

Gaza and “The Greater Israel”: “A Territory or Country Is Targeted for Previously Established Geostrategic Goals”

By [Richard Gage](#)

Global Research, March 24, 2024

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

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[**Gaza and Its Astounding Parallels with 9/11: “A Territory or Country Is Targeted for Previously Established Geostrategic Goals”**](#)

By [Richard Gage](#), March 17, 2024

*A deeper dive into the vast set of issues from *If Americans Knew*, written by Jews sensitive to the indigenous population of Palestine, highlights **the absurdity of the Zionist land claim to Palestine**. What don’t you know yet?*

IF AMERICANS KNEW

What every American needs to know about Israel-Palestine

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SYNOPSIS ORIGIN OF CONFLICT US-ISRAEL RELATIONS MAPS WARS REFUGEES JEWISH STATE PEACE TALKS TERRORISM RELIGION ANCIENT HISTORY

f X p u e m

THE ORIGIN OF THE PALESTINE-ISRAEL CONFLICT

By **Jews for Justice in the Middle East**
Published in Berkeley, CA, 2001
Jews for Justice has made this excellent resource available to people around the world. We have converted their booklet to a more easily copied format. [Download it!](#)

As the periodic bloodshed continues in the Middle East, the search for an equitable solution must come to grips with the root cause of the conflict. The conventional wisdom is that, even if both sides are at fault, the Palestinians are irrational "terrorists" who have no point of view worth listening to. Our position, however, is that the Palestinians have a real grievance: their homeland for over a thousand years was taken, without their consent and mostly by force, during the creation of the state of Israel. And all subsequent crimes — on both sides — inevitably

Order/Download the Booklet

The Origin of the Palestine-Israel Conflict

THIRD EDITION
© 2001 Jews for Justice in the Middle East

Cost: \$1 + postage

Israel-Palestine Timeline



Israel-Palestine Timeline: The human cost of the conflict records photos and information for each person who has been killed in the ongoing violence.

History of the Israel Lobby



"Zionism was based on a faulty, colonialist world view that the rights of the indigenous inhabitants didn't matter. The Arabs' opposition to Zionism wasn't based on anti-Semitism but rather on a totally reasonable fear of the dispossession of their people."

"The mythic" land without people for a people without land" was already home to 700,000 Palestinians in 1919. [about 90% of the population]. This is the root of the problem..."

"Between 3000 and 1100 B.C., Canaanite civilization covered what is today Israel, the West Bank, Lebanon and much of Syria and Jordan...those who remained in the Jerusalem hills after the Romans expelled the Jews [in the second century A.D.] were a potpourri: farmers and vineyard growers, pagans and converts to Christianity, descendants of the Arabs, Persians, Samaritans, Greeks and old Canaanite tribes."
Marcia Kunstel and Joseph Albright, "Their Promised Land."

"The extended kingdoms of David and Solomon, on which the Zionists base their territorial demands, endured for only about 73 years...Then it fell apart...[Even] if we allow independence to the entire life of the ancient Jewish kingdoms, from David's conquest of Canaan in 1000 B.C. to the wiping out of Judah in 586 B.C., we arrive at [only] a 414 year Jewish rule." *Illene Beatty, "Arab and Jew in the Land of Canaan."* [Emphasis added.]

The Greater Israel

We learn from author [Israel Shahak](#) of [Global Research](#), that "The *Greater Israel*" constitutes the cornerstone of powerful Zionist factions within the current Netanyahu government, the Likud party, as well as within the Israeli military and intelligence establishment."

“Greater Israel”: The Zionist Plan for the Middle East

The Infamous "Oded Yinon Plan". Introduction by Michel Chossudovsky

By [Israel Shahak](#) and Prof [Michel Chossudovsky](#)

Global Research, February 01, 2024


Association of Arab-American University Graduates, Inc. 3 March 2013

Region: Middle East & North Africa

Theme: History, Law and Justice, Religion

In-depth Report: IRAQ REPORT, PALESTINE, SYRIA



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One of our most popular articles, first published on March 1st, 2013

According to [Mahdi Darius Nazemroaya in a 2011 Global Research article](#), The 1982 [Yinon Plan](#) was a continuation of Britain’s colonial design in the Middle East:

“The Yinon Plan is an Israeli strategic plan to ensure Israeli regional superiority. It insists and stipulates that **Israel must reconfigure its geo-political environment through the balkanization of the surrounding Arab states into smaller and weaker states.** [*Emphasis added.*]



Israeli strategists viewed Iraq as their biggest strategic challenge from an Arab state. This is why **Iraq was outlined as the centerpiece to the balkanization of the Middle East and the Arab World**. In Iraq, on the basis of the concepts of the Yinon Plan, Israeli strategists have called for the division of Iraq into a Kurdish state and two Arab states — one for Shiite Muslims and the other for Sunni Muslims. The first step towards establishing this was a war between Iraq and Iran, which the Yinon Plan discusses: *[Emphasis added.]*

Puppet Masters

"Greater Israel": the plan is on track

Israel Shahak
Global Research
Tue, 29 Apr 2014 19:52 UTC



The Infamous "Oded Yinon Plan"

Global Research Editor's Note:

The following document pertaining to the formation of "Greater Israel" constitutes the cornerstone of powerful Zionist factions within the current Netanyahu government, the Likud party, as well as within the Israeli military and intelligence establishment.

The Atlantic, in 2008, and the U.S. military's Armed Forces Journal, in 2006, **both published widely circulated maps that closely followed the outline of the Yinon Plan.** Aside from **a divided Iraq. . .the Yinon Plan calls for a divided Lebanon, Egypt, and Syria. The partitioning of Iran, Turkey, Somalia, and Pakistan** also all fall into line with these views. The Yinon Plan also calls for dissolution in North Africa and forecasts it as starting from Egypt and then spilling over into **Sudan, Libya**, and the rest of the region. *[Emphasis added.]*

Now, recall the 2001 Wesley Clark revelation, noted above in this article, citing the take-down of seven countries in five years. Let's connect the dots and ask ourselves, "Who runs US foreign policy?"

Let's look closer at the 1982 [Yinon plan](#) in greater detail:

2

The plan operates on two essential premises. To survive, Israel must 1) become an imperial regional power, and 2) must effect the division of the whole area into small states by the dissolution of all existing Arab states. *Small* here will depend on the ethnic or sectarian composition of each state.

Consequently, the Zionist hope is that sectarian-based states become Israel's satellites and, ironically, its source of moral legitimation.

3

This is not a new idea, nor does it surface for the first time in Zionist strategic thinking. Indeed, fragmenting all Arab states into smaller units has been a recurrent theme. This theme has been documented on a very modest scale in the AAUG publication, [*Israel's Sacred Terrorism*](#) (1980), by Livia Rokach. Based on the memoirs of Moshe Sharett, former Prime Minister of Israel, Rokach's study documents, in convincing detail, the Zionist plan as it applies to Lebanon and as it was prepared in the mid-fifties.

From early on **the Likud Party, ruling Israel today**, was not concerned at all with the inherent contradictions of their controversial slogan "**from the sea to the Jordan there will only be Israeli sovereignty**" to their stated aims of peace with the Palestinians:



The Right of the Jewish People to the Land of Israel (Eretz Israel)

a. The right of the [Jewish people](#) to the land of [Israel](#) is eternal and indisputable and is linked with the right to security and peace; therefore, [Judea](#) and [Samaria](#) will not be handed to any foreign administration; between the Sea and the Jordan there will only be Israeli sovereignty.

b. A plan which relinquishes parts of western Eretz Israel, undermines our right to the country, unavoidably leads to the establishment of a "Palestinian State," jeopardizes the security of the [Jewish](#) population, endangers the existence of the State of Israel. and frustrates any prospect of peace.

Sources:

[Likud Official Website](#); Walter Laqueur and Barry Rubin, ed, "The Israel-Arab Reader: A Documentary History of the Middle East Conflict, 6th Edition" (New York, NY: Penguin Books, 2001).

In fact, major political figures and government institutions in Israel have carried the flame consistently for an expanded Israel. [Nation magazine](#) documents that **Page 1 of the Likud Party's founding document (1977) reads:**

'...from the sea to the Jordan there will only be Israeli sovereignty.' *[Emphasis added.]*

ACTIVISM / NOVEMBER 22, 2023

It's Time to Confront Israel's Version of "From the River to the Sea"

Far from being a mere slogan, the phrase captures both the longtime ambitions of the Israeli right and the reality Israel has imposed on Palestine since 1967.

RASHID KHALIDI

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During a speech before the United Nations General Assembly on September 22, 2023, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu holds up a map that shows Israel stretching "from the river to the sea."

(Spencer Platt / Getty Images)

The right of the Jewish people to the land of Israel is eternal and indisputable... therefore, Judea and Samaria will not be handed to any foreign administration; between the Sea and the Jordan there will only be Israeli sovereignty. —Likud Party Platform, 1977

The slogan "from the river to the sea" apparently has great power, so great that it led the US House of Representatives to censure one of its members who

Gaza: Previous Language about flattening Gaza

The New York Times has reported that **“it is part of normal Israeli discourse to call for Gaza to be ‘flattened,’ ‘erased,’ or ‘destroyed.’”** *[Emphasis added.]* The newspaper even quoted one retired IDF general as having proclaimed that “Gaza will become a place where no human being can exist[.]” Going even further, a minister in the Israeli government suggested dropping a nuclear weapon on Gaza.⁴ **These statements are not being made by isolated extremists, but by senior members of Israel’s government.**

In fact, the Finance Minister declared that there is “no such thing as Palestinian people”:

Top Israeli minister: 'No such thing' as Palestinian people



1 of 2 | FILE - Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, left, and Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, right, arrive to attend a cabinet meeting at the Prime Minister's office in Jerusalem, Feb. 23, 2023. The ultranationalist member of Israel's ruling coalition says there's no such thing as a Palestinian people. Finance Minister Smotrich's remark Sunday, March 12, 2023. [Read More](#)

BY LAURIE KELLMAN

Published 10:38 PM PST, March 20, 2023

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TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — A firebrand Israeli minister claimed there's "no such thing" as a Palestinian people as Israel's new coalition government, its most hard-line ever, plowed ahead on Monday with a part of its plan to overhaul the judiciary.

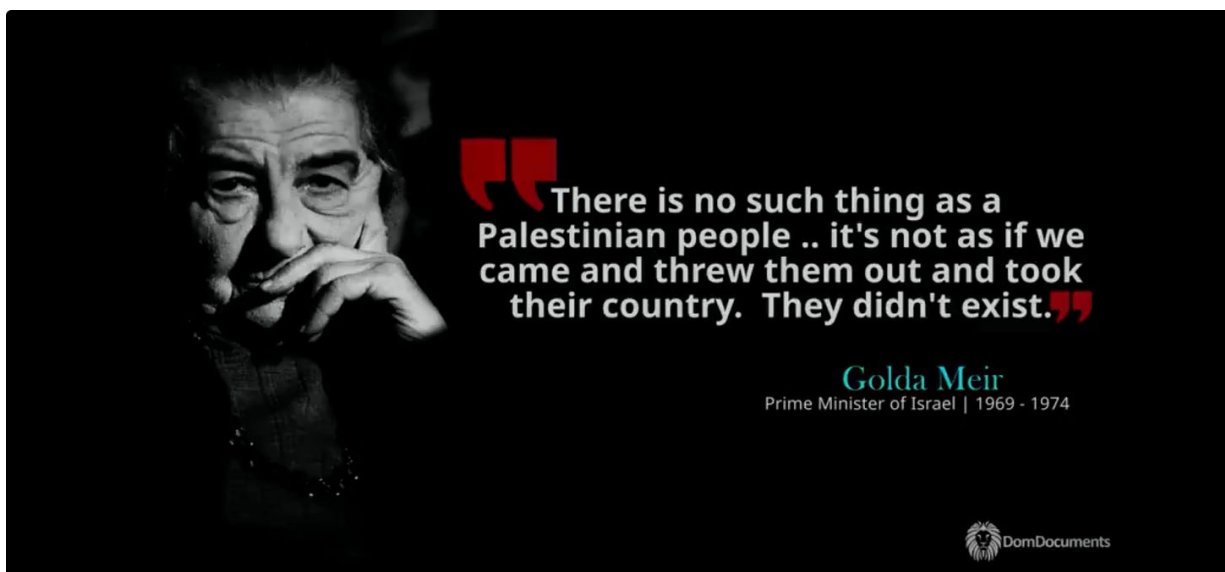
[Source](#)

The word "Israel" was first presented in the Bible as a name given to Jacob after he fought an angel. Its meaning was a man who has struggled with God. And is commonly translated as "God Prevails" or "Man seeing God". Many have argued that the word Israel in the **Bible does not refer to a place, but rather a believer or a group of believers in God.**

Others believe the land known as Palestine was where the Biblical state of Israel once stood. *[Emphasis added.]*

Going much, much further, Golda Meir, the Prime Minister of Israel from 1969 to 1974 said

this about the Palestinians:



So “**Greater Israel**” is not just an historical aberration that the Israelis outgrew following statehood. It seems rather, that “The Greater Israel” is **a goal that has consistently guided their actions of invasion, occupation and annexation** — in spite of their words of peace to their international audience.

Gaza: Off-shore Natural Gas Assets Coveted by Israel

First among the several geo-strategic interests of Israel in Gaza may be the **122 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in fields discovered two decades ago** immediately offshore of Gaza — fields that, if not for its Palestinian owners in Gaza, **could profit Israel \$453 billion as an exporter of natural gas to Europe** — especially in the wake of the [US-sponsored sabotage](#) of the Nord Stream pipeline. **Oil was found in these fields as well — oil worth an estimated \$71 billion.**



OPINION

Gas, Gaza, and Western imperialism

BY TARA ALAMI - DECEMBER 20, 2023 - 0

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The current assault on Gaza cannot be seen as separate from the theft of resources like fuel and the systemic [destruction of life-sustaining infrastructure](#) throughout Palestine. Only ten days after the beginning of the most recent assault on Gaza, the

[Source](#)

Writer [Tara Alami](#) states in an article posted on the [American "Mondoweiss"](#), that **"the ongoing Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip cannot be viewed in isolation from the rich natural gas resources that abound on its shores."** *[Emphasis added]*

RT covers the story, but Western mainstream media doesn't touch it, especially now.

Russian, Syrian, and Iranian oil has been sanctioned by the West, raising the value of that \$71 billion in oil finds even further:



Dr. Atif Kubursi, an emeritus professor of economics from McMaster University who also worked extensively with the United Nations, writes on the IC911 website, “[T]hese [gas] deposits have gained notoriety and value as Russian gas and oil supplies became less available and accessible by Europe, particularly after Nord-Stream II was blown out last year. . .” [Emphasis added]



HOME / COMMENTARY / This Genocide is also about Oil, Canals and Trade Routes

This Genocide is also about Oil, Canals and Trade Routes

Though Israel and her supporters have framed the offense as a war against Hamas, many knowledgeable observers throughout the Middle East and beyond believe other interests are behind the violence.

Dr. Atif Kubursi | January 11, 2024



Dr. Atif Kubursi is a professor emeritus of economics at McMaster University in Ontario, Canada. In 1982, he joined the United Nations Industrial Organization as Senior Development Officer. In 2006, he was appointed Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA). He has published extensively in the areas of macroeconomics, economic development strategies, international trade, impact analysis, and regional planning.

[Source](#)

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) estimated a mean (average) of **1.7 billion barrels of recoverable oil** and a mean of **122 trillion cubic feet of recoverable gas** in the Levant Basin Province.⁶ This makes the basin one of the most important gas resources in the world. *[Emphasis added.]*



With the escalation of energy prices triggered by the Ukraine-Russia war, the values of these deposits in the Levant basin have measurably increased. It is estimated that **these deposits are now worth \$2 trillion**. Only Israel is currently exploiting these reserves. *[Emphasis added.]*



“However, occupation continues to prevent Palestinians from developing their energy fields so as to exploit and benefit from such assets. As such, **the Palestinian people have been denied the benefits of using this natural resource to finance socioeconomic development and meet their need for energy.** The accumulated losses are estimated in the billions of dollars.” *[Emphasis added.]*

“This is not only contrary to international law, but also in violation of natural justice and moral law. To date, the real and opportunity costs of the occupation exclusively in the area of oil and natural gas have accumulated to tens, if not hundreds, of billions of dollars.” *[Emphasis added.]*

Peter Myers cuts to the chase:



HOME BLOG ABOUT LEGACY WEBSITE



Peter Myers Digest: Israel has started selling exploration rights to Oil & Gas fields off Gaza

A Chronicle of the Decline and Fall of the Western Empire

"Illegitimi non carborundum"

"But Israel has now started selling exploration rights to fossil fuels which belong to the Palestinians. Within days of October 7th they had sold 12 licenses to six different companies. Presumably, they just happened to have the contracts all ready to sign. Usually, these things take months or years to set up but the **Israelis were selling half a trillion dollars' worth of someone else's oil and gas** in less time than it takes to buy a washing machine." *[Emphasis added.]*

The United Nations issued a stunning report on this subject, "[The Economic Costs of the Israeli Occupation for the Palestinian People: The Unrealized Oil and Natural Gas Potential](#):"

The total oil and gas reserves were valued at a staggering \$524 billion in 2019. But **Israel does not have sole legal entitlement to the \$524 billion, according to a UN report** published in the same year. *[Emphasis added.]*

TRT World reviews the opportunity of the gas fields find for the Palestinian people in this nine-minute report :

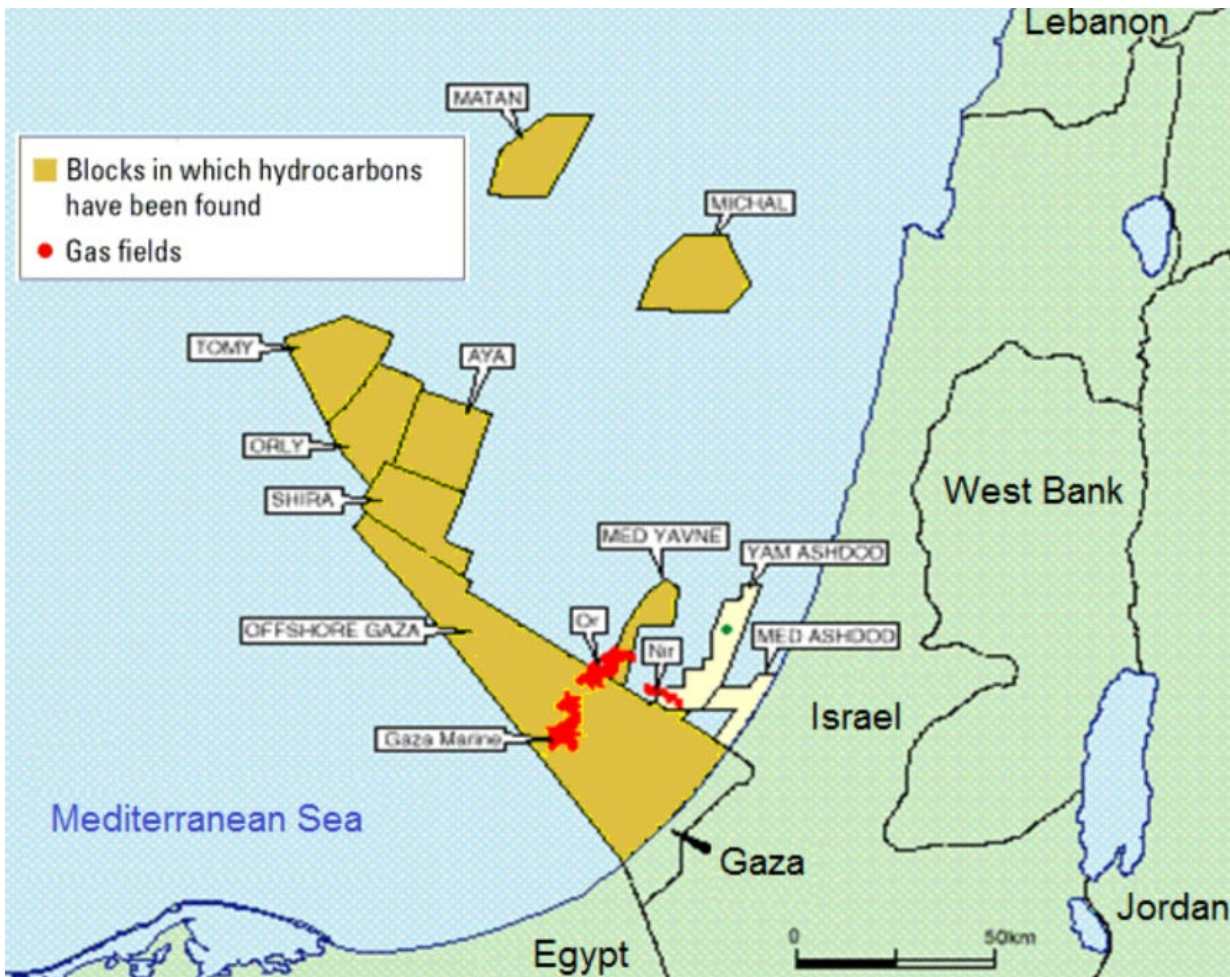
Environmental devastation and the war on Palestine

Samira Homerang Saunders



“When **Joe Biden’s** energy security advisor, **Amos Hochstein**, visited Israel last week to push for the development of Gaza’s **offshore gas reserves**. He claimed that the move will ‘revitalize’ the Palestinian economy.

Israel however has no intention of allowing Palestinians to benefit from any of the commercial opportunities it is so keen to pursue. Its government views the entire population as an obstacle.” *[Emphasis added.]*



Most all of the Gas finds are inside of the Gazan territorial waters. But since Gaza is now illegally occupied by Israel, including **these vast energy resources, there is enormous pressure on Israel to share them with the Palestinians:**

[Haaretz](#) | Israel News

U.S. to Push Israel on Allowing Gaza Offshore Gas Reserves to Revitalize Palestinian Economy

Israel gave preliminary approval for the development of a gas field off Gaza's coast in June. 'We shouldn't exaggerate its potential, but it can absolutely be a revenue stream for a Palestinian government,' says Amos Hochstein, President Biden's energy security advisor, who is currently visiting Israel

[Source](#)

The BBC acknowledges the vast opportunity, cites the problems, and interviews Mohammed

Shtayyah, head of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction:

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Gas finds in east Mediterranean may change strategic balance

© 13 May 2013



| The Tamar drilling platform sits 25km off the coast of Israel

By **Yolande Knell**

BBC News, Jerusalem

“Israelis even had a joke about how Moses led his people through the desert for 40 years to reach the one place in the region with no oil. But in the past few years, there

have been **offshore discoveries of gas and possibly oil that look set to open up new economic possibilities. In the future, they could also redefine strategic relationships.** *[Emphasis added]*

“Leviathan is actually the reservoir that can potentially bring Israel to be totally independent from an energy perspective and also position Israel as an exporter of natural gas rather than importer,” says Yossi Abu, chief executive of leading Israeli natural gas company, Delek Drilling.

Delek Drilling and Avner Oil Exploration, also owned by Delek Group, own 31% of Tamar and 45% of Leviathan. **Its US partner is Noble Energy.**

“There are some technical problems but the problems are mainly political - because of the Israeli occupation and the internal Palestinian problems - the need for reconciliation,” says **Mohammed Shtayyah, head of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction.**

“Overall it is extremely frustrating for us as Palestinians. You have that natural resource there that should be a real wealth for the nation and [we are] not using it.” *[Emphasis added.]*

See [this](#).

The Jewish News Syndicate provides the Israeli perspective, blaming the Palestinian leader for the lack of progress:



FEATURE

Israel green lights gas field off Gaza, but concerned Hamas will use revenue for terror

The main hurdle to opening the Gaza Marine reservoir is the need for a Hamas-P.A. agreement.

ISRAEL KASNETT

November 14, 2022

It was 22 years ago that PLO chairman and arch-terrorist Yasser Arafat appeared on Palestinian television to announce the discovery of natural gas off the coast of Gaza.

Arafat described the discovery as “a gift from God” to the Palestinian people, smiling from the bridge of a fishing boat. **“This will provide a solid foundation for our economy, for establishing an independent state with holy Jerusalem as its capital,”** he said. But instead of working to create a Palestinian state, Arafat launched the Second Intifada, and the gas field was closed. *[Emphasis added.]*

But, economist, **Michel Chossudovsky** discusses the controversial agreements for the

extradition of natural gas from off the shore of Gaza — **agreements by Egypt and Israel that have excluded Hamas.**

He suggests that Egypt may have been bribed with the billions of dollars in natural gas revenue in secret negotiations, to accept Gaza refugees following the current invasion of Gaza by Israel — with projected gas extraction in the beginning of 2024.

The screenshot shows the top section of the Global Research website. On the left is the logo for Global Research, Centre for Research on Globalization, with the website URL globalresearch.ca / globalresearch.org. To the right are search bars for authors and general search, a 'Translate Website' dropdown menu, and a newsletter sign-up field. Further right are language options (Italiano, Deutsch, Português, srpski, العربية, 中文) and links to other language versions (Français, español). Below these are social media icons for YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, and RSS. A dark blue navigation bar contains links to various topics: US Nato War, Economy, Civil Rights, Environment, Poverty, Media, Justice, 9/11, War Crimes, Militarization, History, and Science. The main article title is 'War and Natural Gas: The Israeli Invasion and Gaza's Offshore Gas Fields'. Below the title, it lists the author as Prof. Michel Chossudovsky and provides dates: October 21, 2023, and January 8, 2009. On the right side of the article header, it specifies the region as Middle East & North Africa, the theme as Oil and Energy, and the report as an in-depth report on PALESTINE.

War and Natural Gas: The Israeli Invasion and Gaza's Offshore Gas Fields

by Michel Chossudovsky

January 8, 2009

The December 2008 military invasion of the Gaza Strip by Israeli Forces bears a direct relation to the control and ownership of strategic offshore gas reserves.

This is a war of conquest. Discovered in 2000, there are extensive gas reserves off the Gaza coastline.

British Gas (BG Group) and its partner, the Athens based Consolidated Contractors International Company (CCC) owned by Lebanon's Sabbagh and Koury families, were granted oil and gas exploration rights in a 25 year agreement signed in November 1999 with the Palestinian Authority.

The rights to the offshore gas field are respectively British Gas (60 percent); Consolidated Contractors (CCC) (30 percent); and the Investment Fund of the Palestinian Authority (10 percent). (Haaretz, October 21, 2007).



Map 2

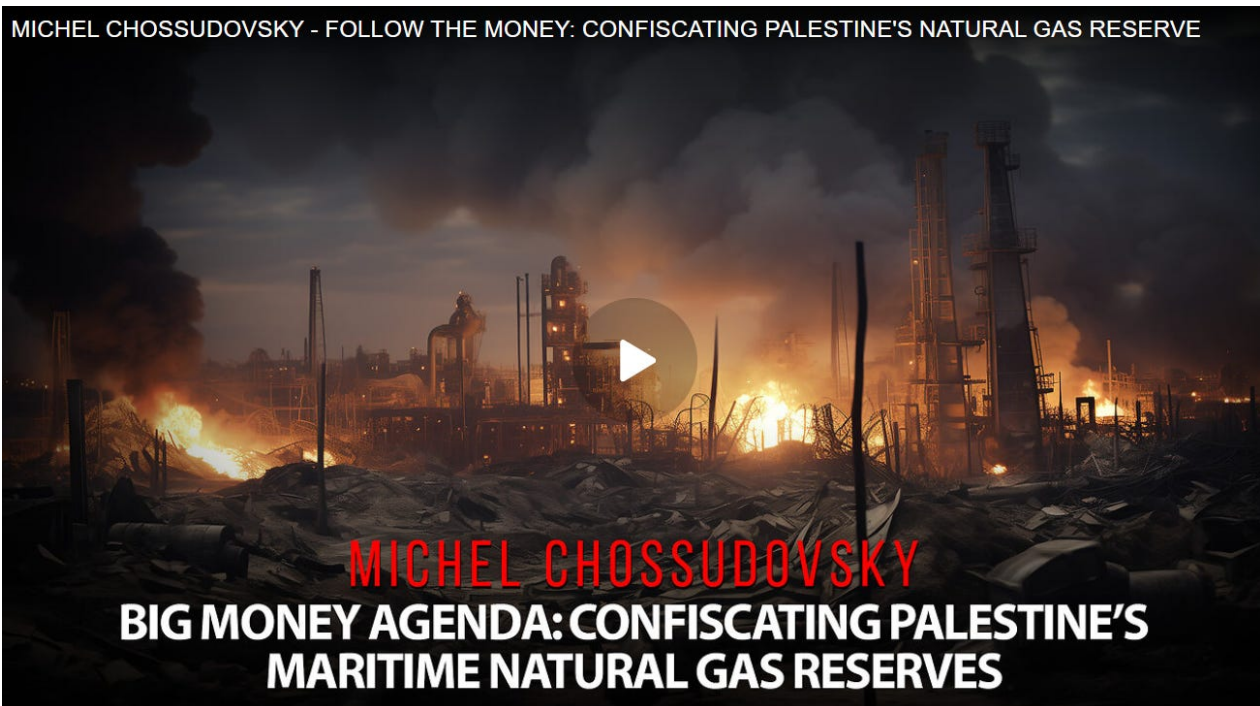
Who Owns the Gas Fields

The issue of sovereignty over Gaza's gas fields is crucial. From a legal standpoint, the gas reserves belong to Palestine.

The death of Yasser Arafat, the election of the Hamas government and the ruin of the Palestinian Authority have enabled Israel to establish *de facto* control over Gaza's offshore gas reserves.

British Gas (BG Group) has been dealing with the Tel Aviv government. In turn, the Hamas government has been bypassed in regards to exploration and development rights over the gas fields.

[Chossudovsky also suggests](#) that it is **no accident that Israel is bombing inside of Lebanon and Syria, since there are also natural gas discoveries off their coasts.** It's a fascinating interview. [Watch on Rumble:](#)



Greece, Cyprus, Israel sign EastMed gas pipeline deal

by The Editorial Team — January 2, 2020 in Offshore



Credit: DEPA SA



On Thursday, December 2, Cyprus, Greece and Israel inked an Intergovernmental Agreement for the construction of the EastMed natural gas pipeline, a 1,900 kilometer (1,180 mile) subsea pipeline to carry natural gas from the eastern Mediterranean's rapidly developing gas industry to Europe, with Italy expressing its support for

[Source](#)

The decision for the evolution of the project was made....in 2019 when the **European governments and Israel decided on the \$6 billion pipeline project.**

The gas pipeline is expected to initially carry 10 billion cubic meters of gas per year from Israeli and Cypriot waters to the Greek island of Crete, on to the Greek mainland and into Europe's gas network via Italy. *[Emphasis added.]*

Given the location of the gas fields down south off shore of Gaza, one can understand why **Israel would prefer to route the future Ben-Gurion Canal (see below) through Gaza to meet up directly with the gas field development.**

According to [Haaretz \(See Full Report by Ben Samuels and Amir Tibon below\)](#) in November/2023:

Amos Hochstein, U.S. President Joe Biden's energy security advisor, is currently visiting Israel to discuss preventing a second front from opening between Israel and Lebanon amid ongoing clashes with Hezbollah, as well as potential economic



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revitalization plans for Gaza centered around undeveloped offshore natural gas fields.

Biden's Envoy Hochstein "was most recently in Bahrain, where he discussed **the opportunity to develop offshore gas fields on behalf of the Palestinians as part of plans for [post-war Gaza](#).**"

"Israel [gave preliminary approval](#) for the development of a gas field off Gaza's coast in June, stressing it would require security coordination with both the PA and Egypt. The Gaza Marine field, nearly 20 miles off Gaza's coast, has remained undeveloped despite holding an estimated 1 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. This total is hypothetically much more than needed to power the Palestinian territories, and some of it could be potentially exported." (Haaretz)

*Netanyahu's October 2023 declaration of war against 2.3 million people of the Gaza Strip is a continuation of its 2008-2009 invasion of Gaza under "**Operation Cast Lead**." The underlying objective is the **outright military occupation of Gaza** by Israel's IDF forces and **the expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland**.*

*There are powerful financial interests which stand to benefit from Israel's criminal undertaking (**Genocide**) directed against Gaza. The ultimate objective is not only to exclude Palestinians from their homeland, it consists in **confiscating the multi-billion dollar Gaza offshore Natural Gas reserves**, namely those pertaining to the BG (BG Group) in 1999, as well the Levant discoveries of 2013.*

This is what is contemplated. Outright confiscation with the complicity of Egypt

The occupation of Gaza is intent upon confiscating Palestine's maritime gas reserves, starting in early 2024, as outlined in the Secret bilateral Agreement between Egypt and Israel.

Egypt is in on the game

Cairo is complicit with total disregard for the rights of Palestinians. It's a criminal undertaking.

Egypt will establish refugee camps in the Sinai desert in coordination with Israel and the U.S., in exchange for a token participation in the exploitation of Gaza's maritime, which are worth billions and billions of dollars. [*Emphasis added.*]

This quite controversial claim, implicating Egypt in the abandoning all of the rights of Palestinians in Gaza, is supported by Rasha Abou Jalal of Al-Monitor:

✓ Check your email for your free article.

ALM Exclusive

Egypt persuades Israel to extract Gaza's natural gas

Al-Monitor obtained information from Palestinian and Egyptian officials about the success of Egyptian mediation in pushing Israel to allow the start of extracting natural gas off the coast of the Gaza Strip.



Palestinians participate in a rally at the Gaza City sea port, in which they demand their right to receive gas from maritime fields in the eastern Mediterranean and the lifting of the Israeli blockade, Gaza Strip, Sept. 13 2022. - Mohammed Abed/AFP via Getty Images



Rasha Abou Jalal
@rashaaboujalal1

October 6, 2022

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Egypt succeeded in persuading Israel to start extracting natural gas off the coast of the Gaza Strip, after several months of secret bilateral talks, according to information provided to Al-Monitor by an official in the Egyptian intelligence service and a member of the PLO Executive Committee.

This development coincides with the rising [global energy prices](#) caused by Russia's war on Ukraine, while European nations seek alternatives to Russian gas ahead of the winter season.



Egypt-Israel “Secret Bilateral Talks”

From 2021 to 2022, Egypt and Israel were involved in [“secret bilateral talks”](#) regarding the extraction of natural gas off the coast of the Gaza Strip.

“Egypt succeeded in persuading Israel to start extracting natural gas off the coast of the Gaza Strip, **after several months of secret bilateral talks.**”

This development. . .comes after years of Israeli objections to extract natural gas off the coast of Gaza **on [alleged] security grounds, . . .**

British Gas (BG Group) has also been dealing with the Tel Aviv government.

What is significant is that **the civilian arm of the Hamas Gaza government has been bypassed** in regards to exploration and development rights over the gas fields:

The [field](#), which lies about 30 kilometers (19 miles) west of the Gaza coast, was discovered in 2000 by British Gas (currently BG Group) and **is estimated to contain more than 1 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.**

The official in the Egyptian intelligence service told Al-Monitor on condition of anonymity, **“An Egyptian economic and security delegation discussed with the Israeli side for several months the issue of allowing the extraction of natural gas off the coast of Gaza.”** ([Al-Monitor](#), October 22, 2022)

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Egypt and Israel, which had the rubber-stamp of the Palestinian National Authority (PA):

“The Egyptian official explained that Israel required the **start of practical measures to extract gas from the Gaza fields at the beginning of 2024, to ensure its own security.**” ([Al-Monitor](#), October 22, 2022) [*Emphasis added.*]

See [this](#).

Is Egypt striking a deal with Israel and the West?



It appears so, according to “The Telegraph.”

Of course, the October 7, 2023 events changed everything once again in the gas field extraction project. **Israel appears to have adopted a drastically different course with regard to the Gazan Palestinians** whose future appears ever more bleak. **If they are destroyed and removed from Gaza they will not be a barrier to Israeli gas extraction and profits.**

Gaza: A \$55B Canal That Wants to Meet the Sea — in Gaza

Let's examine the \$55B Ben Gurion Canal project that Gaza is also sitting in the way of:

The Ben Gurion Canal, named after Israel's first Prime Minister, has been touted as an Israeli alternative to the Suez Canal that was conceived in the 1960s after Nasser's nationalization of the Suez.



When the Ben Gurion Canal is completed it is expected to put Egypt's Suez Canal out of business, even though **it will cost \$16B to \$55B**, many times that of the Suez, and take five years to complete.

"Billion Dollar Builds" takes us on a nine-minute technological and political journey into the mega-project — highlighting the **requirement for the "pacification of Gaza."**

The new canal will be a third the length longer (150 miles — depending on the final route) and twice the width (200 meters) of the Suez in order to accommodate **bi-directional traffic — or an aircraft carrier. It would be 50 meters deep — twice the depth of the Suez.**

Using nuclear weapons for peaceful purposes is not unheard of. Project Plowshare was an official US program organized in 1957 for using nukes for peaceful purposes — "These tests were to demonstrate that atomic bombs can be used for peaceful purposes, that the atomic sword could be beaten into a plowshare":

Project Plowshare

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- Plowshare testing
 - Natural gas stimulation experiment
- Impacts, opposition and economics
- Nuclear tests
- Non-nuclear tests
- Proposed nuclear projects
- See also
- Notes
- References
- Further reading

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about proposed peaceful uses of nuclear weapons. For the serialized Philip K. Dick novel with the same name, see [The Zap Gun](#). For the Christian anti-nuclear protest movement, see [Plowshares Movement](#).

Project Plowshare was the overall United States program for the development of techniques to use **nuclear explosives** for peaceful construction purposes. The program was organized in June 1957 as part of the worldwide [Atoms for Peace](#) efforts. As part of the program, 35^[1] nuclear warheads were detonated in 27 separate tests. A similar program was carried out in the Soviet Union under the name [Nuclear Explosions for the National Economy](#).

Successful demonstrations of non-combat uses for nuclear explosives include [rock blasting](#), stimulation of [tight gas](#), [chemical element](#) manufacture.^[a] unlocking some of the mysteries of the [R-process](#) of [stellar nucleosynthesis](#) and probing the composition of the [Earth's deep crust](#), creating [reflection seismology vibroseis](#) data which has helped geologists and follow-on mining company [prospecting](#).^{[2][3][4]}

The project's uncharacteristically large and atmospherically vented [Sedan nuclear test](#) also led geologists to determine that [Barringer crater](#) was formed as a result of a [meteor impact](#) and not



The 1962 "Sedan" plowshares shot [ⓘ] displaced 12 million tons of earth and created a crater 320 feet (98 m) deep and 1,280 feet (390 m) wide

However, the Wikipedia article notes, “Negative impacts from Project Plowshare’s tests generated significant public opposition, which eventually led to the program’s termination in 1977. These consequences included tritiated water and the deposition of fallout from radioactive material being injected into the atmosphere.” Israel may, or may not, have found a way around these significant problems.

A project proposed in a 1963 memorandum by [Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory](#) would have used 520 2-megaton nuclear explosions to excavate a canal through the [Negev Desert](#) in Israel at an estimated cost of \$575 million (\$5 billion in 2021), to serve as an alternative route to the [Suez Canal](#).^{[13][14]} *[Emphasis added.]*

Use of Nuclear Explosives for Excavation of Sea-Level Canal Across the Negev Desert (Canal Studies Filefolder)

H. D. MacCabee

DISCLAIMER

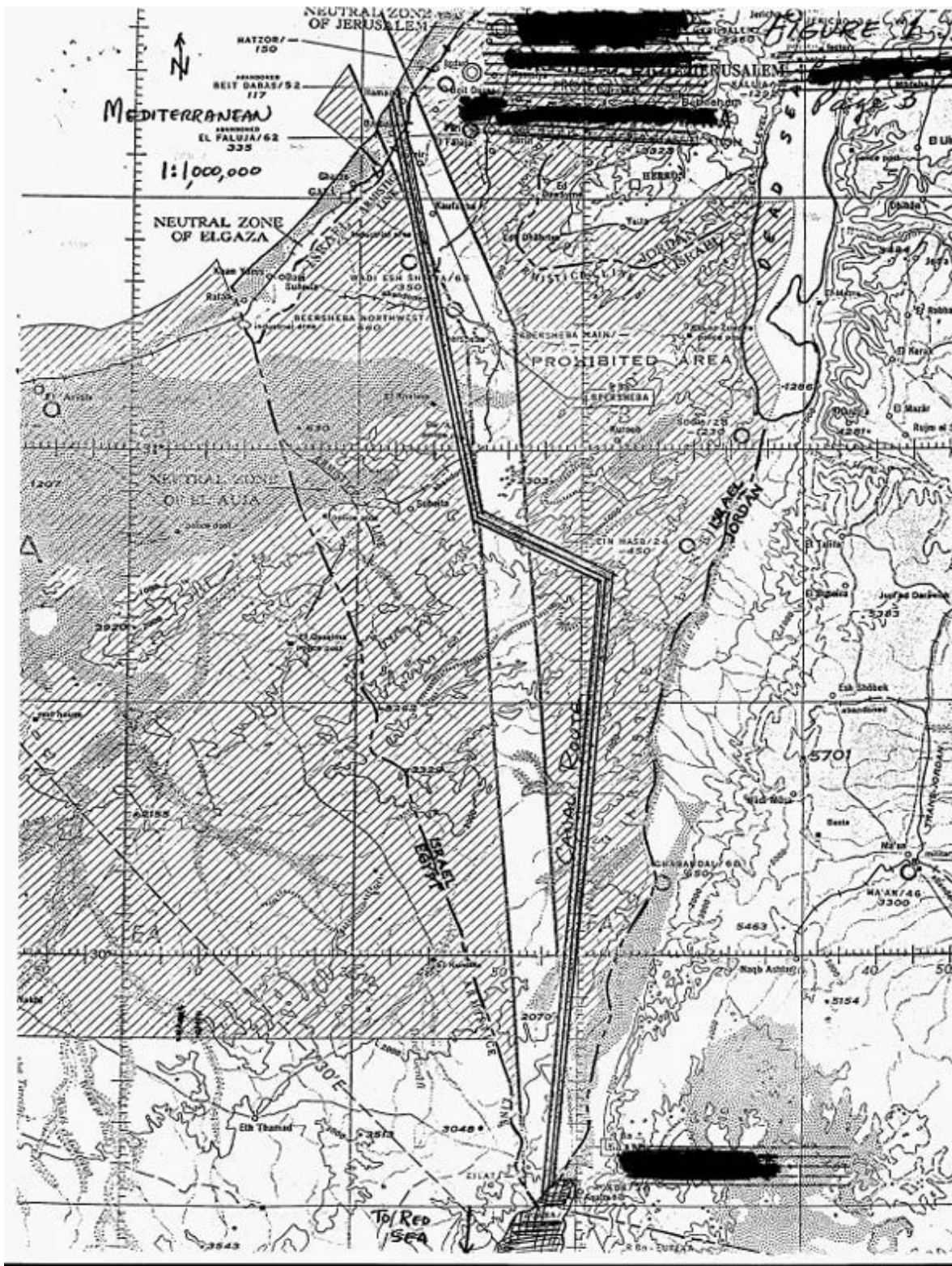
This report was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither the United States Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the United States Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the United States Government or any agency thereof.

RECEIVED

DEC 30 1996

OSTI

The project actually involves the **detonation of a nuclear bomb every 1300 feet from the Gulf of Aqaba in the Red Sea (1,500 feet below sea level) almost all the way to the Mediterranean Sea** where an even more costly conventional excavation will complete the canal immediately north of, or through, Gaza.



According to H.D. MacCabee of Lawrence Livermore Lab, the 1963 plan would require **nuclear blasts exploded along 130 miles** of the canal in the uninhabited Negev Desert. Curiously, radiation issues are largely ignored in the analysis.

COSTS

In the absence of accurate profiles of the route and accurate information on costs of mass-produced nuclear explosives, a very crude first approximation to costs of such a canal is given here.

Assuming (very roughly) an average depth of cut of 750 feet, this dimension controls and leads to a device spacing of 1300 feet (using 2 megaton devices buried at a depth of 1300 feet) in order to get a channel width of 1000 feet in rock.¹

Assuming a hole drilling cost of \$200 per foot for 1300 foot holes, and a shot cost of \$250,000, we are led to a total single shot cost of $\$ 0.5 \times 10^6$, and at a spacing of four shots per mile, a cost of $\$ 2 \times 10^6$ per mile.

Thus; Nuclear Shot Cost: 130 miles \times $\$ 2 \times 10^6$ /mi = $\$ 260 \times 10^6$

Conventional
Excavation: 30 miles \times $\$ 3 \times 10^6$ /mi = $\$ 90 \times 10^6$

Engineering,

Auxiliary Construction
and Safety Program = $\$ 150 \times 10^6$

15% Allowance for
Contingencies = $\$ 75 \times 10^6$

Approximate Total Cost

= $\$ 575 \times 10^6$

The document above, published by H. D. Maccabee of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, was written under contract to the US Department of Energy and was classified as secret until 1993. "Such a canal would be a strategically valuable alternative to the current Suez Canal and would probably greatly contribute to the economic development of the surrounding area," the declassified document states.

ANR News provides a bit more depth into the strategically important mega-project:

Even more controversial has been the suggestion that the immense canal maintenance costs could be dramatically reduced by **routing the canal parallel and much closer to the Egyptian border, through "the amor rock structure" instead of the desert sand which would eliminate billions of dollars per year in dredging** the canal from the frequent sandstorms — an enormous financial burden to the Suez.



Such a route would also benefit by saving 50 miles of initial excavation. But, **it would have to go *through* Gaza, instead of *around* it. This would not be acceptable, of course, to the people of Gaza — absent a catalyzing and catastrophic event like a new 9/11**, where they were forced out of Gaza. But if it were possible to accomplish the depopulation of Gaza, Israel’s new canal could avoid the risk of attacks on the canal’s publicly documented route (north of Gaza) by Hamas rockets.

Dr. Atif Kubursi, in the article below states, “Given these basic reasons it is **difficult to dismiss this Israeli objective as a serious factor in what is driving Israeli genocide in Gaza.**”:



HOME / COMMENTARY / This Genocide is also about Oil, Canals and Trade Routes

This Genocide is also about Oil, Canals and Trade Routes

Though Israel and her supporters have framed the offense as a war against Hamas, many knowledgeable observers throughout the Middle East and beyond believe other interests are behind the violence.

Dr. Atif Kubursi | January 11, 2024



Dr. Atif Kubursi is a professor emeritus of economics at McMaster University in Ontario, Canada. In 1982, he joined the United Nations Industrial Organization as Senior Development Officer. In 2006, he was appointed Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA). He has published extensively in the areas of macroeconomics, economic development strategies, international trade, impact analysis, and regional planning.

Even with the enormous cost of the project, according to Dr. Atif Kubursi (January 11, 2024), **the canal would net Israel about \$6B annually** (twice the budget that the US provides in aid annually). Its major western investors would reap even greater profits — which might even explain the West’s complicity in the massive destruction in Gaza.

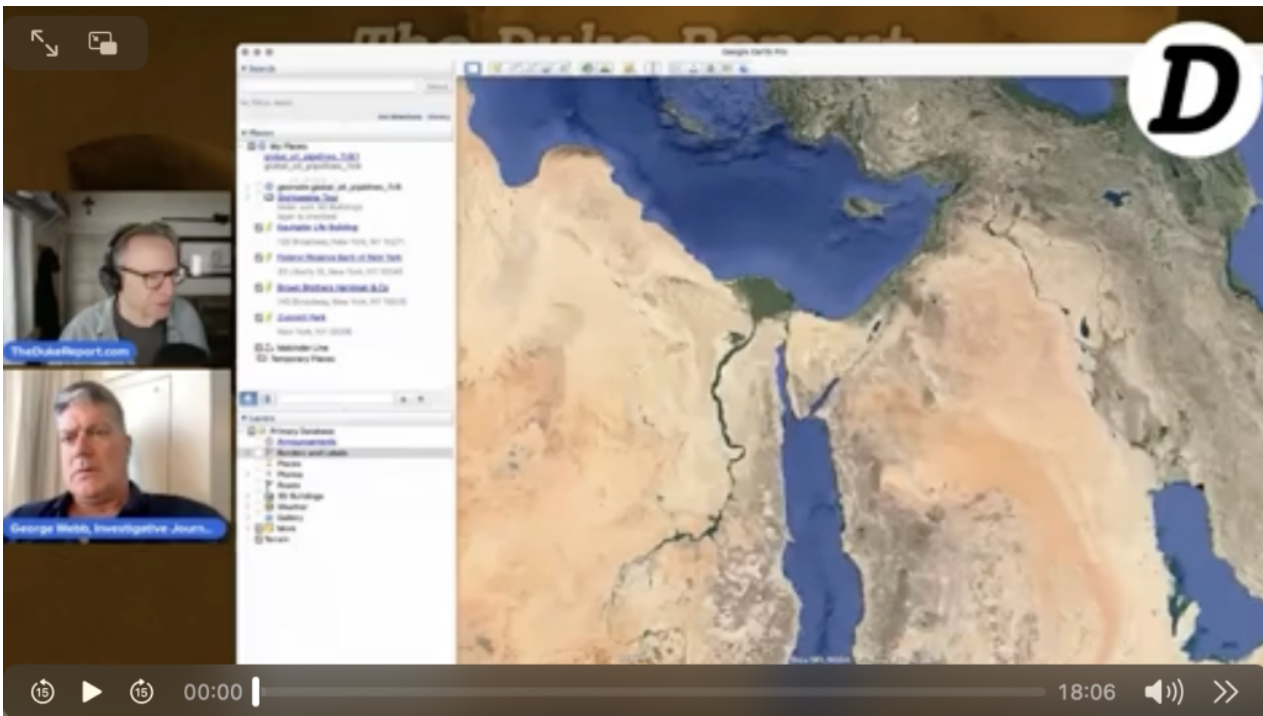
Kubursi suggests that **the land of Gaza now becomes three to four times more valuable than in recent decades** — especially given that “Israel is planning to build small towns and tourist hubs with hotels/restaurants along the canal.”

Richard Medhurst explains in this eight-minute video how the West plans to **deepen its**

control over international shipping and through Arab waters with its mega investment in the Ben Gurion Canal:

Watch this young woman explain the Ben Gurion Canal project in political terms in under two minutes:

George Webb has written much about **the “East Med Pipeline” (Mediterranean), which would be positioned at the mouth of the new canal to work in tandem with it.** The new scheme would allow oil tankers to empty their loads in Israel (or Gaza) and then turn around and head back down the canal to the oil producing countries where they came from. They would **no longer have to sail the tankers across the Mediterranean Sea to the destination countries** — as described by Peter Duke and George Webb in this 18-minute discussion:



[Click here to view the video](#)

The new canal project through Israel would also **insulate Israel from Egyptian bans on Israeli shipments** to and from the country, which had been a major problem with its historic enemy. It would also give Israel and its allies a **“huge influence on the international supply chains of oil, grain, and world trade in general,”** as noted by Kubursi. *[Emphasis added]*

But he notes that Gaza is a major impediment:

“On April 2, 2021, Israel announced that work on the Ben Gurion Canal was expected to begin by June 2021. However, this did not happen given the status of Gaza as a Palestinian enclave ruled by Hamas. **Many analysts interpret the current Israeli re-occupation of the Gaza Strip as something that many Israeli politicians have been waiting for in order to revive the old project.**” ⁴⁴*[Emphasis added.]*

Regarding the original published canal route, Kubursi acknowledges the obvious:

“This is not the shortest distance, however, nor is in the optimum geological structure away from the sandy terrain of Negev. **Going into Gaza, guarantees the shortest distance advantage as well as the rocky terrain. These advantages are being cited as crucial reasons for the current genocide Israel is perpetrating in Gaza.**”

“But even if the canal would not end in the Gaza Strip itself, it is hard to believe that the Israelis would build it near a Palestinian territory such as Ashkelon. The canal’s distance of only a few tens of kilometers from the Gaza Strip would make it **very vulnerable and subject to Palestinian rockets, howitzers, drones** and other devices. That is why a basic prerequisite for the construction of the canal is the Israeli military control of the Gaza area.” *[Emphasis added.]*

Also, Kubursi emphasizes the security **threat of China and Russia to the West:**

The West does not want to depend on a channel controlled by **Egypt, with some ties to the Russian Federation and China**, which the West consider them major security threats. Earlier this year, **Egypt is slated to become a full member of BRICS** from January 1st, 2024. The West does not want Egypt directly, nor Russia and China indirectly, to have exclusive control over world trade. *[Emphasis added.]*

[China completes new silk road to Europe](#)



In fact, China’s new Belt and Road Initiative has forced the West to compete:

“The Americans and their partners have treated with suspicion and disapproval the Chinese New Silk Road megaproject, in which Egypt has an important role. In 2014, **Beijing and Cairo signed the “Strategic Partnership Agreement,” agreeing to cooperate in the fields of defense, technology, economy,** the fight against terrorism and cybercrime. Actually, during Xi Jinping’s visit to Egypt in 2016, another 21 agreements were signed, including a **contract for 15 billion dollars of Chinese investment** in various projects....Chinese investment in Egypt increased by 317%. *[Emphasis added.]*

Ghazal Vaisi looks at the bigger picture: “**China is now the single largest investor and trading partner to 11 Middle Eastern countries,** thanks primarily to its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a global, **multi-trillion-dollar project.**” *[Emphasis added]*



Belt And Road Initiative, China’s Great Game

Sunday, 01/23/2022



Ghazal Vaisi

Ghazal Vaisi is an Iranian born international affairs analyst focusing on China. Her hope is to provide an objective global perspective and offer the Iranian people the information they need to protect their livelihood and interests.

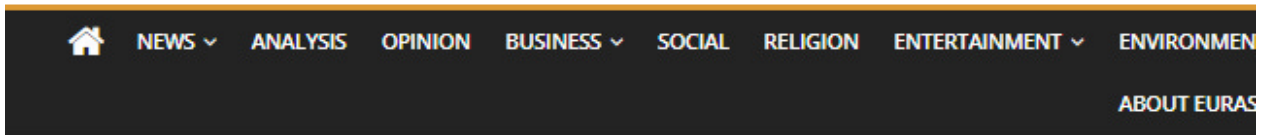
China is now the single largest investor and trading partner to 11 Middle Eastern countries, thanks primarily to its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a global, multi-trillion-dollar project.

“China has significantly increased its economic, political, and security footprint in the Middle East through the BRI during the past decade.

The ‘Belt’ runs from China, through South and Central Asia, and into Europe.

The Maritime “road” connects coastal Chinese cities with Africa and the Mediterranean.” *[Emphasis added.]*

According to **The Brookings Institution**, “China’s growing role in the Middle East is positioning the rising superpower in direct confrontation with shifting US interests in the domains of [energy security, Israel, and Iran.](#)”⁴⁹



The Ben Gurion Canal compared to the Suez Canal. Credit: Wikipedia Commons

Alternate Suez Canal (The Israeli Ben Gurion Canal) – OpEd

November 7, 2023 7 Comments

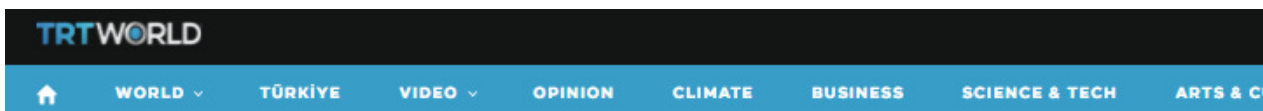
By Patial RC

Heard of the Alternate Suez Canal? Here is the West’s dream project the proposed ‘Ben Gurion Canal’ or the Israeli Canal project. It is no new revelation; In July 1963, the US Department of Energy and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory created a classified document that outlined a plan to use 520 buried nuclear explosions to help in the excavation process through the hills in the Negev Desert. The document was declassified in 1997.

“Israel aims to push Egypt further into a corner by eliminating Suez in the global trade and energy corridor and becoming a global trade and energy logistics center. Experts are of the opinion that **this situation will shake the strategic-energy balance of China’s Belt and Road Project initiative in the Mediterranean**, along with the

Strait of Hormuz, which is the transfer point of 30 percent of the world's energy. The Ben Gurion Canal would have the solid backing of the West." *[Emphasis added.]*

But a more direct canal route — through Gaza — would save billions of dollars. Marion Fernando of TRT World writes:



MIDDLE EAST 3 MONTHS AGO

What is Israel's proposed Ben Gurion Canal and is it related to Gaza?

As Israel attempts to bomb Gaza into oblivion, speculation grows over an old plan to cut a canal as an alternative to the Suez. With Gaza flattened, some think the canal might go straight through the middle of the territory.

 MARION FERNANDO



OTHERS

The proposed canal is almost one-third longer than the 193.3km Suez Canal, which currently handles roughly 12 percent of the world's shipping trade.

[Source](#)

Is Israel's brutal assault on Gaza only in retaliation to Hamas's [October 7] attacks?

Or is there a more sinister plan behind what Palestinians believe is the start of the second 'nakba' – a redux of the 1948 “catastrophe” that saw Zionist militias invade Palestine and drive out tens of thousands of people from their homes?

As Israeli bombardment continues to devastate Gaza — before a humanitarian truce — and evict thousands of Palestinians from their homes, online chatter has put the spotlight back on an old plan by the Jewish state to dig a canal to connect the Red Sea with the Mediterranean Sea through the Gulf of Aqaba.

Some believe Israel might even change course to cut it right through Gaza. *[Emphasis added.]*

Yvonne Ridley of the [Middle East Monitor](#) also weighs in this “more direct route” theme:



The screenshot shows the top portion of a web article. At the top left is the logo for 'MEMO MIDDLE EAST MONITOR' with a red circle. To the right of the logo is the tagline 'Creating new perspectives since 2009'. Below the logo is a navigation bar with links for 'News', 'Opinion', 'Reviews', 'Features', 'Publications', 'Multimedia', and 'More'. To the right of the navigation bar are links for 'English Edition', 'Free Subscription', and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and a search icon. Below the navigation bar is a red 'OPINION' label. The main title of the article is 'An alternative to the Suez Canal is central to Israel's genocide of the Palestinians'. Below the title is a comment section showing '70 Comments' and the date 'November 5, 2023 at 9:02 am'.

Whoever controls the canal will have enormous influence over the global supply routes for oil, grain and shipping. **With Gaza razed to the ground, it would enable the canal planners to literally cut corners and reduce costs by diverting the canal straight through the middle of the territory.**

As far as Netanyahu is concerned they are standing in the way of the project; a project which may earn him forgiveness in Tel Aviv for the intelligence and military shortcomings on 7 October.

The only thing stopping the newly-revised project from being revived and rubber-stamped is the presence of the Palestinians in Gaza. *[Emphasis added.]*

Maybe it has to do with the money?

Follow the money with Celine Lilas:

Social media user [Celine Lilas](#), among many [others](#), posted her take on one of the reasons why Western powers tend to support Israel: [GlobalResearch.ca]

“You might be asking yourself, why do they want to build another canal?” she says in her video, before proceeding to explain how **“Israel wants to seize Gaza, annex the land, take it over so they can build their canal through it.”**

“The US, the UK, and France are all for that because it’s gonna make them a lot of money at the cost of millions of lives destroyed,” she adds.

A comment with more than 7,000 likes under the video said: “In times of war, it’s **best to never focus on emotions or sides but rather to follow the money because it’s always about money.**” [Emphasis added.]

Sarah Khalil of the [New Arab](#) agrees and paints a more dire picture:



NEWS

ANALYSIS

OPINION

FEATURES

INVESTIGATIONS

PODCAST

VIDEO

What is Israel's Ben Gurion canal plan and why Gaza matters

As Israel intensifies its Gaza onslaught, focus turns to the controversial Ben Gurion Canal Project, originally proposed in the 1960s as an alternative to the Suez Canal.

MENA

4 min read

Sarah Khalil | 17 November, 2023

Since Israel launched its onslaught on the besieged enclave, it has pushed Palestinians to move south by relentlessly bombing northern Gaza before carrying out a ground invasion weeks later. At least **400,000 Palestinians have been displaced from the north to the south**, according to statistics from the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).

Some 800,000 Palestinians remained in areas considered “north” – namely past north of Wadi Gaza. Israel’s indiscriminate bombing campaign, which has mostly targeted the north – has killed at least 11,470 people in Gaza [now 30,000] – mostly civilians, including women and children.

The death toll has not been updated for days due to **Israel's targeting of the largest hospital in Gaza, Al-Shifa, which was a centre for collecting data on deaths and the wounded.**

Israel denies it has plans to annex the Strip but it had called for the "voluntary migration" of Palestinians in Gaza amid accusations that it was "ethnically cleansing" the enclave. [Emphasis added.]

We would like to believe that, however, the Israeli statement seems betrayed by their own Intelligence Ministry, which issued a report in mid-October, 2023 calling for the forcible removal of all Palestinians from Gaza to Egypt's Sinai Peninsula:

Expel all Palestinians from Gaza, recommends Israeli gov't ministry

An Intelligence Ministry document revealed by Local Call and +972 shows how the idea of population transfer to the Sinai is reaching official discussions.



By Yuval Abraham | October 30, 2023

[Source](#)

The Israeli Ministry of Intelligence is recommending the forcible and permanent transfer of the Gaza Strip's 2.2 million Palestinian residents to Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, according to an official document [revealed in full](#) for the first time by +972's partner site Local Call yesterday. *[Emphasis added.]*

The 10-page document, dated Oct. 13, 2023, **bears the logo of the Intelligence Ministry — a small governmental body that produces policy research and shares its proposals with intelligence agencies, the army, and other ministries.** It assesses three options regarding the future of the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip in the framework of the [current war](#), and **recommends a full population transfer as its preferred course of action. It also calls on Israel to enlist the international community in support of this endeavor.** The document, whose authenticity was confirmed by the ministry, has been [translated into English in full here](#) on +972. *[Emphasis added.]*

The Israeli Ministry of Intelligence hosts the following website:

Ministry of Intelligence

Services Policies News Publications More

Useful links Search Ministry

gov.il > All ministries and authorities > Ministry of Intelligence

News

All News Items



10/08/23 | News
The Minister of Intelligence at an International Conference: "Europe Must Ban the IRGC"
 Minister Gamliel participated in a conference of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, alongside former US ambassador to the UN who also advised President...



07/17/23 | News
The Shin Bet's New Start-Ups in Collaboration with the Ministry of Intelligence: "Zionism and..."
 29 start-ups registered for the Shin Bet's Southern Accelerator, operating in cooperation with the Ministry and the SOSA innovation center. Three were selected...

Key excerpts from the official Israeli "Policy paper: Options for a policy regarding Gaza's civilian population," **published by the Intelligence Ministry**, reveal some startling observations:

1. **The document is dated just six days following the Hamas invasion of October 7.** Could this detailed 10-page paper, with highly specific recommendations, have been developed and passed through the multiple channels of approval in such short amount of time? Could it possibly have been accomplished while Israel was still enduring and sorting out the aftermath of the attack? Or was this yet **another example of foreknowledge?** (Note: We will address "Foreknowledge of the Attacks" in detail in Part 7 of this series)
2. The recommended "Option C", the most aggressive of the three options presented, favors **"Evacuation of the civilian population to the Sinai,"** which is, on the one hand, in complete contradiction to public statements from the Israeli government, but is on the other, **in concert with Israel's forced relocation of the population from northern Gaza** and is **also in concert with the destruction of 80% of the Gazan housing** (in addition to a similar percentage of its religious and academic institutions).
3. Per the document, **2.5 million people are not only forced to evacuate their own territory (an international crime, by any measure) but are expected to then live in the desert in "tent cities."**
4. "Operational" objectives #1 through #5 below, include:
 - A. **"operations from the air with a focus on the north of Gaza** to allow a ground invasion in an area that is already evacuated"
 - B. **"a gradual ground invasion of the territory in the north** and along the border until the occupation of the entire Strip and cleansing of the underground bunkers of Hamas fighters"
 - C. **"leaving the travel routes to the south open** to enable the

evacuation of the civilian population toward Rafah”

Given that these objectives were presented by the Intelligence Ministry as a “concept”, but **were in fact executed, within weeks, to the letter**, this of course begs the question: **“Shouldn’t governments of the world take seriously the remaining objective of the recommended “Option C” — the forced mass evacuation of Gazans across the Egypt border?”**

The following is an unofficial translation by +972 Magazine.

13 October 2023

Intelligence Ministry

Policy Department

Policy paper: Options for a policy regarding Gaza’s civilian population

Executive summary

1. The State of Israel is required to bring about a significant change in the civilian reality in the Gaza Strip in light of the Hamas crimes that led to the “Iron Swords” war, therefore it must decide on a political objective regarding the civilian population in Gaza, which should be pursued concurrently with the overthrow of the Hamas regime.
-
6. From an in-depth look at the options, the following insights can be derived:
 - a. **Option C - The option that will yield positive, long-term strategic outcomes for Israel, and is an executable option. It requires determination from the political echelon in the face of international pressure, with an emphasis on harnessing the support of the United States and additional pro-Israeli countries for the endeavor.**

Option C

Evacuation of the civilian population from Gaza to Sinai

Location and governance

1. Due to the fighting against Hamas, there is a need to evacuate the non-combatant population from the combat area.
2. Israel should act to evacuate the civilian population to Sinai.
3. In the first stage, tent cities will be established in the area of Sinai, the next stage includes the establishment of a humanitarian zone to assist the civilian population of Gaza and the construction of cities in a resettled area in northern Sinai.
4. A sterile zone of several kilometers should be created within Egypt, and the return of the population to activities/residences near the border with Israel should not be allowed. In addition, a security perimeter should be established in our territory near the border with Egypt.

Operational

1. A call for the evacuation of the non-combatant population from the combat zone of the Hamas attack.
2. In the first stage, operations from the air with a focus on the north of Gaza to allow a ground invasion in an area that is already evacuated and does not require fighting in a densely populated civilian area.
3. In the second stage, a gradual ground invasion of the territory in the north and along the border until the occupation of the entire Strip and cleansing of the underground bunkers of Hamas fighters.
4. The ground invasion stage will be less time-consuming compared to options A and B and therefore will reduce the exposure time to opening the northern front simultaneously with the fighting in Gaza.
5. It is important to leave the travel routes to the south open to enable the evacuation of the civilian population toward Rafah.

International/legal legitimacy

1. At first glance, this option, involving significant population displacement, may present challenges in terms of international legitimacy.

Source

5. And, finally, the point under "International/legal legitimacy":

▪ **“. . . significant population displacement, may present challenges in terms of international legitimacy . . .”**

1. This is the understatement of the decade. In fact, the forcible transfer of populations **violates Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention** and is prosecutable as an international crime.
2. Since the international crimes of Israel during the past 75 years are so well documented, **can we imagine that they will find a way to make it happen**

in spite of international law and political pressure? I.e., under the cover of an instigated wider war with their Arab neighbors? After all, Israel has done this before.

- A. **Under the cover of the regional Six-Day war, pre-emptively started by Israel, they invaded and annexed not only Gaza but the West Bank too, therefore occupying all of Palestinian sovereign territory** allocated by the 1948 UN Plan. And they have kept control of it for the last 57 years. They also annexed the Golan Heights in Syria which they still control, and also the Sinai in Egypt which was eventually returned.

And finally, in his discussion on US imperialism at play in the Ben Gurion Canal controversy, [Michel Chossudovsky of Global Research says](#) this additional question should be asked:

“Is the US using Israel for Imperial control? Or, is Israel using the US for its territorial ambitions?”

The screenshot shows the top portion of a Global Research website page. At the top left is the Global Research logo and name, with the tagline 'Centre for Research on Globalization' and website URLs. To the right are search bars for authors and a general search, along with a 'Translate Website' dropdown menu. Further right are language options (Italiano, Deutsch, Português, srpski, العربية, 中) and links to the site in French and Spanish. Below the search bars are social media icons for YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, and RSS. A dark blue navigation bar contains various topic categories: US Nato War, Economy, Civil Rights, Environment, Poverty, Media, Justice, 9/11, War Crimes, Militarization, History, and Science. The main heading of the article is 'Video: Israel Destroys Gaza to Control World's Most Important Shipping Lane? The Ben Gurion Canal Linking the Eastern Mediterranean to the Gulf of Aqaba'. Below the heading, it lists authors 'Richard Medhurst and Prof Michel Chossudovsky', the date 'December 02, 2023', and a note 'Richard Medhurst and Global Research 2 November 2023'. On the right side, it specifies the 'Region: Middle East & North Africa, USA' and 'Theme: Global Economy, Intelligence In-depth Report: PALESTINE'. At the bottom of the article preview, there are social sharing buttons for Facebook (187 shares), Like (252), Tweet (43), Email (93), and a general Share button (341 shares).

First published on November 2, 2023:

This U.S. plan [for the canal project], first negotiated with Israel in the 1960s, is of utmost relevance to unfolding events in Palestine.

The objective is to achieve [US-Israeli Maritime dominance](#) against the people of the Middle East. In the context of a broader US-led Middle East War, the **Ben Gurion Canal Project is part of America's hegemonic military agenda.** *[Emphasis added.]*

What is revealed in Medhurst's video [above] is the U.S. military-intelligence strategy to use Israel as a “hub” in the Middle East with a view to securing the hegemonic **control over strategic international waterways.** *[Emphasis added.]*

Conclusions of Part I

The puppet masters have pulled the strings and the puppets are dancing.

We've found that **the geostrategic goals of both the US government and of Israel prior to their respective major terror attacks seems to have aligned perfectly with the opportunities provided to them by those attacks.**

We've seen that the **US arms industry, and the oil, banking, and media industries have all benefited enormously** from 9/11. Similarly, the **territorial goals of Israel** are in the process of being met following the attacks of 10/7.

On the 9/11 side of the parallels, we've discovered that, prior to 9/11/01, the neocons controlling the US government established far-reaching goals of hegemony in the Middle East and a vast increase in the military budget. Yet the neocons acknowledged that ". . . the process of transformation, even if it brings revolutionary change, is likely to be a long one, **absent some catastrophic and catalyzing event — like a new Pearl Harbor.**" *[Emphasis added.]*

We've also learned that Gen. Wesley Clark was dumbfounded when told by another Pentagon general, within two weeks after 9/11, that the US was going to take out seven countries: **Iraq, then Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and finishing off with Iran.** It was 9/11 that provided the pretext. The Pentagon is not quite finished yet. It appears to still be working on that plan.

Afghanistan and Iraq were invaded under the pretext of the attacks of 9/11, yet, after the torture and imprisonment of hundreds of "terrorists," all that has been achieved is more terror and massive profits for the oil and banking industries.

On the Gaza side of our parallels equation we have learned that from the very start, Zionist aspirations for their new homeland did not really include a home for the non-Jewish population of Palestine. Even the father of Zionism, Theodor Herzl himself, stated, "We shall try to **spirit the penniless population across the border** by procuring employment for it in the transit countries, while **denying it employment in our country.**" *[Emphasis added.]* Numerous [Israeli leaders have reinforced such statements with their own.](#)

We have exposed that the 1917 Balfour Declaration, a colonialist document that conferred the rights of the 90% Palestinian majority over to a 10% minority, was horrifically flawed from its inception. According to Avi Shlaim, the Balfour Declaration "**completely disregarded the rights and aspirations of the people of [Palestine].**" *[Emphasis added.]*

We have learned too, that many Israeli leaders, particularly in the ruling Likud Party, continue to draw inspiration from the "Greater Israel" as outlined by Theodor Herzl, which quite controversially appears to lay claim to immense territories of Israel's surrounding Arab neighbors and that Israel has already repeatedly invaded many of these territories in the last seven decades.



We have revealed that the **1982 Yinon Plan** for Israel, also a source of inspiration for Israeli leaders, **called for a divided Iraq, a divided Lebanon and Egypt and Syria — as well as the partitioning of Iran, Turkey, Somalia, and Pakistan.**

It is extremely interesting that the above countries slated for infiltration or overthrow **parallel quite closely the seven countries that Gen. Wesley Clark’s Pentagon contact, told him (within two weeks after 9/11) would be taken out.** We have to ask the questions, **“Who is running US policy?”** and, **“Why were there so many dual Israeli/US citizens in the Bush Administration? Where is their loyalty?”**

Image: The Gas field discoveries are shown in red.

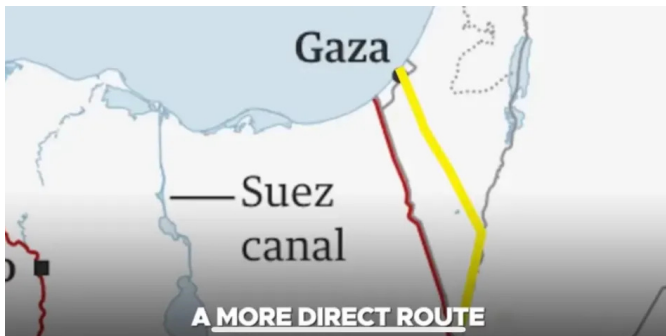


We have also learned that **Israel discovered 122 trillion cubic feet of natural gas fields worth a whopping \$453B to whoever is left standing after this war.** It’s not

looking good for the Gazans.

Similarly, the value of the **ambitious Ben-Gurion Canal mega-project** is rapidly increasing, as it is **slated to replace the Suez Canal and the \$9B per year fees charged to the 30% of all the world's shipping containers** that travels through it.

We saw how the route *north of Gaza* is not a secure one, due to Hamas rocket attacks, and that **a route through a depopulated northern Gaza would not only save billions in initial excavation as well as dredging maintenance, but is a more strategic route, given the location of the natural gas discoveries.**



So, we can more easily understand now, both with the events of 9/11 in the US *and* with 10/7 in Gaza, that clearly there were highly profitable and other geostrategic interests at play. We will see in **future articles in this series that these attacks and the responses to them were, in all likelihood, carefully set up in advance and then carried out in a fashion so as to manipulate the public, and international audience, for support in carrying out not-so-well-hidden objectives.**

In Part 2 of *Gaza - The Astounding Parallels with 9/11*, we look closely at the Series of Historic and Recent Provocations and False Flag Operations, by both the US and by Israel, that they have used to manipulate people and governments, and even trigger wars in order to carry out national and international objectives.

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Notes

[1] Charlotte Greenfield (November 5, 2023; U.N. Office of Drug Control

[2] Don Paul and Jim Hoffman: "Waking Up From Our Nightmare — The 9/11/01 Crimes in New York

City", (WUFOM), page 49

[3] WUFOM, page 47

[4] WUFOM, page 50

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