

# OUTPOST

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## A Defeat for Israel and the U.S.

Herbert Zweibon

On June 9, 2005 then Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Olmert told a meeting of the far left American Israel Policy Forum: "We are tired of fighting, we are tired of being courageous, we are tired of winning, we are tired of defeating our enemies." True to his sentiments, as Prime Minister Olmert has failed to fight and has now lost the war with Hezbollah.

As Laurent Murawiec of the Hudson Institute puts it: "Israel has been defied and found wanting: it neither defended territory and population from attack nor brought the war to its enemy. A hesitant war never tried to hit the enemy's center of gravity." Nor was a glove laid on Syria, the conduit of arms to Hezbollah. After a month of somnolence, Olmert seemed to be emerging from his coma. He was not tired of being Prime Minister and when polls made it obvious the public was rapidly growing tired of losing he finally bestirred himself to send in sizable ground forces.

Yet according to Yuval Steinitz, former chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, even this was phony, "an attempt to create the futile display of a near victory snatched from our hands at the last moment by UN involvement."

In any case, after a month of witnessing what Steinitz calls Israel's "new concept of static, low-risk war" President Bush had grown tired. The President, who had run interference at the UN, providing Israel a strategic opportunity to launch lethal blows at Hezbollah and Syria, gave in to his State Department. UN Resolution 1701 simply ensures that there will be a larger UN force to set up flags in cozy proximity to Hezbollah fortifications. President Bush's claim that Hezbollah will be disarmed is ridiculous on its face.

*National Interest* editor Nikolas Gvosdev points out a far more likely outcome, noting that in Kosovo the Albanian Kosovo Liberation Army has transformed itself from a terrorist organization on the State Department's watch-list into the province's official police force. What is to prevent Hezbollah from cloaking itself with the veneer of Lebanon's state sovereignty? Certainly the poorly equipped Lebanese

army, a nest of sectarian divisions, easily capable of fissuring into battling militias, is in no position to take on Hezbollah.

If Israel's defeat is obvious, that of the United States will soon be no less so. Iran, as financier, supplier, trainer, ideological inspiration and controller of Hezbollah has had a huge victory in its battle with the Great Satan for regional influence. The U.S. can expect Iran to step up support for Shiite militias targeting the U.S. – and militias in Iraq, whatever their allegiance, now see what such forces can achieve. Syria has already announced its plan to create forces on the Hezbollah model, trained by Hezbollah leaders. For the impact is not confined to Shiite Islam. As Yussuf Ibrahim wrote in *The New York Sun* (August 14) "The entire network of mosques, *madrassas*, Islamic fundamentalist institutions, charities, Islamic parties, and hangers-on are now in an energized frenzy, from Pakistan to Saudi Arabia."

The movement for democracy in the region, weak at best, has been swept away by what to the Arab masses appears Hezbollah's stunning victory. Bush's vision of two states living peacefully side by side had already turned into the Hamas Revolution. Israel's defeat has definitively transformed Lebanon's Cedar Revolution into Hezbollah's Revolution. The likelihood of much of Iraq falling into Iran's orbit as another Shiite theocracy is greater than ever. What we at AFSI have called dubious allies (the regimes in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan) will be under direct threat, and not by democratic reformers.

It is hard to see any good coming out of this debacle, except perhaps the collapse of the feckless, disgraceful government of Kadima.

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## From the Editor

### Peres After Life

In the June issue we suggested that with Shimon Peres in his 80s, the role of national fool would soon be up for grabs. One of our readers suggests this is a mistake. Over the decades Peres has become such a fixture in Israeli cabinets that they may not be able to conduct business without him. Our reader suggests that on his demise a stuffed Peres be propped up at cabinet meetings, with an implanted recorder emitting the “best” of his imbecile sonorities.

One advantage of keeping Peres perennial is that admiration for Peres provides a litmus test for exploding other gasbags with high reputations. For example, French “philosopher” Bernard Henri-Levy deserves a place in the gasbag Hall of Fame. In a long essay in *The New York Times Magazine* Levy fulsomely praises Peres as “the Wise Man of Israel” who has the “look of a prince-priest of Zionism.” In his voice of “melodious authority”, says Levy, Peres holds forth about “Mahmoud Abbas and Bill Clinton, whom he links as ‘The men of good will. My friends. The friends of enlightenment and peace. The ones who will never renounce peace because of terrorism.’” (Never mind that Abbas was then praising Hezbollah as the “noble Arab resistance” on *Al Arabiya* TV). Peres, writes Levy, told him that Israel will “win this war” and clear the way for “paths of speech and dialogue.” Levy’s reaction to this mad babble? “I find that, today, for some reason, these prophecies have a new coefficient of obviousness and force.”

### Foxman’s Defamation League

While most of the world defamed her, Pat Robertson courageously went to Israel in a show of solidarity and once the ceasefire was declared (under infamous UN Resolution 1701) voiced his misgivings about its results. Did the televangelist win high praise from Jewish organizations? Think again. Abe Foxman blasted Robertson as “irresponsible.” One wonders: what is the mission of the Anti-Defamation League? Does it consider support for Israel “defamation?” The dirty secret seems to be that the organization considers its real role to be as a support group for the Democratic Party. How else to explain its running newspaper ads praising Congressmen who support Israel – that list only Democrats!

### Roth’s Anti-Human Rights Watch

“Surprise” has been voiced that Human Rights Watch should serve as a propaganda arm for Hezbollah with its executive director Kenneth Roth saying he could “guarantee” the accuracy of Hezbollah’s phony figures on casualties in Qana.

Surprise is the last emotion that is appropriate. Human Rights Watch pulled a similar stunt in hyping the non-existent Israeli massacre of civilians in Jenin.

Human Rights Watch is a worthy member of the morally corrupt “human rights community.” Joe Stork is Deputy Director of the outfit’s Middle East and North Africa Division. Stork began his career at the radical (and radically anti-Israel) Institute for Policy Studies. Back in the early 1970s he was one of the “collective” that produced *MERIP* [Middle East Research and Information Project] *Reports*. MERIP’s chief problem was figuring out which Arab terrorist group it most identified with. On one matter MERIP had no problem. When Arab terrorists gunned down Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics (and even the *Communist Daily World* called it “murderous banditry”) MERIP issued a flyer saying “Munich and similar actions cannot create or substitute for a mass revolutionary movement, but we should comprehend the achievement of the Munich action...It has provided an important boost in morale among Palestinians in the camps.” Stork went on to speak a Baghdad Conference on Zionism as Racism.

Such are the credentials of the man Human Rights Watch chooses as moral arbiter for the Middle East.

### Ledeen Was Right

More and more it looks as if Michael Ledeen was right when he argued, prior to the invasion of Saddam Hussein’s Iraq, that toppling the Iranian regime was a more promising way to begin any effort to achieve constructive change in the region.

### Israel’s Arab Fifth Column

This war has clarified – if any clarification was necessary – the extent to which Israel’s Arab citizens identify with the enemy. In Nazareth, Matthias Gebauer reports in *Der Spiegel*, identification with Hezbollah is all but universal. When two small children were killed by a Hezbollah rocket, the community blamed Israel, the mayor protesting that there was a shortage of alarm sirens. But Nazareth had shut off its alarm sirens because they also sound to celebrate Israel’s Independence Day and the city preferred to jeopardize its safety to being subject to an expression  
*(continued on page 12)*

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# The True Disproportion

Rael Jean Isaac

French President Jacques Chirac is only the most prominent of the multitude who raised their voices against Israel for supposedly engaging in, to use Chirac's phrase, "totally disproportionate" actions against Hezbollah in Lebanon. (Meanwhile the French foreign minister revealed his sense of "proportion" by calling Iran, Hezbollah's controller, "a great country... which plays a stabilizing role in the region.")

Although not in the sense meant by hostile critics, Israel is indeed guilty of gross disproportion in its response to the challenges facing the state. One could argue that such "disproportionate response," repeated over and over again, regardless of which party is in power, is at the core of Israel's present desperate existential danger.

Let us begin with the most obvious area in which Israel has been guilty of disproportion – prisoner exchanges. The first of these ludicrously imbalanced "exchanges" occurred in May 1985 on the watch of the joint Likud-Labor government presided over (in agreed sequence) by Yitzhak Shamir and Shimon Peres. In exchange for three Israeli soldiers Israel released 1150 Palestinian Arab prisoners. The pattern has continued with, for example, Israel releasing 436 terrorists in January 2004 in exchange for the remains of 3 Israeli soldiers and the release of a civilian, Elhanan Tenenbaum. No one should be surprised if eventually Israel releases hundreds of prisoners in exchange for the two soldiers Hezbollah captured.

Many in Israel seem to take a perverse pride in these lopsided exchanges, viewing them as evidence of moral superiority, proof that Israel will go to any length to secure the life of a single individual, the state serving as an extended family. But a country is not and must not behave like a family. Most parents would sacrifice everything they have to ransom a kidnapped child. In doing so, they may make it more likely that the kidnapers, or other would-be kidnapers, will seize someone else's child, but they cannot be faulted for thinking only of saving the life important to them, without the broader implications even crossing their minds.

But a government must think of the implications of its actions. As would subsequently be widely acknowledged, that initial 1985 "exchange" provided the basis for the first *Intifada* (which in turn paved the way for the disastrous Oslo agreement), as those released became its organizers and leaders. Nadav Shragai recently pointed out in *Haaretz* that fourteen

of the mass terror attacks in the last several years were carried out by freed terrorists and dozens of attacks in which hundreds of Israelis were killed or wounded were also organized by terrorists released by Israel. In choosing to secure the life (or sometimes dead bodies) of a very few at the price of setting free hundreds of terrorists to attack her citizens again, it can be argued that the Israeli government is as responsible for the clearly foreseeable deaths as if cabinet members had strapped on the suicide belts.

The widely publicized large scale prisoner releases (often made simply as a "gesture" of good will to her enemies) are not even the whole story. In foolish response to the pressures of Israel's "human rights" organizations (as phony in Israel as most of the groups going under that rubric are in the United States) Israel has been steadily releasing teenagers and women engaged in terrorism simply on the ground of their sex and age.

Nor has Israel's government learned anything. On August 1, with the war in both Lebanon and Gaza still in full swing, Israel announced it was releasing 100 Hamas and Islamic Jihad prisoners, obviously as an exchange for the single Israeli soldier, Gilad Shalit, whom Hamas had captured. Nabil Shaath, former PA foreign minister, dismissed this as a wholly inadequate gesture, telling the newspaper *Al Quds* that negotiations were in the last stages to free 700 prisoners for Shalit.

These wildly disproportionate "exchanges" have other far-reaching consequences. The terror organizations (including the so-called government of the PA, whether Fatah or Hamas-led) have become accustomed to allowing the numbers of their members in Israeli prisons to grow into the thousands (there are 9,700 now), comfortable in the assurance that at any point they can capture one or two Israelis and secure the release of most of them. The present war may have been the inadvertent consequence of such "business as usual" with Hezbollah kidnapping two Jewish soldiers on the assumption that in its wonted fashion Israel would obligingly embark upon an "exchange." As *The New York Times* (Aug. 4) notes, Hezbollah was particularly anxious to secure the release of Samir Kuntar, who had raided the apartment of the Haran family in Nahariya, killed the father, then killed his four year old daughter by smashing her head with a rifle butt. The mother survived, hiding in the attic with her two year old daughter whom she inadvertently suffocated as she tried to prevent

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**The first of these ludicrously disproportionate prisoner exchanges occurred in May 1985 on the watch of the joint Likud-Labor government.**

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her from crying. Hezbollah spokesmen have openly expressed their surprise and outrage that Israel did not react in the way experience had led them to expect.

While Israel's sensitivity to casualties is understandable, again, a country is not a family and cannot focus only on the immediate casualties, ignoring longer-range benefits. In another wildly disproportionate response, Israel fled headlong from southern Lebanon in 2000 in response to a protest group of "four mothers" who had lost their sons in the fighting there. The lives of soldiers should not be carelessly squandered (as was done in the terrible trench battles of World War I) but what is an army for if not to put lives on the line for vital goals?

In *The Jerusalem Post* (August 10) Evelyn Gordon points out that from 1982 until 2000 Israel's fatalities in Lebanon averaged 20-25 soldiers a year. Southern Lebanon was a crucial buffer zone protecting northern Israel from Hezbollah terrorists; it was controlled by a Christian militia (the South Lebanese army) trained, supported and helped on the ground by Israel. There would be a huge price for winning a six year reprieve from the drip of Israeli casualties. The price of the disproportionate response in 2000 is not only paid six years later in far more lives lost, in one million displaced persons within Israel, in economic devastation, but most important, in the destruction of Israel's deterrence, her only protection against future warfare that will leave her losses even in the costly War of Independence seem trivial.

Again, in Israel there is no learning curve. The original four mothers have given extensive interviews in which they declare their support for today's war against Hezbollah while reaffirming the "rightness" of their earlier insistence that Israel leave. They simply will not connect the dots.

Israel also demonstrates a wholly disproportionate sensitivity to and respect for "world opinion." In what Victor Davis Hanson rightly calls a West "on the brink of moral insanity," a corrupt world "awash with a vicious hatred [for Jews] that we have not seen in our generation," it is folly for Israel to think it can shape world opinion by its actions. Yet American Jewish leaders who went to Israel while the air campaign against Hezbollah was going on (Olmert prevented the army until the last moment from engaging in a meaningful ground campaign) found that Israeli politicians wanted only to talk of their effort to prevent civilian

casualties in Lebanon – apparently this, not crushing Hezbollah, was their chief concern.

Israeli leaders typically embark on preemptive apologies at the first squeak of Western or even Arab outrage – and investigate afterwards, often to find the charges ludicrous. But by their apology they have given credence to the accusations, encouraging their enemies and making what friends they have abroad despair. For example, there was the embarrassing spectacle of Olmert apologizing to Mubarak for the killing of two Egyptian terrorists. The episode at the Lebanese village of Qana, where the number of deaths were doubled (as even the bitterly anti-Israel Human Rights Watch has acknowledged) and there

remain questions whether the entire "event" was staged by Hezbollah not only made the government go into apologetic overdrive but led Israel to announce suspension of all air operations for two days.

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**In another wildly disproportionate response, Israel fled headlong from southern Lebanon in 2000 in response to a protest group of "four mothers" who had lost their sons in the fighting there.**

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The desultory way in which Israel conducted the war against Hezbollah was the product of the two ingrained disproportionate responses we have already noted – the fear of Israeli casualties and the fear of world opinion. Of course in the end, the feeble campaign maximized both. The war lost the element of surprise (what could have been a swift hard-driving ground invasion became a slow, slogging affair) and there was a torrent of world abuse.

It is a series of disproportionate responses which has led Israel into the terrible existential dangers she faces today. Israel responded to the first Intifada, a minor nuisance of stone-throwing, chiefly by teenagers -- with Oslo, installing a terror state on her doorstep.

Israel would eventually respond to the second *Intifada*, launched by Arafat in 2000, with so-called "disengagement" (although it is possible the "disproportion" here was even more sordid – with disengagement being Sharon's response to the threat of a probe into his election finances.)

The ultimate disproportion is between Israel's government and her people. Maintaining the state requires strength, courage and sacrifice. Yes, Israel's intelligentsia contains a sizable number of scoundrels and outright traitors. But far more ordinary Israelis are imbued with the necessary strength and spirit of sacrifice. In the last issue we published Naomi Ragen's "The Taxi Driver" about the security officer who told



Protest organized by the Four Mothers at the Lebanese border.

Sharon he could not participate in the eviction of Jews from Gaza and thus lost his career. Ragen concluded: "Once again, the reality of living in a country with wonderful people and terrible leadership struck me full force."

For Israel's leaders have gone from disproportionate response to outright disconnect from reality. Israel experiences government by the Marx Brothers. Look at perennial Israeli leader (now vice premier) Shimon Peres. After Oslo he babbles of a delusory New Middle East. With the victory of Hamas, he announces that Israel is closer to peace than ever before. Now with this war he declaims on CNN (August 10): "Since we didn't initiate the war, we don't have to win it. We just have to stop it." The second member of the trio, Defense Minister Amir Peretz, proudly announces that the war has laid "the groundwork for negotiations with Syria" (to return the Golan Heights) and says he is eager "to resume negotiations with the Palestinians" (i.e. presumably to turn over more territory for the rocket launchers).

Nor is Prime Minister Ehud Olmert any im-

provement. At the start of the war he told Associated Press reporters "I'll surprise you. I genuinely believe that the outcome of the present conflict" will provide "new momentum" (for his "convergence" plan, i.e. more retreats in Judea and Samaria). His government actually chose this moment to send out eviction notices to families at Givat Ronen in Samaria. As northern Israel became uninhabitable, Olmert spun empty boasts not heard since "Baghdad Bob" announced Saddam's great victories over U.S. forces even as they rolled into Baghdad. Olmert declared that Israel has won because Hezbollah "can never [again] threaten this nation that it will fire missiles at it."



Government by Marx Brothers

No wonder that Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades leader Abu Maamun declared that Olmert's statements were proof Arab attacks were working. Said Maamun: This is a great period and I believe a new era."

The responses of Israel's rulers to the challenges facing the country are no longer simply disproportionate: they are insane.

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## U.S. Aid to Lebanon Will Go Straight to Hezbollah

Debbie Schluskel

Countless billions of your tax money are about to go to Hezbollah--and may already be in the terrorist group's coffers.

If you liked aid to Katrina victims, you'll love U.S. aid to Hezbollah, er . . . Lebanon. Millions in mis-spending? Get ready for billions. And it won't be mis-used to pay for tattoos, condoms, and porn.

This time, it will be used for something far, far worse. Like terrorism.

Should America reward Hezbollah for starting the war against Israel that just "ended" in a shaky, empty ceasefire? Should American tax dollars go to pay for destruction that was caused by Hezbollah's refusal to turn over two kidnapped Israeli soldiers?

Your answer to those questions is really an answer to this one: Do you want U.S. tax dollars to fund Hezbollah--the terrorist group that murdered over 300 U.S. Marines and civilians and continues to train insurgent terrorists in Iraq to kill more?

If your answer to that question is no--and it should be--then America should not send a dime of aid to Lebanon.

In 2000, after Israel left Lebanon the first time, Republican U.S. Congressman Joe Knollenberg of Michigan--and his then-Chief of Staff Paul Welday--sought at least \$268 million in USAID money for Lebanon "to rebuild infrastructure in the South," the Hezbol-

lah-controlled area. Even though Knollenberg had no Arab constituents--and certainly none from Lebanon--he sought the money at the request of pro-Hezbollah Arab American Institute chief James Zogby, an open extremist. And at the request of then-Michigan U.S. Senator, American Lebanese Spencer Abraham, who sponsored the same bill in the U.S. Senate.

They obtained about \$86 million in U.S. tax money. And--surprise, surprise--it went straight to Hezbollah. The money, meant to rebuild hospitals and orphanages, probably went to weaponry and propaganda to put people in hospitals and orphanages.

I say "probably" because the money has never been traced, never been accounted for, never been proven to have gone to any single rebuilding project. No one knows where it went. But one thing is certain, the money went straight to the Hezbollah bank account.

Ka-ching!

Even if the money went into rebuilding--and that's highly doubtful (unless you're interested in buying some land from me under the Litani Bridge)--it's a sure bet it gave Hezbollah extra money to acquire weaponry and train kids in hate and terrorism. As we all know, money is a fungible good, extra money meant for one thing--like re-building infrastructure--always allows a party to spend money normally meant for that expense on something else.

In Hezbollah's case, that something else includes Hezbollah textbooks in Hezbollah-run schools. That means textbooks that teach young kids that Jews, Christians, and Americans are subhuman and to be killed. That something else includes *Al-Manar* TV,

Hezbollah's propagandist network 100 times worse than *Al-Jazeera*. That something else also includes weapons, missiles, and combat training for terrorists.

USAID--the U.S. Agency for International Development--gives out billions in U.S. taxpayer money, most of which has very little if any accountability or strings attached. And there is virtually no scrutiny over the funds, once they are given out.

At least with Katrina aid, we know where a lot of the misspending went. We will never know the details on where the USAID money to "Lebanon" will go. USAID has very little--if any--oversight.

And then there is USAID Ambassador/Administrator Randall L. Tobias, a Bush appointee. On Tuesday, he was interviewed by Fox News' Shepard Smith--the only TV journalist asking any tough questions. Smith reported that all Red Cross and other aid in South Lebanon and other Hezbollah-controlled areas goes straight to Hezbollah. Hezbollah administers it, without any interference--or oversight--from outsiders. That will not change any time soon.

Smith asked Tobias if he will work directly with Hezbollah to administer the gazillions in U.S. aid now going to "Lebanon." Tobias repeatedly danced around the question and wouldn't answer. That means the answer is a big "Y-E-S."

Guh-reat! The U.S. openly nodding and winking at giving billions of our money to those who tortured and murdered hundreds of Americans and are helping Al-Qaeda continue to do so in Iraq. Brilliant.

Tobias, when he did answer, said something just as frightening. He told Smith that he will work with "NGOs"--Non-Governmental Organizations--to distribute the billions in aid. If lack of oversight of USAID money is a hemorrhaging gash, oversight of NGOs is a mammoth black hole.

In the U.S., the two biggest U.S.-based NGOs operating in the Islamic world are Islamic "charities" under investigation by several federal agencies for money-laundering to terrorists. One--Life for Relief and Development (LRD)--openly admitted on its tax forms

to giving millions from 1995-1997 to Hamas' Jordanian operations. In 2004, at a Los Angeles fundraiser, a speaker more than hinted that money would go to train individuals for more operations "like Fallujah" (where U.S. contractors were burnt to a crisp). Its Iraq offices were raided by U.S. troops, perhaps because it was founded by men connected with Al-Qaeda.

LRD got its USAID status when "former" Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine terrorist and FBI award revokee Imad Hamad lobbied Senator Carl Levin (D-MI). LRD's General Counsel is the President and attorney for Hamad's Midwest Regional American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. All of these parties are openly pro-Hezbollah. LRD's spokesman, Mohammed Alomari, is the proud author of an anti-Semitic conspiracy theory book and articles decrying Jews in the Bush Administration.

Then, there is Islamic Relief. It is a front for the Muslim Brotherhood terrorist group, from which Al-Qaeda's No. 2 Ayman Al-Zawahiri, Yasser Arafat, and Hamas all emanated. A 2004 Islamic Relief fundraiser I attended in Dearborn was hosted by a former employee of a Hamas charity, and the entertainment was young kids simulating beheadings of other kids wearing the American, Israeli, and British flags--set to Arabic music about *jihad* and martyrdom. This was right after Nick Berg was beheaded on video. Israel says the group funds Hamas, and its Gaza chief stored Nazi images on his computer.

These are the groups to which U.S. aid to "Lebanon" will go. It isn't going to Lebanon. It's going--when not straight into Hezbollah's hands--to groups that support and fund Islamic terror and openly cheer Hezbollah.

If American taxpayers are going to donate billions to Hezbollah, we might as well wave the white flag in the War on Terror.

*Debbie Schlusel is a radio talk show host, columnist, and attorney. This was posted on her website August 17.*

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**Fox News' Shepard Smith reported that all Red Cross and other aid in South Lebanon and other Hezbollah-controlled areas goes straight to Hezbollah.**

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## **In Memoriam: Ann Maurer**

**We mourn the death in Toronto of Ann Maurer, wife of our long-time executive board member Marvin Maurer and co-founder, with him, of AFSI's Toronto chapter.**

**Ann, who was long active in Zionist affairs, met Marvin on one of AFSI's semi-annual trips to Israel that offer support to those living in the Jewish communities of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza.**

# The Importance of Seeming Earnest

Hugh Fitzgerald

At the gym I saw CNN, an hour of complete mindlessness with Christiane Amanpour, trying to find, trying to understand, trying to come to grips with, what it is, what could it be, what might it be, that makes some "young Muslims" -- a tiny tiny minority of them, contemplate suicide bombings of the kind involved in the plot recently revealed in England.

There were "experts" on Islam and "experts" on terror. The first "expert" explained that as long as "young Muslims" (the British equivalent of the "yoots" in "My Cousin Vinny") were exposed to "pictures" of what was going on in "Palestine" -- yes, what is going on in "Palestine" or rather Israel (and by the way, why are there not Jewish plotters planning to get revenge on so many countries that have abandoned Israel, thrown it to the Arab and Muslim wolves?) -- and in "Iraq" and in "Chechnya" and in "Afghanistan" and, continued the "expert," as long as these yoots believed that Islam was being attacked, Islam was under siege, their rage would continue to grow.

There was more in this vein. There was a Muslim, a friend of two brothers who had been picked up for their part in the plane-bombing plot, who kept saying that "all communities -- Christians, Jews, Muslims, all of them" have their "extremists" and all of them occasionally get out of control, and in any case he went on and on about how there was nothing, absolutely nothing, except indignation at the terrible things being done to Muslims that could conceivably explain these Muslim plans and plots and mass murders, past, and passing, and to come.

And among those "experts" was Lawrence Wright, who proceeded to explain that the "Arabs and Muslims" in the United States were not a worry. They were so much better integrated, because -- well, because they were, because 70% of them earned over \$50,000 and so many of them had college degrees and so on. It was as if none of the information that has been so widely disseminated about how "disproportionately" the well-educated or rather, well-degreed and well-off Muslims are represented in the ranks of Muslim terrorists had ever reached him. Nor has it reached the other fellow who came after, who said that "Lawrence Wright is absolutely correct" in his explanation of why the "Muslim community" in the United States is so much less threatening.

Not a single person appeared to think that the true explanation was other: there are at most 3 million declared Muslims in the United States, with a population of 300 million. Of those, 2 million are Black Muslims, a group whose practices, and attitudes, lead them to be regarded as not real or full Muslims by the real, Pakistani or Arab variety. That leaves at most

one million Muslims out of a population of 300 million. And far more of those 300 million are believing Christians. And there are also many more Jews than there are in Great Britain. Furthermore, American attitudes are not colored by diseased guilt over some Empire, nor are Americans quite so inclined to be influenced by the pro-Arab lobbies and agents that long ago took over the Foreign Office, but have also, in the past few decades, successfully infiltrated into the upper reaches of the BBC and many of the main newspapers. America, thank god, remains different.



Christiane Amanpour

But the main thing, of course, is merely that Muslims are not as numerous as they are in Great Britain. Out of a population that is 1/5 the size of that in America, Great Britain has 1.5 times as many Muslims (that "Muslim friend of two brothers picked up" predictably exaggerated their numbers, claiming there are "2.2 million Muslims" in Great Britain). In other words, in proportion to the non-Muslim population, Muslims in Great Britain are seven times as numerous as Muslims are in the United States. And the same obtains in other European countries, where the Infidel governments and the most farseeing citizens are tearing their hair out at the thought that this problem is entirely the result of negligence, of ignorance of the belief-system of Islam.

Oh, she looked everywhere, Christiane Amanpour. She tried consulting that Muslim friend, and then one expert, and then another, and another, and another, to find out what it is that "makes them do it." She sought the answer here, she sought it there, she sought her answer everywhere. But the Answer proved as elusive for Christiane Amanpour as did, for the French, that *demmed* elusive Pimpernel, played long ago, in a different England, by that elegant immigrant, who had no trouble "integrating" into England despite his Hungarian Jewish background, a certain Leslie (Steiner) Howard.

*Hugh Fitzgerald is a frequent contributor. This article appeared on Jihadwatch of August 16.*

## Save The Date

**The National Conference of Americans For A Safe Israel will be held on December 3rd at the Marriott Marquis hotel, 1535 Broadway, New York City.**

# Another Such Victory

J. R. Dunn

“Another such victory and we are undone.” —Pyrrhus, after the Battle of Asculum (279 B.C.)

One of the few useful methods of judging the results of a war is whether you are better off at the end than at the beginning.

It'll be some time before the chips stop falling, but the outline is clear enough: the Hezbollah War is an unmitigated disaster for Israel, the U.S., and the West at large.

This doesn't mean Hezbollah has won — though that's how it will be played throughout the Arab world. It means simply that the only rational goal of the war — the destruction of Hezbollah as a military power — has not been achieved. Hezbollah still exists, it still has a large fraction of its weaponry, it remains a threat to both the legitimate Lebanese government and Israel. It also has gained the prestige that comes from fighting a powerful enemy to a standstill.

Israel, on the other hand, has not only been stalemated on the battlefield for the first time, but has also suffered a stunning economic blow, with most of her northern cities emptied out and close to a million refugees to care for. The Israelis blew off the propaganda war completely, allowing themselves to be painted worldwide as child-killers while tossing aside their first-ever expression of sympathy from the major Arab states. Their military has been exposed as a clown act, their political system as completely dysfunctional, unable not only to rise to meet a crisis situation but even to recognize it. Their enemy remains, fully-armed, on their northern border, and their security has become the ward of the UN, that notorious New York-based child prostitution and bribery ring.

It didn't have to be this way. The Israelis opened the war with a series of well-planned air strikes which succeeded in isolating southern Lebanon from resupply or reinforcement. All that remained was a swift attack in force in the customary Israeli style. Hezbollah, a guerilla force of small size—the number of active combat troops is uncertain, with estimates ranging from 1,000 – 6,000—with no real mobility or heavy weaponry, could not have stood up against this.

For the first week to ten days of the war, this appeared to be exactly what the Israelis had in mind. But it never came to pass. Precisely why remains unknown, beyond the fact that Ehud Olmert wanted it that way. The IDF ran into some trouble at the border with mines and fortifications, Hezbollah having been allowed to work on them for six years undisturbed, but

these were little more than a shell and could have easily been pierced by combat engineers. But this was probably no more than a contributing factor.

If asked to speculate, I would point out that the IDF's chief of staff, Dan Halutz, is an ex-air force commander. Air force officers placed in a position to affect the course of a war have a long history of claiming that their boys can do the entire job on their own with no assistance from ground-pounders (e.g., Goering in 1940, the USAF staff in 1965). What happens then is a series of limited strikes that accomplish little, followed by more and larger strikes, and then desperation raids on any conceivable target before the military settles for doing what it should have done in the first place. This narrative fits the war to a tee. Even down to the fact that, when the time came to throw in the ground forces, it was simply too late.

Time was bought by the major Arab states, who were anxious to see the radical Shi'ites bounced even if it was done by Jewish interlopers, and an all-out campaign by the U.S. to keep the UN from interfering. This offered Israel an unprecedented window of opportunity. But Israel wasted that window by consistently playing to Hezbollah strengths. Ground troops were dribbled into combat in penny

packets, becoming bogged down in fortified villages like Bint Jbeil, which should have been bypassed and reduced at a later time. Even after IDF troops were ignominiously ejected from Bint Jbeil, the IDF failed to move in force, leaving the advantage to Hezbollah. The mass offensive that should have opened the war occurred only at the last possible moment, and then solely to give a jolt to the UN.

In the meantime, the air campaign had fallen victim to a well-planned Hezbollah PR operation, complete with an impresario, the notorious “Green Helmet” (who insists that he's simply a civil defense worker doing his job, presumably with his own personal helicopter to fly him from site to site), an apparent stash of ready corpses, and a cadre of news photographers either too enthusiastic or too frightened to protest at being used as propaganda conduits.

The trap being prepared, the IAF obligingly fell in, bombing targets to little strategic purpose—a “Katyusha launcher” can be created with about \$20 worth of hardware—though well aware that the Hezbollah was placing its assets at points where civilian casualties were inevitable. The result was a quick reversal by previously understanding Arab governments, a universal moan by the easily-flummoxed Western elite, and second thoughts by Israel's allies.



Katyusha hits Haifa



All this time, the Katyushas kept falling on northern Israel in their thousands (the total is an astonishing 4,000). Hezbollah had deliberately modified the warheads for greater terror effects, adding loads of ball bearings and other forms of shrapnel. The missiles effectively cleared out the country's northern tier, with remaining residents spending most of their days in bomb shelters. This created an image of Israeli helplessness that was both spurious and unnecessary – the original Israeli war plan would have solved that problem within a matter of hours. That image will not be forgotten either in Arab countries or in Israel itself.

The results of this war will be months in coming, and few will be good (e.g., expect to see a lot more Katyushas in Iraq. A lot more.) But the most critical development is this: one of the major elements – perhaps the major element – of Israeli foreign policy is the premise that under no circumstances would Israel be dependent on any other nation for its survival. It could scarcely be any other way, the Jews being the sole existing people that the modern world once attempted to destroy. To depend on anyone else would be to invite a repetition of that ordeal. No greater responsibility lies on the shoulders of any Israeli politician than to see that situation maintained.

But now, thanks to Ehud Olmert, it is over. Israel now depends for its security on the United States and the UN. These are frail reeds. The U.S. has always been faithful, but that can no longer be guaranteed, with the Democrats now being taken over by their maniac wing. As for the UN, apart from incompetence, there's the barely concealed contempt for Israel, bordering on blatant anti-Semitism, plainly evident in Kofi Annan and his people. The organization still believes that Zionism is racism. To depend on its goodwill is to tempt a second Holocaust.

Israel now needs to do three things:

1) The first is a purge of the IDF's command cadre. It's impossible to say what has gone wrong with the IDF, but that's just the point. It has gone wrong all the way down the line. Three incidents will suffice: last year the IDF abandoned development of the Northrop THEL system, a laser cannon configured to destroy missiles of the Katyusha class that had performed promisingly in tests. The reasoning was extremely vague. The system was "too bulky", didn't work well if it was cloudy, and so forth. If purchased at the time, it would have been coming on line right about now. While not quite a Starship Enterprise phaser bank, the THEL is an impressive weapon that would have curtailed the panic generated by Hezbollah's missiles in much the same way that the RAF encouraged the British people despite being unable to fully stop the Luftwaffe in the summer of 1940.

Similarly, the IAF failed to procure a reason-

able supply of bunker-buster bombs even though aware that Hezbollah had six years to fortify and tunnel. Again, this would not have completely solved the problem – some Hezbollah tunnels were over 120 feet deep – but it's still a sign of gross unpreparedness, particularly on the part of ex-air force chief Dan Halutz.

Even more troubling are reports that tanks were being ordered into heavily-defended areas of southern Lebanon with no infantry accompaniment – which is simply asking for them to be blown away. Dealing with enemy anti-tank teams has been a textbook matter since the Normandy breakout in WWII. Infantry assaults the enemy teams, creating a hole for the armor to roar through. If there's any truth in these

stories, it reveals incompetence of a criminal degree. Courts martial should follow.

2) Get rid of Ehud Olmert. The man has proven himself incapable beyond recall. Democracies have a tendency to throw up such types in times of crisis before settling on the right man. Olmert not only failed to understand how to carry out his war, he failed to understand why

it was being fought in the first place. According to Israeli sources, Olmert was heard remarking that the purpose of the war was that it would enable Israel to "remove its settlements from Samaria." This is as if George Bush had concluded that the point of 9/11 was to give Manhattan back to the Indians. Of course the alternative, the suave media figure and playboy Benjamin Netanyahu is no prize, but at this point Jojo the Dogfaced boy would be an improvement. This is a case where the parliamentary system adapted by Israel is superior to ours: they can get rid of the useless politician.

3) Target Hezbollah for annihilation by any means necessary. This means every last active combatant. Hezbollah has humiliated Israel. The country – and the Middle East, and the world at large – will not be safe until that stain is wiped out.

As for us – the rest of the world – we'll be seeing a lot of Sons of Hezbollah springing up in the near future. Hezbollah has taken the pennant from Al-Qaeda, and is now the hero of the pathological sector of Muslim manhood. And of course, Al-Qaeda will have to make some effort to get the pennant back....

The first phase of the War on Terror has now ended. It could have, and should have, gone better.. As it is, we can only repeat what Grant said to Sherman, as the two of them stood in the rain the evening after the carnage of Shiloh: "Whip 'em again tomorrow."

*J.R. Dunn was editor of the International Military Encyclopedia for 12 years. This is an edited version of an article that appeared in the American Thinker on August 14.*

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**Israel now depends for its security on the United States and the UN. These are frail reeds.**

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# Beheading Nations

Fjordman

We have seen videos on TV of Muslim *Jihadis* beheading infidel hostages. Less attention has been paid to the fact that Muslims are beheading entire nation states. Although this is happening in slow motion, it is no less dramatic. Historically, the major cities have constituted a country's "head," the seat of most of its political institutions and the largest concentration of its cultural brainpower. What happens when this "head" is cut off from the rest of the body? In many countries across Western Europe, Muslim immigrants tend to settle in major cities, with the native population retreating to minor cities or into the countryside. Soon, you will travel from London to Paris, Amsterdam or Stockholm and find that you have left one city dominated by *burkas* and *sharia* to find...yet another city dominated by *burkas* and *sharia*. For some reason, this eradication of unique, urban cultures is to be celebrated as "cultural diversity."

British citizenship has been granted to nearly one million foreign nationals since Tony Blair came to power in 1997. More white families are moving from London to the regions while many immigrants arrive in the capital from overseas. In an online story in *The Daily Telegraph* that was removed "for legal reasons," former Muslim Dr. Patrick Sookhdeo warned that British Muslims could soon form a state within the state. The next step will be pushing the Government to recognize *sharia* law for Muslim communities—which will be backed up by the claim that it is "racist" or "Islamophobic" to deny them this.

In France, Muslims already have many smaller states within the state. Criminologist Lucienne Bui Trong wrote that: "From 106 hot points in 1991, we went to 818 sensitive areas in 1999." The term she used, "sensitive areas," is used to describe Muslim no-go zones where anything representing a Western institution (post office truck, firemen, even mail order delivery firms) is routinely ambushed with Molotov cocktails. In 2002 the French government decided to stop collecting the statistics. In some of these areas, the phenomenon of gang rape "has become banal."

The influence of radical Islamist groups is a growing threat to French business, too, a leading intelligence expert warned. A report commissioned by several retail and courier companies stated that the Islamists' strategy is to "take control of Muslims within the workforce" and then "challenge the rules in order to impose Islamic values."

Following three weeks of unrest, the police said 98 vehicles torched in one day marked a "return to a normal situation everywhere in France." Some of the rioters left boasting messages on various Internet forums. "We aren't going to let up. The French won't do anything and soon, we will be in the majority here." One observer stated: "In France, the majority of young Muslims believe that French society is dying, commit-

ting suicide." In the southern city of Marseille, Muslims make up at least a quarter of the population, and rising fast.

In the Netherlands, Muslims will soon make up the majority in all major cities. "Today, we have 1 million Muslims out of 16 million Dutch," according to Frits Bolkestein, Dutch politician. "Within 10 years, they will have an absolute majority in both Amsterdam and Rotterdam." A researcher for the Netherlands Ministry for Immigration and Integration found that 40% of young Moroccan Muslims in the Netherlands rejected Western values and democracy.

Douglas Murray attended a conference in memory of the murdered Islam critic Pim Fortuyn in 2006, and noted with concern the strict security measures and what he saw as a nation under siege. "All across Europe, debate on Islam is being stopped. Italy's greatest living writer, Oriana Fallaci, soon comes up for trial in her home country, and in Britain the government seems intent on pushing through laws that would make truths about Islam and the conduct of its followers impossible to voice." A survey in April 2005, after the murder of another critic of Islam, Theo van Gogh, indicated that 32 percent of Dutch people wanted to emigrate abroad.

They leave what was once their country in favor of people such as Dyab Abou Jahjah, founder of the Arab European League (AEL). The AEL, founded in Belgium in 2000, now has branches in the Netherlands and France, and intends to spread across the EU. Jahjah, who has called the 9/11 attacks "sweet revenge," recruits Muslim youth to spread his ideology, which calls for the introduction of *sharia* in Europe. "We have three basic demands," he says. "Bilingual education for Arab-speaking kids, hiring quotas that protect Muslims, and the right to keep our cultural customs." "Assimilation" he claims, "is cultural rape. It means renouncing your identity, becoming like the others."

Security sources in Germany have warned that the country is home to between 3,000 and 5,000 potential Islamic suicide attackers. In 2006, *Valley of the Wolves*, a virulently anti-Semitic film about the Iraq war, sold out to cheering audiences from Germany's 2.5 million-strong Turkish community. According to *Der Spiegel*, Germany's biggest weekly, an estimated 50 women in Germany have been murdered in so-called honor killings in the past decade. Their crime? Trying to break free and live Western lifestyles. Within their communities, the killers are revered as heroes for preserving family dignity.

Non-western immigrants account for nearly 86 percent of the Norwegian capital's total population growth over the past ten years. It has been reported that shopkeepers in certain areas of Oslo now need to pay protection money. The criminals are more trigger-happy than ever, and since many of them abide by the rules of blood vengeance, violence is rapidly increas-

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# Epilogue

Ruth King

Rael Jean Isaac, editor of this publication, has asked me to avoid "disproportion" in discussing Israel's leadership vacuum. So I will let others describe Ehud Olmert, Israel's accidental Prime Minister, as an inept oaf, a pathetic excuse for a statesman, a man devoid of any sense of strategy, history or belief in Israel's legitimate rights. Let's just focus on his actions.

On February 18th, 2005, at the annual Jerusalem meeting of the Conference of Presidents of American Jewish Organizations, Olmert was questioned about the ability of Abbas to control Gaza, given the arms and terrorists pouring into the area. He angrily pounded on the lectern: "Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon is the model which Israel will apply to Gaza and Samaria." Although Hezbollah terrorists were stationed in the south of Lebanon, and had accumulated many weapons, he declaimed, "they have never, never, never used missiles against Israel on the northern border since Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon in May, 2000."

As events have unfolded, it is clear Israeli governments were guilty of criminal neglect of a gathering threat. Nor was what Olmert said true. David Bedein reports that when Olmert was subsequently confronted with an IDF report documenting frequent missile strikes from Lebanon that had killed 28 people, Olmert walked away saying that he did not want to discuss it.

In his own words, Olmert is tired of fighting, of winning, even tired of negotiating...in May, he offered to withdraw from 90% of Judea and Samaria and "negotiate about the rest." Midway into the current war, he reiterated his commitment to more withdrawals. Cut and run and more cut and run.

In his first speech to the Knesset following the cease fire, Olmert did gamely say "The responsibility for the military operation rests on my shoulders as prime minister" but then falsely claimed the war had changed the "strategic balance against Hizbullah which was no longer a state within a state." Attempting to throw further dust in the public eye, he added "We will hunt Hezbollah down anytime, anywhere. We have no intention of asking anyone's permission." Did he even read the UN Resolution his government signed off on? He needs Kofi Annan's signed permission to move a muscle.

Olmert's approval ratings have plummeted. On August 16, a Teleserker poll in *Ma'ariv* found that 43% were satisfied with Olmert before the war, 78% during the war and only 40% after the ceasefire. The polls found that Peretz's situation was even worse.

Teleserker found that 28% approved of his performance before the war, 61% during and 28% now. But many of those who revile these men were once enthusiastic supporters of their defeatist policies.

Why is it that Israel, an accomplished democracy with advanced cultural and scientific institutions, has been so eager to shed its patrimony? How did Israel permit the colossal identity theft whereby the words "refugee and Palestinian" came to mean Arab only? Why have they turned blind eyes to the naked

truth that Arabs only enter into temporary agreements known as *hudnas* which Islam specifically obliges them to abrogate when entered into with "infidels.?" Why have Israel's leaders betrayed their trust to protect the homeland and why do Israelis tolerate it? Why are they incensed when Ahmadienijad taunts the Jewish people by denying the Holocaust and yet call Mahmoud Abbas, a seasoned

terrorist and documented Holocaust denier, "a friend of enlightenment and peace" (to quote Shimon Peres).

I love and admire Israel and like Jews throughout the Diaspora, my security and confidence are directly linked to its survival. I am enormously grateful that hundreds of thousands of young people are willing to sacrifice and die in order to protect it....except, of course for the Prime Minister's own children, who have either avoided military service, or accused the IDF of "war crimes" or urged their peers to disobey army rules. In fact Olmert himself avoided army service altogether, citing orthopedic problems. Could the problem have been spinelessness?

As I write this reports flood in of Hezbollah's regrouping and rearming. In her own contribution to this Comedy of Errors, Condi Rice essentially said "Disarmament? What disarmament?" She said it in State Department-speak "I don't think there is an expectation that this force is going to physically disarm Hezbollah...You have to have a plan...and then the hope is that some people lay down their arms voluntarily." All this shreds Olmert's pretense that anything at all was accomplished in Lebanon, and makes the Israeli diplomats who attempt to spin the debacle into a success a laughingstock.

In the final analysis, it is not Olmert or Peretz or Peres, or Bibi or Barak or Rabin or Sharon --the long line of those who substituted appeasement for deterrence -- who bear chief responsibility. It is the body politic of Israel which elected such terrible leaders and then supported their policies. Has the Israeli public finally learned something? Anything?

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**Olmert avoided army service altogether, citing orthopedic problems. Could the problem have been spinelessness?**

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(Continued from page 10)

ing. In Sweden, reports about criminal gangs and mafias are coming in from urban areas all over the country, and a feeling of powerlessness is spreading among ordinary citizens. "We have no other possibility than to flee from this area. Families cannot fight against these problems alone. We are talking about survival, you can get stabbed here."

The massive concentration of Muslims in major European cities will have dramatic consequences, some of which are already visible. If it is allowed to continue, it will destroy the coherence of society that is necessary for our democracies and our legal systems

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(Continued from page 2)

of Israeli patriotism. At the memorial for the children the deputy mayor announced: "Our passports say Israel, but we are brothers of the Arabs." Green Hamas flags flew everywhere.

Gebauer could find only one moderate voice, a restaurant owner who was afraid to give his name. "Nazareth is full of crazy people," he said. "I don't want to get into trouble."

## Plaut on Peretz

Steven Plaut writes from Haifa: "The banner headline in *Haaretz* of August 17 was 'Defense Minister Peretz Claims the Army did not Warn Him There were Missiles and Rockets in Lebanon.' Now I personally published at least 50 articles and web postings after the Barak capitulation and unilateral withdrawal from south Lebanon, warning that northern Israel would soon be bathed by thousands of Hezbollah Katyushas and I was hardly alone. I wonder what else Peretz was never warned of by the army – maybe that snakes bite and that smoking is bad for your health."

to work. Increased urban insecurity means that the state is not able to guarantee the security of its citizens. If ordinary citizens feel that the state is no longer able to guarantee the safety of their loved ones, then perhaps native Europeans will create groups and "clans" of their own, to counter the Muslim clans. The result will be a re-tribalization of our countries. The downfall of the nation state, if it happens, will be chaotic, painful and bloody. Can it still be avoided? Only time will tell.

This is excerpted from an article by the Nordic blogger Fjordman on *Jihadwatch* of July 12.

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No less bizarre is the news that a government commission to examine the effects of Kadima's proposed "convergence plan" (eliminating the Jewish communities of Judea and Samaria) had concluded after extensive study that the plan would expose Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ben Gurion Airport to rocket attacks. Any politician who needs a commission to figure this out needs to be committed.

## Jihad is Kosher

Greg Jaffe in *The Wall Street Journal* reports that a judge on Yemen's special terrorism court has acquitted 19 defendants who had traveled to Iraq to fight with *al Qaeda* and kill American soldiers – and bore wounds to show for it. The forty year old judge, who is no *al Qaeda* sympathizer and has family in the United States, said he had no choice: "Islamic *Sharia* law permits *jihad* against occupiers" of Moslem lands. The judge was puzzled by the protests from the American embassy and others. He asked "According to American law, isn't it OK to fight with people of your own religion against the occupiers?"

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