 32 occasions and Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints on 3 occasions. In addition to 59 air attacks launched by combat aircraft, Israeli combat helicopters opened machinegun fire towards Palestinian territory on 1 occasion.
Raids	855	5	860	24 in Jerusalem; 104 in Ramallah; 75 in Jenin; 44 in Tubas; 71 in Tulkarem; 56 in Qalqiliya; 83 in Nablus; 73 in Salfit; 23 in Jericho; 169 in Bethlehem; 133 in Hebron; 1 in Gaza; 2 in Central Gaza; and 2 in Khan Yunis.
Arrests	351	1	352	The Israeli army arrested 19 Palestinians in Jerusalem; 66 in Ramallah; 32 in Jenin; 6 in Tubas; 17 in Tulkarem; 59 in Qalqiliya; 50 in Nablus; 10 in Salfit; 16 in Jericho; 35 in Bethlehem; 41 in Hebron; and 1 in Rafah. Civilians arrested included 38 children; 4 female civilians; 8 university students; and 11 Palestinian security officers.
House Demolitions	7	—	7	All houses demolished were reported to have taken place in the district of Jerusalem. The Israeli army also distributed notices for demolition of 88 houses in the city of Jerusalem; 27 houses in the village of Khirbet Tana in the eastern Nablus district; and 4 houses in the district of Bethlehem.
Attacks on Public & Private Property	65	25	90	Destruction of Property: In addition to killing livestock, Israeli troops and settlers destroyed civilian vehicles; olive trees; houses, furniture; commercial shops; and fishing boats. Confiscation of Property: The Israeli army confiscated rifles; pistols; money; personal computers; ID cards; a cellular telephone; and water tanks.
House Occupations	28	—	28	In the districts of Tubas (1); Qalqiliya (14); Jericho (1); Bethlehem (7); and Hebron (5).
Curfews	20	—	20	The Israeli army imposed curfew over residential areas in the districts of Jerusalem (1); Ramallah (1); Jenin (1); Qalqiliya (6); Salfit (4); Jericho (2); Bethlehem (4); and Hebron (1).
Closure of Crossing Points	—	136	124	The Israeli army closed international crossing points (Rafah Crossing to Egypt and Yasser Arafat International Airport) on 43 occasions and crossing points to Israel on 81 occasions.
Flying Checkpoints	346	—	346	Jerusalem (58); Ramallah (29); Jenin (25); Tubas (7); Tulkarem (22); Qalqiliya (16); Nablus (15); Salfit (33); Jericho (17); Bethlehem (79); and Hebron (45).
Attack on Religious Site	1	—	1	The Israeli army searched 1 mosque in the district of Ramallah.
School Disruption	6	—	6	The Israeli army converted a school into an interrogation centre in the district of Qalqiliya; occupied the roof of a school in the district of Ramallah; raided 2 schools in the districts of Jericho and Nablus; and prevented pupils from leaving their school in the district of Jerusalem.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	16	—	16	The Israeli army provoked Palestinian National Security forces on 5 occasions; Police on 10 occasions; and Preventive Security on 1 occasion.
Settlement Activity	7	—	7	In the city of Jerusalem, the Israeli army finalised construction of infrastructure in the E-1 Expansion Area as well as confiscated 506 <i>dunums</i> (125.035 acres) of land for completion of Wall construction. The Israeli army also expanded checkpoints and constructed a settler bypass road.
Settler Violence	30	—	30	Israeli settlers raided yards of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound; detained and beat 1 child; beat civilians; threw stones at civilians and vehicles; seized control of a house; damaged civilian vehicles; cut down trees; and expanded a settlement. Israeli settler vehicles also ran over 2 children.
TOTAL	1917	330	2235	

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT	DEC. 2008	JAN. 2009	FEB. 2009	COMMENTS
Assassinations	2	—	1	The Israeli army resumed its policy of extra-judicially killing 'wanted Palestinian individuals' this month.
Deaths	393	785	16	Death toll dropped by 98% compared to January 2009 and by 95.9% compared to December 2008.
Injuries	1973	3282	93	Drop of 97.2% compared to January 2009 and of 95.3% compared to December 2008. In comparison with 18 children wounded in January and 16 in December, 11 children were injured in February 2009.
Attacks	538	1743	238	Decrease in the number of attacks by 86.4% compared to January 2009 and by 55.8% compared to December 2008.
Raids	868	931	860	Drop of 7.6% compared to January and 0.9% compared to December. The total number of Israeli army raids into Palestinian Authority-controlled territory (Area A – which the Israeli army has continued to invade since 2002) was 402 in February, compared to 394 in January and 442 in December.
Arrests	249	390	352	Decrease of 9.7% compared to January and of 41.4% compared to December. In comparison with 52 children arrested in January and 28 in December, 38 children were arrested this month.
House Demolitions	34	249	7	Drop of 97.2% compared to January and 79.4% compared to December.
Attacks on Property	282	468	90	Drop of 80.8% compared to January and 68.1% compared to December.
House Occupations	16	140	28	Decrease of 80% compared to January, but a rise of 75% compared to December.
Curfews	18	26	20	Drop of 23.1% compared to January, but a rise of 11.1% compared to December.
Flying Checkpoints	393	391	346	Decreases of 11.5% compared to January and 12% compared to December.
Complete Closure of Crossing Points	153	140	124	Crossing points to Israel were closed on 81 occasions in February 2009, compared to 109 in January 2009 and 105 in December 2008. The Israeli army also closed both Rafah Crossing and Yasser Arafat International Airport for 43 days, including Rafah Crossing for 15 days completely. Yasser Arafat International Airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the second <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising) in 2000.
Medical Obstruction	6	8	—	Incidents of medical obstruction were not reported in the month of February 2009.
Attacks on Religious Sites	10	13	1	Drop of 92.3% compared to January and 90% compared to December.
School Disruption	4	7	6	Decrease of 14.3% compared to January, but a rise of 50% compared to December.
Provocation of Palestinian Forces	17	7	16	Despite efforts made by Palestinian security forces to control the security situation, the Israeli army has continued to raid, open fire towards, and take positions 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 agency, and arrested 11 others.
Settlement Activity	8	5	7	Rise of 40% compared to January, but a drop of 12.5% compared to December.
Settler Violence	133	27	30	Increase of 11.1% compared to January, but a decrease of 77.4% compared to December.
TOTAL	5097	8612	2235	Total incidents dropped by 74.1% compared to January 2009 due to the decrease in deaths, injuries, arrests, raids into Palestinian residential compounds, attacks, flying checkpoints, house demolitions and occupations, as well as destruction and confiscation of property. In comparison with December 2008, total events also dropped by 56.2% due to the decreasing number of deaths, injuries, raids into Palestinian residential locales, attacks, flying checkpoints, house demolitions and occupations, destruction and confiscation of property, and incidents of settler violence.

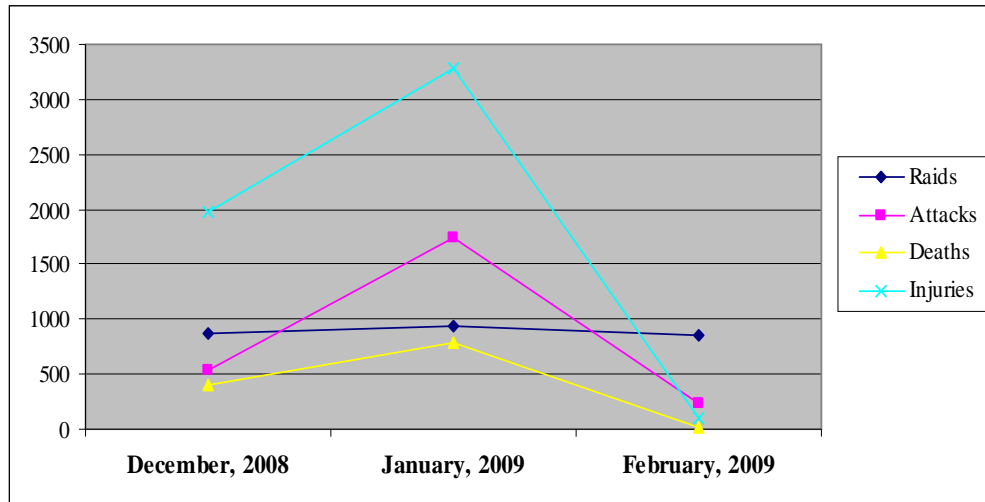
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2009

WEST BANK	NOTES
8	In the districts of Ramallah, Tulkarem, Jericho, and Bethlehem, Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 6 Israeli settlers as well as 1 illegal vehicle and detonated an explosive device.

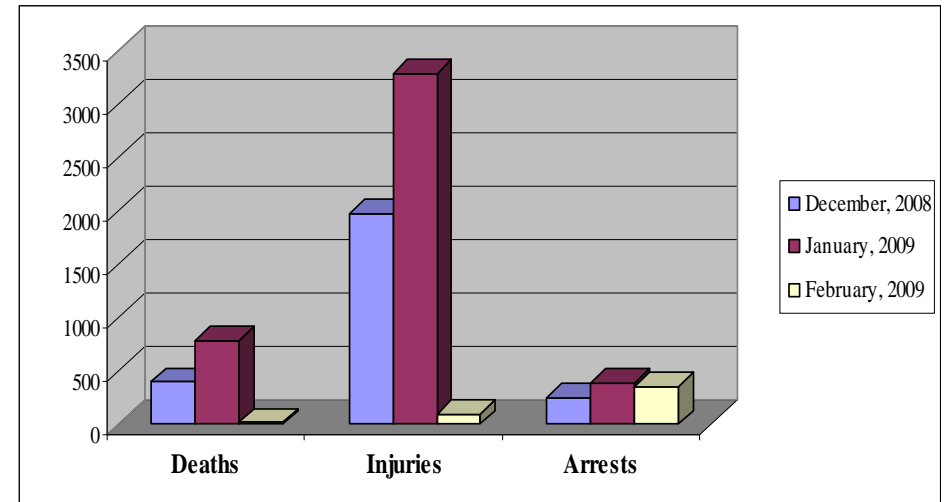
PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

DEC. 2008	JAN. 2009	FEB. 2009	NOTES
1	41	8	In February 2009, Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 6 Israeli settlers after they had entered PA-controlled territory (compared to 1 in January 2009 and 1 in December 2008) as well as 1 illegal vehicle (compared to 35 in January). Palestinian security forces also detonated 1 explosive device (compared to 1 in January).

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. Assassination

In the month of February 2009, Israeli Special Forces extra-judicially killed an armed Palestinian individual in the town of Qabatiya south of the city of Jenin.

2. Deaths

During the month of February, the Israeli army killed **16 Palestinians**, including 3 in the West Bank and 13 in the Gaza Strip. The majority of deaths were reported to have taken place in the districts of Gaza and Khan Yunis. Of these, 3 were children, including a child killed by an Israeli army UXO and another of serious injuries sustained during the Israeli offensive on the Gaza Strip districts. In addition, 2 female civilians were killed, including one of critical wounds sustained during the Israeli attack on the Gaza Strip.

3. Injuries

The total number of injuries reported over February was **93** (62 Palestinians in the West Bank and 31 in the Gaza Strip). The majority of injuries were reported to have taken place in the districts of Jerusalem; Ramallah, Rafah, and Hebron. Of those injured, 11 were children, including 2 wounded by an Israeli army UXO and 2 others by Israeli settlers; 1 elderly civilian; and 1 fisherman.

4. Arrests

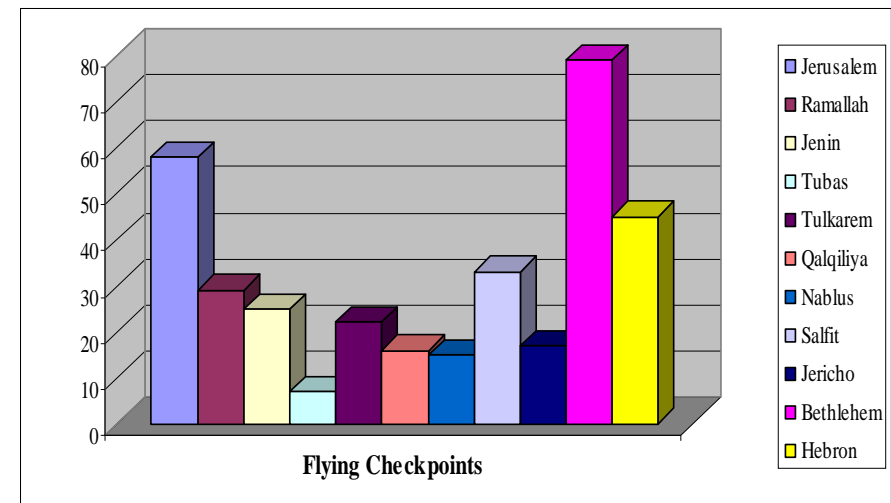
The Israeli army arrested **352** Palestinians in the month of February, including 351 civilians in the West Bank and 1 civilian in the Gaza Strip. Most arrests took place in the districts of Ramallah, Qalqiliya, Nablus, Hebron, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and Tulkarem. Among these, the Israeli army arrested 38 children; 4 female civilians; 8 university students; and 11 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. 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, closed the entrances to the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the old city of Jerusalem, and prevented civilians from accessing the Mosque.

Special permits are still required for private civilian vehicles to cross *Huwwara* and *Beit Iba checkpoints* at the entrances to the city of Nablus as well as *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 **346 flying checkpoints** in and around Palestinian residential locales throughout the West Bank during the month of February 2009, compared to 391 flying checkpoints in January 2009 and 393 in December 2008.



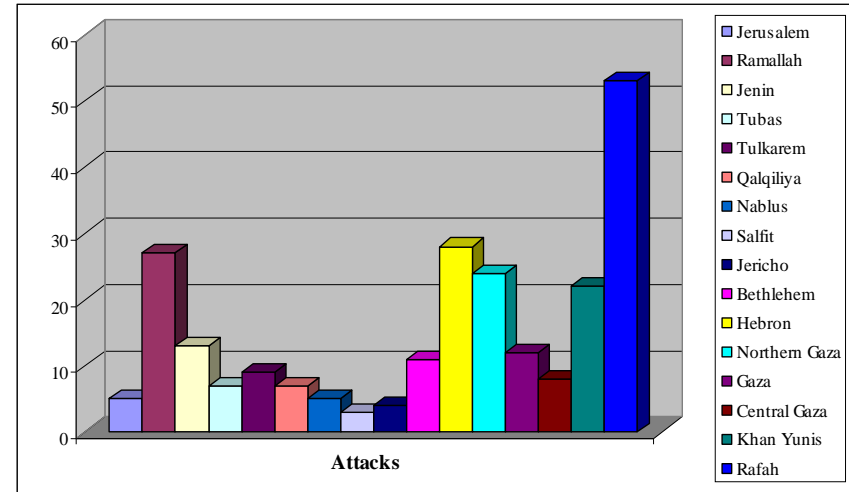
Additionally, the Israeli navy has continued to impose an intensified sea blockade on the coast of the Gaza Strip and to prevent Palestinian fishing boats from sailing. The Israeli army also opened fire towards and confiscated dozens of Palestinian fishing boats.

6. Attacks

A total of **238 attacks** were reported during the month of February 2009, including **119 attacks** in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip each.

The Israeli army carried out **44 attacks during raids** into Palestinian residential areas, **70 attacks during confrontations** between the Israeli army and Palestinians, and **29 attacks from Israeli army military posts** towards civilian houses and property. In addition, Israeli navy boats carried out **32 attacks** and Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints opened fire towards Palestinian civilians on **3 occasions**. The Israeli army air force also carried out **59 air attacks** on Palestinian territory in the Gaza Strip and combat helicopters opened machinegun fire on 1 occasion.

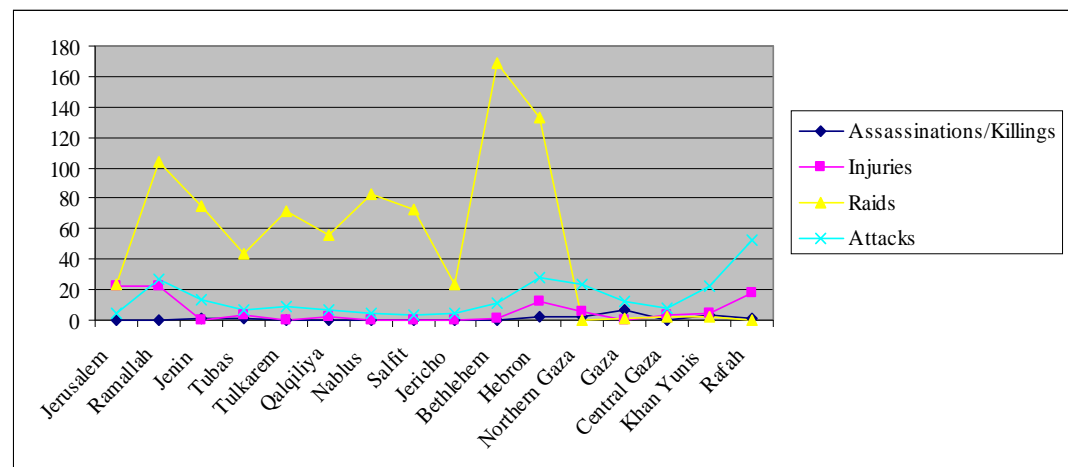
At 02:00 on 18 January 2009, the Israeli army declared a unilateral ceasefire following the large-scale offensive it had launched against the Gaza Strip. However, the Israeli army violated the ceasefire on **119 occasions** during the month of February (compared to 1,515 violations in January). Also breaching the ceasefire, armed Palestinian groups fired **77 mortars** towards the Green Line (compared to 536 mortars fired in January). In addition, armed Palestinian individuals detonated an explosive device near an Israeli military patrol.



7. Raids

The Israeli army carried out a total of **860 raids** into Palestinian residential locales during the month of February 2009, including **855 in the West Bank** and **5 in the Gaza Strip**. The majority of Israeli army raids took place in the districts of Bethlehem, Hebron, and Ramallah. The Israeli army **opened fire during 114 of the 860 raids**, approximately 13.3% of the total number of raids into Palestinian residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army **imposed curfew 20 times over 12 residential compounds** in the West Bank during raids (compared to 26 times in January 2009 and 18 in December 2008). The Israeli army also **occupied and converted into military posts 28 civilian houses and residential buildings**.

The chart to the right shows the correlation between the number of raids & resulting human losses in February 2009.



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 **402** of the 860 raids, approximately 46.7% 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
February 2009	266	37	1 child	8 (incl. 2 children)	79 (incl. 12 children and 1 Palestinian security officer)	2	1	394
January 2009	301	47	1	24 (incl. 4 children and 1 elderly civilian)	110 (incl. 17 children and 3 Palestinian security officers)	14	1	498
December 2008	189	33	2	8 (incl. 5 children)	59 (incl. 10 children, 1 female civilian, and 1 university student)	1	5	297

8. Provocation of Palestinian Military and Security Forces

The Israeli army carried out **16** incidents of attacking and provoking Palestinian security forces and posts during the month of February.

Types of Israeli Army Provocation against Palestinian Forces during the Month of February 2009

Type of Provocation		Notes
Attacks	1	The Israeli army fired sound grenades in front of a Palestinian Police station in the village of Al 'Auja in the district of Jericho.
Preventing Palestinian security forces from carrying out assigned security duties	3	The Israeli army searched the Palestinian Preventive Security headquarters in the district of Ramallah; surrounded a Palestinian National Security checkpoint in the city of Beit Jala; and raided a Palestinian Police station in the district of Bethlehem.
Reporting to the Israeli Intelligence agency	2	In the district of Qalqiliya, the Israeli army served summons to 2 Palestinian National Security officers to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency.
Taking position/setting up checkpoints near Palestinian security posts	7	The Israeli army took position near 5 Palestinian Police stations in the districts of Jerusalem, Jenin, Bethlehem, and Hebron. In the district of Bethlehem, the Israeli army also took position near 1 Palestinian National Security checkpoint and occupied a civilian house near another checkpoint.
Detaining Palestinian security patrols	3	Israeli troops positioned at Huwwara checkpoint in the district of Nablus detained a Palestinian Police vehicle. Israeli troops positioned at the Za'tara junction checkpoint in the district of Salfit also detained 2 Palestinian Police vehicles.

Note: These statistics do not include the arrest of 11 Palestinian security officers.

9. Attacks on Public and Private Property

A total of **90 incidents** of destruction and confiscation of public and private property were reported over the month of February 2009, including **65** in the West Bank and **25** in the Gaza Strip.

Israeli army combat aircraft carried out air attacks on Palestinian territory in the districts of Northern Gaza, Central Gaza, Khan Yunis, and Rafah, damaging dozens of civilian houses. The Israeli army also damaged contents of a school in the district of Qalqiliya; broke glass window of houses in the village of Bil'in in the district of Ramallah; and demolished Bedouins' makeshift houses as well as 4 barracks used for raising livestock near the settlement of Ma'ale Adumim in the district of Jerusalem. During raids into Palestinian residential locales in the districts of Jerusalem, Ramallah, Tulkarem; Qalqiliya; Salfit, and Hebron, the Israeli army damaged furniture of 10 houses. In addition, the Israeli army used explosives to destroy a civilian vehicle in the district of Hebron and opened fire towards and damaged a taxicab in the district of Tubas. During air attacks, the Israeli air force also destroyed 2 civilian vehicles in the district of Central Gaza and in the city of Rafah as well as 1 motorcycle in the city of Khan Yunis. Additionally, the Israeli army damaged 2 commercial shops in the district of Jenin and several shops in the city of Nablus; destroyed a carpenter's workshop in the district of Central Gaza; forced civilians to close their commercial shops in the district of Qalqiliya; and demolished a bus station, a warehouse of construction materials, cement walls in the district of Jerusalem, and support walls in a village in the district of Hebron. Furthermore, the Israeli army uprooted 20 olive trees on land belonging to the town of Ni'in in the district of Ramallah; stole jewellery from a house in the town of Beituniya in the district of Ramallah, as well as money from civilians in the town of Jayyus in the district of Qalqiliya; destroyed 10 Palestinian fishing boats in the district of Northern Gaza; and damaged another boat west of Gaza city. Moreover, Israeli settlers cut down olive trees in the districts of Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, and Hebron and perished 30 sheep near Tarqumiya Terminal in the district of Hebron.

The Israeli army also confiscated water tanks in the district of Jerusalem; 2 rifles and military equipment from the Palestinian Preventive Security headquarters in the district of Ramallah; 2 pistols in the districts of Jenin and Hebron; agricultural materials in the district of Jenin; 7 personal computers in the districts of Jenin; Tulkarem, Bethlehem, and Hebron; a cellular telephone in the district of Bethlehem; 4 ID cards from civilians in the district of Qalqiliya; a sum of JD 2,000 (approximately USD 2,815) in the district of Jenin; and a civilian vehicle near a settlement as well as fuel tanks in the district of Hebron.

10. Settlement Activity

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

In the district of Jerusalem, the Israeli army confiscated 506 *dunums* (125.035 acres) of land belonging to the town of Abu Dis and the area of Al Khan al Ahmar for Wall construction east of the settlement of Ma'ale Adumim; levelled 4 *dunums* (0.988 acre) of land in the Silwan neighbourhood in the city of Jerusalem for construction of a parking lot for Israeli visitors to the settlement outpost of the "City of David"; and finalised construction of infrastructure in the E-1 Expansion Area for building new settlement quarters east of the city of Jerusalem. In addition, the Israeli army levelled land for expansion of Salem Military Camp in the district of Jenin, 'Einav checkpoint set up on the Tulkarem-Nablus main road, and the checkpoint set up at the eastern entrance to the city of Qalqiliya. The Israeli army also levelled land east of the town of Yatta in the district of Hebron for construction of a settler bypass road leading to the settlement of Karmi'el.

11. Settler Violence

Over the month of February, Israeli settlers carried out **30 incidents of violence** in the West Bank districts.

Israeli settlers raided yards of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound in the city of Jerusalem. Israeli settler vehicles also ran over a 6-year-old child near Al Fawwar junction south of the city of Hebron as well as an 8-year-old child near the settlement of Kiryat Arba' in the old city of Hebron, leaving both children in critical health condition. In addition, Israeli settlers beat a 14-year-old child while he was present near the settlement of Beit 'Ein in the southern Hebron district, 2 civilians in the Silwan neighbourhood in the city of Jerusalem, 1 civilian resident of the village of Kafr Qaddum in the district of Qalqiliya, and 1 civilian near the Ibrahimi Mosque in the old city of Hebron. The Israeli army also assaulted Bedouins; harassed and intimidated shepherds in the area of the Northern Jordan Valley and in an area located in the eastern district of Tubas; and threw stones at civilian vehicles travelling along the Jerusalem-Jericho

main road, near the entrance to the evacuated settlement of Homesh in the district of Jenin, near the settlement 'Einav in the district of Tulkarem, and near Huwwara checkpoint along the Nablus-Ramallah main road. Furthermore, Israeli settlers broke windshields of several civilian vehicles travelling along the main road near the settlement of Karnei Tzur in the district of Hebron; seized control of a house belonging to the family of Abu Nabb in the Silwan neighbourhood in the city of Jerusalem; attempted to install caravans on a piece of land near the settlement of Efrat in the district of Bethlehem; and raided the debris of the evacuated settlement of Homesh in the district of Jenin, the village of Al 'Auja in the district of Jericho, and the debris of the evacuated military post of 'Ush Ghurab in the district of Bethlehem. Israeli settlers also closed the junction to the area of An Nashash (the southern entrance to the city of Bethlehem); cut down olive trees east of the town of 'Azzun in the district of Qalqiliya; and uprooted olive seedlings in the vicinity of the village of Al Jab'a in the district of Bethlehem. Moreover, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Kfar Tapoah levelled 50 *dunums* (12.355 acres) of civilian land north of the village of Yasuf in the district of Salfit for settlement expansion. Israeli settlers also set fire to a civilian vehicle on the junction to the evacuated settlement of Homesh. Additionally, Israeli settlers from the settlement of Efrat expelled and prevented a delegation from the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture and Al Khadr Municipal Council in the district of Bethlehem from conducting a field tour for construction of an agricultural road on civilian land located near the settlement. Also, Israeli settlers stole water tanks on a house roof in the old city of Hebron and an Israeli settler truck ran over a herd of sheep near Tarqumiya Terminal in the district of Hebron, killing 30 sheep.

12. School Disruption

During the month of February, the Israeli army carried out **6 incidents of school disruption** in the West Bank. The Israeli army converted a school into an interrogation centre in the town of Jayyus in the district of Qalqiliya; occupied and converted into a military post the roof of a school in the town of Ni'lin in the district of Ramallah; raided a school in the village of Al Jiftlik in the district of Jericho; searched a school in the city of Nablus; and prevented pupils from leaving their school in the district of Jerusalem.

13. Attacks on Religious Sites

Carrying out **1 attack on a religious site** this month, the Israeli army searched a mosque in the village of Kafr Ni'ma in the district of Ramallah.

15. 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 over the month of February. The Israeli army closed crossing points into the Green Line on **81** occasions. The Israeli army closed *Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing* and *Sufa Crossing* throughout the month (28 days). On the other hand, the Israeli army opened *Ash Shuja'iyah (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing* for 22 days for transportation of limited quantities of fuel; *Al Muntar (Karnei) Commercial Crossing* for 20 days for transportation of food supplies; and *Karm Abu Salem (Karem Shalom) Crossing* for 22 days for transportation of food supplies and humanitarian aid. Additionally, the Israeli army closed international crossing points on **43** occasions. *Rafah Crossing* was open for **13** days to injured and ill civilians for medical treatment at Egyptian hospitals as well as to civilians stranded on the Egyptian border, physicians, and media representatives. Also, foreign nationals, civilians holding residence cards in other countries, and students were allowed to leave the Gaza Strip through Rafah Crossing. In addition, medical equipment and medicine were transported to the Gaza Strip. *Yasser Arafat International Airport* (closed for 28 days) has remained closed since the outbreak of the current *Intifada* (Uprising).

16. Palestinian Security Measures

During the month of February, Palestinian security forces carried out **8 security measures** in the West Bank districts of Ramallah, Tulkarem, Jericho, and Bethlehem. Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 1 illegal vehicle located in the district of Ramallah and 6 Israeli settlers after they had accessed the cities of the Jericho and Bethlehem. Palestinian security forces also detonated an explosive device located in the district of Tulkarem;