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## Trump calls for total ethnic cleansing and US annexation of Gaza



President Donald Trump meets with Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the Oval Office of the White House, Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025, in Washington. [AP Photo/Evan Vucci]

Speaking Tuesday at a joint appearance with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Washington, US President Donald Trump called for the complete ethnic cleansing of the Gaza Strip, the leveling of all its buildings and the annexation of the territory by the United States.

The Gaza Strip, Trump said, “should not go through a process of rebuilding and occupation by the same people that...lived a miserable existence there.” Trump called for “other countries” to “build various domains that will ultimately be occupied by the 1.8 million Palestinians living in Gaza.” Trump added, “it could be numerous sites or it could be one large site.”

He continued, “The US will take over the Gaza Strip, and we will do a job with it too. We’ll own it.” Trump said the US will “level it out” and “create an economic development that will supply unlimited numbers of jobs.”

Asked if the US will send troops to occupy Gaza, Trump said, “If it’s necessary, we’ll do that. We’re going to take over that place and we’re going to develop it, create thousands and thousands of jobs.”

Throughout its coverage of the Gaza genocide, the *World Socialist Web Site* has explained that American imperialism is seeking the “final solution of the Palestinian question.” Now, Trump, the uninhibited voice of American imperialism, has spelled out exactly what this “final solution” will be.

Trump’s proposal would be a death knell for the Palestinian people. If he gets his way, the people of Gaza will be scattered in concentration camps in deserts and wastelands, while their ancestral homeland on the Levantine coast will be converted into resorts and casinos by the cronies of Trump and Netanyahu.

Trump’s speech marked the descent of American imperialism to a level of barbarism and criminality unseen since the fall of the Nazi regime.

Eighty years after over a dozen Nazi leaders were hanged in the ruined city of Nuremberg for war crimes, crimes against humanity and mass murder, the methods of the Holocaust are not only being implemented but openly praised by the head of the world’s most powerful imperialist state.

In making his blood-curdling decrees, Trump spoke with visible joy. He was practically drooling over the real estate deals to be cut, describing a “Riviera of the Middle East,” as if seeing visions of sprawling golf courses and glimmering casinos built atop the plowed-over and unburied corpses of Palestinian women and children.

Netanyahu praised Trump, declaring, “Your willingness to think outside the box with fresh ideas will help us achieve all these goals, and I’ve seen you do this many times. You cut to the chase.”

Netanyahu’s words were deliberately chosen. Trump did, indeed, “cut to the chase.” Trump stated openly the actual policy of the Netanyahu government, which has been to seize upon the events of October 7 to demolish the Gaza Strip, kill as many Palestinians as possible and make the territory uninhabitable to create the pretext for its ethnic cleansing.

The Biden administration, while claiming to oppose the displacement of the Palestinians and calling for a “two-state solution,” consciously and deliberately supported this policy by

providing Israel with a vast arsenal of city-destroying weapons, including at least 10,000 2,000-pound bombs that devastated entire city blocks.

It is significant that Trump has now repeatedly used the figure of 1.8 million people for the population of Gaza. This is a figure that has appeared in no other official publication. Gaza's pre-war population numbered 2.2 million. If Trump now officially numbers Gaza's population as 1.8 million, it reflects the fact that his administration assesses the death toll of the Israeli genocide to be in the hundreds of thousands.

To justify his call for ethnically cleansing Gaza, Trump spoke in the passive voice and the past tense, declaring that the "cities have been demolished." But he was standing next to the man who demolished them as a conscious policy, using the bombs given to him by Trump's predecessor.

Trump's statements were in fact a revelation of the actual policy of the Biden administration, which knew full well what Netanyahu was seeking to do, and deliberately and consciously armed, funded and defended it.

Indeed, Trump sees the genocide as an "economic development transaction," a form of the "manifest destiny" he invoked at his inauguration. But for Trump, unlike earlier American imperialists, the "manifest destiny" of American imperialism does not stop at the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, or even in the Americas. American imperialism is on the warpath, aiming for global domination. In this bloody eruption of imperialist war, the Palestinians are to be a sacrificial victim.

Trump's statements have far-reaching significance. Throughout the entire history of America's overseas empire, it has always presented itself as spreading "liberty," "democracy," and self-governance, hypocritically condemning its rivals as imperialists and colonial overlords.

Trump has completely abandoned this rhetoric. His vision of the world is the law of the jungle, in which American imperialism, with its vast military arsenal, takes what it wants and murders anyone who happens to be in the way, even by the millions.

Trump's manic plan for world conquest is aided by the Democrats, the original authors of the Gaza genocide. Senator John Fetterman effectively embraced Trump's remarks, declaring, "It's part of a conversation, and that's where we are."

Tellingly, the entire Democratic leadership, including Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, House Minority Leader Hakim Jeffries, as well as Biden and Harris, were silent over Trump's comments Tuesday night.

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