

**Written evidence submitted by Edinburgh Gaza Genocide Emergency Committee, Friends of Al-Aqsa, International Solidarity Movement (Alba), Muslim Women's Association of Edinburgh, Palestine Democratic Forum, Revolutionary Socialism in the 21st Century, Scotland Against Criminalising Communities, Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Scottish Palestinian Society, Women 4 Palestine UK (IPC0077)**

*UK arms factories supply the precision targeting system laser for the F-35 combat aircraft, the Sniper Advanced Targeting Pod, the LITENING pod and the Apache helicopter's M-TADS system" [12]*

The F35 fighter bomber, which can carry up to six 2,000lb bombs which can, and does, massacre hundreds of Palestinians & Lebanese at a time! It is these aircraft that is responsible for the destruction and devastation of the Gaza strip, which has left roughly a quarter of all structures in Gaza destroyed or severely damaged, according to a U.N. assessment in September [based on satellite videos](#). It said around 66% of structures, including more than 227,000 housing units, had sustained at least some damage. [2]

It is **also these weapons, made in Scotland**, that are responsible for the extremely high number of deaths of over 43,391 & 102,347 injured. [4]

The damage so far has;-

- As of 17 September 2024, out of the 120 sites that UNESCO has been able to assess through satellite imagery, 69 sites have been damaged since 7 October. [4]
- According to the Health Cluster, between 7 October 2023 and 19 September 2024, there have been 492 attacks on healthcare facilities in Gaza, with 747 individuals killed. Every hospital in Gaza has been affected and no hospital remains fully functional. As of 11 September 2024, there are 17 hospitals partially functional (three in North Gaza, seven in Gaza, three in Deir al Balah, four in Khan Younis) and 19 out of 36 hospitals are out of service. According to the Health Cluster, UNRWA remains one of the largest health actors operating in the Gaza Strip, contributing to over half of the people reached with health services since 7 October 2023. [3]
- According to the UN, at least 1.9 million people (or nine in ten people) across the Gaza Strip are internally displaced, including people who have been repeatedly displaced (some, up to 10 times or more). [3]

• **It is undeniable** that Leonardo manufactures these lasers for the F35.

• **It is undeniable** that Israel is using these F-35's equipped with Leonardo Lasers to drop 2,000lb bombs. In just 41 days, the Israelis dropped 600 of these bombs[6]. By June this year the USA had delivered over 10,000 of these to Israel[5]. The same Harvard University report states; "*This study supports emerging evidence that the Israeli military has disregarded the protection of hospitals, mandated by international humanitarian law, through the systematic pattern of dropping massive M-84 bombs close enough to hospitals to knowingly cause significant damage, injury, and death. The damage to hospitals due to these and other munitions will have immediate and long-term effects on the health of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip*"

**It is undeniable** the amount of destruction & death that these **weapons from Scotland** are causing.

**It is undeniable** that the UK government has admitted in the High Court in London on Nov 18 that Israel is not committed to complying with international humanitarian law. [10]

There is no doubt that “Israeli authorities are responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity, committed during the military operations and attacks in Gaza since 7 October 2023” [7]

Current estimates are that it will take around 15 years just to clear the 40million tons of rubble.[9] And, a recent publication from the University of Edinburgh has found that over 12,471,211 kms are required to be driven, to completely clear the debris present from sites where buildings are destroyed or damaged, equivalent to over 311 times the Earth’s circumference, and generating over 37,002.13 tonnes of CO2e. [8]

Recent reports of atrocities are given in references:[9,10,11,12]

**Elbit systems**, an Israeli arms manufacturer has multiple sites in the UK supplying arms to the genocidal fascist ruling regime.

**Use of RAF British aerospace base in Cyprus:** Akrotiri, with flights used to provide arm, intelligence and logistics to the Israeli genocidal army.[13,14]

References:

[1] – Social Affairs BBC Scotland 19 Nov 2024

[2] – Associated Press 9 Oct 2024

[3] – UNRWA Situation Report #14 Sep 27<sup>th</sup> 2024

[4] – UNESCO Report 11 Oct 2024

[5] – Reuters June 28 2024

[6] – Harvard University FXB Centre for Health & Human Rights, BOSTON, MA – October 10, 2024

[7] – OHCHR Report 12/06/24

[8] – Estimating Carbon Emissions from Processing Building. University of Edinburgh Business School Debris in Gaza 09/09/24

[9] – OCHA - <https://www.ochaopt.org/>

[10] – <https://www.glanlaw.org/israel-weapons-sales> and <https://www.glanlaw.org/single-post/uk-admits-in-court-that-israel-is-not-committed-to-complying-with-international-humanitarian-law>

[11] – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cvg7zyr8p15o>

[12] – <https://uk.leonardo.com/en/electronics/lasers>

[13] [UK’s alleged use of Cyprus bases to arm Israel and hit Yemen draw protests | Israel-Palestine conflict News | Al Jazeera](#)

[14] [Cyprus, Israel, and the covert war: Is Britain complicit in Gaza’s bloodshed? - AOA](#)

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