
OUTPOST



February 2016—Issue #295 PUBLISHED BY AMERICANS FOR A SAFE ISRAEL

46th Year of Publication

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Gilding the Weed

William Mehlman

The media-abetted elation that attended Iran's release of five American hostages guilty of no discernible violation of its laws in exchange for seven Iranians nailed by U.S. authorities for attempting to smuggle banned missile components into the Islamic Republic redefines celebration as a reasoned response to the pickpocket's return of your emptied wallet. One would have thought the White House in full self-congratulatory armor and John Kerry cast as Talleyrand had just pulled off the diplomatic coup of the 21st Century.

In fact, this "hostages-for-spies" swap could serve as a model for emulation, a "get out of jail" card for any rogue regime whose operatives get caught in the act. It should be noted that in addition to clemency for the seven violators of the U.S. Sanctions Law—three of whom hold dual American citizenship—the White House rushed to cancel Interpol "Red Notice" arrest warrants for 14 other Iranian nationals "for whom," according to a State Department spokesman, "it was assumed that extradition requests were unlikely to be successful." Translation: they were part of the package.

If all this were not sufficient to warrant the administration's immediate election to the diplomatic Hall of Fame, the U.S., without batting an eye, agreed to reimburse Ayatollah Khamenei's government to the tune of \$1.7 billion (\$400 million in principal, \$1.3 billion in interest) for its 37-year suspension of a prepaid delivery of military hardware to Tehran in the wake of the fall of the Shah's government to the "Islamic Revolution" and the subsequent 444-day incarceration of American diplomatic personnel following the 1979 storming of their embassy.

While we can't be other than comforted by the separation of five innocent Americans from their Republican Guard captors, it serves as little more than glorified window dressing for Iran's reentry, under the cloak of an American-led "nuclear containment" agreement, into a global marketplace from which it has been largely barred for more than a decade. Embracing the five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council plus Germany (P5+1), the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), as the agreement signed in July is formally known, cancels virtually all economic and financial sanctions imposed on Iran in return for a commitment to cease its quest for an atomic bomb and its suspension of all efforts related to that quest.

Inter alia, the sanctions termination will release an estimated \$100-\$150 billion in Iranian assets frozen in foreign banks, allow reconnection to the Society for the Worldwide International Financial Telecommunications (SWIFT), the premiere payment network for global financial transactions, permit a major increase in its oil exports and a projected \$350 billion in overseas capital investment through the next five years. Receipt of this bonanza is predicated on a report, already issued, by the UN's International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) attesting to Tehran's compliance with its commitment to dismantle its nuclear capabilities in accordance with the JCPOA agreement. How "compliance" is interpreted is another matter. The "deal" the P5+1 signed off on, avers Emile Landau, a Senior Fellow at Tel Aviv's Institute for National Security Studies, "allows Iran to continue research and development of advanced centrifuges which down the road could enable it to replenish enriched uranium {25,000 pounds of which was shipped to Russia under the agreement] at a faster pace." In the same report, Mark Dubrow, Executive Director of the Foundation for the Defense of Democracy, submits that "Iran [has] achieved a major victory, trading away easily reversible concessions to emerge in 10-15 years with a massive nuclear program...a rapid path to a bomb, ICBMs, regional dominance and an economy immunized against future sanctions."

To make matters worse, even as the IAEA was assuring the world of the Islamic Republic's compliance with the nuclear containment agreement, the 35-nation nuclear watchdog announced it was closing the books on a long-standing investigation into Iran's almost certain secret weapons program at

its Parchin military research center in order not to obstruct finalization of the JCPOA agreement. Prospective employment of the billions in defrosted cash Iran will receive under that agreement is a nightmare in its own right. Israel is especially concerned about the further strengthening of Tehran's terrorist proxies, Hezbollah and Hamas chief among them.

Alex Fishman in a *YNet News* analysis points to an announcement from Tehran that it will spend up to \$21 billion on an upgrade of its weapons systems, including purchases of the Sukhoi SU-30 jet fighter and the advanced Yakhont anti-ship cruise missile from Russia. Russia's T-90 tanks, currently being used by its forces in Syria, may also be part of the package. Scheduled for February delivery is the first shipment of the Russian S-300 aerial missile defense system, billed as the world's deadliest anti-aircraft platform. "Senior Israeli officials," Fishman asserts, "have accused the American administration of ignoring...the military aspects of the Iranian sanctions removal, saying Washington did not put any pressure on the Iranians on the deployment of strategic weapons—like long- range ballistic missiles capable of carrying a nuclear warhead."

Dr. Aaron Lerner in an Independent Media Review analysis, argues that America's proposed military response, if all else fails, to an Iranian violation of the nuclear agreement is a dangerous illusion. That option, he asserts, hinges on the ability of the B-2 stealth bomber to penetrate strategic Iranian targets. "The B-2 can carry out the mission today but there's no certainty that will be the case in the future. Let's be clear about this," he adds, "we aren't talking about the American will to act against a future Iranian move to build nuclear weapons. We're talking about American capability. Down the road, with Iranian strategic sites protected by Russian anti-aircraft systems that can detect and shoot down B-2s, the U.S. won't have the capability to rapidly destroy an Iranian bomb-making project in process...The claim that future U.S. presidents will always have the military option if the [nuclear containment] deal fails, is more than smug.

"It's an outright lie."

William Mehlman represents AFSI in Israel.

From the Editor

Taking on NGOs

In *Catch the Jew* Tuvia Tenenbom, in his travels through Israel and the Palestinian occupied territories as "Tubi the German", focuses on the role of anti-Israel NGOs (some of them Jewish-led), chiefly funded by European countries, in stoking hatred of Israel. Now, finally, Israel proposes to take a minor measure in self-defense. Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked has sponsored a bill to require political NGOs principally funded by foreign governments to identify as foreign agents in their official communications.

The U.S. State Department is in high dudgeon, this despite the fact that the Shaked bill is less restrictive than the U.S. Foreign Agents Registration Act. The reason for the U.S. opposition to the bill is not hard to understand. As Caroline Glick points out, the U.S. has seen radical NGOs operating in Israel as a potential tool to carry out anti-Israel policies. Thanks to disclosures from Hillary's email server we know, for example, that former ambassador to Israel Thomas Pickering recommended using NGOs, including Peace Now, which he mentioned by name, to destabilize Israel. The U.S. has funded B'Tselem's video project which seeks to show IDF soldiers and Israeli civilians in a bad light so as to call their morality and legitimacy into question. (Two can play at the same game and *Uvda*, Israel Channel 2's investigative news magazine, recently broadcast video shot by *Ad Kan*, a three year old pro-Israel NGO that shows operatives for *B'Tselem* and the so-called "grassroots" *Ta-ayush* plotting to bring about

the arrest, torture and murder of a Palestinian—who wanted to sell his land to Jews—by the Palestinian Authority’s U.S. trained and funded security services.)

Channel 2 also broadcast *Ad Kan* footage showing another NGO employee paying *Ta-ayush* for organizing a demonstration against IDF soldiers and *Ta-ayush* in turn paying Palestinians in cash for throwing stones at IDF soldiers. Passing the Shaked bill would only be a first step in the necessary measures to bring to heel the NGOs which now run amok and, as Glick writes “will stop at nothing to achieve their goal of demonizing Israel and destroying its good name in the Western world.”

The Green Climate Fund

It is most unlikely that climate change conferences will do anything to change the temperature, but they have already contributed significantly to the world’s store of gobbledygook. In Paris in December the developing nations who are to be recipients of the developed world’s largesse promised in return to recognize “the importance of promoting, protecting and respecting all human rights, including the right to development, and the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, climate induced migrants, refugees and internally displaced peoples, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations with due respect to sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, as well as promoting health, gender equality and the empowerment of women, while taking into account the needs of local communities, intergenerational equity concerns and the integrity of ecosystems and Mother Earth, when taking action to address climate change.”

Patrick Heren, who quoted this literary gem in “The Great Climate Change Boondoggle”, notes that Christiana Figueres, the Costa Rican Marxist academic nominally in charge of the Paris conference, argues the developed world should contribute a trillion a year (not the mere \$100 billion currently on offer) to developing nations. Writes Heren, adapting the late Senator Everett Dirksen: “A trillion here, a trillion there, pretty soon you’re talking real money.”

Guess Who’s Coming to Germany

The online site *The Daily Beast* interviewed Hezbollah fighters in Lebanon who had lost the will to die in Syria’s civil war. Several professed a continued willingness to fight Israel but not fellow Muslims. One of those interviewed had joined Hezbollah in the mid-1990s, participated in the 2006 war with Israel in Lebanon, and now in his forties had lost his job and family benefits since he refused to return to fight in Syria. He says he helped his nephews flee Lebanon for Germany after they deserted their units in Syria and says soon he too will take his family to Germany.

Surprise, surprise. Jews in Germany are reported to be growing ever more fearful about their safety.

Parents Beware

Thanks to Max Samarov and Amanda Botfeld for this warning to parents of children at Hebrew schools across the country: watch out for a new K-12 curriculum, “Reframing Israel,” produced by Rabbi Laurie Zimmerman and already adopted by 10 Hebrew schools. The main author and majority of contributors to “Reframing Israel” are part of the Boycott, Divest and Sanctions movement and this curriculum (while pretending to teach “Jewish kids to think critically about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict”) promotes that movement.

Samarov and Botfeld write: “‘Reframing Israel’ has not been widely adopted by Jewish educational institutions as of yet, but there appear to be active attempts underway to make this happen, starting with outreach to the “Reconstructionist Educators of North America. The curriculum has also received significant exposure in the mainstream Jewish press and been promoted on social

media by officials at influential political organizations. As efforts to push 'Reframing Israel' increase, it is crucial for Jewish educators and parents to be fully informed about how problematic it truly is."

Supporting Israel on Campus

It's not only Jews in Europe who are concerned for their safety. Lawyer and Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz reports: "Christian speakers, pro-Israel speakers, speakers that are not politically correct today, have their physical safety endangered. I know when I speak on college campuses in favor of Israel, I need armed guards protecting me from radical leftist students who would use physical intimidation."

Talk about a double standard. While the crybullies on campus denounce "micro-aggression" when they are confronted with Halloween costumes of which they disapprove, they have no problem with old fashioned naked aggression against those benighted enough to support Israel or oppose abortion.

The Grand Canyon

American born novelist and journalist Naomi Ragen has lived in Jerusalem since 1971. She makes regular book tours to promote her work in the United States. She describes what happened on her last tour on the car ride back to her hotel after her lecture when, as usual, she was driven by an enthusiastic fan/volunteer from the book committee that had invited her—this one slim, pretty, with expensive diamond rings, soon to be making her first visit to Israel to see daycare centers for which she had been fundraising, and, no surprise here, an Obama supporter.

Ragen quotes from their conversation which underlines what she calls the "Grand Canyon" between Israeli and American Jews:

Fan/volunteer: You know, American Jews vote for the things that are important to them. Those are not always the same things that are important to Israelis.

Ragen: What is important to you?

Fan/volunteer: Well, women's rights, reproductive rights. The environment. And fighting the evangelicals.

Ragen: So let me get this straight. You're worried about abortions, climate change and being converted to Christianity? And those things are more vital, more important to you, than whether Israel's greatest enemy gets an atom bomb to blow the next six million Jews off the face of the earth?

Ragen might have added: "And these progressive du jour causes make it impossible for you to process the real dangers that face you—rising anti-Semitism worldwide, already making serious inroads in American colleges, and certain to travel far beyond those 'hallowed halls'."

Arms Across the Ocean

North Korea and Iran may be 3970.8 miles apart but it's arms across the sea for these members in good standing of the axis of evil when it comes to the effort to destroy Israel.

On July 23, 2014 a U.S. court ruled Iran and North Korea were liable for damages for their "material support and assistance" to Hezbollah, which allowed that organization to rain rockets on Israel during the 2006 war in Lebanon. A few days later *The Daily Telegraph* disclosed that Hamas was negotiating a new arms deal with North Korea. North Korea has also been key in advancing Iran's missile program. Iranian exiled opposition groups have reported that North Korean nuclear experts, nuclear warhead experts and experts in various elements of ballistic missiles including guidance systems made frequent visits to Tehran's military research facility.

Meanwhile the axis of stupidity in the U.S. and Europe appeases and enables the other axis.

High Noon to Midnight: Why Current Immigration Policy Dooms American Jewry

Stephen M. Steinlight

Editor's note: This prescient article was written in 2004, long before the current Muslim invasion which is overwhelming Europe and, thanks to Obama's policies, will have a major impact here. While Steinlight believed American Jewish organizations were waking up to the dangers of Muslim immigration, this has turned out to be wildly over-optimistic. This is an edited version of a much longer essay—well worth reading in its entirety—at www.cis.org/articles/2004/steinlight2.html

Among the articles of faith in the waning culture of secular liberalism that has served as an *ersatz* religion for many mainstream American Jews, the most vulnerable tenet is belief in "generous legal immigration," the euphemism for open-borders immigration in the lexicon of American-Jewish public affairs agencies. This is not to accuse them of crude hypocrisy and double-talk so much as engaging in intellectual and moral trimming, self-deception, and denial.

Promulgating self-deception isn't merely bad ethics; it's untenable as a matter of policy: it conflicts with the interests, security and values of American Jewry. Survey research, plus mountains of anecdotal evidence, reveals a profound change in attitude among American Jews. Opinion polls in the three years following the attacks of September 11, 2001 show a plurality favoring lowered immigration, 70 percent the introduction of a secure national identity card, and 55 percent believing Muslims are the most anti-Semitic group in the United States. It may not require another domestic terrorist enormity for respondents to discern simple cause-and-effect relationships; more ambitious efforts to persuade might suffice.

My experience at the grassroots suggests Jews know little about the history of their own immigration, immigration policy, the scale of immigration, or the engines that drive it. Frequently, all that's required to effect attitudinal change is apprising them. When I began my efforts, the Jewish media spoke of Jewish attitudes in favor of open-borders immigration as "monolithic;" now it's commonplace to speak of "a raging debate." If this could be accomplished essentially by one person, what might a concerted, well-funded effort achieve? Among the community's organizational leadership, enthusiasm for this dangerous anachronism is a mile wide and an inch deep.

The collision between old allegiances and urgent new realities had begun among Jewish leadership, if sotto voce, before 9/11. That tremendum accelerated the process by revealing the connection between our anarchic immigration policy and the savage assault on the innocent lives and national security of the American people. In its wake, with the war against Islamic terror that began in earnest in Afghanistan, with major news stories concerning the prevalence of virulent anti-Semitism throughout the Muslim world or its upsurge within the European Union, as well as media coverage of the "New Anti-Semitism," it has become difficult to remain simultaneously credible and in a state of denial. In choosing between a sentimental archaism and confronting existential horror, only those willing to be perceived as purblind or suicidal don't eventually adjust to facts.

Thus, behind closed doors, Jewish leaders speak a different language. Privately they express grave concern that unregulated immigration will prove ruinous to American Jewry, as it has for French Jewry, and will for Jews throughout Western Europe. There's particular fear about the impact on Jewish security, as well as American support for Israel, of the rapid growth of the Muslim population. At the conclusion of meetings with national leaders, several told me, "You're 1000 percent right, but I can't go out and say it yet." While they have yet to find the civic courage to break with the traditional consensus they can see the Rubicon glinting in the distance, and many recognize that eventually they will have to cross it.

I've spoken about immigration with more grassroots Jews than any other person in America, and I know that change won't come painlessly. Segments of the leadership remain true believers in the dying

faith of open immigration, and will not give up without a fight. But that change is inevitable is clear enough. The question, ultimately, is whether it will come too late to make a difference to the future of America and its Jewish community.

The prospect of breaking with the old consensus is so wrenching many are effectively paralyzed by it, but it must concentrate their minds wonderfully to know that upholding it endangers the viability of the community whose protection is their *raison d'être*. American-Jewish leadership is experiencing profound vertigo as it seeks to chart a course through circumstances that appear logical only to a schizophrenic.

On one hand, they're leaders of a community that feels a sense of belonging unknown in the history of Diaspora Jewry. America's Jews have attained success and acceptance beyond their forebear's fondest dreams.

Among the best-known indices of its success, 10 percent of the U.S. Senate is Jewish, as is a majority of the presidents at Ivy League universities. Faculties and student bodies at elite colleges and universities are typically 30 to 40 percent Jewish. Jews form a high percentage within the learned professions and among writers, nationally syndicated journalists, and publishers of some of the nation's leading newspapers and periodicals, and as creators and disseminators of high and popular culture. They play the predominant role in Hollywood, and thus shape much of our self-definition as Americans. Jews also hold key positions within many leading financial institutions, especially within investment banking and the brokerage industry.

Once a significant factor in American life, anti-Semitism has become a peripheral phenomenon. A recent ADL study found only some 12 percent of white Christian Americans hold anti-Semitic attitudes. Indeed, a key factor contributing to the crisis in Jewish continuity is that our neighbors like us and often wish to marry us and have children with us.



Historical consciousness and political acuity notwithstanding, American Jews, like everyone, believe in myths, which die slowly because they represent values and ideals, not realities, and the myth of Jewish immigrant experience will atrophy only gradually. Of all the pieces of Americana that American Jews know by heart, among the most-cherished is that verse inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..."

No group has exemplified, revered and clung to this idealized conception as much as the Jews who arrived in the Great Waves and their descendants. Given the horror that engulfed those that remained behind, including tens of thousands that might have been saved had the United States not closed its doors in 1924 and slammed them shut on Jews fleeing Nazism and the Holocaust in the 1930s and 1940s, no group has appreciated the blessings of immigrating to America more than Jews. Against this backdrop they must confront one of the most anguishing questions they've had to face in the entirety of their history in the United States: whether to support a continuation of mass immigration that's reached a historically unprecedented level or exercise their still-considerable political and economic clout to try to curtail it.

With approximately 1.5 million legal and illegal immigrants entering annually — equivalent to the population of Philadelphia — the United States has the highest number of foreign-born residents ever. As a percentage of the population, these 33 million, strengthened continuously, will soon surpass a level not seen since the first decade of the 20th century. Within a few years they will constitute the largest percentage of foreign-born in U.S. history.

For Jews, the immigration debate pits the heart against the head. In their gut, many feel that substantially reducing immigration betrays the legacy of their parents and grandparents. But a growing

number believes that maintaining this policy betrays their children and grandchildren. The danger arises because mass immigration means importing mass anti-Semitism. The upsurge of violent anti-Semitism in Western Europe tracks perfectly with mass immigration, especially of Muslims. Mass immigration is also the generator of Balkanizing notions of extreme multiculturalism. Having worked for nearly a century through communal organizations, the courts, and interfaith dialogue to achieve a tolerant and cohesive society largely free of anti-Semitism, it's anguishing for American Jews to watch current immigration erase this outcome. However uncomfortable, American Jews must grapple with the issue: they have a greater stake than other Americans in how this policy plays out.

Of the manifold concerns about immigration felt by all Americans and American Jews in particular, the way it fuels Muslim immigration is most worrying. The May 14, 2003, *Globe & Mail* announced that Muslims outnumber Jews in Canada, noting this demographic shift "could ultimately affect [Canada's] position toward the protracted Middle East conflict."

Muslim ascendancy in Canada is a harbinger of things to come in America, with potentially enormous impact for both American Jewry and American foreign policy. According to the 1991 Canadian census, there were 25 percent more Jews in Canada than Muslims. Within a single decade that demographic advantage was erased. According to the 2001 census, the Muslim population of Canada exceeded the Jewish population by 75 percent.

CNN and ABC News recently reported a doubling of the Arab population in the United States in just two decades. The number of Arabs alone (not Muslims in general) is already nearly 1.3 million. For virtually its entire history, Arab immigration was primarily Christian and lopsidedly Lebanese; now it's virtually all Muslim, with the immigrants' lands of origin mainly Egypt, the West Bank, and Yemen.



Muslim immigration has fundamentally altered demography, culture, and the political landscape of Western Europe. Its impact on Jewish life is disastrous, and it has turned European foreign policy on the Middle East from even-handedness to one that is overtly anti-Israel, if not outright anti-Semitic. In today's Islamized Europe, Jews live under physical threat, something unknown since the rise of fascism. Nor is hostility to Israel confined to political leadership, media elites, or Muslims: a survey conducted by the European

Commission, "Iraq and Peace in the World," revealed that more ordinary Europeans consider Israel a threat to world peace than any other country.

Large-scale immigration places the United States on the threshold of a similar shift. Some 5.3 million Jews live in the United States compared to approximately 4 million Muslims. The shift's a certainty because the exponential growth of the Muslim population is paralleled by a sharp decline in the number of American Jews, in absolute terms and as a percentage of the population; further, there's no reason to believe this will be reversed. Jewish fertility is flat; Jews are an aging population; nearly half intermarry, and efforts to promote "Jewish Continuity" have yielded zero results. The United States is not only the world's sole superpower; it's also Israel's only ally. Without discounting the sincerity of many American Christians in their support for Israel, it would be naïve to believe politicians wouldn't respond to an ever-growing Islamic voting bloc, one that will eventually far outnumber Jewish voters.

Whatever their shortcomings, American politicians can count votes and campaign contributions. As Muslim Americans become politically organized — they're well on their way — politicians won't ignore this growing segment of the electorate. Muslims naturalize and vote at higher than average percentages — 65 percent in the last Presidential race. Like Jews, they're concentrated in states with high Electoral College votes.

As demography shifts, America's Jews will experience a rising threat to their physical security. The violent anti-Semitism sweeping Europe is the work of young, poor, alienated Muslims. The great

majority of synagogue burnings, desecrations of cemeteries, and assaults on Jews in religious attire are perpetrated by young Muslims indoctrinated to hate Jews by Islamist imams in the radical mosques that dominate European Islamic life. Virtually every major city in Western Europe has a central mosque, funded by the Saudis, that preaches extremist Wahabbi doctrine.

In the banlieues — the lawless slums that ring Paris and other French cities — Jews and Jewish institutions are repeatedly attacked by marauding gangs of Muslim hoodlums. CNN recently reported that violent attacks on Jews in Paris average 12 a day. Living amidst a Muslim population that outnumbers it 10 to one and a political establishment indifferent to anti-Semitism, beleaguered French Jews endure conditions not seen for more than half a century.

Drawing comparisons between countries is admittedly risky — the United States is not France, or Germany, or even Canada — but it would be foolhardy to ignore what's happening abroad. Unless changes are made in U.S. immigration policy, a similar transformation will likely occur here. It will also happen much more quickly than most might imagine. Current U.S. immigration law ensures an exponential growth in the Islamic population. Having established a foothold over the past 30 years and attained citizenship, these new Americans may petition to bring in large numbers of extended family members. Current policy entitles U.S. citizens to bring not only their nuclear families but parents, adult children and their spouses and children, and adult siblings and their spouses and children. Over time, these extended family members can bring a similar range of relatives in an unbreakable chain. What begins with a single immigrant can result in the immigration of an entire village, and in some West Bank towns as much as half the population now lives in the United States or has American citizenship.

There's a sad, if comic irony associated with the fact that employees at organizations like ADL, the American Jewish Committee, and the Presidents' Conference must pass through a gauntlet of concrete barriers, armed guards, metal detectors, and double bulletproof anterooms as they come to work each morning to protect them from radical Islamic terrorists, in order to spend their days studying and disseminating reports on the "threat" posed by Evangelical Christians. Meanwhile, the legislative affairs staffs of these organizations are directed to lobby against immigration reforms that could minimize the danger.

Political and economic realities within the Islamic world guarantee a tidal wave of immigration—unless a cut-off mechanism is enacted. Most of the world's 1.3 billion Muslims live in poverty-stricken, politically oppressive countries; two-thirds of the poorest people on Earth live in socially, politically, and economically fossilized Muslim societies. Given the chance to immigrate to the United States, countless millions would—at the same time harboring hatred and contempt for American culture and political institutions.

Jews stand to lose far more than any other group of Americans from a policy that brings in millions of immigrants from cultures that range from antipathetic to antithetic to Jews and Israel. Muslim immigrants feel enormous hostility toward Jews and are intent on nullifying Jewish political power in the United States as a step towards destroying Israel.

Within the Islamic universe is a fast-spreading totalitarian ideology whose name is Islamism, though it's called many things—Jihadism, Salafism, Wahhabism, or simply Fundamentalism. Its goal is world domination and the imposition of literalist, inhumane, unchangeable Islamic law on all nations and peoples.

It's ascendant everywhere. It threatens to turn the largely moderate Islam of India increasingly militant; it may well overthrow the comparatively moderate Muslim society and regime in Bangladesh. It's produced a body count of slaughtered innocents that runs into the tens of thousands in Algeria, and is a constant threat to stability in Egypt. It's gaining ground in the Caucasus; and there are Islamist insurgencies from Southern Thailand to the Philippines. And its adherents number in the millions in the heart of Europe.

It will not conquer the world militarily, though a stealth strategy of demographic transformation through immigration is working in Western Europe.

Even if the powerful assimilative forces of American culture prevail, it will take several generations, and it is arguable that they will never fully succeed with Muslims unless an Islamic Reformation comes about — an unlikely scenario because its proponents will be branded as infidels by traditional religious authorities and targeted for murder.

Perhaps the chief distinction between today's immigration and that of yesteryear is the absence of the tacit and overt pressures that assimilated even the most recalcitrant. These forces have been weakened by multiculturalist ideology that legitimizes and reinforces identity politics; the demise of Americanization programs; the death of civic education; the rise of bilingualism; and the elimination of obligatory national service.

It is highly unlikely today's immigrants will be as rapidly or fully absorbed into the mainstream as were our parents and grandparents. To believe the outcome will be the same under a wholly distinct set of conditions and socio-political constructs is not merely willful thinking: it is absurd.

Notwithstanding their emotional stake in Israel, America's Jews have a more immediate concern with anti-Semitism at home. The resurgence of anti-Semitism manifests itself most strongly, sometimes thinly disguised as anti-Zionism, on college campuses. The campus is the most inhospitable place for Jews and supporters of Israel in the United States, something that Hillel, the traditional institutional Jewish presence on America's campuses, is now addressing by developing talking-points for Jewish students to defend themselves against assaults on Israel and Judaism by Arab and Islamist students, fellow-travelers among other "aggrieved" minorities, and the legion of politically-correct kids of all backgrounds.

American Jews already live in a state of heightened threat. A visit to New York, home to America's largest Jewish population, provides striking evidence that Jews no longer live in safety. Virtually every high-profile Jewish institution in New York is surrounded by concrete barriers to prevent car bombs exploding too close to the building, while being checked by security guards and passing through metal detectors are now a routine a part of attending religious services. Such vigilance is not confined to New York. Throughout the country, in communities with a substantial Muslim presence, security is a critical part of planning any sort of Jewish political or communal event — especially those intended to demonstrate support for Israel.

Reality is dawning on many American Jews that something is amiss, although it seems lost on some of the country's most venerable Jewish organizations. There's a sad, if comic irony associated with the fact that employees at organizations like ADL, the American Jewish Committee, and the Presidents' Conference must pass through a gauntlet of concrete barriers, armed guards, metal detectors, and double bulletproof anterooms as they come to work each morning to protect them from radical Islamic terrorists, in order to spend their days studying and disseminating reports on the "threat" posed by Evangelical Christians. Meanwhile, the legislative affairs staffs of these organizations are directed to lobby against immigration reforms that could minimize the danger.

After 9/11, Jewish organizations began devoting more attention to the activities of Islamic radicals in the United States. Their web sites document the ties many of these groups have to terrorists. Amazingly, however, these watchdogs fail to employ the most basic logic and ask the most obvious question: How did they get here? Not one has been willing to examine the impact of mass immigration, including mass Muslim and Islamist immigration, on American Jewry, much less take a position calling for changes in U.S. immigration policy.

Among the most troubling phenomena, widely reported by Steven Emerson, Daniel Pipes, and courageous Muslim dissidents: many of the key "American" Islamic civic and charitable institutions that have sprung up in the United States in recent years are no more than domestic incarnations of foreign Islamist political parties. Among their primary objectives are undermining Jewish political influence in the United States, propagating anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial, and destroying Israel.

Masquerading as anti-discrimination organizations, entities like the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), the American Muslim Council (AMC), the Muslim Student Association (MSA), and the Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) are either offshoots of or maintain close ties to some of the most radical terrorist groups round the globe. The character of most Islamic organizations is reflected by the fact that more than half their "charities" operating in the United States have been closed down as a result of investigations launched after 9/11, with the remainder under continuing scrutiny.

It must be stressed, as many friends who grew up as orthodox Muslims across the Islamic patrimony have told me in agonizing personal confessions — friends that attended madrassah and then Islamic institutions of higher learning in countries ranging from Morocco to Egypt, Bosnia, Pakistan, and Bangladesh — that it is virtually impossible to be reared in classical Islam and not be educated to hate Jews — based on a literalist reading the Koran, where many of the verses concerning Jews (and Christians) are hateful incitements to murder.

Painful to say and hard to hear, barring an Islamic Enlightenment, at this juncture the only way to be a Muslim and not a Jew-hater is to be a lapsed Muslim or — if one continues to call oneself a Muslim and practice Islam — is to conduct what is, in essence, a private, personal "reformation."

Living at the high noon of Jewish political power, it will strike many as alarmist to suggest the sky may be about to fall. Yet that may well happen within the next 20 years. The Jewish population will be eclipsed by an ethnic group whose interests directly conflict with theirs and many of whose leaders and members are openly hostile to Jews. The Constitution, the basic integrity of the vast majority of Americans, and the professionalism of American law enforcement will militate against the kind of anti-Semitic violence taking place in France and elsewhere; at least they will slow its progress. What these will not be able to prevent is the loss of political support for Israel that would doom the Jewish state to total political isolation.

Without minimizing the effectiveness of organizations like AIPAC and others in steering U.S. foreign policy in a pro-Israel direction, it must be acknowledged that for many years they've been pushing on an open door. What's been missing was a counter-vailing force. There's never been a significant constituency as strongly opposed to Israel as American Jews have felt in favor of Israel; there's never been an anti-Israel constituency motivated enough to form political PACs and vote for or against candidates based on their stance on Middle East policy. Now there is, and it's growing rapidly as a result of immigration policy.

Even after Muslims outnumber Jews, Jews will maintain a political advantage for a time by virtue of the fact that they are well entrenched in the "old boys" network in Washington and other centers of power. Israel will also continue to enjoy strong support from millions of Evangelical Christians who see the Jews' return to the Holy Land — and their continuance there — as part of the biblical prophecy that presages the Second Coming.



The clock will eventually run out on these advantages. The fastest growing religious group in America, Muslims are organizing to promote their interests. Demography plus money equals political power. Muslim and Arab political PACs are springing up across the country.

There's something akin to religious faith among American Jews in the Constitution as the ultimate protector of their rights. Though it's surely the most enlightened governing treatise ever devised, it's finally just words on paper. Many nations have had enlightened constitutions expressing lofty ideals and, nevertheless, turned on the Jews and other minorities.

What sets the United States apart is the nexus between the principles in the Constitution and the American people. The protections of the Constitution would mean little were it not for a population that has believed in it, bled for it, and struggled with itself to see that its principles are applied to all who live in the United States.

But change is underway. Large-scale immigration, unprecedented in magnitude and ceaseless in duration, is reshaping America. By the middle of this century the United States will cease to have a majority ethnic population. Not necessarily problematic by itself, it will present a challenge to social cohesion. Infinitely more worrying, strong multicultural forces are deconstructing in theory and in fact the ideal and reality of a dominant common culture, one that links Americans of all racial, ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds. During this volatile transformative period, the balance between group identity and a broader sense of national belonging has swung in the direction of tribal identity among many new immigrants. Many of the new cultures being introduced to the multicultural "salad bowl" harbor long traditions of anti-Semitism, and in the case of Muslims, are in direct conflict with Jews over issues that command the deepest emotional allegiances of both.

Should the day come when Jews find themselves disempowered, vulnerable, and threatened 20 to 30 years from now in a very different America, one thing Jewish leaders as well as ordinary American



Jewish refugees on the St. Louis

Jews must never be allowed to say is, "We didn't see it coming." The historical record of America's major Jewish organizations in confronting the rise of Nazism and the Holocaust is cause for shame. At the very least, it's cause for humility and a greater willingness to re-evaluate long-held positions in the face of new realities. One story

from those terrible years is indicative: in the summer of 1939, when the ship St. Louis stood offshore with its desperate cargo of German-Jewish refugees, symbolizing for all the world the plight of Jews seeking to escape the devouring maw of Nazism, the American Jewish Committee was unable to assemble its Executive Board because the members could not be troubled to interrupt their summer vacations. Today's leaders of those organizations should recall this vast historic catastrophe — as well as the failure of their predecessors as guardians of the Jewish people — as they look at this issue, consider the future, and ponder choices they can evade no longer.

Dr. Stephen M. Steinlight is a Fellow at the Center for Immigration Studies. For more than six years he was the Director of National Affairs at the American Jewish Committee.

No More Martyrs Funerals: A Plan to Stop Arab Terrorism

Moshe Dann

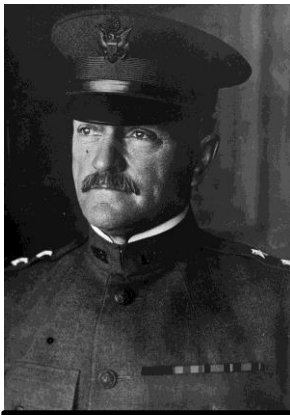
According to a survey conducted for *Walla* by Prof. Camil Fuchs of “Panel Project Hamidgam” and the statistician Yosef Miklada of the *Statnet* research institute, released on Friday, 71% of Israelis believe the government has failed in its efforts to stop Arab terrorism; add the 9% who weren’t sure and it rises to 80%. That is a clear vote of no-confidence.

Moreover, Israeli government officials agree; they announced that they cannot stop Arab terrorism. We can expect, therefore, that more Jews will be murdered and maimed.

Excuses from politicians, police and IDF commanders are pathetic. Waiting for the next tragedy to happen is unacceptable. Neutralizing a terrorist after an attack is not sufficient. Putting barriers at bus stops offers barely minimal protection. Cameras on the street only help to identify terrorists after an attack. More police on the street is reassuring but doesn’t work.

The only way to stop homicidal jihadists is to create disincentives, making the price that they will pay – in their minds – unacceptable. If they are intent on becoming “holy martyrs,” dying in their attack will not deter them.

The only thing that could dissuade them is the knowledge that their path to martyrdom would be blocked. The simplest and most effective obstacle is to bury Islamic terrorists at sea or cremate their bodies, both of which are forbidden according to Islamic law.



General Pershing

Some have suggested burying terrorists with pig entrails since, according to Islam, contact with a pig defiles Muslims to such an extent that it prevents them from the rewards of an afterlife. This may seem extreme to some, but if it works and saves lives, it’s worth trying. And, according to legend, it was used effectively by U.S. General “Black Jack” Pershing to stop Muslim terrorists in the Philippines a century ago.

Under no circumstances should bodies of terrorists be returned to families where they will receive glorious funerals and be used in parades to promote violence. This shames the memory of their victims, our country and our civilization.

found to be an accomplice should be deported; their property should be confiscated and turned over to the family of the victim.

Islamic hate-preachers should be banned and, if necessary, deported. Although incitement is a criminal offense, the law is rarely enforced and in the case of the PA, Israel not only allows incitement but indirectly funds it. This policy needs to change.

Families of the terrorists will be outraged until they and their communities understand that terrorism will not be tolerated and terrorists will not be honored.

It’s a tough decision, but what are the alternatives? Invading Arab communities and neighborhoods? Restricting Arabs and greater scrutiny of their activities? More police patrols? Turning streets and public spaces into armed camps? Billions more spent on high-tech security and cameras? Becoming a terrorized society? More dead and wounded Jews?

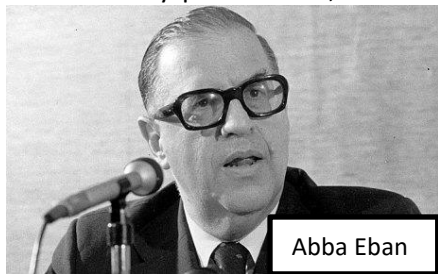
We all have the right to live without fear of terrorist attacks. And we don’t have to sacrifice ourselves in order to prove that we have moral principles and value life. We are facing an evil that must be conquered and eliminated, not only for Israel, but for the world.

The right to life is always more important than the desire to destroy it.

Dr. Dann is an historian and journalist. This appeared in IsraelNationalNews.com on January 14.

Abba Eban on BDS

Editor's note: Outpost readers are likely to be familiar with one or more of the lists of products using Israeli technology drawn up by supporters of Israel that would-be boycotters would have to give up if they abided by their own boycott calls. These range from iPhones to iPads to Macs to any machine with an Intel chip to life-saving drugs to (heaven forbid!) Volvos. But very few will be aware that the first such mocking lists going back seventy years. It was put together by Abba Eban, Israel's first—and by far the most eloquent—ambassador to the UN. In Eban's day of course the movement wasn't called BDS and lacked the current boycott's high moral pretensions. Back in 1947 it was the plain old Arab boycott. Eban's list, in which he facetiously offers his help to those Arabs wishing to enforce the boycott of Jewish goods, is printed in the recent biography of Eban by Asaf Siniver.



Abba Eban

In my past articles, I feel I may have been a bit hard on the Arabs. So . . . in apology, I have

compiled a list to help them with their boycott. Since it is imperative that all loyal Arabs avoid any and all contact with Jewish influences, the following must be adhered to religiously:

An Arab who has syphilis must not be cured by salvarsan, because it was discovered by a Jew, Ehrlich. If an Arab suspects that he has gonorrhea, he must not seek diagnosis, because he will be using the method of a Jew, Neisser. An Arab who has heart disease must not use digitalis, which comes from the Jew,

Ludwig Traube.

If he has diabetes, he must not use insulin, because of the research work of a Jew, Monkowsky. If he has a headache he must shun pyrqmidon and antipyrin because of the Jews, Spiro and Ellege.

Arabs with convulsions must put up with them because it was a Jew, Oscar Leibereich, who thought of chloral hydrate.

Arabs should be ready to die in greater number and not permit treatment by the method of Nobel Prize winner, Robert Baram, whose method of treatment of ear and brain damage has saved millions.

Arabs of all ages must forgo the use of vitamins, because the discoverer of their special nutritional value was a Jew, Kasimir Funk. They should continue to die or be crippled by infantile paralysis because the discoverer of the anti-polio vaccine was a Jew, Jonas Salk. They must refuse to use streptomycin and continue to die of tuberculosis, because a Jew, Zalman Waxman, invented the wonder drug against this killing disease.

In short, a good and loyal Arab may fittingly and properly remain afflicted with syphilis, gonorrhea, heart disease, headaches, typhus, diabetes, mental disorders, brain damage, polio, undernourishment, convulsions, and tuberculosis!

Amen!

Efraim Karsh: *The Tail Wags the Dog*

Reviewed by David Isaac

If there is one proposition on which there is a consensus among Middle East experts—from academia to the media, and to politicians who echo them both—it is that the “root cause” of present problems in the region are the Western imperialists who imposed their will on its hapless indigenous peoples. According to this narrative, Western powers had been nibbling at the margins of the Ottoman Empire and seized on the opportunity offered by its siding with Germany in World War I. Secret

agreements between imperialist powers determined new political boundaries without regard to the needs or interests of those who lived in the region, or to any promises made in the past.



Efraim Karsh

As he did in his 1999 *Empires of the Sand: The Struggle for Mastery in the Middle East* (written with his wife Inari), Efraim Karsh, professor emeritus of Middle East Studies at Kings College, London and currently professor at Bar Ilan University, again turns the conventional wisdom on its head. He writes that Britain, France, and Russia begged the Ottoman Empire to stay out of World War I, promising to ensure the Empire's survival if it did. Moreover, Karsh insists "the depiction of Muslims as hapless victims of the aggressive encroachments of others, too dim to be accountable for their own fate, is not only completely unfounded but the inverse of the truth."

The Western powers did play an important role, but the process "was nothing like the caricature portrayed by the standard historiography," where Europeans and Americans sat at a table creating states. Rather, as the book's title indicates, the tail often wagged the dog, with the resultant map and rulers, "the aggregate outcome of intense pushing and shoving ... in which the local actors, despite their marked inferiority to the great powers, often had the upper hand."

Karsh argues that every part of the accepted foundational narrative is wrong. Take the 1916 Sykes-Picot agreement between Britain and France stipulating their future areas of influence in the region, which is typically treated as "the source of all evil" and prima facie evidence of western duplicity. A mark of the potency of this claim of devilry is that even ISIS has invoked it, saying its June 2014 conquest of Mosul, Iraq's second largest city, was the first step towards "smashing the Sykes-Picot border."

But the Sykes-Picot agreement was never implemented. In fact, under Sykes-Picot, Mosul itself was supposed to become part of Syria. It was "moved" to Iraq in exchange for Britain giving French-Mandated Syria the Golan (supposed to be part of the Jewish National Home) and 25 percent of its oil interests in Iraq.



Emir Faisal

Then there's the Hussein-McMahon correspondence. Karsh argues that the British did not fail to carry out their promises to Hussein; rather Hussein manipulated and deceived the British—and was richly rewarded for his pains. Hussein ibn Ali, then Grand Sharif of Mecca, impressed Britain with his (false) claim to represent the entire Arab world. As for double-dealing, Hussein was the chief culprit, negotiating unsuccessfully with the Ottomans behind Britain's back. Far from being champions of national liberation, Hussein and his sons wanted to build their own empire upon the Ottoman ruins. And while the Hashemites never got their empire, thanks to Britain, Hussein's sons Faisal and Abdullah became rulers of Iraq and Transjordan respectively, the latter cut off from the Jewish National Home to satisfy Abdullah.

Britain didn't want to rule the region but to find a cheap way to maintain its interests. In *Empires of the Sand*, Karsh sums up Britain's attitude in a pithy cable then Colonial Secretary Winston Churchill sent to Prime Minister Lloyd George on March 14, 1921: "I have no doubt personally Faisal offers far away best chance of saving our money."

While *Empires of the Sand* left off in 1923, in *The Tail Wags the Dog* Karsh continues the story to the present day. He covers a lot of ground in only two hundred pages, from the Ottoman period to the British Mandate in Palestine, to the rise and fall of the Shah, to Russia's invasion of Afghanistan up through the Obama years. The Obama chapters are the strongest in the book. This is because Karsh convincingly shows how Obama's total acceptance of the conventional narrative has had far-reaching—and disastrous—implications for U.S. policy.

Obama's adoption of the dogma of Arabs as helpless victims of imperial powers was clear in his June 2009 Cairo speech. "[T]ension has been fed by colonialism that denied rights and opportunities to many Muslims, and a Cold War in which Muslim-majority countries were too often treated as proxies without regard to their own aspirations ... Violent extremists have exploited these tensions in a small but potent minority of Muslims ... [culminating in] the attacks of September 11, 2001 and the continued efforts of these extremists to engage in violence against civilians."

The problem with subscribing to a false narrative is that it blinds you to what is actually going on. If colonialism is the self-evident culprit, you miss the real story, which is the role of a resurgent Islam. As Karsh tells it, imperialist dreams "have survived the fall of the Ottoman Empire to haunt Islamic and Middle Eastern politics into the twenty-first century ... If, today, America is reviled in the Muslim world, it is not because of its specific policies but because, as the preeminent world power, it blocks the final realization of this same age-old dream of regaining the lost glory of the caliphate." "Clueless in Arabia," as Karsh puts it, the Obama administration has gone out of its way "to deny, ignore, euphemize and whitewash anything smacking of Islamic violence, radicalism or expansionism."

Typically, Obama misunderstood the Arab Spring. Karsh writes: "In his 19 May speech, Obama portrayed the 'Arab Spring' as a regional antithesis to Islamism in general, and to the militant brand offered by Osama bin Laden and his ilk in particular." On the contrary, "for Middle Easterners it meant a return to the Islamic sociopolitical order that had underpinned the region for over a millennium as the schizophrenic state system established in its place after World War I failed to fill the void left by its destruction."

Misinterpreting events, Obama has advanced policies ranging from silly to dangerous. On the silly side, NASA's mission has been adapted to "engage much more with dominantly Muslim nations to help them feel good about their historic contribution to science, math, and engineering." On the dangerous end of the spectrum, Karsh explores Obama's nuclear empowerment of Iran's mullahs in the name of "engagement" with that "victimized" society.

Unfortunately, for all the strength of Karsh's underlying thesis, other sections of the book are not as strong. Jokes need a straight man, even bad jokes, like the idea that the West is responsible for the mess in the Mideast. What made the Obama section so good is that he played the straight man, giving Karsh someone to play off. This is missing elsewhere. There's no discussion of how the false ideas that shaped Western attitudes about the Middle East came to be so dominant in academia, no detailed description of the adversaries whose basic conceptions he takes down. Although the book is written for a general audience, Karsh takes for granted that the reader knows who holds these perceptions and why.

It's a big omission, and given that Karsh comes from the academic world, one would expect such a chapter to have been particularly strong. The virulent Edward Said and his ilk would have offered prime game.

Also, despite the book's brevity, Karsh himself sometimes loses track of his thesis, getting lost in the weeds, for example, of the history of Palestine under the Mandate. What is needed is a laser-like focus and instead we have a diffuse narrative. Karsh thus misses an opportunity to drive a decisive nail in the coffin of false ideas that mold Western perception and policy in the Mideast.

What would the Middle East have looked like had the Western powers kept out of the Middle East following the collapse of the Ottoman Empire? Writes Karsh: "The region would most likely have been transformed into a volatile amalgam of numerous small fiefdoms and kingdoms, mostly antagonistic to one another." In other words, much like it looks today, as the state system established by the Western powers that endured for almost a century has disintegrated.

David Isaac is writer/producer/director of Zionism 101. This is reprinted from Washington Free Beacon of January 2. <http://freebeacon.com/culture/a-misplaced-western-mea-culpa-in-the-middle-east/>

The Wrong *Hasbara*

Ruth King

Israel's supporters in America from the top to the lower community organizers and from left to right agree on one subject, namely that Israel needs better *hasbara*.

Hasbara refers to public relations efforts to disseminate positive information to portray Israel and its policies in a glowing light.

Unfortunately most "hasbara" has the opposite effect. Even Israel's staunchest protagonists fall into the trap of thinking that listing Israel's numerous concessions to its enemies will soften or convince hardened anti-Semites.

As a matter of fact, enumerating Israel's serial appeasements and the catastrophic results only show a weak, forlorn, and desperate nation begging to be liked by the wrong people at the wrong time. It also displays a nation unable to learn from history which has lost the will to assert its historic and legitimate rights. And, worst of all, it shows political leadership which cravenly puts the escalating demands of its adversaries before defense of its citizens.

Furthermore, too much of this propaganda hints that "recognition of its right to exist as a Jewish state" is what is to be negotiated. A disproportionate number of post-colonial era nations have disintegrated into swamps of famine, chaos, genocide, jihad and tyranny, and only Israel has to plead for "recognition of its right to exist?" That is both idiotic and morally depraved.

A good public relations policy starts with the declaration that Israel will not reward enemies with *jihad* as their agenda. The nation's priority is to defend its citizens and the state's remarkable accomplishments.



Microsoft House (Herzliya)

Israel has much to be proud of and to defend.

It is a democracy with state of the art scientific, technological, cultural, and social institutions. It has defense capabilities on land, sea and air poised to deter aggressors at a moment's notice.

Israel's scientific and medical research improves the health of populations throughout the world. Its agricultural and water technology are exported to benefit millions.

Israel's "Silicon Valley" boasts more than 1,200 tech companies and 700 early-stage startups. It's so dense with research and development firms that it has more startups per capita than anywhere else in the world.

While the West today struggles with the problems of immigrant assimilation, Israel performed a miracle. At one time, more people spoke Mongolian than Hebrew. Israel restored an ancient language with a unique alphabet and created a system of "ulpan" that taught millions of immigrants, with disparate alphabets, dialects and languages to speak, read, and write Modern Hebrew.

You may argue all this won't change the minds of the imbeciles who join the myriad bully, bash, boycott and divest from Israel groups.

Forget trying to persuade them. Ridicule them with a challenge to their hypocritical armchair boycotts and demand they stand on their so called principles and avoid all objects that have anything to do with Israel.

They must give up computers, cell phones, anything that has to do with Microsoft or Intel or e-Books.

They will have to do without a lot of medications, since so many safe generics are now produced by an Israeli company. And, if they have health problems such as headaches, which, in their case requires a colonoscopy, they should avoid advanced diagnostic micro cameras because they were developed in Israel.

And, when their atrophied hearts require stents or other cardiac intervention, boycotters should not avail themselves of these treatments because they have been developed in Israel.

If they are cut and bleed, they should not accept Israel's miraculous bandages that stanch the flow of blood....the ones that were used to treat Representative Gabrielle Gifford when she suffered a bullet wound to the head.

One could go on and on, but BDS activists are contemptible cowards who would never risk a sniffle for their so called principles.

In fact, Israel would do well to discourage the boycotters from traveling there. Entertainers who bash Israel should be told to book their engagements in Zimbabwe instead of the sold out theaters in Tel-Aviv that welcome Elton John, Lady Gaga and other performers.

Frankly, BDSers should be warned that an Israeli start up named "IoTBox" has now developed a high tech rat patrol that hunts down rodents in hours instead of days. That should frighten them.

Israel should concentrate its American outreach on Zionists, Christian Evangelicals and Congress with particular emphasis on Republican legislators, the majority of whom are enthusiastic and loyal in their support of the Jewish state.

Forget the worthless pursuit of the affection of bigoted and hypocritical cretins. Self-abnegation and appeasement don't elicit admiration. Only self-assertion, national pride, tough talk on national defense priorities, and a contract with Zionism and Jewish patrimony in the ancient Jewish homeland will gain respect.

The rest is blather.

Outpost

Editor: Rael Jean Isaac

Editorial Board: Ruth King, Rita Kramer

Outpost is distributed free to Members
of Americans for a Safe Israel

Annual membership: \$100.

Americans for a Safe Israel

1751 Second Ave. (at 91st Street)

New York, NY 10128

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

Email: judy@afsi.org