

Palestine Chronology

1991 - 1993

1991

Jan. 1: Israeli Labor Party doves propose initiative calling for unconditional withdrawal of Israel from Gaza Strip within 2 years after approval of plan. Gaza would be handed over to UN or local government.

Jan. 8: Israel deports to Lebanon 4 Palestinians from Gaza Strip less than 24 hours after they dropped appeals to Supreme Court.

Jan. 11: Arab-Americans object to FBI policy of questioning business and community leaders of Arab descent.

Jan. 15: PLO's second-ranking official, Abu Iyad (Salah Khalaf) is assassinated in Tunis; Abu al-Hol (Hayel Abdel Hamid) and Fakhri al-Omari are also killed.

Jan. 17: War in the Gulf as US launches "Operation Desert Storm".

- Israel places West Bank incl. East Jerusalem and Gaza Strip under curfew.

Jan. 19: 4 Iraqi SCUD missiles land in Israel, wounding 15.

Jan. 23: Chancellor Helmut Kohl announces Germany is sending Israel \$165 million in "immediate humanitarian aid" after Iraqi missile attacks, and that more money would be sent to support Gulf allies.

Jan. 29: Chancellor Helmut Kohl pledges additional \$5.5 billion to war effort, and orders German anti-aircraft missile systems to Turkey.

Feb. 4: PM Shamir vows that Israel will never take part in international conference on the Middle East, denounces PLO.

Feb. 10: Israeli military announces that it has arrested 350 Palestinian activists in broad crackdown on Hamas.

Feb. 11: Germany delivers to Israel check for \$3.3 million to help repair missile damage to Tel Aviv.

Feb. 17: Red Cross Pres. says blanket curfew in effect in OPT since Jan. 17th has created serious problems.

Feb. 20: US releases \$400 million loan guarantee to Israel for housing for Soviet Jewish immigrants.

March 3: PLO leadership meets in Tunis and calls for urgent measures to halt attacks and arrests of Palestinians in Kuwait.

March 6: In speech before joint session of Congress, Pres. Bush outlines 4 goals for US policy in Middle East: Gulf security, regional arms control, economic development, and Arab-Israeli peace, specifically mentioning "land for peace".

March 7: UN Sec.-Gen., Perez de Cuellar, selects Switzerland's ambassador to Washington, Edouard Brunner, as special Middle East envoy to begin new high-priority search for solution to Arab-Israeli conflict.

- 12 Palestinian delegation meets in Jerusalem with visiting EC "Troika" representatives.

March 10: Yasser Abd Rabbo, member of the PLO executive committee, says PLO has authorized Palestinian figures in the OPT to meet with US Sec. of State Baker during his visit to Jerusalem.

March 12: In Jerusalem, US Sec. of State Baker holds separate meetings with PM Shamir and group of 10 Palestinians, led by Faisal Hussein.

- Syria announces it has freed all Palestinians held in its jails. Beirut Radio says 302 prisoners were released. PLO reports that more than 4,000 Palestinians are in Syrian jails.

March 13: Palestinian human rights workers and community leaders say more than 100 Palestinians have disappeared in the 2 weeks since allied forces recovered Kuwait; PLO says over 3,500 Palestinians have been detained at check points.

March 15: Israeli authorities in West Jerusalem plan to build, with approval of Religious Affairs Min. and Israeli government, a Jewish cemetery in the Occupied West Bank. The plan violates international rules governing use of OPT, and reflects attempt to make irreversible Israel's hold on West Bank.

- Israel reimposes ban on Palestinian entry into Jerusalem.

March 17: US Sec. of State Baker says Arabs and Israelis must move simultaneously to adopt "confidence-building measures" because neither side can be expected to make the initial concession.

- Tel Aviv district court sentences cashiered soldier Ami Popper to 7 consecutive life sentences plus 20

years in prison for the shooting to death of 7 Palestinians in Iyun Qarah (Rishon LeZion) on May 20, 1990.

March 18: PM Shamir says the 10 Palestinians who met with Mr. Baker during his recent trip to Jerusalem are unacceptable negotiating partners for Israel: "They came in the name of the PLO. Israel will absolutely not negotiate with the PLO".

March 19: Israeli and US officials reject reported offer by Arafat to participate in direct talks with Israel: Arafat is quoted making his offer in the Paris newspaper "Le Figaro".

March 21: US State Department reports to Congress that Soviet Jewish immigrants are settling in the OPT at higher rate than Israeli government claims; report adds Jewish population in OPT is growing by as much as 10% annually.

- King Hussein says that Jordan would not agree to substitute for PLO in any negotiations, but if PLO asked him to be part of joint delegation, he would consider doing so (NBC TV).

March 26: Pres. Arafat offers peace plan; says that the PLO would accept UN buffer zone on Palestinian side of border between Israel and future Palestinian state (Toronto Star).

March 27: Israeli group Peace Now publishes study asserting that government has budgeted more than \$500 million during current fiscal year on settlements in OPT and related expenses.

March 29: Pres. Arafat says that, faced with a drop of more than 80% in funding after Gulf War, PLO has been forced to close diplomatic missions, shut down newspapers and lay off workers.

March 31: Israeli government imposes new restriction on Palestinians, forbidding workers to drive their own cars into Israel; government also pledges to accelerate deportations of activists and affirms policy of house demolitions.

April 1: Lt. Gen. Ehud Baraq assumes position of Israeli chief of staff, replacing Lt. Gen. Dan Shomron.

- B'Tselem, Israeli human rights group, reports that on March 5 Israeli security forces killed 8 Palestinians in West Bank and 3 in Gaza Strip.

April 3: Jewish Agency head Simcha Dinitz reports Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel numbered almost 15,000 during March and were expected to reach 25,000 during April.

April 8: Israeli Army Col. Yehuda Meir is convicted of ordering his soldiers to break the bones of Palestinians during early days of Intifada.

April 9: US Sec. of State Baker meets with delegation of 6 Palestinians from the OPT.

April 10: Israel releases 240 Palestinian prisoners.

April 12: Syria and Jordan tell Sec. Baker that they would be willing to attend regional peace conference, but differences still remain on agenda and timing.

April 16: US calls new Jewish settlement of Revava "an obstacle" and questions Israel's timing, with Sec. Baker due to arrive on April 18th.

April 23: PLO Central Council ends 3-days meeting in Tunis and calls for international peace conference that includes PLO.

April 28: Yasir Abd Rabbo, PLO information chief who headed PLO delegation to Moscow meeting, tells media "the Soviet Union believes the peace process cannot take off without the participation of PLO".

May 6: Speaking at a joint press conference, Mitterand and Gorbachev express support for international peace conference and Palestinian statehood.

May 11: Pres. Arafat criticizes US Middle East peace efforts, says US is trying to ignore Jerusalem issue.

May 15: Arab League Foreign Minister's Conference in Cairo elects Egyptians Foreign Min. Ismat Abd al-Magid as Sec.-Gen.

June 4: Israeli Foreign Min. David Levy announces France has pledged \$500 million in loan guarantees to build housing to immigrants to Israel.

June 5: Israeli PM states sovereignty of OPT is subject to negotiations, despite past statements ruling out such talks.

June 17: Likud spokesman announces party's new constitution will delete former reference to Jewish "rights" in Jordan.

July 9: US, Britain, France, USSR, China agree to control flow of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons to Middle East, exercise "restraint" in sales of conventional weapons to region.

July 14: Pres. Asad of Syria, agrees to attend Middle East peace conference in letter answering Pres. Bush June 1st letter to him urging flexibility in Syria's position towards Middle East peace talks.

July 16: Khalid al-Hassan, Fateh central committee member urges formation of provisional government comprised of Palestinian independents.

July 18: Israeli judge Ezra Kama issues report stating Israeli police provoked Oct. 1990 violence at East

Jerusalem's Haram al-Sharif which left at least 17 Palestinian dead, over 100 wounded, as well as 28 policemen injured.

July 20: King Fahd endorses Pres. Mubarak's call for suspension of Arab league boycott against Israel in return for halt to Israeli settlement - building in OPT.

- Lebanon announces its willingness to participate in peace conference under Pres. Bush's terms of May 1990.

July 21: Sec. of State James Baker meets with Palestinian delegation in East Jerusalem concerning formation of joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to peace talks.

- Sec. of State Baker reaffirmed US belief that East Jerusalem is part of OPT, and that Palestinians alone have right to choose their own representatives.

- Pres. Bush calls on Israel to curb settlement building, urges Israel to accept Arab offer to end economic boycott in return for settlement freeze. 7 Arab countries have now agreed to such linkage.

- In interview with Egyptian press, British PM John Major calls Israeli settlements "illegal" "damaging" to peace process, incl. those in East Jerusalem.

July 22: Jordanian parliament issues statement condemning US lead Diplomatic effort, rejecting end to Arab boycott of Israeli in return for halt of Israel settlement-building.

July 25: French Foreign Min. Roland Dumas, calls on Israel to accept East Jerusalem Palestinians as part of Palestinian delegation to peace conference.

July 29: Israeli troops kill Nabil Hammad near Ramallah, the 1000 Palestinian killed by Israeli security forces or settlers since beginning of Intifada.

July 31: US Pres. Bush and Soviet Pres. Gorbachev issue joint statement on Middle East peace conference in Moscow, indicating US and USSR will sponsor conference in October.

Aug. 2: Sec. of State Baker meets with Palestinian delegation in Jerusalem; urges Palestinian compromise, positive response to peace initiative.

Aug. 6: In statement to US press, King Hussein states not every city in OPT need be represented at Peace conference, in reference to PLO insistence that East Jerusalem Palestinians be allowed to participate in Peace Conference.

Aug. 7: On Jordanian TV, King Hussein rules out return to East Bank-West Bank Unity which reigned from 1950-88. Declares he never believed in it, felt it was the "wrong approach."

Aug. 8: Egyptian Pres. Mubarak asserts PLO must be involved in peace conference, issue of Jerusalem cannot be excluded from agenda.

Aug. 9: US officials incl. Dan Kurtzer, Aaron Miller and Edmond Hall meet with Faisal Husseini, Hanan Ashrawi to discuss text of US-Palestinian "memorandum of understanding".

Aug. 18: Special Palestinian committee meeting in London drafted a memorandum included 28 confidence - building measures it will forward to the Israeli government through the US.

Aug. 26: Palestinian human rights group Al-Haq issues report on increased Jewish settlement in OPT places number of settlers in OPT at 104,000 along with 127,700 in East Jerusalem.

Aug. 28: Pres. Arafat agrees to Palestinian participation in peace conference in 4 conditions are met: recognition of Palestinian right to self-determination; PLO must determine Palestinian participation in conference; Palestinian from East Jerusalem must be allowed to participate and question of Jerusalem must not be deleted from conference agenda; Israeli settlement activity in OPT be halted and International protection extended to Palestinians.

Sept. 6: Pres. Bush asks Congress to delay considering Israeli loan guarantee request for 120 days.

Sept. 16: Palestinians are given a letter from US Sec. of State Baker stating US will agree to listing question of Jerusalem on agenda of peace conference.

Sept. 18: PNC speaker Sheikh Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih states Israel has rejected a UN request to allow PNC delegates living in OPT permission to travel to Algiers to attend PNC meeting.

Sept. 23: PNC meet in Algiers, approves expansion of PLO executive committee from 15 to 18 members. -PFLP Gen.Sec. George Habash and Nayef Hawatmeh, lead attack on conditions of participation in peace conference at PNC.

Sept. 26: Israeli army announces arrest of 463 PFLP activist over the past several weeks. It is the largest campaign of arrests ever mounted against PFLP.

Sept. 27: PNC authorizes PLO executive committee to "continue its current efforts to achieve the best conditions that can ensure success for the peace process in accordance with PNC resolutions."

Sept. 28: PNC outlined PLO conditions for Palestinian participation in peace talks, incl. PLO's right to appoint delegates.

- PNC accepts resignation of Muhammad Abbas (Abu al-Abas) from the PLO executive committee.

Sept. 30: US State Dept. indicates US is not considering renewing US-PLO dialogue broken off in June 90 despite resignation of PLF leader Abu al Abas.

Oct. 1: Israeli transport Min. Moshe Katzav announces plans to improve road system of East Jerusalem, incl. building of a beltway around the city.

Oct. 2: US Senate formally agree to Pre. Bush's request for 120-day postponement in considering Israel's request for \$10 billion in US loan guarantees.

Oct. 5: King Hussein meets with PLO delegation to discuss formation of joint delegation to peace conference.

- Jordan had previously indicated it would accept. PLO appointment of Palestinians to the joint delegation and that Palestinians could address their own issues of peace conference.

Oct. 8: The Israeli New Communist list (Raqah) has been receiving a \$600,000 per annum subsidy from the Soviet KGB, according to a report by the Russian weekly Rossiya.

Oct. 9: Hundreds of Jewish settlers invade Silwan, on outskirts of East Jerusalem, and occupy 8 Palestinian homes.

Oct. 10: Palestinian negotiators Faisal Hussein, Hanan Ashrawi, Zakariya al-Agha, Sari Nusseibeh meet Sec. of State Baker in Washington to discuss Palestinian participation in proposed peace conference.

Oct. 16: Syrian FM Faruq al-Sharaa confirms Syria will attend peace conference.

Oct. 16: Palestinians disagree over Israeli demand that a Palestinian delegation must not include Palestinians from East Jerusalem, a demand which Sec. of State Baker has urged Palestinian negotiators to accede to in order that the Palestinians not be left out the peace process.

Oct. 18: In Jerusalem, Sec. of State Baker and Soviet FM Boris Pankin jointly announce that their governments have extended invitations to attend a Middle East peace conference to be held 30 Oct. in Madrid.

Oct. 19: Chairman Arafat meets Pres. Asad in Damascus, the first time the two bitter rivals have met since 1983.

- Palestinian leader Faisal Hussein submits list of 14 Palestinian delegates to peace conference to US consul in Jerusalem.

- International Conference in support of the Islamic Revolution in Palestine opens in Tehran with 800 delegates from 60 countries in attendance.

Oct. 23: Members of the Jewish Ateret Cohanim Seminary move into a house in the Muslim quarter of East Jerusalem.

- Human rights organization Middle East Watch issues report on condition of 18,000-20,000 stateless Palestinians in Kuwait.

Oct. 24: Israel re-opens its embassy in Moscow, closed since the USSR broke diplomatic relations with Israel in 1967.

Oct. 30: Middle East peace conference opens in Madrid with delegations from Israel, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, and the joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation present.

Nov. 3: Face-to-face bilateral talks between Israeli, joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation begin in Madrid.

Nov. 5: 5 Palestinian are injured when violent confrontation break out between Palestinians, Israeli security forces in Jenin following assassination of Fateh activist Mahdi Abu al Hassan by Israeli undercover agents.

Nov. 6: At Damascus press conference, PFLP leader, George Habash states PFLP has suspended its membership in PLO executive committee due to its opposition to peace conference.

Nov. 10: Palestinians established the "political committees" through OPT to advise Palestinian delegates.

Nov. 18: Islamic Jihad releases British hostage Terry Waite and American hostage Thomas Sutherland in Beirut.

- Israeli police and border guards raid offices of Islamic court in East Jerusalem, reportedly seizing hundreds of documents in search of "subversive" literature. Documents include court records documenting Palestinian land and property rights.

Nov. 20: EC announces appointment of its first representative to OPT.

Nov. 25: Israeli attorney general notifies Israeli supreme court that Jewish settlers still occupying 8 Palestinian homes in Silwan should be evicted.

Nov. 26: US declares state Dept. will not issue visas to PLO officials to travel to Washington during peace talks.

Dec. 2: American hostage Joseph Cicippio released in Beirut by Revolutionary Justice Organization.

Dec. 3: American hostage Alan Steen released in Beirut.

Dec. 4: US state Dept. criticizes establishment of new Israeli settlement in the West Bank.

- Undercover Israeli agents kill resident of Zawiya, West Bank, after entering village looking for another man.
- Islamic Jihad release Terry Anderson, last and longest - held American hostage in Lebanon.

Dec. 9: Israel imposes curfew on 800,000 Palestinians in OPT on the 4th anniversary of Intifada.

Dec. 11: UNRWA announces European Commission will donate \$16.7 million to build 232 bed hospital in Gaza, to open in 1994.

- At Islamic Conference in Dakkar, Senegal, for the first time in years, call for jihad against Israel is omitted from resolution.

Dec. 12: Palestinian, Israeli delegates continue meeting in corridor at State Dept.

Dec. 13: Israeli Police evict settlers from one of the homes they occupy in Silwan following Jerusalem court ruling.

Dec. 14: Settlers in Kiryat Arba create self defence patrols to chase Palestinians suspects after attacks on Jewish targets.

Dec. 15: Israel bans Palestinians from approaching within 150 meters of roads lying outside towns and villages at night.

Dec. 16: Israel, EC sign agreement by which Israel will receive 7-year, \$205 mill. loan. Israel will receive a further \$36 mill. in interest subsidies.

Dec. 20: Some 3,000 Israeli Palestinians demonstrate against occupation of 6 homes in Silwan.

Dec. 23: Chinese vice FM arrives in Israel, most senior Chinese official to visit Israel to date.

Dec. 25: Israel, Zambia renew diplomatic ties broken since 1973.

1992

Jan. 1: Israeli CBS states Soviet Jewish immigration has pushed Israeli's population above 5 million for first time.

- Israeli Knesset approves \$46.5 billion budget for 1992 which includes funds to build 5,500 new homes in OPT, build roads and provide other services to settlers.
- Occupation authorities forbid activity of Gaza political committee.

Jan. 3: Palestinian negotiators state they have suspended plans to travel to Washington for third round of talks, scheduled to resume on the 7th, in wake of Israeli decision to deport 12 Palestinians from OPT.

Jan. 6: UN Sec. Council unanimously condemns planned Israeli deportation of 12 Palestinians.

Jan. 13: Heads of Israeli, Palestinian, Jordanian delegations in Washington agree on a "two track" approach by which separate Israeli-Jordanian, Israeli-Palestinian talks would be held on condition that 2 Palestinians be present with the Jordanian team and 2 Jordanians with the Palestinian team.

Jan. 14: Leaders of the 9 main Christian churches in Jerusalem call on Israel to protect Christian archaeological sites in the city, threaten to seek international protection failing Israeli action.

Jan. 15: Palestinian delegation presents PLO-approved "Palestinian Authority Plan" to Israeli team in Washington.

Jan. 21: In first visit of Jewish group to Saudi Arabia, 7 American Jewish leaders meet with Saudi Foreign Min. Prince Soud El Faisal in Riyadh. Reports said Saudi Arabia recognizes Israel's right to exist.

Jan. 23: Israel, China establish diplomatic relations.

Jan. 26: PLO issues statement authorizing participation in multilateral talks in Moscow but only if Palestinians from East Jerusalem, diaspora are included in delegation.

- 7-hour battle near Bayt Zayf, inside "Security Zone", leaves 1 IDF soldier, 2 Islamic Resistance Movement fighters dead. Israel, afterwards shells numerous villages in South Lebanon.

Jan. 28: Multilateral peace talks opened on the Foreign Min. level in Moscow.

Jan. 29: India, Israel announce establishment of diplomatic relations.

- Israeli mayor of Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, suggests Jerusalem could be divided into boroughs to accommodate Palestinian desire for increased self-rule. Kollek stresses that such a plan would not provide for full autonomy.

Feb. 6: Sec. of State Baker tells Congress that US will not comply with Israeli requests for aid if it feels

the aid would be used to further policies the US opposes.

Feb. 7: Israel PM Shamir states that Israel is "not obligated to every word" of 1979 Camp David Accords.

Feb. 9: Israeli Settlers move into Palestinian house in via Dolorosa in East Jerusalem.

Feb. 13: Israel Police Min. announces first Jewish civil guard unit in OPT will be formed in Ma'ale Adumim settlement.

- Israel Interior Min. expands area of Jerusalem municipality by annexing some 15,000 dunums [approx. 3,750 acres] of land south and west of the city.

Feb. 19: Yitzhak Rabin elected head of Labor party, defeating incumbent Shimon Peres.

Feb. 24: Addressing the House Foreign Operations sub committee, Sec. of State Baker states US will not provide loan guarantees to Israel unless it ceases settlement activity, noting that "the choice is Israel's".

Feb. 25: Israeli delegation presents proposal on Palestinian self-government to Palestinian delegates whereby residents of OPT would be allowed to manage their own affairs in 12 fields, such as education, health, taxation and agriculture.

Feb. 27: Palestinian delegation rejects Israeli plan for self-government in OPT.

March 1: Yitzhak Rabin, the newly elected leader of labor party promises that if elected PM in June, he will reach agreement with Palestinian on autonomy in OPT within "6 to 9 months" after election.

March 3: Palestinian negotiators present plan for holding election in OPT by Oct. 29, 1992 to elect 180-seat parliament to guide the territories during period of interim self-rule. Plan also proposes creating a Palestinian executive and judiciary. Israel rejects the plan.

March 9: Former PM Menahem Begin dies in Tel Aviv.

- Nayef Hawatmeh, head of one faction of DFLP, states in interview published in German press that he favors opening an "immediate dialogue" with Yitzhak Rabin and the Labor party.

March 14: 117 PNC members deliver memorandum to PLO leadership expressing reservation over course of peace negotiations, incl. PFLP leader George Habash and Fatah leader Hani Hassan. Documents call for halt in settlement activity.

March 16: Palestinian peace delegation head Abd-al-Shafi states no consensus currently exists among Palestinians regarding Jordanian-Palestinian confederation.

March 17: Pres. Bush rejects Senate compromise plan on loan guarantees to Israel; pushes for an outright freeze on settlement activity.

March 31: Israel imposes military closure on the OPT erecting checkpoints, denying Palestinians entrance to Israel, access to Jerusalem and free movement between the southern and northern part of the West Bank. Deprives thousands of workers of reaching their working places, thus their income, as well as of medical, educational and economic services.

April 2: UNLU issues proclamation no. 81: urges unity of Palestinian ranks and calls for "revival" of Jerusalem's Old City.

April 6: After discussing with Jerusalem mayor Kollek, Housing Min. Sharon confirms government in buying land and plans to build homes for Jews in several East Jerusalem, incl. Muslim Quarter, Silwan, Wadi Joz and Mt. of Olives.

April 7: Arafat's plane crashes in a desert sandstorm near al-Sarra in South Libya. 3 crewmen die; Arafat, 9 others survive.

April 9: Israeli undercover unit shoots and kills 2 Palestinians, one in Tulkarm, the second in Rafah.

April 21: First Israel-Gaza water pipe is opened in refugee camps in central Gaza.

April 27: 5th round of Arab-Israeli peace talks open in Washington. Israel proposes agreement for municipal elections in selected OPT localities. Palestinian spokeswoman Ashrawi criticizes the proposal to hold "test" municipal elections in OPT.

April 29: Palestinian delegation present a proposal for elections for a Palestinian legislative assembly. Delegates demands abolition of military decrees no. 2 (which granted IDF power to issue laws in OPT); no. 92 (concerning Israel's control over water in OPT); no. 291 (which prohibited registration of land in West Bank). Delegation demands Palestinians be given access to public records such as land and population records.

May 5: Following reports that Saudi King Fahd will pay for repairs to Islamic sites in East Jerusalem, Jordan cabinet announces Jordan will pay for repairing Dome of the Rock.

May 10: King Hussein announces he will personally donate \$8.25 million to restore Al-Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock mosque in East Jerusalem.

May 12: State Dept. says US supports UN Gen. Assembly Res. 194, passed 11 Dec. 1948, which upholds right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes.

May 13: Responding to US statement on Palestinian refugees rights, Israel PM Shamir states "There is only a Jewish `right of return' to the land of `Israel'".

June 8: Acting PLO security head Atif Basaysu assassinated by gunmen in Paris. Basaysu assumed security function left by Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) following his assassination in Jan. 1991.

June 14: Former Soviet Pres. Gorbachev arrives in Israel, meets with PM Shamir. Does not meet with Palestinians.

June 18: Palestinian delegation held first public meeting with PLO chairman Arafat in Amman.

June 28: British construction company Mivan is awarded 4.84 million Jordanian dinar contract to restore Dome of the Rock.

July 8: EC grants about \$35 million for Palestinian housing projects in OPT.

July 9: Labor head Yitzhak Rabin forms governing coalition with Meretz and SHAS parties, for a total of 62 seats in Knesset.

- Amnesty International releases report criticising Israel's holding of 2,000 Palestinians in "administrative detention" without charge or trial and its "unjustifiable" killing of 90 Palestinians.

July 15: Israeli soldiers surrounded an-Najah University in Nablus. Some 3,000-4,000 students barricade themselves inside the campus, refuse to submit to body search. Israeli army official say armed activists entered the University.

- PM Rabin "rules out" Palestinian legislative elections as outlined in Camp David Accords.

July 17: Stand off at an-Najah University, Nablus, ends with peaceful compromise. Army lifts 4-day encirclement of campus and curfew on city, 6 Palestinian men agree to give up weapons, accept 3-year expulsion to Jordan.

July 23: On Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem, an "unlicensed" Greek Orthodox church is demolished. 2 Palestinian homes were demolished in East Jerusalem on the same grounds.

Aug. 9: Deputy Foreign Min. Yossi Beilin announces that Rabin government will ask the Knesset in Oct. to legalize meeting with the PLO.

Aug. 12: Settlements in occupied outskirts of Jerusalem - Ma'ale Adumim, Giv'at Ze'ev, Etzion Bloc, Efrat, Betar, Kfar Adumim, and Adam - organize "Greater Jerusalem" forum to safeguard their interests, encourage government to annex greater Jerusalem area to Israel.

Aug. 14: Mayor of Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, says Palestinians from East Jerusalem should be allowed to participate in the peace talks, and should be given the right to vote for the Palestinian "autonomy council."

Aug. 25: Israel presents new plan for interim self-government arrangements incl. elections for an administrative council with responsibility for a number of areas; foreign policy and defence would remain under Israeli control.

Sept. 1: Palestinian delegation presents Israeli delegation with 10-point framework for Palestinian self-rule, as well as a draft agenda for the talks and a request to immediately form a working group on human rights.

Sept. 2: Jerusalem policy planning unit issues report on potential building in Jerusalem. 39,880 units in Jewish neighborhoods, 15,260 in "non-Jewish" neighborhoods.

Sept. 10: MK Dedi Zucker, head of the Knesset legal commission, issues report to Justice and Finance Ministries detailing illegal East Jerusalem settler activities.

Sept. 19: Palestinian delegation head Haydar Abd al-Shafi calls for OPT referendum on whether or not to pursue the peace process.

Sept. 23: PLO rejects all statements favoring permanent settlement of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, and reaffirms applicability of UN Gen. Assembly Res. 194.

Oct. 5: US Congress approves foreign aid package incl. \$10 billion loan guarantees for Israel by vote of 312 to 102 in the House, concurring voice vote in senate.

Oct. 8: Foreign Min. Peres announces Israel no longer objects to diaspora Palestinians participating in multilateral negotiations on economic development and refugee issues.

Oct. 27: Palestinian delegation presents Israel with memo detailing human rights violations in OPT, issuing 12 demands.

Nov. 11: Israeli delegation walks out of multilateral talks on refugees in Ottawa, because Palestinian delegation head Muhammad Hallaj is a PNC member, Elie Sanbar, head of delegation at earlier round, had already been barred as a member of the PLO Central Council.

Nov. 12: Israeli delegation rejoins refugee talks in Ottawa, after receiving written US assurances that M. Hallaj is not longer a member of the PNC.

Nov. 13: Tel Aviv mayor and Likud member Shlomo Lahat, announces he favors creation of an

independent Palestinian state in the OPT.

Nov. 16: Jewish settlers toss grenade into crowded market of Jerusalem's Old City Muslim quarter, killing an old man, wounding 11 others.

Nov. 19: 7th round of peace talks ends in Washington. Palestinians present Israeli delegation with memorandum of responses to Israeli autonomy plan.

Nov. 23: 10 Palestinian factions issue statement denouncing Israeli-Jordanian draft agenda, urging withdrawal from peace talks.

Nov. 30: Israeli government submits proposed amendment to Knesset that would permit contacts with the PLO.

Dec. 1: Foreign Min. of Islamic Conference Organization meeting in Jidda issue statement describing Jerusalem as a "central issue for the Muslim nation" that cannot be excluded from current peace talks.

Dec. 2: Jerusalem Post reports Israel government has allocated NIS 10 million for development of Arab neighborhoods in East Jerusalem.

Dec. 10: Palestinian delegation presents Israeli delegation with detailed response to Israel's agenda for negotiations.

Dec. 14: Israeli delegation presents Palestinian delegation with 19-page document on interim self-rule, affirming UN Sec. Council Res. 242 and 338 as the basis for negotiations, asserting "inner linkage" of interim and final phases. Appearing for the first time in writing is the proposal for tripartite land management in the interim phase.

Dec. 15: Palestinian delegation presents counter proposal for joint agenda to Israeli delegation; announces willingness to draft joint statement of principles with Israel.

Dec. 17: Israel expels 415 Palestinian activists, 251 from the West Bank, 164 from the Gaza Strip to Lebanon.

- US state Dept. "strongly condemns the action of deportation".

Dec. 18: UN Sec. Council "strongly condemns" the deportation of 415 Palestinian, and demands "safe and immediate return" in Res. 799.

Dec. 23: Israel rejects US appeal to allow Palestinian deportees to settle in "security zone", agrees to allow UN and Red Cross to provide food to the deportees.

Dec. 29: Palestinian deportees issue statement to UN Sec. Gen. Butrus-Ghali, vowing that they will stay in no man's land between Israeli and Lebanese-controlled territory in south Lebanon until UN "forces Israel" to take them back.

Dec. 31: Palestinian peace delegation has unanimously rejected PM Rabin's (Dec. 27) invitation to an informal meeting.

1993

Jan. 7: Faisal Husseini sends letter to acting Sec. of State Eagleburger informing him that the Palestinian delegation will not participate in any bilateral or multilateral peace talks until Israel allows back the 415 deportees.

Jan. 13: Foreign Min. Peres makes first explicit Israeli call for mutual verification of nuclear weapons between Arabs and Israelis.

Jan. 19: Knesset votes 39-20 to revise 1986 law to legalize contacts with all factions of the PLO. US State Dept. releases its annual human rights report, noting 62% rise in IDF killings of Palestinians during 1991.

Feb. 2: PLO and the deportees reject Israel's offer to allow 100 Palestinian deportees to return, to reduce the exile period to one year and to allow relief to the remaining 296.

Feb. 11: Poll of 1,140 Jordanians reveals that 54.2% oppose any form of confederation with a Palestinian entity in the event of Israeli withdrawal, 44.6% favor; 23% support Jordanian withdrawal from the peace talks, 72% oppose.

Feb. 16: Jordan appoints Sheikh Sulayman al-Jabari Mufti of Jerusalem.

Feb. 24: US Sec. of State Christopher meets with Palestinian officials, presents 6-point plan to resume peace talks: (1) US statement calling expulsions illegal and pressing UN Res. 799; (2) Res. 242 & 338 are bases for talks and Jerusalem can be discussed; (3) binding Israeli commitment against expulsions; (4) speedy return of current deportees; (5) return of many post-1967 deportees; (6) Israeli commitment to

stop human rights violations in OPT. Palestinians welcome the plan.

Feb. 25: US tells PLO it has withdrawn its 6-point plan to end the deportee issue because Israel has not accepted major parts of it (points 1 & 2).

March 7: King Hussein says if Palestinian boycott upcoming peace talks, Jordan will also boycott.

March 8: Jerusalem Post reports on quota for Palestinian population of Jerusalem set by government in 1973 and consistently enforced through housing plans. In 1967, Palestinians were 26% of total population, today only 27%. City council may appeal the legality of discriminatory quota to the High Court.

March 14: Israeli Environment Min. Yossi Sarid calls for PLO-led Palestinian state in the Gaza Strip.

March 25: Benyamin Netanyahu wins leadership of Likud with 52.1% of vote. Closest rival David Levy wins 26.3%.

April 5: Palestinian Christians demand access to East Jerusalem on Easter. OPT have been sealed since March 31.

April 21: Israel announces it has "no plans" to deport Palestinians, while reserving the right to do so. Allows East Jerusalemite Faisal Hussein to head Palestinian delegation.

April 23: Foreign Min. Peres announces proposal to a Palestinian police force, talk of "full self-government" for Palestinian.

April 24: Haydar Abd al-Shafi resigns from Palestinian delegation, but is coaxed back by other delegates and Gaza supporters. He disagrees with PLO decision to resume talks.

April 27: Israel proposes in 9th round of peace talks transferring some powers, incl. budgetary and police, to OPT authority.

April 29: Israeli, Palestinian delegations agree to form 3 working groups exploring land/water, self-rule, and human rights.

May 6: Israel presents Palestinians with draft joint declaration of principles on the substance of autonomy. Palestinian-mini-delegation travels to Tunis for consultation; PLO rejects it.

May 7: Israeli delegation spokesman Yossi Gal says Israel now accepts international, but not UN, monitoring of OPT election, a long-standing Palestinian request.

May 10: Palestinians present US with 10-point draft joint statement of principles on self-rule.

May 12: US presents 2-page draft joint statement of principles on self-rule to Israeli and Palestinian delegations.

- Israelis, Palestinians agree to put family reunification at top of agenda in 2-day multilateral meeting on refugees in Oslo.

May 13: PLO rejects US draft joint statement as "a copy of the Israeli plan".

May 20: Delegation head Haydar Abd al Shafi calls for suspension of Palestinian participation in talks.

May 25: PM Rabin again raises "Gaza first" observing to Dutch Foreign Min. that Gaza Strip is geographically separate from West Bank.

May 27: Palestinian delegation accepts US invitation to attend 10th round of talks starting in June 15.

- Amnesty International issues statement that over 100 Palestinians were killed by IDF since Dec. 1992.

May 30: Some 200 Libyans arrive in Jerusalem for 3-day visit to holy sites; first group pilgrimage from Arab country.

June 1: Libyan pilgrims call on Muslims to "topple Zionist leadership" and establish Jerusalem as capital of democratic Palestinian state.

June 10: PM Rabin says Israel would allow US senators to monitor OPT election, East Jerusalemites would be allowed to vote (but not run).

June 20: 37 Palestinians arrive in Amman to begin training for interim period OPT police force.

June 28: Foreign Min. Peres publicly endorses "Gaza first" proposal - withdrawing from most of the strip and transferring power to Palestinians as soon as possible as part of self-rule negotiations.

June 30: US presents new "working paper" to Israelis and Palestinians, urging the former for allowing final-status discussion of Jerusalem.

July 1: At the end of the 10th round of talks, Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi, expresses "strong resentment" of totally unacceptable current US working paper.

July 2: Jordan Bank reaches agreement with Israeli officials to open branches in Ramallah, Nablus and Hebron.

July 12: Israel establishes diplomatic relations with Vietnam in agreement signed in Jerusalem.

July 15: Foreign Min. Peres proposes Palestinian-Jordanian confederation as way out of deadlock in negotiations.

July 23: Jerusalem's Arabic daily newspaper Al-Fajr closes after 22 years of publication due to lack of

funds.

July 28: Responding to continued financial crisis, PLO closes 3 departments: information, culture and social affairs.

Aug. 2: Poll in OPT: 51.7% of Palestinians oppose confederation with Jordan, 55.9% oppose continuation of peace talks, 50.1% support withdrawal from talks, 87.7% believe PLO needs democratic reform, 32.9% support dividing Jerusalem.

Aug. 5: Sec. of State Christopher states in Amman "There's been absolutely no change in the United State's position" on status of OPT or Jerusalem.

Aug. 6: Palestinian delegation gives Christopher PLO memo on draft "statement of principles" but only after modifying it due to disagreements with Tunis' statements on jurisdiction of self-governing authority and Jerusalem.

Aug. 8: Palestinian negotiators Faisal Hussein, Hanan Ashrawi and Sa'eb Erekat threaten to resign from negotiating team.

Aug. 12: PLO rejects the resignations of the 3 negotiators, appoints them and 4 other members to official PLO steering committee.

Aug. 13: Foreign Min. Peres says that Palestinian delegates new status "makes no difference" and effectively ends Israeli ban on negotiations with PLO.

Aug. 17: Jordan's King Hussein announces new "temporary" election law, establishing "1 man 1 vote" system for Nov. 1993 parliamentary election.

Aug. 18: Yasir Abd-Rabbo, PLO Executive Committee member, says PLO is ready to sign agreement with Israel, prepared to hold "historic meeting" with Israeli leaders.

Aug. 19: Israeli and PLO negotiators meeting in Oslo, reach final agreed draft of Declaration of Principles (DOP). Document is initialed by Israeli Foreign Min. Peres and PLO official Ahmad Q'rei. News of meeting leaked to press on 27/8/1993.

Aug. 30: Norwegian Foreign Min. Johan Jorgen Holst says Norway hosted 14 rounds of talks between Israel and PLO leading to agreement.

Aug. 31: 11th round bilateral Arab-Israeli peace talks opens in Washington eclipsed by news of Israel-PLO agreement.

Sept. 4: Fatah Central Committee approves DOP at meeting in Tunis by 12-6 vote.

Sept. 9: Arafat, in letter to Israel PM Rabin, recognizes "the right of the state of Israel to exist in peace and security", renounces "the use of terrorism and other acts of violence."

Sept. 10: Israeli PM Rabin formally signs letter recognizing PLO as "the representative of the Palestinian people". US Pres. Clinton lifts ban on US contacts with PLO, saying PLO commitments to Israel "justify a resumption of our dialogue."

Sept. 13: Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles (DOP) signed at White House ceremony by Israeli FM Peres and PLO official Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), hand-shake between Arafat and Rabin symbolically concludes pact.

Sept. 14: Jordanian Ambassador to US, Fayez Tarawneh, and Israeli official Eliakim Rubinstein sign "Common Agenda" for further negotiations, in Washington.

Sept. 20: Arab League Foreign Ministers endorse DOP, declare it "an important step toward realizing the land-for-peace principle."

Sept. 22: Jordanian Min. of State, Jawad Al-Anani, says Palestinians in Jordan will not be allowed to vote in both Jordanian and OPT elections, saying King Hussein and Arafat agreed to avoid "duplication".

Sept. 23: Knesset ratifies PLO-Israel DOP 61-50 with 8 abstentions.

Sept. 24: Poll shows 72% of Gaza, 68.6% of West Bank, and 83.2% of Jericho residents support DOP.

Oct. 1: Jordan's Crown Prince Has-san and FM Peres meet publicly in Washington.

Oct. 5: Crown Prince Hassan speaking to UN General Assembly says Jordan cannot accept portions of PLO-Israel accord dealing with water, energy, security, and refugees, stating, "Some issues cannot be addressed by any two parties to the exclusion of others... cannot be resolved without direct reference to the neighboring states".

Oct. 25: Israel begins release of 660 Palestinian prisoners; 15,000 are held in Israeli prisons.

Nov. 2: Mayor of Jerusalem Teddy Kollek is defeated in mayoral election by Likud's Ehud Olmert by 60%-34% vote.

Nov. 16: Israel-PLO economic talks in Paris establish 3 subcommittees on trade and labor, taxation and banking, and currency.

- Jordan's Central Bank announces that an agreement is reached with Palestinians to retain JD as

currency in the OPT.

Nov. 22: Former Israeli military intelligence chief Aharon Yariv publicly admits that Mossad assassinated 10-15 Palestinian guerrilla leaders in Europe/ Lebanon in 1970.

Dec. 5: Jordan and Israel sign accord on economic cooperation.

Dec. 10: Hanan Ashrawi resigns from her post as spokeswoman to form Palestinian Independent Commission for Human Rights.

Dec. 13: Deadline for start of Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, Jericho passes. PM Rabin tells reporters, "There are no sacred dates".

Dec. 14: Arafat begins first official visit to Britain.

Dec.30: Vatican Undersecretary for Foreign Relations Msgr. Claudio Celli and Israeli Deputy FM Yossi Beilin sign 15-point "fundamental agreement" establishing mutual diplomatic relations.