

# Gaza Crisis: Stop the ship - Action needed now for an International Arms Embargo

By [Amnesty International](#)

Global Research, January 18, 2009

[Amnesty International \(UK\)](#) 18 January 2009

Theme: [Militarization and WMD](#)

In-depth Report: [PALESTINE](#)



Amnesty has learnt that a German owned cargo ship, the Wehr Elbe, carrying huge amounts of weaponry from the U.S – possibly including controversial white phosphorous – has been heading for the Israeli port of Ashdod.

**There are [news reports](#) that the ship has been suspended after pressure from Amnesty International. At the time of writing the status of the shipment is unclear, but its deadly cargo remains on board. We must maintain pressure to prevent the arms from being unloaded and used to fuel the conflict in Gaza.**

More munitions will only fuel further military aggression in Gaza. For the sake of civilians in Gaza and Israel, we need to prevent this deadly shipment from reaching its final destination.

[View Larger Map](#)

Amnesty is urging Foreign Secretary David Miliband to increase international pressure to prevent this ship with its “vast consignment” of weapons docking anywhere in Israel. Further, we are calling on the UN Security Council for an immediate arms embargo on all parties involved in the bloody conflict in Gaza.

## Background information

Amnesty has identified at least 17 states apart from the US that have supplied arms and related materials to Israel since 2001. The US is by far the largest supplier but significant supplies have also been sent from Germany, France, the UK, Spain, the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic, Canada, Slovenia, Australia, Romania, Austria, Belgium, Hungary, Serbia-Montenegro, and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Netherlands and Greece have both been major transit countries to Israel, especially for US arms.

To prevent irresponsible transfers of conventional arms being used for serious violations of international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, Amnesty International and hundreds of other NGOs, including the International Action Network on Small Arms and Oxfam International, have been campaigning for the establishment of a global Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). Over 150 Member States have voted for a UN process towards the establishment of an ATT, a process that will resume on 23 January in New York.

For more information, read the [Amnesty press release](#)

Amnesty has learnt that a German owned cargo ship, the Wehr Elbe, carrying huge amounts of weaponry from the U.S – possibly including controversial white phosphorous – has been heading for the Israeli port of Ashdod.

**There are [news reports](#) that the ship has been suspended after pressure from Amnesty International. At the time of writing the status of the shipment is unclear, but its deadly cargo remains on board. We must maintain pressure to prevent the arms from being unloaded and used to fuel the conflict in Gaza.**

More munitions will only fuel further military aggression in Gaza. For the sake of civilians in Gaza and Israel, we need to prevent this deadly shipment from reaching its final destination.

[View Larger Map](#)

Amnesty is urging Foreign Secretary David Miliband to increase international pressure to prevent this ship with its “vast consignment” of weapons docking anywhere in Israel. Further, we are calling on the UN Security Council for an immediate arms embargo on all parties involved in the bloody conflict in Gaza.



Stop civilian bloodshed in Gaza and Israel – join our urgent call for a full arms embargo on all parties involved in the Gaza conflict – this ship must be stopped

The original source of this article is [Amnesty International \(UK\)](#)  
Copyright © [Amnesty International](#), [Amnesty International \(UK\)](#), 2009

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Amnesty International](#)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)