Floating pier off Gaza: pretext for U.S. intervention

By Monica Moorehead

The heinous genocide of the people of Gaza by U.S.-backed Israel has lasted five months as of March 7, resulting in the massacre killing over 3,000 Palestinians and wounding nearly 80,000.

Presently, hundreds of thousands of people face a slow, agonizing death by starvation. The Israeli Occupation Forces continue to block Gaza’s Rafah border with Egypt. There some 1,500 trucks wait, ready to bring food, water, medical supplies and other humanitarian needs to besieged Gaza, stopped by the IOF.

In response to the roadblocks by the Israelis, some countries, including the U.S., have been making air drops of food to Gaza. The amounts are a mere pittance compared to what is really needed. Some drops ended up in the sea, out of reach of the people. Some contained expired food. Five Gazans, including children, were recently killed when these heavy crates fell on them and crushed them.

The Palestinian resistance has stated on multiple occasions that these air drops are insufficient and ineffective in meeting the humanitarian needs of the people — and they are also humiliating.

The Biden administration, which has been complicit since day one in this genocide, announced last week its plans to build a floating pier, allegedly to bring humanitarian aid to Gaza. This pier reportedly will take up to two months to build. The Pentagon also announced plans to send 1,000 U.S. troops to help build the pier.

At the same time the administration made this announcement, it was revealed that the U.S. has continued to send more weapons to the Zionist regime.

In a March 10 statement, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, emphasized that, “The behavior of the American administration in the previous days and its suspicious movements, such as its announcement of establishing a floating sea port on the shores of the Gaza Strip that takes time to build, and its continuation in supplying the occupation with huge and unprecedented amounts of ammunition and weapons by air bridge non-stop as revealed by American media, does not indicate a change in the American stance from the war on the Strip. Rather it indicates insistence on prolonging the duration of the battle and besieging the Strip security and field under humanitarian justifications.” (Resistance News Network)

UNRWA staff members tortured

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has provided aid for displaced Palestinians since 1950. In February UNRWA issued a report stating that some of their staff members were illegally detained and then coerced by Israeli authorities, who used torture, into falsely stating that the agency worked in concert with Hamas in carrying out the Oct. 7 uprising.

These accusations led to the firing of some of the UNRWA staff and the defending of hundreds of millions of dollars from the agency. The Belgian government accused Israel of bombing the Belgian Agency for Development Cooperation in the Gaza Strip when officials in Brussels refused to rescind their funding from the UNRWA.

At least 150 UNRWA staff members have been killed by the Israelis since Oct. 7.

Despite UNRWA coming under attack, the agency announced efforts to use an Israeli military road bordering Gaza to test its suitability for delivering humanitarian aid to northern parts of the enclave, according to a U.N. official.

Philadelphia Martyrs Day march for Palestine

By Betsye Piette

Over 1,000 people marched in rain and sometimes gale force winds in recognition of Palestinian Martyrs Day and International Working Women’s Day in Philadelphia on March 9. Starting with a rally at Rittenhouse Square, the crowd took to the streets, heading around City Hall and up North Broad to Spring Garden Street. They ended outside the headquarters of arms manufacturer Day & Zimmermann.

At a closing rally there, protesters carried mock cardboard missiles and other signs targeting the company for profiting from genocide.

The privately owned munitions manufacturer outsources to several U.S. factories that produce much of the artillery munitions used by the Israeli Occupation Forces in Gaza. This includes the highly explosive M830A1 rounds Israeli tanks fired at a United Nations school in Gaza in November.

Israeli tanks fired M830A1 rounds Jan. 29 that killed 6-year-old Hind Rajab, her six family members and the medics who attempted to rescue her in the Gaza neighborhood of Tel al-Hawa. The serial number on an exploded round found inside the ambulance indicates it was produced by Mason & Hanger, a subsidiary of Day & Zimmermann.

In honor of International Working Women’s Day, March 8, some speakers addressed the particular plight of Palestinian women in Gaza, where Israel has killed an average of two women an hour since October.

Speakers throughout the protest included representatives from Philippine rights group Anakbyan, Palestine prisoners support group Samidoun, Health Care Workers for Palestine, Temple University Students for Justice in Palestine and the Philadelphia Palestine Coalition, which organized the event. Workers World Party Philadelphia is a member of the coalition and was an endorser of the rally.

Philadelphia, March 9, 2024.

Register at tinyurl.com/mar21wwp
Mainstream Democrats appear to be breathing a sigh of relief after President Joe Biden’s State of the Union address. What was officially the first campaign speech for Biden’s reelection in November has been widely described as well-delivered and coherent—even “fairy.”

Workers World sees things differently. We noticed that Biden began his speech with a call to arms—as in more arms to Ukraine to continue the U.S./NATO proxy war against Russia, which Congressional Republicans demagogically oppose.

And we noticed that the few minutes devoted to the genocide in Palestine—during which all talk of speech—reiterated U.S. support for the Israeli apartheid state.

Biden might appear “fairy,” but not to anyone who has been a Palestinian solidarity demonstrator, where the speakers represent the oppressed masses and turn their suffering into passion-ate words. What Biden did was read prepared lines and raise his voice.

This week on March 3, 1,000 U.S. troops will be deployed to the Mediterranean Sea to build a “floating pier” to allow “uncommitted” on primary election ballots to vote in Hawaii.

The very next day Harris met with Benny Gantz, a member of Netanyahu’s war cabinet, who proclaimed, “Now is a time for war.” (Reuters.com, Oct. 11, 2023)

If there is any real rift, it’s between President Kamala Harris supposed “ceasefire” and, “Harris reiterated the Biden administration’s “unwavering” commitment to Israel’s security and its right to defend itself from the threat of future attacks by Hamas.” (NYT.com, March 1, 2024)

The fact that those two are presented as the only choices in U.S. president in November exposes the much-hyped sham that is capitalist “democracy.” As Karl Marx wrote in “The Civil War in France” in 1871, “The oppressed are allowed once every few years to decide which particular representatives of the oppressing class are to represent and repress them.”

Join us in the fight for socialism! Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for ever-greater profits.

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No social problems can be solved under capitalism. All wealth in society, and this wealth should be produced by the working class are to represent and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you.

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