



## Search

Search Criteria

### Advanced Search

- Daily Star Sections
- Regional
- Lebanon
- Regional News
- Politics
- Business
- Editorial
- Opinion
- Arts
- Culture
- Sports
- Special Reports
- Interviews
- Readers' Letters
- Today's Cartoons

- Site Services
- Registration PDF version
- Digital Edition
- Classifieds
- RSS Feeds

[Add DS Headlines](#)

[Ringtones & Logos](#)

[Hotel Al Bustan enjoy the summer](#)

[Registration PDF version](#)

[Digital Edition](#)

[Classifieds](#)

[RSS](#)

[Add DS Headlines](#)

[Ringtones & Logos](#)



## POLITICS

# Israel seizes Palestinian land for barrier

## PA officials condemn move and urge international community to intervene

Compiled by Daily Star staff

**Thursday, August 25, 2005**



&

Israel has issued orders to seize Palestinian-owned land to build a section of its separation barrier around the largest Jewish settlement in the West Bank, the Justice Ministry said.

Palestinians condemned the construction of the barrier around Maaleh Adumim and accused Israel of quietly issuing the land-confiscation order while the world's attention was focused on the Israeli

withdrawal from the Gaza Strip.

Israel says the barrier is needed to keep suicide bombers from entering the country. The Palestinians accuse Israel of imposing a border that will swallow up chunks of territory they claim for a future independent state.

When complete, the 680-kilometer wall is expected to include about 8 percent of the West Bank.

Amos Gil, executive director of Ir Amim, an Israeli settlement monitoring group, said the Maaleh Adumim confiscation would seize about 60 square kilometers of land.

[Attorney General](#) Meni Mazuz approved the order after a legal review, the Justice Ministry said.

The orders were posted on Monday in part of the territory to be seized - a desert area inhabited mostly by bedouin Arab farmers, Gil said. More expropriation orders are expected to be issued in the coming days or weeks, he added.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has repeatedly said his withdrawal from Gaza and part of the West Bank will cement Israel's hold on large West Bank settlement blocs, including Maaleh Adumim. About 30,000 people live in the settlement, located on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

The head of Israel's main anti-settlement watchdog Peace Now said that there has been a big increase in the West Bank settler population since Sharon unveiled his Gaza withdrawal plan 18 months ago.

"We know for example that just between December to the beginning of July of this year, 6,000 people have moved" to the West Bank, Yaariv Oppenheimer said.

## LEBANON HEADLINE:

### Local News. . . . .

- » PSP youth camp kicks off
- » Activists campaign to grant women equal citizenship rights
- » Pharmaceutical market flooded w suspect medicati

### Politics. . . . .

- » Cabinet bickerin continues over Lebanon's securit posts
- » UN Security Cou to receive report Hariri assassinati
- » Salloukh urged file UN complaint prisoners in Israe

### Business News. . . . .

- » Lebanese Industrialist Association backs Hariri's list for chamber
- » DSL can increas Lebanon's Intern usage
- » Tourism shrugs latest Beirut blas

### Star Scene. . . . .

- » Art event proce help fund Childre Cancer Center



## [Cheap Phone Cards to Lebanon](#)

Bidvertiser

### [Earn your College Degree](#)

Convert your experience into an accredited college degree

### [Pokerroom.com](#)

Play poker, meet thousands of players. Safe, secure and fun!

[Advertise Here...](#)

Ads by Goooooogle

### [Israeli Army-IDF t-shirts](#)

Krav Maga, Counter Terror School, Commandos, Air Force, Navy, Police. [www.Plugot.com](#)

### [Jerusalem Flowers](#)

Great deals on Jerusalem Flowers Shop on eBay and Save! [www.eBay.com](#)

The Palestinians say the Gaza withdrawal must be the first step toward a negotiated settlement giving them an independent state that includes all of the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

"Such decisions will only serve to undermine any efforts to resume negotiations," said a senior Palestinian official, Saeb Erekat. "This will destroy [U.S.] President [George W.] Bush's vision of a two-state solution."

Samir Huleileh, secretary of the Palestinian Cabinet, urged the international community to intervene. Palestinian officials are preparing to oppose the action in Israel courts, he said.

Ads by Goooooogle

### [Jerusalem Flowers](#)

Great deals on Jerusalem Flowers Shop on eBay and Save!

[www.eBay.com](#)

### [Flowers for all occasions](#)

Send fresh flowers to Her 100% satisfaction guaranteed!

[www.mostflowers.com](#)

all its soldiers would be out of the Gaza Strip within a month, ending four decades of occupation of the Palestinian territory.

A day after Israel uprooted settlers from 21 Gaza settlements and four in the West Bank in just a week, Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz confirmed that the equally momentous departure of his troops was being fast-tracked as well.

And he confirmed Israel has reached an agreement to turn over control over a volatile stretch of the Gaza-Egypt border to 750 Egyptian troops.

The transfer of border supervision to the Egyptians is key to ending Israel's Gaza occupation.

The agreement had been held up by Israeli concerns that weapons and explosives would be smuggled across the border from Egypt's Sinai Peninsula into Gaza once its troops leave Gaza.

"This agreement ultimately gives comprehensive - and I emphasize comprehensive - responsibility to the Egyptians regarding the prevention of weapons smuggling in the Philadelphi corridor in tunnels and above ground, into the Gaza Strip," Mofaz told Army Radio.

It wasn't immediately clear what responsibilities Palestinian troops on the Gaza side of the border would have.

Israel and the Palestinians, meanwhile, have reached an agreement on disposing rubble from the homes bulldozers have been demolishing in evacuated settlements since late last week, officials from both sides said.

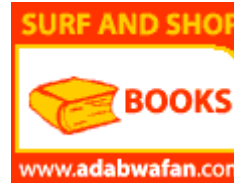
Under the deal, brokered by international Mideast envoy James Wolfensohn, Israel is to demolish all homes in the empty settlements and remove asbestos and any other hazardous materials to sites inside Israel.

The Palestinians are to dispose of the remaining rubble, keeping reusable materials to build a seaport and other houses, and transferring the remainder to a third party.

Israel is to foot the estimated \$30 million bill, and expects to complete the demolitions by early September. - AP, AFP

» Top restaurants singled out for pr in Jounieh award ceremony

» Gold and glamo display at Yessay Jeweler's fashion event



### [A wealth vehicle.](#)

Earn \$4K-5K part time/mon Turnkey. Endless support. [www.wealthandfuture.com](#)

### [AACR Cancer Research](#)

There will be a cure to cancer someday. Lets make this happen as soon as possible Donate now to the America Association for Cancer Res Saving Lives Through Rese [www.aacr.org](#)

### [Attract Relevant Visitors](#)

ExpoActive allows you to pr your products or services e: and efficiently. Get started today!

[www.expoactive.com](#)

Ads by Exp



NEWSLETTER  
Sign up to our free newsletter:

[Printable Version](#)

[Send to a friend](#)



25°C  
Partly Cloud

Feels Like: 27°C  
Humidity: 78%  
Wind: SE at 8 km/h

Enter city/zip

Airport Delay  
Sporting Eve  
Pollen Report

Download Desktop Weath

**Your feedback is important to us!**  
**We invite all our readers to share with us**  
**their views and comments about this**  
**article.**

**Click here NOW to Comment on this Article**



[The Stone of Laughter](#)

Hoda Barakat  
New \$10.36!  
Used \$5.50!

[Beirut Outtakes](#)

Larry Pintak

Used \$1.45!

[INSHALLAH](#)

Oriane Fallaci



[Koolaid's](#)

Rabih Alameddine  
New \$10.40!  
Used \$0.99!

[The Breakdown of the State in Lebanon...](#)



Farid el Khazen  
New \$47.67!

[DelCorso's Gallery](#)

Philip



[Israel's Lebanon War](#)

Ze'ev Schiff  
New \$20.95!  
Used \$7.00!

[Pity the Nation](#)



Robert Fisk  
New \$12.89!  
Used \$8.00!

[The War for Lebanon, 1970-1985](#)

Itamar

WEEKLY POLL

Do you feel that the performance of the Siniora cabinet until now is promising

Yes

No

(View Results)

More Politics . . . . .

- » Iraq's Kurds approve constitution but Sunnis remain firmly opposed
- » Jordan fingers Zarqawi for rocket attack
- » Radical Muslims told to leave Australia
- » U.S. lobbies for Iran to face Security Council
- » Conference examining massacre of Armenians to go ahead in Turkey
- » Liberal Wafd: A soft challenge for Mubarak
- » Al-Qaeda in Iraq claims Jordan rocket attacks
- » Israel completes withdrawal of 15,000 settlers
- » Iraqi Sunnis warn against adopting draft charter
- » Key elements of Iraq's draft constitution
- » With eyes on Iraq, Arabs fear spread of federalism
- » Iran outlines plans to expand air defense

**NEW**

Get the latest Ringtones & Logo

**web publishers:**

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Anti-Spamming Policy](#) | [Copyright Policy](#)  
| [Jobs@Daily Star](mailto:Jobs@Daily Star)

Copyright © 2004, The Daily Star. All rights reserved.  
[Click here](#) to contact our syndication department for permission to republish or make other authorized use of this material. Contact the [Online editor](#) to report any problems with the site or to send your comments and suggestions.