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Palestine-US

STOP THE KILLINGS IN PALESTINE AND ISRAEL, SAYS US OFFICIAL

KUALA LUMPUR, April 19 (Bernama) -- The killings in Palestine and Israel have to be stopped and the Israeli forces must withdraw immediately from the occupied territories, a United States Embassy official here said today.

"The killings must stop and Israeli forces must withdraw before both sides can negotiate a peace settlement that will allow citizens of both countries to live behind secure and peaceful borders," said Karl Stoltz, the Counsellor for Public Affairs.

"When young Palestinian and Israeli boys and girls were killing each other, whether as suicide bombers or in military operations, they were literally destroying the future hope of both countries," he said at the closing of a photo exhibition "After September 11: Images From Ground Zero" at the National Library here.

The exhibition, which opened on March 20, featured a number of photos taken by American photographer Joel Meyerowitz at the scene of the Sept 11 attacks.

On the World Trade Centre attacks, Stoltz said more than 4,000 people from 83 countries lost their lives in the most terrible single day of terrorism the world has ever seen.

He said three Malaysians were also victims of the attacks.

Stoltz said he shared the sentiment of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in defining acts of terror as any deliberate attacks on innocent civilians.

Meanwhile, National Library Director-General Zawiyah Baba said more than 6,000 people visited the exhibition and 266 visitors participated in a quiz held in conjunction with the exhibition.

Eighteen winners received their prizes today.

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