

October 6, 2010

The Honorable Hillary Clinton,
Secretary of State
United States Department of State
2201 C St NW
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Secretary Clinton,

We, Americans who were aboard the three passenger ships of the Gaza flotilla over four months ago and the father of the U.S. citizen killed on the Mavi Marmara, are appalled at the lack of any visible, active effort on the part of any agency in our government to conduct and release an independent investigation of the killing of one and assaults on other Americans by a foreign military force, the Israeli commandos. We are also angered by lack of any concerted effort by the State Department to secure our possessions. We appreciate the efforts of junior and mid-level officials, but without the full weight of the senior leadership of the State Department, the Israeli government will continue to ignore our concerns.

Although our own government has apparently done nothing, the September 27, 2010, report of the Fact Finding Mission to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) revealed there is clear evidence that U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan and four Turkish citizens were murdered, execution-style with gunshots to their heads, by Israeli commandos and four other unarmed passengers were killed with gunshots to other parts of their bodies.

The report reveals that Dogan was filming with a small video camera on the top deck of the Mavi Marmara when he was shot twice in the head, once in the back, in the left leg and foot, at point blank range while lying on the ground. The report says Furkan had apparently been "lying on the deck in a conscious or semi-conscious, state for some time" before being shot in the face. The forensic evidence of "tattooing around the wound in his face," according to the report indicates that the shot was "delivered at point blank range." The report describes the forensic evidence as showing "the trajectory of the wound, from bottom to top, together with a vital abrasion to the left shoulder that could be consistent with the bullet exit point, is compatible with the shot being received while he was lying on the ground on his back."

We want to know if the United States has investigated Furkan's death, and if so, what are the results.

Protecting Israeli actions, particularly the complete reliance on its reports on the acts of its own military at the expense of American citizens, is an absolute dereliction of the responsibilities of our government. The State Department has allied itself with Israel, ignoring its responsibilities to its own citizens. We have been abandoned by our own government, and we demand an investigation of why and how the Department of State and the American Embassy in Tel Aviv have totally failed in their responsibilities to us.

Finally, if the Israeli government insists that we pay for the eventual return of our property, we expect that the United States government will deduct the costs from the \$3 billion given to it each year.

Signed:



Ann Wright has been authorized to sign this letter on behalf of the following American citizens and the father of an American citizen

Ahmet Dogan, father of Furkan Dogan

Huwaida Arraf

Scott Hamann

Janet Koburn

Paul Larudee

Iara Lee

Fatima Mohammadi

Joe Meadors

Fiachra Ó Luain

Edward Peck

David Schmererhorn

Kathleen Sheetz

Gene St. Ong

Ann Wright

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