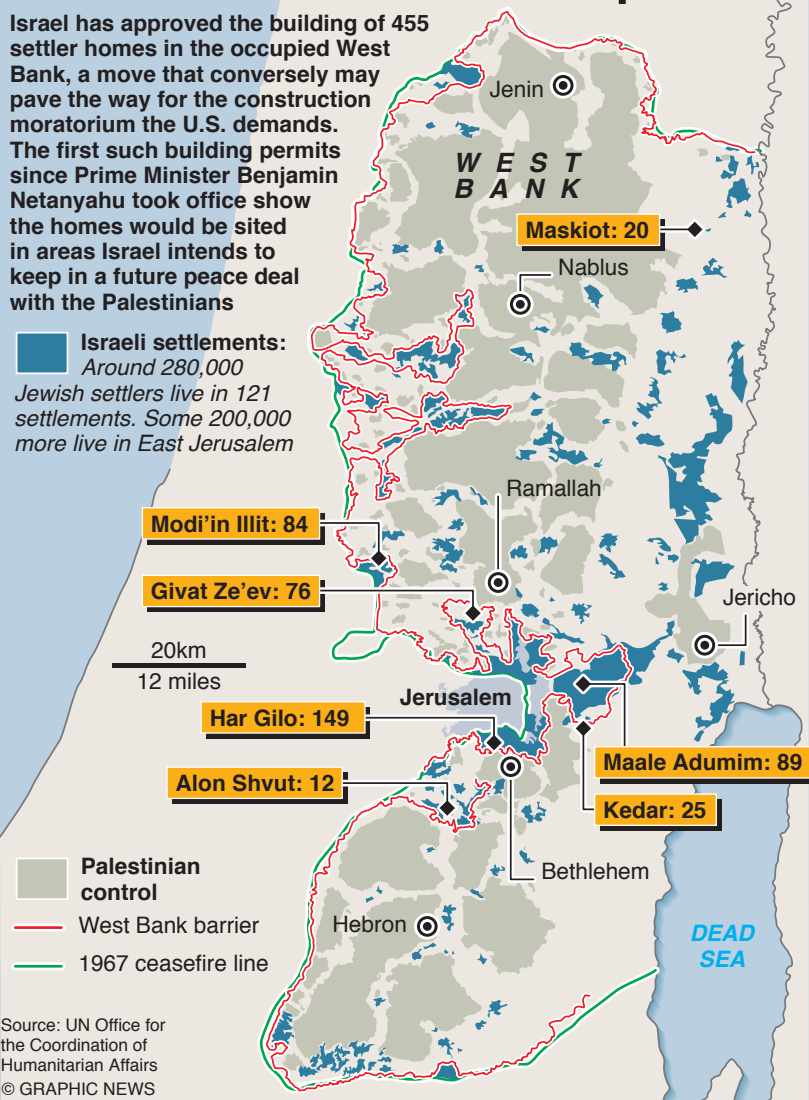


# Israel authorises new settlement expansion

Israel has approved the building of 455 settler homes in the occupied West Bank, a move that conversely may pave the way for the construction moratorium the U.S. demands. The first such building permits since Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took office show the homes would be sited in areas Israel intends to keep in a future peace deal with the Palestinians

**Israeli settlements:**  
Around 280,000  
Jewish settlers live in 121 settlements. Some 200,000 more live in East Jerusalem



Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs  
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