

'Riviera of the Middle East'

One week after the ceasefire, Trump told reporters on board Air Force One that in Gaza *"Almost everything is demolished and people are dying there. So I'd rather get involved with some of the Arab nations and build housing at a different location. You're talking about probably a million and a half people, and we just clean out that whole thing"*. Trump said the move *"could be temporary"* or *"could be long-term"*.

Trump headlined his proposal for a 'Riviera of the Middle East', minus Palestinians, in a joint press conference with Netanyahu. He didn't rule out U.S. troops to support reconstruction of Gaza. The plan tanked. Even his close ally Republican Senator Lindsey Graham said a U.S.-led attempt to remove Palestinians from Gaza would be *"very problematic. The idea of Americans going in on the ground is a nonstarter for every senator."*

Trump then explained that no US troops would be needed as *"The Gaza Strip would be turned over to the United States by Israel at the conclusion of fighting"*. But since Palestinians don't want to leave, and no Arab country is offering to take them, Trump's remark implies that the fighting isn't over. The president said Gaza *"will be given to us by Israel"* and *"We don't want to see everybody move out and then move back in 10 years"*. In other words, **permanent ethnic cleansing with no right of return.**

Whose idea was it?

Last February Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner said *"Gaza's waterfront property could be very valuable... From Israel's perspective I would do my best to move the people out and then clean it*

up... maybe get them into Egypt, with the right diplomacy I think it would be possible."

In July, Prof Joseph Pelzman, a Washington DC international economist, sent Trump's team a detailed plan for Gaza's future. He explained *"You have to destroy the whole place, restart from scratch. Then you have tourism potential, agriculture, and high-tech. It requires that the place be literally emptied out, dug up from scratch – and the concrete can be recycled."*

Trump's remarks with Netanyahu were drafted by Jared Kushner. The 'Riviera' is an actual plan.

The rest of the world rejects it. Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia would face internal revolt if they accepted it. Trump has yet to back down.

What You Can Do

- Raise the issues in **your union**. Affiliate to LFoP (see contact details) and PSC.
- **Join our weekly demos** Sundays 2pm Catholic Cathedral.
- Tell **your MP** to sign **EDM 757** against the Trump plan, demand an **immediate full two-way arms embargo** on Israel, sign **EDM 164** re journalists and anti-terror legislation, oppose any moves to **annex the West Bank**.
- press for **Merseyside Pension Fund divestment** from arms trade. tinyurl.com/mpfform1
- **Boycott Barclays**. Join us outside the bank Mondays 1:30pm. Tell the City Council to switch its account, like LJMU.
- **Boycott Israeli pharmaceutical TEVA**. Give your pharmacist a letter tinyurl.com/tevalet1

We abhor all attacks on civilians. The slaughter of Israeli civilians on 7 October 2023 by Hamas, and some by Israeli forces, does not justify the massive ongoing Israeli slaughter of Palestinian civilians.



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