

# Common Sense

**The official Islamic  
Party Newsreport**

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## Time to get real about Israel

Even with a nuclear confrontation threatening to erupt between Pakistan and India (the Hindu fascists being helped by Israel's military and intelligence cooperation in line with 'my enemy's enemy is my friend'), Palestine events continue to dominate the headlines.

Having benefited from September 11 and the lack of concern over Zionist human rights abuses and excesses, Israel's apartheid policy is back under scrutiny. Zionists don't like any attention unless it portrays them as the victims, and when even the Jewish dominated media in the United States of America became critical of the brutal methods of the Sharon government, American Jewish organisations began organising a boycott of media which did not tow the line. This kind of arrogance, however, will increasingly alienate them from world opinion, just as pride comes before the fall. Worried about the backlash of Israeli strong-arm tactics, many Jews have started speaking out against the terror of occupation. What is often forgotten, however, is that the Israeli state was founded on terror, that half a century of promises of making peace were hollow, and that the peaceful coexistence of Arabs – Muslims and Christians – with Jews is impossible, as long as Israel continues to exist as a state built on Zionist supremacy which has no room for other people whom it considers as inferior. Instead of a two state solution – a dominant Zionist state, with im-

potent Palestinian Bantustans under alleged self-rule – the whole of Palestine has to be given back to its original people, and only those descendants of the original Jewish immigrants who are willing to live as equal citizens with all inhabitants of the new state should be allowed to remain there. The creation of Israel was one of the greatest con-tricks in history, where the same powers of the day who armed and financed Hitler Germany then made an innocent Palestinian people pay for the excesses of Germany's military machine. Since then, this illegitimate state has been artificially kept alive by American tax dollars. However, no political settlement achieved at gun point is going to stop people demanding justice, no amount of denunciation will make Palestinians give up their rightful claim for their country and accept occupation, and under no circumstances will Muslims give up their claim on Jerusalem, even if Arafat and his Palestinian authority were to sign it away. To discredit the Muslim claim, even they, descendants of Abraham through Isma'il, have been branded anti-Semites, and the fact that the majority of Jews now living in Israel do not de-

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scend from Semitic ancestors, but from the Caucasian Khazar tribe who converted to Judaism 1200 years ago, has been well hidden from the unsuspecting public, because it diminishes the Zionists claim, that they were returning to the land of their forefathers. It is time that we call a spade a spade and begin unravelling the interwoven fabric the Zionist propaganda machine has spun over the last century. Justice demands no less, and what is more, world peace depends on it. This issue of Common Sense is intended to help us learn from history and get real, and to help us doing so we include plenty of Jewish voices. For it is not Judaism, which is the problem, but Zionism, which is an aberration of Judaism promoted by secular people for political ends.

## A Letter from the Leader

This letter was sent by Islamic Party Leader, David Musa Pidcock, to the Editor of the Daily Telegraph

Sir - Your leading article/editorial (13/4/02) in which you refer to Tom Paulin's - "repulsive" opinions, would be valid if they were based on historical reality and the realisation that for every action there is always an equal and opposite reaction, for those who live by the sword die by the sword. What is happening in Palestine is the direct result of Israel failing to honour the promises made by its founding fathers to the indigenous Arab population; who, like the Irish, can't forget what the English can't remember. The following extract is from a speech by Dr. Chaim Weizmann's to a Zionist Conference, at the Cannon Street Hotel, in London in 1919, where he stated: "We cannot go into the country like Junkers; we cannot afford to drive out other people. We who have been driven out ourselves cannot drive out others. We shall be the last people to drive the Fella from his land; we shall establish normal relations between us and them. The Arabs will live

amongst us; they won't suffer; they will live among us as Jews do here in England. That is our attitude towards the Arabs. Any other attitude is criminal, childish, impolitic, stupid..."

Weizmann would be in full agreement with Paulin's call to arm the Palestinians against Sharon's Junkers. He would also call on him to stop his Blitzkrieg which is: "Criminal, Childish, Impolitic, Stupid". However, the underlying problems stem from the Cabbalistically motivated Brooklyn Settlers, amongst the Gush Emunim movement, who are told (and believe it from the Talmud), that it is an act of worship to kill as many non Jews as possible. Goldstein's memorial for the Hebron massacre states: "He murdered to sanctify G-d". Furthermore, a New York Rabbinical Fatwa states that: "One Million Arabs are not equal to one Jewish fingernail". This rabid rabbi also encourages acts of genocide against fellow Jews

from the Neturai Karta movement who oppose their "repulsive" racist acts against the legitimate inhabitants of the Holy Land under the bestial pretext that: "Tob scheb-goyyim harog" that even the best amongst the Goyim should be killed.

It is surely time to reject the mendacious and cowardly chorus of Mike the Whine, Neville Nagler, and the rest of the British Board of Deputies, whose honesty on such occasions, is best summed up in the words of Belsen survivor the late Professor Israel Shahak who said of their kind: "they issue deceitful denials in which the art of equivocation reaches its summit". As for the impartiality, in such matters, of Her Majesty's Government and Loyal Opposition; with Lord Levy in control of Labour's Middle East Policy and Stanley Kalms Conservative Party Treasurer, with Ian Ducan Smith a Duck Shooting partner of Dick Cheyney, is it clear that Lord Palmerston was correct when he stated that - "The British do not have permanent principles but rather permanent interests."

## The Thirteenth Tribe: The history of non-Semitic Jews

Whenever anybody criticises Zionist colonialist excesses or tries to expose the undue influence their lobbyists exert on our public institutions, the cry of anti-Semitism is designed to stifle debate. Below we quote from Arthur Koestler's scholarly exposition "The Thirteenth Tribe" which shows that whilst Arab Palestinians are Semitic, the majority of Israeli Jews are not. There is little wonder why they wear medieval European costumes and take part in, for example, the European Song Festival: They are a latter-day addition to the twelve original tribes of Israel.

"At the beginning of the eighth century the world was polarized between the two super-powers representing Christianity and Islam. Their ideological doctrines were welded to power-politics pursued by the classical methods of propaganda, subversion and military conquest. The Khazar Empire represented a Third Force, which had proved equal to either of them, both as an adver-

sary and an ally. But it could only maintain its independence by accepting neither Christianity nor Islam - for either choice would have automatically subordinated it to the authority of the Roman Emperor or the Caliph of Baghdad. There had been no lack of efforts by either court to convert the Khazars to Christianity or Islam, but all they resulted in was the exchange of diplomatic courtesies,

dynastic inter-marriages and shifting military alliances based on mutual self-interest. Relying on its military strength, the Khazar kingdom, with its hinterland of vassal tribes, was determined to preserve its position as the Third Force, leader of the uncommitted nations of the steppes. At the same time, their intimate contacts with Byzantium and the

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Caliphate had taught the Khazars that their primitive shamanism was not only barbaric and outdated compared to the great monotheistic creeds, but also unable to confer on the leaders the spiritual and legal authority which the rulers of the two theocratic world powers, the Caliph and the Emperor, enjoyed. Yet the conversion to either creed would have meant submission, the end of independence, and thus would have defeated its purpose. What could have been more logical than to embrace a third creed, which was uncommitted towards either of the two, yet represented the venerable foundation of both?"

"Though the Khazar court's conversion was no doubt politically motivated, it would still be absurd to imagine that they embraced overnight, blindly, a religion whose tenets were unknown to them. In fact, however, they had been well acquainted with Jews and their religious observances for at least a century before the conversion, through the continued influx of refugees from religious persecution in Byzantium, and to a lesser extent from countries in Asia Minor conquered by the Arabs. We know that Khazaria was a relatively civilized country among the Barbarians of the North, yet not committed to either of the militant creeds, and so it became a natural haven for the periodic exodus of Jews under Byzantine rule, threatened by forced conversion and other pressures."

"The exiles also brought with them Byzantine arts and crafts, superior methods in agriculture and trade, and the square Hebrew alphabet. We do not know what kind of script the Khazars used before that, but the *Fihrist* of Ibn Nadim,<sup>7</sup> a kind of universal bibliography written circa AD 987, informs us that in his time the Khazars used the Hebrew alphabet. It served the dual purpose of scholarly discourse in Hebrew

(analogous to the use of mediaeval Latin in the West) and as a written alphabet for the various languages spoken in Khazaria (analogous to the use of the Latin alphabet for the various vernaculars in Western Europe). From Khazaria the Hebrew script seemed to have spread into neighbouring countries... Some Hebrew letters (*shin* and *tsadei*) also found their way into the Cyrillic alphabet, and furthermore, many Polish silver coins have been found, dating from the twelfth or thirteenth century, which bear Polish inscriptions in Hebrew lettering (e.g., *Leszek krol Polski* - Leszek King of Poland), side by side with coins inscribed in the Latin alphabet."

"Thus while the conversion was no doubt inspired by opportunistic motives - conceived as a cunning political manoeuvre - it brought in its wake cultural developments which could hardly have been foreseen by those who started it. The Hebrew alphabet was the beginning; three centuries later the decline of the Khazar state is marked by repeated outbreaks of a messianic Zionism, with pseudo-Messiahs like David El-Roi (hero of a novel by Disraeli) leading quixotic crusades for the re-conquest of Jerusalem."

The circumstances of the conversion are obscured by legend, but the principal Arab and Hebrew accounts of it have some basic features in common. Al-Masudi's account of the Jewish rule in Khazaria, quoted earlier on, ends with a reference to a previous work of his, in which he gave a description of those circumstances. That previous work of Masudi's is lost; but there exist two accounts which are based on the lost book. The first, by Dimaski (written in 1327), reiterates that at the time of Harun al Rashid, the Byzantine Emperor forced the Jews to emigrate; these emigrants came to the Khazar country where they found "an intelligent but uneducated race to whom they offered their religion. The natives found it better than

their own and accepted it." The second, much more detailed account is in al-Bakri's *Book of Kingdoms and Roads* (eleventh century)."

"We now turn from the principal Arab source on the conversion - Masudi and his compilers - to the principal Jewish source. This is the so-called "Khazar Correspondence": an exchange of letters, in Hebrew, between Hasdai Ibn Shaprut, the Jewish chief minister of the Caliph of Cordoba, and Joseph, King of the Khazars or, rather, between their respective scribes. The authenticity of the correspondence has been the subject of controversy but is now generally accepted with due allowance made for the vagaries of later copyists."

"The exchange of letters apparently took place after 954 and before 961, that is roughly at the time when Masudi wrote. To appreciate its significance a word must be said about the personality of Hasdai Ibn Shaprut - perhaps the most brilliant figure in the "Golden Age" (900-1200) of the Jews in Spain. In 929, Abd-al-Rahman III, a member of the Omayyad dynasty, succeeded in unifying the Moorish possessions in the southern and central parts of the Iberian peninsula under his rule, and founded the Western Caliphate. His capital, Cordoba, became the glory of Arab Spain, and a focal centre of European culture with a library of 400000 catalogued volumes. Hasdai, born 910 in Cordoba into a distinguished Jewish family, first attracted the Caliph's attention as a medical practitioner with some remarkable cures to his credit. Abd-al-Rahman appointed him his court physician, and trusted his judgment so completely that Hasdai was called upon, first, to put the state finances in order, then to act as Foreign Minister and diplomatic trouble-shooter in the new Caliphate's complex dealings with Byzantium, the German Emperor

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Otto, with Castile, Navarra, Arragon and other Christian kingdoms in the north of Spain. Hasdai was a true uomo universale centuries before the Renaissance who, in between affairs of state, still found the time to translate medical books into Arabic, to correspond with the learned rabbis of Baghdad and to act as a Maecenas for Hebrew grammarians and poets. He obviously was an enlightened, yet a devoted Jew, who used his diplomatic contacts to gather information about the Jewish communities dispersed in various parts of the world, and to intervene on their behalf whenever possible."

"Hasdai first heard of the existence of an independent Jewish kingdom from some merchant traders from Khurasan in Persia; but he doubted the truth of their story. Later he questioned the members of a Byzantine diplomatic mission to Cordoba, and they confirmed the merchants' account, contributing a considerable amount of factual detail about the Khazar kingdom, including the name - Joseph - of its present King. Thereupon Hasdai decided to send couriers with a letter to King Joseph. The letter ... contains a list of questions about the Khazar state, its people, method of government, armed forces, and so on - including an inquiry to which of the twelve tribes Joseph belonged. This seems to indicate that Hasdai thought the Jewish Khazars to hail from Palestine - as the Spanish Jews did - and perhaps even to represent one of the Lost Tribes. Joseph, not being of Jewish descent, belonged, of course, to none of the tribes; in his Reply to Hasdai, he provides, as we shall see, a genealogy of a different kind, but his main concern is to give Hasdai a detailed - if legendary - account of the conversion - which took place two centuries earlier - and the circumstances that led to it."

"Joseph then proceeds to provide a genealogy of his people. Though a fierce Jewish nationalist, proud of wielding the 'sceptre of Judah", he cannot, and does not, claim for them Semitic descent; he traces their ancestry not to Shem, but to Noah's third son, Japheth; or more precisely to Japheth's grandson, Togarma, the ancestor of all Turkish tribes. "We have found in the family registers of our fathers," Joseph asserts boldly, "that Togarma had ten sons, and the names of their offspring are as follows: Uigur, Dursu, Avars, Huns, Basili, Tarniakh, Khazars, Zagora, Bulgars, Sabir. We are the sons of Khazar, the seventh..." The identity of some of these tribes, with names spelt in the Hebrew script is rather dubious, but that hardly matters; the characteristic feature in this genealogical exercise is the amalgamation of Genesis with Turkish tribal tradition.[It also throws a sidelight on the frequent description of the Khazars as the people of Magog. Magog, according to Genesis X, 2-3 was the much maligned uncle of Togarma.] After the genealogy, Joseph mentions briefly some military conquests by his ancestors which carried them as far as the Danube; then follows at great length the story of Bulan's conversion. "From this day onwards," Joseph continues, "the Lord gave him strength and aided him; he had himself and his followers circumcized and sent for Jewish sages who taught him the Law and explained the Commandments." There follow more boasts about military victories, conquered nations, etc., and then a significant passage:

After these events, one of his [Bulan's] grandsons became King; his name was Obadiab, he was a brave and venerated man who reformed the Rule, fortified the Law according to tradition and usage, built synagogues and schools, assembled a multitude of Israel's sages, gave them lavish gifts of gold and silver, and made

them interpret the twenty-four [sacred] books, the Mishna [Precepts] and the Talmud, and the order in which the liturgies are to be said.

This indicates that, about a couple of generations after Bulan, a religious revival or reformation took place (possibly accompanied by a *coup d'état* on the lines envisaged by Artamonov). It seems indeed that the Judaization of the Khazars proceeded in several steps. We remember that King Bulan drove out "the sorcerers and idolators" before the angel appeared to him; and that he made his Covenant with the "true God" before deciding whether He was the Jewish, Christian or Muslim God. It seems highly probable that the conversion of King Bulan and his followers was another intermediary step, that they embraced a primitive or rudimentary form of Judaism, based on the Bible alone, excluding the Talmud, all rabbinical literature, and the observances derived from it. In this respect they resembled the Karaites, a fundamentalist sect which originated in the eighth century in Persia and spread among Jews all over the world particularly in "Little Khazaria", i.e., the Crimea. Dunlop and some other authorities surmised that between Bulan and Obadiah (i.e., roughly between 740 and 800) some form of Karaism prevailed in the country, and that orthodox "Rabbinic" Judaism was only introduced in the course of Obadiah's religious reform. The point is of some importance because Karaism apparently survived in Khazaria to the end, and villages of Turkish-speaking Karaite Jews, obviously of Khazar origin, still existed in modern times... Thus the Judaization of the Khazars was a gradual process which, triggered off by political expediency, slowly penetrated into the deeper strata of their minds and eventually produced the Messianism of

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their period of decline. Their religious commitment survived the collapse of their state, and persisted, as we shall see, in the Khazar-Jewish settlements of Russia and Poland."

"After mentioning Obadiah's religious reforms, Joseph gives a list of his successors:

Hiskia his son, and his son Manasseh, and Chanukah the brother of Obadiah, and Isaac his son, Manasseh his son, Nissi his son, Menahem his son, Benjamin his son, Aaron his son, and I am Joseph, son of Aaron the Blessed, and we were all sons of Kings, and no stranger was allowed to occupy the throne of our fathers.

Next, Joseph attempts to answer Hasdai's questions about the size and topography of his country. But he does not seem to have a competent person at his court who could match the skill of the Arab geographers, and his obscure references to other countries and nations add little to what we know from Ibn Hawkal, Masudi and the other Persian and Arabic sources. He claims to collect tribute from thirty-seven nations - which seems a rather tall proposition; yet Dunlop points out that nine of these appear to be tribes living in the Khazar heartland, and the remaining twenty-eight agree quite well with Ibn Fadlan's mention of twenty-five wives, each the daughter of a vassal king (and also with Eldad ha-Dani's dubious tales). We must further bear in mind the multitude of Slavonic tribes along the upper reaches of the Dnieper and as far as Moscow, which, as we shall see, paid tribute to the Khazars. However that may be, there is no reference in Joseph's letter to a royal harem - only a mention of a single queen and her maids and eunuchs'. These are said to live in one of the three boroughs of Joseph's capital, Itil: "in the second live Israelites, Ishmaelis, Christians and other nations who speak other

languages; the third, which is an island, I inhabit myself, with the princes, bondsmen and all the servants that belong to me."

"The next passage is devoted to the date of the coming of the Messiah:

We have our eyes on the sages of Jerusalem and Babylon, and although we live far away from Zion, we have nevertheless heard that the calculations are erroneous owing to the great profusion of sins, and we know nothing, only the Eternal knows how to keep the count. We have nothing to hold on only the prophecies of Daniel, and may the Eternal speed up our Deliverance."

"Among other Hebrew sources, there is the "Cambridge Document" (so called after its present location in the Cambridge University Library). It was discovered at the end of the last century, together with other priceless documents in the "Cairo Geniza", the store-room of an ancient synagogue, by the Cambridge scholar, Solomon Schechter. The document is in a bad state; it is a letter (or copy of a letter) consisting of about a hundred lines in Hebrew; the beginning and the end are missing, so that it is impossible to know who wrote it and to whom it was addressed. King Joseph is mentioned in it as a contemporary and referred to as "my Lord", Khazaria is called "our land"; so the most plausible inference is that the letter was written by a Khazar Jew of King Joseph's court in Joseph's lifetime, i.e., that it is roughly contemporaneous with the "Khazar Correspondence". Some authorities have further suggested that it was addressed to Hasdai ibn Shaprut, and handed in Constantinople to Hasdai's unsuccessful envoy, Isaac bar Nathan, who brought it back to Cordoba (whence it found its way to Cairo when the Jews were expelled from Spain). At any rate, internal evidence indicates that the document originated not later than in the eleventh century, and more likely in Jo-

seph's lifetime, in the tenth." "About a century after the Khazar Correspondence and the presumed date of the Cambridge Document, Jehuda Halevi wrote his once celebrated book, *Kuzari*, the Khazars. Halevi (1085-1141) is generally considered the greatest Hebrew poet of Spain; the book, however, was written in Arabic and translated later into Hebrew; its sub-title is "The Book of Proof and Argument in Defence of the Despised Faith". Halevi was a Zionist who died on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem; the *Kuzari*, written a year before his death, is a philosophical tract propounding the view that the Jewish nation is the sole mediator between God and the rest of mankind. At the end of history, all other nations will be converted to Judaism; and the conversion of the Khazars appears as a symbol or token of that ultimate event. In spite of its title, the tract has little to say about the Khazar country itself, which serves mainly as a backdrop for yet another legendary account of the conversion - the King, the angel, the Jewish scholar, etc. - and for the philosophical and theological dialogues between the King and the protagonists of the three religions. However, there are a few factual references, which indicate that Halevi had either read the correspondence between Hasdai and Joseph or had other sources of information about the Khazar country."

"Halevi twice, in different places of the book, gives the date of the conversion as having taken place "400 years ago" and "in the year 4500" (according to the Jewish calendar). This points to AD 740, which is the most likely date. All in all, it is a poor harvest as far as factual statements are concerned, from a book that enjoyed immense popularity among the Jews of the Middle Ages. But the mediaeval mind was less attracted by fact than by fable, and the Jews

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were more interested in the date of the coming of the Messiah than in geographical data. The Arab geographers and chroniclers had a similarly cavalier attitude to distances, dates and the frontiers between fact and fancy. This also applies to the famed German-Jewish traveller, Rabbi Petachia of Ratisbon, who visited Eastern Europe and western Asia between 1170 and 1185. His travelogue, *Sibub Ha'olam*, "Journey around the World", was apparently written by a pupil, based on his notes or on dictation. It relates how shocked the good Rabbi was by the primitive observances of the Khazar Jews north of the Crimea, which he attributed to their adherence to the Karaite heresy:

And the Rabbi Petachia asked them: "Why do you not believe in the words of the sages [i.e., the Talmudists]?" They replied: "Because our fathers did not teach them to us." On the eve of the Sabbath they cut all the bread which they eat on the Sabbath. They eat it in the dark, and sit the whole day on one spot. Their prayers consist only of the psalms. [Spending the Sabbath in the dark was a well-known Karaite custom.]

So incensed was the Rabbi that, when he subsequently crossed the Khazar heartland, all he had to say was that it took him eight days, during which "he heard the wailing of women and the barking of dogs". He does mention, however, that while he was in Baghdad, he had seen envoys from the Khazar kingdom looking for needy Jewish scholars from Mesopotamia and even from Egypt, "to teach their children Torah and Talmud". While few Jewish travellers from the West undertook the hazardous journey to the Volga, they recorded encounters with Khazar Jews at all principal centres of the civilized world. Rabbi Petachia met them in Baghdad; Benjamin of Tudela, another famous traveller of the twelfth century, visited Khazar

notables in Constantinople and Alexandria; Ibrahim ben Daud, a contemporary of Judah Halevi's, reports that he had seen in Toledo "some of their descendants, pupils of the wise".

"One eleventh-century Hebrew author, Japheth ibn-Ali, himself a Karaite, explains the word *mamzer*, "bastard", by the example of the Khazars who became Jews without belonging to the Race. His contemporary, Jacob ben-Reuben, reflects the opposite side of this ambivalent attitude by speaking of the Khazars as "a single nation who do not bear the yoke of the exile, but are great warriors paying no tribute to the Gentiles". In summing up the Hebrew sources on the Khazars that have come down to us, one senses a mixed reaction of enthusiasm, scepticism and, above all, bewilderment. A warrior-nation of Turkish Jews must have seemed to the rabbis as strange as a circumcized unicorn.

"As a postscript to the Arab and Hebrew sources relating to the conversion, it should be mentioned that the apparently earliest Christian source antedates them both. At some date earlier than 864, the Westphalian monk, Christian Druthmar of Aquitania, wrote a Latin treatise *Expositio in Evangelium Mattei*, in which he reports that "there exist people under the sky in regions where no Christians can be found, whose name is Gog and Magog, and who are Huns; among them is one, called the Gazari, who are circumcized and observe Judaism in its entirety".

"At about the same time when Druthmar wrote down what he knew from hearsay about the Jewish Khazars, a famed Christian missionary, sent by the Byzantine Emperor, attempted to convert them to Christianity. He was no less a figure than St Cyril, "Apostle of the Slavs", alleged designer of the Cyrillic alphabet. He and his elder brother, St Methodius, were entrusted with this and other proselytizing missions by the Em-

peror Michael III, on the advice of the Patriarch Photius (himself apparently of Khazar descent, for it is reported that the Emperor once called him in anger "Khazar face"). Cyril's proselytizing efforts seem to have been successful among the Slavonic people in Eastern Europe, but not among the Khazars. He travelled to their country via Cherson in the Crimea; in Cherson he is said to have spent six months learning Hebrew in preparation for his mission; he then took the "Khazarian Way" - the Don-Volga portage - to Itil, and from there travelled along the Caspian to meet the Kagan (it is not said where). The usual theological disputations followed, but they had little impact on the Khazar Jews. Even the adulatory *Vita Constantine* (Cyril's original name) says only that Cyril made a good impression on the Kagan, that a few people were baptized and two hundred Christian prisoners were released by the Kagan as a gesture of goodwill. It was the least he could do for the Emperor's envoy who had gone to so much trouble. There is a curious sidelight thrown on the story by students of Slavonic philology. Cyril is credited by tradition not only with having devised the Cyrillic but also the Glagolytic alphabet. The latter, according to Baron, was "used in Croatia to the seventeenth century. Its indebtedness to the Hebrew alphabet in at least eleven characters, representing in part the Slavonic sounds, has long been recognized". (The eleven characters are A, B, V, G, E, K, P, R, S, Sch, T.) This seems to confirm what has been said earlier on about the influence of the Hebrew alphabet in spreading literacy among the neighbours of the Khazars."

"The evidence quoted in previous chapters adds up to a strong case in favour of those modern historians - whether Austrian, Israeli or Polish who, independ-

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ently from each other, have argued that the bulk of modern Jewry is not of Palestinian, but of Caucasian origin. The mainstream of Jewish migrations did not flow from the Mediterranean across France and Germany to the east and then back again. The stream moved in a consistently westerly direction, from the Caucasus through the Ukraine into Poland and thence into Central Europe. When that unprecedented mass-settlement in Poland came into being, there were simply not enough Jews around in the west to account for it; while in the

east a whole nation was on the move to new frontiers. It would of course be foolish to deny that Jews of different origin also contributed to the existing Jewish world-community. The numerical ratio of the Khazar to the Semitic and other contributions is impossible to establish. But the cumulative evidence makes one inclined to agree with the consensus of Polish historians that "in earlier times the main bulk originated from the Khazar country"; and that, accordingly, the Khazar contribution to the genetic make-up of the Jews must be substantial, and in all likelihood dominant."

The Israelis had also attempted to penetrate the offices of other law enforcement and Department of Defense agencies. Strangest of all, the "students" had visited the homes of numerous DEA officers and other senior federal officials.

Reports of the mysterious Israelis with an inexplicable interest in peddling art to G-men came in from more than 40 U.S. cities and continued throughout the first six months of 2001. Agents of the DEA, ATF, Air Force, Secret Service, FBI, and U.S. Marshals Service documented some 130 separate incidents of "art student" encounters. Some of the Israelis were observed diagramming the inside of federal buildings. Some were found carrying photographs they had taken of federal agents. One was discovered with a computer printout in his luggage that referred to "DEA groups."

The document detailing most of this information was an internal DEA memo: a 60-page report drawn up in June 2001 by the DEA's Office of Security Programs. The document was meant only for the eyes of senior officials at the Justice Department (of which the DEA is adjunct), but it was leaked to the press as early as December 2001 and by mid-March had been made widely available to the public.

Here are some examples of its contents:

On March 1, 2001, a DEA special agent in the Tampa division offices "responded to a knock at one of the fifth floor offices. At the door was a young female who immediately identified herself as an Israeli art student who had beautiful art to sell. She was carrying a crudely made portfolio of unframed pictures." Aware of the "art student" alert, the agent invited the girl to an interview room, where he was joined by a colleague to listen to the girl's presentation. "She had approximately 15 paintings of different styles, some copies of famous works, and others similar in style to famous artists. When asked her

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## The art of spying on your "friends"

One of the strangest American stories after September 11 is that of an Israeli spy ring posing as art students. It is peculiar not only as the largest Israeli spy scandal in the USA, but also in the way it is being hushed up in the media and by politicians.

In March 2001, the Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive (NCIX), a branch of the CIA, issued a heads-up to federal employees about "suspicious visitors to federal facilities." The warning noted that "employees have observed both males and females attempting to bypass facility security and enter federal buildings." Federal agents, the warning stated, had "arrested two of these individuals for trespassing and discovered that the suspects possessed counterfeit work visas and green cards."

In the wake of the NCIX bulletin, federal officials raised several other red flags, including an Air Force alert, a Federal Protective Services alert, an Office of National Drug Control Policy security alert and a request that the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) investigate a specific case. Officials began dealing more aggressively with the "art students." According to one account, some 140 Israeli nationals were detained or arrested between March 2001 and Sept. 11, 2001.

Many of them were deported. According to the INS, the deportations resulted from violations of student visas that forbade the Israelis from working in the United States.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, many more young Israelis — 60, according to one AP dispatch and other reports — were detained and deported.

In some cases, the Israelis visited locations not known to the public — areas without street addresses, for example, or DEA offices not identified as such — leading authorities to suspect that information had been gathered from prior surveillance or perhaps electronically, from credit cards and other sources. One Israeli was discovered holding banking receipts for substantial sums of money, close to \$180,000 in withdrawals and deposits over a two-month period.

According to the reports, young Israelis claiming to be art students and offering artwork for sale had been attempting to penetrate DEA offices for over a year.

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### Spying on your friends

name, she identified herself as Bella Pollcson, and pointed out one of the paintings was signed by that name." Then things got interesting: In the middle of her presentation, she changed her story and claimed that the paintings were not for sale, but "that she was there to promote an art show in Sarasota, Fla., and asked for the agents' business cards so that information regarding the show could be mailed to them." Well, where's the show? asked the agents. When's it going up? Pollcson couldn't say: didn't know when or where — or even who was running it. Later it was determined that she had lied about her name as well.

On Oct. 20, 2000, in the Houston offices of the DEA, a "male Israeli art student was observed by the Security Officers [entering] an elevator from a secure area. [The officers] were able to apprehend the art student before he could enter a secure area on the second floor." Three months later, in January 2001, a "male Israeli" was apprehended attempting to enter the same building from a back door in a "secured parking lot area." He claimed "he wanted to gain access to the building to sell artwork."

On April 30, 2001, an Air Force alert was issued from Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City concerning "possible intelligence collection being conducted by Israeli Art Students." Tinker AFB houses AWACS surveillance craft and Stealth bombers. The report does not elaborate on what kind of intelligence was being sought.

On May 19, 2001, two Israeli nationals "requested permission to visit a museum" at Volk Field Air National Guard Base in Camp Douglas, Wis. "Approximately ten minutes after being allowed on the base, the two were seen on an active runway, taking photographs." The men, charged with misdemeanor trespass, were identified as 26-year-old Gal Kantor

and 22-year-old Tsvi Watermann, and were released after paying a \$210 fine. According to the Air Force security officer on duty, "Both were asked if they were involved in the selling of art while in the U.S. Kantor became very upset over this, and questioned why they were being asked about that ... Kantor's whole demeanor changed, and he then became uncooperative."

So it went week after week, month after month, for more than a year and a half. In addition to the locations mentioned above, there were "art student" encounters in Atlanta, Chicago, Denver, Detroit, El Paso, Los Angeles, Miami, Orlando, New Orleans, Phoenix, San Diego, Little Rock, Seattle, Washington, D.C., Arlington, Texas, Albuquerque, and dozens of other small cities and towns.

"Their stories," the DEA report states, "were remarkable only in their consistency. At first, they will state that they are art students, either from the University of Jerusalem or the Bezalel Academy of Arts in Jerusalem. Other times they will purport to be promoting a new art studio in the area. When pressed for details as to the location of the art studio or why they are selling the paintings, they become evasive."

They had reason to be nervous, because they were lying. None of the students was registered at the Bezalel Academy of Arts, either as current student or as a graduate of the past 10 years (nor had any of the "students" tried to apply to Bezalel in the last ten years). As for the University of Jerusalem, there is no such entity. There is the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, but it is commonly referred to as Hebrew University, not the University of Jerusalem.

The story first broke in the media when on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2001 Texas newswoman Anna Werner, of KHOU-TV in Houston, told viewers about a "curious pattern of behavior" by people with "Middle Eastern looks" claiming to be Israeli art students. "Government guards have found those

so-called students," reported Werner, "trying to get into [secure federal facilities in Houston] in ways they're not supposed to — through back doors and parking garages." Federal agents, she said, were extremely "concerned." The possibility was mentioned that such activity suggested a terrorist organization "scouting out potential targets and ... looking for targets that would be vulnerable."

Carl Cameron of the Fox News Channel also investigated the art students as a possible arm of Israeli espionage operations tracking al-Qaida operatives in the United States, trailing al-Qaida members in the weeks and months before September 11. He suggested that they may have known about the preparations for the September 11 attacks but failed to share this knowledge with U.S. intelligence. However, the story did not attract the sort of attention one would normally expect to be given to such explosive news suggesting a possible link to the dramatic events which shook America at the time.

Only when the French publication Intelligence Online drew attention to the events and its story was picked up by the French Daily Le Monde, which claimed that a major Israeli spy ring orchestrated by the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad had been operating in the United States, did Reuters and other news agencies pick up the story. Le Monde had unearthed a connection between some of the art students and a former Israeli vice consul to the United States who had put substantial resources at their disposal. Many of them also had a background in Israeli military intelligence or electronics surveillance; some had high ranking positions in the Israeli army. The Washington Post, however, dismissed the story as a widespread myth circulating for months but without substance.

What is more, only after Cameron had broadcast his inves-

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### Spying on your friends

tigation, all traces of his report - transcripts, Web links, headlines - disappeared from the Foxnews.com archives. When Le Monde contacted Fox in March for a copy of the original tapes, Fox News spokesmen said the request posed a problem but would not elaborate; they now say the request had never been made. Asked why the Cameron piece disappeared, spokesman Robert Zimmerman said it had been moved to the archives because of bandwidth restrictions, but when told that it could not be found in the archives either, he replied: "I don't know where it is."

In a further twist, it has just been announced that Israeli

"spy-phone" company Comverse Infosys is now buying into the Instant Messaging business through Odigo, the largest Instant Messaging company. Odigo is the Israeli-owned company whose employees received a two-hour advance warning to leave their offices on September 11.

Given the increased recruitment campaigns for the Israeli intelligence service Mossad in the United States during the months prior to September 11 (in fact there is an ongoing Mossad recruitment for operatives with foreign languages like Arabic and Urdu), the most benign explanation for the art students' saga may be that it has been a training exercise for new recruits.

"Walker was one of Hitler's most powerful financial supporters in the United States. The relationship went all the way back to 1924, when Fritz Thyssen, the German industrialist, was financing Hitler's infant Nazi party. As mentioned in earlier chapters, there were American contributors as well.

"Some Americans were just bigots and made their connections to Germany through Allen Dulles's firm of Sullivan and Cromwell because they supported Fascism. The Dulles brothers, who were in it for profit more than ideology, arranged American investments in Nazi Germany in the 1930s to ensure that their clients did well out of the German economic recovery . . .

"Sullivan & Cromwell was not the only firm engaged in funding Germany. According to 'The Splendid Blond Beast,' Christopher Simpson's seminal history of the politics of genocide and profit, Brown Brothers, Harriman was another bank that specialized in investments in Germany. The key figure was Averill Harriman, a dominating figure in the American establishment. . . .

"The firm originally was known as W. A. Harriman & Company. The link between Harriman & Company's American investors and Thyssen started in the 1920s, through the Union Banking Corporation, which began trading in 1924. In just one three-year period, the Harriman firm sold more than \$50 million of German bonds to American investors. 'Bert' Walker was Union Banking's president, and the firm was located in the offices of Averill Harriman's company at 39 Broadway in New York.

"In 1926 Bert Walker did a favor for his new son-in-law, Prescott Bush. It was the sort of favor families do to help their children make a start in life, but Prescott came to regret it bitterly. Walker made Prescott vice president of W. A. Harriman. The problem was that Walker's spe-

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## The Evil of power politics

When George Bush Junior declared his war on the axis of evil, he was couching into moral language a much more sinister agenda, and for those who believed his motives to be genuine, his support for Israel's excesses appears to contradict the general theme of war on terrorism. Ordinary people do not grasp the cynicism of the power oligarchies ruling our world. The Bush family, along with other American political and industrial movers, have a long history of aiding and abetting terror to further their own ends.

Today America (and Britain) arms both Pakistan and India in order to generate a conflict which will install the United States as an overlord in the region, further securing the influence gained in the oil pipeline protection war against Afghanistan. Whilst Pakistani president Musharraf is sabre-rattling against India, he nonetheless promises to guarantee their supplies of natural gas even if hostilities were to break out. In an added twist, India is presently also increasing military and intelligence cooperation with Israel. There are clear historic parallels to this Asian enterprise in the American involvement in Europe at the beginning of the last century. In an open letter to Americans, which actually is about the prohibition of marijuana, R. William Davis documents the Bush dynasty's in-

volvement in bringing the Nazis to power and keeping them there before and during the war (for original references see <http://www.sumeria.net/politics/shadv3.html>):

"Loftus and Aarons write: "The real story of George Bush starts well before he launched his own career. It goes back to the 1920s, when the Dulles brothers and the other pirates of Wall Street were making their deals with the Nazis..."

"George Bush's problems were inherited from his namesake and maternal grandfather, George Herbert 'Bert' Walker, a native of St. Louis, who founded the banking and investment firm of G. H. Walker and Company in 1900. Later the company shifted from St. Louis to the prestigious address of 1 Wall Street. . . .

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## Evil Bush

cialty was companies that traded with Germany. As Thyssen and the other German industrialists consolidated Hitler's political power in the 1930s, an American financial connection was needed. According to our sources, Union Banking became an out-and-out Nazi money-laundering machine... "In [1931], Harriman & Company merged with a British-American investment company to become Brown Brothers, Harriman. Prescott Bush became one of the senior partners of the new company, which relocated to 59 Broadway, while Union Banking remained at 39 Broadway. But in 1934 Walker arranged to put his son-in-law on the board of directors of Union Banking.

"Walker also set up a deal to take over the North American operations of the Hamburg-Amerika Line, a cover for I.G. Farben's Nazi espionage unit in the United States. The shipping line smuggled in German agents, propaganda, and money for bribing American politicians to see things Hitler's way. The holding company was Walker's American Shipping & Commerce, which

shared the offices at 39 Broadway with Union Banking. In an elaborate corporate paper trail, Harriman's stock in American Shipping & Commerce was controlled by yet another holding company, the Harriman Fifteen Corporation, run out of Walker's office. The directors of this company were Averill Harriman, Bert Walker, and Prescott Bush. . . .

". . . In a November 1935 article in *Common Sense* [not the Islamic Party one!, ed.], retired marine general Smedley D. Butler blamed Brown Brothers, Harriman for having the U.S. marines act like 'racketeers' and 'gangsters' in order to exploit financially the peasants of Nicaragua. . . .

". . . A 1934 congressional investigation alleged that Walker's 'Hamburg-Amerika Line subsidized a wide range of pro-Nazi propaganda efforts both in Germany and the United States.' Walker did not know it, but one of his American employees, Dan Harkins, had blown the whistle on the spy apparatus to Congress. Harkins, one of our best sources, became Roosevelt's first double agent . . . [and] kept up the pretense of being an ardent Nazi sympathizer, while reporting to Naval Intelligence on the ship-

ping company's deals with Nazi intelligence.

"Instead of divesting the Nazi money," continue the authors, "Bush hired a lawyer to hide the assets. The lawyer he hired had considerable expertise in such underhanded schemes. It was Allen Dulles. According to Dulles's client list at Sullivan & Cromwell, his first relationship with Brown Brothers, Harriman was on June 18, 1936. In January 1937 Dulles listed his work for the firm as 'Disposal of Stan [Standard Oil] Investing stock.'

"As discussed in Chapter 3, Standard Oil of New Jersey had completed a major stock transaction with Dulles's Nazi client, I.G. Farben. By the end of January 1937 Dulles had merged all his cloaking activities into one client account: 'Brown Brothers Harriman-Schroeder Rock.' Schroeder, of course, was the Nazi bank on whose board Dulles sat. The 'Rock' were the Rockefellers of Standard Oil, who were already coming under scrutiny for their Nazi deals. By May 1939 Dulles handled another problem for Brown Brothers, Harriman, their 'Securities Custodian Accounts.'

"If Dulles was trying to conceal how many Nazi holding companies Brown Brothers, Harriman was connected with, he did not do a very good job. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, word leaked from Washington that affiliates of Prescott Bush's company were under investigation for aiding the Nazis in time of war. . . .

". . . The government investigation against Prescott Bush continued. Just before the storm broke, his son, George, abandoned his plans to enter Yale and enlisted in the U.S. Army. It was, say our sources among the former intelligence officers, a valiant attempt by an eighteen-year-old boy to save the family's honor.

"Young George was in flight school in October 1942, when the U.S. government charged his fa-

## The cost of occupation

Israel would not survive as a separate state without the ongoing supply of arms, aid, and military technology by the United States. Since 1976, Israel had been the largest annual recipient of U.S. foreign assistance, totalling \$81.3 billion over the last half century and currently running at about \$3 billion a year, with about \$1.8 billion a year in Foreign Military Financing (FMF) grants from the Department of Defense and an additional \$1.2 billion a year in Economic Support Funds (ESF) from the Department of State. 17% of all U.S. foreign aid is earmarked for Israel.

Israel is one of the United State's largest arms importers. In the last decade, the United States has sold Israel \$7.2 billion in weaponry and military equipment, \$762 million through Direct Commercial Sales (DCS), and more than \$6.5 billion through the Foreign Military Financing (FMF) program.

Israel has the world's largest fleet of F-16s outside the U.S., currently possessing more than 200 jets. Another 102 F-16s are on order from Lockheed Martin.

The United States has also underwritten Israel's domestic armaments industry, by giving:

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### The cost of occupation

- \$1.3 billion to develop the Lavi aircraft (cancelled)
- \$625 million to develop and deploy the Arrow anti-missile missile (an ongoing project)
- \$200 million to develop the Merkava tank (operative); the latest version, the Merkava 4, uses a German V-12 diesel engine produced under license in the U.S. by General Dynamics
- \$130 million to develop the high-energy laser anti-missile system (ongoing).

The U.S. also gives Israel weapons and ammunition as part of the Excess Defense Articles (EDA) program, providing these articles completely free of charge. Between 1994-2001 the U.S. provided many weapons through this program, including:

- 64,744 M-16A1 rifles
- 2,469 M-204 grenade launchers
- 1,500 M-2 0.50 caliber machine guns
- 0.30 caliber, 0.50 caliber, and 20mm ammunition

The Israeli Arsenal contains, amongst others, the following US weaponry:

50 F-4E Phantoms, 98 F-15 Eagles, 237 F-16 Fighting Falcons, 42 AH-64 Apache Attack Helicopters, 57 Cobra Attack Helicopters, 38 CH-53D Sea Stallion Helicopters, 25 Blackhawk Helicopters, various missile systems (Maverick, Hellfire, TOW, Sparrow, Sidewinder, AMRAAM, Patriot, and Harpoon and Anti-Ship Missiles).

Thousands of Palestinians have thus been killed and tens of thousands been wounded by American weaponry which by US laws are prohibited from being used for non-defensive purposes. Israel would, of course, claim that all its actions are in defence of its security, but this view is neither shared by human rights organisations nor the UN whose employees have also been amongst the casualties.

Speaking at a briefing of the Center for Policy Analysis on Palestine (CPAP) in May 2002, Thomas Stauffer, an international oil and finance consultant, added to these direct costs the indirect costs to the American public for their governments uncritical support of Israel, citing the need for foreign aid to other countries as a result of America's support for Israel and the billions of dollars in lost trade, contracts, jobs, and business ventures in the Middle East.

U.S. aid to Turkey, which amounts to billions of dollars annually, is linked to Turkey's relationship with Israel, which in turn is linked to U.S. policy toward Israel. Billions of dollars in U.S. aid to Central Asian countries, under the pretext of promoting emerging democracies, are part of U.S. efforts to confine Iran, which again is tied to U.S. policy toward Israel. The same applies to the countries of the Caucasus. Contributions by Jewish organizations and individuals are another element of consequential aid to Israel. These latter contributions, averaging from \$1-1.5 billion are tax-deductible.

Then there are other, even harder to track forms of aid because there is no government overview. One example comes from the Central Bank of Israel's statistics which show that in the 1980s the United States bailed out the Israeli banking system at a cost of \$10-12 billion. Americans probably never knew this because there is no trace of the money in American records. Israel has never returned the money and is unlikely to be asked to return it. Furthermore, the United States has undertaken loan guarantees from various sources totalling about \$10 billion, of which \$7 billion have been initialled. Stauffer called this a "contingent liability" on the United States, because Israel has no prospect of repayment.

Jewish immigration from Russia to Israel, also a hidden cost, is subsidised by the United States with some \$60-100,000 million

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### Evil Bush

ther with running Nazi front groups in the United States. Under the Trading with the Enemy Act, all the shares of the Union Banking Corporation were seized, including those held by Prescott Bush as being in effect held for enemy nationals. Union Banking, of course, was an affiliate of Brown Brothers, Harriman, and Bush handled the Harrimans' investments as well.

"Once the government had its hands on Bush's books, the whole story of the intricate web of Nazi front corporations began to unravel. A few days later two of Union Banking's subsidiaries — the Holland American Trading Corporation and the Seamless Steel Equipment Corporation — also were seized. Then the government went after the Harriman Fifteen Holding Company, which Bush shared with his father-in-law, Bert Walker, the Hamburg-Amerika Line, and the Silesian-American Corporation. The U.S. government found that huge sections of Prescott Bush's empire had been operated on behalf of Nazi Germany and had greatly assisted the German war effort."

annually. And then there are the losses to U.S. military institutions. According to Stauffer, the United States has poured billions of dollars into Israeli military technology, technology that is in direct competition with that of the U.S., citing the Israeli Lavi fighter program and Arrow missile system as examples. Israel enjoys large discounts on what are considered "surplus" U.S. arms, and Israeli military firms have the upper hand in relationships with U.S. military firms. U.S. contractors are required to subcontract Israeli firms for military components, subcontracts that would otherwise have gone to American firms. Furthermore, for every dollar of military equip-

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### The cost of occupation

ment the United States gives Israel, the United States buys 60 cents worth of Israeli equipment. The difference here is that while the United States pays with real money, Israel does not.

Another "consequential" cost to the U.S. economy with a potential price tag of \$20-30 billion a day is the oil supplies guarantee. Should Israel's oil supply be cut off, the United States guarantees to provide Israel with oil regardless of U.S. oil supply levels.

Another hidden cost to the U.S. economy with a direct effect on the American people is trade losses with Israel and with those countries Israel perceives as hostile. Stauffer's data reveal that the United States' trade deficit with

Israel is about \$5-5.5 billion. One reason for this is that Israel, for example, can buy textile from China, re-label it, and sell it to the United States duty-free. But the real reason behind the losses, said Stauffer, is the trade imbalance between the United States and Israel. While the United States pays real money for its imports from Israel, Israel does not pay real money for its imports from the United States. The result is an annual trade imbalance of just under \$10 billion. In terms of jobs, that comes to about a quarter of a million American jobs lost.

U.S. sanctions on Libya, Syria, Iran, and Iraq-sanctions linked to U.S. policy toward Israel-are costing the U.S. economy about \$14 billion annually in potential trade, Stauffer added, basing his calculations on trade and eco-

nomics studies. The sanctions, which only affect U.S. companies and not their competitors, translate into 500,000 to 600,000 in lost U.S. jobs. U.S. policy toward Iraq, presented to the American people in terms of protecting Gulf oil supplies, is really meant to weaken Iraq, seen by Israel as a potential threat. The Israeli lobby in the United States has foiled major U.S. trade contracts with Arab and Muslim countries, like the 1980s aircraft sales contract with Saudi Arabia that cost the U.S. economy between \$20-25 billion annually.

In return Zionist organisations in the United States sweeten the pill by providing political financing for Democrats and Republicans during election campaigns. The American public, on the other hand, are the net losers.

## Jewish opposition to occupation

The excesses of Sharon's government have been such that even erstwhile ardent Zionists have started speaking out against them. We give room to Jewish voices here, which either do not agree with Zionism at all, or do not agree with the means by which the idea of Zionism has been furthered in Israel, turning the country into an apartheid state.

I. Heichler, retired senior diplomat, born in Austria in 1925 where he lived under German rule from 1938 to 1940. He then managed to escape with his immediate family to the United States. Mr. Heichler served in the US Army during World War II, becoming a US citizen in 1944. He entered the Foreign Service in 1954 and retired as a minister-counselor in the American Foreign Service in 1986 after serving at seven posts abroad, in addition to Washington DC.

"As a Jewish refugee from the Nazis who narrowly escaped the Holocaust, I feel free to express negative views of the Zionist experiment, Israel's policies, and one-sided US support of Israel without fear of being instantly branded a Jew-hater. Jewishness, I insist, does not require me to support Zionism. I may belong to a minority, but I count myself among the Jews who oppose the Zionist movement. Perhaps it was in part because of Nazi insistence on defining me as a member of a

different, "non-Aryan" race that already as a boy I came to regard Judaism as first and foremost a religious faith and community. As a young teenager in Nazi-occupied Austria, I was offended by what struck me as parallels between Nazi and Zionist definitions of the Jews as an ethnic group.

When I first read *The Jewish State*, the "bible" of the Zionist movement written by founder Theodor Herzl (comparable in its political influence to *Uncle Tom's Cabin*), I came across the naive, romantic slogan coined by this Austrian Jewish journalist, "People without land, come to the land without people!" That sentence alone persuaded me to regard the Zionist experiment in Palestine as based on a hopelessly unrealistic premise, doomed to create the tragic, insoluble problem which now confronts us daily in news, in order to keep the issue alive as a weapon to use against Israel. Today the population of the territories occupied since 1967 is growing much faster than

that of Israel, and there is no obvious solution to that equation.

If I could envisage a reasonably quick and comprehensive solution to the crisis in Israel/Palestine, I would not have entitled this US piece "The Insoluble Problem." I do believe that certain steps are possible to mitigate the crisis, but here, too, I am pessimistic that moderate or even drastic changes in American policy will improve our relations with the region, at least over the short term.

I advocate that we adopt a much tougher stance, using our massive assistance program much more effectively as leverage to insist on Israeli compliance with UN resolutions and our long-standing demands that settlement construction cease. Already existing settlements in the occupied territories should be dismantled. As for our dealings with the Palestinian side, there is a steady deterioration of Jewish-Palestinian

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## Jewish opposition

relations and to a dead end. One could ask whether: Israel might have done better to face the wrath of the world and openly annex the conquered lands back in 1967 rather than render their occupation irreversible through the back-door method of building all these settlements.

Instead, Israel has succeeded only in creating three classes or, better yet, "castes" of people: Jewish citizens of Israel; Palestinians with citizenship rights in Israel proper; Palestinians living in the occupied territories without any apparent rights or protection against arbitrary measures taken against them by the Israeli authorities. Is it possible to imagine a surer recipe for anger, hatred and violence?

In the event of withdrawal, Israel must repatriate the settlers, daunting though the size of the problem (200,000 people) makes this task. But they cannot be left behind without facing almost certain slaughter.

I am deeply skeptical that the "Palestinians will find not only the PLO, Hamas, the Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, al Qaeda, El Sendero Luminoso and so on and so forth, ad infinitum, guilty of terrorism, but equally so the government of Ariel Sharon with his brutal and futile efforts to impose "peace" on the Occupied Territories, equally guilty the increasingly brutal Israeli military which is harassing, maiming and killing innocent people, including women and children, wantonly razing civilian homes, tearing up their streets and roads, keeping people pent up and prevented from going where they need to go in order to earn a livelihood. Can there be a more cruel historical irony than Jews inflicting on Palestine's native population forms of harassment, suffering and horrors reminiscent of what their forefathers were condemned to experience at the hands of the Nazis half a century ago? A plague

on both their houses, I say-Arab and Israeli terrorists both in their pursuit of policies and actions which create no solutions but only more rage, more violence, must be automatic, even at the expense of American interests in the Middle East and around the world. I fear that the consistent US "tilt" toward Israel, our unwavering support of Israeli policy, stems from fear by our elected officials of a specter called "the Jewish vote." I fervently hope that this "Jewish vote" is a political myth, that in reality there is no such bloc vote. Having suffered Nazi hatred and persecution at first hand, I am like the child "once burned, twice careful," and I worry that, fed by blind support of Israeli policies and actions by many American Jews, and by powerful lobbies like AIPAC (the America-Israel Public Affairs Committee) and even the terrorist gang known as the Jewish Defense League, Anti-Semitism may increase rapidly in America.

I fear that blind Jewish support of Israel will sooner or later give rise to suspicions of divided loyalty. It may seem absurd (for now), but as a retired US Foreign Service officer, I have nightmarish visions of the Jewish state."

Rabbi Michael Lerner

"Many rabbis and professionals have told me recently that they fear for their jobs should they even begin to articulate their doubts about Israeli policy—much less give explicit support to calls for an end to the occupation."

Rivka Mitchell, Israeli actress  
"It is no longer my country"

"For me, this business called the state of Israel is finished... I can't bear to see it anymore, the injustice that is done to the Arabs, to the Beduins. All kinds of scum coming from America and as soon as they get off the plane taking over lands in the territories and claiming it for their own...I can't do anything to change it. I

can only go away and let the whole lot go to hell without me."

Geraldo Rivera, American talk show host

Israel is "inflicting, not fighting, terrorism"

"I have been a Zionist my entire life. I would die for Israel. But watching the suffering of the Palestinian people, I'm also becoming a Palestinian-ist."—

"You can't round up Palestinian young men and put numbers on their arms to make it easier to identify them." "That reminds the world, that reminds Jews, of what Hitler and the Nazi pigs inflicted on the Jewish race during the Second World War."

Liz Spikol (Reporter, Philadelphia Weekly)

"In my experience as a Jewish reporter, I've heard a great deal about "not airing our dirty laundry." I have often been told—verbally, in Jewish publications and in synagogues—that even if I have doubts about the Israeli government and its treatment of Palestinians, I should keep quiet about it and be steadfast in my support of a nation that needs to exist. And I was happy to oblige, because wasn't it important, above all, that Israel endure—this vulnerable and a relatively new country penned in by nations that would like to make it disappear?

But now Israel has crossed a line, and I—and many, many American Jews like me—will not be able to cross it with them.

I have always loved Israel as much as my own country, and I always believed I would move there one day, even if it was two days before I died. The desire to "return" to Israel is a current of longing that runs, I think, through the blood of many American Jews. And I am no exception.

Yet these days it strikes me as ridiculous that while the "law of return" allows me to go to Israel and live there as a Jewish citizen, no questions asked, people who

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## Jewish opposition

are born there—Palestinians—don't have the rights I would enjoy if I moved there. What's wrong with that picture?

Israel's defensive politics reminds me of basketball, of all things. Some players are defensive players—that's what they do and that's what they're good at. But when called upon to play offense, they go too far because they're afraid of not doing enough. Those players are the dangerous ones, because you never know when they'll elbow you in the ribs to make a play.

Israel has been on the defensive since 1948, and there's no question that for the most part, that was the only way to play the game. But over the years, that defense has looked more and more like a hostile and brutal offense. How many lives need to be destroyed before Israel's immunization from harm is ensured?

I'm frankly embarrassed that Israel, in the name of preventing further oppression of the Jews, has now become the oppressor. The hypocrisy is enraging. And as an American Jew, I'm ashamed of my own government's lack of action.

Are Palestinians less deserving of freedom and independence than, say, Bosnians or South Africans? Why was it a terrible thing to intern Japanese during World War II but acceptable to intern generations of Palestinians in the same kinds of camps? I can't take the double standard anymore.

And though people don't want to talk about it, this is also about race. Here in the U.S., the rhetoric of racism was fashioned by slavery, by World War II, by Ezra Pound—the list goes on. That's why it's shocking to hear Jews talk about Arabs using similar terminology, including lampooning physical characteristics and religious beliefs.

A couple days ago, I was surfing MSNBC.com and found a photo that represents the physical and racial divide between Israelis

and Palestinians. Two Israeli soldiers stand above a bloody dead body as another Israeli soldier takes their picture. One soldier stands proudly, hand on gun. The other is looking down at the body and smiling.

It's the most disturbing photo. It reminds you of those corny snapshots of a guy holding a big fish aloft, proud of his catch. Only this time it's a Palestinian, not a fish.

At this point, neither side can see the other as human beings. Suicide bombers and their terrorist brethren don't think about the lives of the individuals they kill. They think of them only in terms of death: How many did we get this time?

Now I'm worried about what we won't see on TV. In online reports from international observers, I read about two ambulances stopped by Israeli forces in Ramallah. One belonged to the Palestinian Red Crescent Society and the other to the Ministry of Health. In both cases the crew, including paramedics, were arrested. Later on, even the injured were arrested. Denying medical aid is something U.N. peacekeeping forces would never allow—nor is it something the U.S. would condone in any context but this one.

For those of us who have been too afraid to question events—not wanting to be disloyal and ever afraid that such doubts would consign Israel to a bleak fate—we must ask ourselves now what purpose our silence has served. Has our passivity played a role in securing a place for Ariel Sharon, who every day gets closer to the kind of military despotism Jews have feared for years? On the other hand, if we are willing to speak, what can we say about a man, a government, that is utterly without humanity?

Don't get me wrong: I am equally—and to be honest, sometimes more—devastated by the injuries on the Israeli side. I have cousins and friends living in Israel and I fear for their safety. I also fear for Israel itself. More

than anything, I want it to prosper. But for now—and for a change—I'm going to concern myself with justice, not sentimentality. I may be called a traitor, but I won't be silent anymore."

Assaf Oron, An Open Letter to American Jews, Passover Eve, 2002

"Dear People, Yesterday I was informed of an interesting phenomenon: a peace-supporting Jewish organization called Tikkun published an ad in favor of us, the Israeli reservist refuseniks, and was immediately bombarded with hate mails and phones from other American Jews. What is more interesting is that even other Jews considering themselves supporters of peace have denounced the Tikkun ad, to the extent that some of the Tikkun Advisory Board members are resigning in order to minimize the personal damage to themselves. This has so saddened, alarmed and angered me, that I find myself setting aside a half-day at the eve of Passover, and writing this open letter to you all. As is my habit, it is quite long, so please bear with me.

Most of the 'civilized' attacks, so I understand, were seemingly aimed at this or that detail of the Tikkun ad. This is nothing new to me... They range from petty nit-picking to plain ludicrous, and each and every one of them can be refuted to dust in a matter of minutes. But the moment you refute them, new specific arguments sprout up like mushrooms. It is clear that there is something very general and non-specific behind all this criticism.

Therefore, if you allow me, I will start from the general and only later turn to a couple of these specific issues.

The general theme is the tribal theme. A very very loud voice (and in Israel nowadays, it is the only voice that is allowed to be fully heard) keeps shouting that we are in the midst of a war between two tribes: a tribe of human

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beings, of pure good - the Israelis and a tribe of sub-human beings, of pure evil - the Palestinians. This voice is so loud, that it has found its way even to the op-ed pages of the New York Times (William Safire, March 24 or 25). To those who find this black-and-white picture a bit hard to believe, the same voice shouts that this is a war of life and death. Only one tribe will survive, and so even if we are not purely good, we must lay morality and conscience to sleep, shut up and fight to kill—or else, the Palestinians will throw us into the sea.

Does this ring a bell to you? It does to me. As a little child growing up in Israel under Golda Meir and Moshe Dayan, all I heard was that the Arabs are inhuman monsters who want to throw us into the sea, they understand only force, and since our wonderful IDF has won the Six Day War they know not to mess with us anymore—or else. And of course, we must keep the Liberated Territories to ourselves, because there's no one to talk with. Then came the Yom Kippur war, and for a child of 7 it was the perfect proof that indeed the Arabs want to throw us into the sea, and what a great opportunity it was for our glorious IDF to teach them a lesson.

I prayed for the war to continue to its natural and final end — the complete surrender of all Arab armies. I was too small to evaluate, then, how the war really ended; all these cease-fires and talks were too complicated and boring, much more boring than a war. And it seemed humiliating that WE should withdraw in these cease-fires; I remember that the re-opening of the Suez Canal was portrayed in our mass media as a kind of defeat.

A few years passed and a funny thing happened: those throw-us-into-the-sea Arabs came to talk with us, and in exchange for all of Sinai they would

sign a full peace. The IDF chief of staff (the late Motte Gur, later a Labor Party minister) shouted that it is a hoax, that we should not believe Saadat, but the politicians had to sign. Already a teenager, I went and protested against the withdrawal from Sinai. It seemed strange to me that most of the demonstrators were orthodox Jews.

After all, it was a purely logical issue: the Arabs are not to be trusted, that's what we've learned from day one. Well, lucky for the country, the government and the majority of the people employed a different logic, and the peace with Egypt was not missed.

But the throw-us-into-the-sea paradigm immediately found new fields for play. There was an inconvenient reality on the Northern border, and even though the forces on the other side (Palestinians! Phew!) had strictly adhered to a secret cease-fire for about a year, they were Arabs and therefore could not be trusted. So we talked ourselves into invading Lebanon and setting up a friendlier regime there. The mastermind of the invasion was defense minister Ariel Sharon, and Shimon Peres, then head of opposition, voted together with his party in favor of the invasion. Only later, when it turned sour, and after many refuseniks already sat in jail, would the main opposition turn against the whole affair. For me at 16 it was also a turning point. When I understood that the government had lied to me in order to sell me this war, I turned from 'center-rightist' to 'leftist'. Sadly enough, it has taken me almost 20 more years, in a slow and painful process, to understand how deeply the lies and self-delusion are rooted in our collective perception of reality.

Anyway, when Peres withdrew most of our forces from Lebanon in 1985, the Arabs could still not be trusted. And so, to soothe our endless paranoia and suspicion, we created that perpetual source of death and crime ironically known as "the Security

Zone." It took many years, a lot of blood and Four Mothers against almost all politicians, generals, and columnists to finally pull us out of Lebanon. In the long and hard way, we learned that even the Lebanese are human beings whose rights must be respected.

But not the Palestinians. Because the Palestinians are too painfully close, like a rival sibling (and may I add because they have always been so weak), we have singled them out for a special treatment. Having them under our rule, we've allowed ourselves to trample them like dirt, like dogs. We've been doing it even to our own Palestinian citizens (especially before 1966), but we have perfected our treatment in this strange no man's land created in 1967, and known as the Occupied Territories. There we have created an entirely hallucinatory reality, in which the true humans, members of the Nation of Masters, could move and settle freely and safely, while the sub-humans, the Nation of Slaves, were shoved into the corners, and kept invisible and controlled under our IDF boots.

I know. I've been there. I was taught how to do this, back in the mid-1980's. I did and witnessed as a matter of fact, deeds that I'm ashamed to remember to this day. And fortunately for me, I did not have to witness or do anything truly "pornographic", as some friends of mine experienced.

Since 1987, this cruel, impossible, unnatural, insulting reality in the Territories has been exploding in our face. But because of our unshakable belief that the Palestinians are monsters who want to throw us into the sea, we reacted by trying to maintain what we've created at all costs. This meant of course employing more and more and more force, with the natural result of receiving more and more and more force in return. When a fledgling and hesitating peace process tried to work its way through this mess, one major fac-

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tor (perhaps THE factor) that undermined it and voided its meaning was our establishment's endless fear and suspicion of The Other. To resolve this fear and suspicion, we chose the insane route of demanding full control of The Other throughout the process. When this Other finally decided that we're cheating him out of his freedom (and having too many mental disorders of his own to accommodate ours as well), violence erupted, and all our ancient instincts woke up. There they are, we said in relief, now we see their true face again. The Arabs want to throw us into the sea.

There's no one to talk with (no partner, in our beloved ex-PM's words), and they understand only force. And so we responded as we know and love, with more and more and more force. This time, the effect was that of putting out a fire with a barrel of gasoline.

And that's the moment when I said to myself, NO, I'm not playing this game anymore.

But what about the existential threat, you may ask? Well I ask you, have you not eyes? Don't you see our tanks strolling in Palestinian streets every other day? Don't you see our helicopters hovering over their neighborhoods choosing which window to shoot a missile into?

What type of existential need are we answering in trampling the Palestinians?

Prevention of terror, I hear you say. Let me use the wonderful words of my friend Ishay Rosen-Zvi: 'You are fighting against terror'? What a joke. The Israeli government, in its policies of Occupation, has turned the Territories into a greenhouse for growing terror!!!

We have sown the seeds, grown them, nurtured them and then our blood is spilled, and the centrist-right-wing politicians reap the benefits. Indeed, terror is the right-wing politician's best friend. You know what? When

you treat millions of people like sub-humans for so long, some of them will find inhuman strategies to fight back.

Isn't that what the Zionists, and other Jewish revolutionaries, argued about a hundred years ago in order to explain the questionable strategies of survival that Jews used in Europe? Didn't our forefathers say, Let us live like human beings, and see how we'll act just like other human beings?

So here's the deal. I hope that the first part of this letter made it clear that I don't buy the they want to throw us into the sea crap. It's just a collective self-delusion of ours. But more importantly, I don't see tribes. I see people, human beings. I believe that the Palestinians are human beings like us. What a concept, eh? And before everything else, before EVERYTHING else, we must treat them like human beings without demanding anything in return. And no (to all die-hard Barak fans), throwing them a couple of crumbs in which they can set up pitiful, completely controlled Bantustans in between our settlements and bypass roads, and believing it to be a great act of generosity, does NOT come close to answering this basic requirement. This requirement is NOT negotiable; moreover, in a perfect demonstration of historical justice, it is a vital requirement for the survival of our own State.

After that, and based on the lessons of modern history, especially that of the Arab-Israeli conflict (as was briefly described above), I do believe that the Palestinians will calm down, and that the elusive Security and peace will finally come upon us (as it did, incidentally, for almost two whole years between Wye 1998 and Camp David 2000). I don't have any insurance policy for that (well —almost none, except the solemn promise of the entire Arab world), but remember - I have this funny notion that they are human beings.

In any case, we are seeing now all too well what type of insurance

policy the opposite paradigm is providing us.

In the meanwhile, I refuse to be a terrorist in my tribe's name. Because that's what it is: not a 'war against terror', as our propaganda machine tries to sell. This is a war OF terror, a war in which, in return for Palestinian guerrilla and terror, we employ the IDF in two types of terror. The more visible one are the violent acts of killing and destruction, those which some people still try to explain away as surgical acts of defense. The worse type of terror is the silent one, which has continued unabated since 1967 and through the entire Oslo process. It is the terror of Occupation, of humiliation on a personal and collective basis, of deprivation and legalized robbery, of alternating exploitation and starvation.

This is the mass of the iceberg, the terror that is itself a long-term greenhouse for counter-terror. And I simply refuse to be a terrorist and criminal, even if the entire tribe denounces me.

That leads me to the first specific subject: are we, the refuseniks, being persecuted and denounced, or are we enjoying the wonderful Israeli tolerance and democracy and exploiting it to make trouble?

Well, I must admit that this is not yet the USSR or Pinochet's Chile, and at least the Jews here enjoy a relative democracy... I first must point out that the government and IDF also enjoy the image of 'letting us speak', and it serves them well. Secondly, in a rather sophisticated manner the establishment (with the generous and voluntary help of the mass media) is effectively shutting us up.

The media has decided for us that there is no opposition. Thus, a demonstration of 20,000 is reported in 5 seconds at the late-night edition, and a demonstration of 500 outside a military prison is completely ignored. The fact that right now there are over a dozen refuseniks in jail - the larg-

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est number in twenty years - is hidden from the Israeli public. The story of Captain (res.) Itai Haviv and Sergeant (res.) Yair Yeffeth, who demanded a full military trial in which they could prove that refusal is innocence and that the order to serve in the Territories is illegal, was not told anywhere except for a brief mention in the back pages of Haaretz.

So the public, of course, didn't learn that the IDF evaded answering these demands, and that Itai Haviv will spend the Seder night in prison following a disciplinary hearing. I hope the readers are intelligent enough to know that if the media wanted, these stories would make the headlines.

Still, you keep hearing about us. That's the key word, ABOUT us. But you don't hear us. You just hear people explaining, analyzing, mostly (in a ratio of 99 to 1) attacking us. We have become the perfect 'hate hour' figures, to reunite the tribe against (have you read 1984?) Petty volunteer groups who organized against us, a mayor who called upon local governments not to hire us, and a group of industrialists who called employers to fire us, have all won their moment in the spotlight. No one cared to mention that these are blatantly illegal calls (no, the law is remembered only when we 'break' it). No one has tried to set limits to this discussion.

Moreover, the prime minister in one of his rare public addresses blamed us for the wave of terror (us, not his catastrophic policies). The IDF chief of staff can't stop talking about us; he sees us as a bunch of inciters with a hidden agenda. So, ironically, the only thing protecting us from long-term gulag imprisonment and from losing our jobs is public opinion, the rather large pockets of support and sympathy among key sectors in the Israeli public, and yes, support ads such as the one published by Tikkun. The moment the government or IDF

will think the lights are out, and no one sees or cares they will find or invent the 'legal' clause (Israeli politicians are experts in this) and throw those they believe to be our leaders to jail for long terms. Remember, even poor Abie Nathan was thrown in for two years, just because he dared speak with PLO personnel about peace.

But that's nothing, because the moment our government will sense a "lights out" situation - a huge terror attack, an American attack on Iraq - there will be a horrible bloodbath in the Territories, compared to which the last year and a half will be remembered as a happy picnic. And that brings me to the second specific issue, that of the Nazi allusion.

Some readers thought that the way the Tikkun ad said "obeying orders" was an allusion to Nazi murderers' claim that they were "just obeying orders." Rabbi Lerner has rightly pointed out to these readers, that automatic execution of orders is a characteristic of all dictatorship, not just the Nazi one, while refusal on moral grounds is a sign of democracy. I agree, but let me be less polite and politically correct. After all, it's just my country that's going up in smoke as I write. What is this? Does Israel have the exclusive monopoly of labeling all its rivals as Nazis, and everyone else has to shut up, even when reality starts speaking for itself?

Parties that support the essentially Nazi idea of deporting all Palestinians from the country, have been part of our Knesset and our "legitimate" political map since 1984. Recent opinion polls show that 35% of the Jewish public now supports this solution, as it is sometimes called. Leaders, Rabbis, and just plain folk feel free to call openly in the mass media to eradicate Palestinian cities with or without their tenants. Last weekend, Gen. (res.) Effi Eitam, fresh out of the military and all ready to take the leadership of the religious public and become a deputy or alternative to Netanyahu, received a flattering

cover story on Haaretz supplement. He unfolded his chilling ideology, calling to expel those Palestinians who don't want to remain in the Galilee and West Bank as serfs, to Jordan, and from Gaza to Sinai. And he said this: why should us, the country poorest in land resources, bear the burden of solving the Palestinian problem? Well I don't know about you, but I remember some of the Nazi rhetoric in that dark period between the Kristallnacht of 1938 and the beginning of the war, when Jews were expelled from Germany but could find no safe haven anywhere else. When I see a retired IDF general and rising political star use the exact same Nazi rhetoric on Israelis most liberal newspaper, without any criticism by his interviewer or the editors my hair just stands on my head in horror.

Let's move from the political scene back to the ground. My friend, Captain (Res.) Dan Tamir, decided to refuse to serve in the Territories about a year ago, after he realized what he'd done as a reserve regiment's intelligence officer a few weeks before that. He realized he had laid out the plans to convert a large Palestinian town into a closed ghetto. You can find his full statement on our website, [www.seruv.org.il](http://www.seruv.org.il). The vast majority of Palestinians in the Territories now starve in such ghettos; in those days of mercy when they are allowed to leave them by foot and perhaps catch a taxi, these taxis are forbidden from using most of the paved roads in the region.

But why listen to a "leftist"? Let's hear it from senior IDF officers. One of the top commanders in the Territories was quoted in Haaretz (Jan. 25) as saying that in order to prepare for potential battles in dense urban neighborhoods, the IDF must learn, if necessary, how the German army operated in the Warsaw Ghetto. A week later, the reporter confirmed this quote and the fact that this is a

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widespread opinion in the IDF, and went further to morally defend it. A small number of people, including myself, tried to raise a scandal over this. One letter to the editor was published in Haaretz. A much tougher letter, which I wrote, was never published, nor was my plea for a phone discussion with an editor ever answered. The issue just died down. No one in Israel or in the Jewish public abroad was interested. Where were all these holy souls, who now scold Tikkun because they indirectly allude to the Nazi horror, where were they all when a senior IDF officer proudly called, 'in order to beat the Palestinians, let's be Judo-Nazis'?

In my letter to Haaretz I went further. Knowing the IDF mentality and adding one to one, I concluded that the IDF is operationally prepared to invade refugee camps an utter, indefensible war crime - and through this leak to the press it is starting to pressure the government and prepare the public opinion for the invasion. The letter was not published. It was sent on February 2. A few weeks later we all saw the horrors of the refugee camp invasions and the bloody revenge attacks that followed culminating on Pass-over eve. And you know what? Army generals and colonels morally and professionally pat themselves on the back, because these invasions "prevented terror", and killed only dozens and not thousands. (Note: in fact, the major reason limiting the bloodshed was the "terrorists" responsible decision not to turn the camps into all-out battlegrounds. But this may change in the next round.)

In truth, I have little hope that the Israeli public will wake up. The Israeli public, in its fear and confusion, has made a decision (aided by the politicians and mass media) to go to sleep and wake up only after it is all over. But it won't be over, because while our mind sleeps our muscles tighten

the death grip, instead of doing the only sensible thing (which requires an open mind) which is to let go. Will you guys join the hypocrite mobs who sing lullabies to Israel and pounce upon the refuseniks, upon Tikkun, to shut us up? Or will you finally take responsibility and be the true friends that Israel needs now even if it means not being "nice" to Israel for a while?

As you sit tonight at the Seder table, please remember the dozen or so refuseniks that spend this Seder in a military jail. More importantly, please remember the thousand or so people, three quarters Palestinians and one quarter Israelis, who were here with us a year ago and have been murdered. Most of them could have been here with us, if you and we had acted sooner. We have now acted, done what little we can do. Please think of the many thousands that may be doomed soon, if you continue sitting on the fence.

May you have a happy Holiday of Freedom; Please help us struggle free from fear, racism, hatred and the deaths they produce.

Rabbi Beck, Neturei Karta

Zionism is heresy. If we examine the deeds and the actions of the Zionists we can see that they are an irreligious group which attempts to enforce irreligiosity upon all those who come in contact with them. For example, their courts of law are based upon non-Torah sources. Practically speaking, we see that they are irreligious and they force irreligiosity although it must be noted that in Israel one finds a Ministry of Religion and one also encounters people who refer to themselves as 'religious Zionists'. This fact should not blind us to the central fact that the purpose of Zionism and its essential character was to deny religion and to go away from religion. The fact that there are signs of religion in the Zionist government is simply a tactic which they use. It is an appendage to their true self which is anti-religion.

As we see in the writings of the

Zionists themselves, their purpose was to construct a new image of the Jewish people - to create a new Jewish people. Their goal was to change a people who were constituted on the basis of faith and Torah and to substitute for that a people who are free from both faith and Torah. This does not necessarily mean that they would actively try to destroy religion but merely by saying that religion is a matter of personal conscience - that each person can decide for themselves whether or not to obey the religion, that religion becomes a private affair. By so saying this, they have destroyed the intrinsic character of the Jewish people, that character being an acceptance of Torah.

We find that they refer in their whilings to 'freedom' and 'tolerance' so that their State or in their conception of the Jewish people a Jew would have a right to accept or reject religion. In fact in the history of the Zionist State we see an active attempt to destroy religion.

In what way have they tried actively to destroy religion In Israel today the hatred towards religion and towards religious Jews extends from one end of the country to the other. If we examine the history of the Israeli State we see that each group of immigrants that was brought in from countries such as Morocco, Algeria, Iraq and Iran and today Russia, the government conducts an active campaign to wean them away from the practice of religion. At times it is a violent campaign. Those that tried to stop this government attempt were at times killed. That happened in certain cases. It was not a standard policy. The standard policy was to take Jews away from Judaism. As a witness to that we see the many organizations that were founded with the express purpose of preventing the government and the Zionists from pulling Jews away from Judaism. New immigrants have been especially susceptible to what they were trying to do.

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The existence of these several organizations not necessarily Neturei Karta but several organizations that were working to prevent the Zionist attempt to destroy Judaism is proof to what the Zionists were trying to do.

What then is the Zionist opinion of what a Jew is if they have gone away from the definition of someone who accepts the Torah and practises its precepts.

The true definition of a Jew is faith and Torah. Zionism says it is nationalism...

I cannot explain the root of antisemitism because I am Jewish. Zionism itself is the greatest enemy of the Jewish people. It has caused untold suffering to the Jewish people. The extent that Zionism caused anti-Semitism is a secondary point. The major point is that Zionism has created havoc amongst the Jews themselves.

Besides the fact that Zionism is a spiritual threat to the Jewish people, the early Zionists actually wrote that it would be profitable for the Jewish people to have anti-Semitism. They wrote that we should actually try to encourage anti-Semitism to force the Jews to opt for Zionism. This is the connection. Anti-Semites in Europe actually took Zionist writings which emphasised Jewish 'differentness' and used these writings as an excuse for their anti-Semitism. There was a practical connection as well as the spiritual connection.

There is no doubt that the sufferings which the Jewish people endure are spiritual sufferings that God imposes on them for various sins. One of the punishments for transgressing the Three Oaths mentioned above - that the Jews were to be sworn by God not to rebel against the nations and visit to re-establish their nationhood by military might - was that God said that he would allow the Jews to be

slaughtered. He would allow their flesh, so speak, to become open to anyone to attack them, so certainly there was a connection in that sense between anti-Semitism, Nazi persecution etc. Because Jews having transgressed these oaths thereby left themselves open to such persecution...

Since authentic Jewish people are opposed to the notion of a State altogether, there would be no problem whatsoever in Jews living in the area of Israel and Palestine. For hundreds of years there were Jewish communities of Prayer and study in the area that the State of Israel rules today. Those communities lived in complete peace with the surrounding Arabs. Not only in Israel, but also throughout the Arab world, traditionally Jews and Arabs lived together in peace. There were other lands where there was conflict. The Arab lands were completely peaceful for the Jews. That was the way it was in Palestine and that could continue in the future. There would be communities of Jews that would be interested in prayers and study and that could be under a Palestinian State in absolute peace and harmony - as it has always traditionally been in Jerusalem and other cities in Israel.

Martin Buber, Jewish philosopher 1878-1965, a key supporter of Zionism until he became disillusioned with Herzl's political programme:

"When the Jews returned to Palestine, the decisive question was, 'Do we Jews want to go there as an ally, a friend, as a brother, as an integral part of the community of Near Eastern peoples or as the representatives of European colonialism and imperialism? This discrepancy between aims and means, between the goal and how to achieve it, divided the Jews in Palestine into opportunists who were determined to grab from the super-powers as many political

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## Zionism = Terrorism

Rabbi Moshe Schonfeld in his book 'Genocide in the Holy Land' describes the Zionist terrorist attacks against Orthodox Jews and states: "Terrorism has been the capstone of Zionism. One need only remember the tactics of the Irgun in the 1940's, of which Israel's current Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, was a member. Countless terrorist acts, such as those used in 1950-1951 in Baghdad, Iraq, have been attributed to the Zionists - Terrorist acts not only against those opposed to Zionists, but also against their fellow Jews to persuade them to immigrate to Israel. All of these tactics, which most people would agree are despicable, were used. But - the worst - is the Zionist's denial of the freedom of religious education and religious expression to their fellow Jews."

The terrorists having committed the massacres described below as part of organised terror organisations like Hagana, Irgun and Stern Gang are today respected politicians courted by world leaders. Below is a long list of state-sponsored terrorism up to the time of the first Intifada:

July 2, 1946: The King David Hotel in Jerusalem was bombed, killing 91 people. Menachem Begin, who was later awarded the Nobel Prize for peace, is the same man who planned the destruction

of the King David Hotel and the massacre of Deir Yassin. Ex prime minister, Shamir, was originally a member of the Jewish terrorist gang called Irgun, which was headed by none other than Menachem Begin. Shamir later moved over to the even more radical "Stern Gang," which committed many vicious atrocities.

Shamir himself has defended the various assassinations committed by the Irgun and Stern

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## Zionism = Terrorism

gangs on the grounds that "it was the only way we could operate, because we were so small. So it was more efficient and more moral to go for selected targets."

April 9, 1948: A combined force of Irgun and Stern Gangs committed a brutal massacre of 260 Arab residents of the village of Deir Yassin, most of whom were women and children. The Israeli hordes even attacked the dead to satisfy their bestial tendencies. In April, 1954, during Holy Week, and on the eve of Easter, The Christian cemeteries in Haifa were invaded, crosses broken down and trampled under the feet of these miscreants, and the tombs desecrated. The Israeli military conquest, therefore was made against a defenseless people, who had been softened up by such earlier massacres as Deir Yasin (where 250 Arabs; men, women and children were massacred).

The Jew Weizman referred to the massacre as this "miraculous simplification of our task," and Ben Gurion said that "without Deir Yasin there would be no Israel." Americans are not told that ten percent of the Arabs killed by the Israelis in 1948 were Christian, and that ten percent of the Arab property confiscated belonged to Christians. Nor are they told that Israel's massacres and military actions forced 100,000 Christians to become refugees.

Accounts by Red Cross and United Nations observers who visited the scene said that the houses were first set on fire and the occupants were shot down as they came out to escape the flames. One pregnant woman had her baby cut out of her stomach with a knife. Reminiscent of the acts committed by their brother Jews in Russia during and after the Bolshevik (Jewish) takeover. The head of the International Red Cross delegation in Palestine, Jacques de Reynier, drove into the village and was met by a detachment of Irgun terrorists. In his re-

port of the massacre the previous night, he wrote: "All of them were young, some even adolescents, men and women armed to the teeth: revolvers, machine-guns, hand-grenades, and knives, most of them still blood-stained. A beautiful young girl with criminal eyes showed me hers (knife) still dripping with blood, she displayed it like a trophy."

May 1948: The U.S. appointed Count Folke Bernadotte of Sweden to mediate between the Arabs and the Israelis. In his first progress report (of Sept. 16, 1948) he recommended that the U.N. should affirm "the right of the Arab refugees to return to their homes in Jewish controlled territory at the earliest possible date." The Israelis responded in their own quiet way. The following day Bernadotte was murdered in Jerusalem.

Responsibility for the spectacular assassination, which caused an international outcry, was claimed by an unknown group, "Fatherland Front," which was actually a cover for Shamir's Stern Gang. Joshua Zeitler and Meshlam Markover of Stern told Israeli television in 1989 that they respectively directed and led the operation that killed the Swedish diplomat and his French aide-de-camp. Zeitler, 71, said he decided to speak now because of fear that the U.N. and the "goyim" (non-Jews) are again trying to force Israel into concessions.

February 1949: Israel launched an offensive across the Armistice lines with Egypt which brought its forces to the Gulf of Aqaba, occupying the Palestinian police post of Umm Rashrash which they afterwards named Eilat.

1950: Israelis seized the Al-Uja de-militarized zone on the Egyptian side and Baqqara on the Syrian side, expelling their Arab inhabitants and razed their homes to the ground by bulldozers.

1950-1955: Israeli forces unleashed more than 40 acts of armed aggressions against Arab states, almost all causing a heavy loss of life. This included attacks and massacres in Qibya, Huleh

## Jewish opposition

concessions as possible and us – who simply wanted to be allowed to live in Palestine together with our Arab neighbours, on a plain of equality. The majority of Jews preferred to learn from Hitler rather than from us. Hitler showed the world that history does not go the way of the spirit but rather the way of power and if a people is powerful enough, it can kill with impunity. The question of the Palestinians is decisive for Israel, yet so far as I can see, Israel does not recognise any Arab rights at all!"

Margaret Marcus Lahore, American Jewish Writer in 1981

"Do you want to be both the agents and pawns of colonialism, racism and super-power imperialism? Do you want utter moral and spiritual desecration of the sacred Torah at the hands of atheists, materialist and opportunists? How can you ever feel secure living off the stolen property of an entire people, you have dispossessed of home and country? If not, then conclude a just peace with the Arabs without delay and grant the Palestinians their human rights in full, before it is too late and disaster confronts you! Jews! You must choose between Judaism and Zionism, you cannot have both!"

1953, Nahalin, Kfar Qassem in 1954, Gaza and a Syrian outpost on Lake Tiberias in 1955.

October 14-15, 1953 — Under the command of Ariel Sharon, Israeli squads attacked the unarmed Arab village of Qibya in the demilitarized one, where they blew up 42 houses and killed more than 60 residents who were trapped inside. The details were so gruesome that the U.S. joined in a U.N. condemnation of the Israeli action, and for the first and only time, suspended aid to Israel in reprisal.

July 1954: Israeli intelligence planted "a ring of spies (moles)"

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**Zionism = Terrorism**

in Cairo. Its task was to begin sabotage operations against selected Egyptian, British and American targets. On July 14, the Alexandria post office was fire-bombed, and the U.S. Information Agency offices in Cairo and Alexandria were damaged by fire started by phosphorous incendiary devices, as was a British-owned theater.

Members of the spy ring were caught, and they confessed. They had been planted by Modin, the Israeli military intelligence organization. The purpose, presumably, was to sabotage Egyptian relations with the U.S. and Britain. Various commissions of inquiry into the affair conducted in Israel were never able to decide whether or not Israeli Defense Minister Pinchos Lavon authorized the operation.

1956: Squads of Israeli soldiers committed a hideous atrocity in the Palestinian village of Kafr Qasim, 47 innocent people were shot down in cold blood. The careful and premeditated mass murders, never received great attention in the West. Although the Israeli courts convicted eight soldiers of murder, they were all released within two years of their trial, and within three years one of them who had been convicted of killing 43 Arabs in an hour, was engaged by the municipality of Ramleh as the "officer responsible for Arab affairs in the city." In October 1956 Israel, backed by England and France, attacked Egypt to gain control of the Suez Canal.

Taking advantage of the situation created by Egypt's decision of nationalization of the Suez Canal, Israel joined forces with Britain and France to invade Egypt. As a result, it occupied the Sinai Peninsula, seized the Gaza Strip, and Sharm Al Sheikh which guarded the Strait of Tiran and the entrance to the Gulf of Aqaba. A year later it withdrew reluctantly under the combined pressure of

the U.N., U.S.A. and the Soviet Union.

There was no military necessity for this destruction; it was sheer vengeance against Arab Christians. This action created another 300,000 Arab refugees. It was during this campaign that the Israeli's attacked the U.S.S. Liberty with the death of 34 of its number. If this had been an Egyptian or a Russian attack, American would have been at war, but the Jewish vote of America silenced any American criticisms of this action. Americans are also not told that Israel has always refused to obey any mandate of the United Nations. Resolutions affirmed by vote every year since 1948 recognize the right of the return of Palestinian refugees, but Israel always refuses to obey. Israel has been condemned over and over again for breaking the charter and now fulfilling the conditions upon which she was allowed to become a member!

1960-1962: Israeli forces attacked Syrian villages on Lake Tiberias and brought death to hundreds of Arab civilians.

1966: Squads of Israeli soldiers raided the Jordanian village of Sammu, they killed 18 civilians, wounded 100 others and demolished 130 houses including a school, a clinic and a mosque.

1967: THE U.S.S. Liberty was deliberately attacked in international waters as it monitored communications during the Six-Day War. Israel used U.S.-donated equipment to jam the ship's S.O.S., hoping to sink it and murder all aboard before word could get out. 34 sailors were butchered and 170 wounded in this blatant Act of War. The Liberty was part of the Sixth Fleet, a powerful group of men and ships paid for by U.S. Taxpayers to protect the Israeli's.

June 5, 1967: Israeli committed its biggest, most treacherous and premeditated aggression against Egypt, Syria and Jordan. After destroying Arab aircraft on the ground in a lightning attack, Israeli forces invaded and occu-

pled the rest of Palestine, that is, the West Bank, Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem, the Syrian Golan Heights and the Egyptian Sinai Peninsula. In the first days of its aggression and in plain disregard of the truth, Israel fabricated a charge of aggression against its victims and presented it in a dramatic manner to the U.N. Security Council. Western media spread this fabricated story and the whole world sympathized with the supposed victim. In 1967 the Israeli's made a third ruthless blitzkrieg attack upon the Arabs. This time they deliberately destroyed three quarters of a million dollar's worth of church property. The great deception practiced by Israel on the U.N. and the whole world is now completely discredited, the Israelis, therefore, changed their tactics and rely nowadays on the argument that, they were NOT attacked by Egypt, they were in danger of BEING attacked, and hence they resorted to a so-called pre-emptive strike. Alan Hart quotes a former Israeli Director of military intelligence as telling him "if Nasser had not given Israel the excuse to attack the Arabs, Israel would have invented a pretext for war within six or ten months" because its military planners had decided that the time had come to knock out vast amounts of mainly Soviet-supplied Arab armor. Yitzhak Rabin, who as chief of staff planned this attack told Le Monde in February 1968, quite simply: "We knew that Nasser did not intend to attack."

February 15, 1968: Israel invaded PLO bases in Karamah, on the eastern bank of the River Jordan with helicopter-borne troops and tanks. Three hundred commandos fought off 1,500 Israeli soldiers and forced them to retreat. The battle lasted all day and into the evening. Although the village was totally destroyed, the Palestinian defenders repelled the Israelis and inflicted heavy casu-

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**Zionism = Terrorism**

alties among the invaders. By the Israeli account, they lost 28 soldiers and 90 were wounded.

1969: The Israelis distinguished themselves by committing a horrible crime, in retaliation of attrition war across the Suez Canal, Israeli war planes raided an Egyptian school "Bahr al Baker" in southern Egypt killing 75 children and wounding over 100.

August 1969: An Israeli set fire to one of the most sacred Islamic shrines, Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, causing extensive damage to it. This crime plunged over one billion Muslims throughout the world into the deepest anguish.

March 12, 1970: Israeli forces invaded part of South Lebanon known as "Fatah-Land" killing a number of Palestinian and Lebanese civilians.

September 8, 1972 — Without any apparent cause or reason, Israeli Phantoms bombed Palestinian targets in Lebanon and Syria in a series of raids killing hundreds of civilians. This action was explained by the Israeli prime minister the next day, who in the Knesset, that "Israel had now adopted a new policy to strike at the terrorist organizations where ever we can reach them."

February 21, 1973: Israel landed commando units on the coasts of the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli. They attacked two Palestinian refugees camps, dynamited several houses and buildings, some over the heads of their occupants, killing 35 refugees and wounding a similar number. On the same day, Israeli war planes shot down a Libyan Civilian Aircraft over the Sinai Desert killing over 100 passengers.

April 10, 1973: Israeli commando units with the help of some Lebanese collaborators stormed into a residential quarter in East Beirut and killed three PLO leaders: Yusef Al Najjar, Kamal Adwan and Kamal Nasser.

1974: Israeli air-borne commando units attacked Beirut airport and destroyed 13 Lebanese civilian aircraft on the ground. In the same year, Israeli planes intercepted a civilian Syrian aircraft and forced it to land at Lydda (Lod) airport on suspicion that it was carrying a Palestinian commando leader. Christian shrines in Jerusalem were subjected to several acts of aggression and robbery. This included damaging the church of the Holy Sepulchre, burying four other Christian centers, and stealing the diamond Crown of the Virgin Mary.

1975-1980: Israeli's intelligence service, the Mossad, distinguished itself by feats of terrorist actions that killed a number of Arab and Palestinian diplomats, scientists and journalists such as the PLO representatives in London, Rome, Paris and Brussels, prominent Palestinian journalist and writer Ghassan Kanafani and the Egyptian nuclear scientist Dr. Al Mashad.

1981: Putting their so-called pre-emptive policy in action, Israeli warplanes raided and destroyed a peaceful Iraqi nuclear reactor near Baghdad.

June 6, 1982: The Israeli armed forces invaded Lebanon. Less than two weeks after its election, the New Menachem Begin government unleashed the first blow in its war to liquidate the PLO in Lebanon.

June 1982: Israeli forced launched their savage invasion of Lebanon. As a result of this invasion a great number of refugee camps, Lebanese towns and villages were destroyed. Israeli warplanes launched eight raids on Palestinian targets in South Lebanon and Beirut, killing nearly one thousand people and wounding many others. The fantasy of the "pre-emptive strike policy" was dropped and even the Jerusalem Post correspondent was at pains to explain the purpose of the bombing raids. "The past few days of activities on the northern border followed five weeks of quiet. It is not know what triggered Israeli's Friday afternoon

raid." Outraged by Israel's onslaught and the cruel destruction of Beirut, Jewish journalist Jacobo Timmerman called Begin "unbalanced" a "terrorist" and "a disgrace to the people." He accused Sharon of helping to make Israel "the Prussia of the Middle East."

July 17, 1982: U.S. supplied F-4 and F-5 jets swooped low over Beirut in 4 passes, bombing the densely-populated Fakahani district. Five tall apartment buildings were destroyed, 200 people were killed and 800 wounded. Forty percent of the victims were small children, and one of the survivors was an unborn baby pulled by doctors from the dead mother's womb. Israel's then Chief-of-staff Rafael Eitan announced on Israeli Radio that civilian casualties were unimportant and that the Arab casualties suffered as of the July 17 attack did not yet constitute the Israeli "final solution."

September 1982: Israeli raids and bombardments continued during the weeks following the raid on Beirut in July. It was the beginning of the invasion of Beirut; after which an 80 days war led by Ariel Sharon, (then War Minister of Israel) resulted in the destruction of much of Beirut, killing and wounding thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese civilians. It was during this invasion that the massacre of the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps was committed, where over 2,500 Palestinian women, children and elderly people were slaughtered in cold blood. Even the Israeli high court held a number of the Israeli military officers, including Sharon, responsible.

October 1982: Israeli terrorists bombed the houses, cars and offices of three elected Palestinian mayors on the West Bank, Nablus, Ramallah and Al Beireh.

1984: Israeli warships and gunboats intercepted merchant ships on the high seas off the coast of Lebanon and kidnapped a number of Palestinians.

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## Justifying Zionist racist supremacy

Israeli atrocities against Palestinians are often reported as if they were unintended excesses. Far from it, they are part of the policy of expulsion. Below are quotes from Zionists which show that – far from being the victims of racial violence by others, as they would want everyone to believe amidst endless cries of anti-semitism – these people are racist supremacists who unashamedly justify and support the discrimination against, and destruction of, other people.

“A partial Jewish State is not the end, but only the beginning. I am certain that we can not be prevented from settling in the other parts of the country and the region.” David Ben Gurion, in a letter to his son, 1937.

“Between ourselves it must be clear that there is no room for both peoples together in this country. We shall not achieve our goal if the Arabs are in this small country. There is no other way than to transfer the Arabs from here to neighboring countries - all of them. Not one village, not one tribe should be left.” Joseph Weitz, the head of the Jewish Agency’s Colonization Department, which was responsible for the actual organization of settlements in Palestine, 1940.

“We have to kill all the Palestinians unless they are resigned to live here as slaves.” Heilbrun, Chairman of the committee for the Re-election of General Shlomo Lahat, the mayor of Tel Aviv.

“The Promised Land extends from the River of Egypt to the Euphrates. It includes parts of Syria and Lebanon.” Rabbi Fischmann, member of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, in his testimony to the U.N. Special Committee of Enquiry, 1947.

“I don’t know something called International Principles. I vow that I’ll burn every Palestinian Child that will be born in this area. The Palestinian Woman and Child is more dangerous than the Man, Because the Palestinian Child existence refers that Generations will go on, but the man causes limited danger. I vow that if I was just an Israeli Civilian and

I met a Palestinian I would burn him and I would make him suffer before killing him. With One hit I’ve killed 750 Palestinians (in Rafah, 1956). I wanted to encourage my soldiers by raping Arabic Girls as The Palestinian Woman is a slave for Jews, and we do whatever we want to her and Nobody tells us what we shall do but we tell others what they shall do.” Ariel Sharon, In an interview with General Ouze Merham, 1956.

“We shall reduce the Arab population to a community of woodcutters and waiters.” Uri Lubrani, Israeli Prime Minister David Ben Gurions special adviser on Arab Affairs, 1960.

“Jordan is a part from Eretz Israel in history.” Ariel Sharon, When he became the Prime minister, 2000.

“The thesis that the danger of genocide was hanging over us in June 1967 and that Israel was fighting for its physical existence is only bluff, which was born and developed after the war.” Israeli General Matityahu Peled, Ha’aretz, 19 March 1972.

“There is a huge gap between us (Jews) and our enemies not just in ability but in morality, culture, sanctity of life, and conscience. They are our neighbors here, but it seems as if at a distance of a few hundred meters away, there are people who do not belong to our continent, to our world, but actually belong to a different galaxy.” Israeli president Moshe Katsav. The Jerusalem Post, May 10, 2001.

“The Palestinians are like crocodiles, the more you give them meat, they want more”. Ehud Barak, Prime Minister of Israel at

### Zionism = Terrorism

1985: Israeli planes raided and destroyed the PLO headquarters in Tunis.

1986: Israeli secret agents assassinated a noted Palestinian cartoonist Naji Al Ali, in London.

April 1988: Israeli commando units stormed into the house of Khalil Al Wazir, in Tunis. Al Wazir who was the most senior PLO military commander and believed to be in charge of the Intifada, was murdered while sleeping.

the time - August 28, 2000. Reported in The Jerusalem Post August 30, 2000.

“[The Palestinians are] beasts walking on two legs.” Menahim Begin, speech to the Knesset, quoted in Amnon Kapeliouk, “Begin and the Beasts”. New Statesman, 25 June 1982.

“The Palestinians’ would be crushed like grasshoppers ... heads smashed against the boulders and walls.” Israeli Prime Minister (at the time) in a speech to Jewish settlers New York Times April 1, 1988.

“When we have settled the land, all the Arabs will be able to do about it will be to scurry around like drugged cockroaches in a bottle.” Raphael Eitan, Chief of Staff of the Israeli Defence Forces, New York Times, 14 April 1983.

“How can we return the occupied territories? There is nobody to return them to.” Golda Meir, March 8, 1969.

“There was no such thing as Palestinians, they never existed.” Golda Meir, Israeli Prime Minister, June 15, 1969.

“If I were an Arab leader, I would never sign an agreement with Israel. It is normal; we have taken their country. It is true God promised it to us, but how could that interest them? Our God is not theirs. There has been Anti-Semitism, the Nazis, Hitler, Auschwitz, but was that their

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### Supremacist ideology

fault? They see but one thing: we have come and we have stolen their country. Why would they accept that?" David Ben Gurion (the first Israeli Prime Minister), quoted by Nahum Goldmann in *Le Paradoxe Juif* (The Jewish Paradox), pp121.

"We must do everything to insure they (the Palestinians) never do return". "The old will die and the young will forget." Ben Gurion in 1948 assuring his fellow Zionists that Palestinians will never come back to their homes.

"We declare openly that the Arabs have no right to settle on even one centimeter of Eretz Israel... Force is all they do or ever will understand. We shall use the ultimate force until the Palestinians come crawling to us on all fours." Rafael Eitan, Chief of Staff of the Israeli Defence Forces - Gad Becker, *Yediot Ahronot* 13 April 1983, *New York Times* 14 April 1983.

"We should prepare to go over to the offensive. Our aim is to smash Lebanon, Trans-Jordan, and Syria. The weak point is Lebanon, for the Moslem regime is artificial and easy for us to undermine. We shall establish a Christian state there, and then we will smash the Arab Legion, eliminate Trans-Jordan; Syria will fall to us. We then bomb and move on and take Port Said, Alexandria and Sinai." David Ben-Gurion, May 1948, to the General Staff. From Ben-Gurion, *A Biography*, by Michael Ben-Zohar, Delacorte, New York 1978.

"Jewish villages were built in the place of Arab villages. You do not even know the names of these Arab villages, and I do not blame you because geography books no longer exist. Not only do the books not exist, the Arab villages are not there either. Nahlal arose in the place of Mahlul; Kibbutz Gvat in the place of Jibta; Kibbutz Sarid in the place of Huneifis; and Kefar Yehushua in the place of Tal al-Shuman. There is not a single place built in this country that

did not have a former Arab population." Moshe Dayan, address to the Technion, Haifa, reported in *Haaretz*, April 4, 1969.

"We walked outside, Ben-Gurion accompanying us. Allon repeated his question, What is to be done with the Palestinian population?" Ben-Gurion waved his hand in a gesture which said 'Drive them out!'" Yitzhak Rabin, leaked censored version of Rabin memoirs, published in the *New York Times*, 23 October 1979.

"There are some who believe that the non-Jewish population, even in a high percentage, within our borders will be more effectively under our surveillance; and there are some who believe the contrary, i.e., that it is easier to carry out surveillance over the activities of a neighbor than over those of a tenant. [I] tend to support the latter view and have an additional argument:...the need to sustain the character of the state which will henceforth be Jewish...with a non-Jewish minority limited to 15 percent. I had already reached this fundamental position as early as 1940 [and] it is entered in my diary." Joseph Weitz, head of the Jewish Agency's Colonization Department. From *Israel: an Apartheid State* by Uri Davis, p.5.

"Everybody has to move, run and grab as many hilltops as they can to enlarge the settlements because everything we take now will stay ours... Everything we don't grab will go to them." Ariel Sharon, Israeli Foreign Minister, addressing a meeting of militants from the extreme right-wing Tsomet Party, *Agence France Presse*, November 15, 1998.

"It is the duty of Israeli leaders to explain to public opinion, clearly and courageously, a certain number of facts that are forgotten with time. The first of these is that there is no Zionism, colonialization or Jewish State without the eviction of the Arabs and the expropriation of their lands." Yoram Bar Porath, *Yediot Ahronot*, of 14 July 1972.

## Protest from Saudi Arabia

In this most conservative of Muslim countries which always enjoyed a cordial relationship with the United States, voices are beginning to be heard against America's new imperialist drive. In her letter to the US ambassador Afnan Fatani, a Saudi professor of English language and style from Jeddah, gives expression to what many people in Saudi Arabia feel:

Just because we don't demonstrate by the thousands in the streets of Jeddah.

Just because we don't march to the US Consulate on the corner of Palestine Road.

Just because there are no overt signs of mass fury and public outrage on the Corniche or at malls in Jeddah.

Just because we don't riot in front of McDonalds and T.G.I. Fridays and pelt their doors with stones and rocks.

Just because we don't burn US and Israeli flags and burn effigies of Sharon and Bush, chanting "Death to America" — "Death to Israel."

Just because we don't wear FREE PALESTINE tee shirts and checkered Palestinian scarves.

Just because we don't boycott American and Israeli products, Helena Rubenstein (HR) and Marks & Spencer, lurking sinisterly in every corner of our shopping malls.

Just because we don't travel on solidarity missions to Bethlehem and Ramallah along with other writers, intellectuals and peace activists.

Just because we abhor violent protests and the sight of police re-

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### Protest from Saudi-Arabia

tialiation with clubs, water canons and tear gas grenades.

Just because we don't use the rhetoric of a simple housewife riding the Cairo metro — "Anyone who eats at Burger King and drinks Pepsi is drinking the blood of the Palestinian people."

Just because our students do not organize anti-American rallies and gather for peaceful protests inside university campus.

Just because we are unable to personally deliver this message right at your embassy door.

Just because we don't and we don't and we don't ... that doesn't mean we are not outraged at US biased support for the slaughter of Palestinians and US unwillingness to force Israel to comply with UN resolutions ordering it to withdraw from the West Bank cities.

That doesn't mean we are not appalled by the ominous role of the US in Palestine and its cold-blooded willingness to condone the assassination of those who dare to fight for their basic human rights.

That doesn't mean we are not shocked by your president's vindictive and personal hatred for the elected leader of Palestine. That doesn't mean that we do not hold President Bush personally responsible for all the carnage and wanton destruction in Palestine and for any and all future massacres of Palestinian refugees.

That doesn't mean we do not accuse President Bush of sponsoring and funding the terrorist state of Israel.

Just because American tanks are not rumbling through Palestinian towns and American soldiers are not roaming the streets of Ramallah and Bethlehem, that does not make your current government any less responsible for the current plight of the Palestinians.

Here is our list of 10 condemnations:

1 - We condemn President Bush's speech on Thursday. Leaders of great and powerful nations like America should be magnanimous and generous, not cruel and vindictive. Blaming an isolated Arafat and a desperate 18-year-old Palestinian girl for the violence and Israeli atrocities in the West Bank is not just simplistic, it is evil. It is an incitement and a license to kill anyone who dares to speak out against the Israeli tyrants that America sponsors and funds. We will, therefore, hold President Bush personally responsible for the inevitable murder of Arafat and for the point-blank executions of innocent Palestinian teenagers now trapped in the closed military zones of Ramallah and Bethlehem.

2 - We condemn President Bush's speech because it is written with the intent to sow discord and distrust among Palestinians and Arabs. According to his logic, if we the Arabs want a "peaceful" Palestinian state then we must kill Arafat, kill our resistance movements, kill our peace activists, kill our anti-occupation activists, kill anyone who dares to oppose Israel and America, kill anyone who says NO, and especially kill the warriors of Hamas and Jihad. Only then, Bush tells us, will he and his Israeli aggressors allow the original inhabitants of Palestine to regain what is rightfully theirs.

3 - We condemn the fact that a notorious war criminal like Sharon is welcomed with open arms and accorded red-carpet treatment at the White House, while Yasser Arafat, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, is shunned and abhorred. When the Jews first came to Palestine from the ghettos of the world, these bands of armed settlers formed terrorist organizations like the Haganah that maimed, killed and bombed the original inhabitants into fleeing their land. Sharon, Barak and other leading figures in Israel were and still are, members of this coalition of terror. Why is Amer-

ica rewarding them for their evil? Why are they not branded as enemies of the state? Why are their names and photos not listed on the FBI's most wanted list? Or is this infamous list meant only for Arabs?

4 - We condemn President Bush's belated verbal call on Israel to withdraw from the West Bank cities of Palestine. His half-hearted appeal rings hollow as long as he continues to supply Sharon with the weapons now being used on the streets of the West Bank, and billions of dollars in aid and continued moral support.

5 - We condemn President Bush's racist call to Arafat "to do more to curb terrorism," while all the time praising the barbaric actions of Sharon, a remorseless sponsor of the Sabra and Shatila massacres.

6 - We condemn President Bush's personal support for Sharon's genocide and ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians and his terrorizing of inhabitants into fleeing.

7 - We condemn President Bush's support of the illegal Israeli occupation and its colonial policy of settlements, mass murder, expulsion and transfer.

8 - We condemn President Bush's denouncement of our state organizations, religious schools, charities and educational institutions as inciting terror and hatred of the West. What about your Klu Klux Klan, your Timothy McVeighs, your Waco militants? What about your biased Zionist-controlled media and your anti-Arab journalists like George Will and Rosenthal? What about Hollywood and its hostile stereotyping of Arabs as terrorists and bandits? Aren't those incitements that Bush could do more to curb? What about your own federal institutions? Your congress, your radical senators, your pro-Israeli Capitol Hill, and your strong Zionist lobbies who back Sharon, cheer him on and applaud his barbaric actions. What about your anti-Palestinian lawmakers gear-

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## Protest from Saudi-Arabia

ing up to further condemn and impose new sanctions on Arafat and the Palestinians while happily ignoring Israel's brutal take over of Arab homeland? What about your congressmen's constant conferring with Howard Kohr, the executive director of the American-Israeli Public Relations Committee (AIPAC), before every bill they pass just to make sure they "get all the details right" (as journalist Barbara Ferguson reports). What about the smug, racist views of your Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle and Sen. Henry Hyde's smug smiles and obnoxious statements: "Sharon is doing what we in Texas describe as "A man's got to do what a man's got to do." How sinister! How evil! How degenerate!

9 - We condemn President Bush's support of religious extremists in Israel and his self-proclaimed bond of loyalty to radical ultra-orthodox Jews. Where is Bush's indignation at the incitement, hatred and racial superiority preached by these racist groups? As Israel Shamir explains, "the Talmud preaches compassion to animals. But there is a profound lack of compassion toward non-Jews. They are frequently compared to animals. In the Talmud, marriage to a Gentile equals bestiality... In an interview, a Shabak official, Ehud Yatom, boasted he smashed a Palestinian prisoner's head with a stone. He is supported by many MPs and by the Israeli public."

10 - We condemn the racist and tasteless statements of the American ambassador in Bahrain who called on Arab students at a university gathering to observe a moment of silence for Israeli victims of the conflict with Palestinians. Do you in America observe a moment of silence for the native American victims your forefathers slaughtered. Do your schools and universities bow their head in silence for the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, for the victims of Vietnam, Iraq, and Af-

ghanistan. You and your Israeli friends have no right to occupy our land, confiscate our territories, brutalize our civilians and then ask us to show sympathy and to honor your dead. Where is your sympathy, not ours? This is our sacred homeland and no radical, racist settler from America or Europe is going to drive us out.

Here is a list of 10 Israeli atrocities President Bush and his administration are quick to defend:

1 - The "bored, overfed, sadistic Israeli soldiers are daily humiliating, beating and often murdering the local people." Men are stripped to their underwear to walk through checkpoints. Tanks are placed at hospital gates. Women are forced to deliver their babies in the streets. (Courtesy of Israeli journalist in Jaffa - Israel Shamir)

2 - Rogue Israeli soldiers are killing unarmed civilians. "Their preferred victims are children. They abuse children of the refugee camps and shoot and maim them on a daily basis"(Courtesy of the above Israeli journalist).

3 - Israeli tanks are firing at ambulances trying to rescue the wounded.

4 - US jets with Israeli pilots have bombed the school for the blind in Gaza.

5 - Palestinian civilians continue to suffer from lack of electricity, water and food supplies.

6 - Israeli tanks fired on the buildings of the Medical Relief Organization where a number of Italian peace activists are barricaded in a show of solidarity with Palestinians.

7 - So far around 1,500 young Palestinians have been arrested in racist and senseless mass arrests in Ramallah and other West Bank cities.

8 - Bodies are still piling up at the Ramallah hospital morgue and denied proper burial.

9 - There is widespread vandalism as Israeli soldiers loot civilians and banks in their door-to-door search for illusive so-called terrorists.

10 - As I write, Israeli soldiers are storming the Church of Nativ-

ity where unarmed Palestinians have been given refuge by peace-loving bishops and priests. A repeat of the 1982 Sabra and Shatila massacre is pending.

Here is a list of 10 things we will NEVER do:

1 - We will never applaud Israeli and American destruction of Palestine.

2 - We will never label our resistance movements as "terrorists" and Israeli terror as "retaliation."

3 - We will never relinquish our right to Jerusalem.

4 - We will never stop aiding all our people in Palestine, including those who choose to die as martyrs.

5 - We will never applaud US jets levelling any of our cities.

6 - We will never stop protesting your biased war on terror and your blind support of Israeli brutality. You call this incitement; we call it courage, faith and resilience.

7 - We will never stop calling for the end of the illegal Israeli occupation of our homeland.

8 - We will never stop honoring our martyrs and observing a moment of silence for our fallen warriors.

9 - We will never forget the Palestinian Holocaust of 1948. We will never watch idly as Israel and America orchestrate a new one in 2002.

10 - We will never side with the Bushes and Sharons of this world. We will never side with genocide, mass murder, transfer and expulsion. I guess this means, according to Bush's simplistic either-or logic, that we are on the side of the terrorists. So be it. We believe we are on the side of the martyrs, on the side of decency, humanity, civility, fortitude and freedom; concepts which your brave American warriors of the past once strove so valiantly to uphold. But Alas, no more.

In short, Mr. Ambassador, we do not care if we incur the wrath of your President Bush. We do not

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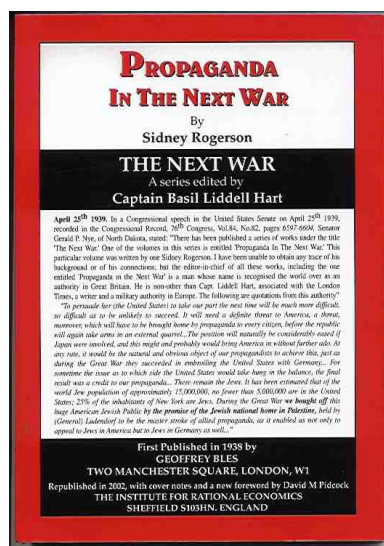
## Protest from Saudi-Arabia

care if you deny our citizens a US visa or freeze their assets in American banks. We do not care if our children never attend your schools and your universities or our tourists never enjoy the wonders of Disneyland or Universal Studios. What we care most for is our faith, our dignity and our sacred homeland.

He who granted victory to David against Goliath, to Moses against Pharaoh, to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) against Abu Lahab, will grant victory to the warriors of Palestine against Sharon and Bush and those who sponsor them. Beware Mr. Ambassador that the curse promised by the Lord to the misbehaving children of Israel (Deut. 28) does not fall upon your own heads.

Here is my signature. Here is my name. Let it be the first name listed in this letter of protest and indignation. See! I am not afraid. I dare to speak. Along with Israel Shamir, I call "for citizens to take arms against the bloody dictator Sharon." If and when this petition ever reaches your embassy doorstep, I am confident the list of names will have grown and grown and grown.

How World War II was engineered, newly edited version of this 1938 book with a forward by David M. Pidcock, £12, enquiries to the Islamic Party of Britain.



# Just Get Out!

## Gabriel Ash (reprinted with permission from of Yellow Times <http://www.yellowtimes.org>)

How many Palestinians are dead in Jenin? Dozens? Hundreds? How many hundreds? If the number turns out to be exactly 641, or exactly 139, will that be a PR "victory" for the Palestinians, or for the Israelis? As journalists are lining up to declare the "victor," CNN runs a web poll about each side's credibility. Soon we may see the dead jostling with the living in CNN's sordidly named "crossfire."

As a mental exercise, let each of us decide at exactly how many deaths the scale tips from the Israeli side to the Palestinian side, at what point an incursion becomes a slaughter, at what point a slaughter becomes a massacre, at what point a massacre becomes a genocide.

This is all very important, PR-wise.

For eleven days, IDF soldiers have been preventing journalists, medics, rescue teams and aid convoys from entering Jenin.

This is how they "protect" the truth inside from all those outside who might want to "misuse" it against Israel.

After all, the truth is such a terrible weapon. It would be wrong to allow one side to have more of it than the other. There must be balance. But only regarding the truth. There need not be balance in firepower, for example. It is O.K. that Israel has nuclear weapons and Apache helicopters, paid for by American taxpayers who can't afford to pay for adequate health care, while Palestinians fight with rifles and home-made explosives.

There need not be balance about land either. It is O.K. that Israelis control all the land and Palestinians none.

Nor is balance a requirement regarding liberty, or human rights, which Israelis enjoy and Palestinians do not. But there

must be balance in describing what happened in Jenin.

That is why accuracy is very important in Jenin. Was it exactly a "massacre," as Perez called it and then denied, or a "devastation," or just an "incursion" that used "minimal force" to achieve "necessary goals," such as showing Palestinians who's the boss and what you get for upsetting him? If you use too strong a word, if you match the expression to the stench of the decomposing bodies, Israel will reprimand you, brand you an anti-Semite, maybe even expel you. Be forewarned.

But what can one do? Even the cautious and pro-Israeli The Economist saw clear evidence of war crimes. U.N. envoy Terje Roed-Larsen described the devastation in Jenin as "horrific beyond belief," and said it was "morally repugnant" that Israel blocked humanitarian emergency workers from entering Jenin for 11 days. Israel is still blocking rescue teams, while Perez is pondering whether to send Roed-Larsen home with a note to his parents or merely revoke his weekly allowance. The undiplomatic words of the Norwegian diplomat, but not the undiplomatic reality these words refer to, really hurt Israel's highly evolved moral sensibility.

Having agreed to it earlier, the government of Israel is now blocking the UN fact-finding mission to Jenin. The problem, according to Israel, is that too many of the members have "humanitarian" experience, and might not understand the requirements of warfare. It is easy to imagine the people and the resumes Israel would want to see instead: maybe a few Latin American death-squad leaders; or Lt. William Calley, whose experience at

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**Just Get Out!**

Mai Lai could prove invaluable in determining what is and what isn't a massacre; or perhaps the French General Paul Aussaresses, commander of the 1957 French paratroopers' attack on the

Casbah of Algier. To top it all, war crimes connoisseur Madeleine Albright, or even Henri Kissinger, could provide moral leadership, as well as much needed verbal elasticity.

As long as there is balance.

For the Israeli public and politicians, the widespread, and very unbalanced, opprobrium is just one more affirmation that the "whole world is against us."

Echoing popular sentiment, Israel's President Moshe Katsav whines: "with all due respect and esteem for people of conscience and the bleeding-heart liberals of the world, I don't understand why they've clamped their mouths shut for a year and a half while the cruelest of unprecedented terrorist acts were committed against Israelis citizens everywhere."

President Katsav, are all the inhabitants of Jenin terrorists? Are most? Is God's own standard, of requiring only ten righteous men to save a city, too lax for you? What part of "collective punishment is a war crime" don't you understand?

The fact that the eruption of violence during the last eighteen months baffles you so much makes me wonder, President Katsav. Do you understand the idea of liberty? Have you ever read the universal declaration of human rights?

Do you understand that "universal" means "applies to everybody equally"?

Does the declination of possessive pronouns confuse you? Surely you are at ease with "mine" and "ours." But do you also understand the concepts behind "yours," "his," "hers," and "theirs"? When I look at the map of the land grab for your illegal

settlements, I have serious doubts.

Are you troubled why "people of conscience" do not condemn terrorism? Even to make such an accusation you must be living in an alternate universe. But I will answer your whining twice nevertheless.

The long answer, President Katsav, "with all due respect and esteem," is that the suicide bombers did not land in Israel from outer space. The explosive belts might as well carry a label that reads "made in the Greater Eretz Israel."

The suicide bombs are the mutant flowers of Israel's brutalizing occupation, springing from the seeds of the 54-year-long dehumanization of Palestinians. They are the ghosts of your brutality coming back to haunt you, the mementos of your war against memory.

The massive and deliberate destruction of Palestinian civil records in the West Bank in the last weeks is but the most recent chapter in a war against Palestinian memory that began in 1948, with the annihilation of 400 Palestinian villages. But you seem to learn nothing from history, indeed from your own history: ghosts always return, each time more violently.

For those ready to die, their spiritless hatred towards you is what remains after you have bulldozed their past and their future. Whether you like it or not, they are your bastard offspring. Everything they know about hate, you taught them. Everything they forgot about humanity, you made them forget. Give them a hug now, as they have proven themselves worthy of their parents - you.

The short answer, President Katsav, is really short: just get out!

Call the army home. Call the occupation off. And get out of the Occupied Territories. Just get out!

Don't mumble about how "difficult" or "complex" the situation

is. It isn't. You are the oppressor. You are the occupier. You park your tanks on plundered land. You fill your swimming pools with stolen water. You kill and destroy in order to inherit. So don't bullshit about "the situation." Just get out!

Stop abusing people. Stop abusing language. Stop spinning your own moral cocoon. Stop turning your country and your people into a metaphor of evil. Just get out!

Don't wait for Bush. Don't wait for Arafat. Don't wait to negotiate with the mythical Palestinian leader who will finally accept your dominion. There is nothing to negotiate about. Just get out!

Take your rabid Jewish fundamentalists from Kiriat Arba and Beit El with you. Load them on buses and pump the gas pedal until the hills of the West Bank vanish in the rear mirror. Just get out!

Gather your thugs from the borderless "border police," give them scholarships and send them to school again. Let them discover there is more to life than beating people to a pulp. Just get out!

Take your checkpoints, with all their petty humiliations and deadly snipers, with you. And just get out!

Send the Shin-Bet packing. After 35 years, the world had enough of your clever jailers and torturers. Take them with you and just get out!

Let your hideous bulldozers loose on the illegal settlements of Ma'ale Edomim, Har Homa and Gilo. There is plenty of demolition work for them there. Let them continue until the mountain line bears no more memory of your rape. Then just get out!

Don't apologize. Don't justify. Don't explain. There is nothing left to explain. Honestly. Just get out!

Don't even worry about the thousands of olive trees, symbols of peace, you uprooted. Someone will plant them again. Just get out!