

*U.S. officials say Biden  
administration has no plans to  
restrict military aid to Israel*

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Washington, December 14 (RHC)-- U.S officials have revealed that the administration of President Joe Biden has no plans to withhold military aid from Israel despite the aggravating humanitarian situation caused by the regime's relentless war in Palestine's Gaza.

Media sources quoted officials as saying on Wednesday that there will be no changes to U.S. positions on the transfer of weapons and munitions to Israel despite growing calls by Democratic lawmakers and human rights organizations for Washington to stop its open support for Israel until the regime commits to a ceasefire or at least to measures that can protect civilians amid the Gaza war.

A U.S. official said that Washington would rely on Israel's assessment of whether its attacks on civilians in Gaza are proportional and legal rather than independently evaluating Israeli strikes on civilians that it deems unlawful and concerning. A congressional source also said that the State Department had failed to provide any assurances to lawmakers that the Biden administration would monitor how Israel would use a consignment of tank ammunition that was recently supplied to the Israeli regime without congressional consent.

The State Department transmitted an emergency declaration to US lawmakers late on Friday notifying them of the sale of thousands of tank munitions to Israel, a move that had been done without observing the standard 20-day period that congressional committees normally have to review such sales.

Democratic lawmakers have called on Biden to stop supplying military aid to Israel as the regime goes on with its indiscriminate attacks on civilians in Gaza. That comes as Biden said this week that he has had tough conversations with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about Israel's military campaign but did not threaten to cut off aid and said his administration will do nothing other than protect Israel.

"We're not going to do a damn thing other than protect Israel in the process. Not a single thing," said Biden while addressing Democratic donors in Washington.

The United States has significantly ramped up its weapons shipments to the Israeli regime since the start of the current war in Gaza. One source familiar with the issue told reporters that the U.S. has provided approximately 3,000 JDAMS to Israel since October 7.

More than 18,600 people have been killed in Gaza as a result of the Israeli attacks that started on October 7, the day on which the Palestinian resistance group Hamas launched a major operation into the occupied territories near Gaza, killing some 1,200 Israeli settlers and military forces.

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