

On 30 June 2004 the Israeli High Court of Justice (Israel's Supreme Court) ruled that the proposed route of the wall northwest of Jerusalem should be re-routed to "minimize hardship to the Palestinians". This ruling obliged the Israeli Government to make substantial revisions, in order to prevent the wall from placing a broad swathe of Palestinian homes and land on the Israel side, or cutting off Palestinian homes and land on the Israel side, or cutting off Palestinian villagers from their fields and schools, save for lengthy detours and in restricted hours

Among the petitioners to the Israeli High Court, seeking what they considered a more equitable route for the wall, was the Israeli Council for Peace and Security, headed by a retired Israeli Police major-general, Shaul Givoli. The alternative route had been prepared by a retired Israeli army colonel, Shaul Arieli. A leading Labour parliamentarian, Haim Ramon, called on the Government to build the wall along the Green Line

Three of Ariel Sharon's Ministers urged him to initiate legislation that would circumvent the High Court's ruling. He refused to do this

Martin Gilbert 2005

## Jerusalem

- The 'Green Line': the ceasefire line of 1949; Israel's border until 1967
  - Wall constructed by 30 June 2004, accepted by the Israeli High Court (10 kilometres)
- Wall contructed by 30 June 2004, rejected by the Israeli High Court (30 kilometres)
- = Alternate route proposed by the Israeli Council for Peace and Security (An Israeli human rights organization)