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May 15, 2024

Dr. Jill Biden First Lady of the United States The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Dr. Biden,

This letter is written in the spirit of an exchange between a friend of Mr. Nader's many years ago with Eleanor Roosevelt urging the First Lady to counsel FDR on an important human rights matter. Eleanor Roosevelt wrote back to him saying she would speak to FDR.

We read about President Biden's recounting to a small visiting delegation in the White House that many weeks ago you said to him, about the civilian slaughter in Gaza, especially the babies and children, "Stop it, stop it now, Joe."

It can be circumstantially estimated that at least 200,000 Gazan civilians, many women and children, have died since October 7th from the massive bombing, the invasion, and the blockade of food, medicine, electricity, and fuel. World Health officials on numerous occasions have spoken about survivors as seriously injured, sick, dehydrated, starving, and dying along with tens of thousands deceased under the massive rubble produced by American weapons. (See attached April 20, 2024 column, <u>Palestinians as "The Others"</u>).

There is a huge undercount by both Netanyahu and the Hamas regime, each for different reasons. No crowded 2.3 million defenseless very poor people without shelter or protection or healthcare can survive nearly 100,000 "smart" American bombs and missiles, tank artillery, and snipers, day after day. No exposed population of this size, in addition to untreated wounds and diseases, serious infections spreading, and being deprived of food, potable water, breathable air, healthcare, and fire protection can incur only 36,000 deaths and 78,000 injuries over the last seven months. In due time a more accurate casualty count will become available. Thus far at least 80,000 children have been killed.

President Biden reportedly has voiced indignation in private conversations with Netanyahu insisting on minimizing civilian casualties, opening up daily entry for humanitarian aid trucks, and agreeing to a two-state solution. President Biden may have even urged an earlier ceasefire. All dismissed and rejected! Humiliating a U.S. President is humiliating the American people. President Biden has been rejected by Netanyahu time and time again, week after week, via his Secretaries of State and Defense, WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES. But his administration has still been supplying the 2000-pound bombs destroying whole civilian neighborhoods.

Israel has been hijacked by an extremist right-wing, racist, coalition of prime-time exterminators who ignore, even mock Joe Biden, and are in effect telling him "Joe, if you have any complaints

take it up with OUR CONGRESS!" The sadistically cruel GOP in Congress has no respect for federal laws and no concern whatsoever about the death toll in Gaza.

But President Biden does not need Congress to say STOP with CONSEQUENCES the Netanyahu slaughter of healthcare workers, the targeted slaying of over a hundred Palestinian journalists, some with their families in their dwellings, destroying the lives of nearly 200 valiant UNRWA workers whose service has been to provide food, healthcare, and education to most of the impoverished Gazan Palestinian families for decades. Shutting down UNRWA is a major goal of the vicious Israeli regime as part of its genocidal mission. Astoundingly, instead of President Biden saying STOP to Netanyahu, President Biden cut off U.S. contributions to that beleaguered charitable institution, accepting allegations about a tiny number of staff. Collective punishment taken to a new level.

The full-blown Netanyahu-enforced famine visits its fatal effects first with little children. Review the confirmatory declarations of President Biden's humanitarian emissary, David Satterfield, the World Food Program, and UN Health authorities.

Is it not apparent, Dr. Biden, that your husband has joined himself at the hip with a hyperviolent, rampaging outlaw, Netanyahu, despised by three out of four Israelis and thrashing about under indictment by determined Israeli prosecutors? Netanyahu will destroy, with U.S. weapons, anything, everywhere in the Middle East to save his job, as many brave Israeli media commentators and numerous Israeli human rights groups have pointed out in detail (Attached, see these groups' open letter to President Biden which appeared in the *New York Times* on December 13, 2023.)

To prolong his stay in power, Netanyahu will continue his brutal war against the utterly defenseless civilians, children, women, elderly, fleeing refugees, and the sick, wounded, and dying, homeless population. Netanyahu has already destroyed an enormous number of buildings in Gaza.

Most pertinent for you is that by not being told to STOP, TO INSTITUTE A CEASEFIRE, TO GET OUT OF THE KILLING FIELDS OF GAZA, NETANYAHU MAY COST YOUR HUSBAND THE 2024 ELECTION IN THE SWING STATES. (More voters simply can stay home.) Recent polls reflect this risk, even though unstable Donald Trump is a recidivist criminal and multi-tiered political and corporate law violator who has insinuated he would summon a civil war if he loses the 2024 elections.

Here is what we request that you do *now*, while the ravaging and the massacres in Rafah are underway:

1. Demand more realistic estimates of the casualties which will immediately intensify the political, diplomatic, and civic pressures behind President Biden's repeatedly dismissed public statements to Netanyahu.

Information from U.S. intelligence, constant satellite pictures, specialists in estimated casualties from disasters, and personal accounts from U.S. physicians and aid workers just back from Gaza can be debriefed and can be pooled to produce more realistic appraisals of the carnage.

- 2. President Biden should demand that the Netanyahu dictatorial, censorious regime allow U.S. journalists, to freely report from and inside Gaza and not just to periodically be taken in military vehicles for chaperoned 2 or 3-hour tours of the debris. It is outrageous that Washington has not opened the way for the American people and taxpayers to be informed by American journalists as war correspondents about the destruction in Gaza.
- 3. Since President Biden dislikes traditional press conferences as have been conducted by U.S. Presidents, (see attached letters to President Biden) you should meet with reporters to emphasize your concurrence with President Biden's dismissed recommendations that the Rafah invasion be stopped, that humanitarian aid be fully allowed into Gaza, that hostilities cease and hostages be exchanged and that rebuilding and peace negotiations begin immediately for a two-state solution. You need to bring your moral authority to bear on this *Palestinian Holocaust*, on this relentless genocidal invasion spreading into the West Bank and possibly a wider war. With so much daily attention to this Middle East explosion, President Biden has to be neglecting public attention to life-or-death conditions in our country. (According to a Johns Hopkins School of Medicine peer-reviewed study, 5000 Americans die EVERY WEEK in U.S. hospitals due "to preventable problems," to select just one horrendous death count that can be reduced significantly under a "bully pulpit" White House/Congressional regulatory initiative.)
- 4. *Prominent Israeli and Palestinian peace advocates* often in touch with one another over the decades have never been allowed to testify before Congress. They include Israeli retired generals, national security chiefs, legislators, mayors, ministers, and prominent intellectuals. To end this shocking censorship, Congress needs to be called out now. These witnesses can educate Congress and the American people about the unexplained collapse of the vaunted multi-tiered border security system on October 7, 2023, that opened the gates to the Hamas regime's attack. They can speak of the burning of agricultural fields, the blocking of food supplies, and the deliberate smashing of water mains and electric circuits. They can provide the historical context for this conflict. (See attached March 15, 2024 column, <u>Israeli Leaders' Objective All Along Has Been the Expulsion of Occupied Palestinians and Seizure of Their Remaining Land</u>).

Netanyahu's chronic war-mongering went as far as notoriously bypassing President Obama to address the Congress. Capitol Hill is very much a cause of letting the Executive Branch *violate at least five federal statutes*, passed by Congress no less, to continue unconditional military weapons shipments and diplomatic cover by the instructed State Department and Defense Departments. (See, attached February 16, 2024 column, <u>Biden & Blinken – Rule of Illegal Power Over Rule of Law</u>).

Dr. Biden, much more of what has been occurring in Gaza since October 7th will become very public at an accelerating pace – the unreported point-blank brutality against innocent Palestinian families and patients, the torture, the looting, the targeting of people by bragging snipers and tank commanders, the sexual humiliation and assault of Muslim women in front of their husbands before being slaughtered, the refusal to rescue tiny babies in incubators or born from their mothers by the thousands each month. You should agree that "silence is not an option" when our country is massively fueling war crimes, and crimes against humanity merging into

genocide. Recall those genocidal words by Netanyahu's ministers "No electricity, no food, no fuel, no water. ...We are fighting human animals and will act accordingly." These verbal annihilations were not rhetoric, they were and are military orders carried out as daily state terrorism.

Innocents in great numbers are dying, being permanently disabled, sickened, and starving by the minute.

The verdict of history will not be thwarted. Please immediately rise to the occasion and exercise this urgent profile in courage that your status and your humanity demand.

Sincerely,

Ralph Nader, Esq.

Bruce Fein, Esq.

Enclosed:

- Column: Palestinians as "The Others" April 20, 2024
- Open <u>letter</u> from Israeli Human rights groups in the *New York Times* December 13, 2023
- Letters sent to President Joe Biden from October 17, 2023 April 29, 2024 [https://nader.org/biden-letters/]
- Column: <u>Israeli Leaders' Objective All Along Has Been the Expulsion of Occupied</u>
 Palestinians and Seizure of Their Remaining Land March 15, 2024
- Column: <u>Biden & Blinken Rule of Illegal Power Over Rule of Law</u> February 16, 2024