

University of California is inundated with hundreds of anti-Israel protestors who set up barricades across campus before facing off with cops as 12 people are a....

## University of California is inundated with hundreds of anti-Israel protestors who set up barricades across campus before facing off with cops as 12 people are arrested

MailOnline

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**Section:** NEWS; Version:1

**Length:** 655 words

**Byline:** Isabelle Stanley For Dailymail.Com Reuters

### Body

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- Police descended on UC Irvine to clear an encampment on Wednesday night
- The school declared a '**violent protest**' after 200 descended on lecture hall
- READ MORE: Protests have swept university campuses across the country

Police arrested at least a dozen anti-Israel protestors as they cleared a lecture hall and student encampment at the University of **California**, Irvine.

The University put out an emergency alert on Wednesday declaring a '**violent protest**' after 'a group of several hundred protestors entered the UC Irvine campus and began surrounding' the Physical Sciences Lecture Hall.

Officers from ten nearby law-enforcement agencies converged on the campus in riot gear, clashing with protestors and clearing the encampment.

At least a dozen students were arrested, according to CNN, with many being secured with zip ties and led away by officers.

'The police have retaken the lecture hall,' UC Irvine spokesperson Tom Vasich said, 'The plaza has been cleared by law-enforcement officers.'

Vasich said there were a 'minimal number of arrests' and characterized the protestors as 'begrudgingly cooperative.'

It took about four hours for police to eject the protestors from both the lecture hall and the plaza that had been the site of the encampment.

Shortly before nightfall, officers moved in on the lecture hall and engaged in a tense standoff with protestors at the encampment.

University of California is inundated with hundreds of anti-Israel protestors who set up barricades across campus before facing off with cops as 12 people are a....

Helmeted police wielding batons formed a line against protesters. They gradually moved forward, pushing the students back every few minutes, until the officers rushed the crowd and made more arrests.

Most demonstrators then retreated and police held the otherwise empty plaza strewn with trash while a few onlookers remained at the periphery.

The university said all classes would be held remotely on Thursday, asking employees not to come to campus.

The demonstration at Irvine, about 40 miles south of Los Angeles, is the latest in a series of campus protests across the **United States** over the war in Gaza.

Activists have called for a ceasefire and the protection of civilian lives while demanding universities divest from Israeli interests.

UC Irvine protesters had established an encampment adjacent to the lecture hall on April 29 similar to those at other universities that have led to **mass** arrests and clashes with police elsewhere in the country.

On Wednesday 200 to 300 protesters took over the lecture hall at a time when no classes were in session, Vasich said.

Police responded in riot gear and formed a barricade while an officer on a loudspeaker warned the crowd that they had formed an unlawful assembly and risked arrest if they remained, the Orange County Register reported.

Students chanted slogans, banged drums and hoisted banners, with rows of police standing nearby.

One banner hung from the building declared the site 'Alex Odeh Hall,' in honor of a Palestinian activist who was killed in a 1985 office bombing in the nearby city of Santa Ana.

Four adjacent research buildings with potentially hundreds of people inside were locked down, and those inside were instructed to shelter in place.

Since the day the encampment began, Chancellor Howard Gillman said the university has been in talks with students but has been unable to reach an agreement to find an 'appropriate and non-disruptive' alternative site.

Gillman has said the university cannot selectively decide not to enforce rules against the illegal encampment and that 'The University of **California** has made it clear it will not divest from Israel.'

'Encampment protesters have focused most of their demands on actions that would require the university to violate the academic freedom rights of faculty, the free speech rights of faculty and fellow students, and the civil rights of many of our Jewish students,' Gillman said on Monday.

Protests have swept university campuses across the country over the past month with classes shut down and hundreds arrested starting at Columbia.

## **Classification**

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## Deadly strike kills dozens in Gaza; US in talks with Iran

The Goulburn Valley News Online

May 19, 2024 Sunday 6:50 PM AEDT

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# Herald Sun

**Length:** 1504 words

**Byline:** Merryn Johns, AFP

## Body

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An Israeli strike killed 31 people in central Gaza on Sunday, the Palestinian territory's civil defence agency said, as US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan visited for talks on the conflict.

Israeli troops have moved in on the Gaza Strip's far-southern city of Rafah, which the army describes as the last Hamas stronghold and where the United States says 800,000 civilians have been newly displaced by the fighting.

Hamas's armed wing, the Ezzedine Al-Qassam Brigades, said it was targeting Israeli forces stationed at Rafah crossing - a vital conduit for humanitarian aid that is now closed - with mortar shells.

Israel has also fought and bombed resurgent Hamas forces in northern and central areas of the coastal territory previously considered to be under army control, sparking US warnings that it could become mired in a lengthy counterinsurgency campaign.

In the latest aerial bombardment overnight, Gaza's civil defence agency said an Israeli strike killed 31 people and wounded 20 in a home in the central Nuseirat refugee camp.

Israel's military reported its aircraft had "struck dozens of terror targets" over the past 24 hours.

Witness Yasser Abu Oula told AFP an entire residential complex "was destroyed" and "there are still bodies under the rubble".

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to keep fighting Hamas in Gaza, following its October 7 attack that sparked the war, until the Iran-backed Islamist group is defeated and all remaining hostages are released.

Centrist politician Benny Gantz threatened to quit the governing hard-right coalition unless Netanyahu approves a post-war "action plan" by June 8.

Gantz demanded steps to defeat Hamas, to bring home the hostages, and towards the formation of an "American, European, Arab and Palestinian administration that will manage civilian affairs in the Gaza Strip".

Netanyahu dismissed Gantz's comments as "washed-up words", saying they would lead to "a defeat for Israel" and "the establishment of a Palestinian state", which he fiercely opposes.

## Deadly strike kills dozens in Gaza; US in talks with Iran

Amid the political turmoil, Jake Sullivan was to meet his Israeli counterpart Tzachi Hanegbi and Netanyahu for talks on the brutal Gaza conflict and post-war scenarios, after earlier meeting Saudi de facto ruler Prince Mohammed bin Salman in the kingdom.

Washington has pushed for a post-war plan for Gaza involving Palestinians and supported by regional powers, as well as for a broader diplomatic deal under which Israel and regional powerhouse Saudi Arabia would normalise relations.

US President Joe Biden called on Sunday for an immediate Gaza ceasefire and said he was pushing for a regional peace deal "to get a two-state solution, the only solution.

try of humanitarian aid" as well as "the Palestinian issue" and ways "to find a credible path towards a two-state solution".

The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said Sunday that at least 35,456 people have been killed in the territory during more than seven months of war between Israel and Palestinian militants.

The toll includes 70 deaths over the past 24 hours, a ministry statement said, adding that 79,476 people have been wounded in the Gaza Strip since the war began when Hamas militants attacked Israel on October 7.

FOLLOW BELOW FOR UPDATES:

### BIDEN REACHES OUT TO STUDENT PROTESTERS IN UNI SPEECH

US President Joe Biden told students on Sunday at the former university of civil rights icon Martin Luther King Jr that he heard their voices over the protests against the war in Gaza that have thrown US campuses into turmoil.

As one student stood with his back to Biden during the graduation ceremony at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, and many students refused to stand at all, the president added that he was working around the clock for an immediate ceasefire and lasting regional peace.

"This is one of the hardest, most complicated problems in the world. There's nothing easy about it," said Biden, who wore the colors of the historically Black university.

"I know it angers and frustrates many of you, including my family, but most of all, I know it breaks your heart. It breaks mine as well."

"I support peaceful, non-violent protest. Your voices should be heard, and I promise you I hear them," Biden told the ceremony.

Biden said he wanted an "immediate ceasefire to stop the fighting, bring the hostages home" as the conflict sparked by Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel rages.

The 81-year-old added that he was pushing for a "lasting, durable peace" in the wider Middle East that would lead to an independent Palestinian state, which he called the "only solution."

### PRO-PALESTINE PROTESTERS DISRUPT SEINFELD AGAIN

Jerry Seinfeld has become the target of pro-Palestinian protesters for the second time in one week as the comedian was heckled at his latest live show and fights broke out.

TMZ reported a protester repeatedly heckled the star, yelling "Free Gaza!" and fighting with other audience members at a live stand-up show in Norfolk, Virginia.

He was one of eight protesters who disrupted the show and were removed from the premises by security, according to TMZ.

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Seinfeld remained calm and told the audience, "I love a little Jew hate to spice up the show."

We're told about 8 demonstrators disrupted Jerry's 1.5-hour show - but each time security led the people away without any trouble. And Jerry never once got rattled. He took it all in stride and completed his performance to a standing ovation.

### DESPERATE MOBS RUSH AID TRUCKS

In recent days aid began entering Gaza via a temporary US-built floating pier, where shipments sent from the island of Cyprus are offloaded for distribution.

In a sign of Gaza's dire shortages, crowds of desperate Palestinians were seen quickly swarming some of the trucks and hurling the cargo to people by the roadside.

UN agencies and humanitarian aid groups have stressed that sea deliveries and airdrops cannot replace the far more efficient truck convoys into Gaza, where the UN has repeatedly warned of looming famine.

### AID SHORTAGES WILL LEAD TO 'APOCALYPTIC' CONSEQUENCES

The stranglehold on aid reaching Gaza threatens an "apocalyptic" outcome, the UN's humanitarian chief Martin Griffiths said on Sunday as he warned of famine in the besieged territory.

"If fuel runs out, aid doesn't get to the people where they need it, that famine, which we have talked about for so long, and which is looming, will not be looming anymore. It will be present," Griffiths said.

"And I think our worry, as citizens of the international community, is that the consequence is going to be really, really hard. Hard, difficult, and apocalyptic," he told AFP on the sidelines of meetings with Qatari officials in Doha.

Griffiths, the UN's Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, said some 50 trucks of aid per day could reach the hardest-hit north of Gaza through the reopened Erez crossing.

But battles near the Rafah and Kerem Shalom crossings in Gaza's south meant the vital routes were "effectively blocked", he explained.

"So aid getting in through land routes to the south and for Rafah, and the people dislodged by Rafah is almost nil," Griffiths added.

The World Health Organization warned that it has received no medical supplies for Gaza since the Rafah operation began early this month.

### RESCUERS SEARCH FOR BODIES UNDER RUBBLE AFTER ISRAELI STRIKE

Gaza civil defence agency spokesman Mahmud Bassal told journalists rescue workers were continuing to search for missing people under the rubble after the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital had said it had received the bodies of 20 people killed in the strike which witnesses said occurred around 3:00am local time.

Palestinian official news agency Wafa reported that the wounded included several children.

Fierce battles and heavy Israeli bombardments have been reported in the central Nuseirat camp since the military launched a ground operation on the southern city of Rafah in early May.

Palestinian militants and Israeli troops have also clashed in north Gaza's Jabalia camp for days now.

Witnesses said several other houses were targeted in air strikes during the night across Gaza, and that strikes and artillery shelling also hit parts of Rafah during the night.

### IRAN CONFIRMS INDIRECT TALKS WITH UNITED STATES

## Deadly strike kills dozens in Gaza; US in talks with Iran

Iran has confirmed that it held indirect talks with arch foe the **United States** in Oman despite the two countries having no diplomatic relations, state media reported.

**Washington** and Tehran have long been sharply at odds with tensions centred on Iran's contested nuclear program and heightened by the Gaza war between their respective allies Israel and Hamas.

Axios reported that **US** and Iranian officials held indirect talks in Oman "on how to avoid escalating regional attacks".

The official IRNA news agency said "the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations confirmed indirect negotiations between Iran and the **United States** in Oman".

It quoted him as saying that "these negotiations were not the first and will not be the last", without giving the time and place of the talks.

- With AFP

## Notes

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## Classification

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## Deadly strike kills dozens in Gaza; US in talks with Iran

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## Extremists are the loudest, but not the majority

Jerusalem Post

May 17, 2024 Friday

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**Byline:** MORAN ZER KATZENSTEIN

### Body

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I cannot count how often Eden Golan, Israel's representative to the Eurovision Song Contest, was humiliated, attacked, or pressured. Although we joke about how, in Israel, everything is politics, we discovered this week that everything, everywhere, is about ignorance and antisemitism.

The anti-Israel violence, with thousands of pro-Palestinian and Muslim demonstrators, did not remain outside the walls of the Malmo Arena where Eurovision was hosted. Boos were also heard during the rehearsals, and the other contestants behaved so rudely toward Golan that it bordered on harassment. The boos during the live broadcast of the competition were so loud that they had to be filtered out in the recording.

During the press conference, when 20-year-old Golan was asked a question, the Greek competitor yawned theatrically and pretended to be asleep. The Polish reporter accused Golan of endangering the other participants with her presence. Denmark's candidates bullied the Israeli team, refusing to attend rehearsals and making it necessary to move the Israeli delegation to a separate rehearsal room.

Last year's winner said that if Golan were to win, she would not agree to go on stage with her. Nevertheless, Golan took the stage, motivated, focused, and excited. Bullying and hate led to the opposite response than what was originally anticipated, and Israel was one of the favorite potential winners.

Eurovision is known as an event of diversity and inclusion. The Jewish community embraces the event every year, including here in Israel. This year, the performances stretched thin the definition of liberalism.

Just as "Queers for Palestine" are a delusional joke of history, so are the young American feminists fighting for Hamas. The irony is hard to miss.

Bullying, hatred, ignorance, and hypocrisy were all collected into one event, ostensibly a singing competition, in Malmo.

And yet, while we say that "everything is politics," in fact the riotous violence clearly did not reflect the opinion of the general public who showed Golan so much support in many countries.

The violence of the demonstrators in Europe, including many Muslims, deters many Europeans. "Building An Alternative" connects female leaders in dozens of cities worldwide. They say that the locals connect to the pro-Israel silent marches and protests more than the **violent protests** of the pro-Palestinians.

## Extremists are the loudest, but not the majority

However, we are in the midst of a billion-dollar global branding campaign based on a false narrative that has convinced millions that the truth is a lie and that a lie is the truth.

This is how we got to where a young woman in a song competition had to face a violent "progressive" world fighting for a religious Islamic fundamentalist regime that would not allow any of those representatives to survive in Gaza for an hour without being thrown from the roof (especially in the outfits they came on stage with). No keffiyeh nail design like the one sported by the Portuguese representative would be of any help if she fell into the hands of Hamas.

I DO not believe that the demonstrations are spontaneous. On October 8, the demonstrators were already ready with signs and slogans because they had been activated in advance.

As someone who leads protests, I know how long it takes to decide on messages and produce signs. Here, there was a metaphorical rear-wheel drive that was ready to go less than 24 hours after the massacre.

I wonder how European feminists who, ordinarily, would understand that there was this shocking bullying of a young woman who just wants to sing, can choose not to stand at her side.

In the United States, I am astonished at the liberal feminists, increasingly losing their right of control over their own bodies in state after state, who, instead of taking to the streets to protest this, invest all their energy in the pro-Palestinian struggle for the benefit of Hamas terrorists.

The swing of the pendulum is likely to bring conservative forces to power in the US as a reaction to the violent protests in the name of "progressives" who are now siding with Hamas.

The backlash to the extreme progressive and now violent current will become manifest in the upcoming elections. We are facing global changes. Progressives would do well to wake up better off before it is too late.

Golan ended up in fifth place despite being almost completely ignored by the judging teams - but with huge support from the scoring of the Europeans from home. Perhaps there is room for hope.

The writer is an Israeli women's rights activist, lecturer, social activist, strategist and media personality. She is among the initiators of the coalition of women's organizations and the founder of Building an Alternative (Bonot Alternativa).

## Graphic

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Photo: EDEN GOLAN flies Israel's flag during the Grand Final of the 2024 Eurovision Song Contest, in Malmo, Sweden, last Saturday night. (Credit: Leonhard Foeger/Reuters)

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Extremists are the loudest, but not the majority

HAMAS (78%); LIBERALISM (78%); RACISM & XENOPHOBIA (78%); RIOTS (78%); PROTESTS & DEMONSTRATIONS (76%); PRESS CONFERENCES (69%); DIVERSITY & INCLUSION (64%); EDITORIALS & OPINIONS (59%); REPORTS, REVIEWS & SECTIONS (59%); BRANDING (50%)

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Students throw themselves bodily into the gears of the Western genocide machine

## Students throw themselves bodily into the gears of the Western genocide machine

China Daily (Hong Kong Edition)

May 19, 2024 Sunday

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**Byline:** Scott Burchill

### Body

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In December it will be 60 years since Mario Savio stood on the steps of Sproul Hall at the Berkeley campus of the University of California and delivered the most powerful speech in the history of student activism:

There is a time when the operation of the machine becomes so odious, makes you so sick at heart, that you can't take part! You can't even passively take part! And you've got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon the wheels, upon the levers, upon all the apparatus, and you've got to make it stop!

And you've got to indicate to the people who run it, to the people who own it, that unless you are free the machine will be prevented from working at all.

The steps of the hall, which now feature a plaque bearing his name, mark the place and time when the Free Speech Movement began in the United States. In the 1960s students were leading players in both the struggle for civil rights and the anti-Vietnam War movement, making educational, career and at Kent State University, physical sacrifices to build a more humane, freer and less violent society.

That tradition of student activism continues today across the Western world, with students protesting against Israel's genocidal slaughter in Gaza and the research and commercial links their universities maintain with a state which UN agencies and human rights organizations have accused of practicing apartheid, ethnic cleansing and mass starvation.

There is little doubt that today's students will be on the right side of history just as their forebears were. What today seems radical, inexplicable and disruptive will tomorrow be seen as just, inspiring and eventually passé.

However, in 2024 students confront the same opponents as those who came before them did: timid and often hostile university administrators who pay lip service to free speech while doing everything they can to shut down peaceful pro-Palestine encampments on university grounds.

## Students throw themselves bodily into the gears of the Western genocide machine

Disciplinary threats to their enrolment at institutions they pay large fees to attend have already been issued. And now state police are enjoined by university bureaucrats to do the dirty work of dismantling the encampments, as if the issue will disappear as easily as the tents and trestle tables.

The only question is which university moves against the students first, and how can the ugly video coverage of the attack be minimised or censored from public viewing entirely.

Spurious and exaggerated claims of widespread anti-Semitism on campuses made by state and federal governments, independent MPs with significant Jewish constituencies, and right wing commercial media, arose about a month ago. There was a clear reason for the shift of emphasis.

With so much horrendous film available from unmediated sources, it was no longer possible to defend the slaughter of 35,000 civilians as "Israel's right to self-defence" so the script was flipped to the growing threat of anti-Semitism, with "reports" of Jewish students afraid to attend their classes. Unsurprisingly there has been little media coverage of agent provocateurs, false flag operations and pro-Israel counter-protests which have seen violent attacks.

Those politicians confecting a moral panic about anti-Semitism on Australia's university campuses have two things in common: they have never visited an encampment nor taken the trouble to talk directly to protesting students about their concerns. This is cowardice and borders on professional misconduct.

Lacking sufficient intestinal fortitude to confront even their own constituents amongst the protesting student body, MPs prefer to rely on hostile coverage by mainstream commercial and state media, with only a few honorable exceptions.

Keeping a distance from the universities and students they are happy to criticize in press releases and sound bites suggests they are heavily influenced by well organized social media mobilizations, their email in-boxes and fears that they will be branded "soft on anti-Semitism".

In Goldstein and Wentworth, incumbent "teals" know they will need every Jewish vote they can muster to get over the line again, hence their call for the appointment of an "anti-Semitism envoy", whatever that might be beyond performative pandering to an influential sectional interest group.

Overall, one is left with the impression that the confectioners are more concerned with inflammatory rhetoric and robust debates at Australian universities than they are with mass graves and the premeditated extermination of Gaza's civilian population. Their deliberate misrepresentation and misunderstanding of slogans such as "From the river to the sea ..." is not just embarrassing and ill-informed, it reflects their deep censorious instincts.

I have visited the pro-Palestine encampments and led a teach-in at Deakin University. There was no violence, no abuse, no intimidation, nor any threatening behavior. They were entirely peaceful and only university security guards impeded the free circulation of the students. Claims to the contrary are mostly lies and disinformation.

Noam Chomsky reminds us that "the whole educational and professional training system is a very elaborate filter, which just weeds out people who are too independent, and who think for themselves, and who don't know how to be submissive, and so on, because they're dysfunctional to the institutions".

The most effective filter is the commodification of education, which neutralizes activism and organized politics by forcing students to rack up enormous debts to pay for their tuition: in the US where there is no HECS scheme, these are loans taken out at commercial interest rates.

This encourages students to gravitate towards vocational and professional degrees rather than those in the humanities and social sciences, and requires them to immediately focus on finding employment. It leaves little time for the pursuit of knowledge or agitating for a fairer, more just society.

Corporatized universities run by businessmen instead of academics have no understanding of the historical role of universities in pre-figuring social change. In the United States, today's university administrators have little experience with moral outrage and non-violent protests. They are slaves to wealthy alumni, philanthropists,

Students throw themselves bodily into the gears of the Western genocide machine

investors and the tied donations of corporate backers. It is hardly surprising that they instinctively side with state power and violence whenever the status quo is challenged.

Higher education in Australia is heading down a similar path, which makes the moral leadership and resistance of our students, appalled by what the International Court of Justice declared was a plausible case of genocide conducted by Israel in Gaza, all the more remarkable and admirable. Sometimes, there is nothing else to do: you have to throw your bodies on the gears to make it stop.

Dr Scott Burchill is Honorary Fellow in International Relations at Deakin University. He is the author of *The National Interest in International Relations Theory* (Palgrave Macmillan 2005), *Misunderstanding International Relations* (Palgrave Macmillan 2020) and co-author and editor of *Theories of International Relations* (5th ed Palgrave Macmillan 2013). He has also taught at Monash University, the University of Melbourne and the University of Tasmania. He is a regular commentator on ABC Radio and TV.

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