

NO TECH FOR GENOCIDE SHUT IT DOWN UNTIL ZIONISM FALLS

WORLD

Israel Uses AI Systems to Target Families for Bombings

Through AI contracts supplied by American tech companies, the IOF has automated the identification, tracking, and bombing of Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank.

SEE PAGE 2

METRO

Community Organizers Force Elbit Out of Cambridge

After a year of sustained protests, the largest Israeli arms company finally left town. BDS Boston reflects on the campaign and the lessons students can learn from it.

SEE PAGE 4

GOOGLE

A Conversation with a No Tech For Apartheid Organizer

The *Crimeson* sat down with a former Google employee who was fired for participating in a sit-in to protest the company's contracts with the Israeli government and military.

SEE PAGE 7



An unexploded Mark 80 bomb, provided by the United States to Israel, in the rubble of a Gazan refugee camp in April 2024. MOHAMMED SABER / EPA

The Crimeson's Top Six Companies to Watch Out For

Whether you're reading this issue of *The Crimeson* at the career fair or elsewhere, keep your eyes peeled for the human rights violators listed here. They may try to recruit you so that they can exploit your labor as they profit off the death and displacement of Palestinians. These companies and institutions are involved at every level of Israeli colonial violence — from investing in arms dealers, to building the weapons and technology Israel relies upon to carry out its genocide, to promoting speech that seeks to justify and conceal their war crimes.

These employers need the labor of people like you for their deadly operations to function, but they would never tell you that. They need you to buy into their facade of diversity and inclusion so that they can use your time and skills to annihilate our world. This is not to say that we can ever totally opt out of our complicity under capitalism — for one, we are Harvard students; through our tuition dollars and the institutional privileges we reap, we are complicit in Harvard's support of a settler colonial state seeking the total elimination of Palestinians. But this complicity requires that we act. We may find ourselves *within* oppressive systems, but we refuse to comply with them: They will not dictate what harm and devastation we must accept; they will not steal our voice or sense of justice.

So, before you sign that recruitment offer, ask your recruiter the questions no one will ask: What is this company's relationship to Israel? Does it invest actively or offer ideological support? What are its plans to divest from these relations in the face of Israel's ongoing genocide? If there are none, how many more Palestinians need to be murdered before they will "rethink their business model" or challenge the sacredness of endless profit over all life on Earth? You have the right to know, you have a responsibility to your own moral conscience, and, most of all, you have the obligation to fight for a liberated world.

We call on all Harvard students to withhold their labor from the following companies until they disclose all investments in Israel, divest from them, and reinvest in Palestinian life and liberation.

At the October 18 Diversity Opportunities Fair:

Bank of America

Bank of America was a crucial part of a \$500 million loan to Elbit, the largest Israeli arms company, which produces more than 80% of Israel's land and air equipment, including assassination drones, the armored bulldozers used to demolish civilian homes, and the rocket artillery currently destroying Gaza and Lebanon. Not content to just make the weapons, Bank of America, along with other American mega-banks, has underwritten billions of dollars worth of Israeli government bonds in the past year, helping finance the ongoing genocide of Gaza.

CIA

Despite the U.S. government's perpetually professed intention of "spreading democracy" around the globe, the Central Intelligence Agency has long been the covert enforcer of the only real American foreign policy — visiting overt violence upon civilian populations in the name of American hegemony and profit.

Between assassination, torture, blackmail, and un-

lawful surveillance, the CIA has done it all, including against U.S. citizens. CIA operations promoting "regime change" have armed death squads, plotted the assassination of democratically-elected leaders, disseminated propaganda, abetted violent military coups, and much more around the world and on every inhabited continent. A similarly inexhaustible list is that of the places around the world where the CIA is responsible for the deaths of thousands upon thousands of people: Chile, Guatemala, Afghanistan, Iraq, Indonesia, Chad, Fiji, Nicaragua, Panama, Libya. The list goes on.

Right now, virtually every device in existence is compromised by the CIA's cyber-intelligence program: From iPhones to Windows laptops to Samsung televisions, if it turns on, the CIA can turn it into a remote listening device and access anything on it. If hired by them, you can look forward to spying on civilians in their private moments, spreading disinformation at will, and assisting in assassinations and murders across the globe.

Other Major Recruiters:

Nvidia

Nvidia is not just the world's leader in the chip revolution, with a market cap of over \$3.3 trillion; it is also a leader in weaponizing AI for the military-industrial complex. It is currently building an AI supercomputer for the Pentagon think tank MITRE that will be used to develop surveillance and infiltration technology to feed the imperialist mission of the American military. Nvidia operates in stolen Palestinian land, where it has also built a supercomputer for the Israeli government called "Israel-1," which is being used to maintain the Israeli economy as it commits genocide in Gaza.

Alphabet (Google)

Alphabet's workplace culture may seem great, but you definitely won't find the job security you're looking for. Alphabet has fired dozens of its employees for opposing its development of Project Nimbus, an Israeli military cloud computing program that provides the IOF with facial recognition and other AI surveillance features.

SEE PAGE 5

Read more at
THECRIMESON.COM



HELL

AI Is Automating the Genocide in Gaza



Israel bombs the Gaza Strip on October 9, 2024. ATIA MOHAMMED / FLASH90

AI isn't going to save us — that should be clear by now. We are drowning in a tar pit of hallucinatory gibberish and the world's ugliest images. OpenAI lost \$5 billion this year operating ChatGPT; most workers that have incorporated AI into their jobs have reported decreased efficiency. And yet the industry trudges on, powered by skyrocketing fossil fuel emissions and the mass exploitation of workers in the Global South.

But AI companies need to turn a profit somehow, and increasingly, that's meant turning to defense projects. OpenAI went private this year in the search for military contracts and has begun adding former soldiers to its board of directors. For other companies, the path to success looks like collaboration with the Israeli regime.

Israel has long used facial recognition technology to surveil Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. In 2021, Google and Amazon signed onto Project Nimbus, a \$1.2 billion cloud contract with the Israeli government. In 2022, *The Intercept* revealed that Project Nimbus involved AI and machine learning, including facial detection and "sentiment analysis," a form of predicting emotions from faces that amounts to little more than race science. In fact, the head of Israel's National Cyber Directorate, Gaby Portnoy, has publicly credited the contract with giving Israel "phenomenal"

military infrastructure for their ongoing genocide in Gaza.

Google, for one, has pitched its ChatGPT competitor, Gemini, to agencies like the Israeli police as part of a collaboration that Portnoy has suggested would strengthen Israeli security and military apparatuses. Knowing what we do about large language models like Gemini and their tendencies to produce false data, the consequences of using them as a military tool seem increasingly dire.

We don't even have to imagine what these consequences look like. Beyond Project Nimbus, the Israeli Occupation Forces' use of AI systems has already subjected Gaza to the devastating automation of death. Through AI systems known as "Habsora," or "The Gospel," and "Lavender," the IOF is able to automatically mark and target buildings and individuals with alleged Hamas ties. The military operative overseeing the ensuing attacks, then, must only verify the human target as male before authorizing the bombing.

Indeed, Palestinians have been reduced to data points whose decimation requires little human thought beyond a click of a button. Last year, a source told *+972 Magazine* and *Local Call* that each bombing authorization only takes about 20 seconds.

The use of AI enables IOF operatives to constantly search for more targets and more victims with shocking

ease. Immediately after October 7th, civilian casualties in Gaza soared to an apocalyptic magnitude, made possible in part by the AI "mass assassination factory." Using Hamas as an excuse, the IOF detonates private residences and public buildings alike, murdering hundreds of civilians with each military operation. As one member of Israel's intelligence community told *+972*: "Nothing happens by accident. When a three-year-old girl is killed in a home in Gaza, it's because someone in the army decided it wasn't a big deal for her to be killed [...] We know exactly how much collateral damage there is in every home."

If anything, the elimination of entire Palestinian families is desired by Israel: Its "Where's Daddy?" system waits to bomb people until they reenter their family homes. As another intelligence officer stated: "It's much easier to bomb a family's home. The system is built to look for them in these situations."

Israel's method of dropping bombs also runs on AI. Elbit Systems, the largest Israeli arms manufacturer, has created autonomous drones called Lanius to further surveil and control the skies of Gaza. In essence, a Palestinian person can be identified, targeted, and killed all through AI, without the intervention of a single human being.

This is the automation of mass murder. This doesn't mean Israeli political and mili-

tary officials aren't aware, but precisely that those behind the targeting know the extent of devastation which their AI-fueled killing system will bring. And AI makes it easier and easier for them to publicly distance themselves from this devastation.

Naturally, the AI systems in question do not even serve the purpose Israeli officials might claim they serve. Lavender operates by assessing individual Palestinians' likelihood of having ties to Hamas. Yet while Israel's stated objective is the eradication of Hamas, Lavender was trained on data that included not only Hamas members, but also civil defense workers and non-militant employees of the Internal Security Ministry. Some of the traits determined to be associated with Hamas involvement — such as the frequent changing of cell phones — are also common civilian practices.

These truths, combined with AI's existing predilection for falsification and the IOF's exhibited willingness to bomb civilians, mean that even by the IOF's internal checks, at least 10 percent — and likely even more — of AI-identified assassination targets have no ties to the Hamas militant branch.

But as the saying goes, the purpose of a system is what it does. And as the AI boom devolves into a genocidal bust, one of AI's greatest impacts has become abundantly clear: the automation and acceleration of Palestinian annihilation.

Sidra's Song, or Holy Rage For When Words are Inadequate

BY ELOM TETTEY-TAMAKLO

This speech was delivered on October 10, at a vigil organized by the Harvard PSC to mark one year of genocide.

No language, vocabulary, or expression can convey the grief that we feel over Gaza.

Hell has been unleashed and the world stands silent. Words can never do justice to the pain our hearts feel. Our greatest expressions of grief are not capable of framing the internal agony that our souls endure day after day after day.

This grief engulfs our souls and sorrow overshadows us. What do we say to each other as we mourn? How many more prayers and invocations can be offered? How many more tears can be shed? Who else can we bring our complaints to? Who will avenge the blood of the martyrs?

If there is God, can they hear our cries?
If there is God, may justice come speedily.
If there is God, may Gaza live.

Who can forget the cries of five-year-old Hind Rajab, brutally exterminated by a government bent on erasing Palestinians from the face of the earth?

Hind Rajab — killed by Israel
Hind Rajab — murdered by our American tax dollars
Hind Rajab — 335 bullets buried into the car she was sheltering in
Hind Rajab — a future stolen
Hind Rajab — a stain on our global conscience

Who will seek justice for Sidra Hossouma — the 12-year-old girl who was left hanging on a wall, her limbs blown off by Israeli Airstrikes
Sidra's dreams were just like ours: to grow up, to live, to laugh, to travel, to study, to fall in love, to see the world
This world killed Sidra
Sidra — crucified by our silence
Sidra — destroyed by our bloodthirsty desire
Sidra, whilst dead, is more alive than any one of us.

Tell me, where is justice for the young boy who carried his brother's remains in a school bag?
In every other place in the world, school bags contain books, in Gaza they contain the remains of dead people
In other places, children piece together Legos, in Gaza they piece together body parts
In other places, children play hide and seek from one another, in Gaza they hide from Biden's bombs
In other places, children gaze at the stars, in Gaza their stars are falling missiles
Who will seek reparations for the souls of hundreds of thousands displaced, killed, stuck under the rubble?
Who will give back the lost futures, sacrificed on the altar of "security," "nationalism," and "a homeland"?
No matter how much we attempt to explain away, justify, intellectualize, and theorize, the cries of mothers, fathers, and children burned in their tents will haunt this world forever.
What is the use of our education when all we can do is slither and snake around the truth? To endlessly debate and intellectually masturbate when our hands are red with the blood of Gaza?

What is the use of our decolonial theory when a people struggling for their dignity aren't afforded any?
Deluded and hypocritical, we declare institutional neutrality when our investments are killing our neighbors.
We are as guilty as those who hold the guns.
We are as guilty as those who send the bombs.
We are as guilty as those who turn away.
Even the stones of Gaza cry out. The rocks that crush the heads of innocent children. These stones condemn you, America.
Even the fires that lick Palestinian flesh off bone revile you, America.
America, your hands are bloody.
Harvard, your hands are bloody.

If the torn bodies of children, the burned flesh of mothers, or the wails of grieving fathers aren't able to move us, we're the ones to be pitied. We've descended into the depths of hell and traded our humanity for apathy.

But let not grief overcome our souls, my friends or sorrow take away our strength
our martyrs ask that we continue the struggle
this is how we honor their memory.
The road is long and hard
it is paved with sacrifice
harder days will still come
but steel your resolve
remain immovable
the aim is singular
A free Palestine in our lifetimes.

Elom is convinced that the sorrow in our hearts is an indication of the potential for a better world. Currently in his final year at Harvard Divinity School, Elom's work lies at the intersection of religious practices and foreign policy, specifically in Israel-Palestine. He believes that there can be no just peace without the recognition of the inherent and unquestionable worth of all human beings.

PAGERS

Smoke Signals

On September 17 and 18, a wave of explosions swept across Lebanon, killing dozens of people, injuring thousands, and precipitating what we now understand to be the sixth Israeli invasion of that country. Unlike the previous five, however, this invasion did not begin with fire raining down from the sky. Instead, death came from the implements of daily life: pagers, walkie-talkies, and solar panel systems, which exploded simultaneously. Much has been made by Israeli and Western media over the supposed “decapitation” of Hezbollah, ignoring that the vast majority of those killed and injured were civilians. But this attack has also made something clear to the rest of the world: Zionism will sacrifice or destroy anything to impose its will in the Middle East, up to and including the liberal values of dialogue that it claims to

profess. In so doing, it has demonstrated that it never truly believed in dialogue in the first place.

The fact that the pager attacks mostly killed civilians has been ignored in the media using circular logic: The attack was targeted since the IOF says only Hezbollah was killed, and we know only Hezbollah was killed because the IOF says the attack was targeted. Thus, the pagers represent to supporters of Israel proof that the IOF and Mossad are the “most moral army in the world.” Through sheer technical ingenuity, they devised an attack that was surgical and purely in response to Hezbollah’s rockets. However, these bombs in plain sight demonstrate Israel’s permanent commitment to war against not just Hamas or Hezbollah, but against all Palestinian and Lebanese people.

This attack was clearly a long time in the making:

Israel planted the first explosive-laden walkie-talkies in Lebanon almost a decade ago in 2015, well before the current stage of the genocide began; Israeli officials began planning the pager plot in 2022, a year before October 7th. These

“

The means of communication have quite literally gone up in smoke, taking lives with them, and Israel has a history of murdering the people it’s supposed to be negotiating with.

booby-trapped devices lay in wait for years among the Lebanese population, circulating through the economy and eventually exploding in the hands of medical workers, children, and thousands of others who had the temerity to exist near a pager or radio.

Despite what Israeli and American politicians like

Netanyahu, Biden, and Harris say about “working tirelessly towards a ceasefire,” massacres like the pager attack reveal their true intentions. There can be no ceasefire when Israel’s genocidal campaign extends beyond the

military realm to the very technologies that form the basis of modern society. Israel is not just waging war from its military bases across the border; it is doing so — or could be — from every Lebanese person’s pocket, every Lebanese home, and every Lebanese hospital. The means of communication have quite

literally gone up in smoke, taking lives with them, and Israel has a history of murdering the people it’s supposed to be negotiating with: it killed Ismail Haniyeh, the Hamas official in charge of negotiations with Israel over the war in Gaza, in July and soon after the pager attacks, the Zionist entity assassinated Hassan Nasrallah, the leader of Hezbollah, killing and injuring hundreds along with him. This time, Israel abandoned the falsehood that their strike was surgical.

Harvard and other Western supporters of Israel employ the language of “civil discourse” to solve the “crisis in the Middle East,” or, more accurately, to wash their hands of it. As the University never fails to remind us, we are part of an institution that values “discourse” and “open inquiry.” But what discourse or dialogue is open to Palestinians, Lebanese, and all others

who are oppressed by colonial and imperial regimes? On whose terms, with whom, and how?

“Discourse” and “dialogue” are empty terms when Israel has weaponized the tools meant to enable them. At the beginning of the 21st century, telecommunications were supposed to set us free, but Israel has put the final nail in the coffin of that idea. By hijacking the modern supply chains that all nations depend on, Israel has transformed methods of communication into means of control. And it has turned Lebanon into a society fearful of communication: a land where any device that connects to the outside world could bring death at any time for no reason at all. Israel has proven that it does not simply seek to defeat Hezbollah but to destroy Lebanon. Zionism has chosen the outcome: eternal war in the north until its collapse.

GLORY TO THE MARTYR SHA'BAN AL-DALOU



Sha'ban al-Dalou. AL-DALOU FAMILY

On October 14, amid Israel’s bombardment of Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir Al-Balah, Sha’ban al-Dalou and his mother, Ala’a Abdel Nasser al-Dalou, were burned alive, killed by a two-ton bomb Israel dropped on refugee tents. In the video, Sha’ban struggles to beat the flames off of his body before succumbing to the fire.

Sha’ban was 19 years old. He was a hafiz, a memorizer of the Qur’an. Before the genocide began, like many of us, he attended university. Like many of us, he studied computer science. Like many of us, he knew that his future depended on his education. But as the West applauds Israel for the success of its tech industry — much of it built for the express purpose of modernizing its settler-colonial occupation of Gaza and the West Bank — Israel has wiped out generations of scientists and engineers, foreclosing on the possibility of Palestinian innovation.

Despite the horrifying conditions of the ongoing genocide, Sha’ban continued to study from his tent. As the oldest sibling, Sha’ban said in a social media video earlier this year, he was responsible for providing for his parents and younger brother and sister. Sha’ban built the tent that his family lived in, and for months had been organizing a GoFundMe campaign to help them evacuate to Egypt. He should be with us today. Instead, he has been martyred.

In March, he wrote of the genocide: “I used to have big dreams, but the war has ruined them.”

Sha’ban’s blood is on our hands. Yet he is only one martyr of the hundreds of thousands who have perished due to Israel’s genocide. As we study in the imperial core, bearing witness to the inhuman violence our politicians, government, and universities have wrought upon the world, we can always do more — we must always do more.

We must honor our martyrs. We must take action. We must never forget.

“A Culture of Fear and Censorship”: Letter to Meta

The following letter was shared with *The Crimeson* by a former Meta employee, who was fired in June 2024 for organizing against Meta’s censorship of Palestine on Facebook, Instagram, and in the workplace. This letter was sent to the head of DEI at Meta in January.

Dear Maxine,

Happy New Year. I hope you were able to spend it with family and friends and that it was filled with love and joy.

I am writing to you to further convey what my Metamates have been expressing directly to you — the intense turmoil that our community at Meta has been going through.

I am using my personal email, because as you are probably aware my Workplace access was revoked and I was put “under investigation” after we tried to exercise our rights to organize against discriminatory working conditions and I helped circulate a letter that collected over 450 signatures in a few hours. We demanded acknowledgement, support, and transparent action on biases and censorship experienced both internally and externally on our platforms.

Instead there is silence and we continue to receive no support from leadership. It’s been 3 weeks since our letter was taken down by leadership and no one has bothered to even acknowledge it. I, and many of my colleagues, have been fairly vocal in speaking up and voicing our concerns to various leaders at Meta over the past 3 months but there has been no actions or measurable results from leadership.

We’ve instead had to figure out how to secretly build community ourselves to support each other at this most difficult time in our lives. Some, including Amal Lozi and Islam Hassan, have quit as we feel the pain of disconnect between DEI claims and reality. Some have lost tens of family members in Gaza and are mourning silently at work, fearful of mentioning Palestine at this company and losing their jobs. Many of us are left in despair at the mounting biases and censorship of Palestine content on our platforms.

And some of us are only strengthening our resolve to protect and support each other. We are further committing to collectively working together to make Meta better so that we can do better for the world.

Just saying you hear us is not enough anymore. It’s been 3 months and we deserve more. How are you assessing how affected employees at Meta are doing? What are the actions and results you are driving in response to our concerns? How will you measure your success?

Have you created any surveys to see how this is impacting our ability to work? I created a quick survey in the Palestinians@ and Muslims@ group simply asking “Are you considering leaving Meta?” Many people responded with “yes”, citing distress at biases, discrimination, and censorship. You can go to my post and take a look at the results (if CEE hasn’t already taken it down). The letter that I circulated also collected nearly 100 personal testimonials from employees expressing various degrees of discrimination they’ve experienced.

Have you issued any public statements expressing your acknowledgement of the 30,000 Palestinians killed and

the 1.9 million displaced since Oct. 7? Have you expressed your condolences to the Palestinian community by directly addressing them in their Workplace group? We are not allowed to speak on Workplace openly the way you leaders are able to. We can hardly post anything in our Muslims@ or Palestinians@ Workplace groups, and some of my colleagues have asked what the point of even having those groups is if we can’t use it to support each other during this most difficult time.

Have you thought about hosting a community vigil to actually show your support for Palestinian colleagues that have collectively lost hundreds of family members? We’ve been trying to organize one since our Nov. 10th one was cancelled last minute and we are shut down from being able to organize any check-ins or vigils. We can’t even ask for prayers for lost family members killed in Gaza on Workplace. Just yesterday, posts from 2 colleagues asking for prayers for their killed family members were taken down from our Muslims@ group by CEE.

Shouldn’t this be your job to organize support for us?

Maxine, I believe this is a turning point in history. The Palestinian cause is uncovering many deep-seated issues in this country that tie back to the same concepts of colonialism, racism, and capitalism prioritized over the collective good of humanity. We need to be louder and demand change at a faster rate than we’ve yet been able to accomplish in this country. Out of 23 execs, why is there no other black person besides you as the head of DEI (who likely had to be black for appearances)? Why are there only 8 women? How many minorities are on the team? I think we need to reassess the metrics we use to truly measure diversity, equity, and inclusion. The Palestinian injustice is one that mirrors the one experienced in the history of many other communities.

We are not working at just some company. We are working at Meta, a company with arguably the most power to sway public opinion. What we allow to proliferate on our platforms shapes the narrative of this world we occupy. And unfortunately it is a world full of rampant racism and discrimination — what are we going to do to play our part in amplifying the voices of minorities and the oppressed and bringing ALL communities in the world closer together?

I came to Meta because I had been searching for a company that was aligned with my personal mission statement of building community and bridging gaps between people from different walks of life — i.e bringing the world closer together. I have met the most amazing humans here that also came to do work for the betterment of this world. I hope you too can be one of those people, Maxine.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

METRO

How the Cambridge Community Evicted Elbit

An Interview with BDS Boston

After more than a year of untiring protests, Boycott, Divest, Sanction (BDS) Boston built the momentum necessary to vacate their Cambridge office. Elbit is Israel's largest weapons company, arming and profiting from the military's ruthless genocidal campaign against Palestinians and, now, throughout the Middle East. Inspired by the steadfastness of their campaign, we corresponded with the organizers from BDS Boston to discuss their motivations, strategies, and reflections.

Why did BDS Boston decide that Elbit was an important target, especially given that there are presumably so many other corporations complicit with Israeli apartheid and genocide that also have headquarters in the greater Boston area?

Elbit Systems is Israel's largest weapons dealer. Elbit manufactures 85% of the Israeli military's drones — drones Elbit describes as the "backbone of the Israeli Defense Forces" (sic). Elbit also supplies the Israeli military with tanks, munitions, surveillance towers, and an array of other weapons and surveillance products, all of which Israel has deployed over the past year to carry out its ongoing genocide against the people of Palestine.

Elbit Systems capitalizes upon Israel's extensive use of its weapons and surveillance products against Palestinians to market these deadly products as "battle-proven" to the world's most violent and oppressive governments and governmental agencies. In 2014, for example, after a decade of using and refining its surveillance towers and drones against Palestinians, Elbit began selling these same towers and drones to U.S. Customs & Border Protection — the parent agency of U.S. Border Patrol. U.S. Customs & Border Protection currently uses at least 55 Elbit surveillance towers — each 80 to 160-foot tall and capable of spotting people 7.5 miles away — along with a fleet of Elbit Hermes 450 drones to surveil, track, and detain immigrants along 200 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border. By militarizing safer parts of the U.S.-Mexico border, Elbit and U.S. Customs & Border Protection are forcing immigrants to cross the border in more dangerous areas, which has caused thousands of deaths by thirst and exposure in recent years alone.

For Elbit Systems, however, mass death in Gaza and on the U.S.-Mexico border alike is not a problem. It is further evidence the company can cite to market its products worldwide. In 2021, Elbit struck a deal to sell its drones to FRONTEX, the European Border & Coast Guard Agency that

hunts down boats carrying refugees across the Mediterranean. Through this deal with FRONTEX, Elbit Systems is supporting Europe to carry out its murderous regime of "pushbacks," in which boats of refugees are prevented from safely docking in Europe. These "pushbacks" have caused the preventable deaths by drowning of tens of thousands of refugees.

There are indeed many other companies supplying weapons to Israel that operate in the Boston area — Boeing, RTX (formerly Raytheon), and Draper Labs all operate in Cambridge alone. So why did BDS Boston choose to target Elbit Systems rather than one of these other weapons dealers? There are a few reasons.

First, whereas U.S.-based

in the midst of its 2017 assassinations of at least 22 anti-corruption protesters; to arming Myanmar (Burma) throughout its campaign of ethnic cleansing against Rohingya Muslims. The list goes on.

Third, we chose to target Elbit Systems because Elbit's decision to put its Cambridge facility in the heart of Central Square, on a heavily-trafficked street within earshot of Cambridge City Hall, left Elbit more vulnerable to effective disruption than other potential targets. When our demonstrations were noisy, they disrupted the operations of nearby businesses, including Elbit's co-tenants (Elbit shared its building with three other firms). Elbit's co-tenants quickly began complaining to their (and Elbit's) landlord about Elbit's presence

mentum to our campaign.

Then, following Hamas's military operation on October 7th, 2023, and the escalated Israeli military campaign in Gaza that followed, Elbit's Cambridge facility became the site of frequent escalated direct actions by anonymous community members. For over a month, outside surfaces of the building remained covered in red paint that the landlord apparently found difficult to fully remove. These direct actions quickly led to increased police presence around the building. On one occasion in late November 2023, Cambridge Police positioned a sniper on the roof of a building across the street from 130 Bishop Allen Drive. If the goal of this increased policing was to secure Elbit's position in the community, it backfired.

of recent student encampments, BDS Boston turned the pressure up another notch through a "Week of Action." Our Week of Action featured daily disruptions of Elbit and its local collaborators, including one 18 hour long picket and vigil in front of Elbit's Cambridge facility. By this point, Elbit's continued tenancy at 130 Bishop Allen Drive had simply become untenable. Elbit's landlord was telling the leadership of Elbit's three co-tenants that he wanted to remove Elbit from the building "ASAP," but that the process was moving more slowly than he would like (Elbit's co-tenants came out of the building and sent us emails telling us as much). Then, after a local newspaper, the Cambridge Day, did background on rumors that Elbit employees no longer

stubborn and creative campaign has demonstrated to Elbit that attempting to reopen a comparable facility in another location is a dangerous investment — because what we did in Cambridge could be replicated elsewhere.

What has BDS Boston learned from this campaign about organizing the Cambridge community in solidarity with Palestine? What advice can you offer student organizers here at Harvard as we continue to pressure our university to divest from Israel?

Through this campaign, we have learned that there are many Cambridge community members who are passionate about the Palestinian and other anti-racist struggles and who are ready to take action when given the chance. We have also learned that decades of displacement has driven countless Black and Brown community members out of Cambridge, community members replaced by largely white, more wealthy, and white-collar gentrifiers who tend to either oppose the Palestinian and other anti-racist struggles or who simply don't care about these struggles very much one way or the other.

That said, one critical lesson from BDS Boston learned from our campaign is that in addition to activating those who support our goals, we can also activate people who oppose or don't care about our goals, when we apply the right tactics. While we did not win over Elbit's co-tenants to support the Palestinian or other anti-racist struggles, we made it in their interest to get Elbit out of their building, in order to protect their ability to conduct business. While we did not win over Intercontinental CEO Peter Palandjian to support the Palestinian or other anti-racist causes, by showing up at Palandjian's private home in North Cambridge we made it in his interest to evict Elbit from his building in order to prevent further incursions upon his family's privacy.

So to student organizers at Harvard University and beyond: We encourage you to build and deepen connections with people who support or can be won to support your goals. And as for those who oppose or don't care about your goals, you can find ways to activate them too. You can make it in their interest to do what you want, even if they detest everything you stand for. Indeed, it might be argued that you all at Harvard have done this already. Because your relentless and principled advocacy has won a significant portion of the campus community to your side, some right-wing Zionists have self-selected to sever their harmful ties with Harvard University!



weapons dealers such as Raytheon and Boeing arm the Israeli military, Elbit Systems both arms the Israeli military and is an Israeli company, whose operations provide an economic lifeline to the Israeli economy. Moreover, Elbit is the largest company within the Israeli arms sector, which constitutes a central pillar of the Israeli economy. As a result, blows we strike against Elbit Systems not only inhibit the flow of deadly weapons to a military that is committing a genocide but also weaken the economy of the nation (Israel) that is orchestrating this genocide. It is doubly impactful.

Second, as noted above, Elbit arms many of the world's most violent and oppressive governments — from providing the drones and surveillance towers U.S. Customs & Border Protection uses to hunt down immigrants; to supplying the right-wing government of the Philippines with tanks, drones, and other weapons it uses against Filipino dissidents; to helping India's right-wing government carry out its brutal military occupation of Kashmir; to supporting Azerbaijan to oppress and displace Armenians; to arming Honduras

in the building, not because they agreed with our message, but out of self-interest — their building was becoming a difficult environment in which to conduct business.

Can you describe the trajectory of the campaign to get Elbit out of Cambridge? When did it start, how did the tactics change over time, and what is the state of the campaign now?

Our struggle to remove Elbit Systems from 130 Bishop Allen Drive in Cambridge began in spring 2023. We started out with a lot of canvassing. In summer 2023, a Filipino diaspora group called Malaya Movement Massachusetts brought a resolution to the Cambridge City Council which included criticism of Elbit Systems for providing tanks, drones, and other weapons to the Philippine government while operating in Cambridge. A historically pro-Israel member of the Cambridge City Council removed all references to Elbit Systems from the resolution before it went to a final vote. Nevertheless, Malaya Movement's introduction of this resolution to the council and the conversations it inspired drew more attention to Elbit's presence in Cambridge, which added mo-

Community members were outraged by CPD's deployment of a sniper on a building above a street heavily foot-trafficked by residents, all to protect a weapons company. Elbit's co-tenants in the building felt as though they had become a buffer between Elbit, the police, and an increasingly angry and vocal public — certainly not what they signed up for when they decided to rent space in the building.

In the winter and spring of 2024, BDS Boston turned up the pressure, initiating what became weekly demonstrations outside Elbit's Cambridge facility, complemented by weekend actions targeting the collaborators responsible for sustaining Elbit's local and global operations. The disruptive character of weekend protests often forced Elbit and their co-tenants to work from home. Weekend protests routinely forced branches of Elbit investor Chase Bank to close down for the day. One weekend protest brought 100 community members to the North Cambridge home of Peter Palandjian, CEO of Intercontinental Real Estate Corporation, Elbit's landlord in Cambridge.

In the summer of 2024, inspired by the militancy

came into the building at all, Elbit and their landlord stated that Elbit's lease at 130 Bishop Allen Drive had been terminated.

In spite of the significance of Elbit Systems' departure from 130 Bishop Allen Drive, BDS Boston's fight against Elbit is not over. We are committed to preventing Elbit from moving to another nearby location. We are also committed to severing Elbit's ties with MIT and the Boston area healthcare sector. Wherever Elbit is, wherever Elbit goes, we will meet them there and we will shut them down.

There is a cynical perspective that says that Elbit Systems remains as profitable as before and has the resources to just pick up now and move wherever they want, to become a drain on some other community. How do you respond to this argument?

Elbit Systems chose to open this facility at 130 Bishop Allen Drive in Cambridge for a reason. They said so themselves. They wanted to hire 60 engineers to work in close proximity to Harvard, MIT, and Cambridge's expansive tech and biotech sectors. We have prevented them from achieving this objective.

It is our hope that our

DEMOLITION

Caterpillar Inc. and the Building Blocks of Israeli Apartheid

The unbounded blood-thirst of American industry is on display everywhere in occupied Palestine. Nothing demonstrates this more clearly than the deadly exchange between Caterpillar and the Israeli Occupation Forces. Caterpillar Inc. lauds itself as “the world’s leading manufacturer of construction and mining equipment” with “sustainable” motives and, coincidentally, \$67.1 billion in profits last year. You have almost certainly seen their yellow and black trucks and excavators at a local construction site. “CAT” is without a doubt a corporation with wide reach — so much so that it has huge contracts with the Israeli military. Caterpillar has profited and continues to profit off decades of settler colonialism, apartheid, and the forced displacement of Palestinians. It supplies the material tools Israel uses to build and maintain the apartheid state.

Since the Sinai War in the 1950s, Caterpillar has cultivated a close relationship with Israel, which has frequently financed its purchases with U.S. foreign aid. The IOF’s D9 armored bulldozer, a fortified version of Caterpillar’s standard D9, is especially instrumental in Israel’s project of ethnic cleansing in Palestine. Nick-

named “Teddy Bear,” this machine has been used by the IOF since the 1980s to construct illegal Israeli settlements and border walls around Gaza and the West Bank. Throughout occupied Palestine, Israeli D9s have destroyed countless homes, hospitals, mosques, schools, courthouses, farms, tents, roads, olive groves, irrigation systems, solar panels, and electricity networks. In Rafah in 2003, the American activist Rachel Corrie was run over and killed by a D9 while protesting the demolition of Palestinian homes. In March of this year, Cat’s D9 bulldozers played a key role in the second destruction of Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. In this two-week siege, the Israeli army murdered hundreds of Palestinians, who were injured or otherwise sheltering against attacks, some of whose bodies have been found in two mass graves outside the hospital.

Last October, during the first days of the invasion of Gaza, the extensive deployment of the unmanned, remote-controlled D9 bulldozer brought Israel’s cowardice to new heights. The unprecedented move dispatched driverless war machines to destroy homes and attack civilians with remote-controlled weapons — and it was all made pos-

sible by Caterpillar’s technologies. Their new model, nicknamed “Panda,” costs upwards of \$1 million before the addition of modifications, which can include a mounted machine gun and grenade launcher. The machine is an apt representation of the fascist colonial state of which it is a product: both are massive, U.S.-funded, bulletproof apparatuses, which protect no one.

Any American need only visit the nearest construction site (or playground sandbox) to get a glimpse of Caterpillar Yellow, the corporation’s trademarked shade. Caterpillar’s ubiquitous branding in everyday American life only further demonstrates the causal links between our American capitalism and Israel’s genocidal campaign against Palestinians. With the additional massive purchases of Caterpillar bulldozers by the Israeli Ministry of Defense in November 2023 and another in January 2024, Israel has demonstrated its intent to level and annex the Gaza Strip using American machines. That the same machines that build our bridges and roads in the United States destroy homes and hospitals in Palestine should alert us all of the murderous technologies birthed from here, the heart of the empire.



“He who digs a trap falls into it.” JAMAA AL-YAD COLLECTIVE

INTELLECTUAL VITALITY

Campus Divestment Campaign Updates

When the Brown Corporation’s October 9 secret vote to reject divestment made headlines — reneging on promises made to students earlier this year — it seemed a disillusioning reminder that the fate of the student movement for disclosure and divestment is still an unknown. Despite this uncertainty, pro-Palestine student movements across the country and the world persevere in their struggle. Taking stock of the student intifada’s progress is more salient now than ever. While it’s indisputable that many of the concessions made by administrators fail to fully satisfy our demands and that the compromises and pledges outlined below are by no means concrete “victories,” one fact remains: disclosure and divestment are not a matter of if, but when. Institutions like Harvard which are materially and morally complicit in Israel’s ongoing genocide of Palestinians cannot continue to engage in acts of hypocrisy and moral duplicity. Their lip service does nothing for the lives and liberation of millions of Palestinians

that currently hangs in the international balance. Indeed, the University, and many others around the country, must come to terms with the power of our movement and the strength of our resolve; it remains our obligation to fight for liberation within the belly of the beast. The following list enumerates just a few examples of the real results that student organizing for Palestine is bringing about.

IN THE U.S.:

Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington:

As of April 30, 2024, the college will work toward “divesting from companies that profit from gross human rights violations and/or the occupation of Palestinian territories,” according to student publication *The Olympian*. As put forth in their Memorandum of Understanding, the state college has agreed to convene committees to create policies for “socially-responsible investing,” grant funding oversight, civilian law enforcement oversight, and “alternative models of crisis response.” In the agreement, Evergreen also

pledged to make a statement defending the right to free speech of all students and has also prohibited study abroad programs in Israel (as well as in the West Bank and Gaza).

San Francisco State University in San Francisco, California:

In April of this year, SFSU became the first university to engage protestors in talks over disclosure and divestment and agreed to divest from corporations of the military-industrial complex aiding Israel’s genocidal campaign: Lockheed Martin, Leonardo, Caterpillar, and Palantir Technologies. Additionally, the university pledged to cease investments in arms makers as a whole and implement a human rights-screening process for all future investments. “It is vital that the CSU [California State University] system divests from death and reinvests in our education,” says a student organizer who goes by Vi. “Disclosure is necessary to maintain transparency from these institutions and allows us to have a say in where our hard-earned tuition dollars are going.”

AROUND THE WORLD:

Trinity College Dublin in Dublin, Ireland:

The news slipped under the radar in the U.S., but student-organizers’ five-night encampment applied the pressure needed for Trinity College Dublin to agree to divest from Israel. Approximately one hundred students pitched tents outside a campus museum, dealing a massive blow to a university whose revenue depends in part on tourism. After negotiations, the university announced it would not be renewing business contracts with corporations “that have activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and appear on the UN blacklist in this regard.”

While it’s worth mentioning that the fate of the university’s academic ties to the apartheid state are still up in the air, and that the university levied a more than €230,000 fine upon Trinity BDS for losses in tourism revenue — there is hope in knowing that the student movement is seeing tangible and immediate progress towards its demands.

FROM PAGE 1

No Jobs For Genocide

Nimbus has been linked to Project Lavender and “Where’s Daddy?,” two other IOF programs that target Palestinians and fire weapons at them using facial recognition. By design, “Where’s Daddy?” launches bombs only when targets are at home with their family.

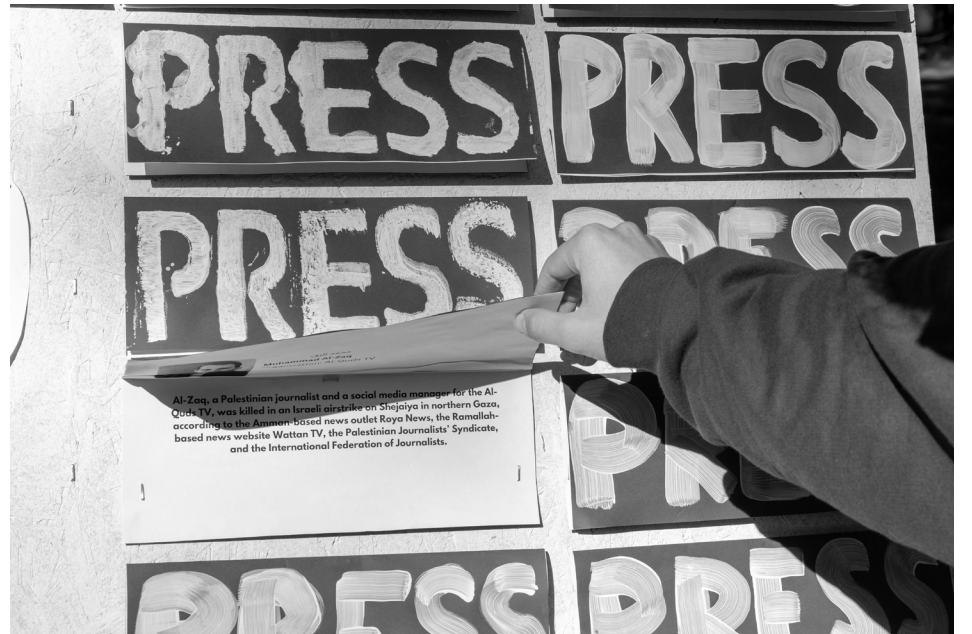
human rights but also accelerating violence; Meta’s promotion of content from Myanmar’s military dictatorship helped facilitate the genocide of the Rohingya.

BlackRock

BlackRock is the world’s largest asset manager, and it didn’t get there via pacifism. It is one of the largest investors in Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Boeing, General Dynamics, and many gun manufacturers, helping to ensure that the supply of weapons fueling the Israeli genocide in Gaza and other conflicts flows continuously. BlackRock’s CEO, Larry Fink, is a major supporter of the Israeli campaign against the Palestinian people, saying that the death of Gazan civilians is not the same as the death of Israelis, and he encouraged NYU to impose harsh punishments on students peacefully protesting the war.

Meta (Facebook)

If you’re going to work for Meta to help the world become “better connected,” as their motto says, you may find you’re doing just the opposite. Meta works with the Israeli military’s Cyber Unit to remove and suppress pro-Palestinian speech on Facebook. According to Meta’s own accountability watchdog, Meta’s actions towards Palestinian free speech “have had an adverse human rights impact [...] on the rights of Palestinian users to freedom of expression.” Facebook isn’t just putting a lid on



Photos from the art installation "365 Days, 76 Years: A Reflection On the Ongoing Nakba," constructed October 9–10, 2024 by the Harvard Undergraduate Palestine Solidarity Committee. Clockwise from top left: refugee camps in Gaza; the names of journalists killed by the IOF; slips of paper with the names of 1,000 martyrs; the loss of childhood in Gaza.

DON'T BE EVIL?

A Conversation with Ex-Google Employee Emaan Haseem, Fired For Palestine Advocacy

Emaan Haseem is an organizer with No Tech for Apartheid and a former Google employee. She is one of the 50 people Google fired in April after NoTA's bicoastal sit-in at the New York and Sunnyvale offices, including the office of Thomas Kurian, one of the executives leading Google's genocide-enabling projects. Since leaving Google, Haseem has continued to organize for Palestinian liberation and has aided student organizing efforts, such as the encampment this past spring at the University of Washington. This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

How did you become involved with No Tech for Apartheid? What drove you to join the movement?

I officially joined No Tech for Apartheid last year in November, shortly after the escalation of the genocide in Gaza.

When I first got to Google, I looked up Project Nimbus in our internal search and virtually nothing came up. The one thing that did come up, though, was a resignation letter from Ariel Koren, a leading NoTA organizer in the campaign against Project Nimbus. Her letter was about how she had been pushed out of Google and

given the "decision" to relocate in two weeks to Brazil as a result of her organizing efforts.

I was initially scared to speak out about Project Nimbus. But after last October, I had enough. There had already been base work done, so I dug around and found a way to connect with NoTA through the Alphabet Workers Union.

Were there any workplace policies or norms around free speech, particularly speech about Palestine? Did you face many bureaucratic roadblocks while organizing at Google?

What we did see was an obvious and disproportionate use of "policies," or really the very vague community guidelines Google weaponized to silence and repress us. If we posted an image of a candle to the company-wide forum and asked for a moment of silence for Mai Ubeid, a Google for Startups intern who was martyred in Gaza, the post was taken down. If we tried to say anything in line with a moment of silence, listed the death count, or posted "stand with Palestine" or "stand with Gaza," those posts were taken down. Posts that read "stand with Israel" were left up, and I think they're still up to

this day.

What were the asks of the sit-in?

The first one was to end Project Nimbus, and all complicit contracts with the Israeli government. The second one was to protect Arab, Palestinian, Muslim, and allied voices from repression, silencing, and retaliation. The third one was to recognize that Project Nimbus contributes to a worker health and safety concern. There were people who, even before the sit in, ended up leaving the company because they just couldn't take it anymore. It's terrible to be in a place like that while you're witnessing images that you are, paired with the dissonance of the retaliation.

And then you all were there for a while, right?

The sit-in went on for nine hours. I left early and helped facilitate a rally outside. And on the inside, they were dealing with all sorts of crazy things: Security was stopping them from using the restroom and receiving food and water.

What did the days following look like? Were you fired soon after?

We all had the idea that an investigation was coming because they said there would be an investigation. But then, surprisingly, they

just ended up firing everybody who had been taken off of corporate access. There was no investigation. No one was contacted; everything was automated through a bot. That was surprising to me, because I really didn't think Google would be so sloppy about it — it is very sloppy to fire what ended up being 50 people without an investigation.

There were people fired who weren't even participating in the sit-in, but just people who had walked by, were curious, and had questions. In fact, most of the people fired had not been participating in the sit-in.

What's really interesting is that for a lot of these people, this was the first action they had ever witnessed or attended for Palestine. And for many of them, it was a point of radicalization. People were shocked, and saying things like: 'Wow, Google doesn't even look at us like we're human. It was just a click of a button for them to fire us.'

How would you respond to critics of NoTA, who believe that Google employees not directly involved with Project Nimbus are not responsible for it?

People definitely like to raise this abstraction, which

has been upheld by the lies Google has touted. Google tries to deny as much as they can, including Project Nimbus' clear ties to the Israeli Occupation Forces, in order to maintain the calm of their employees. This calm isn't really calm, but repression.

All tax-paying citizens of the United States are contributing to the genocide in Gaza monetarily. I think we need to look at those of us who work for mega corporations providing the tools for this genocide the same way. While not everyone may have the means to get fired, we would be remiss to lose the opportunity to organize internal worker power and to pressure executives to drop contracts with Israel.

On all fronts, we need to make clear that genocide is unprofitable, and that if companies institutions try to profit off of genocide, it won't happen easily. They have to be on their toes. They have to be scared. They have to be looking over their shoulders.

What can we, as non-Google employees, do to help? Should we boycott Google? What does that look like?

The average consumer should try their best to boycott these products. I

know it can be hard, but it's possible to start by boycotting Google Search and using alternatives instead, like DuckDuckGo. Google search is one way that Google boosts a lot of their ads, which I think is their most profitable sector.

What would you tell people — say Harvard seniors — applying for jobs at Google or elsewhere in big tech?

For students looking to apply to big tech, I can't necessarily tell people not to do that entirely, but do try to avoid applying to these companies. They try to pull people in with their benefits, but I think it's important to know that a lot of these benefits, especially from places like Google, are not really necessary or worth evaluating if you're weighing genocide in the mix.

I think we should be in the struggle to imagine a world where we don't have to depend on these companies complicit in genocide. I don't imagine this to look like a one and done startup; I think it requires a revolutionary framework and a lot of education. We do have the potential to grow and build this world, and it definitely starts with the struggle to imagine what we can do better.

SPEECH

For Palestine And For Lebanon, Do Not Allow Your Wounds To Heal

This speech was delivered by an organizer for the Harvard Out of Occupied Palestine coalition on September 25, 2024, at a rally protesting the Israeli bombardment of Lebanon.

For reasons unbeknownst to me, everyone seems to care about Harvard. As protesters, this makes our job easy — any noise we make here will be amplified ten times, one hundred times over. So, as students at a school where campus news makes national headlines, we have a unique obligation to make noise. We must wield this global obsession with Harvard to our advantage and force Harvard to stand on the right side of history, for once.

This onus extends to our calls for divestment. When

Harvard does something, other institutions follow suit. Harvard will divest — not do out of the good of its nonexistent heart, but because we push it to do so — and when it does, the rest of the world will look to us and do the same.

I understand that the wounds of campus suppression are no longer fresh, but dull. They are not throbbing blows, but bruises and scars. It has been a year now of revised rules and regulations, unprecedented disciplinary sanctions, and blocked divestment resolutions. What happened on Saturday — what happened when administrators threatened and IDed students for wearing keffiyehs and studying silently in a library — is nothing new. These tactics have been beaten into us time and time again — we know

the administrative playbook all too well by now. Respond to any and all pro-Palestine rhetoric and action with an iron fist. Do not do the same when it comes to organizing for any other cause.

We also know, though, how we must respond. Do not let the administration have their way. Do not let this suppression have the exact effect that Zionists want it to have. Instead, let their scrambling — because, gosh, are they scrambling — spur you on. It is through the most draconian measures and during the harshest crackdowns that the exact strength of our movement comes into the clearest view. The creation of absurd, reactionary policies — and the discriminatory, anti-Palestinian enforcement of said policies — is a direct testament to the Uni-

versity's fear and, simultaneously, to the sheer power of our dissent.

Institutions resort to scare tactics — like banning chalk and silent protests — when they have exhausted all other options. We have already forced their hand this far, now is not the time to give up.

So do not let a year of administrative crackdown make you afraid. Do not let a year of genocide make you complacent. It is imperative, now more than ever, to continue to show up to rallies, to bring your friends, to organize, to disrupt the Zionist narrative, to call for divestment. EVERY MOMENT THAT ISRAEL'S GENOCIDE, APARTHEID, AND OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE ON IS A MOMENT MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER TO ACT. Wounds only

fade into scars if you allow them to heal, if you remain stagnant. As long as you continue to move and to act, every wound will remain fresh, and each will serve as a reminder of how the injuries dealt to us are nothing compared to the irreversible loss of homes, families, and lives in Gaza. Do not allow your wounds to heal, because those in Gaza have no choice but to live — and to die — with open, gaping wounds.

Today, 51 people in Lebanon were killed by continued, relentless Israeli bombardment. 1,200 Palestinian detainees from Gaza face systematic torture, abuse and assault in an Israeli prison in the Negev desert. Three Palestinians were killed and several others wounded when Israel bombed a house in central

Gaza's Bureij refugee camp. 25 Palestinians were arrested in the West Bank, and three bulldozers were sent in to demolish a home. All of this happened in the last 24 hours alone. How much do you think has occurred in 8,496 hours since October 7th?

DO NOT ALLOW THE ZIONIST KILLING MACHINE TO OPERATE FOR AN HOUR LONGER. Even when you cannot see an end, when you are not sure what showing up to protest after protest does, continue to do so. Administrative suppression is proof that we are doing something. We owe it to the people in Rafah, Khan Younis, Ramallah, Haifa, East Jerusalem, Baalbek, and Beirut to remain steadfast here, in the comfort of Cambridge, Massachusetts. It is the least we can do.



JOIN THE STUDENT MOVEMENT

[@harvardoop](#) [@harvafro](#)

[@harvardundergradpsc](#)

[@hgsubds](#) [@lsfpnational](#)

[@harvardgs4p](#) [@harvj4p](#)

[@theharvardcrimeson](#)