

**This Holiday Season,
Let's
Turn Our Lawmakers into Peacemakers
And
Give the Gift of Peace**



What's on your gift list this holiday season?

Video games?

Cell-phones?

Starbucks gift certificates?

Diamonds?

Furs?

Cosmetics?

Many of the corporations that manufacture and sell these items reap their largest profits from war, occupation, and torture. Some of the items themselves are produced at great harm to humans, animals, and the planet. Sales of products made in Israel and occupied Palestine have gone in this past week toward the renewed lethal invasion of Gaza. **Bay Area Women in Black** encourage you to avoid purchasing these products as a way to let the Israeli military government know that we oppose these attacks and support a negotiated cease-fire, leading to an end of the illegal blockade of Gaza and ultimately, to an end of the illegal Israeli occupation of Palestine.

We also urge you to oppose US support for the military occupation of Palestine. Israel, despite its prosperity and high standards of living, is currently the largest cumulative recipient of U.S. foreign aid since World War II. To date, the United States has provided Israel \$115 billion in bilateral assistance. The fiscal year 2013 budget request includes \$3.1 billion in Foreign Military Financing (FMF) for Israel and \$15 million for refugee resettlement. Within the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Missile Defense Agency's FY2013 budget request includes \$99.8 million in joint U.S.-Israeli co-development for missile defense. The overall federal budget for FY 2013 includes \$2.2 trillion in total military spending (Department of Defense, War, Veterans' Affairs and Nuclear Weapons Programs). This is four times the combined budgets for Education, Health and Human Services and Housing and Urban Development (\$551 billion), and more than the defense budgets of all western industrialized countries combined.

What to Avoid and Why to Avoid Them

AHAVA beauty products are made in the illegal West Bank settlement of Mitzpe Shalem, using minerals from the Dead Sea. Israel prohibits Palestinians from accessing this area.

HEWLETT PACKARD (HP) owns Electronic Data Systems, which provides technology for Israel's pass system for Palestinians at West Bank and Gaza checkpoints.

L'ORÉAL uses minerals from the Dead Sea (area prohibited to Palestinians). L'Oréal Israel's factory is in Migdal Haemek, established on lands belonging to the Palestinian village of al-Mujayhdil, whose original inhabitants are denied the right to return to their homes.

MOTOROLA supplies Israel with surveillance systems around settlements, checkpoints, and military camps in the West Bank.

SABRA HUMMUS half-owned by Strauss Group, which supports the Golani Brigade, who have committed numerous human rights abuses.

SODASTREAM makes carbonation devices and flavorings in its plant in Mishor Adumim Industrial Park, part of the illegal settlement of Maale Adumim, built on land taken from Palestinian villages Abu Dis, al-Eizariya, Al-Issawiya, At-Tur and 'Anata .

TRIBE HUMMUS owned by Osem Investments, which holds multi-million dollar food supply contracts with the Israeli military.



Contact the President

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

Contact the Secretary of State

<http://secretaryclinton.wordpress.com/contact-me/> (this is Ms. Clinton's private blog)
<http://contact-us.state.gov/app/answers/list> (State Dept. contact page)

Turn Lawmakers into Peacemakers

Email your U.S. Senators

Barbara Boxer: <http://boxer.senate.gov/en/contact/policycomments.cfm>

Dianne Feinstein: <https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-me>

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www.bayareawomeninblack.org