

RACHEL CORRIE 1979-2003

On March 16 2003, an Israeli soldier driving a military bulldozer crushed Rachel Corrie to death while she was trying to protect a Palestinian home from illegal demolition. The bulldozer was a Caterpillar D-9, made in the USA. Seven eyewitnesses to Rachel's death have reported she was visible to the bulldozer driver because of her bright orange vest and her high position on the mound of earth in front of him. Though the Israeli occupation forces, investigating themselves, declared the event an "accident", the US State Department has said that the investigation was neither transparent nor credible.

Rachel Corrie was working with the International Solidarity Movement to End the Occupation (ISM), a nonviolent Palestinian-led campaign to resist the illegal military occupation that Israel has imposed on the West Bank and Gaza since 1967. In the Occupied Territories, over 3 million Palestinians live with no freedom of speech, assembly or movement; they can be arrested and imprisoned without charge or trial; they are routinely tortured in prison; they can be expelled from the country for no reason; and their farmland and homes are routinely confiscated and demolished to make room for illegal Israeli settlements and Israeli-only access roads. Since September 2000, over 4400 Palestinians have been killed and over 15,000 have been made homeless by Israeli military action.

Rachel's accounts of destruction in Rafah correspond with the descriptions and conclusions of respected third party organizations like Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International. **The Israeli government has never accused Samir or Khaled Nasrallah, the owners of the home Rachel died defending, or their wives or children of links to terrorism, nor found traces of a weapon-smuggling tunnel.**

While the ISM is strictly involved in non-violent resistance, there have been accusations that the it has supported terrorism. The FBI does not consider the ISM to be a terrorist organization, nor does any other government agency in the US or abroad. The Israeli government has not declared ISM an illegal organization and has failed to prove any connection between terrorist activity and ISM's work. The ISM continues to work with several groups who advocate for a just peace in Palestine, including Rabbis for Human Rights, The Christian Peacemakers Team, International Women's Peace Service and the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions.

To learn more, please visit:

www.rachelcorriefoundation.org/RCFdocs/Rachel_Corrie_FAQ.pdf

Palastine Solidarity Committee www.palastineinformation.org
endorsed by Jewish Voice For Peace/Puget Sound and the Seattle International Human Rights Coalition

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