

August 18

Dear all,

Thanks for reading. Our commitment to peace and justice in Palestine involves a long and often discouraging struggle. We encourage everyone to keep engaging with their JVP local crews and JVP national connections.

Ceasefire negotiations are once again underway in Qatar as Israel continues attacking Gaza and the West Bank. The Biden administration has acknowledged that Israel will be unable to completely destroy Hamas or to rescue Israeli hostages using military force and is encouraging diplomacy. It's nice that the Biden administration now recognizes this reality, but these truths have been apparent for many, many months as civilians have been dying by the tens of thousands. For those awakening to the hypocrisy of US foreign policy, the US's ongoing support for Israel–sending even more bombs even as they are used to kill more sheltering civilians–makes clear that officials are not prioritizing human rights or international law.

JVP VT/NH continues the work of organizing and resisting. We work to set up dialogues with our Congressional representatives to encourage them to continue opposing further military aid to Israel and to push them further in their political analysis. There will be a Not Another Bomb event in Brattleboro later today (see below), part of a nationally coordinated action to call for an arms embargo on Israel and let political candidates know they will be held accountable on this issue. JVP members are meeting, connecting, and listening to others as we stay in this struggle for the long haul.

Thank you, Your Communications Team

Take Action/Events

- SPEAK OUT! Tuesday, Aug. 20, 7pm-9pm UV4Pal is holding a *speak-out* outside <u>Howe Library</u> instead of attending the ill-timed (summer) selectboard/police forum dealing with the police department's response to the campus protests on May 1st.
 In addition: Please support UV4Pal's statement on the subject during Monday's Hanover selectboard meeting starting at 7pm held upstairs in Town Hall
- There is a House Resolution to <u>restore funding to UNRWA</u>. It does not have a number yet. Here is a <u>sample letter</u>.
- Our demand is clear: Stop arming Israel.
 <u>Tell Congress</u>: <u>ARMS EMBARGO NOW!</u>

 August 18: Participate in the Not Another Bomb day of action to keep up the fight for an arms embargo. Brattleboro action details: <u>https://www.mobilize.us/nab/event/664467/</u> (please do NOT share widely so we can avoid attracting counter protestors)
 Find an event on this map: <u>https://www.mobilize.us/nab/map/</u> Or host your own: <u>https://www.mobilize.us/nab/c/dayofaction/event/create/</u>

Because most other Not Another Bomb materials include electoral tactics, we can't share them in our regular JVP communications. Check out their website at <u>https://www.mobilize.us/nab/</u> to get more involved.

- August 24 September 10. Ride Against War in GAZA, DC Tour. Bob Sanders, a Jewish 69 year old, will ride his bike through major cities on the east coast from Concord, NH to Washington, DC. <u>See how you can join and support here</u>. Bob's purpose: "To raise awareness of the horror of slaughter and the injustice of what is going on in Gaza and the West Bank. To raise money for humanitarian aid for Gaza and local peace organizations, and to directly lobby Congress to end the war." To donate, you can go to this <u>Peace Action donation page</u> and put RAW GAZA in the note field.
- Oppose the Apartheid Road in Wadi Foquin

Friends of Wadi Foquin is currently opposing an apartheid road which would destroy 1000 trees and confiscate land belonging to farmers in the West Bank village of Wadi Foquin.

- Recurring vigils happen weekly all over Vermont and NH– the list is <u>HERE</u>.
- Sunday, Aug 18 at 2 PM; Thursday, Friday, Saturday of next week (August 22, 23, 24) at 7:30 PM.: Vermont Theatre Festival: *Returning to Haifa* at the Unadilla Theatre in E. Calais. An astoundingly powerful story of a Palestinian couple returning to visit their former home in Haifa amidst the chaos of the 1967 war. Originally adapted for and ultimately censored by the Public Theatre in NYC. Details at https://unadilla.org

News

- <u>UK's biggest private pension fund dumps £80mn of Israeli assets</u>
- Democracy Now!: "Incomprehensible": <u>U.S. Approves \$20 Billion in New Arms for Israel as Gaza Death</u> <u>Toll Tops 40,000</u>
- <u>The ICJ finds that BDS is not merely a right, but an obligation</u> Mondoweiss
- New York Times: In Gaza, Israel's Military Has Reached the End of the Line, U.S. Officials Say Note: this article describes the shift in US officials' position on the conflict but barely mentions civilian casualties, abuse of detainees, infectious disease spread, and starvation. The article's language is careful to use the language of military goals and tactics rather than address the human cost of this genocide. What is also omitted is a deeper analysis: the inherent problem with Israel's apartheid state and occupation of Palestinian territories, as well as the likelihood of future violence if these fundamental injustices are not addressed.

Read/Watch/Listen

- <u>A former IDF soldier and historian of genocide</u> and his recent visit to Israel | Israel | The Guardian
- <u>Collapse of the American Jewish consensus</u> | Books | The Guardian

Please go to <u>https://justfoodhub.us/jvpvtnh/</u> to order foods (and in particular, Palestinian olive oil and Medjool dates). All profits go to JVP VT NH. We deliver free to 18 towns and ship anywhere in the 48 states for \$10, regardless of the size of the order.

Please fill out this Google Form to complete a short survey about this weekly newsletter. Thanks!

Thank you for being a part of JVP VT-NH. If you are able to support the growth of our movement for a liberated Palestine, please consider joining with a monthly or one-time donation <u>here</u>.

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