

# Anti-Imperialist News Service

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## Editorial Statement of The “Anti-Imperialist News Service”

After Israel failed to achieve its stated objectives (to evacuate residents living near the Israeli buffer zone, to reoccupy Gaza or at least to destroy its network of underground tunnels), U.S. officials began actively to call for the pacification of the Palestinian resistance, especially through disarmament.

Of course, the U.S. Congress is at once turning over more weapons to Israeli Occupation Forces. For example, last month Obama signed a bill to free up an extra \$225 million for emergency aid. (Most of the Israeli government’s arms financing comes from the U.S.)

The U.S. demand for Palestinian pacification is more than hypocritical; it sets the stage for more Israeli violence against the Palestinians. Obviously no-one could ever disarm the population, especially when the next Israeli military offensive is only a matter of time. On September 2, not even seven days after its

ceasefire began, Israel’s military commanders broke their agreement when they allowed sailors to fire at Palestinians fishing near Rafah.

Furthermore, the only thing stopping Israel from acquiring new borders, is the national liberation struggle of the Palestinian people.

Like a wolf in sheep’s clothing, U.S. imperialism is using a front of “neutrality” to divert from the criminal nature of Israel’s settler-colonial expansion. According to the White House, Palestinians must bargain with Israel over their future even while Israel pillages Palestine. A recent statement from the U.S. State Department even minimized as “counterproductive to negotiations” Prime Minister Netanyahu’s short-term plans to displace more Palestinians and raze their homes to the ground.

Clearly the U.S. government is not an “honest” broker seeking “peace” between Israeli zionism and the Arab peoples. To defeat

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## Palestinians Used as Scapegoat for Illegal Land Confiscation

In late August the Israeli cabinet decided to snatch more good land across Jaba, Surif, Wadi Fukin, Husan and Nahalin. This would be the largest land grab in thirty years, according to data compiled by the Israeli human rights organization “Peace Now.”

The article, “Israel confiscates 1,000 acres of Palestinian land south of Bethlehem” provides more information about Prime Minister Netanyahu’s plans. It is reprinted from Ma'an News Agency (8/31).

Israeli authorities on Sunday announced the confiscation of around 4,000 dunums (1,000 acres) of private Palestinian land south of Bethlehem.

Palestinian owners of the land were given 45 days to submit formal objections to the an-

nouncement in Israeli courts, otherwise all confiscated lands would automatically become Israeli government property.

Mayor of the nearby Palestinian town of Surif Muhammad Ghuneimat told Ma'an that Israeli forces posted signs in private olive tree orchards in the area warning that they have been confiscated by the Israeli government.

Ghuneimat added that the confiscated fields belonged to Palestinians from the towns of Surif, Husan, al-Jabaa and Bethlehem. Part of the lands being confiscated are already home to the illegal Jewish settlement of Gvaot, part of the Gush Etzion settlement bloc.

The announcement reportedly came as a

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# U.S. Imposes More Penalties on Iran

As part of Obama's "carrot and stick" approach to Iran, a new round of sanctions were announced in August. U.S. Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence David Cohen explained that the latest U.S. sanctions "reflect our continuing determination to take action against anyone, anywhere, who violates our sanctions."

The U.S. is putting itself forward as a superpower but it is trampling underfoot the entire edifice of international law and turning the clock backwards to the days of open colonialism and gunboat diplomacy.

Today, any country or people who, for whatever reason, oppose the dictates of the U.S. monopolies are attacked as "outlaws" or "rogue states" as "terrorists" "drug-dealers" etc. In turn, U.S. imperialism uses these slogans to

impose military blackmail on the peoples.

Thus, the Obama administration is imposing sanctions on Iran but it is U.S. imperialism which has deployed its military on the land, in the skies and on the seas of every continent to threaten the peoples.

Thus, the Obama administration is imposing sanctions on Iran but it is U.S. imperialism which dropped hundreds of thousands of bombs on peoples throughout the world including in Korea, Vietnam, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Thus, the Obama administration is imposing sanctions on Iran but it is U.S. imperialism which has not only unleashed nuclear weapons on humanity but which continues to impose nuclear blackmail on the peoples.

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## Growing U.S. Presence in Europe

In July 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 release.

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 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 enlargement 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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## Palestine

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response by Israeli political authorities in response to the abduction and killing of three Israeli teens in the area near Gush Etzion settlement bloc in June.

The Etzion settlements council welcomed Sunday's announcement, saying in a statement that it "paves the way for the new city of Gevaot."

"The goal of the murderers of those three youths was to sow fear among us, to disrupt our daily lives and to call into doubt our right to the land," it said. "Our response is to strengthen settlement."

Since mid-June, Israeli authorities have announced more than 1,472 new settlement homes, slated to house around 6,000 Jewish settlers, across the West Bank, including around Bethlehem.

## Editorial

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the plots of U.S. imperialism we must support the Palestinian national liberation struggle. Only the path of struggle will result in freedom from Zionist occupation and imperialist domination.

The Palestinian liberation struggle is a call to the conscience of all Americans, a demand that we rise in struggle to end U.S. imperialism's support for Israeli occupation and aggression and support the Palestinian people's inalienable right to a sovereign state in their historic homeland.

The anti-war movement cannot afford to give the U.S. government any breathing space at all. On the contrary. Now is the time to keep the fire burning under the feet of the warmakers, to increase our vigilance and intensify our anti-war struggles.

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