

Portland Peaceful Response Coalition

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For Immediate Release

Event: Peace Groups Return to Federal Building, Continue Calls for Cease-Fire in Israeli Attacks on Gaza. Date: Friday, January 2, 2009 Time: 4:30 PM Location: Federal Building, SW 3rd & SW Madison, downtown Portland, Oregon.	Contacts: Portland Peaceful Response Coalition (503) 344-5078 voicemail pprc@riseup.net www.pprc-news.org
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Peace Groups Return to Federal Building, Continue Calls for Cease-Fire in Israeli Attacks on Gaza.

Expressing gratitude to the hundreds who joined the emergency demonstration in downtown Portland Tuesday evening, local peace groups are again planning to take to the streets to protest the continuing bombing and the threat of an Israeli ground invasion in Gaza. The demonstration will take place across from the Federal Building at SW Madison and 3rd in downtown Portland at 4:30 PM today, Friday, January 2nd. "We thank everybody who came out to show solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Gaza who are steadfast in their resistance to Israel's criminal occupation and war of starvation, imprisonment and bombardment," said Hala Gores, one of the organizers for Tuesday's demonstration. "But the bombing and missiles continue, Israeli tanks are sitting at Gaza's border ready to attack, and this horrific situation demands that we take action again."

PPRC's regular 5:00 PM Friday rally and march at *Pioneer Courthouse Square* will also be joining the demonstration at the Federal Building.

Organizers are asking people who come to the demonstration to bring children's shoes as a symbol to place in front of a large picture of George Bush. "We hope to challenge each and every politician who remains silent in the face of Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people," said Gores. "We want the world to see that US politicians are directly responsible for the deaths of innocent Palestinians, including children." It's been reported that Oregon Congressman Earl Blumenauer has called for a cease-fire. Organizers applaud this move and said they hoped Oregon's other representatives will do the same.

Like Tuesday's demonstration, the Friday action is being organized and hosted by *Americans United for Palestinian Human Rights*, *American Jews for a Just Peace*, *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition* and other local peace and social justice organizations. They're continuing to urge calls to the White House, to the State Department and to Oregon's representatives in Congress to protest the Israeli attacks in Gaza and to protest the US support for those attacks. Links to Oregon's representatives can be found at the PPRC website at www.pprc-news.org.

The White House can be contacted at 202-456-1111 or by e-mailing at comments@whitehouse.gov. The State Department can be contacted at 202-647-6575. Contacts for the Oregon delegation can be found at www.pprc-news.org; additional action links are available at the *US Campaign to End the Occupation* website at www.endtheoccupation.org.

For more information, and to set up interviews with organizers of the demonstration today, please call 503-888-7455.

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