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# OUTPOST



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## Table of Contents

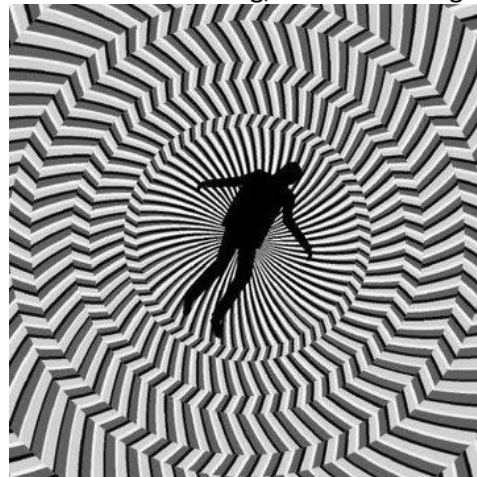
Twilight Zone	William Mehlman	Page 2
From The Editor		Page 3
Why All French Jews Should Leave For Israel	David Hornik	Page 6
When I Am Not For Myself	Marilyn Penn	Page 8
Harold Wilson, True Friend of Israel	Robert Philpot	Page 10
Wiping Israel Off The Map	Ruthie Blum	Page 11
The Elusive “Moderate Muslim”	Peter Smith	Page 13
Vichy Mon Amour	Ruth King	Page 15

## Twilight Zone

William Mehlman

The parameters of Mahmoud Abbas' desperation are tellingly defined by the dangerous game he has embarked on. It reads like a manual on diplomatic self-immolation.

Not content with pushing the UN Security Council to within a single vote of compelling a U.S. veto of a resolution mandating an Israeli retreat to the 1949 armistice lines and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of "Palestine," the Palestinian Authority president is vowing to reintroduce the resolution. The addition of pro-Palestinian Malaysia and Venezuela to the 15-member body is almost certain to provide him with a "victory," plus the certainty of an American veto. His naked repudiation of bilateral negotiations as the prescribed route to a peace settlement, *Washington Post* blogger Jennifer Rubin asserts, "leaves President Obama, who has sought at every turn to blame Israel for the breakdown of the 'peace process,' with egg on his face." Confronted now with Abbas' acceptance as a member of the International Criminal Court---of which neither Israel nor the United States is a member -- and the ICC's decision to launch an "inquiry" into alleged Israeli "war crimes" during and prior to the 50-day Gaza conflict, Mr. Obama seems badly in need of a towel.



For one thing, Abbas' trashing of the Obama-Kerry "negotiated peace" enterprise makes a cutoff

of \$400 million in annual U.S. aid to the PA a near slam-dunk. That money was already in bipartisan Congressional trouble due to the PA's merger with Hamas, an organization still solidly ensconced on the State Department's terrorist list. For another, it violates an absolute condition tied to the funding -- that the PA must under no circumstances initiate any action against Israel in The Hague.

With a fury normally reserved for Jerusalem apartment builders, a wounded State Department has questioned the legitimacy of the ICC's decision to institute a "war crimes" investigation of Israel on the grounds that the litigant, "Palestine," is without legal standing. "We do not believe that Palestine is a state and therefore...that it is eligible to join the International Criminal Court." "It is a tragic irony,"

the State Department memo adds, "that Israel, which has withstood thousands of terrorist rockets fired at its civilians and neighborhoods, is now being scrutinized by the ICC...The place to resolve the differences between the parties is through negotiations, not unilateral actions by either side." Bibi Netanyahu couldn't have said it better.

Driving an Abbas diplomatic intifada that has already cost the PA \$150 million in export taxes Israel has now frozen, simply underscores "an argument the *New York Times* editorial board will never entertain," *Jerusalem Post* diplomatic correspondent Herb Keinon submits: "*He does not want negotiations,*" (italics mine). From the portside of the political spectrum, former AIPAC lobbyist Douglas Bloomfield espies a scorched earth Abbas reaction to his failure to "convince most Israelis that a Palestinian state could ever live in peace alongside Israel." On one thing both agree: by his moves in the Security Council and the ICC, Abbas is doing more to steer a wary Israeli electorate Rightward than the best campaign manager Netanyahu could have hired.

A suspicion of more planning than happenstance in this strategy is growing. Indeed, Middle East affairs guru Aaron David Miller observes, the PA boss could hardly be oblivious to the fact that his diplomatic intifada could push a post March 17<sup>th</sup> Likud coalition, heavily indebted to Naftali Bennett's anti-two state *Bayit Yehudi* party, even further to the Right. Conversely, Miller opines, the election might

lead to something he deems even scarier: “a Centrist government that would improve Israel’s international image while still not giving Abbas what he wants. That would be the Palestinians’ worst nightmare.”

Miller’s bit of tongue in cheek exposes the “Palestinian Statehood” issue for the charade it has been from inception. “Mr. Abbas consistently refuses a Palestinian state because such a state is infinitely more trivial than a ‘Palestinian Struggle’” reflects Bret Stephens in a recent *Wall Street Journal* essay. “So long as Palestine is in the process of ‘becoming,’ it matters. Once it exists, it all but doesn’t. This explains, he avers, “why a Palestinian state – a reasonably peaceful and prosperous one, at any rate – is in Israel’s interest and why no Palestinian leader will ever accept such a state on any terms.”

*William Mehlman represents AFSI in Israel.*

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## **From the Editor**

### **Another Two-State Solution?**

Writer/farmer Bernie Quigley, writing in *The Hill*, notes that while France (as well as Europe and the U.S.) has “found the two-state solution to be the practical alternative for Israel,” the day may not be far off when that will be advocated for France.

Quigley notes the no-go zones (which it is suddenly fashionable to deny exist) in which French authorities have already ceded control to Islamists. He cites the French militant Muslims who talk openly of ruling the country one day and instituting sharia law. (Rowan Williams, then Archbishop of Canterbury, a few years back argued that adopting some aspects of shariah law in England seemed “unavoidable.”)

Writes Quigley: “Should Sharia law come to France, Britain, Germany or anywhere else in Europe, it would amount to an occupation. It would create new internal states within the older (dying) states.

We have been told by the Europeans for decades that the only alternative to all-out war, the only way to appease and accommodate Arab terrorism in Israel, is a two state solution. Says Quigley: “Not now, but in time and perhaps soon, the terrorists throughout Europe, possibly in allegiance with the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria or al Qaeda, will bring a case to the UN for autonomous state status in post-Christian Europe—with some credibility, citing Europe’s and America’s long term plans for Israel as precedent.”

### **Political Opera**

What is it these days with the opera, which normally is confined to cultural news? First there was the debacle of the Klinghoffer opera, transforming villain into victim. Now there’s the spectacle of the Israel Opera denying the request of French-Jewish conductor Frederic Chaslin to say a few words and play the Hatikva in honor of those murdered in Paris.

To his credit, Chaslin, the son of Holocaust survivors, refused to appear for the performance, writing on Facebook: “It was refused to me. ‘It would upset our audience.’ ‘It is against the management’s policies.’ What management? What policy? Where am I? In a country supposed to be the sanctuary for all Jews in the world? Has the ‘audience’ of this country lost their souls?”

In response, the Israeli opera produced a statement setting forth its “policy:” “This is the way of the opera—not to allow terror to win and disturb the routine of our lives.” Playing the Israeli national

anthem in honor of the Jewish victims of Islamic terror (who were brought to Israel for burial) would mean that terror “won”? This is not borderline insanity. It’s the real thing.

### **A Hero Goes to Israel**

With so much evil directed against Israel, it’s heartening to find a nugget of good news. Former U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Brian Mast, who served for twelve years before losing both legs in Afghanistan, has gone to Israel to volunteer for the IDF. Especially interesting, it is the vicious anti-Israel BDS movement on the Harvard campus, where he is a full-time student, that in part impelled him to go. *The Algemeiner* reports his words: “This past summer I was there [at Harvard] studying. At the same time, I saw the anti-Israeli protest in the face of the attempted indiscriminate bombardment of Israel. It was then that I decided I needed to find a way to go help however I can and however Israel would have me.”

Mast’s Christian parents had impressed upon him as he grew up the importance of the U.S. alliance with Israel. He remains intensely committed, he says, to promoting “liberty and freedom from tyrannical regimes.”

### **Why France Won’t Change**

The march by millions in Paris and other French cities in response to the jihadist attacks on Charlie Hebdo and the kosher supermarket has been called by assorted pundits evidence of a sea change in attitudes—and soon government policy—toward Islam.

That this is wishful thinking was immediately apparent. While Prime Minister Manuel Valls did indeed speak out forcefully and well, President Hollande came up with the tired bromide: “Those who



committed these acts have nothing to do with the Muslim religion.” As Mark Steyn would say, “*Allahu Akbar* is Arabic for “nothing to see here.” But as Israeli politician Naftali Bennett rightly pointed out in a *Wall Street Journal* interview, “The biggest danger for any organism is to not identify that it’s being threatened.” In this case the threat comes, as Bennett says, from “the

deep radical Islamic vision of forming a global caliphate.”

Worse, Hollande sought to prevent Netanyahu from coming (he was told his presence would create “difficulty in arranging the rally”) and when he insisted on coming, invited Abbas for “balance.” For Hollande to invite Abbas made a mockery of the march. The Palestinian Authority Abbas heads glorifies terrorists. Palestinian Media Watch reports that just a week earlier five terrorists who had killed ten Israelis were included on a list of ‘Martyrs of 2014’ who ascended to Heaven. These included the synagogue murderers who recently slaughtered five, three terrorists who ran over Israelis with cars and the terrorist who tried to assassinate Rabbi Yehuda Glick. The list was published in the bi-weekly *Al-Asima* which is distributed with the official Palestinian Authority daily.

Hollande went to the Grand Synagogue of Paris where a memorial to the Jewish victims was being held but did not speak and left shortly before Netanyahu spoke.

Inviting a champion of terror while trying to avoid the presence of the leader of the country facing in extreme form the same danger France faces and doing the minimum when he comes scarcely speaks well of France's future confrontation with militant Islam.

And, of course, France had just shown the depth of its pandering to Islam by voting at the UN in favor of the resolution demanding Israel's retreat to the pre-1967 borders and recognition of the state of "Palestine" in two years, a resolution even Obama voted against and on which England at least abstained.

### Will They Ever Learn?

As far as the Westchester Jewish Council goes, the answer seems to be "never." It produced a nausea-inducing statement in the wake of the murder of the four rabbis at prayer in a Jerusalem synagogue. The statement both condemns "the murderers" and calls "upon leadership on both sides for restraint and cooperation." It gets worse as the Council declares "the political agenda for both sides has been hijacked by extremists long enough....The Westchester Jewish Council leadership mourns with all the families who have lost loved ones in this conflict and pray that leaders from both sides will take the necessary steps to deescalate the tension and resulting violence." The Council uses the vicious murder of four rabbis to lament equally "the loved ones" lost by Hamas. J Street could have issued this statement. How low can Jewish community leaders go? Well, this is a sample.



### Joan Peters dies

AFSI mourns the death of our member and friend Joan Peters Caro. In her 1984 book [\*From Time Immemorial\*](#) she challenged the Arab narrative that Jewish immigrants to Palestine dispossessed an ancient and indigenous Arab population. She was also one of the early writers to describe the painful lot of Jews living as "dhimmis" in Arab nations. Her e-mails or phone calls followed virtually every issue of *Outpost*--always with sound commentary.

## Zionism 101.org: Herbert Zweibon's Last Project

Online now: [British Mandate III: The Jewish Brigade](#)

*The Jewish Brigade* chronicles Zionist efforts to establish a Jewish Brigade to fight Hitler alongside the allies. Blocked for years by Britain which is fearful of upsetting the Arabs, the Jewish Brigade will only reach the shores of Europe toward the end of the war, in early 1945. Its main impact will come in the war's aftermath.

There are already 40 videos on the site, covering everything from Zionism's founding fathers to Christian Zionism.

[Zionism 101.org](#) is free. You need only register to see the videos and to be informed when the next video is available.

# Why All French Jews Should Leave For Israel

David Hornik

In 2014, the year before the murder rampages at the Charlie Hebdo offices and the kosher supermarket in Paris, about seven thousand French Jews (out of a community of about half a million) emigrated to Israel.

With Muslim and other anti-Semitic harassment and violence constantly intensifying in France, that was twice the number of the previous year, and a record high.

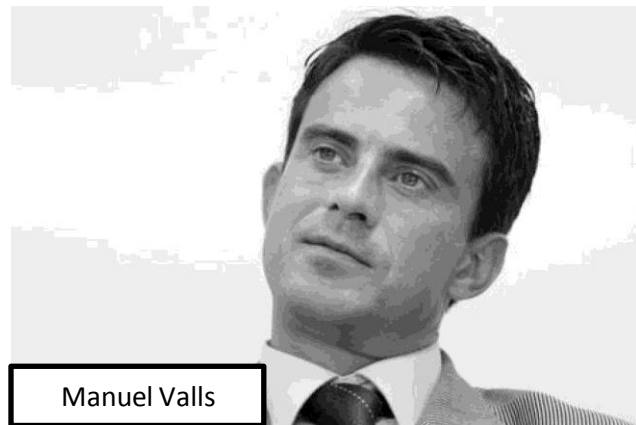
Even before this month's terror attacks, a higher number of French Jewish immigrants to Israel was expected for 2015. Now, after the attacks, a higher number yet is expected, possibly fifteen thousand. There is even talk of the Jews leaving France—mainly for Israel—altogether.

Meanwhile it's reported that:

An unprecedented 15,000 soldiers and police officers have been mobilized in France to protect potential sites from terrorist attacks, of whom one third have been stationed at Jewish schools and synagogues for 24-hour-a-day supervision.

Five thousand police officers will guard 717 Jewish institutions, in the wake of last week's terrorist attacks that killed 17 people, including four Jews at a Paris kosher supermarket.

And in a speech after the attacks, French Prime Minister Manuel Valls said:



Manuel Valls

“How is it possible to accept that France...how can it be accepted that we hear on our streets “Death to the Jews”?... How can one accept that French people be murdered simply because they are Jewish?...We must say to the world: without the Jews of France, France would no longer be France. And that message is one that we all have to deliver strongly and loudly. We did not say it in the past. We did not show our indignation in the past.”

On the one hand, one can ask whether sending one's children to a school that has to be guarded round-the-clock by seven or eight soldiers and police officers is much of a way to live. On the other hand, one could ask, in light of the protective measures and Valls's words: should France be given another chance, before Jews give up on it?

A brief and, of course, partial survey of France's behavior toward Jews and the Jewish state in modern times warrants pessimism. If France would indeed no longer be France without its Jews, that should not be the Jews' concern.

**1894** Viennese Jewish journalist Theodor Herzl, in Paris after the trial of falsely accused French Jewish army officer Alfred Dreyfus, witnesses mobs in the streets shouting “Death to the Jews!” Herzl is struck by a prophetic intuition that the Jews of France—and of Europe generally—are in grave danger, and devotes the rest of his life to Zionist activism.

**1940-1944** During the Nazi occupation of France, French police round up thousands of immigrant Jews living in the country and hand them over to the Gestapo. Altogether about 80,000 French Jews are

deported to extermination camps. In the Drancy transit camp near Paris and other camps in France, Jews suffer brutality from French guards and thousands die of starvation and lack of medical care.

**1967** After maintaining a strategic alliance with Israel since the mid-1950s, France, on the eve of the Six Day War, slaps an arms embargo on Israel just as the Egyptian, Syrian, Jordanian, and Iraqi armies are massing to destroy it.

**Late 1960s and early 1970s** As documented by Bat Ye'or in her important book *Eurabia*, France allies with the Arab League against the United States and Israel. France spearheads Western Europe's pro-Arab orientation generally and its policy of admitting millions of Arab and other Muslim immigrants.

**1972, 1977** In 1972 eleven Israeli athletes are murdered by Palestinian terrorists at the Olympic Games in Munich. In 1977 the mastermind of the attack, Abu Daoud, is arrested in Paris by French police. Under Arab protest and pressure, France denies a German extradition request for Abu Daoud and sets him free.

**1975** France becomes the first European country to open a PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) office on its soil. This while the PLO engages in constant anti-Israeli terrorism, including the 1974 attack on the Maalot school in Israel that killed 26, including 21 children.

**1978** France grants asylum to the Ayatollah Khomeini, enabling him to incite against the Shah's government in Iran and prepare the ground for his 1979 takeover of Iran.

**1976 to 1981** France gives the Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq indispensable assistance in building a nuclear reactor. Israel makes an intense, behind-the-scenes effort to persuade France to end the assistance, saying the reactor will existentially endanger Israel, but France refuses. In 1981 Israeli planes bomb the reactor.

**2000 to 2004** Despite the Second Intifada, a murderous assault on Israel guided by Arafat as leader of the Palestinian Authority, France continues its always-warm ties with Arafat. In 2004, with the Palestinian leader terminally ill, French president Jacques Chirac has him brought to Paris for treatment.



Arafat's Coffin

As Israeli diplomat Freddy Eytan recounts:

“After Arafat's death, Chirac went far beyond the requirements of protocol. It would be difficult to find in modern times another head of a democratic country who paid such homage to a warrior chief of a virtual state.

“On the tarmac of the airforce base of Villacoublay, Arafat's coffin was covered by the Palestinian flag and carried by eight French soldiers to the sound of Chopin's *March of the Dead*. Three companies of the Republican Guard paid their honors. The military band played the Palestinian national hymn and the “Marseillaise....”

**2013** French president Francois Hollande lays a wreath at the grave of Arafat, known as “the father of modern terrorism,” in Ramallah.

**2014** At the UN Security Council in December, France votes in favor of a Palestinian resolution to reduce Israel to indefensible borders by the end of 2017. Among the democratic countries on the Council, only Luxembourg joins France in voting aye; all five others either vote against or abstain.

This overview indicates an incorrigible cynicism and, at best, coldness toward Jewish concerns. France's pro-Palestinian, anti-Israeli vote at the Security Council last month can easily be traced to Hollande's Socialist government's dependence on French Muslim support. But the fact that France's right-wing opposition is now led by Marine Le Pen's ultra-nationalist National Front party, with many bigots and anti-Semites in its ranks, can hardly give French Jews consolation.

In other words, it is clearly time for French Jews to say "enough already" and come home.

*David Hornik is a New York-born writer who moved to Israel in 1984. This appeared in pajamas media on January 15, 2015.*

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## When I Am Not For Myself

Marilyn Penn

For answers to why so many young Jews are disaffected about Judaism and uninformed and hostile towards Israel, consult *The Jewish Week* of Jan 23rd. The cover story addresses the meeting organized by Repair the World at a Martin Luther King Shabbat in Crown Heights where three community activists spoke about race, privilege and partnership. The panel included a black woman, Tynesha McHarris, director of community leadership at the Brooklyn Community Foundation; a black man, Mark Winston Griffith, executive director of the Brooklyn Movement Center, and a white Jewish woman, Amy Ellenbogen, director of Crown Heights Community Mediation Center.

A questioner asked how the largely white audience could become effective allies in pursuing racial justice. McHarris responded that people of color needed to be the leaders while white people could follow and support. Griffith disagreed and said that his agency offered leadership roles to everybody. Ellenbogen stated that whites needed to "shut up and listen, and when you're done with that, shut up and listen some more." When a question arose concerning the selective filtering of history in the movie "Selma," Professor James Goodman (History, Rutgers) felt that it was perfectly legitimate to airbrush Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel from the film despite his enormous contribution to the Civil



Amy Ellenbogen

Rights Movement, his prominent position at the march (the iconic photo shows him in the front line) and his close personal friendship with Dr. King.

In another article, we learn that an organization funded partly by U.S. Jewish institutions and federations and supported by the Israeli government has sent four Israelis to Sierra Leone to deal with the Ebola epidemic. In yet another article, Rabbi Sid Schwarz discusses his participation in the Israeli relief disaster team for Haiti after the earthquake in 2010 and how this materialized into the Adat Shalom Haiti Project. Adat Shalom is the rabbi's congregation in Bethesda, Maryland and for the last five years, it has sent money and young volunteers to Haiti to build homes for 120 families.

In an article in the same issue about the Jewish Film Festival in NYC, editor Gary Rosenblatt heralds two new documentaries. "Above And Beyond," produced by Nancy Spielberg (sister of Stephen), tells the story of a small group of American Jewish pilots who volunteered to help create the Israeli Air



Force in 1948. One of the pilots recounted how little interest there was in this remarkable story until some Christian evangelists in Minneapolis invited him to speak. Spielberg reports that she has had great difficulty in getting her film accepted to film festivals. Another film, "Beneath the Helmet: From High School to the Home Front," follows five young Israelis as they join the IDF and go through the difficult 8 months of basic training. The director of the Israel Film Center at the JCC in Manhattan (Isaac Zablocki), found both films too pro-Israel to attract audiences. He advised the filmmakers to create films that offer criticism as well as praise, stating, "A film that criticizes the IDF humanizes it." There's no doubt that he's a man of his word as the JCC offers its annual Other Israel Film Festival in which we can see the complaints of Arabs and leftist Jews about Israel. Arab filmmakers typically boycott the Jewish festival but lack the freedom to criticize their own governments and societies and live to make another film.

Though there is nothing wrong with the biblical command for Jews to help others that precept was never intended to occlude the essential element of self-protection and self-pride. Aside from the Birthright trips to Israel, it's hard to pinpoint another American organization aimed at illuminating the extraordinary accomplishments of Israel to young people. They won't learn about them at colleges where Israel Apartheid Week is an annual occurrence and where most of the Mid-East History departments are controlled by anti-Israel academicians. They won't learn about them from the media, especially not from the *NY Times* which offers a daily barrage of anti-Israel venom. A scant number of days after the horrific stabbing of 11 Jews on a bus and in the street in Tel-Aviv, the *Times* (Jan. 23) offers a sympathetic profile of the stabber, highlighting the approval of many Palestinians for this violence which his mother explains quite simply: "From a young age, we have always said that we should do good things in order to go to paradise. In his opinion, this was a good thing." The correspondent offers a detailed description of the various living accommodations of the stabber, as if the Arab death message for Jews stems from resentment for inferior interior decorating, as opposed to the message of the Koran and its interpreters. There is no mention of the condition of some of the victims who were critically injured.

Perusing the *Times*, you won't find coverage of the disruption at the meeting of the NY City Council on Jan 22nd as members gathered to vote on commemorating the 70th anniversary of the liberation at Auschwitz. A group of 40 protesters from the Jewish Voice for Peace, along with other groups that have aligned with the BDS movement chose that moment to exhort the council members and other politicians to not visit Israel, shouting "Palestinian lives matter, why are you supporting apartheid?"

What young Jewish adults can take away from the depiction of Jewish organizational interests is that Jews are desperate to help others throughout the world, while few if any of these relationships are reciprocal. A great deal of funding and manpower is expended in helping the stranger but when an opportunity arises to show some pride in Israel and its remarkable accomplishments, the JCC of Manhattan is reluctant to participate. Destructive and one-sided criticism of Israel by lobby groups, by liberal rabbis and various politicians is masked as concern for her best interests, as if worrying about Israel's soul outweighs the need to worry about its very existence.

Without psychoanalyzing the Jewish discomfort with any political role but underdog, there is no question that many Jews were more supportive of Israel before Israelis were perceived as "winners." Arab propaganda has been embraced by the American left and sadly attracted many Jews who are insufficiently informed to separate the truth from anti-Semitic lies. The growing number of Jewish students and adults joining the BDS movement and admitting that concern for Israel plays little part in their voting choices is the inevitable and unfortunate answer to the prophetic question posed by the great sage Hillel: "If I am not for myself, who is for me?"

*Marilyn Penn is a free lance writer. This appeared on politicalmavens.com on January 23.*

## Harold Wilson, True Friend of Israel

Robert Philpot

*(Editor's note: Israel has not had many champions within England's political class which is all the more reason to remember and honor men like Harold Wilson. Given the rote comparison of Israel to apartheid South Africa by her enemies, it is especially interesting that Wilson told his Foreign Secretary that he had a free hand except in two areas—Israel because of his respect for her and South Africa because of his detestation of apartheid.)*

Harold Wilson was a mid-table prime minister, the Stoke or Southampton of the political world. Nonetheless, Wilson is the only occupant of Downing Street to have won four general elections – albeit three by the skin of his teeth. October 2014 marked the 50th anniversary of the first of those victories.

Although of the television age, Wilson was the last monochrome prime minister. This perhaps helps explain why his two stretches in Downing Street--1964 to 1970 and 1974 to 1976--don't rank higher in the national consciousness. To the extent they are remembered at all, it is as a time of sweeping liberalization and deep economic crisis.

What is now forgotten is Wilson's staunch Zionism--an unfashionable trait today among the Labour left from whose ranks he originally hailed. And Wilson's commitment to Israel was intimately connected to his socialism. As his political secretary, Baroness Falkender, later explained: "Wilson admired Israel's determined development as a socialist state." Alongside his hero, Aneurin Bevan, and perhaps his two closest political allies, Richard Crossman and Barbara Castle, the future prime minister formed close relationships during the 1950s with a number of young Israelis who were later to become leading politicians: Yigal Allon, Chaim Herzog, and Teddy Kollek. For Wilson, these young men were "social democrats who made the desert flower".

Wilson's view of Israel may, as Falkender believes, have been "in many ways a romantic one", but there was nothing whimsical about it. His book, *The Chariot of Israel: Britain, America and the State of Israel*, was described by Wilson's home secretary and Chancellor of the Exchequer, Roy Jenkins, as "one of the most strongly Zionist tracts ever written by a non-Jew". Its hero was Arthur Balfour, its villain Ernest Bevin, the foreign secretary alongside whom Wilson served in Attlee's cabinet as the creation of the state of Israel was hotly debated.

As prime minister, Wilson was determined, says his biographer, Philip Ziegler, to "expiate Bevin's sins". On appointing him foreign secretary, Wilson told Jim Callaghan he would have a free hand "with the exception of two areas--Israel and South Africa," the latter because of his detestation of apartheid. When the Egyptian president, Colonel Nasser, closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping in May 1967, Wilson pledged that Britain would "promote and secure free passage".

In cabinet, Wilson angrily slapped down those who suggested such an approach was too financially costly or militarily impractical, before lobbying the leaders of France, Canada, Russia and the United States for joint international action, presciently warning them that Israel would be forced to strike first if such action were unforthcoming.

When Israel faced its next existential threat, in October 1973, Wilson again rushed to its side, lobbying Ted Heath, by then his successor in No. 10, to lift an arms embargo on all combatants in the conflict. Wilson insisted on imposing a three-line whip when the issue was debated in the Commons. To Jenkins's objections, he retorted: "Look, Roy, I've accommodated your f\*\*\*ing conscience for years.



Now you're going to have to take account of mine. I feel as strongly about the Middle East as you do about the Common Market." In the ensuing parliamentary debate, Wilson pleaded for support for "by any test... the only democracy in [the] region".

Away from the public stage, Wilson subtly used his close contacts with the Soviet leadership to try and improve the lot of Russian Jews, refusing on one occasion to join them at the Bolshoi while two of its stars were denied exit visas. After leaving office in 1976, Wilson's first overseas visit was to Israel, where he received an honorary doctorate and inspected a forest near Nazareth that had been named after him.

Wilson's name is now virtually synonymous with a Machiavellian pursuit of power over principle. For the historian Dominic Sandbrook he was "a brilliant opportunist."

But, as one of his sharpest contemporary critics and fellow Zionist Ian Mikardo, recalled: "I don't think Harold had any doctrinal beliefs...except for one, which I find utterly incomprehensible, which is his devotion to the cause of Israel." With their numbers seemingly dwindling, it's worth today recalling Harold Wilson, the forgotten friend of Israel.

*Robert Philpot is director of the New Labour group Progress. This appeared in The Jewish Chronicle on October 7, 2014*

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## **Wiping Israel off The Map**

Ruthie Blum

On Wednesday, the Jewish Agency and the Absorption Ministry released their Aliyah figures for 2014. The numbers show a 10-year high, with 26,500 new immigrants settling in Israel.

According to Jewish Agency Chairman Natan Sharansky, the statistics also constitute "a historic shift: For the first time in Israel's history, the number of immigrants who came to Israel from the Free World is greater than that of immigrants fleeing countries in distress."

Indeed, of the 26,500 total new immigrants, 3,870 are from the United States and 8,640 from Western Europe, mostly from France.

What Sharansky and other optimists failed to point out, however, is the dark side of this otherwise shiny coin. While it is true that more Jews are opting to leave affluent societies in the West to settle in Israel, they are not simply cheerful pioneers, packing their bags to join their fellow Zionists in the Holy Land.

No, what they are doing is fleeing countries of origin which are becoming increasingly hostile to Jews.

There is nothing wrong with this from an Israeli perspective. On the contrary, the point of the Law of Return was to allow anyone considered a Jew — and persecuted as such by anti-Semites — to seek refuge in the homeland and state of the Jewish people.

What is alarming is the rising need for that refuge, including from countries in which Jews had been safe for decades after the Holocaust.

But it was bound to happen, given the global climate.

The explosion of radical Islamism, coupled with leftist apology for Third World barbarism on the one hand and fear of Muslim accusations of discrimination on the other has enabled old-style anti-Semitism to re-emerge in "polite society."

For a while, the only public form this took was Israel-bashing. By now, however, even that pretense has become unnecessary. That home-owner insurance in many parts of Europe is higher for Jews who place mezuzahs on their doorposts (due to the increased the risk of vandalism) says it all.

Meanwhile, even the ideological assault on Israel — where chattering in French and English is heard in the streets as much as Hebrew, Russian and Amharic these days — is mainstreaming.

In 2005, former Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad sparked a firestorm with his declaration that Israel should be “wiped off the map.” And at the time, the sentiment among Israelis was that it is much better for leaders like that to express their genocidal intentions openly than cloak them in seductive diplo-speak. (You know, as his successor, President Hassan Rounani, has been doing.) The same applied to Hamas. Boasting about its aims made it hard even for would-be sympathizers to deny that it wanted to annihilate Israel.

Fatah, on the other hand, adopted a different tactic: only telling the truth in Arabic, while tempering its message in English for international consumption and consequent support. This worked like a charm, which is why the wolves in sheep’s clothing are especially jubilant about the 50th anniversary they are in the process of celebrating.

As Palestinian Media Watch points out, the *Intilqa* (Launch) of Fatah was on Jan. 1, 1965, when it attempted to bomb Israel’s National Water Carrier. Today, after 50 years of successful terrorist attacks against innocent Israelis, it has no bones about posting maps of “Palestine” on Facebook that completely erase Israel. No need to hide. After all, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas signed on to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on Wednesday, in order to sue Israel for war crimes.

This is actually a positive turn of events. Abbas never meant to make peace with the Jewish state, in spite of all the Israeli, American and European efforts to solve the conflict through a two-state solution. This is not news to anyone with eyes and ears.



Far more newsworthy is the elimination of Israel — but not the “West Bank” — from the maps of a Middle East atlas recently released by publishing giant HarperCollins. Sold to English-speaking schools in the Gulf states, the atlas shows Jordan and Syria extending all the way to the Mediterranean.

When confronted by the international Catholic weekly *The Tablet* about this travesty, Collins Bartholomew, the subsidiary of HarperCollins that specializes in maps, explained that including Israel would have been “unacceptable” to the company’s target customers.

In response to the ensuing outcry, HarperCollins issued a statement on Wednesday that it “regrets the omission of the name Israel from their Collins Middle East atlas. This product has now been removed from sale in all territories and all remaining stock will be pulped. HarperCollins sincerely apologizes for this omission and for any offense caused.”

Nevertheless, the book was still available for purchase through Amazon and Barnes and Noble on Thursday.

Unlike the world’s genuine anti-Semites, HarperCollins is merely a business trying to make a few billion bucks. It thus tried to cater to one set of customers and subsequently backed down when another group threatened its reputation. But the very fact that such a big and savvy corporation could even consider doing such a thing in the first place is indicative of how acceptable it has become to treat Israel like a temporary and controversial entity.

This is why Israel is seeing a spike in aliyah from the West, which is certainly no cause for the Jewish Agency to rejoice. It is, however, a good reason to remember why Jews need and deserve a state of our own.

*American born Israeli journalist Ruthie Blum is author of To Hell in a Handbasket: Carter, Obama, and the ‘Arab Spring.’ This appeared in Israel Hayom.com on Jan. 2.*

## The Elusive “Moderate Muslim”

Peter Smith

It comes as no surprise that tolerant and pacific followers of the Prophet opt for the most part to stay mum. Knowing full well that their sacred texts extol violence, which leaves little room for doctrinal debate, they are also aware that the creed’s more ardent acolytes have knives at the ready.

Islam has five pillars. They are inwardly focused and innocuous taken in isolation. The problem lies elsewhere — in the Koran and Hadiths and in the widespread preaching of intolerance, domination and violence which are integral and endemic to that scripture.

Apologists for Muslims and Islam also have five pillars. These are not innocuous. They support a flaccid and vacillating response to a dire threat. In no strict order, these pillars are as follows.

1. Terrorism has nothing to do with true Islam.
2. The vast majority of Muslims are moderate.
3. Western wrong-doing and war-mongering inspires terrorism.
4. Alienation, disadvantage, and/or mental instability are often behind home-grown terrorism.
5. Muslims suffer most from Islamic terrorism.

On the first, a modern version of an old adage is apropos. There are none so blind as those useful idiots in the West who, having not read a word of Islamic scripture or any critiques of it, conclude in the face of carnage that Islam is a religion of peace. It is not clear what can be done about this astounding level of ignorance.

Certainly many thousands of imams can’t be blamed. They pray openly for Muslim domination and for the universal application of sharia law. They quote their scripture. They encourage jihad. I have seen numbers of them on television and, more starkly, on YouTube before they are taken down, and read accounts of many others.

Korans can be bought by anybody for a small price. Equally, books on Islam by Mark Steyn, Mark Durie, Robert Fletcher and others are readily obtainable. Churchill is on the record on one side of the Atlantic and John Quincy Adams on the other. And now, bravely or foolhardily, Egypt’s President Sisi has called out the religion of peace.

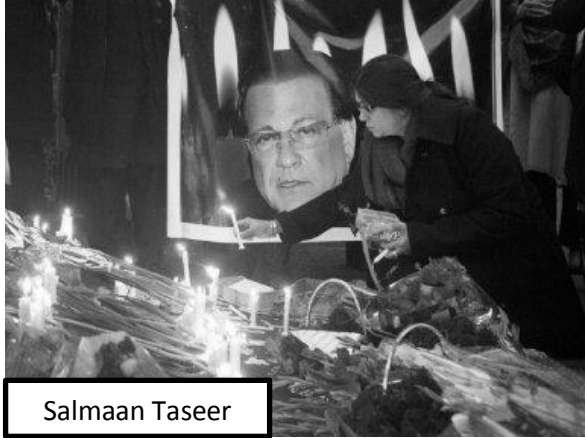
I can only assume that the ignorance exhibited by political leaders like President Obama and prime ministers Cameron, Hollande and Merkel is willful. Or, does it mean that they have accepted *dhimmitude* ahead of time? As *dhimmis*, of course, they will be able to live peacefully while they show deference to Muslims and pay the *jizya*. I simply ask the question: Is this what they mean by the religion of peace?

I witnessed a woman on Fox News downplaying Islamic terrorism by referring to historical instances of Christians attacking abortion clinics and those who work in them. This kind of ‘reasoning’ is gratingly specious. Our civilisation is not under threat at the hands of followers of any faith but Islam.

I will only begin to worry about, say, Mormons when they reveal scriptural plans to take over the world, preach hate, set up no-go areas, and begin a world-wide rampage of beheadings while shouting ‘Holy Joseph Smith is great!’ Maybe a new rider should be added to the right of free speech, outlawing specious reasoning. That would be intolerant of course. Useful idiots have rights.

The vast majority of Muslims are moderate, so we hear. I want to know what is meant by ‘moderate’ in this context. My dictionary says moderate means ‘not radical’. It is, I submit, ‘radical’ to cut off people’s heads if they have (according to someone) disagreeable views. On that score, I don’t think the vast majority of Muslims are radical. But are they moderate?

Of the 1.6 billion Muslims, how many believe in the application of harsh punishment (including capital punishment) for one or more of adultery, sodomy, blasphemy, or apostasy? I don't know the answer, but many Muslim countries have laws on their books meting out death for these 'offences'. In early 2011, the governor of the Punjab province in Pakistan, Salmaan Taseer, was assassinated for opposing blasphemy laws which had resulted in a Christian woman facing execution.



Salmaan Taseer

Mark Durie's *Islam, Human rights and Public Policy* (2009) refers to a poll taken in 2006 which found that 58% of Indonesians believed adulterers should be stoned to death. The Pew Research Centre found in 2010 that 84% of Egyptians, 86% of Jordanians and 76% of Pakistanis favoured death for apostasy.

How many Muslims believe, as the Koran plainly says, that men are superior to women and that wife-beating is permissible? How many believe in female genital mutilation? How many believe in marrying off young girls? How many believe in honour killings? How many believe in amputations

for theft? How many believe that Muslims are superior to Kafirs? How many believe that Sharia law should be the law of the land?

If any one of the questions above draws a 'yes' I would not regard the person as moderate. I don't think it is at all clear that the vast majority of Muslims are moderate. Moderation certainly conflicts with their scripture and that must make it difficult to be moderate.

On Western wrong-doing, most blame for inspiring terrorism is accorded to the Iraq War and its aftermath. Take out a strong man, put a tribal society in the hands of the majority and then skedaddle and trouble will brew, as it has. However, 9/11 predated the Iraq War, as did the first attack on the World Trade Centre in 1993 and the bombing of USS Cole in 2000.

How, for example, can the restoration of radical Islamism in Iran in 1979, or the current internecine conflict in Syria (which spawned ISIS) or the civil disarrays in Libya and in Yemen, or the vicious activities of Boko Haram in Nigeria, Chad, Niger and Cameroon be attributed to western wrong-doing and warmongering? How can the visceral hatred of Israel? The answer is that they can't; though self-loathing Western intellectuals are bound to find a way of sheeting some blame home to George W. Bush.

Radical Islam is on the march. Thinking that we caused it leads to appeasement and inevitably to defeat. The Versailles Treaty did not cause Hitler and, in any event, apologies for it would not have stopped him.

'The perpetrator was deranged'. This is the case, we are told, whether the perpetrator is hacking at rookie cops in New York or shooting an unarmed soldier in Ottawa or killing people in a cafe in Sydney. The tenuous nature of this explanation becomes apparent when there is more than one perpetrator. It is more difficult to say that the two, three or more perpetrators acting together were all deranged. No-one, so far as I know, has called the Charlie Hebdo killers deranged. Let me be the first, because anyone who deliberately sets out to kill men and women going about their normal daily affairs or schoolchildren is deranged.

In the case of Islamic terrorists they have been deranged not by disadvantage (plenty of people are disadvantaged and struggle on without killing people) but by a poisonous creed.

It is true that Muslims are now suffering most from Islamic terrorism, if a death count is the measure. But if you are a Jew or Christian, as yet unharmed, be in no doubt (wherever you are) that

your turn will come unless Islamism is defeated. All despotic regimes provide the same generic lesson in tactics.

They get rid of their internal competitors before turning their attention outwards. It is probably Despotism 101. Ernst Röhm's Brown Shirts provided the initial vanguard for Hitler in ridding him of competitors, before he replaced them with the SS. A complementary tactic is to scare those at home before those abroad.

Which moderate Germans would not have been afraid and fallen into line when they saw Jews, Gypsies and dissidents, and anyone found helping them, being brutalised and hauled away? So, yes, at this stage, Muslims are being killed—and being cowed—in larger numbers than are non-Muslims. And, make no mistake; the message is being received in Europe, as it is everywhere where Muslims congregate.

The message to Muslims is clear. There is no future for you in opposing us. If you were a Muslim with a wife and family, which side of the street would you choose to be on when the crunch comes?

To sum up: Terrorism has everything to do with Islam; a religion of jihad not of peace. Even if the vast majority of Muslims are moderate, which is conjectural, it makes no difference; the tough guys will cow them. Blaming Western wrong-doing is akin to blaming French intransigence at Versailles for Hitler: even if it were true, which is extremely doubtful, it is now totally irrelevant to solving the problem. All Islamic terrorists are deranged, which rather negates any likelihood of successful intervention with social programs or psychotherapy. While Muslims are currently dying at a greater rate than non-Muslims this is a temporary aberration which Islamic barbarians intend to correct given half a chance.

The threat we face is existential. Continuing ignorance of its nature on the part of Western political leaders, the intelligentsia and assorted useful idiots will be our undoing. We better 'get busy' learning and living or 'get busy' deferring and dying. Think it can't happen? Ask the Jews.

*Peter Smith is an Australian journalist. This appeared in the January 2015 Quadrant.*

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## **Vichy Mon Amour...The More Things Change**

Ruth King

In 1894 a Jewish military Captain, Alfred Dreyfus, was convicted of treason and sentenced to life imprisonment for passing French military secrets to the Germans. He spent five years on Devil's Island in French Guiana. During his imprisonment the head of French counter espionage, George Picquart, identified the real traitor as Major Ferdinand Esterhazy, but French military officials suppressed the evidence, acquitted Esterhazy and accused Dreyfus of additional crimes. Eventually he was set free but had to wait until 1906 for full exoneration and reinstatement in the French military.

A young Viennese journalist attended the trial and was startled by the anti-Semitic ranting of crowds in France. While one may argue that the Dreyfus incident was not the only one that inspired his turn to Zionism--there were plenty of examples in his own adopted Austria--it certainly contributed to his conviction that Jews could never be safe anywhere but in their own land. His name was Theodore Herzl.

In 1895 he wrote "*Der Judenstaat*" - (*The Jewish State*). His words echo today:

"Palestine is our unforgettable historic homeland.

"We have sincerely tried everywhere to merge with the national communities in which we live, seeking only to preserve the faith of our fathers. It is not permitted us. In vain are we loyal patriots,

sometimes superloyal; in vain do we make the same sacrifices of life and property as our fellow citizens; in vain do we strive to enhance the fame of our native lands in the arts and sciences, or her wealth by trade and commerce. In our native lands where we have lived for centuries we are still decried as aliens, often by men whose ancestors had not yet come at a time when Jewish sighs had long been heard in the country.

"We are naturally drawn into those places where we are not persecuted, and our appearance there gives rise to persecution. This is the case, and will inevitably be so, everywhere, even in highly civilized countries—see, for instance, France—so long as the Jewish question is not solved on the political level."

Herzl died in 1904.

(learn more about him at: [http://zionism101.org/FF\\_Herzl\\_timeline.aspx](http://zionism101.org/FF_Herzl_timeline.aspx))

Dreyfus died in 1935 and only five years later, in 1940, following the military defeat of France, Marshal Philippe Petain created the Vichy regime known as "The French State" which collaborated with the Nazis to capture Jews, including thousands of children. The infamous Drancy camp, located on the outskirts of Paris, became the central transit station for those headed to the concentration and extermination camps in Germany controlled Eastern Europe.

Which brings us to France today and the ongoing harassment and murder of French Jews, most recently the murders at the kosher deli in Paris on the heels of the massacre at Charlie Hebdo. These acts led to a march in Paris unprecedented in size.

For decent French people it was a moment to stand and be counted. But for the participating cowards and appeasers who enable the enemies of the Jews and Israel it was unadulterated hypocrisy. The march was fouled by the presence of arch tyrants like Turkey's Erdogan, uber terrorist Mahmoud Abbas and assorted thugs and crooks and opponents of free speech. Significantly President Hollande tried to keep Israel's Prime Minister away and when he insisted on coming, invited terror leader Abbas for "balance." What does this say of French resolve to combat Islamic terror?

A march has to have more value than street theatre or it is a march to nowhere.

Contrast this with a march focused on a great issue that had results.

On Sunday, December 6, 1987, the eve of the Washington, D.C. Summit between Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, an estimated 250,000 people marched in the National Mall in an unprecedented display of solidarity for Soviet Jewry. The rally was timed to take place 24 hours before Gorbachev was to arrive in Washington for a two-day summit conference on disarmament. It was preceded by several events on the preceding Friday, including the giving of testimony by five refuseniks to the U.S. Helsinki Commission, a news conference, a Congressional prayer service, and a fast vigil.

It was the largest, best-organized protest rally in American Jewish history. A shofar was sounded. Pearl Bailey sang "Let My People Go". Refuseniks recently released from Soviet prison addressed the crowds, including Felix Abramovich, Yosef Begun, Yuli Edelshtein, Misha and Ilana Kholmyansky, Ida Nudel, and Natan Sharansky. Subsequently Jews were permitted to leave and millions did.

The march in Paris may lull some French Jews, but they now have an option they never had before 1948.

They can go to Israel and as Theodore Herzl foresaw- "live at last as free men on our own soil."  
Will they?



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