

Nov. 23, 2012.

The Editor,

The Globe & Mail

Dear Editor,

Your editorial today, Nov. 23, states " Israel was successful in its eight-day war with Hamas". Your definition of success challenges all principles of fairness and human values. It is true, Israel killed 162 Palestinians, mostly children and innocent civilians, and destroyed scores of homes and public institutions and created devastating effects on the psyche of Gaza children and on the well-being of the 1.7 million people living in that tiny strip of land, most of whom are refugees, resulting from the campaign of ethnic cleansing that Israel brought about in 1948.

You state correctly: " Israel prevailed in this latest deadly episode, but this is not progress toward peace. That will happen only when both sides recognize the futility of recurrent war." The recurrent wars in the Middle East are largely the creation of Israel and its policies, that continue to maintain illegal occupation of Palestinian and Syrian land, in defiance of international law and repeated Security Council resolutions.

As to the Ceasefires signed by both sides, it is Israel that violated these ceasefires, as happened earlier this month and on Nov. 4, 2008, and again today, Nov. 23, by killing a Gazan farmer and injuring 10 other farmers, attempting to farm their land.

I think it is time that our media and political leaders begin to go by facts and honour our commitment to the UN Charter and international law.

Yours sincerely,

Ismail Zayid, MD.