

# **THE 8-DAY PALESTINE-ISRAEL WAR**

**Philippine Interfaith Solidarity Forum on Palestine  
Nov. 29, 2012**

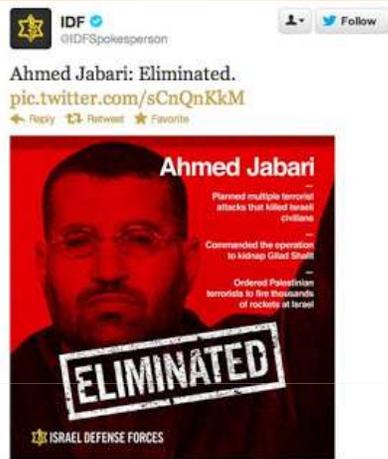
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**CenPEG** Center for People Empowerment in Governance (CenPEG)

# THE 8-DAY WAR: Nov. 14-22, 2012

Nov. 17, Gaza



Nov. 14



Nov. 15,  
Gaza



Hamas hqs



# THE 8-DAY WAR



Nov. 19  
Iron dome  
Israel



Nov.22  
Ceasefire  
Israel



Nov. 21  
Ceasefire  
In Gaza



Nov. 22  
Hamas  
Militants  
In Gaza



# 8-DAY WAR: Winners, Losers

Hamas (Islamist group) emerges “stronger” from Gaza war –

- For facing up to Israeli aggression in Gaza
- Backed by Egypt, Turkey, Tunisia
- Al Fatah-led Palestinian Authority led by Mahmoud Abbas (West Bank): negotiated peace approach



Hamas leader Khaled Meshaal



# 8-DAY WAR: Fatah, Hamas Reconciliation

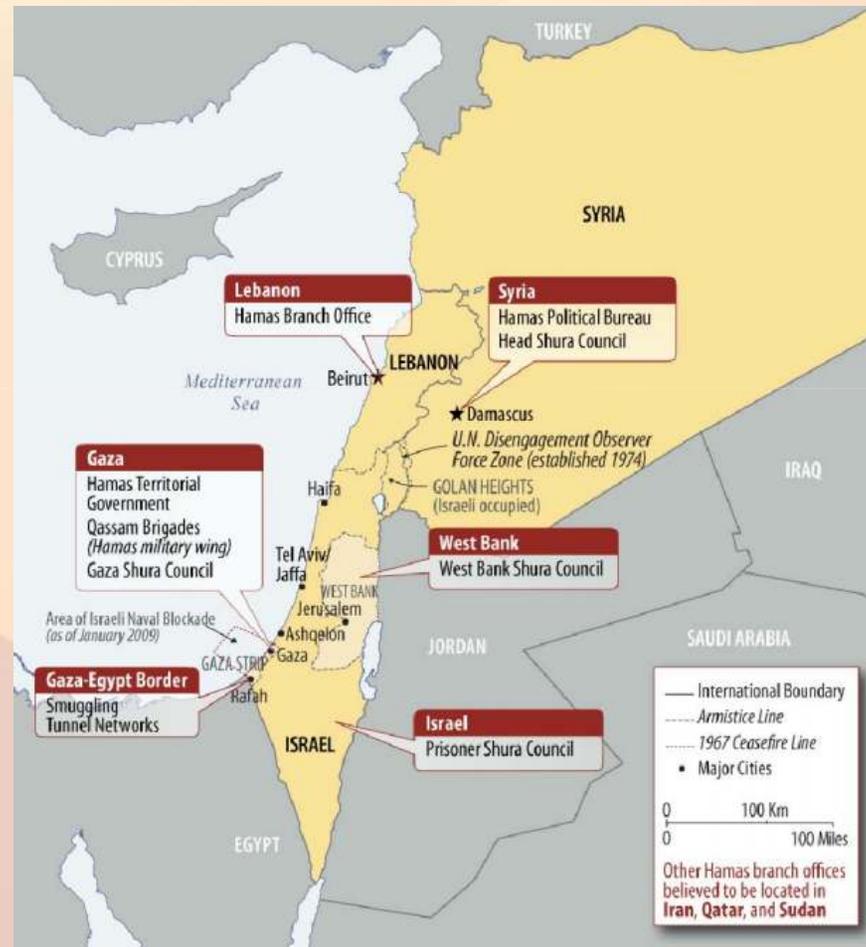


Hamas Gaza PM Ismael Haniyeh  
& Egypt President Mohammed Morsi

- Latest war brought Hamas and Fatah “closer” for -
- Resurrecting the Palestinian cause
  - Palestinian Authority (Fatah’s Mahmoud Abbas): task to upgrade PA from “observer status” to “non-member state”



# WHO IS HAMAS?



# WHAT IS MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD?



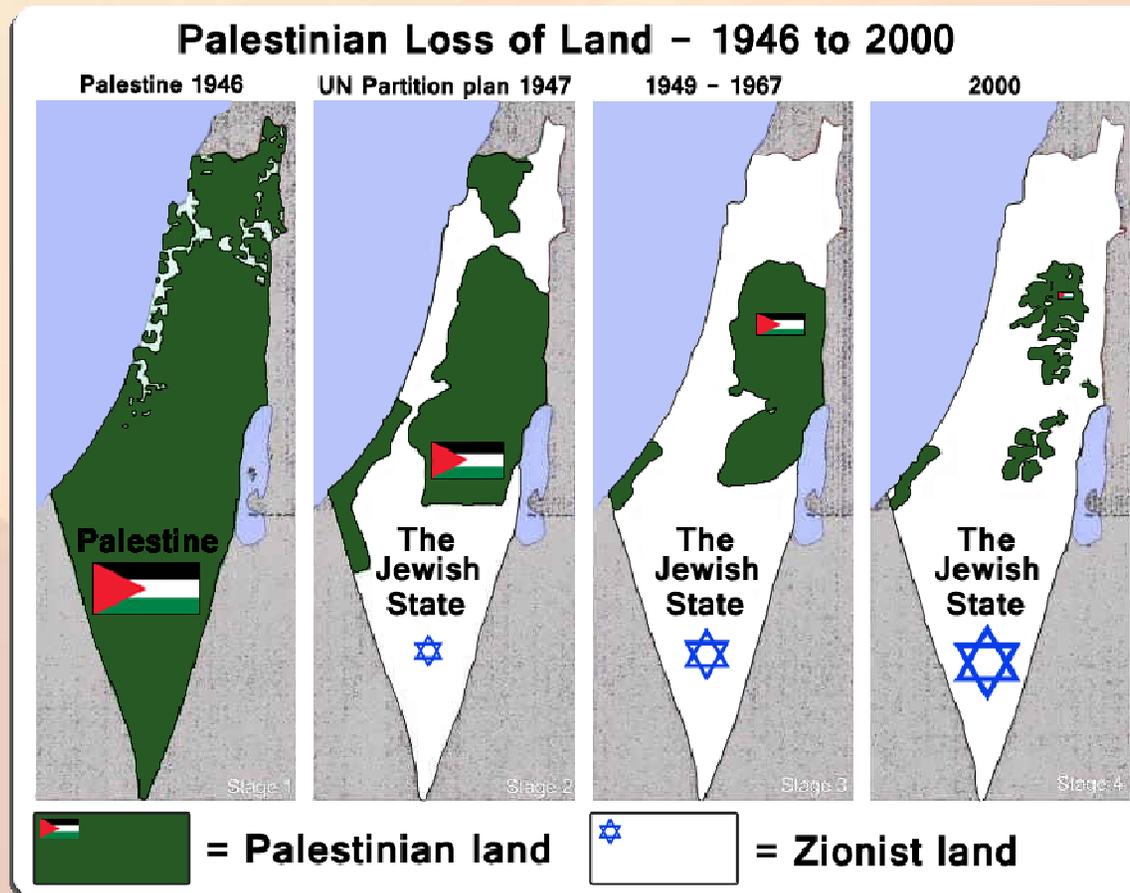
1948 Arab-Israeli War



Mohammed Badie  
Current BM leader



# CONTEXT: Evolution of Palestine / Israel Map



# MAP: OSLO ACCORDS, 1993



## Failure of the “Oslo Accords I & II” (1993)

- Signed by PLO’s Yasser Arafat, Israeli PM Yitzhak Rabin, US President Bill Clinton
- Provided for: Palestinian interim self-government (Palestinian National Authority) in Gaza and West Bank; withdrawal of Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) from parts of Gaza Strip and West Bank (Jericho); 5-year transition
- Issues such as status of Jerusalem, Palestinian refugees, Israeli settlements, and security forces & borders were to be decided at permanent status negotiations



# 'ISRAEL MAP' TODAY



# ISRAEL: PAST 12 YEARS

- Under PM Benjamin Netanyahu and Rhud Barak – expansion of illegal Jewish settlements into Palestinian lands increased (particularly in West Bank with more than 350,000 Jewish occupants);
- Netanyahu threatened to end Oslo Accords if Palestine is granted UN non-member status
- Netanyahu’s far-right Likud Party: “Greater Israel” (Revisionist Zionism) for the Jewish occupation of Palestine, oil-rich lands from the banks of the Nile River in Egypt to the shore of the Euphrates



# OIL THEORY

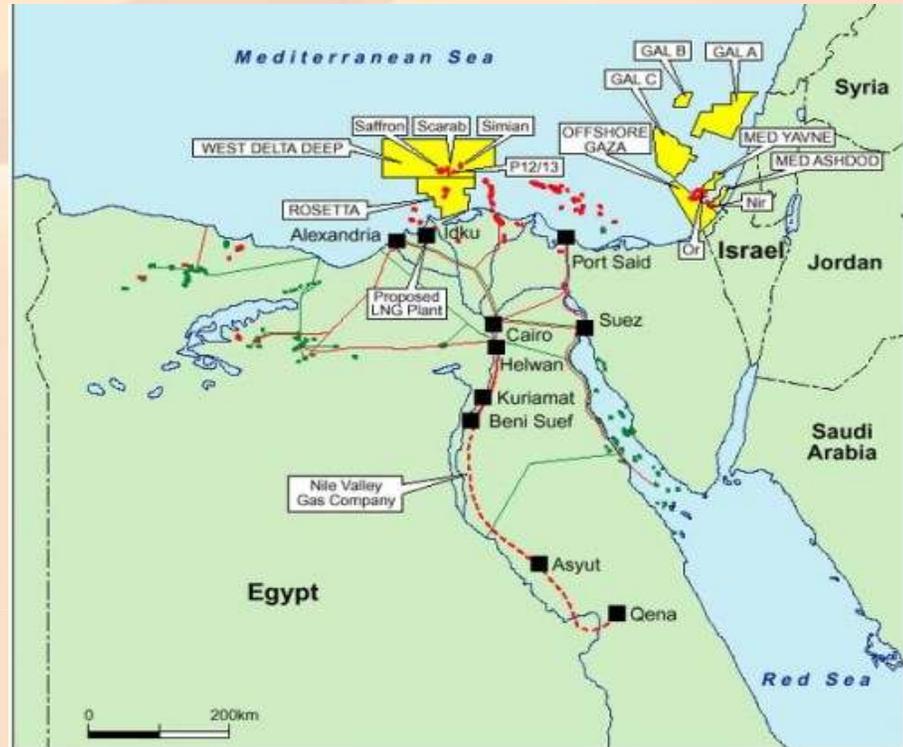
## Gaza's offshore gas fields & the Israeli invasion/attacks

**November 1999:** British Gas (BG Group) & Greek partner Consolidated Contractors International Company (CCC) sign with the PA oil & gas exploration in a 25-year agreement;

**Natural gas reserves off the Gaza coastline:** 1.4 trillion cubic feet (\$4B); 60% of the gas reserves along the Gaza-Israel coastline belong to Palestine

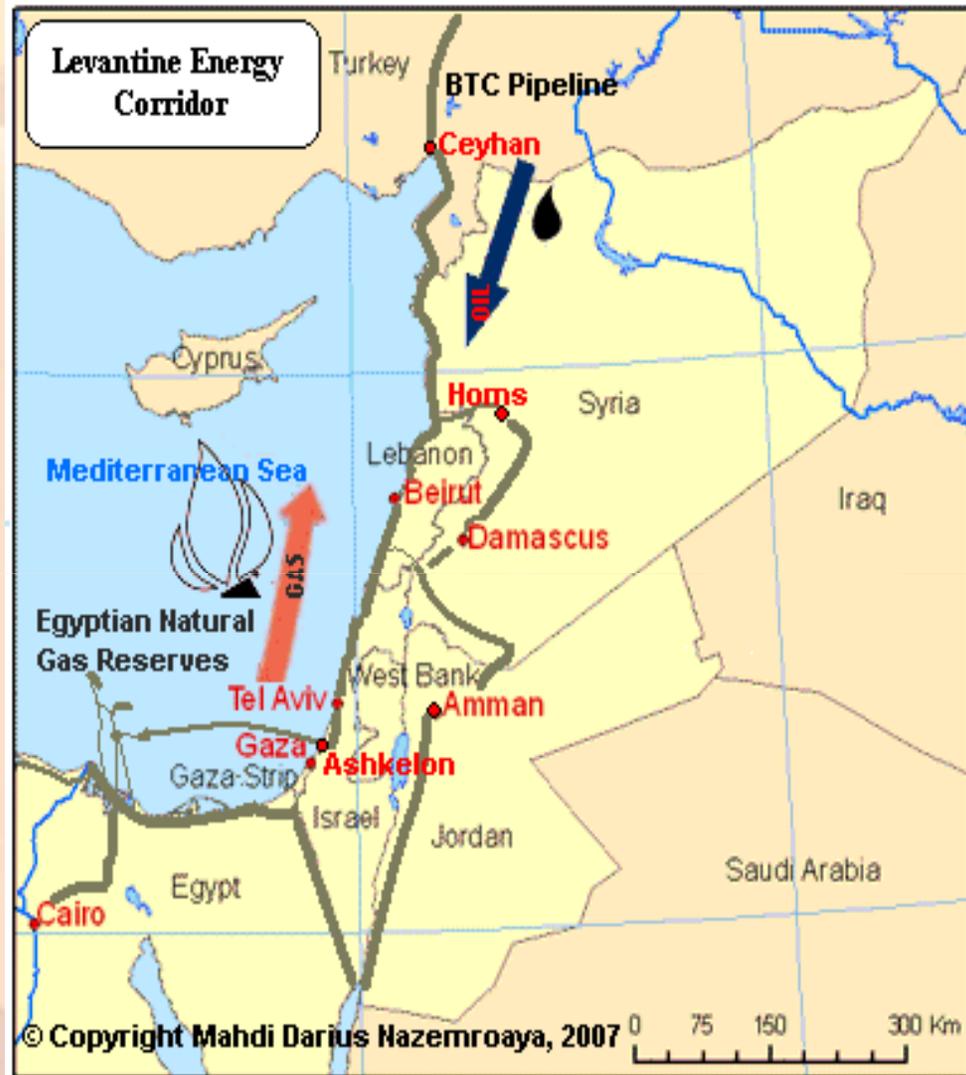
**2001:** Israel challenges PA rights over the gas reserves before the Israeli supreme court (belong to Israel), aimed at nullifying the 1999 contract

**June 2008:** Israeli plan to invade Gaza under "Operation Cast Lead" while negotiating with BG Group



# OIL THEORY

**Israel control of the Gaza gas reserves:** To be linked to Israel's energy transport corridor - from the port of Eilat – an oil pipeline terminal – on the Red Sea to the seaport, pipeline terminal at Ashkelon, northward to Haifa, to a planned Israeli-Turkish pipeline to Ceyhan (Turkey port)



# THEORY: PROJECT FOR A 'NEW MIDDLE EAST' (2006)



# THE 'NEW MIDDLE EAST' (2006)



## ANGLO-AMERICAN-ISRAEL Redrawing of the Middle East: The Project for a “New Middle East” (2006)

- A new geo-strategic roadmap announced in 2006 by then US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Israeli PM Olmert in the wake of the Israeli siege of Lebanon
- “Constructive chaos”: creating an arc of instability, chaos, and violence extending from Lebanon, Palestine, and Syria to Iraq, the Persia Gulf, Iran, and the borders of Afghanistan, with Lebanon serving as the launching pad
- US-occupied Iraq: served as preparatory ground for the “balkanization” (division) and “finlandization” (pacification) of the Middle East
- The roadmap also serves as an entry into Central Asia via the ME, into the former USSR



# NEW MIDDLE EAST & EURASIA BALKANS



- Zbigniew Brzezinski: The modern Middle East is a control lever of the Eurasian Balkans consisting of the Caucasus (Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia) and Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan), as well as Iran and Turkey

In the past and today, the US and UK have been exploiting sectarian division, ethnic tension, and internal violence to exert their hegemony

Eurasian Balkans: infinitely more important as a potential economic prize – an enormous concentration of oil reserves and natural gas, aside from minerals like gold

