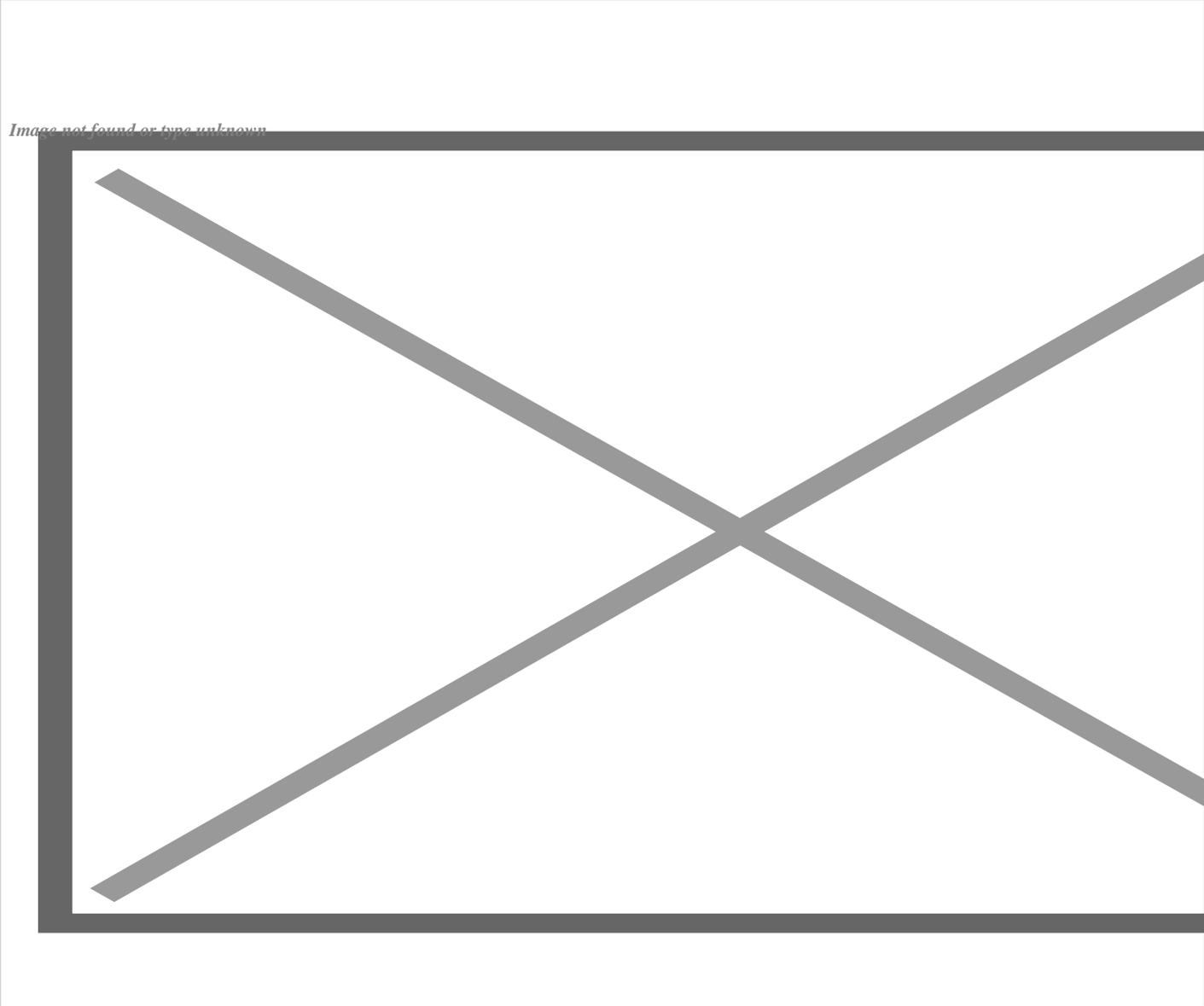


South Gaza: From a figurative refuge to a segment of horror

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By Roberto Morejón

Without completing its first phase of Operation Scorched Earth in the north, the Israeli regime ordered its troops to attack southern Gaza, initially presented by Tel Aviv as an apparent refuge for civilians.

But the facts have shown that with Israel nothing is certain because the end justifies the means.

Ever since the rulers of the Hebrew state instructed a crude bombardment of the territory of Gaza, they had refrained from extending the procedure to the south, in response to which hundreds of thousands of

Palestinians fled in the hope of escaping with their lives.

For those who abandoned everything, the news transmitted by word of mouth was alarming, as the lack of electricity and Internet plunged them into isolation, a strategic tool of the occupiers.

It is no coincidence that since the beginning of the military operations at least 63 journalists have been killed, including 50 Palestinians, and 11 others have been wounded.

The information gathered is terrifying. Nearly 16,000 people have been killed, mostly women and children, and in a seven-day truce there was little that civilians had gathered to secure themselves as they were forced to move south.

But this area is no longer a convincing place as predicted by Tel Aviv, whose soldiers and powerful military equipment, backed by its gigantic war industry and the United States, are in function of razing the city of Khan Younis and harassing women and children, the latter now in search of Rafah, on the border with Egypt.

Two months after the start of the war, the settlement of 2.4 million Palestinians in Gaza has become a total military target, including hospitals and schools, with the argument that the Islamist group Hamas is fortified there.

And if on land there are few places left far from the violence of the occupiers, deep inside Gaza there are also threats to saturate with seawater the tunnels where, according to the occupiers, Hamas is entrenched.

Enough for the UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, to invoke Article 99 of the UN Charter to ask the Security Council for an immediate humanitarian cease-fire, which Israel rabidly opposes.

All this without its protector, the United States, daring to admonish the ultra-right-wing Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu.

In Washington, they are busy looking for justifications to attenuate the wave of repudiation of Israel.

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