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## **Jews and Allies Lock Down in Civil Disobedience, Demand Boeing Cease Arming the Israeli War Machine**

Washington Jews and Allies Stand Against Israel's Brutal Assault on Gaza  
**July 28, at 8:30 AM. At 9725 East Marginal Way S Seattle, WA 98108**

July 28, 2014—While Israel's offensive in Gaza enters its 21st day, deeply concerned Jews and allies from across Puget Sound are engaging in nonviolent civil disobedience to stand against Israel's massacre of the Palestinians in Gaza and demand accountability from the corporations that are profiting off this war on civilians.

Nine activists have just locked together to blockade the main entrance to the Tukwila offices of Boeing in an act of civil disobedience. At the same time, forty other members are staging a silent "die in" across the sidewalk representing the Palestinians killed in Israel's latest offensive in Gaza. Members of Jewish Voice for Peace will read the names of the more than 1,000 Palestinians that Israel has killed since July 8.

Boeing Defense, Space and Security, part of which is located at the Tukwila facility, is a unit of Boeing responsible for weapons manufacturing. Boeing (NYSE:BA) has been a major supplier of weapons to the Israeli Defense Force, including missile systems, F15 software, Apache Helicopters, and Joint Direct Attack Munitions, a guided air-to-surface weapon. Israel is using weapons such as these on civilian targets including homes, mosques, hospitals, and schools.

Demonstrators demand that the truth be told about the horrendous violence being perpetrated by the Israeli government against 1.8 million Palestinian people. Participants in the protest point to the hugely disproportionate use of Israeli force in Gaza. "We are engaging in civil disobedience at Boeing because they are profiting from the Israeli government's systematic and ongoing brutality against Palestinians," said Eitan Isaacson, a participant in today's action and an Israeli member of Jewish Voice for Peace – Seattle. "The Palestinian people, who have been stateless for decades and many of whom who are being held captive as prisoners inside of Gaza, are being bombarded with some of the most advanced weapons in the world, including those made here at Boeing. Palestinians in Gaza have no shelters to run to and no way to leave. "

Samira Shifteh, a participant in the action and member of Queers Against Israeli Apartheid, another co-sponsor of today's demonstration, points to one of the fallacies of the Israeli hasbara (propaganda) spin: "The Israelis claim they are not targeting civilians but the Apache helicopters

and F-15A jets provided by Boeing tell a different story. Israel is using such weapons of war to destroy hospitals, schools, water and electrical lines. Such targets are clearly intended to create widespread suffering among the entire population.”

Sallie Shawl, of JVP – Tacoma, another of the action’s organizing groups, added: “Last week, 15,000 Palestinians in the West Bank risked their lives to hold one of the largest demonstrations there in decades. Here in the US, people are flooding to the streets to hold the corporations that profit off the brutality of the Occupation accountable. All of us, across the world, say to the Israeli government that there can be no ceasefire without addressing the root causes of the violence in Gaza: Israel’s ceaseless war against Palestinian freedom and equality.”

The activists risking arrest today call upon Israel to end its brutality and call upon American Jews and all Americans to stand against Israel’s military occupation of Palestine. The Jewish groups protesting today make clear that, despite claims to the contrary by the Israeli government, they and thousands of Jews vehemently oppose Israel’s behavior and stand firmly with the Palestinians of Gaza during this time.

“As a Jew, I am outraged that Israel’s one-sided war of choice is being done in my name,” said Eliana Horn, a member of Jewish Voice for Peace and a granddaughter of Holocaust survivors. “My Jewish values compel me to stand with those who face violence and oppression. As such, we call on all people of conscience to divest from Boeing and all companies profiting from the Israeli occupation of Palestine until Israel’s brutal war against Palestinians ends. If we want real peace, we have to take the profit out of violence.”

The call for an immediate end to Israeli state violence and the call for human rights and justice for the Palestinian people are reverberating across the globe. Calls for Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel and companies that profit from the Israeli occupation of Palestine have intensified and are now more important than ever.

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Today’s action was sponsored by the Seattle and Tacoma chapters of Jewish Voice for Peace and Queers Against Israeli Apartheid - Seattle.

*Jewish Voice for Peace is a national, grassroots organization dedicated to achieving a just and lasting peace that recognizes the aspirations of both Israelis and Palestinians for security and self-determination. Jewish Voice for Peace has over 180,000 online supporters, 40 chapters, a youth wing, a Rabbinic Cabinet, and an Advisory Board made up of leading U.S. intellectuals and artists.*

*Queers Against Israeli Apartheid - Seattle is a multi-racial group of queer and trans\* folks working to cultivate solidarity for Palestinian liberation among LGBTQ communities and communities who stand against homophobia and transphobia. Queers Against Israeli Apartheid supports the Palestinian call for Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions as a strategy for ending the racism, apartheid, and colonial violence of the occupation of Palestine.*