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The French Disconnection

William Mehlman

The French may not have invented *chutzpah* but they've certainly invested it with new meaning. That became strikingly evident when in virtually the same diplomatic breath Prime Minister Manuel Valls said he'd divert 100 million Euros from France's staggering economy to wage war on the anti-Semitic virus engulfing his nation, while his foreign minister, Laurent Fabius, was peremptorily flogging a proposed UN Security Council resolution that would send Israel back to the 1949 "Auschwitz" cease-fire lines, impose a "Palestinian state" on Judea and Samaria, with its capital in a re-divided Jerusalem, and compel the Jewish state's submission to a "fair resolution" of the Palestinian "refugee" claim.

So let's get this straight: On the one hand, 500,000 Jews must, at all costs, be dissuaded from running off to Israel and other locales because, per Msr. Valls, "France without its Jews is not France." On the other hand, 6.3 million Israeli Jews must be prepared to cede their defensible borders, their historic highlands and their 3,500 year-old capital to a Fatah kleptocracy partnered with a politicidist Hamas because, per Msr. Fabius, "there is no other solution."

We have late-breaking news for these two gentlemen – it is 2015, not 1938. If 500,000 Jews choose to remain tenants of a government under the illusion that 100 million Euros, or ten times that amount, can lure the Jihadist genie it has loosed upon its land back into the bottle that is their affair. One can but hope that those among them who regard the insurance of their children's Jewish future a categorical imperative will grasp the hand Israel has extended to them.

As for Israel, the nation-state of the Jewish people, it is nobody's "tenant." That is not, of course, how France and its Israel-obsessed EU partners see it. If their proposed "resolution" is anything like the one the U.S. vetoed last December, it "would be a triumph for those who have long wanted the Great Powers to decide Israel's future," Steve Rosen avers in a sizzling *Washington Times* critique. "It seizes the Jewish people's authority to make decisions about its own destiny and moves it to a forum where Israel is not [and has never been] a member," a body famously described by one time American UN Ambassador Jeanne Kirkpatrick as more a platform" for a mugging, than either a political debate or an effort at problem solving...[whose] goal is the isolation and humiliation of the victim."

In a single stroke, "without reference to Israel's right to secure borders previously guaranteed by Resolution 242 in 1967," Rosen asserts, title to 41 percent of the Jewish dwellings in Jerusalem might be put under a cloud with Security Council adoption of the French draft, including seven communities stretching, north-to-south, from Ramot to Gilo, plus the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron and all of Ma'ale Adumim. With a little fussing around the edges, Rosen thinks the proposed French-EU plan to turn Judea and Samaria into a Palestinian gift package might pass muster with even as exacting a connoisseur as Hamas founder Mahmoud Al-Zahar, who views Judea and Samaria as the dream venues for a final assault on the Israeli heartland. "Can you imagine what would happen," he exulted in a September 2014 statement, "if the enemy was targeted from the West Bank?"

Israel has been imagining it for 48 years, as most recently attested to in a head-on, mid-May collision in Jerusalem between a top level Israeli strategic consulting group and its French counterpart, one whose reverberations penetrated the front page of *Ha'aretz*, the country's prestigious left-wing daily. "The harsh exchanges were more evidence of the depth of the tension between the two countries and the frustration building up on both sides over the past few months," Barak Ravid, the paper's diplomatic correspondent reported. It all began, needless to say, with French President Francois Hollande's clumsy attempt to exclude Prime Minister Netanyahu from participation in a Paris mass march in protest of the Jewish supermarket massacre that shared the headlines with the murder of a dozen Charlie Hebdo cartoonists. French-Israeli relations have been going south ever since. "You are

speaking with the whole world about your [Security Council] initiative, just not with us,” Foreign Ministry Director General Nissim Ben-Sheetrit was heard to have said to Christian Masset, his French opposite number in tones audible well beyond the conference doors. “You seem to have forgotten we are also a party to this.” The discussion from that point became “increasingly confrontational, deteriorating into mutual recriminations,” Ravid wrote.

President Obama has at least three solid pretexts for derailing any French attempt to push its Mideast “peace” proposal to a Security Council vote. The Democratic caucuses in the House and Senate are sufficiently dead set against it that a non-veto or abstention could cause key members to abandon him on the Iranian nuclear deal. It’s additionally a potential thorn in the side of Hillary Clinton’s campaign. She would either have to justify a non-veto or divorce herself from the administration she served. The president’s best pretext for the veto he seems certain to cast is a just-released *Wall Street Journal* -- ABC News poll revealing that America’s appetite for a Palestinian state has sunk to its lowest level in 20 years --- from 58 percent approval to 39 percent.

For the present at least, the French are showing no sign of retreat. “We don’t and we won’t give up on this,” insists Francis Delatore, their UN ambassador. The U.S. and several Arab states have repeatedly, albeit tactfully, advised France that its UN “initiative” be laid aside for a “more appropriate time.” Never sounds about right.

William Mehlman represents AFSI in Israel.

From the Editor

In Memory of Robert Wistrich

AFSI mourns the passing of Robert Wistrich, professor at Hebrew University, leading historian of anti-Semitism and staunch Zionist. Wistrich died at 70 of a heart attack while in Rome to address the Italian Senate on the perils of rising anti-Semitism in Europe.



Wistrich’s magnum opus, *A Lethal Obsession: Anti-Semitism from Antiquity to the Global Jihad*, was published in 2010. Tellingly there is a chapter on Jewish self-haters through the ages. Wistrich recounts Schnitzler’s witticism that anti-Semitism did not succeed until the Jews began to sponsor it. Today the Jewish haters of Israel (the stand-in for Jews) are an especially dangerous collection of vipers, organized everywhere from Israel itself to the United States (see the item on donors to the New Israel Fund in this From the Editor)..

In an appreciation of Wistrich in the *Allgemeiner*, Winston Pickett says that he asked him how he could bear spending every hour on such a depressing topic.

Wistrich’s response was “Israel. This is the only place I could ever carry out this work.” In other words, the miracle of modern Israel gave Wistrich the essential sustenance to chronicle the bitter story of anti-Semitism through the ages. And of course the story was not all bitter. One of Wistrich’s books was *The Jews of Vienna in the Age of Franz Joseph*, an interlude in which Jews made Vienna a center of high culture under the benevolent rule of Franz Joseph. Anyone who has missed seeing *Woman in Gold* about the effort to restore Gustav Klimt’s Portrait of Adele Bloch Bauer to the rightful owner should hasten to see it.

Congress Missteps on Iran

Tom McClintock (R-CA), a staunch friend of Israel and one of the finest minds in the House of Representatives, warns that in passing House Bill 1191, supposedly restoring Congressional oversight over the President's negotiations with Iran, Congress may be making a bad mistake. This is what McClintock says: "Our Constitution requires that any treaty be approved by two-thirds of the Senate. This wasn't going to happen, so Mr. Obama simply redefined the prospective treaty as an agreement between leaders—an agreement with no force of law and no legal standing. I fear that Congress has just changed this equation by establishing a wholly extra-constitutional process that lends the imprimatur of Congress to these ill-advised negotiations with no practical way to stop the lifting of sanctions. Instead of two-thirds of the Senate having to approve a treaty as the Constitution requires, this agreement takes effect automatically unless two-thirds of both houses reject it—a complete sham."

McClintock points out that any agreement with Iran's leaders is meaningless for "Iran's government is a notoriously untrustworthy rogue state" and the only way forward is to provide "every ounce of moral and material support that the Iranian opposition needs to rid their nation of this fascist-Islamic dictatorship, to restore their proud heritage and to retake their place among the civilized nations of the world."

Obama Waxes Delusional on Climate Change

The speech would have been laugh-out-loud funny if the implications were not so serious. In his commencement address to cadets at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Obama linked ISIS and Boko Haram to climate change. Sample from the speech: "It's now believed that drought and crop failures and high food prices helped fuel the early unrest in Syria, which descended into civil war in the heart of the Middle East."

As exasperated free-lance writer Daniel Sobieski writes in *American Thinker*, "Believed by whom? Those who think Elvis Presley and Jimmy Hoffa are alive running a donut shop in Idaho?" Sobieski urges the President (who also warned of alarmingly high sea levels) to look on the bright side: "If sea levels rise high enough, maybe ISIS and Boko Haram will drown."

But as a letter writer to the *Wall Street Journal* (Lawrence J. Sullivan) points out, the deserved ridicule that descended on the President took attention from the most significant sentence in the speech. In describing climate change as "an immediate risk to our national security" and saying "we need to act now", Obama "has granted himself the authority to impose all manner of environmental rules and restrictions on our struggling economy...The president's circumvention of Congress and his disdain for the Constitution to date have been a mere bag of shells compared with what is coming. Both parties had better wake up."

Professors of English

Whatever of the world's ills progressive thinkers do not pin on climate change they attribute to Israel. English professors were once those who inculcated in the next generation the best of what had been thought and said. Today in many of our elite colleges, English professors inculcate the most meretricious ideas and values. Case in point, the University of Washington. The following is from UW English professor emeritus Edward Alexander:

"The University of Washington's Simpson Center for the Humanities, compulsively putting Israel on trial, continues to make its contribution to this demented obsession with the country that is home to over half the world's Jewish population. Recently Simpson decided to augment calumny with a 'research cluster' entitled 'Palestine and the Public Sphere.' Its first speaker was Omar Barghouti, stalwart of the 'Boycott, Divest, Sanction' movement to expel Israel from the family of nations: he spoke on opening day of the ghoulish 'Israel Apartheid Week.'

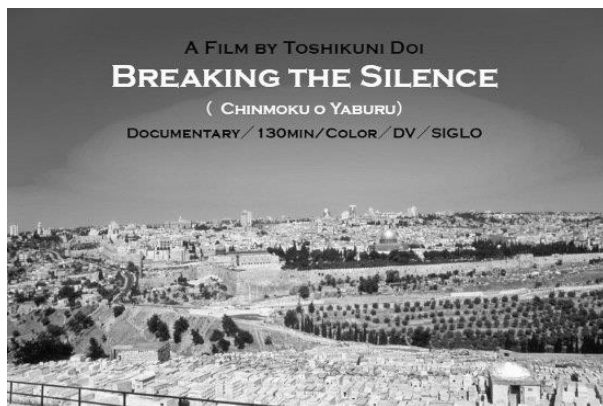
“Although Simpson’s *raison d’être* is support of ‘cross disciplinary understanding, collaboration and research,’ the three ‘faculty contacts’ chosen to embody its cross-disciplinary character are a professor from the English department (Eva Cherniavsky), another professor from English (Sandra Silberstein) and a third professor from English (Anis Bawarshi). The single book recommended as guide to the unending trial of Israel-Shylock is *The Question of Zion* by Jacqueline Rose, also professor of English (but from England). And lest we forget, the director of the Simpson Center is Kathleen Woodward, University of Washington professor of English. With so much manpower devoted to depicting Israel as the devil’s experiment station, it’s no wonder that English departments (like University of Washington’s) no long required their majors to read a play or sonnet by Shakespeare.”

Anti-Israel Jews

Forty years ago AFSI published a pamphlet (by this writer) on Breira, the first Jewish organization in what would become a series that advocated saving Israel’s “soul” by wiping out her physical existence. At the time the Jewish establishment organizations were united in condemning Breira—they were especially worried about its proclaimed intent to establish an alternative funding organization to advance its agenda.

Fast forward to 2015 and the New Israel Fund is precisely that type of funding organization. The difference is that leaders in the American Jewish establishment today are among the chief donors to the New Israel Fund and it is those who protest against the Fund’s efforts to delegitimize Israel who find themselves on the defensive.

Ronn Torossian, CEO of a major U.S. public relations agency, writes in an *Israel National News* op-ed that among New Israel Fund’s high profile donors are the President of UJA Federation, Alisa Doctoroff, the Jewish Communal Fund, the Jim Joseph Foundation, the Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation, the Leichtag Foundation, Joan and Robert Arnow and many others. Torossian points out that even many of those opposed to the New Israel Fund are afraid to speak out and seek to silence those who do. Writes Torossian: “The claim made privately is that if the New Israel Fund is shunned by the community the Reform will stop funding the Jewish establishment, and that left-wing extremists will ensure that support is withdrawn from communal concerns.” Translation: the rot is so advanced in the Reform establishment—it is so wedded to anti-Israel advocacy—that it will withdraw support from the “good works” the Federation does in the community if New Israel Fund is not welcomed into the fold.



In Israel (at least thus far) there are no such inhibitions. Even Israel’s Supreme Court, scarcely a bastion of right-wingers, has called the boycotts organized by the outfits funded by New Israel Fund “economic terrorism.” The Likud has made no bones in calling New Israel Fund an “anti-Zionist organization.” Naftali Bennett, incoming education minister, says: “They turn to the UN and to the committees that are most hostile to Israel and try their best to convince them that Israel is a war criminal....The New Israel Fund invests large amounts of money through its organizations with one purpose—to harm IDF soldiers who are

physically protecting us with their bodies.”

As Torossian says: “All one needs to know about New Israel Fund is that their website now brags about the new report *Breaking the Silence* which slanders the Israeli Army with untruths. That report was funded by NIF donors and George Soros’ organization Open Society Foundations.”

The Jews, the Vatican, and the Pope

Ruth King

On March 23, 2000, Pope John Paul II spoke the following words at Yad Vashem:

“As Bishop of Rome and Successor of the Apostle Peter, I assure the Jewish people that the Catholic Church, motivated by the Gospel law of truth and love and by no political considerations, is deeply saddened by the hatred, acts of persecution and displays of anti-Semitism directed against the Jews by Christians at any time and in any place. The Church rejects racism in any form as a denial of the image of the Creator inherent in every human being (cf. Gen 1:26).

"In this place of solemn remembrance, I fervently pray that our sorrow for the tragedy which the Jewish people suffered in the twentieth century will lead to a new relationship between Christians and Jews. Let us build a new future in which there will be no more anti-Jewish feeling among Christians or anti-Christian feeling among Jews, but rather the mutual respect required of those who adore the one Creator and Lord, and look to Abraham as our common father in faith (cf. We Remember, V).”

Six years later, in May 2006, Pope Benedict XVI, a native of Germany who had directly experienced the Nazi years, speaking at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, invoked the memory of John Paul II.

Walking alone, the 79-year-old pontiff, with head bowed said:

“To speak in this place of horror, in this place where unprecedented mass crimes were committed against God and man is almost impossible — and it is particularly difficult and troubling for a Christian, for a Pope from Germany.

“By destroying Israel, they ultimately wanted to tear up the taproot of the Christian faith and to replace it with a faith of their own invention: faith in the rule of man, the rule of the powerful.”

He added “Why, Lord did you remain silent?”

But three years later, in 2009, at Yad Vashem, Pope Benedict did not speak of Nazis and the concentration camps, instead issuing vague evocations of the dead. Of the Holocaust he said "Similarly, she [the Church] draws close to all those who today are subjected to persecution on account of race, color, condition of life or religion."

The uproar was instant and eclipsed the comfort and reconciliation that Jews and Catholics had found in the Pope’s previous message in Auschwitz.

The Pope was harshly criticized in an editorial in the German paper *Der Spiegel*.

“The pope never mentioned the culprits, or the German words engraved into the floor of the Hall of Remembrance at his feet: Buchenwald, Auschwitz, Majdanek, Theresienstadt. He said nothing about the church's position on the Holocaust, or about its history of anti-Semitism, which made the Shoah possible in the first place. Instead, he confined himself to mentioning the "deep compassion" of the Catholic Church for "the victims.”

Frankly, whatever the intention, there was a hint of inappropriate moral equivalence.

And now Pope Francis, who hails from Argentina, has ignited uproar.

On May 13 2015, The Vatican officially recognized the “State of Palestine”- a fictional state with no defined or legitimate borders, whose leaders openly call for the destruction of Israel by surrender of territory crucial to its survival and "the right of return" which would demographically swamp the Jewish state. To add injury to insult, the Pope had a super friendly meeting with Mahmoud Abbas on whom he bestowed a large bronze medallion representing the angel of peace, one of his customary gifts to visiting presidents.

Hmm. Did the Pope not know or care that the recipient of the coveted medallion wrote a published thesis at Patrice Lumumba University in Moscow entitled *The Other Side: The Secret Relationship Between Nazism and Zionism*? In the book, Abbas argues that the Jewish victims of the

Holocaust were actually the victims of a Zionist-Nazi plot aimed to fuel vengeance against Jews and to produce their mass extermination.

And why does he appease tyrants like Raul Castro whose regime has imprisoned and tortured innocent civilians for simple dissent?

There is a real mystery here.

Why would the Pope seek to accommodate those who assault the church and its teachings? Who has insulted Catholics more than those who openly lobby for abortion, an act that Catholics consider murder? Who makes Roe v. Wade a litmus test for appointments to the highest court? Who finds pedophiles under every pew without regard to the thousands of missionaries and clergy who have devoted themselves to bringing help and hope to victims throughout the world? Who has removed the Ten Commandments from all public buildings except the United States Supreme Court, where it remains sculpted in stone? Who has opposed public funding for Catholic schools even in neighborhoods where they are the only haven for disadvantaged youth? Who has attempted to remove religion from all public life, even from the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States?

Why it is those very people who also champion the false narrative of the so-called



“Palestinians”--the very same folks that draw moral equivalence between Israel and its tormentors. The very same folks that give Palestinian Arab credibility as victims at the expense of Israel’s survival.

Why does the Pope champion a cause that is inimical to Christians? Has he seen the processions to the Stations of the Cross in the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem which are protected with dignity and respect by the Israeli police and defense forces? Has he visited and rejoiced in Nazareth where the Church of the Annunciation is scrupulously respected and protected by the State of Israel? Has he read

Matthew 4:13, whence Jesus went to Capernaum where he gathered his first disciples? Has he visited Abu Ghosh on the highway between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem where the ancient Benedictine Monastery was restored and is maintained by the Israeli government? Has he seen The Church of Notre Dame -Our Lady of the Ark of the Covenant where a large statue of the Virgin Mary is visible from every direction in the complex?

The cradle of Christianity is in Israel, in Bethlehem, in Nazareth and in Jerusalem. Only Israel....repeat....only Israel...has maintained uninterrupted access and updated and restored Christian shrines and churches. The Muslim Arabs have defaced, destroyed and defiled them as they have systematically oppressed Christians in all Arab lands.

Who sees all Christians and Jews as infidels whose places of worship and shrines must be desecrated and destroyed? Radical Muslim Arabs.

Israel and the Catholics share a past and a destiny. The Pope should not encourage Israel’s enemies.

To be fair, much of the criticism of the Pope is pure hypocrisy, coming from a gaggle of Jewish appeasers who call Abbas a "partner for peace" and advocate the suicidal two state solution that would place a terrorist, jihad-driven state at Israel's throat.

Popes come and go. Some are better than others. The vast majority of Catholics are supporters of Israel. The Vatican will survive. And Israel will survive both foolish and wise Popes.

Islamic State Eyes Damascus

Eyal Zisser

One year after seizing vast areas of Syria and Iraq, the Islamic State group has once again reared its head. As it turns out, while Washington was busy eulogizing the organization and spreading rumors about the death of its leader, Islamic State was gearing up for the next round of fighting.

Last week, Islamic State dealt a one-two punch to the Syrian and Iraqi regimes by seizing the Iraqi city of Ramadi, 120 kilometers (75 miles) west of the capital of Baghdad, and the Syrian city of Palmyra, 200 kilometers (124 miles) northeast of Damascus.

It seems the Obama administration, which was convinced Islamic State was retreating and perhaps even on the brink of collapse, was the only one to be surprised by the group's success.



A Crucifixion by ISIS

Islamic State's progress is resounding proof of the failure of the American strategy, which seeks to deal with the threat via airstrikes and covert commando raids. Moreover, the group's success is also resounding proof of how detached Washington is from the reality on the ground.

The problem is that in their quest to get a better grasp of the situation, the Americans have decided to adopt the Iranian point of view, placing their trust in Tehran, and therefore in Hezbollah, to indirectly assist them in curtailing Islamic State's progress in Syria and Iraq.

The advances Islamic State has made in Iraq are disturbing, but it is doubtful the group is seeking to overrun Baghdad and the Shiite areas in southern Iraq, whose government, as everyone knows, has become defunct and no longer presumes to represent the Iraqi people.

Essentially, all that is left of sovereign Iraq is the Shiite people, who enjoy the backing of the U.S. and the assistance of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards. They have come together to fight Islamic State over the Shiite territories in southern Iraq, but have neither the interest nor the ability to defend northern Iraq from the *jihadi* group.

As opposed to the complicated situation in Iraq, Islamic State fighters view the regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad in Syria as easy prey. In overrunning Palmyra, Islamic State dealt a blow to Assad, whose regime is barely holding on as it is.

Assad has virtually no military forces fighting for him in the hundreds of battlegrounds across Syria. What is left of the Syrian army is a group of exhausted soldiers who are outnumbered and unmotivated, and Assad can do little to assist them.

While Assad, assisted by several thousand Hezbollah operatives, is fighting a rearguard battle at the Qalamoun Mountains on the Syria-Lebanon border, Islamic State has been able to seize some 100,000 square kilometers (38,600 square miles) of Syria, and although most of this area is uninhabited, it still represents two-thirds of the country.

Control of Palmyra affords Islamic State a springboard to the heart of Syria, toward Damascus in the south and Homs, which connects the northern and southern parts of Syria.

Assad's problems, however, go beyond Islamic State, as he must also contend with the Nusra Front, which is collaborating with several rebel groups backed by Jordan, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia. Unlike before, the rebel groups have joined forces and are threatening the Assad regime from the south, near the city of Daraa and on the Syrian Golan Heights, and from the north, where they have already taken the cities of Idlib and Jisr al-Shughur.

These groups are now threatening Aleppo, the second-largest city in Syria, as well as the regime's strongholds on the Alawi coast.

In this reality, the assistance Hezbollah lends the Assad regime is a drop in the bucket. It would take a miracle to save the regime, and despite Washington's illusions, Islamic State may soon become one of the entities filling the vacuum in Syria. This will pose a problem for Israel as well.

Eyal Zisser is professor of Middle Eastern and African History at Tel Aviv University. This appeared in Israel Hayom of May 26.

A Delegitimization Called Nakba

Sarah Honig

Delegitimization provides the sociopsychological rationale, the moral and discursive basis to harm the delegitimized group, even in the most inhumane ways... Delegitimized groups are rhetorically constructed as worthy targets of violence.

....The Oxford Handbook of Intergroup Conflict, 2012

The above is what we Israelis, as this volatile region's most relentlessly delegitimized group, must keep uppermost in mind every mid-May.

Whereas we celebrate our state's Independence Day according to the Hebrew calendar, the Gregorian anniversary, May 15, is annually commemorated by Arabs as a day of lamentation for the Nakba. It's the catastrophe according to their loaded terminology, which nascent Jewish sovereignty supposedly inflicted on the supposedly indigenous people of this land – the Palestinians.

The notion that Israel was born in sin is delegitimization in the most extreme sense.

The delegitimization rests on two interconnected cornerstones – portraying Israel as the occupier-aggressor and portraying local Arabs as the hapless aboriginals overrun and oppressed by the occupier-aggressor.

Here in a nutshell are the crude Nakba charges against Israel, predicated on the fictional existence of an entity called Palestine, which had predated Israel and which Israel had ruthlessly demolished.

All which inconveniently contradicts these contentions can be dispensed with in the style of Soviet-era loose-leaf encyclopedias, where pages with no-longer approved information were replaced by the latest party line.

Here's a pertinent case in point. Until not too long ago the official Umm el-Fahm website featured a proud historical retrospective of the major clans that comprise most of this Arab city's population. Then an unseen hand deleted the file.

The clan summaries were truthful but truth can be all too undesirable in the context of boosting an aboriginal Palestinian identity, especially one that according to PA figurehead Mahmoud Abbas is no less than a whopping 9000-years-old. Such outlandish cock-and-bull stories, needless to stress, are lapped up abroad, especially by Europe's refined Judeophobes.

The spin about a primal presence in this land is born of the need to cover up the incontestable historical absence of a Palestinian nation. This is achieved by promoting a latter-day fabrication to proclaim precedence over the ancient Jewish link to this land. Thereby, even the Biblical Israelites can be slandered as having been imperialist conquistadors already back then, never mind the simultaneous assertion that no Israelites whatsoever were ever here.

Consistent logic and congruent versions were never prerequisite in the peculiar perspective of Palestinian propaganda.

The Umm el-Fahm clan chronicles had to be sacrificed so as not to sabotage the Canaanite lineage canard. The embarrassing chronicles directly detailed what each and every clan member knows – where the clan drifted from and how recently.

Some members of four clans – Makhajna, Jabarin, Mahamid, and Aghbariya – immigrated here in recent centuries from Syria and the Arabian Peninsula (Yemen and today's Saudi Arabia) but even the majority of these clans is comprised of far newer-arrivals. A big influx from Egypt and Transjordan was attracted by the economic opportunities that the burgeoning Zionist endeavor created.

This was a severely depopulating land due to appallingly abused environmental infrastructure (with resultant ills like malarial swamps) as well as marauding bands of Bedouin bandits who terrorized settled folks. Zionism made this country tolerable again whereupon Arabs came streaming in to avail themselves of Jewish-made prospects.

It's not just our say-so. On May 17, 1939 U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt noted that "Arab immigration into Palestine since 1921 has vastly exceeded the total Jewish immigration during this whole period."

Winston Churchill made the identical observation: "Despite the fact that they were never persecuted, masses of Arabs poured into the country and multiplied until the Arab population grew more than what all of world Jewry could add to the Jewish population."

Occasionally the truth slips out despite the authorized narrative. In March 2012 Hamas's Interior



Minister in Gaza, Fathi Hamad, pleaded for pan-Arab help against the IDF "so that we can continue the Jihad... Praise Allah, we all have Arab roots and every Palestinian in Gaza and all over Palestine can prove their Arab roots, whether they be in Saudi Arabia and Yemen, or anywhere else. We have blood ties."

Hamad elaborated by personal example: "Half my family is Egyptian...There are over 30 clans in the Gaza Strip with the surname Al-Masri [Egyptian]...Half of all Palestinians are Egyptians, and the other half are Saudi. Who are the Palestinians?

We have many families called Al-Masri whose roots are Egyptian... We are Egyptians."

He knows whereof he speaks. Itinerant Arab laborers streamed here from the entire Arabic-speaking realm—from the Maghreb to Mesopotamia. Jews turned the wilderness into a habitable domain. Arabs flocked in to reap the benefits. But nobody objected. Arabs were counted as natives. The UN actually recognized as "Palestinian" any Arab migrants who sojourned here two years prior to 1948.

Most of the Arab population on Israel's Coastal Plain is originally Egyptian and arrived with British acquiescence. Hence, the recorded Mandate-era population explosion in some Arab villages ranged quite unnaturally from between 200% to a whopping 1,040%, according to Prof. Moshe Brawer's research into Arab migration into the designated Jewish National Home from Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, etc.

The ruling Brits and world opinion didn't oppose the Arab influx for "changing facts on the ground," possibly because liberal Jews didn't riot.

So why the alacrity of Abbas et al to covet the pedigree of Canaanites or Philistines (whose bloodlines, ironically, were assimilated into that of the Israelite majority still in early biblical days and whose names would never have endured had they not been preserved by Jewish historiography)?

In a rare moment of candor former MK Azmi Bishara (who absconded to avoid trial for treason and espionage during the 2006 war) explained from his Qatari haven that Arab nationalists feel "obligated to nationalize the history of Arab-speaking peoples and to make it into a national history that goes back from before the time of Islam all the way to contemporary times... Acting out of a need to compete with Zionism, the Palestinian national movement has anchored its origins to those of the Canaanites" in order to "achieve its own, unique starting-off point in the past that precedes that of the Hebrew tribes, which Zionism claims as its natural ancestors."

Translation: If the Jews boast ancient roots, local Arabs will invent even more ancient roots. In the current postmodern ambiance, it's not like it would be *bon ton* anywhere to insist on even a modicum of historical accuracy.

If anything, there's perverse satisfaction in the Europe that largely cleansed itself of Jews, to depict the remnant of the Jewish people as a tyrannical ogre. Hence it's uncool to recall that Jerusalem Mufti Haj Amin al-Husseini, still revered by Arabs, spent WWII as Hitler's personal guest in Berlin and avidly collaborated in implementing the "final solution to the Jewish problem."

Husseini wasn't the odd-man-out. He gave expression to his people's overwhelming vehemence. Already in 1937 Josef Goebbels praised Arab "national and racial awareness," noting that "in Palestine they hoist Nazi flags and deck their homes with swastikas and portraits of Hitler."

Arabs were among the first to latch onto Nazi ideology. Undisguised fascist parties proliferated – from Syria's Nationalist-Socialists headed by Anton Saada to Ahmed Hussein's Young Egypt. Hussein was the kingpin.

During WWII Hussein's adherents in this country hoarded arms and trained to assist Rommel's invading Afrika Korps. They harbored German paratroopers, engaged in espionage, disseminated Third Reich propaganda and greeted each other with Nazi salutes, accompanied by Heil Hitlers.

The Arabs (who before Israeli independence fanatically spurned the Palestinian moniker as a British imperialist import – which it indeed was) were victims of their own belligerence. They murdered their own brethren and sabotaged their own economy. In 1936 Hussein, bankrolled by Hitler, instigated a self-inflicted disaster – harbinger of the 1948 Nakba which would follow the onslaught by seven Arab armies on day-old Israel merely three years post-Holocaust.

The ultra-vulnerable Jewish state would be blamed for surviving and would fill its thwarted would-be annihilators with yet more frustration and festering rage. Instead of abating, genocidal hate would only intensify and magnify.

Those belatedly calling themselves Palestinians portray themselves as innocents struck by a monumental calamity and continuously subjugated for no fault of their own. They clamor for another chance, for a return to Square-One, presumably to recoup their losses and continue from where they left off.

This is the dialectic of delegitimization and the Nakba is its driving force. Time to fearlessly tell it like it is.

Sarah Honig is an Israeli journalist. This is an edited version of an article that appeared on sarahhonig.com/2015/05/14/.

A new video has gone up at Zionism101.org.

**"The Jewish Undergrounds: LEHI" is now available. You can see it directly via the following link:
<http://zionism101.org/NewestVideoVimeo.aspx>**

"The Jewish Undergrounds: LEHI" describes the rise of the first underground to fight the British. Founded by Avraham "Yair" Stern, a poet and classical scholar, LEHI will carry out its war against the British chiefly through high-profile assassinations.

We encourage you to share information about "Zionism 101" with anyone who is interested in learning about the most important development in modern Jewish history.

The Legacy of the Three International Brigades

Norman Berdichevsky

(Editor's note: In this essay Berdichevsky describes three "international brigades," the most famous of which is the International Brigade in the Spanish civil war. The second is the international volunteer group of 12,000 men that sought to help Finland when it was invaded by Soviet Russia during the short "Winter War" from November 1939 to March 1940. The third—the section reprinted here—consisted of the 4,000 (both Jewish and non-Jewish) volunteers who helped defend the nascent state of Israel from the invasion of seven regular Arab armies and a large force of Palestinian irregulars pledged to its destruction in 1948-49.)

With regards to the three International brigades, the most effective one without a doubt was Mahal – Mitnadvei Hutz la'Aretz (Volunteers from Outside the Country) who helped turn the tide of battle and constituted a major segment of the Israeli Air force. American Jewish military veterans, pilots and merchant seamen in the volunteer force were under supervision by orders of the State Department and the FBI to make sure that they were not carrying illegal immigrants or arms and more than once they were stopped.

American intelligence continued to buy the myth from 1947 to 1951 that the new Israeli state



might be pro-Soviet because of the large presence of the Socialist-Zionist political parties and the proven success in combat of the Hagana and Palmach, units with a large participation of leftwing kibbutz members. Taking (as always) their lead from Moscow, the (hitherto anti-Zionist) Palestinian communist organizations merged their separate Arab and Jewish divisions in October, 1948, giving unconditional support to the Israeli war effort and urging the Israel

Defense Forces to "Drive on toward the Suez Canal and hand British Imperialism a stinging defeat!" This alarmed the State Department which had been warned by British intelligence of possible Soviet infiltration or influence among the Israeli forces.

More than a few volunteers were adventurers with little commitment to Zionism, non-Jews or individuals who had had previous problems with a rigid, disciplined hierarchy. Some of the non-Jews were also deserters from the British Mandatory forces of largely Irish origin.

It was also a source of concern to the British and Americans that the Jews were receiving aircraft and heavy weapons from the east Bloc countries with Soviet support. In the summer of 1947, the leaders of the Yishuv (Jewish community in Palestine) sent Dr. Moshe Sneh (the Chief of the European Branch of the Jewish Agency, a leading member of the centrist General Zionist Party who later moved far leftward and became head of the Israeli Communist Party) to Prague to purchase arms in order to improve Jewish defenses. He was surprised by the sympathy towards Zionism and by the interest in arms export on the side of the Czech Government. Sneh met with the Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Clementis, who succeeded the non-Communist and definitely pro-Zionist Prime Minister Jan Masaryk. Sneh and Clementis discussed the possibility of Czech arms provisions for the Jewish state and the Czechs gave their approval.

The volunteers for Israel (Mahalniks) were mostly World War II veterans from American and British armed forces. In various circumstances, they were invited, or heard of the Jewish state's struggle for independence and volunteered. In some cases those who enlisted had no prior military experience. They included both ideological supporters of Zionism and mercenaries.

The Ha'apala movement, also called "Aliyah Bet", which attempted to evade the 1939 and 1948 British naval blockade restricting Jewish immigration to Palestine, was assisted by 236 Mahal former servicemen of the Allied navies serving as crews for ten clandestine Jewish refugee ships out of the sixty-six participating vessels.

The 1948 Arab-Israeli War saw approximately 4,000 foreign volunteers from 58 countries among the Jewish forces. A total of 123 Mahalniks were killed in battle (119 men and 4 women). The most prominent senior Machal officer was Mickey Marcus, a Jewish United States Army colonel who assisted Israeli forces during the war and became Israel's first Brigadier General.

Mahal cargo flights transported vital weapons and supplies to Palestine from Europe, and thousands of Jewish refugees from Arab countries and the East Bloc countries. These newly arrived Jewish immigrants were vital reinforcement for the outnumbered Israeli forces and made up for manpower in the civilian economy. During the Egyptian Army siege of the Negev region in 1948, Mahal pilots airlifted thousands of tons of supplies to Jewish settlements behind enemy lines. They often made night landings of converted airliners on makeshift, unpaved sand runways, hand-lit by oil lamps.

Logistic support for IAF was provided by various diaspora groups which procured planes in the critical months of 1948-9. The IAF scored an impressive victory just hours before the final cease-fire on January 7, 1949. A flight of four British RAF Spitfires on a reconnaissance flight over the Israeli border were attacked by a pair of Israeli Air Force Spitfires, resulting in three of the British planes being shot down. The Israeli Spitfires were flown by Mahal volunteers "Slick" Goodlin (USA) and John McElroy (Canada). Both were former US Army Air Forces and Royal Canadian Air Force pilots, veterans of World War II.

George F. "Buzz" Beurling, of the Royal Canadian Air Force, was the top Canadian combat air ace



George F. "Buzz" Beurling

in World War II, with 31 Nazi planes to his credit. He was one of 34 Christian pilots from the U.S. and Canada to volunteer for the IAF. Beurling, only 26 at the time of his death, and his Jewish co-pilot, Leonard Cohen of England, were both killed while attempting to ferry a plane from Italy to Israel on May 20, 1948. Rudy Augarten, an American combat pilot and Harvard graduate had shot down two German ME-109s while flying a P-47 during World War II. In Israel's War of independence, he downed four Egyptian aircraft while flying a Czech ME-109 (former World War II German aircraft), a British Spitfire and an American P-51.

All three International Brigades were the product of idealism, the desire of free men to defend the values of civilization against tyranny. The major difference is that for many among the Spanish Civil War Veterans, their devotion was tarnished by the excesses and lies of Stalin's henchmen and the Far Left that served him across the globe. For those who tried to aid Finland, there remain the fond memories of world solidarity but for the veterans of Mahal, there is the enormous satisfaction of knowing they made a decisive contribution in helping Israel survive, prevail and endure. A museum is dedicated to their efforts and is located in the Hillel House on the campus of the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Norman Berdichevsky is a geographer, lecturer, and translator. His most recent book is Modern Hebrew: The Past and Future of a Revitalized Language. The entire essay can be read in the intellectualconservative.com of May 9.

Simple Questions Relating to the Middle East that are Never Asked

Edgar Davidson



1. Why are Western countries expected to take in unlimited Muslim “refugees” while far wealthier (and under-populated) Muslim countries like Qatar, Saudi, UAE, Bahrein, etc never are despite sharing the same religion, language and culture as the “refugees”?
2. Why is it a cause for celebration when Americans, Brits or Arabs kill Islamic terrorists, but a ‘war crime’ when Israel does it?
3. Why is the only country in the Middle East that is not an apartheid state (Israel) the only one that is accused of being an apartheid state?
4. How is it that the people who call Israel an ‘apartheid’ state also generally insist that every single Jew must leave ‘Palestinian territory’?
5. Why are anti-Semitic activists who are dedicated to the destruction of Israel always called “Pro-Palestinians” rather than what they really are?
6. Can you identify a single pro-Palestinian activity (as opposed to anti-Israel activity) that has ever been carried out by any Western “pro-Palestinian” activist?
7. Why are anti-Zionist organizations like Yachad, J-Street and the New Israel Fund still referred to as being ‘pro-Israel’?
8. Why are bigoted, brainwashed Westerners who go to “Palestine” to throw rocks at Israelis called “peace activists”?
9. Why are scorecards of ‘civilians killed’ mandatory for conflicts involving Israel (as in “2000 Palestinians killed, only 10 Israelis”), but never used in any other conflict in the world (did you ever see the number of dead British or US civilians mentioned when those countries mount attacks against Arab countries)?
10. Over 140 countries in the United Nations were either created, or achieved independence, after 1945. Why is it that only one –Israel– has its legitimacy questioned?
11. Why do people who routinely reject Israel’s claim to its own capital city Jerusalem never question Britain’s claim to the Falkland Islands (a mere 13,000 miles away)?
12. (To all British politicians) Why do you insist that Muslim colonisation of British cities is a great success for multi-culturalism, whereas allowing Jews to live in their own capital city Jerusalem is an obstacle to peace?
13. Why does Iran need ‘peaceful nuclear energy’ when it has the second largest reserves of oil and gas in the world (enough to meet its own population’s energy demands for over a million years)?
14. Why is Turkey still occupying Northern Cyprus?
15. (To all politicians) If – as you insist – Islamist terrorists who declare that they are killing in the name of Allah are not Muslims, then what religion are they?
16. (To all politicians) If – as you insist – Islam is a “Religion of Peace” then why do you also tell cartoonists they must not draw Mohamed as it will incite Muslims to kill them?
17. (To David Cameron and every single LibDem and Labour politician) If, as you always say, every penny reduction to the Foreign Aid budget will lead to more African children starving to death, how do you justify the £20 million of the budget every year being paid to the Palestine Authority as salaries for convicted terrorists?

18. If poverty and discrimination are reasons youngsters in the West turn to terrorism, how come only Muslims (and never Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, non-Muslim Africans, non-Muslim blacks, Charedi Jews, gypsies and indeed every other poor, minority group) have actually become terrorists?

Edgar Davidson lives both in the United Kingdom and in Israel. He blogs at <http://edgar1981.blogspot.com/>

Truly Amazing Israel

Ruth King

First: The population of Israel on the eve of 2015 was 8,296,000. The population of New Jersey in 2014 was 8.938 million.

Second: The size of Israel including Judea and Samaria...Well, it would fit cozily inside of Lake Michigan.



Lake Kinneret getting low

Third: Climate is generally arid with long, hot and dry summers and short wet winters. Water shortages were considered a major problem for Israel after 1948. Today, thanks to a cutting edge desalination industry Israel has agricultural output, farms, lush green parks, gardens, with the yearly anguish over the water level of Lake Kinneret a nightmare of the past.

Fourth: There are 35 colleges and universities in Israel. Four Israeli universities are ranked in the world's top 300. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem was named the best university in Israel, coming in 138th overall—just behind Dartmouth College and just ahead of the University of Virginia. The Technion—Israel Institute of Technology—was Israel's next highest, at 190th, followed by Tel Aviv University, at 195th, and Ben-Gurion University at 292nd.

Fifth: Nobel Prize Winners in Israel: I don't count "peace" prizes whose recipients are, to put it charitably, a mixed bag. There are six winners in Chemistry, two in economics and one in literature. One of them Prof. Aaron Ciechanover, an Israeli Nobel-prize winner in chemistry (2004) is leader of a team at the Technion which discovered two proteins that can suppress cancer and control cancer cells' growth and development.

In August of 2015 Israel will host the world's biggest science conference.

According to the organizers, it will be the biggest conference of its kind ever held in the world with participants from 60 countries. The conference was initiated by the Israeli Foreign Ministry, American Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry Prof. Roger Kornberg, the Ministry of Science, the Prime Minister's Office and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, which will host the event.

A supercomputer would be needed to calculate the intelligence quotient at this event: About 20 Nobel Prize laureates in science, dozens of world renowned scientists and 400 young people considered the future generation of global science will participate.

Okay....you think I am milking it? How do you say "moo" in Hebrew?

Check this fact out: Israel Leads the Way in Dairy Tech.

TEL AVIV, May 19 (Reuters) - Decades ago Israeli dairy farmers confronted a quandary - how could they provide milk to a fast-growing population in a country that is two-thirds desert, with little grazing land?

They turned to technology, developing equipment that boosted output—from cooling systems to milk meters and biometrics—and have made Israeli cows the most productive in the world.

And this latest headline: World's first—Israeli Scientists Grow Lymphatic Cells in the Lab

A breakthrough by Weizmann Institute researchers reveals how lymphatic system develops in embryo and solves longstanding riddle.

Michael Ordman publishes a wonderful site detailing amazing Israel's amazing contributions to Science and Technology, Health, Economics, Cultural and Global humanitarian drives.

Check it out and be proud and amazed:

<http://verygoodnewsisrael.blogspot.com/>

I could go on and on with the contributions of Israel to lighting up the world with their pioneering research and development of scientific and life enhancing technologies.

Even the vermin of the Israel bashing groupies throughout the world benefit from these discoveries. How about an app that identifies them and prohibits their gain from Israeli companies?

Hmmm....

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