

Biden Administration's Unseemly Haste to Resume Aid to Palestinians

by Hugh Fitzgerald



I confess I have never understood why the American government feels it has some kind of duty to support the Palestinian Arabs. They are not our friends. They do not wish us well. They are not democrats. They are not part of the West. They believe that Muslims are the “best of peoples” and non-Muslims “the most vile of created beings.” They support terrorism and honor terrorists. They are antisemites. Yet decade after decade, with both our direct aid, and our generous contributions – we are the largest donor – to UNRWA, we remain the biggest financial supporters of the Palestinians. Why is it our duty, and not, say, that of the rich Sunni Arab states of the Gulf, whose people share a language, a faith, a

culture, with the Palestinian Arabs?

The previous administration ended American contributions to UNRWA. It decided to stop funding the farce of ever-longer lists of "Palestinian refugees," the result of treating the Palestinian Arabs – as distinct from all other refugee groups – as being able to pass down through the generations that refugee status, to their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and so on, world without end. UNRWA claims there are "five million Palestinian refugees." But if we apply the normal definition of a refugee, as someone who "is forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster" there are fewer than 30,000 refugees still alive who left Mandatory Palestine and Israel just before, during, and after the 1948-49 Arab-Israeli war.

A second reason for the previous administration ending contributions to UNRWA was the continued appearance of antisemitic passages in the schoolbooks UNRWA uses in its classrooms, despite its repeated promises to revise those texts. The Americans simply got tired of hearing the same false assurances from the practiced liars at UNRWA. They didn't want to continue to fund antisemitism. Does the Biden Administration think they were wrong?

The Trump administration also decided to end its aid to the PA. The Palestinians continue to support the "Pay-For-Slay" program that provides generous subsidies to the families of dead and imprisoned terrorists. In fact, Washington was legally required to end such aid, as mandated by the Taylor Force Act of 2018, an Act of the U.S. Congress to stop American economic aid to the Palestinian Authority (PA) until the PA ceases paying stipends through the Palestinian Authority Martyr's Fund to individuals who commit acts of terrorism and to the families of deceased terrorists.

The Biden Administration wants to restart aid to the Palestinians as "quickly" as it can. A report on that

misplaced eagerness is here: “Biden Administration Confirms Will Look to Resume Aid to Palestinians ‘Very Quickly,’” [Jihad Watch](#).