

Israel and Palestine: Current Events and Future Prospects

David Klein

Israel's Attack of Gaza



- Massive bombing



- White phosphorus



- More than 30 United Nations schools destroyed
- Children used as human shields by Israel



- Half of Gaza's 27 Hospitals bombed
- 46 clinics damaged or destroyed
- 16 medics killed
- 29 ambulances attacked, used as human shields





- More than 40 Mosques destroyed, many others damaged





- University of Gaza destroyed
- U.N. food storage facility burned
- Refugee centers attacked

Palestinian Center for Human Rights:

- 1417 Palestinians killed
- 926 civilians
- 313 children
- More than 5000 severely wounded
- (Israelis: 13 dead, 4 by “friendly fire”)

Why?



Standard U.S./Israeli Propaganda:

“The fact is, this most recent salvo began with the Dec. 19 breach of a cease-fire by the Hamas side.”

- Political Science Prof. James Mitchell, CSUN, Daily Sundial, 10 Feb. 2009



**Intelligence and Terrorism
Information Center at the Israel
Intelligence Heritage &
Commemoration Center**

December, 2008

The Six Months of the Lull Arrangement

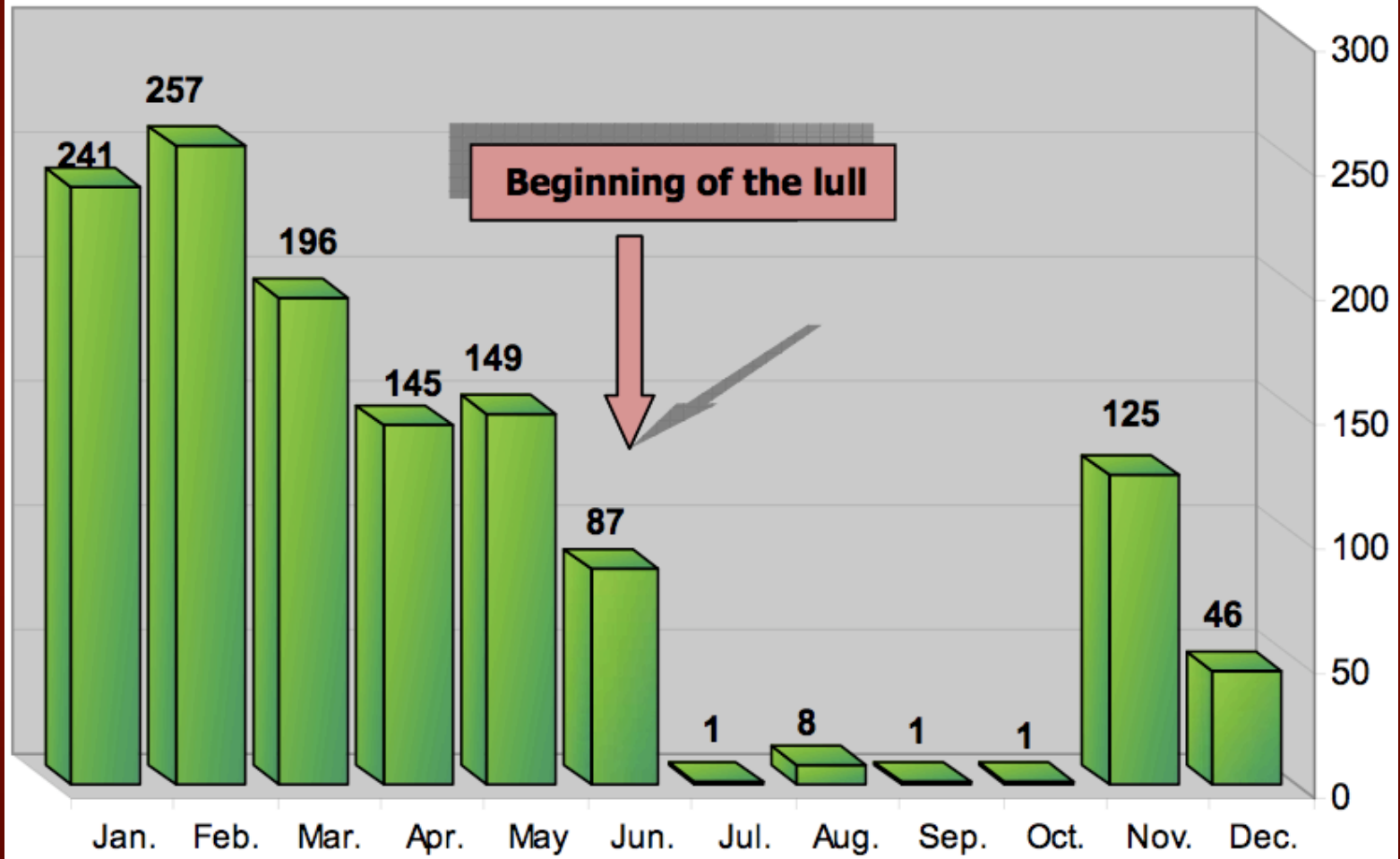
“A period of relative quiet between June 19 and November 4:”

“As of June 19, there was a marked reduction in the extent of attacks on the western Negev population. The lull was sporadically violated by rocket and mortar shell fire, carried out by rogue terrorist organizations, in some instance in defiance of Hamas (especially by Fatah and Al-Qaeda supporters). Hamas was careful to maintain the ceasefire...”

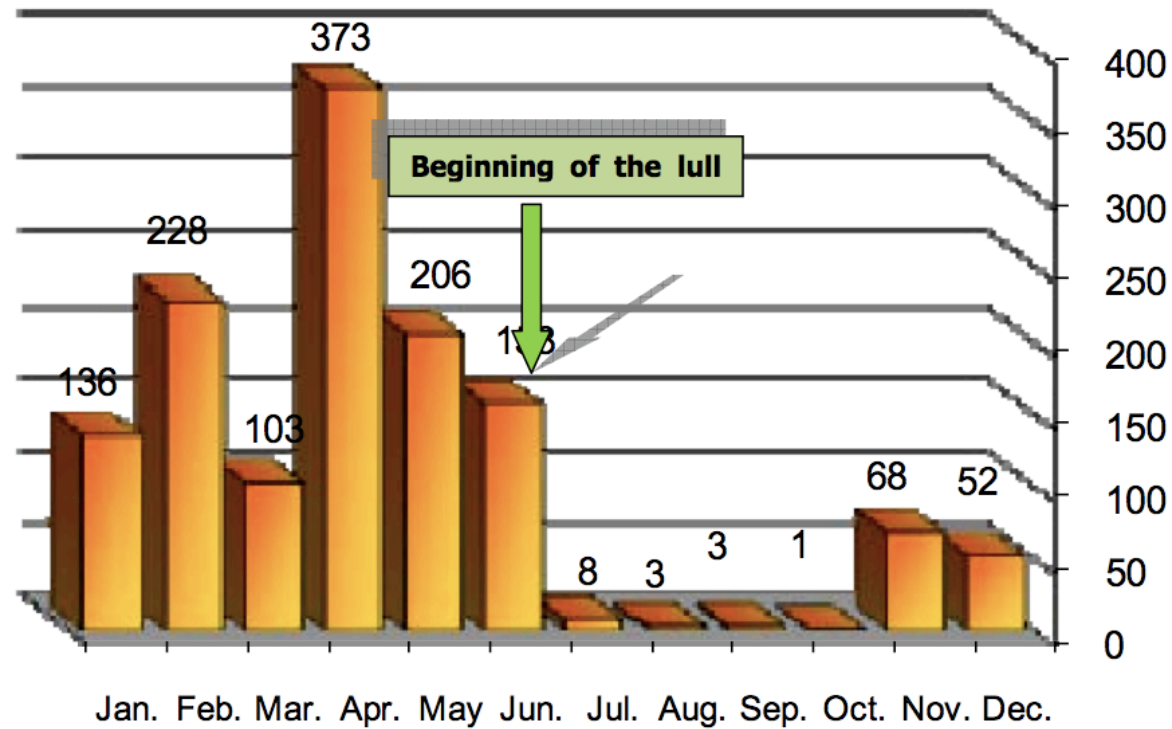
“The escalation and erosion of the lull arrangement, November 4 to the time of this writing, December 17:”

“On November 4 the IDF carried out a military action close to the border security fence on the Gazan side to prevent an abduction planned by Hamas, which had dug a tunnel under the fence to that purpose. Seven Hamas terrorist [sic] operatives were killed during the action. In retaliation, Hamas and the other terrorist organizations attacked Israel with a massive barrage of rockets...”

Monthly Distribution of Rocket Fire during the Past Year



Monthly Distribution of Mortar Shell Fire during the Past Year



Israel initiates most attacks

Reigniting Violence: How Do Ceasefires End? (by faculty members at MIT, Tel Aviv University, and a graduate student at Harvard)

From 2000 to 2008, “79% of all conflict pauses were interrupted when Israel killed a Palestinian, while only 8% were interrupted by Palestinian attacks (the remaining 13% were interrupted by both sides on the same day).” Also, “of the 25 periods of nonviolence lasting longer than a week, Israel unilaterally interrupted 24, or 96%, and **it unilaterally interrupted 100% of the 14 periods of nonviolence lasting longer than 9 days.**”

Why does
Israel oppose peace?

Territorial Expansion, Ethnic Cleansing

Palestinian loss of land, 1946 - 1999







"This rabbi comes to us and says the fight is between the children of light and the children of darkness. His message was clear: 'This is a war against an entire people, not against specific terrorists.' "

-- Israeli Soldier

"Gaza veterans said rabbis advised army units to show the enemy no mercy and called for resettlement of the Palestinian enclave by Jews."

L.A. Times, March 25, 2009

Likud Party Platform:

"The Jewish communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza are the realization of Zionist values. Settlement of the land is a clear expression of the unassailable right of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel and constitutes an important asset in the defense of the vital interests of the State of Israel. The Likud will continue to strengthen and develop these communities and will prevent their uprooting...**The Government of Israel flatly rejects the establishment of a Palestinian Arab state west of the Jordan river.**"

“You take my water. Burn my Olive Trees. Destroy my house. Take my job. Steal my Land. Imprison my Mother. Bomb my country. Starve us all. Humiliate us all. But I am to blame: I shot a rocket back.”

– Sign carried near Hyde Park Corner during a demonstration in London on 2/15/09 by a Member of the British Parliament

What can be done?

- Learn more:
www.csun.edu/~vcmth00m/boycott.html
- Teach others
- Protest
- Boycott