

Starving Gaza: Disengagement and beyond

*"The Earth is closing on us
pushing us through the last passage
and we tear off our limbs to pass through.*

*The Earth is squeezing us.
I wish we were its wheat
so we could die and live again.*

*Where should we go after the last frontiers?
Where should the birds fly after the last sky?"*







Demolished Palestinian homes next to the Rafah Wall



“Invisible Occupation”: An elderly man walks along a path in the Jordan Valley, 2005

Disengagement

- Unilateral policy, Carried out with no forethought to Palestinian concerns
- Disengagement from Gaza=
Re-engagement in West Bank, Jerusalem
- Control over Gaza not relinquished, occupation evolved



isengagement: First Dawn

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Palestinians swarm the Khan Yunis seashore for the first time in 7 years



Palestinians in Rafah scale the wall dividing them from each other for the first time in decades



Crossing the Philadelphia Corridor



A peek across the divide



*Across the killing zone: a view of battered Rafah from behind the
Philadelphi Corridor*

Post-Disengagement

- Artillery fire
- Sonic boom attacks
- Prolonged border closures
- Food and supply shortages
- Elections=sanctions, aid suspension
- Destruction of electric plant
- Increased poverty, unemployment



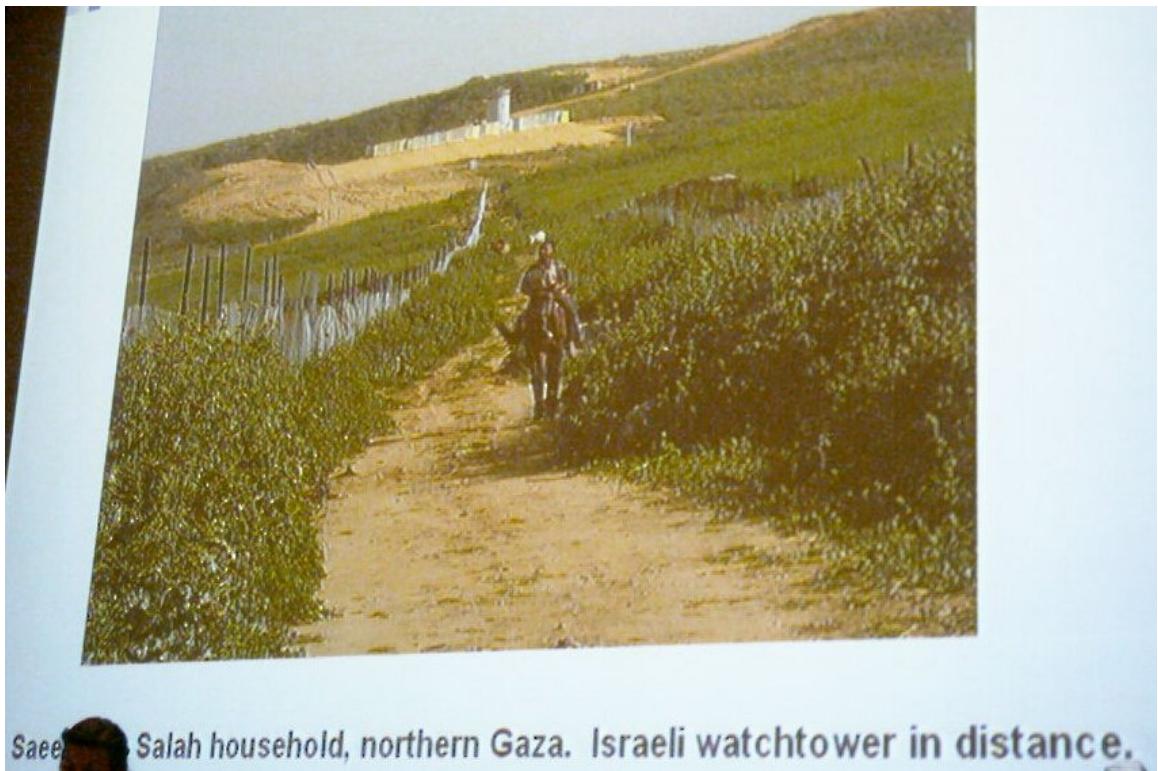
Hadil Ghabin, 9 years old



Ali Ghabin, Hadil's brother, 10 years old



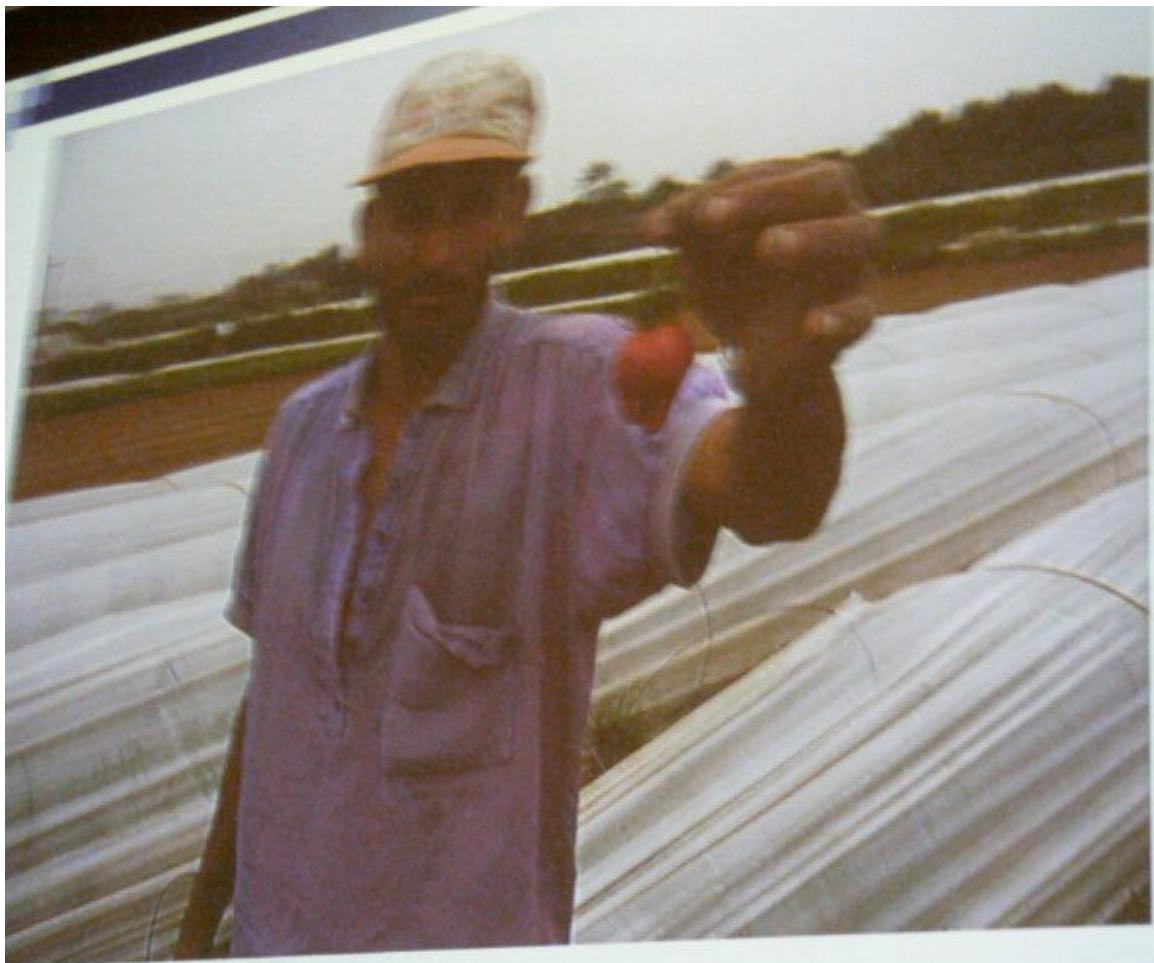
Shells into vases



Saeed Salah household, northern Gaza. Israeli watchtower in distance.

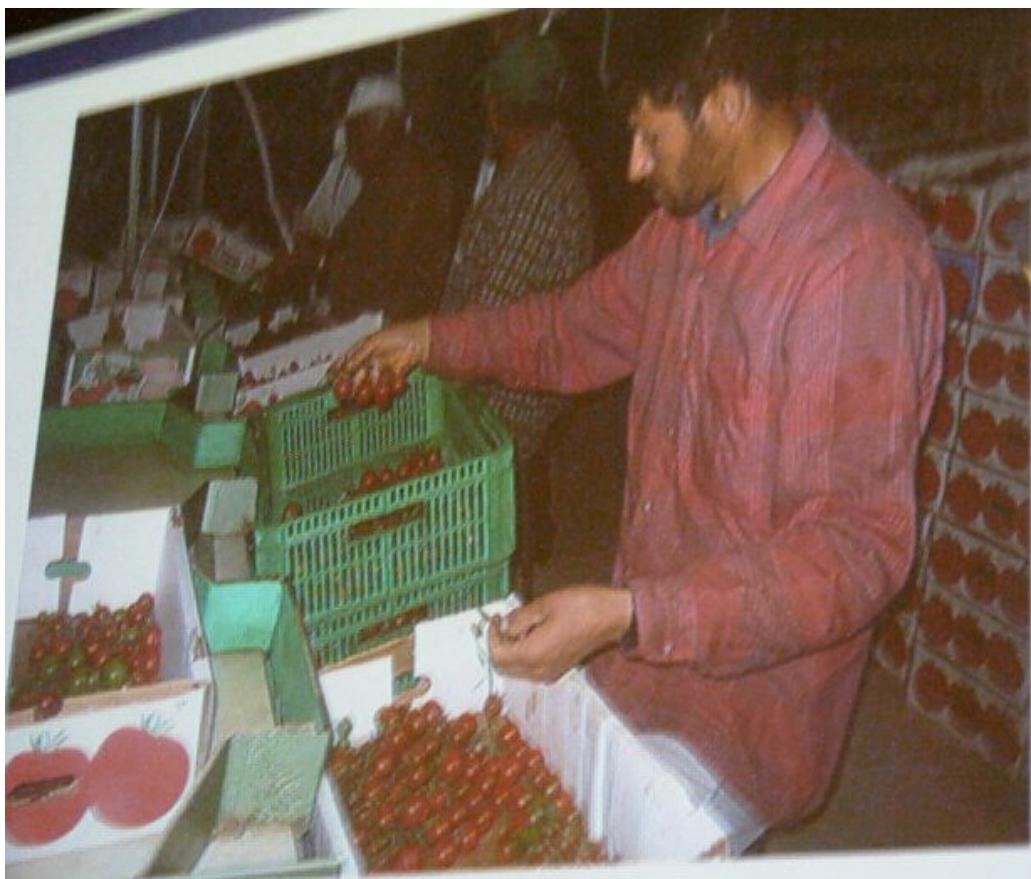


Eid Abu Salah, 15 years old.

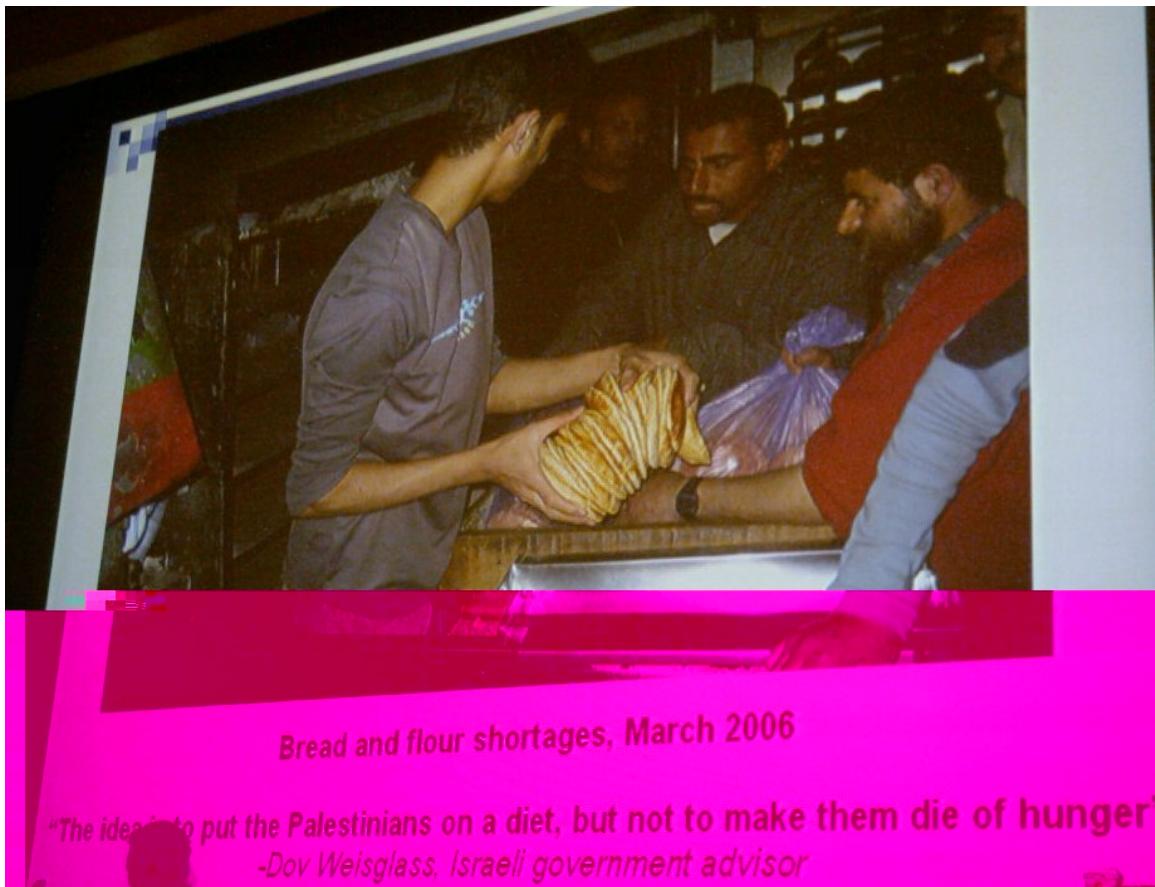


Riyad Ni'mami 33 Strawberry





Cherry Tomato workers, central Gaza



Bread and flour shortages, March 2006

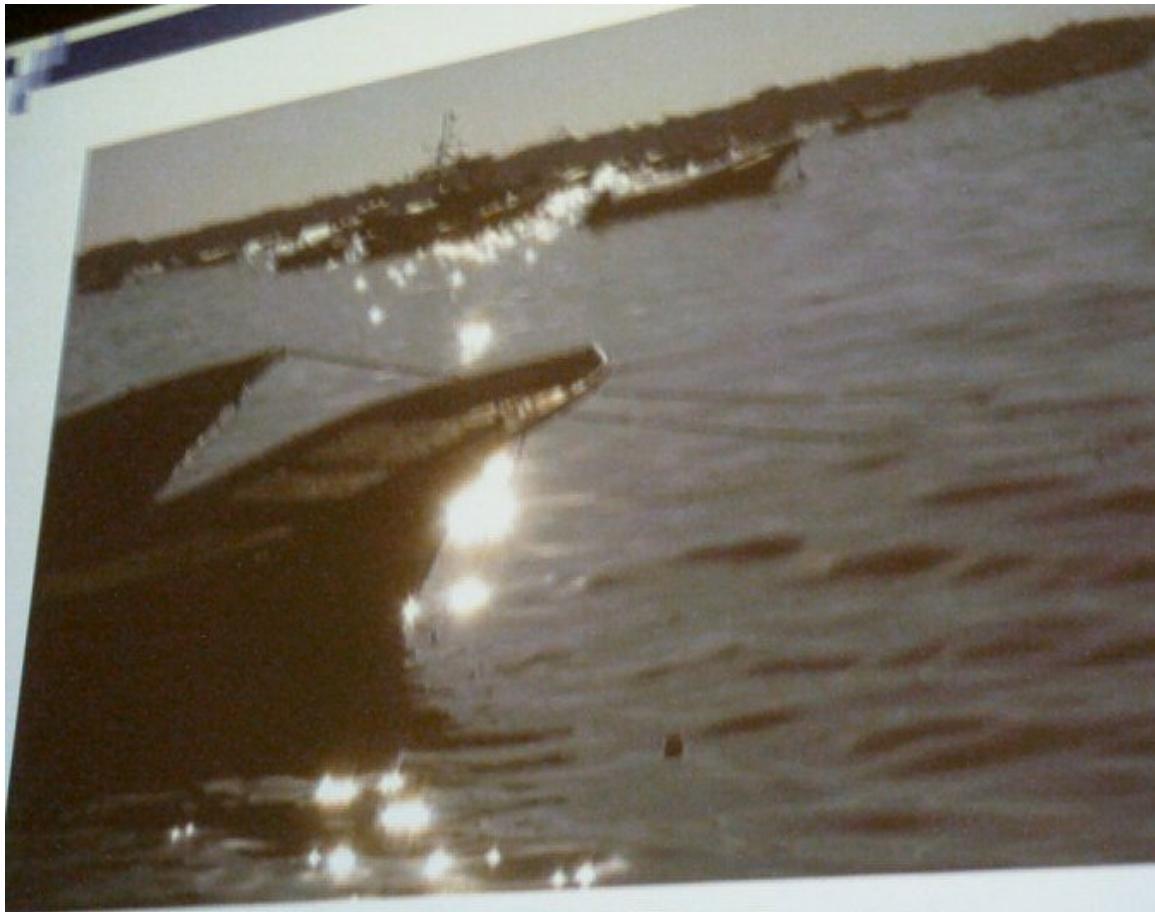
"The idea is to put the Palestinians on a diet, but not to make them die of hunger
-Dov Weisglass, Israeli government advisor







Haseera family-fishermen, Gaza City.



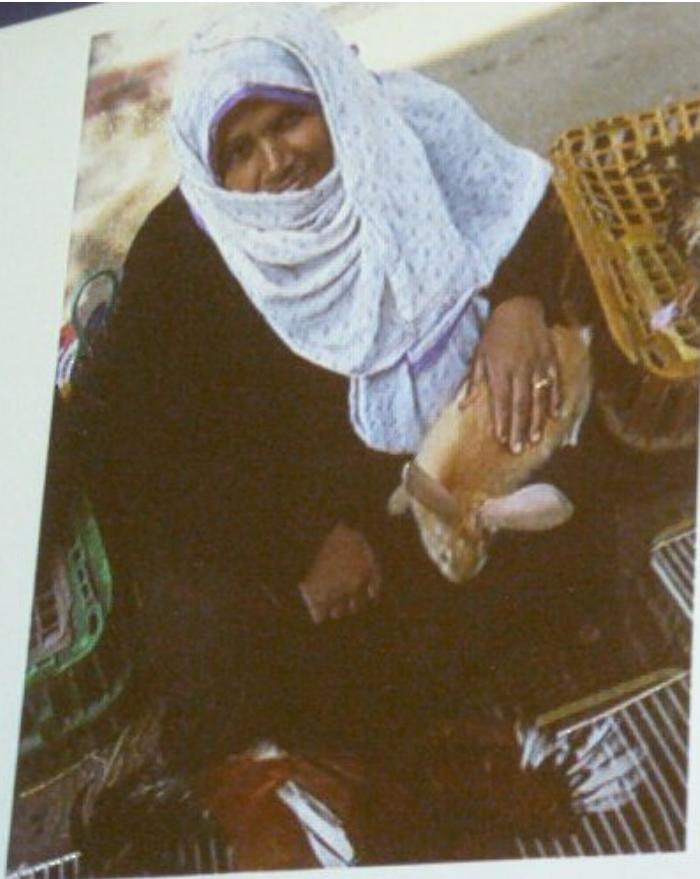
Docked boats in Gaza's makeshift harbor



I'timmad Abu Narra,
one of 10,000 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.



Desperate times: a boy sells sweet potatoes on Gaza's shore



Safiya Barakat, 54, livestock farmer, breadwinner of 12.



Deeja Sultan, 72, vegetable farmer, breadwinner.



Waiting at Rafah Crossing

Rafah Crossing

