

The Facts: U.S. Aid to Israel



Israel is the single largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid. Israel usually receives roughly one third of the entire foreign aid budget, despite the fact that Israel comprises less than one one thousandth of the world's population and already has one of the world's higher per capita incomes. In other words, Israel, a country of approximately 6 million people, is currently receiving more U.S. aid than all of Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean combined excluding Egypt and Colombia.

The House of Representatives has appropriated \$2.04 billion in military aid to Israel for next year (up from \$1.98 billion this year) in addition to \$840 million in economic support funds. The total amount of US aid of this sort has been constant, at around \$3 billion.

In addition to nearly \$3 billion in direct aid, Israel usually gets another \$3 billion or so in indirect aid: military support from the defense budget, forgiven loans, and special grants.

Matti Peled, former Israeli major general said that he and most Israeli generals believe this aid is "little more than an American subsidy to U.S. arms manufacturers," considering that the majority of military aid to Israel is used to buy weapons from the U.S.

**This amounts to 10 million American Tax-Dollars every day.
What would you do with 10 million dollars?**

Here's what Israel buys:

- * Weapons to kill and maim Palestinian people. From September 2000-July 2002, 1,656 Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli Defense Forces. 19,776 have been injured.

- * Materials to build illegal colonies called settlements connected by Israeli-only highways in illegally occupied Palestine.

- * Bulldozers to destroy Palestinian homes. Since the beginning of the occupation in 1967, over 7,000 Palestinian homes have been destroyed.

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