

1. Headlines

- **Mortars/rockets/casualties/incursions:** According to reports, 1 rocket and 1 mortar were directed by Palestinian armed groups from Gaza at Israeli forces this week as compared to 2 rockets and 3 land mines reported last week. There were reports of 4 Israeli military incursions as compared to 3 Israeli military incursions reported last week. 2 firefights were reported this week, while no firefights were reported the week before.

According to reports, 1 Palestinian was killed and 3 were injured this week after a mortar shell from a Hamas military training camp fell near a house close to Khan Younis in southern Gaza. According to reports, no Palestinians were killed last week; 2 Palestinians were reported injured. No Israeli casualties were reported this week or last week.

- **Fishermen:** 3 incidents of Israeli naval vessels firing at Palestinian fishermen were reported this week. The previous week, 1 incident was reported. Since January 2009, Israeli naval forces have restricted the access of Palestinian fishing boats to three nautical miles from the coast; in practice, access is sometimes restricted to as little as one nautical mile.
- **Tunnel related fatalities:** This week, 2 Palestinians reportedly died in tunnels under the Egypt-Gaza border in two separate tunnel collapses. Another 7 were reported injured and 4 are still missing in a third tunnel collapse. A fire reportedly broke out in a fourth tunnel this week but no injuries were reported. Last week, 7 Palestinians reportedly died in tunnels under the Egypt-Gaza border and over 6 were reported injured under the Egypt-Gaza border. Since the beginning of 2010, according to reports 19 Palestinians have been killed and 34 others have been injured in various tunnel-related incidents, including air strikes, tunnel collapses and electrocutions.
- **Palestinians in the “buffer zone”:** There were 2 reports of Israeli troops firing towards Palestinians in the “buffer zone” this week. In the first incident, Israeli troops reportedly opened fire towards people protesting in the vicinity of the “buffer zone,” in an apparent effort to disperse demonstrators as they marched towards the barrier fence. In the second incident, Israeli soldiers reportedly opened fire on two Palestinians who entered the vehicle lane at Erez crossing on 4 May after being deported from the West Bank to Gaza. The soldiers reportedly asked the two men to take off their clothes, but the latter sat down in the vehicle lane and refused to return to Gaza. Due to their presence, the Israeli army declared the Erez crossing a closed military zone. The two men left the area the following morning.

Last week, 4 incidents were reported of Israeli troops firing towards Palestinians participating in a demonstration in the vicinity of the “buffer zone”, and 2 people were injured. Since 1 April, Israeli forces have reportedly opened fire 13 times towards demonstrators in the vicinity of the “buffer zone.” These demonstrations are organized several times a week by a group representing farmers and other people living near the fence in different locations throughout the Gaza Strip. Israeli forces prohibit Palestinian access to farming land along the perimeter fence by opening “warning fire” on people approaching the “buffer zone”.

- **Rafah border crossing:** The Rafah border crossing was officially closed this week, however people crossed on 3 out of 7 days. During those 3 days, 62 people left and 291 entered Gaza, and another 2 were denied entry to Egypt. Last week, Rafah was officially closed, however people crossed on 2 out of 7 days, during which 5 people left and 286 entered Gaza. The Rafah crossing opens only sporadically; prior to the blockade, during the first six months of 2006, an average of 650 people crossed per day in each direction.

- **Power plant and electricity supply:** 1,354 million litres of industrial fuel were delivered this week for Gaza's power plant. This is only 39% of the 3.5 million litres of fuel needed weekly to operate Gaza's sole power plant at the current maximum export capacity of 80Mw. Last week, 1,463 million litres of industrial fuel were transferred.
Imports of industrial fuel have steeply declined since the end of November 2009, when the European Commission transferred responsibility for buying industrial fuel to operate Gaza's power plant to the Ramallah-based Palestinian Authority.
- **Cooking gas:** 917 tons of cooking gas reportedly entered Gaza this week, 52% of the normal weekly level of need of 1,750 tons. 925 tons of cooking gas were reported to have entered Gaza in the previous week. The overall cooking gas shortage has been a main concern for humanitarian agencies since November 2009.
- **Diesel/petrol:** No diesel or petrol were delivered to Gaza this week, as entry of commercial petrol and diesel continues to be banned through the official crossings between Gaza and Israel. Last week, 294,096 litres of diesel and 44,854 litres of petrol were delivered for use by UNRWA. Small amounts of fuel destined for the open market have been allowed into Gaza from Israel on five occasions since a total ban on fuel imports for public sale was put in place by the Government of Israel in October 2008. Around 100,000 litres of diesel and 100,000 litres of petrol are reported to enter Gaza each day through tunnels under the Gaza-Egypt border (OCHA, 4 May 2010).
- **Truckloads of humanitarian supplies:** 710 truckloads of humanitarian supplies were permitted entry through Kerem Shalom and the Karni conveyor during the week - the equivalent of 54% of the pre-blockade weekly average. 637 trucks were allowed into Gaza during the previous week.

3 truckloads of glass, 15 truckloads of wood and 9 truckloads of aluminum were permitted entry into Gaza this week; 4 truckloads of glass, 13 of wood and 11 of aluminum were allowed in last week. In addition, 48 truckloads of clothing and footwear entered Gaza (compared to 49 last week), and 15 truckloads of plastic pipes were delivered to the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) for the first time since May 2009 (compared to 5 last week).

Entry of other major essential goods, including materials for reconstruction, such as cement, steel bars and paints, furniture, livestock, IT equipment and vehicles, remain either restricted to limited quantities, or barred from entry.

- **Exports:** This week and last week, no truckloads of flowers were exported from the Gaza Strip, as the carnation season has ended. It ended earlier than expected, mainly because of the low prices received for cut flowers on the global market. Between 10 December 2009 and 18 April 2010, a total of 118 truckloads of exports left Gaza, including 85 truckloads of cut flowers and 33 truckloads of strawberries. Prior to this, there had been no exports from Gaza for over seven months - since 27 April 2009 (OCHA, 4 May 2010).
- **Internal Violence:** This week, unknown militants detonated a sonic bomb near the sea shore west of a restaurant in Gaza City; no injuries or damage were reported. In a separate incident, the body of a 16-year old boy with mental disabilities was found in a house in Deir El Balah in Middle Gaza. Last week, three incidents of internal violence were reported.

This update is compiled by **Oxfam International** from the best available information drawn from reliable international sources. Some of the information is preliminary and may be updated in subsequent reports.

2. Fuel deliveries (week)

		Diesel	Petrol	Cooking Gas
2-8 May		294,096 (UNRWA)	44,854 petrol (UNRWA)	917 tons
	Percentage of need *			52%
Previous week		99,500 liters (UNRWA)		925 tons
* Fuel association 2006 estimates - ** Imports of diesel and petrol for the general public and public sector in Gaza were exceptionally authorized on 5 occasions since October 2008				

Delivery of Industrial Fuel to the Power Plant (week):

Industrial diesel	Previous week	2-8 May
	1,463 million litres	1,354 million litres
Percentage of amount required to operate at maximum supply capacity of 80 MW		39%

3. Humanitarian trucks (week):

Truck originator	Total for week 2-8 May
UNRWA	54
WFP	14
ICRC	4
NGO	8
Water utility	15
Commercial	433
Karni Crossing	182
Total trucks for the week	710
Percentage of weekly average before the blockade (April 2007)	54%

4. External links to further reports

UN OCHA Protection of Civilians Weekly Report: 28 April – 4 May

http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_2010_05_06_english.pdf

5. Contact information

Catherine Weibel, Media Lead in Jerusalem: + 972 (0) 54 639 5002 – catherine.weibel@oxfamnovib.nl
Willow Heske, Information Officer in Jerusalem: +972 (0) 57 723 4126 – wheske@oxfam.org.uk

6. Trend Charts

