

# Palestine Chronology

1989 – 1990

1989

**Jan. 3:** In a statement on Radio Monte Carlo's Arabic Language Service, Arafat says: "Any Palestinian leader who proposes an end to the Intifada exposes himself to the bullets of his own people and endangers his life. The PLO will know how to deal with him."

**Jan. 7:** Chairman Arafat hoists the Palestinian Flag over a Palestinian embassy in Amman.

**Jan. 10:** Lord Plumb, Pres. of the European Parliament, in addressing the Israeli Knesset confirms EC support for an international conference, for talks with the PLO and for the Palestinians' right to self determination.

**Jan. 11:** The PLO requests from the president of the UN Sec. Council the right to speak as the state of Palestine rather than as an organization.

**Jan. 12:** The UN Sec. Council grants the PLO the right to speak directly to the council as "Palestine", on the same level as any UN member nation.

- The third curfew in the history of Israeli rule in East Jerusalem remains in force all day as police continue to search houses in Silwan arresting over 20 people.

**Jan. 19:** Defence Min. Rabin proposes elections and an interim period of expanded autonomy for Palestinians in the OPT in exchange for a lull in the Intifada, but categorically rules out any role for the UN in such an arrangement.

**Jan. 22:** The UNLU rejects Defence Min. Rabin's proposal for self-rule and, in leaflet No. 33 of the Intifada, calls for an international conference.

- PLO and Jordanian Government reject Rabin's proposal.

**Jan. 26:** Arafat arrives in Madrid to meet with European Community foreign ministers of Spain, France and Greece.

**Jan. 28:** UN Sec.-Gen. Javier Perez de Cuellar, at a meeting of the UN Palestine Rights Committee, expresses concern over tougher measures adopted recently by Israel against Palestinians in the OPT. "The Intifada ... remains a grave subject of concern for the International Community."

**Feb. 1:** South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, winner of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize, says that Israel's treatment of Palestinians is reminiscent of the South African government's treatment of blacks. He adds: "African and American blacks will remain alienated from Israel and Jews until "the Palestinian question is settled equitably."

**Feb. 7:** State Dept. annual human rights report of 1988: Israeli behaviour in the OPT severely limits and often abuses Arab freedoms and rights; some of the 366 Palestinians killed during last year were killed unnecessarily; unwarranted casualties among the more than 20,000 wounded.

**Feb. 9:** Israel's trade surplus in goods and services exported to the OPT totalled only \$56 million in 1988, a two-thirds drop from the previous year (1987: \$174 million). Israel's 1988 exports to the OPT dropped to an estimated \$650 million (1987: \$928 million). Senior Israeli Defence Min. officials estimate the expected outlay on the Intifada between NIS 200-250 in the budgetary year commencing April 1. So far the Intifada has cost the army some NIS 400 million.

**Feb. 15:** Israeli Industry Min. Ariel Sharon calls for the arrest of the "East Jerusalem Arabs who form the political arm of the PLO."

**Feb. 16:** Palestinian-Israeli meeting at Notre Dame Hotel, between East and West Jerusalem. Israelis: Deputy Finance Min. Yossi Beilin, Peres's adviser Nimrod Novik; former head of the Civil Administration in the West Bank Ephraim Sneh; MK Avraham Burg; Dr. Yair Hirschfeld, Haifa University, Boaz Carmi and Arye Ofri. Palestinians: Faisal Hussein, Sari Nusseibeh, Ziad Abu Zayyad, Hanan Ashrawi, Ghassan Khatib, Sam'an Khouri, Mamduh Aker, and Khalil Mahshi.

**Feb. 17:** Third round of Palestinian-Israeli talks in Jerusalem. Palestinians headed by Faisal Hussein, and the Israelis by Shinui leaders Amnon Rubinstein and Avraham Poraz. Previous meetings were between Faisal Hussein, Sari Nusseibeh and other Palestinians with Yossi Beilin, Haim Ramon and Avraham Burg as well as Mapam's Yair Tsaban.

**Feb. 21:** Defence Min. Yitzhak Rabin says that his aim is to drive a wedge between the Palestinians living

in the OPT and the PLO leadership and the Palestinians living outside: "The more we can enhance the differences between Palestinians the better we can pave the way for negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians in the Occupied Territories."

**Feb. 23:** In his address to Israeli public, Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), challenges Israel to direct meetings with the PLO in which all issues, incl. the PLO Charter and security arrangements, would be open for discussion.

**Feb. 27:** Leaflet 35 of the UNLU urges "the masses of our people in Jerusalem, the capital of our State, to boycott the elections to Teddy Kollek's municipality, during which the strike groups will paralyze public and private transportation."

**March 4:** British Foreign Office Min. William Waldegrave after a visit to Gaza Strip says, "My coming here only emphasizes the utter impossibility of continuing the military occupation."

- Palestinian inmates at Ketziot detention camp enter the second week of their hunger strike against prison conditions.

**March 7:** PM Yitzhak Shamir makes it clear in speaking to a Delegation of Socialist International that he opposes elections in the OPT as a means of creating a Palestinian delegation to peace talks. He adds that a "temporary" Palestinian delegation for negotiations would be formed with the assistance of Jordan and Egypt.

**March 10:** In reaction to the report of the Jaffe Center for Strategic Studies which concluded that Israel would eventually be forced to negotiate with the PLO or with PLO appointees, vice Premier Shimon Peres says that Israel must talk to the Palestinians "as they are - as they are organized."

**March 13:** Chairman Arafat, in an interview in the Italian newspaper La Repubblica says he is ready to "go to Jerusalem" to convince Israel to accept an international conference on the Middle East."

- The Israeli "Civil Administration" issues special identity cards to dozens of Palestinians suspected of organizing "disturbances". Bearers of the new green cards are not permitted to cross the Green Line into Israel.

- The "Civil Administration" in Nablus requires Palestinian employees to sign forms committing them not to accept money from the PLO. Violation of the written commitments carries a penalty of 5 years in jail and a fine of NIS 150,000.

**March 15:** Sec. of State Baker at a congressional hearing: "It is an element of our policy to promote direct negotiations between Israel and Palestinians. If you can't have direct, meaningful negotiations that would not involve negotiations with the PLO, then I suppose we would then have to see negotiations between Israelis and representatives of the PLO."

**March 22:** Sec. of State James Baker says that the US is actively engaged "in discussions to encourage dialogue between Israel and Palestinians," and does not rule out the possible need for eventual talks between Israel and the PLO.

**March 23:** Families of "wanted" Palestinians, whose homes have been demolished to pressure the "fugitives" to give themselves up, demand of Defence Min. Rabin that those responsible for the demolition orders be prosecuted and that the families be permitted to rebuild their homes.

- Danish Foreign Min. Uffe El-Lemann-Jensen challenges Israel "to call the PLO's bluff" by talking to it.

**March 27:** Sec. of State James Baker cites reports that some Israeli leaders may be rethinking their attitude about talking with the PLO, but declines to comment on them. He says during a televised interview on ABC: "I feel that if we are ever going to have peace in the Middle East, we will have to have at some point dialogue between Israel and Palestinians."

**March 29:** At Meskha, near Tulkarem, Israeli troops uproot 120 trees as punishment for a stone-throwing incident. 3 residents of the Balata refugee camp treated at the Ittihad Hospital from beating injuries.

**March 30:** Israeli authorities bar UNRWA from running informal educational programmes in the West Bank for pupils left idle by military closure of schools.

- Palestinians step up their campaign for a boycott of Israeli products for which there are local alternatives. Consumption of Israeli cigarettes, soft drinks and dairy products has dropped sharply during the last year.

**March 31:** Canada decides to upgrade its dialogue with the PLO.

**April 2:** Yasser Arafat elected by the Central Council of the PLO in Tunis as the first Pres. of the State of Palestine.

**April 6:** More than 6,000 Palestinians arrested during the Intifada are currently in jail.

- Yugoslavia establishes diplomatic relations with the State of Palestine. PLO office in Belgrade acquires

the status of an embassy.

**April 7:** Pres. George Bush says, "The US believes that elections in the Territories can be designed to contribute to a political process of dialogue and negotiations... We urge Israel and the Palestinians to arrive at a mutually acceptable formula for election and we plan in the days and weeks ahead to work toward that end."

**April 9:** Soviet Ministry Spokesman, Gennady Gerasimov says that Shamir's plan for Palestinian elections in the OPT unworkable. "It's a stillborn child, a stillborn idea, ...It cannot work because you cannot really solve the Palestinian problem without the PLO."

**April 11:** Leaflet no. 38 of the UNLU rejects Shamir's plan.

**April 15:** Aharon Moshel, a former Mossad agent, in his book published in Germany: the Mossad ordered him to warn Kim Philby, the British master spy who escaped to Moscow in 1963, that the British were only days away from arresting him.

**April 18:** King Hussein describes Shamir's proposal for elections as "totally out of context."

**April 21:** The Jordanian army seizes control of Ma'an and Karak (towns 215 kilometers south of Amman) in a bid to clamp down on anti-government demonstrations there.

**April 24:** Palestinians complain that their watches have been smashed by border policemen and IDF soldiers because they were set according to "Palestinian time". The UNLU called on Palestinians to move their watches forward 1 hour on April 15 to mark summer time in the "State of Palestine" and everybody followed the new summer time.

**April 26:** 83 leading Palestinians in the OPT issue a public statement rejecting PM Shamir's plan for elections for it "ignores our political legitimacy and legitimate aspiration."

**May 2:** Pres. Arafat, after meeting Pres. Francois Mitterrand in France, tells French TV: "As for the Covenant, the 25 year-old Palestinian National Charter, I believe there is an expression in French, C'est caduque", "it is null and void."

**May 3:** The Italian Parliament votes by a large majority to accord the PLO bureau in Rome the status of "general delegation", a status halfway towards full diplomatic recognition.

**May 8:** Britain's Foreign Office issues a statement condemning Israeli policies in the OPT, declaring that "the human cost of the tactics pursued by Israel's occupying forces is intolerable."

**May 9:** The PLO officially applies for membership of UNESCO.

**May 11:** The former military commander of Nablus, Yehuda Meir, ousted after a Military Police investigation finds that in Jan. 1988 he ordered that Palestinians at Beita and Hawara, near Nablus, arrested and their arms and legs broken.

**May 12:** The World Health Organization votes 83-47 to shelve consideration of the PLO's application for membership.

**May 13:** The Sunday Times reports that Mossad agents are actively involved in a long-running South African operation to illegally acquire sophisticated British missile technology.

**May 14:** The Israeli cabinet, by a majority of 20 ministers to 6, approves the Likud and the Alignment plan for "regional elections" in the OPT to elect a self-governing authority which would also serve as a negotiating partner for interim and permanent settlement.

**May 18:** In interview with Washington Post, Arafat says that he would be willing to name Palestinians living in the OPT to a provisional government if that would help break the political deadlock in Israel over negotiating directly with the PLO.

**May 24:** The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies describes the Intifada as "remarkable" in its scope and duration, asserting that both Israel and the PLO might "find themselves losing control of the Palestinians in the Occupied Territories." The best hope for a solution, the IISS suggested, lies with the superpowers.

**May 27:** About 2,500 Israelis and 1,000 Palestinians held peace meetings organized by "Peace Now" in 6 West Bank areas.

**June 1:** The Bank of Israel reports that the Intifada cost Israel \$650 million in export losses in 1988 incl. \$280 million in tourism. Exports for the year fell by 4.2% and tourism by 15%.

**June 2:** The total number of Palestinians killed in the Intifada exceeds 500 this according to unofficial casualty tolls.

**June 7:** American Vice Pres. Dan Quayle, strongly urges Israel to stop all new West Bank settlement activity. "These announcements of new settlements are politically problematic even if they don't go through with it."

- The West German Social Democratic Party decides to recognize the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people and calls on the Bonn Government to open negotiations with the PLO and to strengthen the latter's position in Germany.

**June 10:** Pres. Yasser Arafat says that he is ready to form a Palestinian Government in exile, half of which would be made up of Palestinians living in the OPT, if that would contribute to advancing the peace process. "We have made this proposal to the US, but until now we have not received a clear response on this subject from the American Administration."

**June 11:** 8 Israelis who met with PLO representatives in Hungary in June 1987 charged in Ramle Court with violating "anti-terror legislation".

**June 15:** Israel Chief of General Staff, Dan Shomron, tells the Economics Club in Ashkelon, "Everyone who wants the Intifada eliminated must understand that there are only 3 ways to do this: by transfer, starvation, or physical elimination, that is - genocide."

**June 16:** Israeli Air Force jets attack Palestinians of the Rashidiyeh refugee camp south of Tyre.

**June 17:** West Germany Foreign Min. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, in a meeting with his Israeli counterpart Moshe Arens, steps up pressure on Israel to agree to an international conference on ending hostilities in the OPT.

**June 18:** Israel Energy Min. Moshe Shahak says that he is willing to negotiate with any Palestinian, incl. representatives of the PLO, if they accept Israel's right to exist and UN Res. 242 and 338, reject all terrorism and violence, and agree that there will be no future demands after peace is achieved.

**June 21:** Lord Glenarthur, a British Foreign Office representative in the House of Lords, states that 90 Palestinian children have been killed and 20,000 injured by shots or beating since the uprising began, and describes this as "a shocking indictment of Israeli practices."

**June 22:** Sec. of State James Baker, dismisses the Soviet Union's latest proposal for informal discussions on the Middle East among the 5 permanent members of the UN Sec. Council.

**June 24:** Prof. Yuval Ne'eman, Tehiya Party Leader, says that the Intifada could be ended in one stroke by transferring one refugee camp to Sidon.

**June 29:** Israeli Military authorities deport 8 Palestinians. From 1967-1977, 1,180 Palestinians were deported.

**July 3:** Israeli Security forces in the West Bank, in a massive sweep of the area, arrest 200 Palestinians suspected of membership in the "popular committees" of the uprising.

**July 4:** The Jordanian government decides, to hold the Kingdom's first parliamentary election for 22 years in November.

**July 5:** Israeli PM Shamir endorses the demands of Likud ministers Sharon, Levy and Moda'i on the election proposal: "There will be no participation of East Jerusalem Arabs in elections... There will be no negotiations as long as violence continues... There will be no foreign sovereignty in any part of the Land of Israel... and settlement in Judea, Samaria and Gaza will continue... There will be no negotiation with the PLO and no Palestinian State in the Land of Israel."

**July 6:** Abd al-Hadi Suleiman Ghneim, 25, of Gaza's Nuseirat camp, seizes the steering wheel of No. 405 Jerusalem-bound Egged bus from Tel Aviv and sends it crashing over a steep precipice, killing 14 passengers and injuring at least 27.

**July 10:** At Ramallah's central square, Israeli security forces shoot and kill a Palestinian youth, Yasser Abu Kutaish, 17.

**July 12:** The cost of fighting the Palestinian uprising is expected to reach approximately, NIS 1 billion, by the end of the current fiscal year in March 1990. This is according to Brig. Gen. Michael Navon, economic adviser to the chief of General staff and director of the Defence Min.'s Budget Department.

**July 13:** Israel's population at the end of 1988 reached 4,476,800 of whom 3,659,000 (81.7%) were Jews.

**July 16:** In this school year, West Bank schools have been open for only 40 days, from Dec. 1, 1988 to Jan. 20, 1989.

**July 24:** UNRWA begins distributing 6,700 tons of flour to an estimated 134,000 Palestinian families in the Gaza Strip.

**July 28:** PLO Pres. Yasser Arafat outlines a 4-point peace plan in an interview with al-Ahram daily:

(1) Partial Israeli withdrawal from the OPT to prepare for the election.

(2) A 27 month timetable for total pullout of Israeli troops "in stages as in the case of Namibia."

(3) UN supervision of elections and repatriation of Palestinian refugees as well as those deported by Israel.

(4) Setting a date for the declaration of an independent Palestinian State.

**July 29:** Israeli commandos kidnap Sheikh Abdel Karim Obeid from south Lebanon. Obeid, 36, is a central figure in the Shi'ite movement in Lebanon.

**July 30:** Faisal Hussein, head of Arab Studies Society in Jerusalem, calls on Israel Labour Party headquarters in Tel-Aviv to "abandon both its dreams and its nightmares" and "push forward the cart of peace."

**Aug. 2:** The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the OPT publishes statistics showing that 509 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli soldiers since the start of the uprising in Dec. 1987.

**Aug. 3:** Shimon Peres tells visiting Assistant Sec. of State John Kelly, that he has no objection to Palestinians living abroad taking part in preparatory talks on election... "if the only condition posed was the participation of two or three outside Palestinians, then this won't be a problem."

- US Assistant Sec. of State John Kelly meets 13 Palestinians from the OPT in Jerusalem.

**Aug. 6:** Thousands of people gather in one of Baghdad's main squares to witness the restoration of the statue of the first king of Iraq, Faisal I. Iraqi government regards Faisal I as the founder of modern Iraq.

**Aug. 9:** The 5th Congress of Fatah endorses a proposal for fuller participation of Palestinians in the OPT so that they might sit on all Fatah committees and councils.

**Aug. 15:** Leaflet 44 of the UNLU cautions Palestinians not to kill persons cooperating with Israel unless the slaying is approved by "The Supreme Leadership".

**Aug. 22:** Pres. Arafat inaugurates a new headquarters for the Palestine National Fund in Amman. Jaweed Al-Ghusein, the director of the fund says that the new location will "further help to channel money to Palestinians in the OPT."

**Aug. 26:** PLO executive committee member Mahmoud Abbas tells the United Arab Emirates newspaper "al-Ittihad", that the PLO will not allow Palestinians in the OPT to negotiate an independent settlement with Israel. "The PLO is ready to form a delegation comprising Palestinians from inside and outside the OPT to open a dialogue with Israel to discuss 1988 elections as part of a comprehensive settlement."

**Sept. 2:** India awards Pres. Arafat its top award for promoting international understanding and goodwill. A government spokesman says that in naming Arafat for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award, India was underlining its commitment to the right of all people to fight for freedom. The award carried a cash prize of 1.5 million rupees (\$39,750).

**Sept. 3:** Argentina agrees to allow the PLO to open an office in Buenos Aires.

**Sept. 13:** The Soviet news agency Tass states that Israel launched a "ballistic missile" with 1,300 km range into the Mediterranean Sea between Libya and Greece. Tass adds that the missile landed some 400 kms. north of Banghazi, Libya.

**Sept. 18:** Hungary and Israel re-establish diplomatic ties after 22-year break.

**Sept. 19:** The Israeli PM rejects key points of Egyptian 10-point proposal.

**Sept. 20:** Israeli jets strike a base of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command in Nueimeh, northwest of Damour, Lebanon.

- In Beit Sahur in the West Bank, Israeli tax authorities, escorted by a military force, begin a 2-day operation to confiscate private and commercial property from dozens of the Palestinians in the town. The Israelis enter Beit Sahur with trucks, force open shops and confiscate stock. Neither prior notice nor receipts are given.

**Sept. 21:** Inmates of Gaza prison complain to their lawyers that prison authorities forced them to strip, presumably for body search, before each visit by a family member or lawyer.

**Sept. 22:** More than 60 US senators sign a letter to Sec. of State James Baker opposing the grant of an entry visa for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to address the UN Gen. Assembly in the coming weeks.

- Israeli Chief of General Staff, Dan Shomron, compares the Intifada to Algerian uprising against France.

**Sept. 25:** Leaflet number 46 of the UNLU calls for, "A major campaign to provide food and medical needs to our people in Gaza" and "the continuation of following collaborators and stopping their destructive acts by means of gradual steps and not by means of execution, unless there is national consensus and after consulting with supreme authorities."

**Oct. 18:** The UN Sec.-Gen. appoints former ILO Director-Gen. Francis Blanchard as his special adviser on economic development in the OPT.

**Oct. 30:** The Arab Fund for Economic and Technical Development and the Islamic Development Bank

agree to fund an electricity integration scheme linking the power grids of Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, and Turkey by 1994.

**Dec. 14:** 5 people were injured in violence at Yarmuk University, in Irbid, Jordan's third city. Groups of Palestinian and Jordanian students clashed on the campus over demonstrations in support of the Intifada in OPT.

**Dec. 15:** French PM Michel Rocard meets with 13 Palestinians from OPT incl. East Jerusalem to discuss peace process.

**Dec. 15-17:** PLO Executive Committee in Tunis, issues communique reaffirming its willingness to initiate dialogue with Israel, and that only PLO may select delegates to negotiating team.

**Dec. 23:** South African Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu arrives in Jerusalem for Christmas pilgrimage, announces support for Palestinian state and for Israel's "independence and territorial integrity."

**Dec. 30:** At least 15,000 Jews and Palestinians form human chain for peace 2.5 miles long around walls of Old City. At several points Israeli police try to break up crowds by firing water cannons, tear gas, and rubber bullets.

**Dec. 31:** Israel PM Shamir dismisses Labor Party Cabinet member Ezer Weizmann for holding talks with PLO officials.

## 1990

**Jan. 1:** IDF demolishes unfinished home being built in Jerusalem neighborhood on grounds that stone-throwing incidents took place near the house.

**Jan. 2:** PM Shamir rescinds dismissal of Cabinet member Ezra Weizmann. In compromise move, Weizmann resigns from 12 member Inner Cabinet, but retains Science Min. post.

**Jan. 3:** Trial of Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin opens amid tight security in Gaza. Yassin is accused of ordering deaths of suspected collaborators.

**Jan. 19:** Israeli police arrest Faisal Hussein, charge him with aiding illegal Palestinian Popular Army. US administration condemns Israeli arrest of Mr. Hussein, saying "Such actions discourages Palestinian confidence in the peace process".

**Jan. 24:** Israeli newspaper Hadashot reports US diplomatic survey, says that Israeli ministers Arens, Rabin, Peres and Weizmann all have had meetings with Faisal Hussein during the past few months.

**Jan. 25:** European Parliament recommends that the 12 EC nations suspend scientific cooperation with Israel until it opens Palestinian universities in OPT, recommendation remains unbinding until accepted by EC's ministerial committee.

**Jan. 26:** Israeli tax collectors seize 150 automobiles in al-Zawiyeh village, near Nablus, in attempt to force Palestinian owners to pay taxes.

**Feb. 6:** Palestinian Human Rights Information Center reports: at least 130 Palestinian houses have been partially or totally sealed in the first 2 years of the Intifada; approximately 270 Palestinian homes have been demolished by IDF.

**Feb. 9:** Israeli peace campaigner Abie Nathan sentenced to 6 months in prison for meeting with Arafat.

**Feb. 23:** Meeting with Moshe Arens, Sec. Baker says it is time for Israel to accept his compromise formula for opening talks between Israelis and Palestinians.

**Feb. 27:** In a speech in Lusaka, Zambia, Nelson Mandela says that Arafat, who is in attendance, is fighting "a unique form of colonialism and we wish him success in his struggle."

**Feb. 27:** Poland and Israel resume diplomatic relations, broken off in 1967.

**Feb. 28:** Israel PM Shamir, speaking before Presidents of American Jewish Organizations in West Jerusalem, says if Israel were to leave OPT "a Beirut - like situation" would be develop.

**March 8:** Ruth Kaminker of Jerusalem's City Planning Board says city government has plans to build new Jewish neighborhood in Mount Homa area of East Jerusalem, despite US opposition.

**March 10:** 500 Palestinian and Israeli women march in Jerusalem to call for negotiations between Israel and Palestinians.

**March 13:** At press conference, Pres. Bush says "I don't regret" (March 3) statement calling into question Israeli settlement in East Jerusalem.

**March 22:** US Senate adopts by voice vote resolution recognizing undivided Jerusalem as capital of Israel.

**March 27:** Israeli Knesset adopts resolution saying united Jerusalem is under Israeli sovereignty and there will be no negotiations on its unity and status.

**April 8:** Jerusalem Committee in Morocco statement is made public, condemns Soviet Jewish settlement in OPT, US Senate resolution in March 22 on Jerusalem.

**April 12:** Israeli magistrate court issues evacuation order to settlers in Jerusalem's Greek Orthodox church building.

**April 14:** US Senate delegation, led by Bob Dole, meets with 10 Palestinian notables at the US consulate in Jerusalem; Palestinians give Dole memo detailing Palestinian position on Jerusalem.

**April 19:** Robert Dole tells his Senate colleagues they made "dangerous" mistake in passing resolution recognizing undivided Jerusalem as capital of Israel.

**April 26:** The EEC passes an aid package worth \$86 million for Palestinian refugees. The funds will go to UNRWA health and education programmes in the Middle East.

**April 27:** Israel's ambassador in Oslo signed an agreement with Norway's Foreign Min. for Norway to buy back 10.5 tons of deuterium oxide ("heavy water"), half of a shipment it sold to the Israelis in 1959.  
- Church of the Holy Sepulchre locks its doors for first time in 800 years, all other Christian shrines in Holy Land also close in protest over presence of Jewish settlers in St. John's Hospice in Jerusalem.

**May 16:** A report by the Swedish Save the Children Fund condemns Israel's treatment of Palestinian children during the Intifada: 159 children under the age of 16 have been killed by gunfire, beating or teargas and an estimated 50,000-63,000 Palestinians required medical treatment in first 2 years of the Intifada, just over half of them for gunshot or teargas injuries.  
- Palestinian leaders from OPT present Israel with list of 17 demands aimed at creating atmosphere conducive to negotiations.

**May 17:** Israel establishes new police unit, Gid'onim, to deal with security problems in Jerusalem; 30-man team, from IDF elite units, will "engage in intelligence missions in Jerusalem".

**May 20:** Israeli gunman massacres 7 Palestinian workers and injures scores of them at Iyun Qarah (Rishon LeZion), near Tel Aviv. Following the massacre, Israeli soldiers kill 7 more Palestinians and wound over 750 others in clashes in the OPT.  
- An open hunger strike is started in Jerusalem's Red Cross headquarters by forty leading Palestinian figures. The strikes represent Palestinian Unions, Professional Association, Women's Committees and other grass-roots organizations. The main demand of the strike participants is for international protection against "continuous massacres" of Palestinians in the OPT.

**May 21:** Greece and Israel sign agreement establishing diplomatic relations.

**May 25:** In speech to UN Sec. Council in Geneva, Arafat urges to send UN international force to OPT to protect Palestinians.

**May 26:** Compromise proposal under which UN Sec. Council would send special envoys to investigate violence in OPT falls through as US supports Israel's opposition to proposal.

**May 30:** Israeli soldiers thwart 2 boats of Tel Aviv coast carrying guerrillas of Palestine Liberation Front (PLF); 4 attackers are killed in fire fight, 12 captured; Israel calls on US to end dialogue with PLO.

**May 31:** Arafat says PLO's institutional and official forces had no connection with May 30 attempted attack on Israeli beach; "no reason" US should end dialogue with PLO; cannot expel Abul Abbas (PFL) from PNC, as he was elected democratically.

**June 1:** Palestinian in OPT announce suspension of contacts with American officials because of US veto at UN Sec. Council Res. that recommends sending a UN fact-finding mission to investigate the events of (Rishon LeZion) Iyun Qarah massacres.

**June 11:** New Likud-led Israeli government, coalition of right-wing parties led by Yitzhak Shamir, presented to the Knesset.

**June 20:** Pres. Bush announces he is suspending 18 month US-PLO dialogue because of PLO's failure to condemn Abul Abbas May 30 attempted raid on Israel.  
- American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee meets with FBI officials to discuss unsolved 1985 assassination of Alex Odeh; ADC accuses Israel of sheltering the killers, urges US pressure on Israel to solve case.

**June 21:** Sec. of State James Baker tells reporters there can be no dialogue between Israel and Palestinians from OPT without "acquiescence" of PLO, as evidence by Israel's vain attempts to find PLO alternative for 22 years.

**July 10:** Amnesty International issues its 1990 report detailing human rights abuses for 1989. Amnesty criticizes Israel for excessive force and deliberate killing; report mentions for the first time killing of

accused collaborators by Palestinians.

**July 22:** Head of Jordanian Min. of Interior's Follow-up and Inspection Dept., Muhammad Majid al-Udwan, reports 70,000 residents have failed to return to West Bank despite Jordanian regulations discouraging their extended stay.

**July 23:** The 'Troika' foreign ministers of EC (Italy, Ireland, and Luxembourg) arrive for overnight visit to OPT and Israel, say "the peace process is impossible without the Palestinians and without a real representative of the Palestinians".

**July 24:** According to Israeli sources, 61,000 Jewish Soviet immigrants have arrived in Israel since the beginning of 1991.

**July 29:** Jordanian Min. Daoud Khalaf says Israel steals close to 59 billion cubic feet of water a year from Arab sources.

**Aug. 2:** Iraqi troops invade Kuwait, take over country; attack comes less than 24 hours after the two countries had broken off talks over Iraqi demands for territorial and financial concessions.

- 16 Knesset members meet with Palestinian leaders in Jerusalem, groups agree to work for peace; recognizing PLO as legitimate representative of Palestinians.

**Aug. 8:** Iraq announces it has annexed Kuwait; first US troops arrive in Saudi Arabia.

**Aug. 10:** The PLO announces a plan for an Arab solution to end the Gulf Crisis based on Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, self-determination for the Kuwaiti people, Iraqi-Kuwait negotiations on unsettled issues, replacement of foreign forces by Arab and international substitutes and the drafting and endorsing of a new Arab oil policy.

**Aug. 12:** Iraqi initiative proposes to deal with all occupations in the region, simultaneously and calls for the withdrawal of US and other forces from Saudi Arabia and the lifting of UN sanctions imposed on Iraq.

**Aug. 15:** Palestinians in the OPT issue statement reportedly agreed to by all 4 local PLO factions, calling for Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and "restoration of Kuwaiti self-determination."

**Sept. 3:** Israel's government-run TV and radio ban the use of Arabic names of Palestinian villages and towns, ordering journalists and broadcasters to use the biblical Hebrew names.

**Sept. 4:** Speaking in Vladivostok, Soviet F.M. Shevardnadze calls for international conference on Middle East that would include the Gulf crisis, the Arab Israeli conflict and Lebanon; Israel sharply rejected the idea.

**Sept. 16:** King Hussein meets in Amman with George Habash and Nayef Hawatmeh during Arab Popular Conference.

**Sept. 17:** Saudi Arabia and Soviet Union sign agreement in Moscow restoring diplomatic relations after 52-year hiatus.

**Sept. 26:** Palestinian economic experts estimate OPT losses from Gulf crisis to be about \$405 million. - Israeli military authorities raze 26 shops and 7 homes and seals 4 buildings in el-Brej refugee camp in response to the killing of an Israeli soldier.

**Oct. 7:** At inauguration of new East Jerusalem Jewish religious school, PM Shamir announces plans for major new housing project in East Jerusalem built for Orthodox Jews on undeveloped ridge between Mt. Scopus and the Mt. of Olives.

**Oct. 8:** At al-Aqsa mosque Israeli border police killed 18 Palestinians and injured 150 more as Palestinians protested against the intention of extremist Gershon Solomon's "Temple Mount Faithful" to enter into the mosque compound and place a cornerstone for the building of "a Jewish third temple".

**Oct. 9:** Denmark's Min. of justice claimed Israel's intelligence service, the Mossad, was operating in the country illegally.

**Oct. 12:** UN Sec. Council Res. 672 condemns Israeli actions in al-Aqsa mosque and recommends the dispatch of a fact-finding mission to investigate the circumstances surrounding the tragic events.

**Oct. 14:** The Israeli cabinet decided to defy the UN Sec. Council and not to cooperate with the 3-member UN delegation appointed by the UN Sec.-Gen. Palestinians in Jerusalem, express willingness to cooperate with the UN delegation.

**Oct. 17:** Saudi Arabia and Gulf States have suspended \$40 million in monthly contributions to PLO [New York Times].

**Oct. 21:** 3 Israelis are stabbed to death allegedly by 19-year-old Palestinian, apparently in response to al-Aqsa mosque massacre on Oct. 8th.

**Oct. 22:** Israeli police surround Jerusalem with roadblocks to keep Palestinians from OPT out of the city, and thousands of border guards are stationed at major intersections and along boundaries between East and West Jerusalem. It is believed to be 1st time that whole city is closed to Palestinians.



**Oct. 23:** US Pres. Bush sends personal letter to PM Shamir urging Israel to accept UN envoy and stating intention not to pursue debate about East Jerusalem housing; Shamir rejects appeal.

**Oct. 24:** Faisal Husseini is released from detention on bail. He was arrested on Oct. 8th on suspicion of inciting Palestinian during Al-Aqsa events.

**Oct. 28:** Statement signed by 81 House of Representatives Democrats strongly opposes offensive military move by US against Iraq.

**Nov. 1:** Number of Soviet immigrants arriving in Israel during Oct. topped 20,000 for first time.

**Nov. 3:** World Bank officials say more than 1.5 million people have been displaced by the Gulf Crisis.

**Nov. 5:** Rabbi Meir Kahane, founder of militant Jewish Defense League and Kach party, assassinated in New York City.

**Nov. 14:** Israel imposes widespread curfews in the OPT in advance of Nov. 15th anniversary of Palestinian declaration of statehood.

**Nov. 19:** Israeli Housing Min. Ariel Sharon says special effort is being made to build housing in East Jerusalem, indicating that of 17,000 new units planned, 15,000 will be built over green line.  
- US officials say PM Shamir's "sea to river" remarks will hurt chances for Arab-Israeli peace and ask for clarification.

**Nov. 21:** PLO Executive Committee issues statement criticizing Shamir's "sea to river" remark. Arab League also condemns Shamir statement.

**Nov. 25:** As part of several new military appointments, Israel announces that Maj. Gen. Ehud Barak will become next IDF chief of staff as of 1 April 1991, replacing Lt. Gen. Dan Shomron.

**Dec. 2:** UNLU leaflet No. 65 calls for making the 4th year of the Intifada a year of Palestinian self-reliance.

**Dec. 5:** Ha'aretz reports Palestinians are prohibited from building on 68% of West Bank's 5.5 million dunums.

**Dec. 9:** King Hussein proposes Gulf peace plan that calls for compromise, talks among Arabs, and linking Palestinian Question to the Gulf Crisis.

**Dec. 10:** Israeli army steps up 3-month-old policy of deploying hidden snipers along highways in the West Bank with authorization to shoot Palestinians seen throwing stones at Israeli cars.  
- Labor MK, Yossi Beilin, presents initiative of dovish Mashov Circle group, calling for "negotiations between Israel and Palestinian delegation with the primary purpose of bringing about Israel's evacuation from the Gaza Strip, to create in the Gaza Strip a Palestinian State.

**Dec. 15:** Israeli issues deportation notices to 4 Gaza Strip Palestinians described by IDF as members of Hamas. Notices are given to Fadel Zaabut, Imad al-Alami, Mustapha al-Lidani, and Sheikh Mustapha Knuah.

**Dec. 17:** Senior Jordanian official says Amman rejects proposal by Israel for bilateral negotiations on water and other territorial disputes, declaring Jordan would enter talks with Israel only in international peace conference on Middle East.

**Dec. 17:** The Mayor of Tel Aviv, Likud's Shlomo Layhat, told Israeli paper Ma'ariv that the PLO should be asked to enter negotiations with Israel for the establishment of a Palestinian state in the OPT. He added that the Golan Heights should be returned to Syria.

**Dec. 24:** Israel in 1990 received highest number of immigrants in one year since 1949. About 187,000 people, mostly Soviet Jews, have arrived to date.

**Dec. 25:** USSR's first consul in Israel since 1967 presents his credentials in Jerusalem while Israel's first consul does likewise in similar ceremony in Moscow.