

# Anti-Imperialist News Service

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## Congress Prepares to Double Iron Dome Funding

As people from all walks of life rally all across the country, express their deepest outrage and come out again and again in their millions to demand an immediate end to U.S.-Israeli aggression, the Democrats and Republicans in Congress are preparing to further boost Israel's "deterrent power."

The emergency bill requesting more aid to Israel was introduced by Senate Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Barbara Mikulski (D) on July 23. Using "Operation Protective Edge" as a pretext, the Senate Appropriations Committee plans to nearly double funds for the Iron Dome from \$351 million to \$576 million for fiscal year 2015. The U.S. has already poured over a billion dollars into the Iron Dome.

The new proposal is coming at a time

when unrelenting Israeli shelling and bombing continues and the Palestinian people have still not been able to bury the hundreds of victims of unrelenting and savage Israeli terror.

U.S. imperialism remains the number one international arms dealer as well as the main source of instability and aggression in the Middle East today.

Funding for the Iron Dome ballistic missile defense system comes not only from American taxpayers but also from Palestinian and Syrian Arab residents of territories seized by Israel in 1967 and from Israeli citizens.

The Iron Dome is a first-strike weapon which can wipe out the strategic or short-range missiles of an adversary, thus de-

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## Growing U.S. Presence in Europe

The U.S. Defense Department requested \$1 billion to pre-position supplies to the NATO Membership Action Plan (MAP) states of Georgia, Moldova and the Ukraine. MAP states are on track to become NATO member states. Finances earmarked as "Overseas Contingency Funds" will be used to supply the \$1 billion. Some of the money will also go to pre-position supplies elsewhere "across Europe, particularly in the territory of newer allies" according to a Defense Department press re-

lease.

Since 2004, NATO acquired the following states: Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

NATO acquired the following former Warsaw Pact states in 1999: Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland.

"The MAP was launched in April 1999 at the Alliance's Washington Summit to help countries aspiring to NATO membership in

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## Iron Dome Funding

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stroying its deterrent force and leaving it defenseless. This greatly increases the threat and reality of a first-strike attack.

The extreme aggressiveness of the U.S.-Israeli alliance can be seen in Israel's first-strike attack against a defenseless civilian population under its own legal protection. So too, the Obama administration has repeatedly insisted that it will not be bound by arms treaties

or put peace negotiations ahead of its militarist ambitions.

In order to defeat U.S. imperialism's ballistic missile program and fight for the thorough destruction of all weapons of mass destruction we must develop a proactive movement for peace which demands an immediate end to all U.S. interference, aggression and militarism and targets the monopoly capitalist class and the imperialist system as the source of war.

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## U.S. Presence in Europe

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their preparations. The process drew heavily on the experience gained during the accession process of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, which became members in the Alliance's first post-Cold War round of enlargement in 1999," according to the NATO Membership Action Plan fact sheet.

U.S. policy-makers continue to push for "the en-

largement of NATO to include nations with democratic values and free market economies" and to extend the operations of this aggressive, military alliance "to deal with the geopolitical problems of the Middle East and Eurasia."

This latest step by Obama and Congress demonstrates the need for all peace-loving people to speak out and organize against the growing danger of war.

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