

## **PALESTINIAN MONITORING GROUP**



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

**01 March 2009 – 31 March 2009**

The following summary table and overview of events is a survey of Israeli violations during the period 01 March 2009 to 31 March 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 MARCH 2009

- A total of **3 civilians**, including 1 female civilian, died of critical injuries sustained during the Israeli attack on the Gaza Strip districts.
- **On 01 March**, an Israeli settler severely beat a 7-year-old female child in the old city of Hebron, leaving her with injuries and contusions.
- **On 04 March**, Israeli combat aircraft fired a missile at a vehicle transporting armed Palestinian individuals in Jabalya refugee camp in the district of Northern Gaza, killing 1 armed individual and injuring 6 others. The Israeli air attack also resulted in the injury of 5 civilian bystanders.
- **On 05 March**, an Israeli settler vehicle ran over a 14-year-old female child along Road # 60 in the vicinity of the town of Halhul in the northern Hebron district, leaving her with injuries and contusions.
- **On 07 March**, an Israeli army jeep ran over and injured a civilian near Qalandiya checkpoint north of the city of Jerusalem.
- **On 07 March**, Israeli navy boats opened fire on Palestinian fishing boats at sea and on Palestinian civilian houses west of the city of Rafah, injuring 4 civilians, including a female civilian and her 4-year-old daughter, as well as 2 fishermen.
- **On 12 March**, an Israeli army patrol travelling near the junction to the village of Deir Abu Mash'al in the district of Ramallah opened fire on a group of children, killing 1 child and injuring another.
- **On 13 March**, 2 mass demonstrations against construction of the Wall, which included participation by international peace activists, took place in the town of Ni'lin and in the village of Bil'in in the district of Ramallah. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and the protestors during which the Israeli army injured 9 civilians, including 3 children, as well as an American peace activist.
- **On 16 March**, the Israeli army opened fire on a civilian vehicle south of the district of Hebron, injuring 2 civilians, one of which was placed in critical condition.
- **On 20 March**, 2 mass demonstrations against construction of the Wall, which included international peace activists, took places in the town of Ni'lin and in the village of Bil'in in the district of Ramallah. Confrontations took place between the Israeli army and protestors, during which the Israeli army injured 7 civilians and 2 American peace activists.
- **On 23 March**, Israeli navy boats opened fire on Palestinian fishing boats off of Sudaniya beach in the district of Northern Gaza, critically injuring a fisherman.

## SUMMARY TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY – MARCH 2009

EVENT	WEST BANK	GAZA STRIP	TOTAL	NOTES
<b>Assassination</b>	—	1	1	The Israeli air force carried out an extra-judicial killing of 1 armed Palestinian individual and injured 6 others as well as 5 civilian bystanders.
<b>Deaths</b>	2	10	12	Incl. 1 child and 4 armed Palestinian individuals. 3 civilians, including a female civilian, also died of injuries sustained earlier.
<b>Injuries</b>	82	32	114	Incl. 20 children; 6 female civilians; 2 journalists; 3 fishermen; and 3 international peace activists.
<b>Attacks</b>	121	101	222	The Israeli army carried out 36 attacks during raids into Palestinian residential compounds; 82 attacks during confrontations with Palestinians; and 33 attacks from Israeli army military posts on civilian houses and property. Israeli navy boats also opened fire on 31 occasions and Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints on 2 occasions. In addition to 34 air attacks launched by combat aircraft, Israeli combat helicopters opened machinegun fire towards Palestinian territory on 1 occasion. Israeli settlers also opened fire towards Palestinian civilians on 3 occasions.
<b>Raids</b>	976	9	985	23 in Jerusalem; 105 in Ramallah; 92 in Jenin; 57 in Tubas; 99 in Tulkarem; 96 in Qalqiliya; 112 in Nablus; 62 in Salfit; 15 in Jericho; 134 in Bethlehem; 181 in Hebron; 1 in Northern Gaza; 2 in Central Gaza; 4 in Khan Yunis; and 2 in Rafah.
<b>Arrests</b>	360	8	368	The Israeli army arrested 40 Palestinians in Jerusalem; 74 in Ramallah; 18 in Jenin; 5 in Tubas; 19 in Tulkarem; 25 in Qalqiliya; 65 in Nablus; 16 in Salfit; 8 in Jericho; 21 in Bethlehem; 69 in Hebron; and 8 in Rafah. Civilians arrested included 44 children; 4 female civilians; 1 mentally challenged civilian; 1 elderly civilian; 6 members of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC); and 16 Palestinian security officers.
<b>House Demolitions</b>	5	—	5	The Israeli army demolished 4 houses in the district of Jerusalem and 1 house in the district of Ramallah.
<b>Attacks on Public &amp; Private Property</b>	56	11	67	<b>Destruction of Property:</b> The Israeli army demolished barracks as well as destroyed house furniture; civilian vehicles; agricultural crops; and greenhouses. <b>Confiscation of Property:</b> The Israeli army confiscated files; personal computers; mobile telephones; 2 hunting rifles; 3 boxes of ammunition; 1 pistol; and 1 fishing boat.
<b>House Occupations</b>	31	—	31	In the districts of Ramallah (4); Qalqiliya (6); Nablus (1); Salfit (1); and Hebron (19).
<b>Curfews</b>	23	—	23	The Israeli army imposed curfew over residential areas in the districts of Jenin (1); Qalqiliya (10); Salfit (7); Jericho (2); Bethlehem (1); and Hebron (2).
<b>Closure of Crossing Points</b>	—	144	144	The Israeli army closed international crossing points (Rafah Crossing to Egypt and Yasser Arafat International Airport) on 54 occasions and crossing points to Israel on 90 occasions.
<b>Flying Checkpoints</b>	396	—	396	Jerusalem (68); Ramallah (28); Jenin (42); Tubas (8); Tulkarem (19); Qalqiliya (21); Nablus (20); Salfit (18); Jericho (11); Bethlehem (66); and Hebron (95).
<b>Attack on Religious Site</b>	1	—	1	The Israeli army surrounded 1 mosque and prevented worshippers from performing dawn prayers in the district of Ramallah.
<b>School Disruption</b>	7	—	7	In the district of Salfit, the Israeli army converted a school into an interrogation centre on several occasions. The Israeli army also occupied the roof of a school in the town of Ni'lin in the district of Ramallah; and raided a university, a college, and a school in the city of Jerusalem, as well as a school in the district of Salfit.
<b>Provocation of Palestinian Forces</b>	24	—	24	The Israeli army provoked Palestinian National Security forces (on 6 occasions); Presidential Guard (1); Police (10); General Intelligence (1); Preventive Security (3); Customs Police (2); and Civil Defence (1).
<b>Settlement Activity</b>	8	—	8	The Israeli army constructed settler bypass roads in the districts of Qalqiliya, Nablus, and Hebron; expanded a settlement in the district of Salfit as well as 2 checkpoints in the district of Jerusalem and Tulkarem; and installed a fence along a main road.
<b>Settler Violence</b>	57	—	57	Israeli settlers raided yards of the Al Aqsa Mosque compound; opened fire on civilians; beat 1 female child and other civilians; threw stones at civilians and vehicles; stole money and livestock; raided Palestinian residential locales; and cut down fruit-bearing trees. Israeli settler vehicles also ran over a female child and another civilian.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2149</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>2465</b>	

## COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EVENTS OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

EVENT	JAN. 2009	FEB. 2009	MAR. 2009	COMMENTS
<b>Assassinations</b>	—	1	1	The Israeli army continued its policy of extra-judicial killings of “wanted” Palestinian individuals this month.
<b>Deaths</b>	785	16	12	Death toll dropped by 25% compared to February and by 98.5% compared to January.
<b>Injuries</b>	3282	93	114	Rise of 22.6% compared to February, but a drop of 96.5% compared to January. In comparison with 11 children wounded in February and 18 in January, 20 children were injured in March.
<b>Attacks</b>	1743	238	222	Decrease in the number of attacks by 6.7% compared to February and by 87.3% compared to January.
<b>Raids</b>	931	860	985	Rise of 14.5% compared to February and 5.8% compared to January. 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 541 in March, compared to 402 in February and 394 in January.
<b>Arrests</b>	390	352	368	Increase of 4.6% compared to February, but a decrease of 5.6% compared to January. In comparison with 38 children arrested in February and 52 in January, 44 children were arrested this month.
<b>House Demolitions</b>	249	7	5	Drop of 28.6% compared to February and 98% compared to January.
<b>Attacks on Property</b>	468	90	67	Drop of 25.6% compared to February and 85.7% compared to January.
<b>House Occupations</b>	140	28	31	Rise of 10.7% compared to February, but a drop of 77.9% compared to January.
<b>Curfews</b>	26	20	23	Increase of 15% compared to February and 11.5% compared to January.
<b>Flying Checkpoints</b>	391	346	396	Rise of 14.5% compared to February and 1.3% compared to January.
<b>Complete Closure of Crossing Points</b>	140	124	144	Crossing points to Israel were closed on 90 occasions in March, compared to 81 in February and 109 in January. The Israeli army also closed both Rafah Crossing and Yasser Arafat International Airport for 54 days, including Rafah Crossing for 23 days completely. Yasser Arafat International Airport has remained closed since the outbreak of the second <i>Intifada</i> (Uprising) in 2000.
<b>Medical Obstruction</b>	8	—	—	As was the case last month, incidents of medical obstruction were not reported in March.
<b>Attacks on Religious Sites</b>	13	1	1	The same number as in February, but a drop of 93.3% compared to January.
<b>School Disruption</b>	7	6	7	Rise of 16.7% compared to February, but the same number as in January.
<b>Provocation of Palestinian Forces</b>	7	16	24	Despite efforts made by Palestinian security forces to control the security situation, the Israeli army has continued to prevent Palestinian security forces from carrying out assigned security duties. The Israeli army raided and set up checkpoints near Palestinian security offices and headquarters. The Israeli army also detained Palestinian security patrols, served summons to a number of Palestinian security officers to report to the Israeli Intelligence authorities, and arrested 16 others.
<b>Settlement Activity</b>	5	7	8	Rise of 14.3% compared to February and of 60% compared to January.
<b>Settler Violence</b>	27	30	57	Sharp increase of 90% compared to February and 111.1% compared to January.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8612</b>	<b>2235</b>	<b>2465</b>	<b>Total incidents rose by 10.3% compared to February due to the increase in injuries, arrests, raids into Palestinian residential compounds, flying checkpoints, as well as incidents of provocation of Palestinian security forces, closure of crossing points, and settler violence. In comparison to January, total events dropped by 71.4% due to the decreasing number of deaths, injuries, arrests, attacks, house demolitions and occupations, destruction and confiscation of property, and attacks on religious sites.</b>

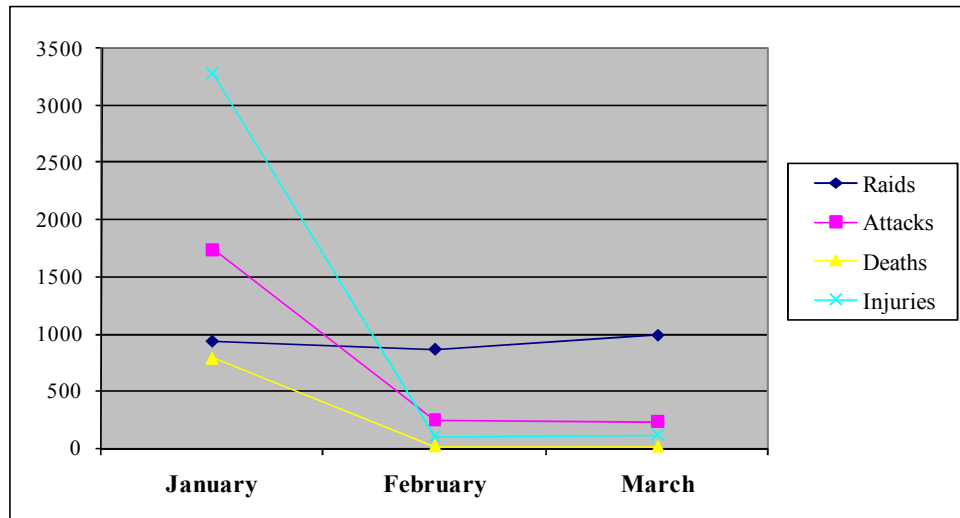
## PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2009

WEST BANK	NOTES
73	In the districts of Ramallah, Jenin, Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, Nablus, Jericho, Bethlehem, and Hebron, Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 11 Israeli settlers as well as 57 illegal vehicles. Palestinian security forces also detonated 1 explosive device, 1 suspicious object, and 3 bombs.

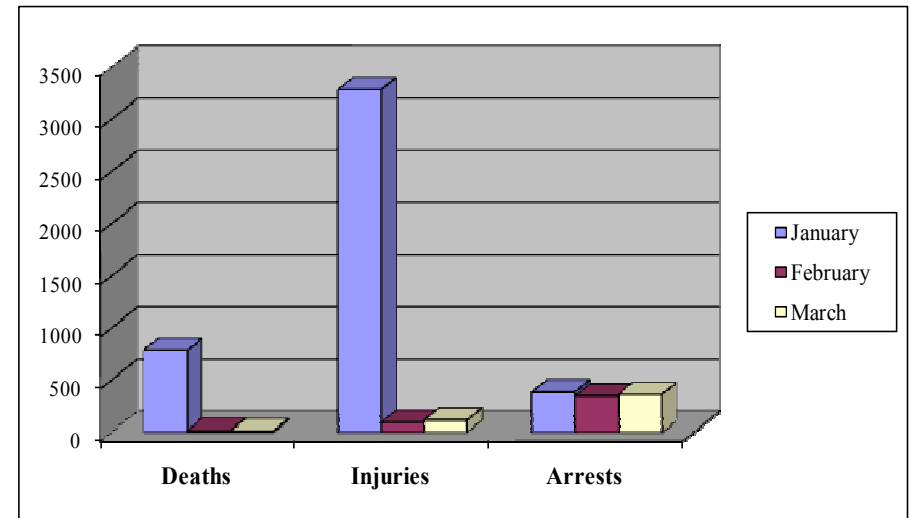
## PALESTINIAN SECURITY MEASURES OVER THE PAST THREE MONTHS

JAN. 2009	FEB. 2009	MAR. 2009	NOTES
41	8	73	In March, Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 11 Israeli settlers after they had entered PA-controlled territory (compared to 6 in February and 1 in January) and 57 illegal vehicles (1 in February and 35 in January). Palestinian security forces also detonated 5 explosive devices (1 in February and January each).

**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 March, an Israeli UAV fired 1 missile towards a vehicle transporting armed Palestinian individuals in Jabalya refugee camp in the district of Northern Gaza, resulting in the extra-judicial killing of 1 armed individual and injury of 6 others. The Israeli air attack also resulted in the injury of 5 civilian bystanders.

### 2. Deaths

During the month of March, the Israeli army killed **12 Palestinians**, including 2 in the West Bank and 10 in the Gaza Strip. Of these killings, 5 were civilians from the district of Northern Gaza. Deaths included 1 child, 1 female civilian, and 4 armed Palestinian individuals. Another 2 civilians died at Egyptian hospitals of serious injuries sustained during the Israeli offensive on the Gaza Strip.

### 3. Injuries

The total number of injuries reported during March was **114** (82 Palestinians in the West Bank and 32 in the Gaza Strip). The majority of injuries were reported to have been sustained in the districts of Ramallah, Rafah, Northern Gaza, and Bethlehem. Of those injured, 20 were children, including 2 wounded by Israeli settlers; 6 female civilians, including 1 by Israeli settlers; 2 journalists; 1 foreign press photographer; 3 fishermen; and 3 international peace activists.

### 4. Arrests

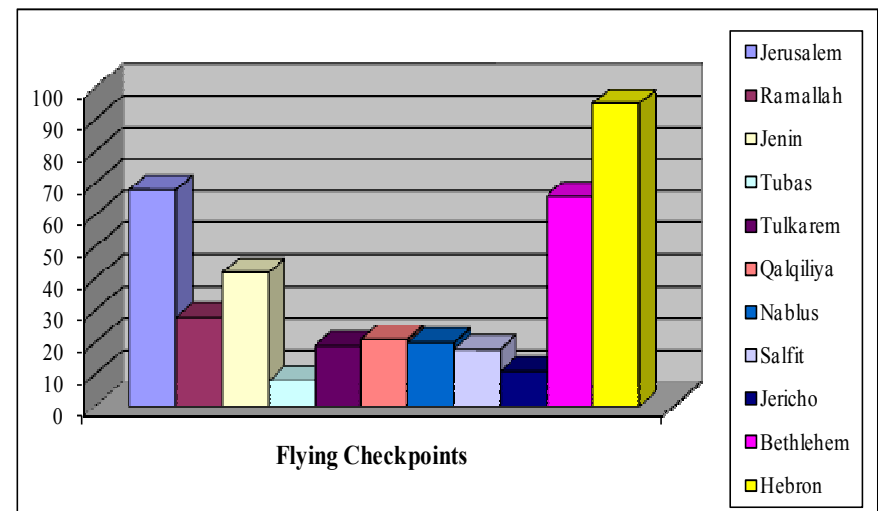
The Israeli army arrested **368** Palestinians in the month of March, including 360 civilians in the West Bank and 8 others in the Gaza Strip. Most arrests took place in the districts of Ramallah, Hebron, Nablus, Jerusalem, Qalqiliya, Bethlehem, and Tulkarem. Among these, the Israeli army arrested 44 children; 4 female civilians; 1 elderly civilian; 1 mentally challenged civilian; 7 university students; 6 PLC members; 4 fishermen; and 16 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, closing the entrances to the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the old city of Jerusalem, and preventing civilians from accessing the Mosque.

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

Further impeding civilian access, the Israeli army set up **396 flying checkpoints** in and around Palestinian residential locales throughout the West Bank during the month of March, compared to 346 flying checkpoints in February and 391 in January.



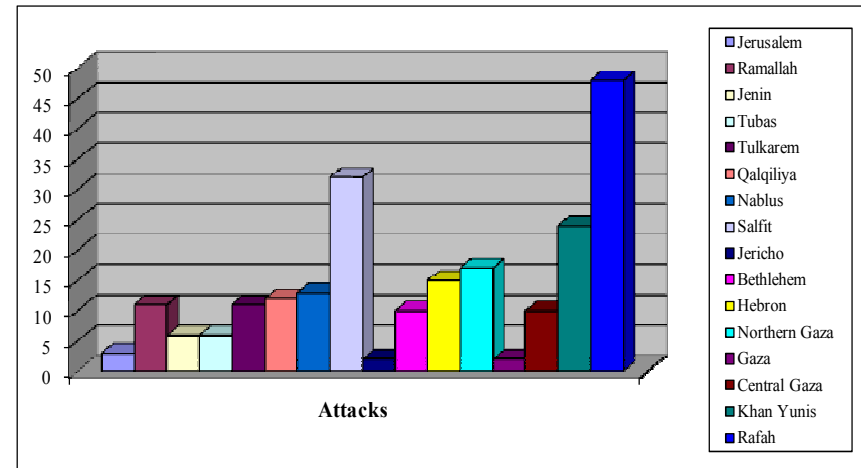
Additionally, the Israeli navy has continued to impose an intensified sea blockade on the coast of the Gaza Strip and to prevent Palestinian fishing boats from sailing. The Israeli army also opened fire on Palestinian fishing boat and confiscated 1 boat.

## 6. Attacks

A total of **222 attacks** were reported during the month of March, including **121 attacks** in the West Bank and **101** in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army carried out **36 attacks during raids** into Palestinian residential areas, **82 attacks during confrontations** between the Israeli army and Palestinians, and **33 attacks from Israeli army military posts** towards civilian houses and property. In addition, Israeli navy boats carried out **31 attacks** and Israeli troops positioned at checkpoints opened fire on Palestinian civilians on 2 occasions. The Israeli army air force also carried out **34 air attacks** on Palestinian territory in the Gaza Strip and **combat helicopters** opened machinegun fire on 1 occasion. Additionally, **Israeli settlers** opened fire on civilians on 3 occasions.

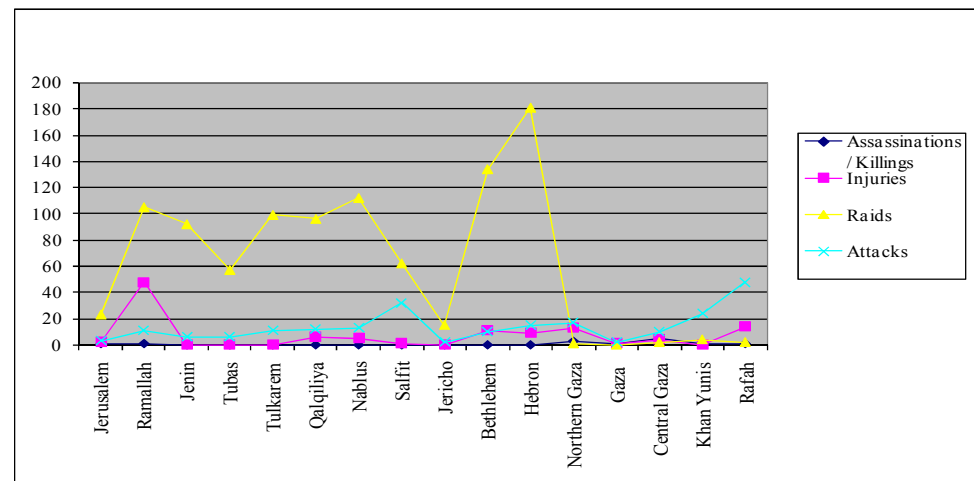
At 02:00 on 18 January 2009, the Israeli army declared a unilateral ceasefire following the large-scale offensive it had launched against the Gaza Strip. However, the Israeli army violated the ceasefire on **101 occasions** during the month of March (compared to 119 violations in February and 1,515 in January). Disregarding the Israeli declaration of a unilateral ceasefire, armed Palestinian groups fired **67 mortars** towards the Green Line (compared to 77 mortars fired in February and 536 in January). In addition, armed Palestinian individuals opened fire on an Israeli military jeep northeast of the town of Beit Hanun in the district of Northern Gaza.



## 7. Raids

The Israeli army carried out a total of **985 raids** into Palestinian residential locales during the month of March, including **976 in the West Bank** and **9 in the Gaza Strip**. The majority of Israeli army raids took place in the districts of Hebron, Bethlehem, Nablus, Ramallah, Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, and Jenin. The Israeli army **opened fire during 222 of the 985 raids**, which is approximately 22.5% of the total number of raids into Palestinian residential areas. Additionally, the Israeli army **imposed curfews 23 times over 8 residential compounds** in the West Bank during raids (compared to 20 times in February and 26 in January). The Israeli army also **occupied and converted into military posts 31 civilian houses and residential buildings**.

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



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 **541** of the 985 raids, approximately 54.9% of the total number of raids, into Palestinian Authority controlled territory in the West Bank.

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

Month \ Violations	Raids	Attacks	Killings	Injuries	Arrests	House Occupations	Provocation of Palestinian Forces	Total
March	375	32	—	5 (incl. a child and a civilian critically)	124 (incl. 17 children; 2 female civilians; an 80-year-old civilian; 3 PLC members; and 2 Palestinian security officers)	19	4	559
February	266	37	1 child	8 (incl. 2 children)	79 (incl. 12 children and 1 Palestinian security officer)	2	1	394
January	301	47	1	24 (incl. 4 children and 1 elderly civilian)	110 (incl. 17 children and 3 Palestinian security officers)	14	1	498

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

The Israeli army carried out **24** incidents of attacking and provoking Palestinian security forces and posts during the month of March.

#### **Types of Israeli Army Provocation against Palestinian Forces during the Month of March**

Type of Provocation		Notes
<b>Raids</b>	<b>3</b>	The Israeli army raided a Palestinian Police station in the district of Ramallah; surrounded the Palestinian Customs Police headquarters in the city of Ramallah; and took photographs of the northern gate of <i>Al Muqata'a</i> (complex of Palestinian security agencies) in the city of Tulkarem.
<b>Preventing Palestinian security forces from carrying out assigned security duties</b>	<b>3</b>	The Israeli army prevented Palestinian Civil Defence teams from rescuing civilians injured in a traffic accident in the district of Jerusalem. The Israeli army also demanded that security officers evacuate a Palestinian National Security checkpoint set up at the entrance to the city of Beit Sahur in the district of Bethlehem. In addition, Israeli troops pointed their weapons at a Palestinian National Security patrol in the city of Hebron.
<b>Reporting to the Israeli Intelligence agency</b>	<b>4</b>	In the districts of Ramallah, Tulkarem, and Bethlehem, the Israeli army served summons to 3 Palestinian security officers as well as to 1 Palestinian Police officer to report to the Israeli Intelligence agency.
<b>Taking position/setting up checkpoints near Palestinian security posts</b>	<b>5</b>	The Israeli army took position in front of the Palestinian National Security offices in the city of Qalqiliya. In the town of Dura in the district of Hebron, the Israeli army also took position near offices of the Palestinian National Security forces; Police, General Intelligence, and Preventive Security.
<b>Detaining Palestinian security officers and patrols</b>	<b>9</b>	The Israeli army detained a Palestinian Police vehicle in the district of Ramallah; detained security vehicles and interrogated officers in the district of Tulkarem; seized Police officers' ID cards and denied access to a Police vehicle in the district of Qalqiliya; and detained a Police vehicle at a checkpoint in the district of Nablus. The Israeli army also detained a Police vehicle and arrested a Police officer in the district of Salfit; a bus belonging to the Tourist Police in the district of Bethlehem; and a Police patrol in the district of Hebron. Despite previous coordination (through the DCO), the Israeli army denied access to 3 Palestinian Presidential Guard vehicles and a bus to the district of Jericho.

**Note: These statistics do not include the arrest of 16 Palestinian security officers.**



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

A total of **67 incidents** of destruction and confiscation of public and private property were reported over the month of March, including **56** in the West Bank and **11** in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army demolished makeshift houses belonging to Bedouins in the district of Jerusalem. The Israeli army also destroyed house furniture in the districts of Ramallah, Nablus, and Hebron. The Israeli army also destroyed the door of a commercial shop in the district of Hebron, a container in Gaza city, and greenhouses in the district of Rafah. The Israeli army also set fire to a civilian vehicle in the district of Ramallah; destroyed 3 other vehicles in the district of Northern Gaza; and damaged 1 vehicle in the district of Jenin as well as 4 other vehicles and 1 bus in the district of Qalqiliya. In addition, the Israeli army uprooted olive trees in the district of Qalqiliya, fruit-bearing trees in the old city of Hebron, and agricultural crops in the districts of Khan Yunis and Rafah. Furthermore, the Israeli army distributed notices for demolition of Bedouin makeshift houses in the district of Jerusalem; 2 houses in the city of Jerusalem; and houses and barracks in the district of Nablus. The Israeli army also distributed notices for the cessation of construction of 2 houses, 1 stone quarry, 8 water cisterns, and 5 irrigation pools in the district of Hebron.

The Israeli army also confiscated printed material, files, and 1 laptop belonging to the Preparatory Committee for the Celebration of Jerusalem as the Capital of Arab Culture in the city of Jerusalem. Additionally, the Israeli army seized personal computers in the districts of Ramallah, Jenin, Tulkarem, Nablus, Bethlehem, and Hebron; cellular telephones in the city of Jenin, Jenin refugee camp, the town of ‘Aqqaba in the district of Tubas, and the city of Hebron; contents of a commercial shop selling detergents in the district of Jenin; 2 hunting rifles as well as 3 boxes of ammunition in the city of Jericho; a Palestinian Police officer’s pistol in the district of Bethlehem; and 1 fishing boat at sea opposite the beach of the city of Rafah.

## **10. Settlement Activity**

A total of **8 incidents of settlement activity** were reported to have taken place in the West Bank during the month of March.

<b>TYPE OF ACTIVITY</b>	<b>Construction of settlements/settlement outposts</b>	<b>Construction of settler bypass roads</b>	<b>Land confiscation for military purposes</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>DISTRICT</b>				
<b>Jerusalem</b>			30 <i>dunums</i> (7.413 acres) of land for expansion of the checkpoint set up near Shu’fat refugee camp.	1
<b>Tulkarem</b>			Land levelled in the area surrounding ‘Einav checkpoint for expansion.	1
<b>Nablus</b>		A settler bypass road connecting the settlement of Shavei Shomron to the Nablus-Tulkarem main road.		1
<b>Salfit</b>	Land levelled for expansion of the settlement of Barkan.		A fence erected along the Qalqiliya-Nablus main road.	2
<b>Qalqiliya</b>	Olive groves in the village of Kafr Qaddum near the settlement of Kedumim levelled.	A settler bypass road connecting the settlement outpost of Gilead in the village of Jit to a nearby settler bypass road.		2
<b>Hebron</b>		A settler bypass road on land belonging to the village of Um al Kheir in the area surrounding the settlement of Karmi’el.		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>

## **11. Settler Violence**

Over the month of March, Israeli settlers carried out **57 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 14-year-old female child in the district of Hebron as well as a civilian in the district of Qalqiliya. In addition, Israeli settlers opened fire on school pupils and a civilian in the district of Nablus. In the district of Jericho, Israeli settlers also raided a house, damaged its furniture, opened fire on a number of civilians, and attempted to assault a female school teacher and to abduct another. Furthermore, Israeli settlers severely beat a civilian in the city of Jerusalem, civilians in the district of Ramallah, 4 civilians in the district of Jenin, 1 civilian in the district of Nablus, and several others in the district of Hebron. Israeli settlers also stole money and 1 cellular telephone in the district of Jenin; threw stones at civilian vehicles in the districts of Jenin and Qalqiliya; broke windshields of a civilian vehicle and a bus along the Qalqiliya-Nablus main road; gained access into an evacuated settlement in the district of Jenin; raided a village in the district of Qalqiliya; raided and erected a tent in a Palestinian residential locale; and accessed an area surrounding a mosque, the vicinity of a petrol station, and a public park in the district of Nablus. Israeli settlers installed caravans in the district of Salfit; raided an evacuated military post in the district of Bethlehem; levelled a piece of land as well as dropped rocks in a water spring in the district of Jericho; discharged wastewater from a settlement onto agricultural land in the district of Jenin; and stole livestock in the district of Jericho.

In the **old city of Hebron**, which is under full Israeli security control, Israeli settlers threw stones at a number of civilians and houses, injuring 1 female civilian. Israeli settlers also cut down fruit-bearing trees as well as threw stones and empty bottles at a Palestinian Police station, breaking glass windows.

## **12. School Disruption**

During the month of March, the Israeli army carried out **7 incidents of school disruption** in the West Bank. On several occasions, the Israeli army converted a school into an interrogation centre in the village of Haris in the district of Salfit. The Israeli army also occupied and converted into a military post the roof of a school in the town of Ni'lin in the district of Ramallah and raided the buildings housing Al Quds Open University, Al Ibrahimiya College, and Al Mutran School in the city of Jerusalem, as well as a mixed school in the village of Haris in the district of Salfit.

## **13. Attack on Religious Sites**

The Israeli army carried out **1 attack on a religious site** this month. The Israeli army surrounded a mosque and prevented worshippers from performing dawn prayers in the city 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 **144** occasions over the month of March. The Israeli army closed crossing points into the Green Line on **90** occasions, including ***Beit Hanun (Erez) Crossing*** and ***Sufa Crossing*** throughout the month (31 days each). Meanwhile the Israeli army opened ***Ash Shuja'iyah (Nahal 'Oz) Crossing*** for 23 days for transportation of limited quantities of fuel; ***Al Muntar (Karni) Commercial Crossing*** for 15 days for transportation of food supplies; and ***Karm Abu Salem (Karem Shalom) Crossing*** for 27 days for transportation of food supplies and humanitarian aid. Additionally, the Israeli army closed international crossing points on **54** occasions. ***Rafah Crossing*** was open for **8** days to injured and ill civilians who had received medical treatment at Egyptian hospitals, civilians stranded on the Egyptian border, and international peace activists. Access for trucks transporting medicine and medical equipment was also allowed. In addition, some Palestinian civilians in need of medical attention, a delegation of businesspeople, and 12 international peace activists departed the Gaza Strip through Rafah Crossing. ***Yasser Arafat International Airport*** (closed throughout 31 days) has remained closed since the outbreak of the second *Intifada* (Uprising).

## **16. Palestinian Security Measures**

During the month of March, Palestinian security forces carried out **73 security measures** in the West Bank districts of Ramallah, Jenin, Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, Nablus, Jericho, Bethlehem, and Hebron. Palestinian security forces handed over to the Israeli authorities (through the DCO) 11 Israeli settlers and 57 illegal vehicles. Palestinian security forces also detonated 1 explosive device, 1 suspicious object, and 3 bombs.