

Rachel, Shireen, So Many More What is U.S. Response? U.S. Responsibility?

March 16 marked the 20th anniversary of the death of Rachel Corrie, crushed by a D-9 Caterpillar bulldozer as she stood to protect from destruction the home of the Nasrallah family in the Rafah refugee camp in Gaza. The bulldozer was operated by the IDF, Israeli Defense Forces. Lawsuits brought by Rachel's parents Cindy and Craig Corrie against Caterpillar and the



<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1297216/middle-east>

IDF were dismissed and Rachel herself blamed. Olympia, Washington-born Rachel Corrie had joined the ISM (International Solidarity Movement) in order to oppose the Israeli occupation of Palestine. In Rachel's words, "I'm witnessing this chronic, insidious genocide and I'm really scared, and questioning my fundamental belief in the goodness of human nature. This has to stop. I think it is a good idea for us all to drop everything and devote our lives to making this stop." The US State Department declined to act on the volumes of calls for

investigation into the case. Her family and other supporters still seek an end to illegal occupation through the Rachel Corrie Foundation.

Iconic Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, together with fellow Al Jazeera reporters, was covering an Israeli raid on a Palestinian home at the Jenin refugee camp this past May 11, 2022, when she was killed by a single shot to the head in the space below her protective helmet. Shooting on other journalists continued. Though evidence documented by CNN clearly shows a clear sight line between Shireen and the occupying Israeli convoy, and the UN Commission on Human Rights showed clear evidence, the IDF's investigation concluded that Shireen was killed by "unintentional" fire. Shireen's Al Jazeera colleague, Jalal Abukhater declares "justice for Shireen is still as distant as it has always been – as distant as it always is for every single one of the Palestinian victims of Israel's decades-long systematic and murderous violence." Indiana Congressman André Carson's "Justice for Shireen" Act is nearly forgotten, and multi-billions in US military aid and diplomatic visits to Israel continue.



<https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/06/1121252>

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