

Defend the Palestinian People

Protest Israeli Terror in Gaza

As the U.S. continues to prosecute its criminal war and occupation of the people of Iraq, the Bush administration has given its blessing and full support to an Israeli invasion of Gaza. The occupations of Iraq and Palestine are both part of the same strategy of U.S. domination in the Middle East. Both are characterized by extreme human rights violations. And both are financed by our tax dollars

The Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) launched a brutal assault on the entire population of Gaza in the early morning hours of June 28. U.S.-supplied F-16 fighter-bombers destroyed the main power station in Gaza and destroyed bridges on the only major roads linking the northern and southern sections of the region. Round-the-clock Israeli artillery shelling is taking place. Most of the people of Gaza are now without water and electricity – Palestinians are dying. The Israeli Air Force has carried out many air strikes, and constant sonic booms over heavily populated areas. Israeli heavy artillery barrages are continuing around the clock.

On July 1, the office of the Palestinian Prime Minister, Ismail Haniyeh was destroyed by an Israeli bombing. As of July 5, 11 Palestinians have been killed and many more wounded. Israeli troops, tanks and helicopters have re-invaded Gaza, surrounding the northern towns of Beit Hanun and Beit Lahiya, and the southern city of Rafah. The use of U.S. planes and other military equipment against illegally occupied land is a violation of both international and U.S. law. In a further act of colonial aggression, the IOF has arrested a third of the members of the Palestinian Authority governing body.

While a great outcry is heard in the mass media about one captured Israeli soldier, the same media pays no attention whatsoever to the 9,000 Palestinian political prisoners being held illegally under terrible conditions in Israeli prisons. All of them were abducted by the IOF. At least 335 of these prisoners are children. Palestinian prisoners are systematically tortured by



Israel, the only country in the world that has legalized torture.

Deliberately attacking the civilian population, with the intent of causing maximum suffering, is clearly a crime against humanity. What we are witnessing today in Gaza is collective punishment -- a war crime under international law -- against the entire population.

Israel's racist apartheid system and the latest assault on Gaza is supported by the Bush regime, Congress and the corporate media, because of Israel's vital role in Washington's project of Middle East domination. Israel receives more military and economic aid from the U.S. -- over \$3 billion annually -- than any other country. Without that aid and support it receives from Washington, Israel could not carry out its crimes against the Palestinian people.

End the Siege of Gaza!
End All U.S. Aid to Israel!
Boycott Israeli Goods!

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Go to answercoalition.org to make a donation to support the movement in solidarity with Palestine.