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Table of Contents		
The ADL - Missing in Action	Rael Jean Isaac	Page 2
From the Editor	Rael Jean Isaac	Page 3
Our Children at Risk	Ed Ziegler	Page 5
Promoting Hatred at Brooklyn College	Danielle Avel	Page 6
Diana West Interviewed on Saudi Influence on Fox	Ryan Mauro	Page 8
Meet Ben Hecht, Wisecracking Jewish Hero	Stella Paul	Page 11
First Ayaan, now Fiamma	Bruce Bawer	Page 13
Zionism 101	Ruth King	Page 15

The ADL: Missing in Action

Rael Jean Isaac



ADL's Abe Foxman

In this *Outpost*, columnist Ed Ziegler describes just a few of the incidents of defamation, intimidation and outright violence against Jewish students on campuses from coast to coast. And Danielle Avel details one such incident--she tells us what happened at Brooklyn College to pro-Israel students attending a meeting that was designed to promote BDS (boycott, divestment and sanctions against Israel) co-sponsored by the college's Department of Political Science. Colleges and universities with large Jewish student bodies are among those hardest hit by the wave of hatred. Intellectual fashions typically start in the university and move outward from there to the media and the broader culture. In Europe anti-Semitism, often barely disguised as animosity toward Israel, permeates society. If

what goes on in our universities is allowed to proceed unchecked, can we be far behind?

And what are those with the mandate from the Jewish community to deal with defamation of Jews and Israel doing in the face of this crisis? The organization with the mission and the financial resources is of course the Anti-Defamation League. It was founded in 1913, as the ADL states, "to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment for all." It claims that today it "defends the security of Israel and Jews worldwide."

Given the seriousness of the situation, one can only say that the ADL is doing very little. Yes, it recognizes that there is a problem on campus. But there is ample evidence that it does not give it the attention, concern and resources it requires. To begin with, you have to go on its website to the section marked "Israel and International" to find that the ADL has an annual review of anti-Israel activity on campus. This does indeed record that there are events and programs to demonize Israel on "hundreds of campuses." But these are campuses in this country: this disquieting report should not be under the ADL's Israel heading but under domestic issues. What's more it should be at the forefront of the ADL's domestic concerns.

Instead, what are the domestic issues that absorb the efforts of the Anti-Defamation League? They are the flotsam and jetsam of momentary PC fashion. Cyber-bullying. Violence against women. Gay marriage. Restrictive voting laws (defined as requiring a photo ID to vote). Domestic terrorism--the ADL singles out the August 2012 mass killing at a Sikh temple in Wisconsin. That's in the ADL's comfort zone; the shooter was a neo-Nazi and the ADL is very worried about neo-Nazis. (Never mind that today the neo-Nazi threat is trivial compared to the threat of Muslim terrorism.) The ADL makes an annual audit of anti-Semitic incidents in the United States and shares the good news that there was a 13% decrease in 2011. (Never mind that the worsening atmosphere on campuses and the growing efforts to boycott and divest from Israel make a mockery of this arithmetic of "incidents"--as one philanthropic wag put it, the search for anti-Semitic graffiti on bathroom doors.)

Even in the ADL's "annual review" acknowledging the campus programs and events demonizing Israel, the ADL manages to play down their significance: they don't attract a large proportion of students; only a small percentage of campuses run such programs all year round; there are pro-Israel groups that present Israel's side of the story; and "university administrations consistently demonstrate a commitment to rejecting more extreme manifestations of anti-Israel activities" and rebuff "student-led divestments campaigns against Israel." How that jibes, for example, with the Brooklyn College political science department's sponsorship of a student-led divestment group's campaign -- which has been justified by the college administration--is not apparent. Where once patriotism was purported to be the last refuge of scoundrels, now "academic freedom" has taken on that role.

High on its domestic agenda--on a par with combating anti-Semitism-- the ADL puts combating anti-Muslim bigotry which it finds is "intensifying" in this country. But it is precisely Muslim bigotry that is turning American campuses into hives of hatred toward Israel and Jews.. Muslims find eager companions in student leftists but in the great majority of cases, Muslim organizations on campus are the organizers of the "events and programs" to which the ADL refers . The ADL not only refuses to recognize the source of the problem but attacks those who do.



Pamela Geller

Incredibly the ADL has produced a report attacking those courageous few who have assumed the leadership in exposing the agenda of radical Islamists in this country and the threat their unchecked activity poses to both Israel and the United States. The ADL singles out Pamela Geller, Robert Spencer, Frank Gaffney and David Horowitz as promoters of a conspiratorial anti-Muslim agenda. Geller has shown amazing courage in her initiatives to draw public attention to the work of Islamic extremists in this country, from the demonstrations she organized against the mosque at Ground Zero to the ads she placed in New York trains countering an anti-Israel ad onslaught. Yet here is what ADL has to say about Geller: "Geller has made significant inroads with some political movements, such as the Tea Party, which offers her another platform to disseminate her virulent anti-Muslim bigotry and conspiracy theories." Robert Spencer, a Catholic, has also been a champion of Israel and, like Geller, a fearless pioneer in warning Jews and Christians alike of what militant Islam is up to in this country. The attack on Horowitz is equally shameful, for it is Horowitz who consistently goes into the belly of the campus beast, taking up the cudgels for Israel before the most hostile audiences at great personal peril.

All of those the ADL defames are staunch supporters of Israel. There is no non-Jew in this country who has been a more consistent and articulate supporter of Israel and critic of policies that undermine her (by Republican as well as Democratic administrations) than Frank Gaffney. Zionism's great leader Zeev Jabotinsky said that it is as important to know and recognize your friends as it is to know your enemies. The ADL has a long-standing inability to distinguish between them, demonstrated in 1994 by its notorious publication assailing Israel's staunchest allies, the evangelical Christian right.

In short, the ADL is clearly more concerned about proving how high-minded and "progressive" it is according to prevailing left wing orthodoxies than in upholding vital Jewish interests. How ironic that it defames the very people who are in the forefront of pursuing those vital interests.

From the Editor

Hegel's Fatal Flaw

It's a malfunctioning brain. With all the commotion about Hegel's positions on Iran, Iraq, Israel, this, his most grievous defect, has been overlooked. Below we take note of a valiant group in Canada, the Muslim Committee Against Anti-Semitism, which, at its first meeting, lamented that the prevailing anti-Semitism in Canada's Muslim community, which blames everything on Zionists, "is impeding our thought process." Hegel's anti-Israel obsession clearly has the same effect on him.

In March 2007, Hegel, in a question and answer session following a speech he gave at Rutgers University, called the U.S. State Department "an adjunct of the Israeli foreign minister's office." As Bret Stephens points out in *The Wall Street Journal* (Feb. 19): "Calling the State Department an adjunct of the Israeli foreign ministry is like accusing the BBC of a pro-Israel bias: The only people who think that are the ones who find *Al Jazeera* too mild for their tastes."

Nothing that the President "already has Joe Biden for comic relief," columnist Wes Pruden asks just why Obama would want "rambling, bumbling, stumbling Chuck Hagel as Secretary of Defense." When you add in "delusional" to the list of adjectives, the question gets serious.

Muslims for Reality

At least a few Muslims in Canada are taking note of the way the culture of hate of Israel and Jews fostered among their fellow Muslims is not only a time bomb for Jews but undermines the ability of Muslims to deal with their real problems.

One such Muslim group is the Council for Muslims Facing Tomorrow led by Sohail Raza, a Shia Muslim from Pakistan, who warns that anti-Israel propaganda being spread in Canada will end in violence. He says "The U.S. and Israel are the scapegoats of every tragedy, whether it's a *tsunami*, an earthquake or a human tragedy brought about by Muslims themselves." He says this is happening in Shia mosques because of the Iranian influence and in Sunni mosques because of the Wahhabi influence.

Tahir Gora's new group (Gora is also general secretary of the Muslim Canadian Congress), the Muslim Committee Against Anti-Semitism, deplors the effect this has on Muslims. The situation, he says, grows worse each day. Muslim organizations blame their own miseries on Zionists in order to "distract people's attention from the real cause of those issues: Islamic extremism." Equally refreshing Gora says that anti-Semitism must be fought because "that's not the way we should live in a civilized world."

Ransoming the Rope

Lenin is supposed to have said that capitalists would sell the rope with which they would eventually be hung. In a novel twist, Western countries have been funding al Qaeda groups via ransoms they pay for their captured nationals. France paid Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) \$17 million two years ago to ransom French citizens kidnapped at a uranium mine in Niger. (The French government was double crossed and didn't even get them back.) So reported Vicki Huddleston, former U.S. ambassador to Mali, in a recent interview with a French news channel.

Huddleston says that a number of other Western countries have similarly paid ransoms to AQIM with the total reaching \$89 million. The way it worked, Huddleston explains, is that European governments paid the ransoms through the Malian government which "forwarded at least some of the funds to the Salafists." In short the Al Qaeda militants France battles today on the ground in Mali owe their strength at least in part to France.

Beyond Satire

Israel is awarding Obama the Presidential Medal of Distinction, given to individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions, among other things, to improving "the State of Israel's image around the world."

It's not as insane as it sounds ---on Fox News former Congressman Allen West wondered if Israel was suffering from the Stockholm Syndrome where victims identify with their captors--because the award is not made by a representative Israeli body but by Israel's fantasist-in-chief Shimon Peres. The award, which is only one year old, was created by Peres, and its bestowal on Obama is in part tit for tat, payback for the Presidential Medal of Freedom Peres garnered from Obama last year.

Given the alternative reality in which Peres resides, where he basks in the warmth of the Arab spring and the sunlight of the new Middle East, it's no wonder that he told a delegation of U.S. politicians that Obama has shown "the deepest understanding and the most forthcoming support" of Israel, and declared Obama's record on Israel's security issues "perfect." We're waiting for Peres to

maintain that Obama's support was most recently manifested in his choice for Secretary of Defense of the equally "perfect" Chuck Hagel.

Tiny Dynamo

In her book of that title Marcella Rosen has written up 21 stories of remarkable Israeli inventions that have dramatically improved the lives of people around the world--from a PillCam that takes videos inside the body that can sharply cut down the need for colonoscopies to irrigation devices to new airport security systems.

Like so many others, Rosen deplores the failure of Israel to proactively make its case in the face of the overwhelming barrage of hostile propaganda, much of it going under the name of news coverage. She differs in that she has set out to do something about it. How many people, she asks, know that Israel has produced more patents and startups than all Europe combined? In addition to her book, she has produced twelve two minute videos on the big ideas produced by this tiny country --go to her site *Untold News* to see them.

Our Children at Risk

Ed Ziegler

Like it or not anti-Semitism has become commonplace in many of our universities, both in the classroom and on campus.

In November 2012 *The Jewish Daily Forward* reported that anti-Semitic graffiti was found written on the back door of the Jewish Life House at Wheaton College. Residents say they have been targeted before. Wheaton President Ronald Crutcher informed the student body "This will not be tolerated."

In 2010, a man committed a series of anti-Semitic acts of vandalism on the University of Indiana's campus, forcing the FBI to take notice. Within a single week, the man threw rocks twice at the campus Chabad House and once at the Hillel House, breaking windows.

Former Hampshire College students Lihi Benisty and Samantha Mandeles paint a truly disturbing picture of the atmosphere on campus of hatred toward Jews and Israel. As pro-Israel activists, Benisty and Mandeles faced harassment and intimidation by Students for Justice in Palestine, which is linked to the terrorist Muslim Brotherhood network. Benisty was harassed every night of the week following an event featuring Israeli soldier Sgt. Kenny Sachs. She was called apartheid lover, genocide supporter and Zionist racist.

In an apparent anti-Semitic hate crime at Michigan State University, after telling two men he was Jewish, 19 year old sophomore Zachary Tennen was beaten unconscious. To complete their brutality, his attackers stapled Zachary's mouth. Even more disturbing, around 20 people purportedly watched without attempting to intervene.

Rutgers University sponsored an event "Students United for Middle Eastern Justice" as free and open to the public. A sign at the door suggested that a donation of \$5-\$20 be made. Pro-Israel supporters were asked to stand in a separate line and wait for seating. Meanwhile, those in anti-Israel apparel, keffiyahs and hijabs, were taken aside, given green wristbands, labeled as event "staff" and given free entrance. The concern here is that Rutgers University has provided a safe haven for racism and anti-Semitism under the guise of free speech.

Americans for Peace and Tolerance released a video showing that Northeastern University faculty (Professor Denis Sullivan and others) abuse academic freedom to promote anti-Israel anti-Semitic lies.

You have to wonder if California State University (CSU) is serious about eliminating anti-Semitism at the University. It has appointed Professor Manzar Forroohar to chair the committee aimed at combating anti-Semitism in the CSU system. This professor serves on organizing committees of two prominent anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanction groups, the U.S. Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel and the Israel Divestment Campaign.

At Florida Atlantic University, Students for Justice in Palestine posted mock eviction notices on 200 dorm rooms. Joseph Sabag, ZOA regional Director, said: "The notices were meant to demonize Israel. What the university needs to understand is that anti-Semitic bigotry is no less morally deplorable when camouflaged as anti-Israelism."

Every year, campus hate groups such as the Muslim Students Association, with about 600 chapters and 150 affiliated chapters, and Students for Justice in Palestine with over 80 chapters, join a festival of lies called "Israel Apartheid Week" whose theme is that Israel is an apartheid state which should be eliminated.

In truth Israel is the most tolerant and diverse state in the Middle East. If you truly care for your children and grand-children you must realize that blatant, violent anti-Semitism terrorizes and endangers Jewish students. Jews and righteous people everywhere must take note and push back against anti-Semitic forces, making it clear that such behavior will not be tolerated. Contact your college and alumni association and tell them you oppose anti-Semitism and will not support the school if they allow it on campus.

Ed Ziegler is an online columnist who writes articles on terrorism and anti-Semitism.

Promoting Hatred at Brooklyn College

Danielle Avel

Upon arriving at Brooklyn College on the freezing evening of February 7th, I couldn't help but notice the rows of police vehicles parked on the street, the police barricades on the sidewalks, the police officers monitoring protesters, counter-protesters, and lines of attendees waiting to enter the student center.

One could tell from blocks away that this was no typical student event. Unfortunately, the display of force wasn't due to some prominent head of state making an appearance at the college: these flashing lights were for a peculiar anti-Israel fest taking place on campus.

The lecture, organized by a pro-Palestinian student group, was to promote the seemingly politically correct attempt to delegitimize the Jewish State through BDS—boycotts, divestment, and sanctions. What distinguished this from the usual anti-Zionist fringe gathering was the co-sponsorship of Brooklyn College's Department of Political Science. Critics, including prominent alumni like Alan Dershowitz, state and city taxpayers, state and city legislators, and people like me were outraged; how could a publicly funded institution participate in promoting BDS, which seeks to eliminate the Jewish state?

The New York City Council suggested taxpayer money should not be used "to give official sponsorship to speakers who equate terrorists with progressives and the Israeli people with Nazis." The university response ignored critics, claimed the college has the "academic freedom" to officially sponsor even the most odious of propaganda events, and Mayor Bloomberg arrogantly suggested critics apply to schools in "North Korea."

At the student center, security measures were tight and included lines outside where names were cross-checked with IDs and the RSVP list, an aching slow line through the metal detector, bag

search, a personal escort to the elevator, another name/RSVP/ID check at the doors of the event, and countless police officers every step of the way.

In spite of the obsessive attention to security measures, academic freedom was literally left at the door thanks to convenient “errors” that caused students known on campus as pro-Israel advocates like Melanie Goldberg almost to be denied access. Goldberg had been confirmed for the event three weeks prior and received a reconfirmation email the night before; however, organizers told her that her name was not on the list. She only was permitted to enter when Brooklyn College Vice President Milga Morales escorted her in. Other pro-Israel students reported similar problems, while anti-Zionist agitators such as Sherry Wolf, Press Officer of the Russell Tribunal on Palestine, were seated early.



As I entered the penthouse of the student center, it was apparent the room was stacked with anti-Israel obsessives: primarily members of the co-hosting pro-Palestinian student group along with the usual array of radical feminists, socialists, and greying zealots (often decked out in keffiyehs) that attend virtually every other anti-Israel event in the New York City area. Same crowd, different day.

With all the added security measures, the lecture started late and to the faint sound of chants from pro-Israel advocates stationed on the street. After a brief intro by a student organizer which included a “special thanks” to the Brooklyn College Political Science Department for standing up to “bullying” by the city council, it was finally time for the two featured speakers, Professor Judith Butler of the University of California at Berkeley and Omar Barghouti, who promotes BDS even as he attends Tel Aviv University.

As for their remarks, it was standard anti-Zionist propaganda. To lighten their remarks, though, both principal speakers utilized Jewish words, Butler: “What a Megillah!” and Barghouti: “What Chutzpah!”

The most disturbing part of the evening occurred early on. In the midst of Judith Butler’s soft-spoken rant, the audience was utterly silent until a voice near the door exclaimed, “This is an oppression of freedom of speech, this is an oppression.” Looking over, I noticed Jewish students being removed from the room and thought to myself, “I guess kippas are not allowed.”

I later learned that the four students belonged to the campus Hillel organization; three were some of the same pro-Israel students initially denied entry because of the shenanigans with the RSVP list. Finally seated in the audience, they held information sheets in their hands with facts they could rely on to formulate questions later to challenge the speakers. Brooklyn College President Karen Gould herself had recommended “those who do attend with opposing views [should] participate in the discussion, ask tough questions, and challenge any ideas with which they disagree.”

One of the students, Ari Ziegler, published his account in the *New York Daily News*. Ziegler recounts how an organizing member attempted to confiscate the information, demanding, “Give us the papers or you’ll be removed.” The students refused and were forcibly removed by security. College spokesman Jeremy Thompson claimed that “Based on official reports, they were being quite disruptive.” If the students were being disruptive, however, why was the room silent other than Butler’s voice? I would have heard the disruption, had one existed, and there was none. City University of New York officials are now investigating the incident.

Organizers of the BDS lecture let in friendly media, such as *The New York Times*, while excluding others. *The Daily News* reports that members of the media, including one of its reporters (who was

wearing a yarmulke), were “removed from the event despite reserving places to cover the forum.” The university is also now investigating this problem.

The controversy and media coverage surrounding the lecture temporarily brought the anti-Israel fringe crowd into the spotlight, prompting BDS promoters to declare the evening a “victory.” At Brooklyn College this translated into university-sanctioned anti-Israel propaganda, controlled media access, pro-Israel students targeted for no valid reason, outright academic repression, and investigations into misconduct in what has become an embarrassing debacle.

This, of course, could have been anticipated; after all, the strategy of BDS itself was born out of the anti-Semitic Durban I conference, and its ultimate goal is the end of the Jewish State—the same goal as that of terror organizations Hamas and Hezbollah. Though student groups are free to spread BDS propaganda, the political science department had no business adding official sanction to the circus that took place on February 7th.

As Brooklyn College deals with the fallout, universities everywhere can learn a simple lesson: legitimizing the totalitarian ideology of anti-Israel obsessives can only lead to disaster.

Danielle Avel is an analyst formerly affiliated with the Investigative Project on Terrorism. This article appeared on www.breitbart.com/Big-Government on February 17.

Diana West on Saudi Influence on Fox News

Excerpts from an interview with Ryan Mauro

Ryan Mauro: You have devoted a lot of your time towards covering Saudi Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal. Can you tell us about him and why he warrants this attention?

Diana West: Prince Alwaleed bin Talal is usually described as a billionaire Saudi businessman, but he is also a senior member of the Saudi monarchy. He is the nephew of the Saudi dictator, King Abdullah, and the first cousin of the Saudi interior minister, Prince Mohammed bin Nayef. He is also the largest stakeholder in Rupert Murdoch’s News Corp. outside the Murdoch family.

We may not realize it, but most of us first heard about Prince Alwaleed bin Talal in the immediate aftermath of 9/11. That was when a “Saudi prince” — it was Alwaleed — became infamous for having donated \$10 million to the Twin Towers Fund only to have then-mayor Rudy Giuliani return the check.

Why did Giuliani return the check? It became clear the prince wasn’t making a donation but rather a political statement. After presenting the money, the prince issued a press release blaming the 9/11 attacks on American support for Israel — while, as Alwaleed’s statement reads, “our Palestinian brethren continue to be slaughtered at the hands of the Israelis.”

Following Giuliani’s rebuff, Alwaleed opened his purse in 2002 to the families of killers instead, donating a whopping \$27 million to a Saudi telethon raising money for the Committee for the Support of the al-Quds Intifada, a Saudi “charity” chaired by the then-Interior Minister of Saudi Arabia (now Crown Prince Nayef, another uncle of Alwaleed’s). He gave \$500,000 that same year to CAIR, the Muslim Brotherhood, Hamas-linked group.

Also in 2002, however, Alwaleed seems to have had something of an epiphany. From the *Arab News* (which Alwaleed also owns): Arab countries can influence U.S. decision-making “if they unite through economic interests, not political,” Saudi Prince Alwaleed stressed. “We have to be logical and

understand that the U.S. administration is subject to U.S. public opinion. We are not so active in this sphere [public opinion]. And to bring the decision-maker on your side, you not only have to be active inside the U.S. Congress or the administration but also inside U.S. society.”



Soon, the Saudi billionaire was spending his money quite differently — no more Palestinian grandstanding, no more Saudi telethons, no more CAIR. In 2005, Alwaleed purchased a 5.5 percent stake of voting stock in the Murdoch-owned News Corp (he now owns 7 percent). He also spent \$40 million to enlarge Islamic studies on leading American campuses, donating \$20 million to Harvard to create a university-wide Islamic studies program, which also boosted Islamic law (*sharia*) studies on campus, and \$20 million to Georgetown to set up the Alwaleed Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding under Islamic apologist John Esposito.

The News Corp. investment began paying off right away. Also in 2005, with Muslims rioting in Paris in the worst street violence since 1968, Alwaleed telephoned Rupert Murdoch, as Alwaleed himself told an audience in Dubai, and said “these are not Muslim riots, they are riots.” Presto, the Fox News crawl about “Muslim riots in Paris” across the bottom of the screen changed to “civil riots.”

Ryan Mauro: Is there any evidence of Alwaleed’s influence in the media since 2005?

Diana West: Alwaleed has not made news for bragging publicly about his influence over Fox News since that one incident in 2005. As for “evidence” of his influence, I know of no directive, no reported conversation, no “defector” from Fox or News Corp. reporting that Alwaleed, or anyone else, has set guidelines for coverage.

But that’s not how influence usually works. It is intangible, something no more concrete than a rejected story, something no less natural than the body of stories that develops from such editorial discretion, which, of course, can also include positive reinforcement. Such stimuli may reflect active owner-influence. They may also reflect a more passive owner-influence as when an employee — producer, editor, writer, anchor, pundit — anticipates the boss’s desires and writes or reports a certain way. This phenomenon, of course, is by no means unique to Fox, just as it is by no means unique to journalism.

If we examine Fox’s body of work I believe the unspoken guidelines for coverage and discussion become quite clear. Fox News covers terrorism, war, national security. It does not cover, let alone chronicle, the introduction of *sharia*—Islamic law—into the West. It does not cover the massive ongoing Islamic movement by which the Western world is being rapidly Islamized. It does not cover what the Muslim Brotherhood calls “civilization jihad.” It does not cover the disappearance of Western culture in Europe. What we know as “political correctness” probably keeps such issues off the air in the mainstream media, but Fox makes a point of rising above such PC. I think the news vacuum we can see on Fox is at least partly a result of News Corp.’s Saudi influence.

Let’s go back just to the beginning of last month when Al Gore’s sale of *Current TV* to *Al Jazeera* was big news, particularly on Fox. As Fox personalities repeatedly (and understandably) reveled in Gore’s obvious hypocrisies for selling out to an Islamic oil-and-greenhouse-gas dictatorship, I was struck by something important that was being left out: The fact that a key Fox stakeholder — the second largest stakeholder outside the Murdoch family—was himself a leading member of an Islamic oil-and-greenhouse-gas dictatorship. It seemed highly relevant at least in the spirit of full disclosure, even if it might have subdued some of the on-air guffaws.

I would also note that the Fox focus was on Gore himself — much less so on the security-related side of the story, which includes how *Al Jazeera* is a foreign policy instrument of the Qatari dictatorship, which, in turn, is basically a foreign policy instrument of the Muslim Brotherhood. (Indeed, *Al Jazeera's* nickname is Muslim Brotherhood TV.)

As I reconsidered the Murdoch-Alwaleed relationship, I was struck anew not only by the 7 percent of News Corp. that Alwaleed owns, but also by the 18.97 percent of *Rotana*, Alwaleed's Arabic media group, that Murdoch owns. I discovered that just as Murdoch-Alwaleed holdings include Fox, Alwaleed-Murdoch holdings include *Al Risala*, a Prince Alwaleed with Rupert Murdoch 24/7 religious station run by a Kuwaiti Muslim Brother named Tareq al-Suwaidon. Al-Suwaidan, who doubles as a popular on-air host at *Al Risala*, is not just any Muslim Brother, either. He is an unindicted co-conspirator in the largest terrorism-financing trial in US history, the Holy Land Foundation trial. That means the US government believes Al-Suwaidon, too, was involved in fund-raising for Hamas.

That's not the only appalling connection the Saudi association brings to News Corp. On the advisory board of *Al Risala* is Abdullah Omar Naseef, whose Rabita Trust has been designated by the US Treasury as an Al Qaeda financier.

As for analysis, it is of the utmost importance to begin to notice, to scrutinize and assess what Fox covers and — I think more important — what it doesn't.

What becomes clear quickly is that Fox never, ever covers the amazing, shocking and terrifying stories that reflect the undermining incursions of *sharia* (Islamic law) into the West.

We are living through a cultural transformation of epochal significance as one civilization (Western) yields with barely a peep to another (Islamic). This process is well-advanced on the European continent, where Islamic "no-go zones" proliferate in urban centers (or suburbs) and parallel legal societies have taken hold from London to Berlin. (*Sharia* courts are even recognized by the British government.) "Desertification" is a new French word for the flight of indigenous French people from Islamized neighborhoods. Government elites of Europe respond to such unrest and unhappiness by silencing the critics of Islamization, putting them on trial for "hate speech" violations, and even sometimes in prison (particularly in the UK). This is what's going on in the democracies of the West — UK, France, Austria, Denmark, Holland — and Fox viewers don't know it unless they learn it somewhere else.

This is happening here, too. Mark Steyn, one of Fox's leading lights, went on trial for "hate speech" next door in Canada. Did Fox ever report on his trial, let alone interview him about it? If so, I didn't see it.

I should point out here that the al Qaeda financier Naseef, noted above for his place on the board of Alwaleed-Murdoch's *Al Risala TV*, also financed the institution and journal run by the Muslim Brotherhood-connected family of Huma Abedin, Hillary Clinton's top aide. As Clinton's confidante, Abedin's MB-connections are something Michele Bachmann and her House colleagues raised questions about last summer in the context of Muslim Brotherhood penetration of the US government. Fox didn't cover that piece of it, either. I find the coverage — or lack thereof — of this U.S. story in particular, quite alarming.

But the same silence goes for last week's broad-daylight assassination attempt in Copenhagen on Lars Hedegaard, Danish newspaper editor and opponent of European Islamization by an Arab or Pakistani gunman. Not newsworthy for a mention on O'Reilly or Greta or The Five? Why not? Fox viewers didn't get to follow the Kafka-esque hate speech trial endured by Geert Wilders, democratically elected leader of a significant political party in Dutch parliament, even though Wilders is someone who has made many appearances in the U.S. (Wilders did go on with Sean Hannity last year to promote his Regnery book, *Marked for Death*.)

Could the blackout of such news have anything at all to do with the aims of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation — the Islamic bloc of 56 Islamic nations--and its efforts (lately in conjunction

with Hillary Clinton, which is also uncovered on Fox) to introduce international mechanisms to criminalize criticism of Islam everywhere? After all, the OIC has specifically singled out both Geert Wilders and the Danish cartoons for censure, and they are basically non-persons, non-events in the US media, including on Fox News. Is this entirely a coincidence?

I doubt it, even as I also doubt there's much in the way of smoking guns on the topic. It gets in the air and stays there, with fly-bys from the Saudi Prince to provide an insuring chilling effect, while the fortunes of the Big Boss sink increasingly into the sands of desert financial markets.

I am speculating, to be sure, but is it off-base or illogical to do so? If I am correct and Alwaleed bought into News Corp to neutralize the jihad opposition, it's one of the most brilliant influence operations ever. The Saudis would have managed to silence the one organization whose coverage of the news could have rallied opposition to Islamization.

*The entire interview can be read at <http://www.radicalislam.org/analysis/interview-diana-west-saudi-influence-fox-news> (February 18) A syndicated columnist, West's most recent book is *American Betrayal: The Secret Assault on Our Nation's Character* (St. Martin's Press, 2013). Ryan Mauro is *RadicalIslam.org's* National Security Analyst and a fellow with the *Clarion Fund*.*

Meet Ben Hecht, Wisecracking Jewish Hero

Stella Paul



February 28th marks the 119th birthday of Ben Hecht, the wisecracking genius who invented the screwball comedy and gangster movie, and who raucously upheld the honor of American Jews in World War II.

Blasted into history from a more colorful age, Hecht began his career as a circus acrobat and virtuoso violinist, then seamlessly morphed into Chicago's star crime reporter and the most successful screenwriter in Hollywood history.

I love Hecht for the feast of intelligent entertainment he seemed to concoct effortlessly, from Hitchcock masterpieces like *Notorious* and *Spellbound* to *Scarface*, *The Front Page*, and the uncredited script of *Gone With the Wind*.

But I adore Ben Hecht for the incorruptible courage with which he championed the dying Jews of Europe, appalling his fancy Hollywood and New York Jewish friends with his outré chutzpah.

Hecht throbbed with fury at the Germans' murder of "a whole continent" of Jews. His heart, he wrote, "has not wept at all. It has felt only outrage. I doubt if any man has ever felt more."

Passionately, Hecht applied his whirlwind mind to pleading for the rescue of Europe's last Jews, a task he likened to sticking his head into the mouth of a lion. The American Jewish establishment, personified by the self-satisfied Rabbi Stephen Wise, battled him at every turn.

Ben Hecht's fearless antics for his own people would be unusual in any age, but Rabbi Stephen Wise is a familiar contemporary character. Rabbi Wise deeply relished his personal relationship with Franklin Roosevelt. And he refused to jeopardize it by anything so unsporting as asking the president to take action on behalf of his murdered brethren. To speak as a Jew for Jews would render him un-American, Wise feared.

I can see Hecht grinning at this week's pathetic headline, so redolent of Rabbi Wise's cringing: Jewish leaders called to stop opposition to Hagel for Secretary of Defense.

"I was called by major Jewish leaders, personally called, and [they] told me to stop our campaign against Hagel," Morton Klein, president of the Zionist Organization of America, told *The Jerusalem Post*. Klein explained that the Jewish organizations are "frightened of making an issue seem more important to Jews than others," because making it a "Jewish issue" is "bad for the Jews."

Chuck Hagel is a dim-witted, vicious anti-Semite who rails against the "Israel lobby," accuses Israel of keeping "Palestinians caged up like animals," gives anti-Semitic speeches sponsored by Iranian-controlled front groups, and refuses to disclose his ties to Arab organizations. Hecht would have had his number and that of John Brennan, Obama's CIA Chief nominee, who insists on referring to Jerusalem by its Arabic name Al-Quds.



"The long practiced murder of Jews en masse...has not served to alarm our humanists," wrote Hecht in 1943's *Guide for the Bedeviled*. "To them the murderers of Jews are never murderers. They are misguided patriots, misinformed economists, misdirected pietists...The murder of Jews is like the stealing of nickels. It does not fix a criminal record on its perpetrators."

Hecht was allergic to the political correctness of his day, blasting his accusations at Germans, not Nazis, refusing to acknowledge a difference between the two. I doubt he would have much patience for today's Jewish leaders who tremble behind convoluted locutions of "terrorists" and "radical extremists," instead of clearly calling out Muslims for centuries of violence against Jews.

What did Hecht accomplish with his flaming wartime editorials, screaming full-page newspaper ads, and sold-out, star-studded 1943 Madison Square Garden "pageant," *We Will Never Die*, which commemorated two million murdered Jews?

If in the words of a famous Jewish teaching, "He who saves a single life, it is as if he saved a whole world," then Hecht helped to save 200,000 worlds. Hecht worked closely with Peter Bergson (pseudonym of Hillel Kook), a Zionist activist who came to the US to whip up political support for rescuing Europe's Jews. Many historians credit their partnership with creating the public pressure that finally convinced Roosevelt to establish the War Refugee Board in 1944.

Although the Board's director acknowledged its activities were "little and late," the WRB offered crucial aid to Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg's rescue of thousands of Hungarian Jews. All in all, historians estimate the War Refugee Board saved as many as 200,000 lives.

After the war, Ben Hecht, once again, proved himself the indispensable man. Ignoring the timid tut-tutting of the Jewish establishment, Hecht threw himself into rescuing Holocaust survivors from displacement camps in Europe and sneaking them into British-controlled Palestine. His pageant, *A Flag is Born*, stirred American sympathy for the creation of Israel. Peter Bergson's Committee used the funds raised by Hecht's pageant to buy a ship that brought Jewish refugees to Palestine. The British captured it, but the S.S. Ben Hecht was eventually reborn as the first ship of the brand-new Israeli Navy.

Whenever I ponder the mystery of Ben Hecht's unique effrontery, I return to his off-hand comment that he was somehow born without the fear of what other people think of him. Even the British boycott of his films failed to deter him. "An empire hitting at a single man and passing sanctions against him!" wrote Hecht. "There was something to swell a writer's bosom and add a notch to his hat size."

Ben Hecht died in New York City in 1964 at age 70. We need his spirit with us now, as our world darkens with violence, anti-Semitism, and threats of nuclear genocide.

And here he is, calling to us from his 1940 Hitchcock film *Foreign Correspondent*: "Keep those lights burning, cover them with steel, build them in with guns, build a canopy of battleships and bombing planes around them and, hello, America, hang on to your lights, they're the only lights in the world."

Stella Paul's new ebook is What I Miss About America: Reflections from the Golden Age of Hope and Change, available from Amazon. This article appeared in AmericanThinker on February 20th.

First Ayaan...Now Fiamma

Bruce Bawer

[Editor's note: Many people have pointed out the dangerous parallels to the 1930s in the escalating anti-Semitism in Europe. There is a crucial difference. Today Israel offers a haven and a home to all Jews in search of one.]



When she walks down the streets in Italy, passersby shout greetings to her, addressing her as *onorevole* [The Honorable]. "In a few days," Italian Parliamentarian Fiamma Nirenstein said to me the other day in a long, energetic, and remarkably openhearted phone call from Rome, "I will not be *onorevole* anymore."

Nirenstein, one of the most prominent members of the Italian Parliament, has chosen not to run for office again. More than that, she has chosen to leave Italy for Israel. She is Jewish. She is making aliyah. And she is leaving politics to return to journalism.

She has mixed feelings about the change. "As a journalist, you're read. By some. But when you're an *onorevole*, all you have to say is that you're angry about something and a whole lot of people in the press will write about it. And you can write a law, and spread the word, and win support, and get it passed." In many regards, Fiamma is like former Dutch parliamentarian Ayaan Hirsi Ali, not only because both women have made use of their political positions to vigorously challenge Islam and defend its victims, but because both ended up having to be accompanied everywhere by armed guards – and also because Fiamma, like Ayaan before her, is a top-rank European hero of our time who has decided that she has no alternative other than to leave Europe.

Fiamma has stood up for Jews in Italy, for gays and Christians in the Middle East, for the anathematization of Hezbollah. That's different from just being a journalist. Still, journalism is calling. "A journalist is a journalist, and you have to go back to it."

There were, to be sure, doubts. "I had to decide. Do I stay or go? If I could have stayed a little more I would have stayed." But at some point, she wanted to make aliyah. Which is another issue: "When you're in Parliament, you don't want to be accused of double loyalties" – of caring more about Israel than about Italy. For her, there's no conflict. She remains devoted to Italy – its culture, its roots. But she sees, as some Italians don't, that if they fail to stand up for Israel, Italy is over. "They're dead. They're done. They're destroyed. This is how I feel about Europe."

She recalls meeting another female senator in the street who introduced Fiamma to her daughter by saying: "This is Fiamma, who has been given the honor to defend Israel in the Parliament." Indeed she's done many positive things with her time in politics. I first met her at a 2007 Rome conference she organized on women in the Islamic world. We were reunited two years later, in the same city, at a conference on violence against women. More recently, she brought together a small army of Arab woman to blow the cover, once and for all, on the liberatory pretensions of the so-called Arab Spring. For three years, moreover, she ran a commission on anti-Semitism in Italy.

Yet, she admits, “I didn’t feel much help from the Italian community in all this work. From the elite,” she hastens to add. When she announced her plans to make aliya, “I had a revolution of people writing me to stay, telling me please stay. But the elite didn’t say a word.” Frankly, they prefer for the Jew to leave the scene – just as so many Dutch movers and shakers were relieved to see Ayaan’s back. Fiamma’s absence, quite simply, will make things easier. Certainly it’s been no picnic for her. The personal attacks have mounted. “I am threatened every day.” European Jews, she underscores, need to realize they’re “living in an anti-Semitic continent. It’s coming back again.” All of which propels her to move to Israel. Not to escape – but to fight. Yes, “I want to be defended psychologically and physically” by Israel. But she wants it to work the other way, too: “I want to defend it. I want to be there to defend it....Israel is threatened by Iran, by all these Muslims from the Middle East. There are many more reasons now to be in Israel than some years ago.” Israel is certainly more directly, urgently, and immediately threatened than Italy.

And yet, in a remarkable and instructive paradox, life is more comfortable for a Jew in Israel than in Italy. “It’s a place where the sense of communality, patriotism, happiness, and the secure life is so beautiful. I have a lot of problems, of course, moving there.” But the “compensation,” she says, more than makes up for it. The problem: in Italy “I feel very alone. That’s the worst thing that can happen in the life of a man. When you are there [Israel], you are never alone. There’s something there that doesn’t exist in Europe anymore, or anyplace – a people that still are trying to survive. Still trying to stand up. An incredibly vibrant democracy and economy and science and culture.”

"What is Europe nowadays? Day after day what you see is the clash between Germany and France, Italy and Germany – the desperate attempt to create a communal sense. It doesn’t work. In Israel you ask yourself who you are, and you find the answer. You’re somebody who tries to survive with the enormous responsibility of saving a thousand-year-old culture that founded all of the values of modernity from the Ten Commandments up to the invention of democracy. And it’s all on the shoulders of this tiny little country, which, if it does not survive, then everything will die.” That’s the bottom line. Yes, Israelis fight amongst one another – harshly. “But at the same time they’re so close to each other, so cozy,” so that the whole society is “an exercise in democracy.” The opposing parties and candidates “have a lot in common. They are alive, modern, witty kind of people that think. I want to see them in the same government. I want to see what these crazy people are able to do together, so different and yet at the same time so close to each other.”

I remember my first visit to Rome, when I had dinner with Fiamma and a group of her Italian Jewish supporters, one of whom explained to me that she was their community’s *fiamma* (flame). What of them? Should they, I ask, also high-tail it to Israel? “I understand how important it is that the Jewish community stay in Europe,” she says. “To win this terrible race with history. I appreciate that. What I don’t appreciate is that they don’t understand that the main key to their survival is Israel. They will be destroyed by history if there is no Israel.” The Italian Jews, she underscores, “are wonderful.” But they must learn to “be strong again. You are no longer just the community of the Italian Jews. You are the most ancient community in Europe. Stand up and tell them who you are.”

Indeed, some things about Italian Jews explicitly anger her. At present, for example, the Italian Jewish media are savaging “a young fantastic woman” politician who dares to belong to the center-right People of Freedom (PdL) Party, and who despite her fierce support of Israel is being accused by them of “not representing real Jewish values.” (Alas, this is standard issue these days for European Jewish communities, which live under the folly that if only they sell out Israel they will be left alone.)

“My idea of going to Israel, then, is not so personal after all,” she says. “At the end of the day you must do what you think. I am a Zionist. You must do what you are.” She admits that she “never felt integrated into the Jewish Italian community”: she found it too riddled with ignorance about, among other things, the Arab countries – their killing of everybody from Christians to “little girls who want to go

to school.” She doesn’t want to live in Obama’s kind of society, dominated by political correctness and the “sense of ‘I want to be good and I want to be even better than you expect from me.’”

So she will go to Israel. And she will write. “First I will continue writing. And my dream is to be able to put my experience and my energies, as long as I have them – because I am beginning to be old – at the service of the country that I love.” And, by extension, at the service of all of us in the Free West. As I said to her at the end of our conversation: “Buona fortuna” – and mazel tov.

Bruce Bawer's most recent book is The Victim's Revolution published by Broadside Books. This article appeared on February 13 in FrontPage Magazine.

Zionism 101

Ruth King

In his later years, Herbert Zweibon, the late and beloved chairman of Americans for a Safe Israel, recognized the importance of education and Jewish failure in this regard. He hoped to create a site for the Internet age which would provide a place where people could go to learn about Zionism, of whose history little is known even by Israel's supporters. He would be pleased with the results thus far of his brainchild, *Zionism101.org*.

In David Isaac, Herbert Zweibon’s project has found a perfect writer-director to fulfill Herb’s goal. Isaac has amassed a treasure trove of footage to tell the story of Israel’s political prophets – Theodore Herzl and Ze’ev Jabotinsky– as well as of leaders like Chaim Weizmann and David Ben-Gurion.

Currently, Isaac is producing for Zionism 101 a stunning series on Christian Zionism. Because Zionist historians have glossed over Christian contributions to the movement, these films promise to be an eye-opener even for those with a strong foundation in Zionist history. How many know, for example, that Theodor Herzl allowed only one person outside his own family to visit him on his deathbed and that was Rev. William Hechler? Isaac says, “British Christian Zionists were critical in paving the way for the Balfour Declaration. I hope that Zionism 101 will set that record straight and give them the credit that’s long overdue.”

Christian Zionists show a love for Israel without necessarily being aware of their historical contributions to the creation of the Jewish State. Jews, for their part, know even less about Christian moral and material support that continues to this day. The site’s films on the topic should make Christian friends of Israel friendlier still and open Jewish hearts to our non-Jewish allies.

An email Isaac received this week indicates the site's potential. "I discovered your excellent website this morning. Thank you for this professional, user friendly, resource. I am a Christian Zionist who teaches on Israel, both the ancient and modern history of the State. I am always looking for excellent material to use in educating people with the truth on the subject. I work with a group that advocates for Israel within the Christian population of Canada and also encourages the Jewish population of our nation. I live at Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Please continue to produce this excellent resource and know that it is being used in the nations for your cause. Shalom, Lorraine B."

The site is remarkably well-organized and easy to navigate. It’s divided into ‘video courses’ containing a series of films five to six minutes in length. The first ‘video course’ is “Founding Fathers.” It includes an impressive hour-and-a-half of film covering such leaders as Ze’ev Jabotinsky and Chaim Weizmann. Isaac says, “Jabotinsky may be well-known to AFSI members, but if you pulled most Jews off the street, and asked them who Jabotinsky was, they’d have no clue.”

Zionism 101 looks at other great Zionist heroes who have faded into the mists of time, including Yosef Trumpeldor, the only Jewish officer in the Czar's army, who lost his arm in the Russo-Japanese war, went on to lead the Zion Mule Corps and died in defense of the Jewish settlement of Tel Hai.

The next section will be on the rebirth of Hebrew as a spoken language owing in good part to the tenacity of another hero, Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, who even risked his son's future by speaking to him – and allowing him to be spoken to by others – only in Hebrew.

The site is free but registration is required and updates on new sections will be automatically sent to all who register. The site adheres to absolute discretion when it comes to names and e-mails. For more information, Mr. Isaac can be reached through the contact page on the website, <http://www.zionism101.org>.

This AFSI undertaking is one of the most important projects in our history, and one which addresses head-on the propaganda, distortion and outright lies that have permeated the Internet, and, unfortunately, the textbooks of many schools.

Zionism 101 requires time, dedication, knowledge and talent, all of which Isaac, and the team he's assembled, have in abundance. However, funding is critical to complete the project and we hope that AFSI's friends and fellow Zionists will step up to the financial plate to maintain this ongoing and valuable effort. Many of us are consumed with the current terrible state of affairs as Israel is maligned through malice and anti-Semitism abetted by ignorance. We ask what we can do. Zionism 101 is one answer.

As a special to *Outpost* readers, we are offering this link to view the latest film released by Zionism 101 without need for registration. It is part 3 of Christian Zionism, "Hechler to Wingate": <http://zionism101.org/NewestVideo.aspx>



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Editor: Rael Jean Isaac

Editorial Board: Ruth King, Rita Kramer

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Americans For a Safe Israel

1751 Second Ave. (at 91st Street)

New York, NY 10128

Tel (212) 828-2424 / fax (212) 828-1717

Email: afsi@rcn.com