

Israel committed “war crime” in Gaza

By [Global Research](#)

Global Research, September 27, 2006

The Scotsman and Reuters 27 September 2006

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [Crimes against Humanity](#)

In-depth Report: [PALESTINE](#)

JERUSALEM (Reuters) – Israel’s bombing of a power plant in the Gaza Strip this year was disproportionate and constituted a war crime under international law, an Israeli human rights group said on Wednesday.

Israeli war planes bombed and largely destroyed the power plant outside Gaza City on June 28, three days after Palestinian militants abducted an Israeli soldier in a cross-border raid from Gaza. The soldier is still being held.

Israel said at the time that it bombed the plant to cut power supplies and therefore make it more difficult for militants to operate and to transfer the captured soldier.

The bombing cut off electricity to many of Gaza’s 1.4 million residents, affecting hospitals and food supplies, and had a knock-on impact on the water and sewage systems.

“The bombing of the power plant was illegal and defined as a war crime in international humanitarian law as the attack was aimed at a purely civilian object,” rights group B’Tselem said in a report entitled “Act of Vengeance”.

“Even if one adopts the doubtful claim that the attack provided some definite military advantage, it was disproportionate and Israel had other, less harmful alternatives.”

B’Tselem, an independent group that monitors Israel’s occupation of the West Bank and its policies in Gaza, called on the Israeli government to open a criminal investigation into the bombing and prosecute those responsible for the attack.

It also called on the government to pay to rebuild the \$150 million plant, an operation which is expected to take nearly a year.

The United Nations in July described the bombing of the 140-megawatt facility as a disproportionate use of force and said it had contributed to worsening humanitarian problems in the Gaza Strip.

The original source of this article is The Scotsman and Reuters
Copyright © [Global Research](#), The Scotsman and Reuters, 2006

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

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: [Global Research](#)

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

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