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# OUTPOST



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# Horizontally Speaking

William Mehlman

*“...I see a new horizon  
My Life has only begun...”*

That snippet from a 1930s Broadway musical would appear to mirror Benjamin Netanyahu’s mood as he reaches for an unprecedented fourth term as prime minister of Israel when national elections roll around sometime next year.

Unfazed by a plunge in his popularity ratings to 38 percent from 82 percent at the height of “Operation Protective Edge,” the prime minister has shifted his attention to a more recent set of poll figures with ostensibly greater political shelf-life. Asked whom they would trust at the helm of the ship of state for the next four years, 42 percent of the respondents named Netanyahu. His nearest rival, at 20 percent, was candidate “I don’t know.” His head swimming with these results and the widespread conviction that neither of his warring coalition partners, Economy Minister Naftali Bennett (Bayit Yehudi) and Finance Minister Yair Lapid (Yesh Atid) has the stomach for bringing the government down and forcing early elections, the prime minister has been giving voice in the wake of the Gaza stand-down to visions of “a new diplomatic horizon”—a grand alliance of Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia in pursuit of a safer, saner Middle East, arrayed in diplomatic combat against an Iranian-backed Hamas and a homicidal Caliphate-obsessed ISIS. Mr. Netanyahu might have stumbled on the germ of an idea, but living in close proximity to the Judean Desert, horizons can easily be mistaken for mirages. The last time an Israeli leader became captive to the “new horizon” syndrome we wound up with Oslo and the ensconcement in Ramallah of Yasser Arafat and 150,000 of his pistoleros.

While the rockets may have been temporarily stilled, “Operation Protective Edge” is by no means over. So if the prime minister is truly “new horizon”-minded, he might try focusing his recharged imagination on two no less critical phases of that campaign—the now and future political and economic war against Hamas. Neither of them is going to be easy to tackle, but the political offers the most transparent target. Well before the 50 days of fighting ended, the European Union committed itself to “the disarmament of Hamas and the monitoring of future imports and funding to prevent the creation of new funds for the replenishment of missile stockpiles.” Israel needs, with all due haste, to call the EU in on this pledge. Self-interest would almost certainly dictate Egyptian support and Jordan and the Saudis wouldn’t be far behind. None of the three wants to see the rearmament of the Palestinian branch of the Moslem Brotherhood.

The economic isolation of Hamas is a trickier proposition, what with the U.S. and the Europeans tripping over each other in their fervor to pour their taxpayers’ money into that terrorist rat hole. Besa Center Professor Efraim Inbar avers that it was the need to alert the world to its “dire economic condition” that more than any other factor persuaded Hamas to begin lobbing rockets at Israel, a condition created by the explosive growth of its military wing and a welfare network providing the free education, food subsidies, health and religious services essential to keeping a population of 1.5 million from open revolt. Nitzana Darshan-Leitner, head of Tel Aviv’s *Shurat HaDin Israeli Law Center* relates how Hamas up until the Second Intifada managed to make do with overseas, mainly Western-based charitable funds and contributions from Saudi Arabia and Egypt, most of them laundered and filtered through Jordan’s Arab Bank, until victims of Hamas terrorism got wind of these transactions and began filing lawsuits. At which point, every Western bank providing services to Arab Bank and Hamas’ “charities” made a dash for the exit. With the election of Abdel Fatah Sisi, scourge of the deposed Moslem Brotherhood, as its president, Hamas lost Egypt.

“Diplomats are looking for formulas that that will enabling channeling aid to the Gaza Strip bypassing Hamas,” Inbar explains, “[but] realistically there is no way to reconstruct Gaza without strengthening Hamas, an Iranian base that threatens Israel and many moderate Arab regimes. It makes no strategic sense.”

Darshan-Leitner thinks she has the answer. “Hamas was and is under economic siege,” she submits. “That’s why most of its cease-fire demands are to open access points from Egypt...and from Israel to enable it to obtain free passage for money into Gaza...The only way of completely eradicating Hamas is through a critical blow to its financing. Operation Protective Edge must enter the economic arena.”

How’s that for a “new horizon,” Mr. Prime Minister?

*William Mehlman represents AFSI in Israel*

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## **From the Editor**

### **Hezbollah Next**

Israel pulled its punches in the war against Hamas; now Israeli TV reports that the IDF warns it dare not do a repeat performance in the next war with Hezbollah in Lebanon. Col. Dan Goldfus, commander of an infantry brigade, warns that Israel will have “to act more decisively, more drastically,” given that Hezbollah has an estimated 100,000 rockets, ten times the number Hamas had, and that its 5,000 long range missiles are capable of carrying large warheads, with which the Iron Dome defense system cannot cope. Goldfus warns that Hezbollah is also a more formidable force now that it has accumulated three years of battlefield experience in Syria.

The Channel 2 report also acknowledges the probability that there are attack tunnels under the Israeli border in the north just as there were in Gaza. Yossi Adoni of the Ma’aleh Yosef Council in the north said “We are absolutely certain there are cross-border tunnels” and dozens of border-area residents have reported the sounds of tunneling under their homes since 2006.

### **Muslim Refugee Wave to U.S.**

It’s hard to think of anything more opposed to the interests of American Jews than vastly increasing the number of Muslims in this country but don’t expect a word of protest from the mainstream Jewish organizations. On the contrary, Melanie Nezer, head of policy for HIAS (the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) wrote an op-ed March 28 in the *New York Daily News* calling for the U.S. to take in 75,000 Syrian refugees over the next five years—that would make the Syrian equal the Iraqi refugee program, the largest in the United States. Iraqi refugees here are mostly Muslims; the Syrian refugees will be almost entirely Muslim.

HIAS has skin in the game because, like a variety of Christian outfits, it operates as a government contractor in resettling refugees, financially rewarding work. The more refugees, the larger the government grants. Other Jewish organizations, without financial incentive, engage in moral preening.

One need only look at Europe to see the impact of a large Muslim immigration on the Jewish population. Already in this country, the impact on politicians is beginning to show. In Minneapolis (where large numbers of Somalis have been resettled) Mayor Betsy Hodges showed up to a meeting wearing a hijab. The average Somali family in Minnesota has six children. It won’t be long before the sheer number of Muslim voters sharply affect public policy.

## Hats Off to Ted Cruz



Ted Cruz displayed that rare quality--principled leadership--as the keynote dinner speaker at a new "In Defense of Christians" organization. He was booed until he left the stage when he told the audience that Christians in the Middle East had no better friend than Israel, that Christians can practice their faith free of persecution there, and that ISIS, al Qaeda and Hamas were all part of the same cancer.

The hecklers were chiefly Middle Eastern Christians. Christians in the Middle East have a long

record of trying to outbid Muslims in hatred of Israel as a means to gain acceptance. For most, becoming the target of persecution themselves has not been a learning experience.

In his subsequent statement, Cruz said: "I came to this event to help shine a light on the tragic persecution and slaughter of Christians by ISIS and Islamic radicals throughout the Middle East. But bigotry and hatred have no place in this discussion. Anti-Semitism is a corrosive evil, and it reared its ugly head tonight." Cruz said he had no choice but to leave the event. "I told them that if you will not stand with Israel, if you will not stand with the Jews, then I will not stand with you. And then I walked off the stage."

## "West Bank" Loves Hamas

A poll taken at the end of August by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR) found that if presidential elections were to take place now in the so-called West Bank (Judea and Samaria), Hamas Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh would easily overwhelm the Palestinian Authority's Mahmoud Abbas (by 66%-25%) and Hamas would also triumph in parliamentary elections. The support for Hamas in the West Bank is in fact substantially greater than it is in Gaza itself (Haniyah had only 53% support in Gaza).

In both the West Bank and Gaza a large majority—79%-- believed that Hamas won the war. Only 3% believed Israel had won and 17% said both sides were losers. A third of Palestinians believed that Israel kidnapped and killed the three Israeli boys that set off the current round of hostilities. An overwhelming majority of 86% support the launching of rockets at Israel.

All this underscores that democracy offers no cure for Middle East ills and the belief that its inhabitants, if free to choose, will vote for peace, freedom and prosperity is a fatal delusion. It also reminds us once again that the Palestinians are an anti-nation, one that derives its whole meaning and purpose from the desire to destroy a real nation, the nation of the Jews.

## Apocalypse Now

As church bells rang and synagogues blew shofars in support, hundreds of thousands paraded down Manhattan's Sixth Avenue chanting "What do we want? Climate Justice! When do we want it? Now!" (In the meaningless department, "Climate Justice" trumps even "sustainability.") *The New York Times*, on board as it is with every politically correct cause, nonetheless gave a taste of the circus atmosphere in the "People's Climate March." "At Columbus Circle, there were bare-breasted women and people with dreadlocks and homespun clothing. There were women wearing hijabs and groups of older women with signs proclaiming they were 'Grandmothers against Global Warming.'" The more

level-headed *New York Post* provided pictures of the mountains of trash the earth-savers left in their wake.

Celebrities and politicians piled on the rhetoric to raise the temperature for the UN confab starting the next day. The Pied Piper of Climate Change Al Gore led the way. No less an authority than actress Emma Thompson announced “This is the battle of our lives.” Mayor Bill de Blasio declared “We know humanity is facing an existential threat.” Robert Kennedy Jr. had this to say of politicians who remained skeptical. “They are contemptible human beings. I wish there were a law you could punish them with.” Just in case the public believed there might be more urgent threats, Secretary of State Kerry declared that climate change should be addressed with as much “immediacy” as confronting the Islamic State and the Ebola outbreak.



People’s Climate March Trash

What we have here is more evidence (if such were needed) that human nature has not changed over the millennia and that human beings, as surely as a moth to a flame, are attracted to apocalyptic beliefs—in this case that we face Doomsday if we don’t stop using fossil fuels. Why has this particular apocalypse taken off while other apocalyptic enthusiasms (like the Heaven’s Gate apocalypse in 1997 whose adherents killed themselves in anticipation of being carried off in a spaceship) attract few followers? This one has a scientific veneer that makes it palatable to the modern mind. And it is fiercely protected by a cult of scientists who insist that they alone can understand the science and there is a “scientific consensus” that the apocalypse is real. The mainstream media has swallowed this claim though it is far from the truth. The foreword to this writer’s book *Roosters of the Apocalypse: How the Junk Science of Global Warming is Bankrupting the Western World* is written by one of the world’s foremost atmospheric scientists, MIT professor Richard Lindzen. He is one of hundreds

of scientists, many of them experts in climate, who have come out publicly to expose the falsity of the purported Armageddon.

What does this have to do with Israel? The global warming apocalypse is a manifestation of the “madness of crowds” just like the wave of hatred and condemnation directed against Israel in the West. In the case of Israel, as Melanie Phillips has aptly pointed out, we have a case of both reality and morality “turned upside down.” It is an inversion that makes Hamas the victim even as it lobs rockets into Israel, pours its funds into attack tunnels and openly declares that its goal is Israel’s destruction.

In both cases the belief is impervious to disproof. Israel’s repeated (ill-advised) offers to give up virtually all the territory won in 1967, each time met by a walk-out by the Arab side, are ignored. The last Kerry-propelled negotiations-fest ended when Abbas abruptly announced his government was joining with Hamas. That didn’t stop Obama from veering off ostensible subject (ISIS) in his recent UN speech to put the blame on Israel: the failure of negotiations is “something worthy of reflection within Israel,” he declared. The global warming scenarios of disaster are based on computer models, which time has shown to be wrong. For eighteen years there has been no warming although carbon dioxide emissions have risen dramatically. Not a single computer model foresaw this. If the models are totally off base in a mere twenty years, why should their predictions be relied on hundreds of years out?

Elites become even more committed to their folly than the masses. Is there anything that can shake the faith of politicians and opinion makers world-wide in the “two state solution?” In the need to drastically curb CO2 emissions? If so, it’s not clear what it is.

## **A Moment of Unity**

The following are excerpts from a letter sent to this writer from a relative in Israel.

"The war in Israel was very intense. The feeling of "Ahdut"--unity--the feeling that we were all in it together was very strong. We rallied around our boys, both "The Three Boys" who were so cruelly murdered (two of whom attended the same school from which our grandson had graduated the previous year) and our soldiers, of whom a significant percentage are women.

Every day there was an impromptu "packing party." Whatever the soldiers asked for they received in overwhelming amounts. (To me the most uplifting were the notes enclosed.) One family here lives in a very large five story house where we frequently hold classes. This summer they turned their yard into a packing facility. The first week it was the usual... toiletries, snacks, water bottles, underwear, socks. The second week they put out the call for home baked challah to send a complete Shabbat to one special unit. That too was oversubscribed. So the following week they expanded across the street to three other houses. Basically the whole street was closed. No one objected.

Thirty thousand people attended the funeral for a Lone Soldier in Jerusalem. Thirty thousand. His parents had never been to Israel before and were concerned on their way here to bury their son that there would not be a *minyan* at the funeral. They finally had to announce that people should please stop visiting them. There was no room in the hotel ballroom that they were given to sit *shiva*.

In Hadassah Hospital, outside soldiers' rooms there were so many people they had to cut off visitors. So people just brought up cases of candy and cookies and left them outside the door. Imagine a safety hazard in the halls of a hospital because too many people were visiting people they didn't know and the floors were full of gifts.

The week after they asked only for chocolate chip cookies to be delivered between 9 and 11 Friday morning in Jerusalem. At noon they were still packing the cars to drive to Gaza with the chocolate chip cookies. We were told "they'll be back here by 3." We were stunned. They hadn't left Jerusalem at 12 and they would unload and make a round trip in less than 3 hours to Gaza. This is where the missiles were coming from. It is a very small country and our soldiers were fighting for our lives!

We pray that this coming New Year will bring peace and healing to our country and that Isaiah's prophecy of a world at peace will be fulfilled."

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## Four Reasons Israel's Future Looks Bright as the New Jewish Year Begins

P. David Hornik

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, falls this year on September 24. The year that just ended—5774 on the Jewish calendar—was not an easy one.

There was the war against Hamas in July and August, which Israel won overwhelmingly while losing 64 soldiers and seven civilians. In June there was Hamas's kidnapping and murder of three Israeli teenage boys. (The murderers have now met their just fate.) And Israel's overall security environment in the Middle East seems more and more precarious. Among other things, *jihadis* are battling the Syrian army just across Israel's Golan Heights border; Jordan's moderate regime could be in danger; Islamic State has set up its "caliphate" of atrocity in Iraq and Syria; while Iran keeps being allowed to progress along the nuclear path by Western powers playing feckless diplomatic games.

Where, then, does a "bright future" come into all this? Looking ahead to 5775, Israel has a track record of overcoming security challenges, and in other ways keeps thriving.

### 1. Surviving the Obama administration.

The first five and a half years of Obama have, no doubt, been rough for Israel. There's no one who seems to get the president's goat like Israel's thrice-elected prime minister Binyamin Netanyahu. Obama has given Netanyahu a churlish and unprecedented snub at the White House, publicly vilified him as a peace-wrecker, and lashed out at him viciously on the phone during the latest Gaza war.

Israel is very worried that the administration's ceaseless courting of Iran belies any seriousness about stopping its nuke program. Against Israel's warnings and advice, Obama backed Mohamed Morsi's (fortunately short-lived) Muslim Brotherhood regime in Egypt. After the 2012 Gaza war, the administration, together with Morsi, pushed Israel into a deal that allowed Hamas to rearm and set the stage for this year's war.



Chuck Hagel with Moshe Yaalon

And yet, with all that and more, the U.S.-Israeli alliance is today stronger than ever. On September 19 the Senate passed a bill declaring Israel a "major strategic partner" and boosting U.S. trade, energy, R&D, and military ties with Israel. Even Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, whose anti-Israeli track record alarmed many after he was

nominated, is said to have an excellent working relationship with Israeli defense minister Moshe Yaalon.

As the Middle East descends into worse and worse turmoil and terror, Israel's democratic stability, military preeminence in the region, and topnotch intelligence capabilities have to look better and better. Even the Obama administration isn't totally blind to the reality.

### 2. Winning the war in Gaza.

In the month since this summer's Gaza war ended, a total of one mortar has been fired at Israel, and Hamas claimed that it arrested the perpetrators. True, a month is not a very long time. But for Hamas, the road to rebuilding its military capabilities to anything near what they were before this war began is very long and rocky—if it exists.

This time international donors are not rushing to rehabilitate Gaza; they say they want guarantees that their funds won't just be diverted to the Hamas war machine again. Egypt has already destroyed most of the smuggling tunnels from Sinai into Gaza, and is as determined as Israel to stop Hamas from rearming.

And while a poll right after the war showed a big surge in Hamas's popularity both in Gaza and the West Bank, Gaza landlords are now refusing to rent apartments to Hamas members and their families for fear that these dwellings will eventually be targeted by Israel. Italian journalist Francesca Borri reports a mood of hatred for Hamas in Gaza, with residents telling her the war was "pointless." Palestinian journalist Mudar Zahran paints a very similar picture.

Meanwhile the amazing performance during the war of Israel's Iron Dome missile-defense system has Iran deeply concerned. Israel also displayed stunning offensive capabilities during the war, including unprecedented synchronization between the air force and the ground forces. Clearly, threats to Israel remain. Its enemies know, though, that tangling with it is a very risky proposition.

### 3. A regional energy superpower.

This month Jordan signed a historic deal with Israel whereby Israel will supply it with \$15 billion of natural gas over the next 15 years.

And a similar deal between Israel and Egypt will likely be inked by the end of this year—possibly with as much as \$60 billion of natural gas flowing from Israel to Egypt in the coming decade and a half.



When Israel's offshore Tamar and Leviathan natural gas fields were discovered in recent years, it was clear that Israel—already known for its economic and particularly hi-tech dynamism—had come upon a bonanza. Speculation on where Israel would export its energy, though, centered on Europe. Few expected that Israel's clients would instead be its Arab neighbors.

Jordan's and Egypt's willingness to become energy-dependent on Israel for the long term reflects, of course, Jordan's and Egypt's difficult economic straits, but it also reflects how the region is changing. Yes, it still teems with *jihadi* groups, as well as a *jihadi* government in Tehran, who are sure God wants Israel wiped off the map. But Cairo, Amman, and other sane Sunni regimes in the region are realizing more and more that, when you have a military, hi-tech, and energy superpower for a neighbor, it makes more sense to benefit from what it has to offer than try to beat it.

Or as Netanyahu puts it: "There is a new recognition among major countries in the Middle East that Israel is not their mortal enemy, but is a potential ally in addressing the common challenges."

### 4. A demographic dynamo.

The statistics for 2013 are in, and they confirm that Israel's amazing demographic trajectory continues. The population now stands at 8.25 million, up by well over a hundred thousand from the previous year, double what it was thirty years ago. And during the Jewish year that began last September, about 25,000 immigrants came to the country—the highest total in five years. Meanwhile Israel's birthrate remains by far the highest among Western countries.

Is there an overarching explanation for all this success—awesome economic achievements, dramatically outsize military power, attracting immigrants, an evident love for life despite the difficult environment?

There is—and it's this: the Jewish people's return to their land after two millennia, the revival of their language and culture, the concentration of so much talent, the memory of catastrophe and the unfathomable will to survive release huge energies. Israel will stay on this trajectory of success, which all the region's dark hatred can't stop.

*This appeared on Pajamas media on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.*



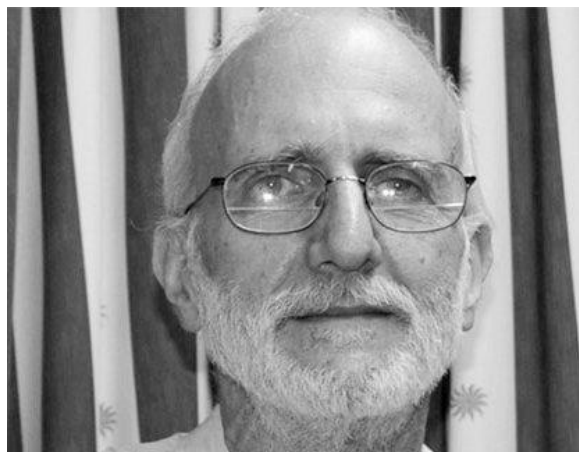
## Havana's Anti-Israeli Policies and an American Hostage in Havana

Frank Calzon

Cuba's hostility to the United States and the West has always extended to the State of Israel. For decades, invective against Israel and Zionism has been spewed from *Granma* and other official Cuban media. Hatred of the Jewish State has not stopped there. Castro's Cuba has always played a singularly negative and destructive role in the Middle East. Cuban support for the most radical regimes and terrorist groups fighting against Israel included training violent guerillas in Cuba itself and providing all sorts of support and assistance. Significantly, Cuba has also played a central and leading role at the United Nations in organizing a poisonous apparatus of propaganda and delegitimization against Israel.

One need only listen to the words of the Cuban delegate to the UN at the August 6th, 2014 Special Session of the General Assembly held to discuss the situation in Gaza. Her extreme, one-sided and distorted condemnation of Israel even includes the words of Fidel Castro who, despite his "retirement", manages to hurl outrageous and offensive invective against Israel in an editorial in the pages of *Granma* (where he also accuses Israel of "a new repugnant form of fascism"): "Why does (Israel)...believe that the world will be insensitive to the macabre genocide which today is being perpetrated against the Palestinian people?"

In 55 years of revolutionary government, Havana severed diplomatic ties with only one country: Israel, in 1973. There were no issues between the two governments at the time, and Fidel Castro announced the break in relations while attending a conference in North Africa in order to ingratiate himself with radical Arab leaders.



Alan Gross – captive in Cuba

In 1959, when Fidel Castro came to power, the vibrant Jewish community numbered about 12,000. They, like other Cubans, had all of their properties, and businesses, no matter how small, confiscated. Before being permitted to leave Cuba they had to turn their homes, electric appliances, furniture and jewelry over to the state. Today, there are six hundred Jews left in Cuba.

After failing to obtain the release of Alan Gross, the USAID subcontractor unjustly serving a long prison sentence in Havana, Bill Richardson, a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and former governor of New Mexico, said that Gross was a hostage. Gross is a Jew serving a fifteen year sentence for giving a laptop and a satellite telephone to a Jewish group in Cuba. Many others have visited Cuba and given away laptops and telephones to Cubans, and although some have been expelled, Gross is the only who has received such draconian punishment. When a Cuban spy serving time in the United States asked for permission to visit his ailing mother in Cuba, the United States permitted him to do so. Gross' mother was very ill, but Havana would not permit him to come to America to visit her. She died without seeing her son.

Alan Gross is no spy. The Castro brothers want to use him to blackmail the Administration to release Cuban spies in American prisons. For years the Administration has pleaded with Havana to let him come home to no avail. The Cuban spies were found guilty of conspiracy to commit the murder of three Americans and one Florida resident. Another spy who had been involved in the planning of the murders fled to Cuba shortly before missiles from Cuban war planes destroyed two single engine planes in international airspace killing the four men.

The President's diplomatic efforts have failed. But he should not accept Castro's blackmail. The United States does not have to go to war, but Havana has paid no price for holding Gross. Washington has many options. President Obama should look into measures that would put a real price on the Castros for holding an American. Just like in the Middle East, Obama needs a new strategy to deal with Cuba.

*A political scientist born in Cuba, Frank Calzon is the executive director of the Center for a Free Cuba in Washington, D.C. dedicated to promoting human rights and a transition to democracy and the rule of law on the Island. Mr. Calzon served for 10 years as the Washington representative for Freedom House.*

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## **Jewish Survivors and Their Progeny Against Israel**

Edward Alexander

The Jewish enemies of Israel, if they are sufficiently profligate in the expenditure of claptrap, often come to the aid of her defenders. Early this summer (2014) I wrote the following paragraph in the prologue to a book (entitled *Jews Against Themselves*) that I was sending off to my publisher:

"I have not attempted a systematic taxonomy of all the species of Jews arrayed under the genus 'enemies of Israel,' a monumental task that would require an Encyclopedia to include the following: Jewish Progressives against Israel; Jewish Queers against Israel; Haredim against Israel; Holocaust Survivors against Israel; Children of Holocaust Survivors against Israel; Jewish Voice for Peace; Grandchildren of Holocaust Survivors against Israel; Survivors of the Warsaw Ghetto against Israel; J Street; Jewish Postmodernists against Israel; Jewish Berkeley Professors against Israel; Post-Zionists against Israel; Jewish Members of MESA [Middle East Studies Association] against Israel; Jews for Boycotting Israeli Goods (JBIG, also called, seasonally, London's Jewish Christmas Carolers against Israel); and so on and on, ad infinitum, ad nauseam. Despite this, there will always be readers who express astonishment that there are Jews who question the Jewish right to live as a natural right, or hate Israel and are ashamed to have a state. Surely they are as rare as singing mice or card-playing pigs? Alas, no."

I felt more or less content with that Swiftian list, yet also sensed that something was missing from it. The recent publication, first in Britain's *Guardian* on August 15, and then in *The New York Times* on August 23, of an ad accusing Israel of genocide in Gaza and calling for "full economic, cultural, and academic boycott of Israel" told me what it was. The ad was placed by "Jewish survivors and descendants of survivors" and also "friends of survivors," "friend of many survivors," "cousins of survivors," "cousins of victims of Nazis in Ukraine," "the great niece of an uncle who shot himself," "spouse of hidden child," and "relative of victims." Where defamation of Israel is concerned, imagination cannot keep pace with the fantastic moral coarseness of the defamers.

According to the 327 (mostly unknown) signatories of this fiery, vitriolic, and obscene assault on the state of Israel as the one true inheritor of Nazism, and on Elie Wiesel (who dares to say that Jews have done enough dying), the death factories and outdoor killing centers and vast machinery of murder of the Germans and their allies were, for those who managed to survive them, schools of moral instruction and intellectual acumen. These gifts have enabled them to pass judgment on the latest Hamas-Israel conflict and come down unreservedly on the side of Hamas, the Islamist version of Nazism whose declared purpose is to destroy Israel and "to kill Jews wherever you find them."

It does not occur to the "survivors" (if that is indeed what they really are) and their progeny that persecuting governments and persecuting religions, while breeding vices in those who hold power, are

well known to breed answering vices in those who are powerless and suffering. The signatories assume that the death camps were such seminal teachers of moral scruple that their influence has been passed on, to the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of survivors. I had failed to include these genetically privileged people in my list; and their numbers are vast, perhaps uncountable, among the variegated species of Jews within the genus “Jewish enemies of Israel.” A grievous omission on my part, to be sure, if the offspring of survivors, even unto the thousandth generation, are genetically authorized to decide which nations may live, and which must die.



Daniel Boyarin

Three names among the signatories caught my attention: Daniel Boyarin, Hedy Epstein, and Anna Baltzer. The first lists himself as “great grandson” of victims of Nazism. A University of California, Berkeley professor (of Talmud), Boyarin has identified himself as a Jew “destined by fate, psychology, personal history, or whatever, to be drawn to Christianity,” and has warned that “My Judaism may be dying at Nablus, Daheishe, Beteen,” (i.e., places the Israeli army has entered to pursue people inclined to massacre Jews). Boyarin belongs to what has been called the “sissy” school of contemporary Jewish thinkers. He calls himself “oddly gendered” and would replace the “muscular” Judaism of the Zionism he hates with a feminized Judaism that he claims to find in rabbinic texts. For him the moral center of Jewish history is a celebration of the renunciation of national interest, as if that were the only criterion of a just politics. He and others in the sissy school deem it praiseworthy in Jews never (or so they believe) in the past to have picked up the gun or the knife, as if a man unable to eat should be praised for his ability to fast. But when Israel is being bombed,

Boyarin is less queasy about violence, and now takes the side of Hamas, which has been firing thousands of missiles at Israeli citizens for weeks on end. No matter the circumstances, Boyarin keeps repeating, with steam-engine regularity, that Jews are “collectively engaged in war/wars against Muslims,” and likens all Israeli self-defense to the Nazi Holocaust.

Then there is Hedy Epstein, a professional “survivor” (she left Germany as a child in 1939) and member of the pro-Hamas International Solidarity Movement. Since she believes that slavery, like the Nazi camps, also (unwittingly) provided ethical instruction and refinement to its victims, she makes a point of turning up in marches (most recently in Ferguson, Missouri) to support African-American race racketeers like Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson, and never misses an opportunity to spew venom at Israel. She is a 90-year old version of the late Rachel Corrie—inveterate “slumming” do-gooders who confuse doing good with feeling good about what they are doing.

Anna Baltzer, popping up in the “Grandchildren” category of the ad, is really Anna Piller. But after becoming a full-throated and virtually full-time apologist for Hamas, an activist (like Epstein) in the International Solidarity Movement, and in the BDS movement, she decided to conceal her identity from a still living grandmother who was both a Holocaust survivor and a strong supporter of Israel. For people like Baltzer, it is not the sin but its disclosure that must be taken seriously. The very grandmother who enabled Piller-Baltzer to preface all her solemn idiocies about Israeli “apartheid” with “As a Jew” was thus afforded some protection from knowing that her granddaughter was speechifying in Presbyterian churches and similar venues on behalf of a Jew-killing organization. (Was there ever a shrewder reply to the question “Who is a Jew?” than the one given by the Hebrew novelist Yosef Haim Brenner when he said that “A Jew is someone with Jewish grandchildren”?) In the case of Piller-Baltzer (and no doubt in scores just like it) we have the epistemological paradox of a biologically-based claim to moral wisdom that is confuted by the very ancestor invoked to justify it.

Perhaps the last (though not infallible) word on this latest deformation of the Holocaust should be left to the late Primo Levi, whose decency and wisdom survived in but was not created by Auschwitz:

“The ‘saved’ of the Lager were not the best, those predestined to do good; the bearers of a message. What I had seen and lived through proved the exact contrary. Preferably the worst survived, the selfish, the violent, the insensitive, the collaborators of the ‘grey zones’, the spies. It was not a certain rule... but it was, nevertheless, a rule. I felt innocent, yes, but enrolled among the saved and therefore in permanent search of a justification in my own eyes and those of others. The worst survived, that is, the fittest; the best all died.” – (Primo Levi, *The Drowned and the Saved*)

*Edward Alexander is the author of, among other books, The Resonance of Dust: Holocaust Literature and Jewish Fate (Ohio State University Press, 1979). This appeared in the Algemeiner of August 28.*

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## **Stop Blaming Israel and Wake up: The black flag of jihad is the REAL threat to the world**

Douglas Murray

Those who lazily blame Israel for the problems in the Middle East are deluded.

Jews are attacked here in Britain, they are blockaded into a synagogue in Paris and the chant ‘Death to the Jews’ is heard in Germany for the first time in 70 years.

But too few people seem to want to notice this or admit what it means. They think this is just about Israel, or just about Jewish people. It isn’t. It is about all of us.

The decision by the Israeli government to respond to Hamas rocket-fire from Gaza is the response any government would choose if rockets were fired at its citizens. The Israeli government has the right-- as

does any government - to stop the bombarding of its people.

However, it has become plain that much of the world expects a different response from Israel. They expect Israel not to fight for the safety, security and survival of its people, but to lie down in front of the Islamic extremist enemy.

The UK government has even – disgracefully-- stopped selling some arms to Israel just when the country needs such weapons most. But in expecting Israel to behave

differently from the rest of us, our societies and governments reveal far more about our own state than the State of Israel.

Because the truth is that behind the demands for Israel to lie down in front of its enemies is a fatal unwillingness of our own to face the problem which is in our midst.

The brutal murder of James Foley by ISIS underlines the real threat to world peace.

The ambition of the jihadists – from al-Qaeda to Hamas, Hezbollah, Boko Haram and more – is to subjugate the entire world

There are those who think that Israel is somehow the cause of the world’s problems, or that in defending themselves from Islamic extremists Israel is somehow causing Islamic extremism. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The extremists of Hamas are the ideological bedfellows of the extremists of ISIS who are rampaging through Syria and Iraq, crucifying and beheading as they go.



The video of the apparent beheading of American journalist James Foley by an ISIS murderer with a British accent has shocked the world. ISIS or IS are the soul-mates of Boko Haram who kidnap and kill Christian villagers in the North of Nigeria and stole 300 schoolgirls earlier this year.

They also share the exact same ideology—if not yet the same means—as those people who were found in Birmingham earlier this year teaching British pupils to hate wider British society and cut themselves off from non-Muslims.

But it is this last part of the equation which many people seem so incapable of dealing with. They see the millions of Muslims who have come to our continent and see how many of them are radical. But it is a problem they fear they cannot deal with.

They believe that if Israel just gave up fighting and disappeared that the rest of us would be able to live in peace. They see the young Muslims who stormed into a supermarket in Birmingham last weekend, trashing the products and assaulting a British policeman and they think “this is caused by Israel.”

They see young Parisian Muslims throw slabs of concrete at police and set fire to cars and they think “If only Israel weren’t responding to Hamas rocket-fire.” And they see Imams in Germany and Italy preach that all Jewish people must be killed and they pretend that it is not a problem for all of us.

How wrong they are. The problem of anti-Semitism, and Islamic anti-Semitism in particular today, is undoubtedly a problem for Jewish people. But it is only a problem for them first. It is a problem for all of us next.

What is it that lies behind this terrible Hamas-driven rage against Israel? What lies behind the desire for Israel to disappear? Today the world is finding out.

Because behind the flags of Hamas and Hezbollah which have flown at anti-Israel demonstrations in recent weeks is another flag. The black flag of *jihad* – the black flag most recently being waved in Iraq and Syria by ISIS.

Last month the black flag was flown from a car in London’s Blackwall tunnel as East End Muslims blocked the traffic. At the entrance to a council estate in East London earlier this month there were anti-Israel banners and Palestinian flags. And then, on top of the lot, the black flag of *jihad* was flown. In Oxford Street Islamic extremists set up a stall to recruit people to rally around the black flag of ISIS.

The black flag is not about Jewish people. Today in Iraq and Syria it is about Christians who ISIS is forcing to convert to Islam at gunpoint or face beheading. Many Christians are being killed by ISIS for refusing to renounce their faith. On some occasions Christians have tried to save their lives by “converting” at gunpoint and ISIS has killed them anyway.

And this is not only about Christians. It is also about other minority faiths in Islamist dominated countries. In Iraq it is also about the Yazidis, the Mandeans and other ancient beliefs which predate Islam.

The ambition of the jihadists—from al-Qaeda to Hamas, Hezbollah, Boko Haram and more—is to subjugate the entire world.

It is now the duty of all decent people—including decent Muslims—to turn on these barbarians and make it clear they will not win.

Rather than offer up beleaguered Israel we should send another message. That the extremists will not win in their desire to take over Israel any more than they will win in their stated desire to raise the black flag of *jihad* over Rome, Washington, Downing Street and Buckingham Palace.

Israel is not the cause of the world’s problems. It is simply on the front line of them.

But increasingly so are we all. And if we abandon Israel today then one day – too late – we will realize that in fact what we abandoned was ourselves.

*Douglas Murray is the Associate Director at the Henry Jackson Society. This appeared on August 21 in the UK Express.*

## 18 Rules for Combat From the Wise Men of Chelm So That Your Enemies Will Die Laughing

Jack Engelhard

*It is a settled matter that the IDF are tops in bravery and ethical warfare. Give them any job, and it's done. But when politicians run the war, Chelm is likely to happen – Chelm being the town inhabited by those fabled “wise men” loved by tradition for their well-meaning but bumbling ways, like the following rules for conducting combat.*

1. Advise your enemies to get ready for a surprise attack. Make sure to remind them where the surprise will take place and precisely what time it is to begin.
2. Shower the place with cautionary leaflets to make sure that every single enemy combatant finds safety. We do not want terrorist barbarians getting hurt.
3. Wait till the coast is clear before striking. Kill as many buildings as you can to prove that you really mean business.
4. Tip off your enemies when a “surprise” attack is about to come; this alone could kill them as they die laughing at your stupidity.
5. Make sure to remind the world that no other nation is so respectful towards its foes. The world admires you and adores you for this. Look around.
6. Always be ready to give up more Jewish territory. Judea and Samaria, for instance. See how well this worked in Gaza after 10,000 Jews were evicted.
7. As bombs keep falling on your people, keep supplying your enemies with food and water and gas and electricity.
8. You do not want to inconvenience the people who keep trying to kill you.
9. Tell your citizens who suffer daily from incoming rocket attacks that it's okay. It's no big deal. Go home and get used to running to shelters. Stop complaining. Don't make trouble.
10. Tell your enemies that *this time!* you've had enough and then beg them for a ceasefire.
11. Talk big. Act small.
12. Prove how wise you are at the bargaining table by agreeing to your enemies' every demand.
13. Pay no attention to people within your own country who demand that you fight to win. This is so foolish and so old-fashioned. A tie is good enough.
14. Insist that “quiet for quiet” is fine and dandy...even as rockets keep slamming into your country.

15. If a ceasefire is agreed upon but rockets keep coming in, that's okay. This is peace in the Land of Israel.

16. Tell the world that Gaza must be demilitarized. You will not stand for anything less. Then go home and forget every part of this.

17. If Israeli residents along the border with Gaza flee by the thousands, truce or no truce, that's simply too bad. Nothing can be done.

18. Repeat this: In the Land that God gave you but that you handed over to your enemies, War and Peace are the same thing.

Above all, talk big. Act small.

*Jack Engelhard writes a regular column for Arutz Sheva. His latest novel is the anti-BDS thriller Compulsive. This article appeared on August 26 in Israel National News*

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## The Deadly Israeli House Strikes Again

Daniel Greenfield



There are few weapons as deadly as the Israeli house. When its brick and mortar are combined together, the house, whether it is one of those modest one story hilltop affairs or a five floor apartment building complete with hot and cold running water, becomes far more dangerous than anything green and glowing that comes out of the Iranian centrifuges.

Forget the cluster bomb and the mine, the poison gas shell and even tailored viruses. Genocide is a minor matter when in the presence of the fearsome weapon of terror that is an Israeli family of four moving into a new apartment.

Sudan may have built a small mountain of African corpses, but it can't expect to command the full and undivided attention of the world until it does something truly outrageous like building a house and filling it with Jews. Since the Sudanese Jews are as gone as the Jews of Egypt, Iraq, Syria and good old Afghanistan, the chances of Bashir the Butcher pulling off that trick are rather slim.

Due to the Muslim world's shortsightedness in driving out its Jews from Cairo, Aleppo and Baghdad to Jerusalem, the ultimate weapon in international affairs is entirely controlled by the Jewish State. The Jewish State's stockpile of Jews should worry the international community far more than its hypothetical stockpiles of nuclear weapons. No one besides Israel, and possibly Saudi Arabia, cares much about the Iranian bomb. But when Israel builds a house, then the international community tears its clothes, wails, threatens to recall its ambassadors and boycott Israeli peaches.

Angry British men in red Keffiyahs hold up signs about the Holocaust in front of Jewish cosmetics stores in London. Marginalized French youth, by way of Algeria and Tunisia, hurl stones at synagogues.

John Kerry interrupts a speech on the dangers of Global Warming as an aide notifies him of an even bigger threat to the world. David just made a down payment on a two bedroom in Gvaot.

You can spit on the White House carpets and steal all the gold in Greece. You can blow up anything you like and threaten anyone you will, but you had better not lift a drill near the hills from which Balaam tried and failed to curse the Jewish people. Where the old Mesopotamian warlock failed, his successors in the United Nations curse Israel every day of the week.

Everyone has his standards. There are things that we all cannot abide. And for all the Miss America answers about ending war, hunger and people who wear plaid in public, the one thing that everyone will stand up against or sit down in opposition to is the Israeli house.

China announcing that there would be no democracy in Hong Kong, ISIS losing a battle to Iraqi forces and *Jihadists* occupying the US embassy in Tripoli were all minor stories buried by the horrifying report that Israel might “seize” 988 acres of land for housing.

From the amount of media coverage you might have thought that Israel had conquered France or Kuwait instead of allocating some land the size of a farm or a ranch for housing. If Israel had only allocated 2,000 acres, then aliens could have landed in Berkeley and the news would have been buried under coverage of the houses which might be built and in which Jews might one day live.

The State Department has claimed that building houses is “counterproductive” to peace. On the other hand the Palestinian Authority’s funding of terrorists never seems to be counterproductive. According to *The New York Times*, which is never wrong, building more houses makes peace impossible. Peace, which is not in any way obstructed by rockets, suicide bombers, unilateral statehood bids and declarations of war, comes up against only one obstacle. The stout unyielding wall of the Israeli house.

Europe is furious, Obama is seething, the UN is energized, and somewhere in Iraq, the Caliph of ISIS wipes the grease out of his beard and wonders what he could do to get this much attention. He briefly scribbles down some thoughts on a napkin but then dismisses them as being too implausible.

As much as it might get the world’s attention, there is no way ISIS can build houses for Jews in Israel.

*Daniel Greenfield is a New York City based writer and blogger and a Shillman Journalism Fellow of the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This is excerpted from his blog post of September 1.*

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## ***Jewish State – Pariah Nation: Israel and the Dilemmas of Legitimacy***

**by Jerold S. Auerbach**

Reviewed by Ruth King

Jerold Auerbach is the author of ten books and numerous articles, many of them on Israel. His academic credentials are also impressive: Guggenheim Fellow, Visiting Scholar at Harvard Law School, Fulbright Lecturer at Tel Aviv University and Professor Emeritus of History at Wellesley College.

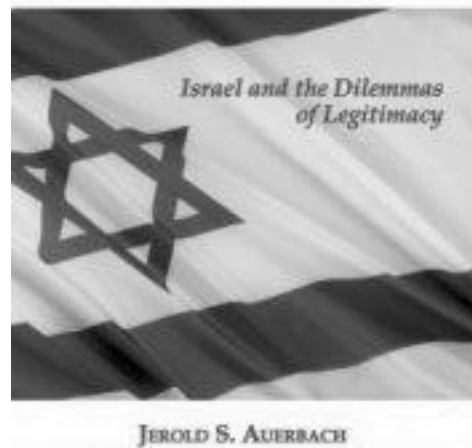
One could easily be forgiven for thinking that he has already written all there is to write on the subject of Israel for he has covered its history, law, religion, political divisions, fraternal conflicts, settlements and anti-Semitism.

Alas, however, Israel is the gift that keeps on giving in that its antagonists constantly find new lines and venues of attack.

Israel, one of many nations which achieved independence from British colonial rule after World War II, is the only one whose uphill struggle for legitimacy has persisted since its founding in 1948, including challenges from its own citizens.



As the author points out, there is ample historical precedence for discord among Jews. Rebellions go back to the Exodus. They continued from the time of Josephus to the Zionist awakening in the nineteenth century. In recent times that discord produced the tragedy of the Altalena, which is revisited in the first chapter of this book. (For more on this seminal event read Auerbach's *Brothers at War-Israel and the Tragedy of the Altalena*).



Auerbach details the issues which simmered between secular and religious, left-leaning and right-wing Jews. But it was the liberation of Judea and Samaria in 1967 that would eventually escalate the ideological divisions within Israel which found their way beyond its borders to become an international assault.

When exultation over the swift victory abated, the secular-religious chasm opened with the debate pitting opponents of the "settlers"--seen as fanatics whose "occupation" of Arab lands was illegal--against those who defended Israel's historic, religious, legal and strategic claims to its ancient patrimony.

Even the unification and restoration of a united Jerusalem, praised for its unique sensitivity to the rights of all faiths, became an issue of contention. As Arabs created a

historically spurious "Palestinian" national identity, their plundering and desecration of holy shrines in Jerusalem was increasingly air-brushed away. The Arabs practiced their own brand of identity theft, using the Jewish metaphor to create their own "holocaust," "dispersion" and "right of return."

And most regrettably, a chorus of Israeli leftists in the academies and media trumpeted their cause, thus whitewashing the stain of anti-Semitism from Israel's enemies. After all, if the Jews do it, libeling and delegitimizing Israel can't be called anti-Semitic.

And so, as the author cogently describes, the flood gates opened, and accusations of every racist and fascist form of bigotry and oppression were leveled against the only democracy in the Middle East by academics, media, and cultural "elite" circles. Thus Auerbach's last chapter is named "Pariah Nation."

In his conclusion, Auerbach states that statehood for the Arabs of Palestine exists in two thirds of the original mandate, now named Jordan. How and why Israel and its supporters failed in making that claim leaves one with a glum view of the future.

However, it is in the introduction to this excellent and beautifully written book that one may find solace and hope. Writing about "a people that dwells alone in an enduringly hostile world," Jerold Auerbach reminds us:

"Yet Israel remains a historical anomaly. No other people has reconstituted national sovereignty after nearly two thousand years of dispersion, persecution and attempted annihilation. The establishment and preservation of a democratic Jewish state, in a region where authoritarian Muslim nations and autonomous terrorist organizations vow to destroy it is no less remarkable."

What can one add but Amen?

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