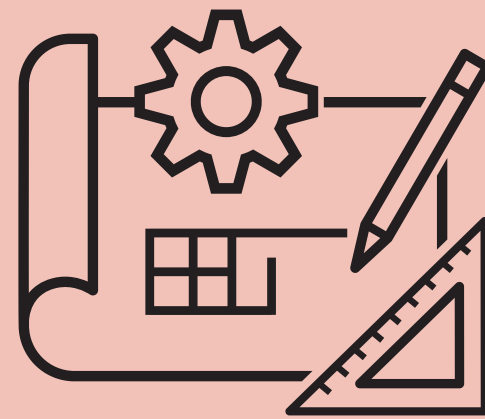


This weapon wreaks human and environmental havoc—especially in Palestine today—but is still in use because it benefits corporate shareholders, the U.S., and military partners.

# DEVELOPMENT & PRODUCTION

## Origins

- Designed and manufactured by **General Dynamics**
- Began in **late 1950s** [1]
- First used in **Vietnam War** [2]



## US and Foreign Customers

- The plant has continuously produced Mk84 bombs for U.S. use since its opening [15]
- In 2011, the facility increased production for sales to international customers; these presently include countries such as **Israel** and **Australia** [15, 32, 13]

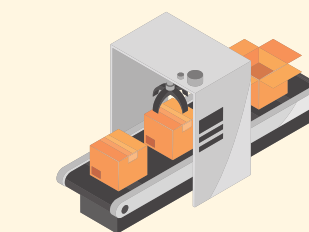
## Design



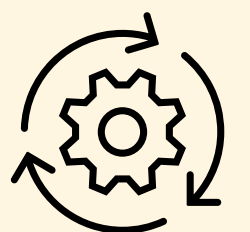
### Optimized for Destruction



- Aerodynamic to maintain **high velocities** [3]
- Stabilizing fins deploy to **concentrate destructive energy** [3]
- More than **880 lbs of high explosives** [2]
- Primary destruction mechanism is **blast** and **fragmentation** [3]
- Designed to penetrate **11 ft of concrete** [5]

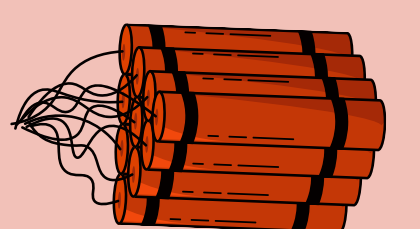


## Production



- Primarily assembled at **Garland, TX** plant that employs **200-300 people** since **Vietnam War** [15]
- General Dynamics is primary contractor for overall bomb, with several sub-contractors [31]

## Raw Materials



- Steel, which is machined into bomb bodies [4]
- Tritonal, which is used as the explosive filler [8]

# WHO BENEFITS?

## General Dynamics

- Munitions segment of Ordnance and Tactical Systems brought in approximately **\$1.4 billion** in revenue [11]
- Contracts for the MK80 family of bombs **regularly exceed \$100 million** [12]



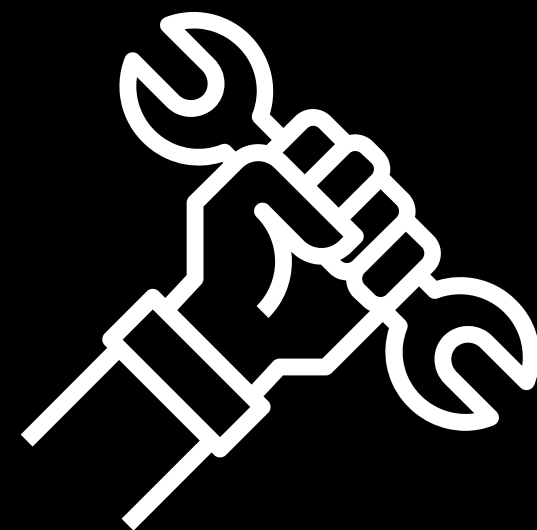
## Israel

- Received **thousands of 2000-lb bombs** from the Biden administration after Oct. 7 2023 [26]
- Trump administration approved an arms sale worth nearly **\$3 billion** to Israel, evading Congress [27]



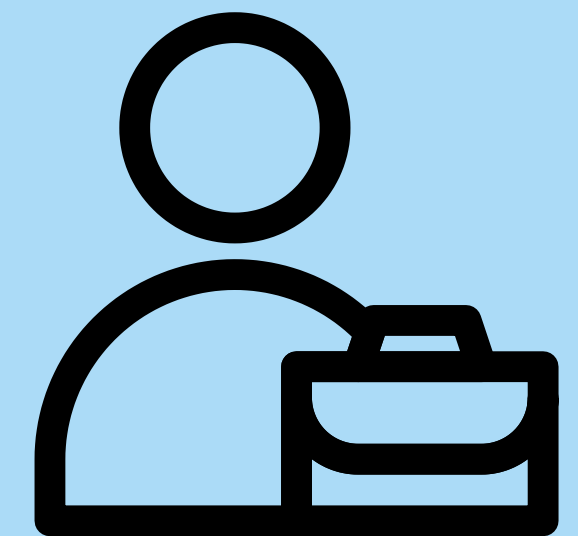
## Military-grade Material Suppliers

- **Repkon** has a **\$435 million contract** with the U.S. to produce TNT domestically [19]
- TNT manufacturing also outsourced and imported from other countries such as **Poland, Turkey, South Korea, Australia, and India** [17]



## Defense Contractor Employees

- General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems employs roughly **6000 people** [14]
- The Garland, TX plant specifically employs roughly 300 people, **primarily in manufacturing** (welding, machining) [15]





# HUMAN & ENVIRONMENTAL COST

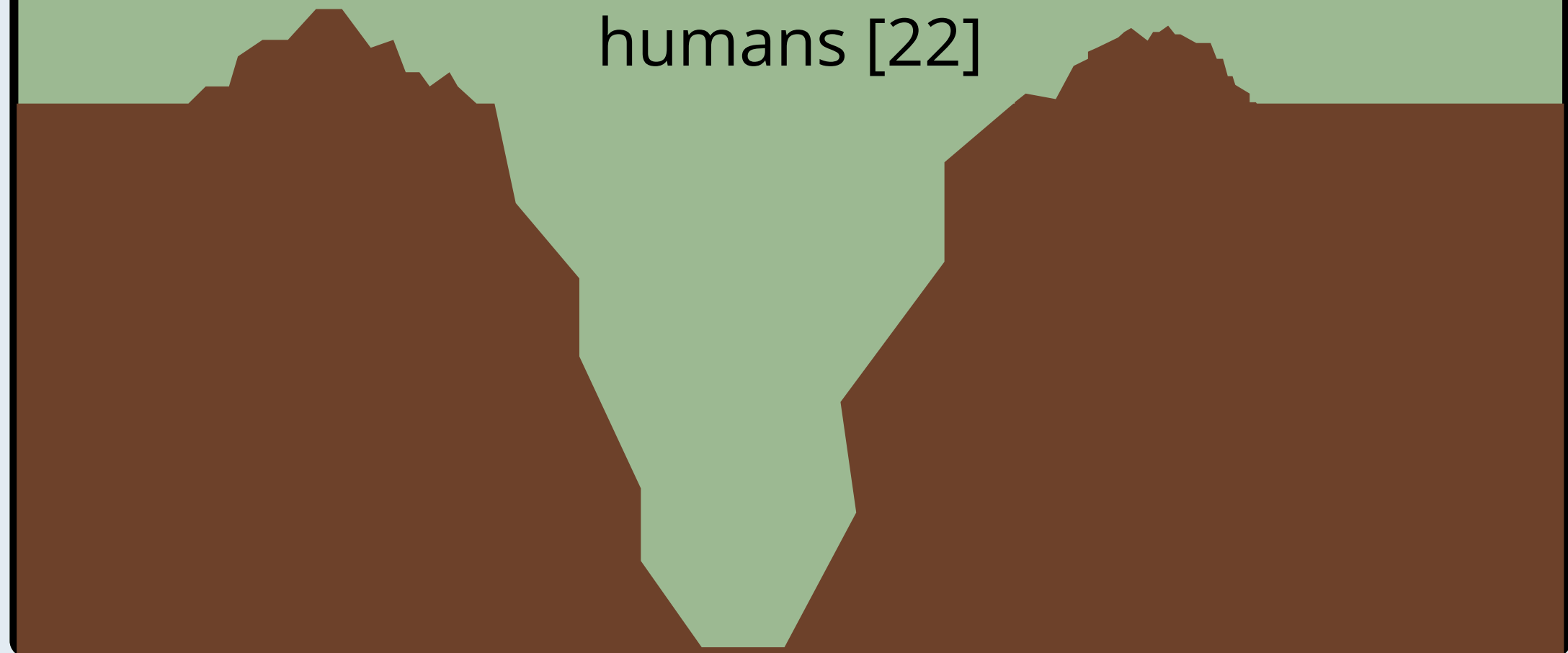
- The shattering of MK-84 bomb's steel casting upon detonation shoots **1,000 lbs** of white-hot steel fragments in all directions at **1.8km per second** [29]
- These fragments are **lethal** as far as **360 m** away from the point of detonation and can travel further than a mile away [29]



The fragmentation pattern and shock wave of the MK-84 can be expected to cause **severe injury**, including rupturing **lungs**, **bursting sinuses**, and **tearing off limbs**, and may damage infrastructure as far as **800m** away from the point of detonation [29]



The explosion of MK-84 bombs displaces **10,000 lbs of dirt forming a crater** in the ground up to **50 feet wide** and **36 feet deep** [5] It also contaminates the soil with **TNT**, exposure to which can cause **anemia, abnormal liver function, skin irritation, and cataracts** in humans [22]



**From Oct. 7, 2023 - Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023:**

- **84%** of hospitals were within the **'damage and injury'** range of at least one MK-84 bomb detonation [25]
- **25%** of hospitals were within the **'lethal'** range of at least one MK-84 bomb detonation [29]

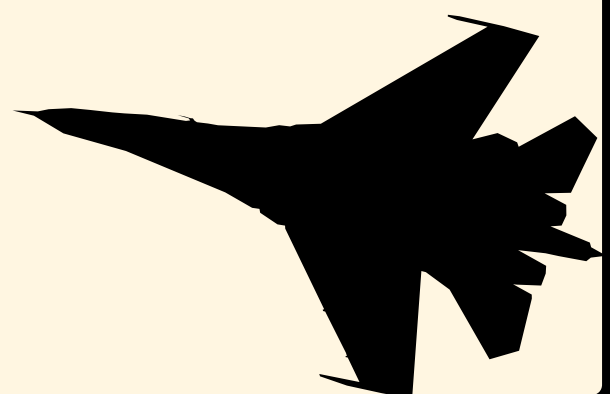


## 2023 War Crimes using MK-84:

**March 27:** Airstrike on emergency relief center in Habbrieh, South Lebanon **killed 7** civilian volunteers [30]

**November 1:** Bombing of Gaza's Jabalia refugee camp **killed hundreds** of Palestinian civilians [30]

**October 10 & 22:** Bombings **killed 24** people of the al-Najjar family and **19** people of the Abu Mu'eileq family in Deir al-Balah [30]



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