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# OUTPOST



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## Trump and Haley Deliver the Goods

### William Mehlman

In the Orwellian fog rapidly subsuming Western democratic society, what divides the keffiyah-clad attacker of a Jewish restaurant in Amsterdam mere hours after Donald Trump's formal recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and the 128-9 vote in the UN General Assembly to render that recognition void, is more a matter of style than substance. Both were acts of nullification, the "No!" screamed at objective truth in the hope it can be made to go away.

The President of the United States is being both hailed and vilified for arguably the most courageous act by an American head of state since Harry Truman welcomed Israel into the family of nations. All Donald Trump was doing, in fact, was acknowledging a reality that has stood before the eyes of the world for seven decades. Jerusalem has been the site of Israel's parliament, its Supreme Court and all but one of its ministries through all of that period. The organs that define its sovereignty have been implanted in Jerusalem's soil for 3,500 years.

President Trump's embrace of Jerusalem's status, moreover, is informed by American law, a 1995 bill passed unanimously by the Senate mandating the transfer of the U.S. embassy to the city from its present domicile in Tel-Aviv. The then-Clinton Administration, pressured by the State Department, strove mightily to dilute the bill's impact. The State Department ultimately got its way with a codicil giving present and future occupants of the White House continuous six month waivers against implementation if they deemed that doing so would constitute an impediment to the nation's diplomatic and strategic interests.

Refusing in October to put his signature to yet another six-month waiver, Trump signaled that he was freeing the 22-year old embassy bill of its inherent self-nullification and setting the stage for a new chapter in U.S.-Israel relations. "The idea of Israel being the only country that can't choose its own capital is ridiculous" he said.

In confronting the "International Community" and its 2017 bi-cameral riff on Orwell's "Ministry of Truth," the UN Security Council and General Assembly, the president has at his side former South Carolina governor Nikki Haley, the boldest, most combative American ambassador the glass house on Second Avenue has seen since the glory days of Jeane Kirkpatrick and Daniel Patrick Moynihan. It is more than three decades since American interests, from the eastern Mediterranean to the northern Pacific, have been so clearly articulated and vigorously pursued. To her further credit, Haley has invested

nearly as much passion in defending Israel against the never-ending hostility of its most predatory UN neighbors. Her value to Israeli ambassador Danny Danon has been immeasurable.

That there's been nothing like the Trump-Haley relationship in the annals of American diplomacy is deeply underscored by the Jerusalem recognition issue. Neither party has any intention of giving ground. Responding to Haley's labeling "an insult that will not be forgotten" the 15-1 Security Council vote demanding a U.S. walk-back of its decision to plant its embassy on Jerusalem's iconic turf, Trump replied "I like the message Nikki sent to all those nations who take our money and then vote against us. Our great citizens are tired of us being taken advantage of and we are not going to be taken advantage of any longer."



Nikki Haley

Their reaction to UN abuse has rapidly been manifested in an announced \$280 million initial reduction in America's \$3 billion UN budget.

The Trump-Haley message was even more explicit in response to the 128-9 spanking delivered to the U.S. on a similar walk-back demand by the General Assembly. Echoing Trump's insistence on the "exclusive sovereign right of any nation to choose its capital," Haley declared "America will put its embassy in Jerusalem. That is what the American people want us to do. No one in the United Nations will make any difference on that. But this vote," she added, "will make a difference on how America looks at the UN and how we look at countries in the UN that disrespect us. And this will be remembered."

*William Mehlman represents AFSI in Israel.*

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## **From the Editor**

### **Europe Votes on Jerusalem**

*"And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem." Zechariah 12:9*

It's enough to convince you that Europe deserves to be Islamized and that what Douglas Murray calls the strange suicide of Europe is not so strange after all—it's part and parcel of jettisoning its religious and cultural heritage. The UN General Assembly has voted 138-9 (with 35 abstentions and 21 no-shows) to condemn President Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. The nine who voted against the resolution, apart from the U.S. and Israel, were Guatemala and Honduras and the tiny Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Palau, Togo and Nauru. Almost all EU member states voted for the resolution (Hungary and Czechoslovakia abstained).

The wonderful Nikki Paley scheduled a party on Jan. 3 for those who did not vote for what Prime Minister Netanyahu calls the "ridiculous" resolution; since it would not have been much of a party with only the nine holdouts, she has included in the guest list the 35 abstainers and 21 who stayed away. They may have been cowardly but were indicating they would have preferred to vote "no."

### **Guatemala Follows America's Lead**

The BBC, along with most of the mainstream media, has been gleefully rubbing in the isolation of the U.S. in the face of the overwhelming international "consensus." But lo and behold, the *New York Post* reports that ten countries, including several in Europe, are talking to Israel about moving their embassies to Jerusalem. And once they break ground, there can be little doubt that many more will line up behind them.

It's fitting that Guatemala is the first to announce openly its plan to move its embassy to Jerusalem. Guatemala took a leading role at the time of the UN vote for partition in 1947. Jorge Garcia Granados, Guatemala's ambassador to the UN, was a member of the UN Special Committee for Palestine (UNSCOP) where he took a strong stance for creating a Jewish state. Granados became Guatemala's first ambassador to Israel where several city streets are named after him.

### **Austria's Rightwing Government**

While the migrant invasion of Europe has led to significant gains by hitherto marginal right wing parties in the EU, Austria is the first Western European country to go all the way, installing a right wing, anti-Muslim mass immigration governing coalition composed of the Austrian People's Party and the

Austrian Freedom Party. The latter has Nazi roots and many Jews are up in arms, the World Jewish Congress calling for Jewish groups to eschew contact with the new government.

But given the abysmal lockstep anti-Israel positions taken by current EU governments (and their failure to stem the flow of Muslims drenched in anti-Semitism) perhaps an attitude of wait-and-see would be more appropriate. The Gatestone Institute's Soeren Kern points out that the Freedom Party's current leader Heinz-Christian Strache insists that anti-Semitism has no place in his party and has pledged "to ensure that boycotts [against Israeli products] get taken off the agenda." During an April 2016 visit to the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem Strache said: "We have a lot in common [with Israel]. I always say, if one defines the Judeo-Christian West, then Israel represents a kind of border. If Israel fails, Europe fails. And if Europe fails, Israel fails."

Talk is cheap but having taken over on December 18, Austria's new government will have a chance to prove itself. How will it vote on the next rash of anti-Israel resolutions at the UN? How will it vote in EU councils? The tests will quickly pile up. It's already flunked the first one, voting on Dec. 21 with the *dhimmi* European herd in the UN General Assembly to condemn the U.S. moving its embassy to Jerusalem.

### Brian Ross vs. Seymour Hersh

*The Weekly Standard* of Dec. 18 ran an article by Philip Terzian on ABC "chief investigative reporter" Brian Ross who falsely reported that Gen. Michael Flynn was prepared to testify that then candidate Donald Trump had told him to contact the Russians during the campaign. Citing chapter and verse, Terzian concludes that misreporting the news is nothing new to Ross, who "seems to have established a pattern of chronic, even compulsive malpractice" garnering Emmys and Peabody Awards on the way.

Military historian Victor Davis Hanson has said that a generation ago someone guilty of Ross's most recent serious misstep would have been fired, not feebly slapped on the wrist with a four week suspension. But the thoroughly admirable Hanson (his most recent book on World War II is a must-read) is wrong here. A generation ago Seymour Hersh's depredations on truthful reporting make Ross look like a tyro. Take Hersh's 1991 anti-Israel hatchet job, *The Samson Option*, about Israel's nuclear deterrent, which depends on the "revelations" of one Ari Ben Menashe. Hersh identifies him as a former Israeli intelligence expert who served as adviser to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir— no, he didn't. In fact Ben Menashe is a notorious tale-spinner who has claimed to be Israel's top spy, a commander of



Seymour Hersh

the Entebbe operation, to have planted a homing device in the Iraqi nuclear reactor at Osirak and to have been offered the job of head of the Mossad. Ben Menashe claimed to have been with the first, then Vice Presidential candidate George Bush in Paris in October 1980 arranging for Iran to hold the hostages until after the presidential election—this on dates when Secret Service logs show Bush engaged in a large number of appearances in the United States. *Newsweek's* John Barry, who looked into Ben Menashe's claims, declared on CNN "If you were talking about the American civil war, he would tell you he was the guy who planned Lee's campaign."

In a *Wall Street Journal* op-ed Steven Emerson reported that Hersh was warned about Ben Menashe both by him and by Peter Hounam, an investigative reporter for the London *Sunday Times* but refused to listen. Much later Hersh would admit that Ben Menashe "lies like people breathe."

But that did not deter Hersh from continuing to rely on conmen. Several years after the Ben Menashe fiasco Hersh, then working on a book on Kennedy, fell for a stash of phony documents peddled by Lawrence S. Cusack (who went to prison in 1999 for defrauding more than 100 investors of \$7 million

in a scheme to sell the documents.) Hersh even wrote to Cusack claiming to have “independently confirmed some of the most interesting materials” in the papers. Hersh had done the same thing with Ben Menashe, claiming he had “corroborated” charges that, as fantasies, defied corroboration.

“Anonymous sources that cannot be checked. Dark charges based on a crazy patchwork of suppositions. Far-out conspiracy theories. Conmen as sources. Reputable sources misquoted. These constitute the decades-long MO of Seymour Hersh, the man now serving as star investigative reporter of *The New Yorker*.” This is what I wrote in “The Cult of Seymour Hersh” published in *The American Spectator* back in 2004.

Nor have I been the only one to expose Hersh. Which brings us to the real villains in the long-standing corruption of American journalism: the editors and TV producers who act as gatekeepers for mainstream media and the journalistic peers who reward hogwash so long as it conforms to their political prejudices. Ross’s awards are nothing compared to those garnered by Hersh: the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, four George Polk awards, the National Magazine Award.

The rot in journalism is deep-seated. It will take more than cries of “fake news” to address it.

### ***The Presbyterian Layman Folds***

*The Presbyterian Layman*, the publication of the Presbyterian Lay Committee, which for many years has battled the “establishment” in the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA) as it abandoned traditional church teachings to become (like the Reform movement in Judaism) a so-called “prophetic” version of the left wing of the Democratic Party, has thrown in the towel. (The Committee survives but will turn its efforts elsewhere.) In its last issue, the *Layman* notes that one of the nefarious activities on which the PCUSA continues to focus is its “anti-Israel social witness agenda.” The 2016 General Assembly approved a resolution (by a lopsided 407-146) that calls on the church to “prayerfully study the call from Palestinian civil society for boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) against the state of Israel...” In other words the Presbyterian Church USA is set (“prayerfully,” mind you) to seek the extinction of the Jewish state.

### **The Great Cover-up**

Recently Mark Steyn observed that “the demographic transformation of the Western world is the biggest story of our time.”

It’s also the least covered story of our time. In Europe, the politicians responsible for opening their borders to vast numbers of young Islamic males from the Middle East and Africa (with the concomitant rise in terror, crime, rape, anti-Semitic violence, no-go zones etc.) have teamed up with the media to suppress any honest coverage as “racist.” The internet offers the chief way for citizens of the affected countries to find out what is going on and efforts are underway to pressure search engines (run by elitists sympathetic to Europe’s political class) to block that last path.

In the United States coverage of what goes on abroad (unless U.S. armed forces are actively engaged) is minimal. Most of the media views the world through multicultural blinders, so what little reporting gets through adopts the see-no-evil perspective of European elites. *The Wall Street Journal* editorial pages, which might have been expected to provide an antidote, are nullified by the *Journal*’s dogmatic attachment to unlimited immigration as an unlimited good. *The Weekly Standard* (with a tiny circulation in comparison) is an exception, thanks only to essays by Christopher Caldwell.

So there you have it, the biggest story of our time is largely untold. And except for a handful of voices in the wilderness, like Caldwell, Steyn, Douglas Murray, Bruce Bawer, Soeren Kern and Giulio Meotti, the failure to tell it goes unremarked.

## Canada: Obsessed with “Islamophobia”

Judith Bergman

In September, the Canadian parliament began its study on how to combat “Islamophobia.” A parliamentary committee, the M-103 committee, was established for that very purpose. Although motion M-103 was not binding, Samer Majzoub, a Muslim Brotherhood affiliate of the Canadian Muslim Forum, tellingly advertised: “Now that Islamophobia has been condemned, this is not the end, but rather the beginning... so that condemnation is followed by comprehensive policies.”

Majzoub’s statement presumably meant that the next steps would be to make M-103 binding. Part of the problem, however, with any study of “Islamophobia”, as with any motions about it, is that it is never clearly defined.

Now fresh statistics released at the end of November 2017, showed that in Canada, hate crimes against Muslims actually fell in 2016, but those against Jews increased:

Hate crimes against Muslims:

2015, there were 159

2016, there were 139

Hate crimes against Jews:

2015, there were 178

2016, there were 221

In Canada, with a population of 36 million people, approximately 330,000 are Jews and slightly more than 1,000,000 are Muslims.

Should not parliament, then—if anything—instead be studying how to combat Jew-hatred? Statistics, of course, do not mention who is behind the rise in hate crimes against Jews. Moreover, the Canadian media is not investigating what might be causing it, or whether the regular preaching of Jew-hatred in many mosques might have something to do with it. Canadian politicians? They are too busy studying “Islamophobia”.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau recently labelled a question about putting returning ISIS jihadists in jail from Opposition Leader Andrew Scheer part of a pattern of “Islamophobia”. (How can that be, if ISIS supposedly has “nothing to do with Islam”?)



Trudeau said that Canada needed to ensure that resources would be “in place to facilitate disengagement from violent ideologies, in particular [for] children who return from conflict zones [and] require tailored solutions... we’re also there to help them to let go of that terrorist ideology.”

“The Prime Minister,” said Scheer during the debate, “is using a broad spectrum that includes poetry and podcasts, and all kinds of counselling and group hug sessions. When,” he asked, “will the Prime Minister take the security of Canadians seriously and look for ways to put these ISIS fighters in jail?”

Trudeau’s response was to accuse Scheer of Islamophobia: “Mr. Speaker, the Conservative Party... ran an election on snitch lines against Muslims, they ran an election on Islamophobia and division, and still they play the same games, trying to scare Canadians... They play the politics of fear, and Canadians reject that.”

Trudeau’s own Public Safety Minister, Ralph Goodale, also appears to disagree with the policy that you can hug terrorists back into society. He recently said that the chances of turning around someone who has actively engaged in terrorist activities in a war zone were “pretty remote.”

Scheer has repeatedly demanded to know how many ISIS fighters “are now being welcomed back to Canada by the prime minister with the promise of reintegration services to help them.”

The government does not appear to have an answer to that, or, if it does, appears unwilling to share it. Apparently, 180 Canadians were involved in terrorist related activities overseas—100 of them in Turkey, Iraq or Syria—and about 60 had returned, according to the testimony of Former Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) director Michel Coulombe before a senate committee in March 2016, citing figures from 2015. None of those figures, however, includes the supporters of terrorist groups at home or potential jihadists who tried to leave Canada but were prevented from doing so. “Every extremist prevented or deterred from traveling abroad may become an individual at home that requires ongoing investigation,” Coulombe said.

Another document, produced in 2016 by Public Safety Canada, stated that among the returnees, “law enforcement agencies are investigating approximately 63 cases involving 90 individuals.”

Last month, Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale repeated the 2015 figures, stating that “about 60” foreign fighters returned to Canada. According to news reports, the use of that number “raised eyebrows among national security experts and sparked calls for the government to clarify how it is dealing with individuals who return from having fought with the brutal terrorist group in Iraq and Syria”.

What is clear, however—even if the Canadian government is not inclined to reveal it—is that returned jihadists are walking around freely in Canada. It is not known how many have been charged, as the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) do not comment on individual cases. One jihadist, Abu Huzaifa, who was repeatedly questioned after his return from Syria, where he had gone to join ISIS in 2014, was never charged. Instead, he has been receiving counselling for the past year.

It seems the authorities do not seem to be trying particularly hard to charge returning jihadists: “In other cases, we’ve assessed that they’re back, they’re sorry, they’re working to try to get their heads straight and we’re relying on family members or other professionals,” RCMP commissioner Bob Paulson said on the matter in March 2016.

The current government, in fact, seems not to believe that Islamic terrorism in Canada even exists. In the 2016 Public Report on the Terrorist Threat to Canada, the government acknowledged that groups such as Islamic State and Al Qaeda do in fact constitute the main terrorist threat to Canada. However, according to Minister of Public Safety Goodale, who wrote the foreword to the report: “It is a serious and unfortunate reality that terrorist groups, most notably the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), use violent extremist propaganda to encourage individuals to support their cause. This group is neither Islamic nor a state...”

Unfortunately, however, its self-described “caliph,” Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, received his PhD in Koranic studies from Iraq’s Saddam University in 2007. The group correctly claims that everything it does is based on Islamic literature.

Similarly, the RCMP—Canada’s national law enforcement service and as such responsible for the protection of Canadians from terrorism—published the Terrorism and Violent Extremism Awareness Guide in 2016. The purpose of the guide was to raise awareness about terrorism and to help the public better understand the early warnings of radicalization and signs of terrorist-planning activities. The guide, however, is premised on the belief that radicalization occurs because of perceptions of “injustice” (not because of perceptions of jihad) and mainly argues that fringe groups on the far-right and the far-left constitute the terror threat against Canada. Islamic groups are not mentioned. The message is that terrorism is “diverse” and has nothing to do with Islam. However, Public Safety Canada’s list of terrorist entities contains 54 terrorist groups, 46 of which are Islamic terrorist groups. Strangely enough, none of the right-wing or left-wing groups mentioned in the RCMP guide as the “leading extremist groups nationally and internationally” are on Public Safety Canada’s list.

Canada has also made life easier for jihadists in some ways. The recently passed Bill C-6 has ensured that dual citizens will no longer lose their Canadian citizenship if convicted of terrorism, treason or espionage.

Meanwhile, the war on free speech in Canada grinds on: Ottawa Public Library cancelled the screening of “Killing Europe,” a documentary about, ironically, among other things, the death of free speech in Europe. The film featured interviews with, among others, Lars Hedegaard, Lars Vilks, a former Muslim Somali activist and many others, but the Ottawa Public Library deemed this content not suitable for Canadians—apparently snowflakes not allowed to know about the rise of migrant rape crime, anti-Semitism, far-leftist violence and other irritants in Europe. Catherine McKenney, a library board member, said she “wholeheartedly” supported the library’s decision to cancel the screening and promised “better discussion in the future about what the library chooses to allow.”



In September, a man who had written, “No More Muslims” on Durham Region Transit shelters was sentenced to five months in jail. Whether his message was genocidal, or merely an expression of not wanting more Muslims to enter Canada, is unclear. The judge said: “Mr. Porco’s message left black marks on a public bench but even after the words are scrubbed away

with a guilty plea, it leaves stains that may be more permanent... Mr. Porco’s message was both hateful and hurtful to the community and needs to be deterred.”

While worried about graffiti, Canadian authorities appear far less concerned about deterring Canadian imams from preaching jihad, Jew-hatred and the murder of Jews to their Muslim congregations, despite Jews being approximately twelve times more likely to be targeted for hate crimes than Muslims are.

Two imams who, in 2014, in a Montreal mosque, called for the death of Jews, will not be prosecuted due to the amount of time that has passed, Canadian authorities decided. For anti-Muslim graffiti, you go to jail for five months, but inciting an entire congregation to kill Jewish citizens does not, “for technical reasons,” even merit prosecution.

*Judith Bergman is a columnist, lawyer and political analyst. This appeared in gatestoneinstitute.org on Dec 21.*

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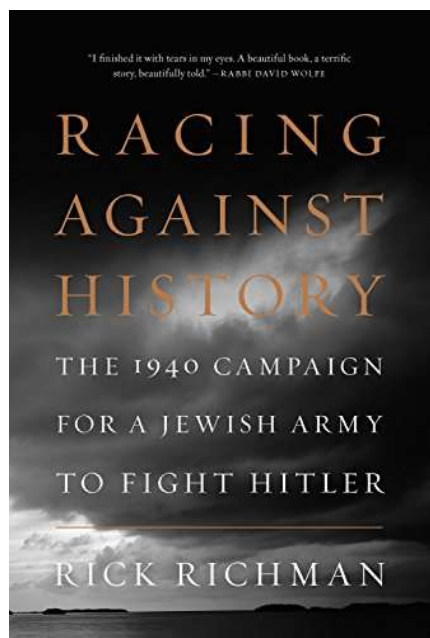
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### ***Racing Against History: The 1940 Campaign for a Jewish Army to Fight Hitler*** **by Rick Richman** **Reviewed by David Isaac**

Why wasn't there a Jewish army in World War II to fight the Nazis? No group had more motivation to do so. Well, it's not that they didn't want one. Rick Richman's *Racing Against History* skillfully recounts the efforts by three major Zionist leaders to raise a Jewish army in America to fight Hitler. Chaim Weizmann, Vladimir Jabotinsky, and David Ben-Gurion, representing the center, right, and left of the political spectrum, came to the United States on separate missions with the same goal in 1940.

But why go to the United States, which was not then in the war? It was England, which had declared war on Nazi Germany after Hitler invaded Poland in September 1939, that needed manpower.





And it was England that had experience in creating a Jewish Legion in World War I. But then, England was on the cusp of creating the Jewish National Home. Now it was shutting it down. England had slammed the gates of Palestine to the desperate Jews of Europe in 1939. Intent on appeasing Middle Eastern Arabs, Britain's Foreign and Colonial Office were of no mind to alienate them by creating a Jewish army—or to owe the Jews a political debt in a postwar world.

The goal of the Zionist leaders was precisely to create such a debt. In World War I, Jabotinsky, who spearheaded the drive for the Legion, was nearly alone in seeing that if the cause of the Jewish State were to be accepted as a specific war aim and if the Jews wanted a seat at the postwar table, it was important that they fight alongside the Allies under a Jewish flag. When World War II began, all the major Zionist leaders understood this. And they viewed their mission in America as a way to exert pressure on England to allow such an army and to encourage American Jews to demand to join it.

Richman describes the difficult situation the Zionist leaders encountered in the United States. America was in an isolationist mood, anti-Semitism was vocal and popular among certain segments of the public, and American Jews were fearful lest they be accused of leading America into war for their own Jewish interests. The result was that Jews were afraid to speak up. In Hollywood, Jewish-run studios kept quiet about Nazism. Warner Bros.' Harry Warner was the only one to talk publicly about it, Richman says. As late as September 1941 (only a few months before Pearl Harbor changed everything) he was called before a Senate committee to testify on "war propaganda disseminated by the motion picture industry" and forced to defend the 1939 film *Confessions of a Nazi Spy*. As Richman notes, the committee was effective in sending the message that even movie executives weren't immune from the consequences of taking a stand against Nazism.

It was into this environment that Weizmann stepped in January 1940. Two days before Germany's invasion of Poland in September 1939, Weizmann had offered Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain "to enter into immediate arrangements for utilizing Jewish manpower, technical ability, resources etc." and received an answer of thanks, but no thanks. Remaining unduly optimistic (as he customarily was about England), Weizmann, Richman writes, still hoped for official British approval of a Jewish military unit before his visit. When this was not forthcoming, Weizmann "maintained a studious public silence on anything that might be construed as suggesting that America, or American Jews, should



actively respond to what was transpiring in Europe." To be sure, privately Weizmann said that American Jewry must do all it could to help the Allies. Richman notes that Weizmann preferred private diplomacy over public protests. True enough—this was Weizmann's M.O. and it led to many reversals for Zionism over the years. Unfortunately, Weizmann's tactics had as much success here as elsewhere, namely very little.

Vladimir Jabotinsky held to precisely the opposite approach of Weizmann, believing public pressure was the key to political results. He arrived in America just a week after Weizmann returned to England. Unlike Weizmann, Jabotinsky was straightforward about the purpose of his visit. *The New York Times* quoted him on his arrival: "But if there is going to be a real

military war, there is going to be a Jewish army, fighting under a Jewish flag on the side of the democracies." He had already written a book, *The Jewish War Front*, arguing that the Jews must form a Jewish army. Jabotinsky thought big. He wanted a real army, not merely military units. He thought that Palestine could provide 80,000 recruits. Indeed, in World War I, he had also thought big. It wasn't a legion he had wanted but an army then, too.

Jabotinsky would make two important speeches during his visit, both at the Manhattan Center (not far from today's Madison Square Garden). In each case, more than 4,000 people filled the hall, exceeding its capacity. At his first, on March 19, 1940, he said, "The Allies will have to make room, on their various fronts, for a Jewish army, just as they have in the case of the Polish army." Jabotinsky agreed to make an unscheduled second speech when the Nazis rampaged through Western Europe. In this second speech on June 19, after France had already fallen, Jabotinsky took an optimistic tone, predicting the formation of a Jewish army would happen faster than it took to form a Jewish Legion in World War I. Jabotinsky said, "I challenge the Jews, wherever they are still free, to demand the right of fighting the giant rattlesnake ... as a Jewish Army."

Jabotinsky's second speech "struck a nerve," Richman writes, with widespread media coverage, offers pouring in to join the Jewish army, and Canada prepared to provide training camps. This speech might well have marked the start of a Jewish army if Jabotinsky had not died suddenly of a massive heart attack less than two months later. While Richman doesn't explain why this should have necessarily meant the end to hopes for a Jewish fighting force, in his *Militant Zionism in America* (2002), Rafael Medoff describes how "long simmering rivalries and personality differences" within the Revisionist movement reemerged after Jabotinsky's death, dividing his followers and preventing concerted action.

The third Zionist leader to visit the United States was David Ben-Gurion, who arrived in New York on October 3. He comes across in this book as the least attractive of the three Zionist leaders. Although he made clear his purpose was to raise support for a Jewish army, his efforts proved self-defeating. A speech he gave at the Waldorf-Astoria on October 10 "produced not unity, but division," Richman writes. And when two Revisionists, Benjamin Akzin and Eliahu Ben-Horin, came to him to argue that the Jews faced an "emergency hour" and that the various Zionist groups would unify around the Jewish army idea, Ben-Gurion treated them with disdain. Ben-Gurion records in his diary that Akzin was "a total idiot" (Richman doesn't mention it, but Akzin had doctorates in political science, law, and juridical science). And he calls Ben-Horin "a Nazi"—particularly galling given Ben-Horin's efforts between 1937 and 1939 to save European Jews, including playing a central role in rescuing 800 immigrants, getting them to Palestine in 1939.

Most self-defeating was Ben-Gurion's belief that the Jewish army idea must wait for British approval in contrast to Jabotinsky, who had argued it would take American public pressure to force British approval. Despite being guilty of countless missteps himself, Ben-Gurion was quick to criticize Weizmann, whom he held responsible for Britain's failure to endorse a Jewish military force. Ultimately, Ben-Gurion departed on January 18, 1941, with nothing to show for his efforts. Richman notes that Ben-Gurion devoted only a solitary page to the trip in his 862-page book *Israel: A Personal History* (1971).

While the author devotes twice as much space to Jabotinsky's efforts as to Weizmann's or Ben-Gurion's, it still seems strange to see them treated as separate campaigns, suggesting an equality between them that just isn't there. Meeting with no success in England, Weizmann had already downgraded his demands before he reached the United States. Richman says Weizmann "lowered his sights: he wanted to establish a war industry in Palestine to assist the British, and to have the British consider training a few hundred Jewish officers in England for a possible future Jewish force." Of the three, only Jabotinsky showed the necessary energy, determination, and focus. The feeble exertions of the others hardly merit the term "campaign." The best that can be said is that they put in an appearance.

Ultimately, it's a dispiriting tale. The attempt to create a Jewish army failed. Only at the end of the war, in late 1944, did a token Jewish Brigade make it to Italy.

Although Richman, an L.A. attorney who writes on Israel-related matters, is not a professional historian, he has done his homework and well describes the overwhelming challenges faced by those who sought to create a specifically Jewish fighting force. Not least of these was the American Jewish establishment, which did all it could to torpedo Jabotinsky's efforts out of a combination of petty jealousies and political nearsightedness. (So far were the Americans from thinking in terms of a Jewish army that there were no indigenous efforts to support one—all the efforts originated with outsiders.) Richman's clear writing makes the book an easy, if somewhat brief read at 152 pages. Its brevity may serve it in good stead if it encourages college professors to assign it to their students. It will fit especially well in a course on American Zionist history.

*David Isaac is the writer/director of ZionismU.org. This appeared in The Washington Free Beacon on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

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## **On Resolution 2334**

**Nikki Haley**

*Editor's note: Nikki Haley's response to the UN's lopsided vote condemning the U.S. for announcing it planned to move its embassy to Jerusalem has received most of the coverage, but her rebuke of Obama's shameful "abstention" on Resolution 2334—his farewell shaft against Israel—is equally noteworthy.*

This week marks the one-year anniversary of the passage of Resolution 2334. On that day, in this Council, in December 2016, the United States elected to abstain, allowing the measure to pass. Now it's one year and a new administration later. Given the chance to vote again on Resolution 2334, I can say with complete confidence that the United States would vote "no." We would exercise our veto power. The reasons why are very relevant to the cause of peace in the Middle East.

On the surface, Resolution 2334 described Israeli settlements as impediments to peace. Reasonable people can disagree about that, and in fact, over the years the United States has expressed criticism of Israeli settlement policies many times.

But in truth, it was Resolution 2334 itself that was an impediment to peace. This Security Council put the negotiations between Israelis and the Palestinians further out of reach by injecting itself, yet again, in between the two parties to the conflict. By misplacing the blame for the failure of peace efforts squarely on the Israeli settlements, the resolution gave a pass to Palestinian leaders who for many years rejected one peace proposal after another. It also gave them encouragement to avoid negotiations in the future. It refused to acknowledge the legacy of failed negotiations unrelated to settlements. And the Council passed judgment on issues that must be decided in direct negotiations between the parties.

If the United Nations' history in the peace efforts proves anything, it is that talking in New York cannot take the place of face-to-face negotiations between the regional parties. It only sets back the cause of peace, not advance it.

As if to make this very point, Resolution 2334 demanded a halt to all Israeli settlement activity in East Jerusalem – even in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City. This is something that no responsible person or country would ever expect Israel would do. And in this way, Resolution 2334 did what President Trump's announcement on Jerusalem as the capital of Israel did not do: It prejudged issues that should be left in final status negotiations.

Given the chance today, the United States would veto Resolution 2334 for another reason. It gave new life to an ugly creation of the Human Rights Council: the database of companies operating in Jewish communities. This is an effort to create a blacklist, plain and simple. It is yet another obstacle to a negotiated peace. It is a stain on America's conscience that we gave the so-called BDS movement momentum by allowing the passage of Resolution 2334.

To the United Nations' shame, this has been a disproportionately hostile place for the Middle East's most enduring democracy.

The United States refuses to accept the double standard that says we are not impartial when we stand by the will of the American people by moving our U.S. embassy, but somehow the United Nations is a neutral party when it consistently singles out Israel for condemnation.

For decades, Israel has withstood wave after wave of bias in the UN and its agencies. The United States has often stood beside Israel. We did not on December 23, 2016. We will not make that mistake again.

This week marks the one year anniversary of a significant setback for Middle East peace. But the United States has an undiminished commitment to helping bring about final status negotiations that will lead to lasting peace.

Our hand remains extended to both parties. We call on all countries that share this commitment to learn the hard lessons of the past and work to bring Israel and the Palestinian people in good faith to the peace table.

Thank you, very much.

This appeared on Dec 18 at: <https://www.unwatch.org/>

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## **The New Israel Fund is Bad News**

### **NGO Monitor**

*Editor's note: In 1990 AFSI was the first to expose the New Israel Fund in our pamphlet The New Israel Fund: A New Fund for Israel's Enemies by Joseph Puder. Calling itself "non-partisan" and "non-political" the New Israel Fund, the pamphlet noted, "embraced a startling variety of extremist crusades" for which Puder provided chapter and verse. The Fund has only grown more deceptive since, collecting much more money (over \$30 million a year) much of which it siphons to ever more blatantly anti-Israel NGOs within Israel—while claiming its objective is only "to strengthen and expand the pro-democracy, progressive forces in Israel."*

*That there are Jews in Israel who have created and staff NGOs whose aim is to defile and destroy their state is a disgrace to Jews and Israel; that there are wealthy American Jews who allow themselves to be taken in by the phony claims of the New Israel Fund to support Israel is equally appalling.*

*The following are excerpts from NGO Monitor's recent report on the Fund.*

The New Israel Fund (NIF) is headquartered in New York, and maintains offices throughout the U.S. as well as in Canada, the UK, Switzerland, and Germany. Since its founding in 1979, NIF has provided over \$300 million to more than 900 Israeli organizations.

Shatil is the Israel-based "operating arm" of the NIF," that creates and nurtures coalitions of NGOs, attempts to influence laws and bills in Israel, and holds workshops for staffers of NIF-funded NGOs.

Approximately 20% of grants go to 25 advocacy NGOs active in political campaigns that involve, to different degrees, demonization of Israel, including BDS and lawfare, under the headings of “Civil & Human Rights;” “Religious Freedom;” “Social & Economic Justice.”

The NIF claims that it “will not fund global BDS activities against Israel nor support organizations that have global BDS programs.” The NIF claims that it “firmly opposes attempts to prosecute Israeli officials in foreign courts [so-called lawfare.]

In practice, NIF continues to fund NGOs such as Adalah, Breaking the Silence, +972 Magazine, and Physicians for Human Rights-Israel that are primarily active in campaigns that contribute to BDS and [Israel’s] delegitimization.

On June 29-30, 2015, Adalah co-sponsored and participated in two side events at the UN Human Rights Council along with pro-BDS and lawfare NGOs. Two of Adalah’s co-sponsors, Badil and Medical Aid for Palestinians, in addition to extreme demonization of Israel, have also engaged in overt antisemitism.



Adalah Rally

+972 Magazine contributors regularly endorse BDS, including justifying it, interviewing radical BDS figure Omar Barghouti, and supporting a number of BDS campaigns.

During the wave of terrorism that began in October 2015, NIF grantees Adalah and Physicians for Human Rights-Israel (PHR-I) released statements criticizing Israeli policy and actions without even noting the attacks against Israeli civilians.

Adalah’s rejection of the legitimacy of the Jewish State and its attempt to portray Israel as racist

are integral components of the Durban Strategy that it helped formulate. Consistent with its political goal of eliminating Israel’s Jewish character, in 2007 Adalah drafted a “Democratic Constitution” that called for replacing the Jewish foundation of Israel with a “democratic, bilingual, and multicultural” framework.

NIF grantee Breaking the Silence makes repeated allegations of [Israeli] “war crimes” and “violations of international law.” Despite claiming to address Israeli society, BtS’ lobbying and media advocacy focus on international audiences, including appearances in Europe and the United States.



NIF grantee +972 Magazine, regularly features writers that accuse Israel of “apartheid,” “ethnic cleansing,” “racism,” “land confiscation,” “discrimination,” “displacement,” “fail[ing] to prosecute violence against Palestinians,” and “perpetrating another Nakba,” as well as deriding “American Jewish hypocrisy.”

NIF funded NGOs were featured centrally in the discredited Goldstone report, which focused on alleged Israeli “war crimes” in the 2009 Gaza war. The report referenced B’Tselem more than 56 times; Adalah, 38; and

Breaking the Silence, 27.

As with the Goldstone process, a number of NIF-funded NGOs were active in repeating unsupported allegations of “deliberate, systematic, and widespread targeting of Palestinian civilians”; “war crimes and crimes against humanity”; “grave violations of international humanitarian law,” and similar claims regarding the 2014 Gaza war, as well as claiming that internal Israeli investigations fail to meet international standards. Such allegations are central in efforts to justify international intervention, including ICC prosecutions and unprofessional UN reports.

On July 21, 2014, 10 NIF-funded NGOs, including Adalah, Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), B'Tselem, Gisha, Hamoked, Machsom Watch, Physicians for Human Rights- Israel (PHR-I), Public Committee Against Torture in Israel (PCATI), Rabbis for Human Rights, and Yesh Din, sent a public letter to Attorney General Yehuda Weinstein alleging "serious concern of severe violations of international humanitarian law, and specifically the laws of war...at the level of offensive policy and the rules of engagement."

On January 21, 2015, Physicians for Human Rights-Israel (PHR-I) published "Gaza, 2014: Findings of an independent medical fact-finding mission," alleging Israeli violations of human rights and international legal norms during the 2014 Gaza War. As stated in the report, PHR-I "believes that the prima facie evidence collected and presented in this Report should be used for the purposes of legal determination of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, whether through local or international justice mechanism." (See NGO Monitor's report, "Physicians for Human Rights Israel Gaza Mission: No Independence, No Facts, No Evidence")

On January 28, 2015, B'Tselem published "Black Flag: The legal and moral implication of the policy of attacking residential buildings in the Gaza Strip, summer 2014," alleging that there was a "black flag of illegality flying over" Israeli military tactics during the 2014 Gaza War. B'Tselem also demonized Israel with a series of publications during the war that repeated false or distorted factual and legal allegations. (See NGO Monitor's report, "Emotion, Not Law: A Critical Reading of B'Tselem's 'Black Flag' Report")

Adalah submitted a report to the UN Commission of Inquiry claiming that "Israel's investigations into its 2014 Operation Protective Edge fall far short of the international standards of independence, impartiality, effectiveness, promptness and transparency."

In an October 2014 submission to the UN Human Rights Committee, Israeli NGO Yesh Din alleged that the "Israeli military investigation system is marred by structural failures that render it incapable of conducting serious investigations into offenses committed by soldiers against Palestinians."

*This appeared on January 15 in ngo-monitor.org.*

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## **Hatikvah**

### **Ruth King**

In 1897, at the First Zionist Congress in Basel, delegates sang a song called "Hatikvah," set to the music of Bedrick Smetana's "The Moldau." Smetana was a Czech composer closely identified with his nation's aspirations to sovereignty. It was fitting music for the poem entitled "Tikvatenu" ("Our Hope") written two decades earlier, in 1878, by Naftali Hertz Imber, who was inspired by fellow Zionist dreamers in Romania.

The delegates could not, in their wildest imagination, have guessed that the song would in subsequent years be sung by Jews from Bulawayo, Rhodesia to Melbourne, Australia, to Buenos Aires, Argentina—indeed wherever Jews congregated in schools, conferences, organizations in the Diaspora. They might have been equally surprised that given the huge impact of the song, it would take over fifty years after the state of Israel was established for Hatikvah to be formally designated the national anthem in 2004.

Why did the song take so long to be recognized as the national anthem? Herein hangs a dramatic tale of intrigue, infighting and politics.

First, there was the controversial character of the author, Naftali Imber, who settled in Palestine in 1882. He was a wanderer, eccentric, a mystic, and an alcoholic. He left Palestine in 1888 to dabble in

hopeless ventures in England, Boston and New York. That left Samuel Cohen, the composer who had blended Imber's poem to the music derived from the Moldau, to promote Hatikvah in Palestine.

The secular Zionists of Palestine liked the song because it was not religious. But not all Zionists were so enchanted. In fact, Theodore Herzl despised Imber and offered contests in hopes of coming up with a better anthem.

Religious Zionists faulted the song for the absence of God in the lyrics. Rabbi Abraham Isaac



Kook, the chief rabbi of British Mandatory Palestine, submitted a substitute poem "Ha-Emunah" which included faith, return and God. The secularists swiftly rejected it for being "messianic."

Other Zionists objected to the music as unoriginal and inspired by a Christian nationalist composer. Another contest was organized, this time for composers and musicians to submit different melodies. Again, none were successful.

The Zionist Congress in 1933 adopted Hatikvah as its anthem. But the rancorous debates continued even after statehood.

Some called the song outdated because it spoke of the "hope" which critics averred was now fulfilled. Although it was the staple music and lyrics at all public functions, the

government obstinately refused to designate it as the national anthem even after this criticism was addressed as the last stanza "the ancient hope to return to the land of our fathers, to the city where David dwelt," was changed to "the hope of two millennia to be a free people in our land, the land of Zion and Jerusalem."

In May 2017 it was stated that Hebrew University announced a plan to skip "Hatikvah" in graduation ceremonies to avoid offending Arab students.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called this "a disgrace."

"It is the height of servility, the opposite of national pride," he said in a statement. "We are proud of our country, our flag, our anthem, and it only strengthens my resolve to pass the Jewish State bill that we are leading, in order to anchor in law the national symbols that are so dear to us." The University denied it had done what it had done and issued a statement to the effect that the national anthem will always be played at graduations and other ceremonies.

Hatikvah continues to be protested by some of Israel's Arab citizens. Arab MKs routinely leave the Knesset when it is sung. In 2015 President Reuven Rivlin said he understands why Israel's Arab citizens feel uncomfortable with the national anthem and maintained they should not be forced to sing it. In 2016 he went even further, suggesting that Israel might consider revising its national symbols and anthem to make them more inclusive to its Arab community, which makes up about 20 percent of the population.

And Imber? He died, drunk and impoverished in New York City in 1909, only two years after Irving Berlin composed his first published song. A sad coda to the tragic life of the author of "Hatikvah."

To end on a brighter note, when Prime Minister Netanyahu recently visited several African nations he was greeted at the airport by bands playing Hatikvah, sometimes a tad off key but a wonderful sound nonetheless.

The last stanza of Hatikvah is:

**"Our hope is not yet lost,  
The hope of two millennia,  
To be a free people in our land,  
The land of Zion and Jerusalem."**

R.I.P. Naftali Hertz Imber.

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