



ISRAEL NEWS

*A collection of the week's news from Israel
From the Bet El Twinning / Israel Action Committee
of Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation*

diverted to terrorism is ludicrous: By funding government operations, the EU absolves the Hamas government of the need to use its own revenues to provide basic services, and it thereby makes these revenues available for terror instead.

Unlike the EU, the US had hitherto seemed to understand that the boycott was meaningless if the world continued to finance the entire Palestinian government. Thus while Washington

favoured genuine humanitarian aid, such as essential drugs for hospitals, it correctly argued that paying government employees' salaries did not qualify.

For this reason, it initially vetoed all the EU proposals, and even managed to forestall Arab donations to the Hamas government by warning banks that since Hamas was a terrorist organization, transferring such funds would violate US law.

The implicit threat - that banks that handle such transfers could face legal action, or even be forced to abandon one of the world's leading financial centers - has reportedly caused even Arab banks to refuse to do so.

However, this impressive American determination apparently could not survive the mounting outcry from Europe, the media and nongovernmental organizations about the growing "humanitarian crisis" in the territories: At a meeting of the Quartet on Tuesday, Washington agreed to "a temporary international mechanism" for aid to the Palestinians; and while the details are still under discussion, the arrangement will reportedly include salary payments to PA workers as outlined in the various European proposals.

SHAMEFULLY, even Israel has recently been waffling on this issue - which undoubtedly contributed to America's capitulation.

Asked for comment on French President Jacques Chirac's proposal, Foreign Ministry spokesman Mark Regev told the Associated Press that no aid should go to the Hamas government, but "everyone understands that the Palestinian people should not be made to suffer because of the shortsightedness, stubbornness and extremism of their government" - a statement that implies support for ideas of this ilk.

Indeed, the minute one accepts this distinction between "the people" and "the government," the battle is already lost - because unlike in a dictatorship, where such a distinction is valid, the Palestinian people chose this government freely.

Nor, contrary to the accepted wisdom, did they do so solely as a protest vote, despite disagreeing with Hamas's political positions: In fact, a poll conducted in Ramallah two weeks ago found that 63 percent of Palestinians support Hamas's refusal to recognize Israel.

To say that ordinary Palestinians should not suffer because of the government they themselves elected, and whose objectionable policies they continue to support, is thus to ensure that they have no incentive not to reelect Hamas in the future.

Agreeing to fund PA salaries and other governmental activity would make a mockery of the international aid boycott and facilitate the Hamas government's survival. And by proving that a policy of Islamic extremism entails no long-term price, it would also encourage the election of similar governments elsewhere in the Middle East.

Thus, for its own sake as well as Israel's, one must hope that the US will rethink this disastrous idea before it is too late. (Jerusalem Post May 10)

Events...

Wednesday May 24, 5:30pm

Thornhill Jewish Chamber of Commerce members' event with **Paul Godfrey** at the Rogers Centre, followed by **Blue Jays** game. Call 416-366-6743 for membership information.

Commentary...

The Mockery of Funding PA Salaries By Evelyn Gordon

Shortly after Hamas won the Palestinian elections in January, I predicted that the world's firm stance against aid to the terrorist movement-cum-political party would last, at most, six months. And indeed, the European Union has been seeking a face-saving method of ending the boycott for weeks. The United States, in contrast, had stuck to its guns impressively until this week - but now, it, too, appears to have cracked.

Over the past few weeks, EU member states and institutions have raised various ideas for circumventing the boycott.

France suggested establishing a World Bank fund that would pay salaries to Palestinian Authority employees directly; this would substitute for the old system under which the EU gave money to the PA and it paid the salaries. Britain also proposed paying PA employees' salaries directly, via a nonprofit organization, the Holst Fund. And the European Commission suggested giving the money to PA Chairman Mahmoud Abbas, who belongs to the rival Fatah party rather than Hamas, so that his office could pay PA salaries instead of the Hamas government.

All three proposals also included funding for specific governmental activities; again, the money would simply be disbursed by the World Bank/Holst Fund/Abbas instead of the Hamas government.

The goal of these plans is to ensure that most or all PA employees (some of the proposals exclude certain personnel) continue receiving their paychecks as usual, and that the Palestinian government basically continues operating as usual. Yet that would undermine the boycott's *raison d'être* - which was to exact a price from Hamas for its refusal to renounce terrorism and recognize Israel.

To retain power, the Hamas government must prove that it can function. The conventional wisdom is that the Palestinians ousted the previous Fatah government because of its corruption and inefficiency; if this is true, a Hamas government incapable of providing basic services would presumably be equally unattractive.

But under the EU proposals, government operations would be unimpaired by Hamas rule: Salaries would continue to be paid, and services would continue to be provided.

The idea that how the money is routed matters to anyone is laughable: From the Palestinians' perspective, as long as the government is functioning, Hamas is doing a fine job, regardless of whether it makes salary payments itself or persuades the international community to make them in its stead.

MOREOVER, since money is fungible, Hamas would even have funds left over for its own agenda. With donor states paying government salaries and covering the operating expenses for big-ticket items such as schools and hospitals, Hamas would be free to use those funds in its possession - the PA's independently collected tax revenues plus any donations from Arab or Muslim states - for other purposes.

Thus the EU's claim that such a system would prevent money from being

Rx for Canada's Foreign Policy By Alastair Gordon

This is the text of a speech delivered by the President of the Canadian Coalition for Democracies at the Civitas Conference, Ottawa, May 6, 2006

Canada's foreign policy has been a sick puppy for at least the past 12 years. Since late 2003, the Canadian Coalition for Democracies has been working hard trying to restore a little health to the patient. Today, I would like to stretch this medical metaphor far beyond its breaking point, and possibly beyond your patience, as a way of talking about what medicine is needed to restore this country's foreign policy to health and vitality. Canada was not always so weak and sickly on the international stage.

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What is interesting to note is that a few of the medications that CCD has been trying to force-feed the Chrétien and Martin governments are being willingly administered to Foreign Affairs by the present Harper government, with results that exceed even the doctor's expectations.

I would like to take a few minutes to look at what our Rx for Foreign Policy has consisted of, what treatments are now in place, and what remains to be done. So let me get specific about the initiatives that CCD has been promoting.

Finally, Tamil Tigers are terrorists

CCD has been consistent in calling for the designation of the Tamil Tigers as a terrorist organization, in line with the US, UK, India and now the EU. The acrobatic evasions of the Martin government on that file were pure circus. In January 2005, Former Justice Minister Irwin Cotler clumsily blurted out the ugly truth when he said, "Toronto I think has the largest number of Tamils in the Tamil diaspora than anywhere else outside of Sri Lanka, so we've got to be very careful just in terms of our own relationships". In other words, bombing a school bus can only be judged right or wrong based on the number of Liberal Tamil voters in Toronto, not on its own merit. A week later, former Foreign Minister Pierre Pettigrew contradicted Cotler, saying that "Most of the people we've been consulting, including the United States State Department ... are demanding that we do not do it at this time.". A spokesperson for the US State Department dismissed that assertion, saying that the US had designated the Tigers as a terrorist organization in 1997, and would never micromanage the foreign policy of another nation.

But that's the past. On April 10, Foreign Minister Peter MacKay designated the Tamil Tigers as a terrorist organization, just as he promised during the election, and as Stockwell Day consistently called for as Foreign Affairs Critic in the Official Opposition. But what's policy without enforcement? Already there have been 3 police raids that seized documents purportedly relating to now-illegal Tamil Tiger fundraising in Canada. Pandering and lies have been replaced by policy and execution.

Another medicine that CCD has been peddling was intended to treat "the annual ritual of politicized anti-Israel resolutions [at the United Nations]". Surprisingly, that phrase was coined by former Prime Minister Paul Martin before the General Assembly of the United Jewish Communities (UJC) in Toronto last October. Did recognition lead to recovery? Sadly, Martin stopped at "I am a votaholic" and did not take the remaining eleven steps to recovery. In 2005, while the UN had the Jewish state on the ground beating the life out of the only democracy in the Middle East, Canada, dancing about the periphery ever eager to impress the thugs, delivered only 11 jackboot kicks to Israel, one fewer than the 12 of 2004.

CCD's prescribed medicine was that Canada must vote 'no' on all anti-Israel resolutions at the UN until such time as resolutions are applied even-handedly to all players in the Middle East, not just as a weapon for bullying the very best. In March, on the first of this year's many anti-Israel resolutions tabled at various UN forums, Peter MacKay shifted Canada's vote at the UN Economic and Social Council from 'abstain' to 'no', standing against a tide of 41 out of 43 representatives on that forum and against his own bureaucrats. Such moral leadership must not waiver in return for group acceptance at the UN.

CCD also prescribed the stripping of falsely obtained citizenship from those linked to terror, followed by their prompt deportation. Algerian-born Montreal resident Fateh Kamel returned to Montreal in 2005 after being released from prison in France for supplying false passports to Islamic terrorists. According to CSIS, Kamel had ties to Osama bin Laden and was the ringleader of a Montreal-based Algerian Jihadi cell, which intended to blow up Los Angeles International Airport in 1999. Also according to CSIS, Kamel "played a central role in the wave of terrorist attacks that erupted in France toward the middle of the 1990s, notably the plot to commit bomb attacks in Paris Metro stations and a series of attacks in the city of Roubaix". At the time, opposition national security critic Peter MacKay who is now Minister of Foreign Affairs called for stripping Kamel of his Canadian citizenship. The Martin government predictably declined to act, but according to Montreal's La Presse, the Harper government has launched a procedure to strip Fateh Kamel of his Canadian citizenship.

Perhaps most gratifying was to see the Harper government reach for the right medicine as soon as Hamas won the election and dominated the Palestinian Authority. Canada cut off funding to the openly terrorist government of Hamas (as opposed the dishonestly terrorist government of Fatah). For once Canada led the world, and may have help stiffen the spine of the European Union who followed suit.

With the Sikh community as well as the Tamil community, the Liberals practiced the racism of low expectations, assuming that those who share the ethnicity or religion of terrorists must also share their savagery. Based on this racist assumption, the Martin government refused to call an inquiry into the air India tragedy for fear of offending Sikh voters.

Stephen Harper and his government showed no such weakness. Following

the election, Prime Minister Harper moved forward to set the terms of an inquiry into the tragedy. This past Monday, he appointed retired Supreme Court Justice John Major to head the Judicial Inquiry into the failure of our system that lead to the murder of 329 innocent people, most of them Canadians, by Sikh Terrorists and the failure of our law enforcement and judiciary to convict even one person of the murders. The only sentence handed down was a token conviction of manslaughter, a charge more appropriate for a fatal barroom brawl than the biggest premeditated mass murder in Canadian history.

So these are some of the profound improvements that we have seen since the election --improvements that will make Canada a leader on the world stage simply by doing the right thing voting the right way at the right time, denying foreign aid to terrorists, outlawing terrorist fronts in Canada, deporting terrorists and their supporters. Long before we have upgraded our military or expanded our foreign aid, these cost-free initiatives will help restore Canada's once-ethical foreign policy. This is the stuff of global leadership, and others will follow suit.

And as the doctor says to the trembling patient once the needle is withdrawn, "There, that wasn't so bad, now was it?"

But there is a lot that remains to be done.

The best policies will be derailed if there is a government bureaucracy determined to push forward its own agenda. One of the top priorities for this government must be to fix the systemic rot within the Department of Foreign Affairs and the RCMP, rot that was put in place, likely for its own electoral reasons, by the previous Martin government and that must be excised by the current government.

A few weeks ago, an internal Administrative Notice was leaked from Foreign Affairs describing the upgrading of a group within Foreign Affairs to "full operational status". Incredibly, the name of this group is the Muslim Communities Working Group Operational Unit, or FMCG in bureaucratese. From the notice: "The group has had ever-increasing demands for operational work producing speeches for MINA [Ministry of Foreign Affairs], writing briefing notes, providing general advice, organizing consultations, and managing emerging issues such as the recent Prophet Muhammad caricatures issue. Therefore, I am pleased to announce that, following consultations with USS [Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs], the Muslim Communities Working Group will now have a full operational capability." Its reach is described in the Administrative Notice as, "a clearing house and focal point within the Department for issues concerning relations with the Muslim world; build the Department's policy capacity on this subject; and take the lead in providing timely, strategic advice on relations with the Muslim world, and the lead in creating a policy framework for our overall approach to this subject." In other words, all responses and policies on any issue touching the Muslim world will be controlled by this group.

The Administrative Notice goes on to discuss "Crystal Procysen who serves as both a policy and operations officer." To give some flavour of the tilt this group may take, we need only to look at Ms. Procysen's published article entitled "Travel and Truth: A Volunteers' Experience in Palestine". She writes, among other anti-Israel commentary, "Since the Israelis illegally [sic] occupied the autonomous regions of the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan Heights and East Jerusalem, they routinely torture, kill and deprive Palestinians of their rights. Under Israeli control the Palestinians have no freedom of movement, no freedom of speech or press, no jury of peers, no trials, imprisonment without just cause, no right to education, no right to an attorney, no right to property, no right to trade or profit from good [sic] crossing borders." She attacks the people of Israel: "Israelis, in order to fulfil their political prophecies of a Zionist state... are propagating a recurring cycle of hatred towards the Palestinians as they struggle to expand the state of Israel."

And this is a federal "policy and operations officer" for all matters that touch on the Muslim world, which surely includes Israel. And we pay her salary.

Why is there a Muslim Communities Working Group within Foreign Affairs? Is it because (1) Muslims alone are entitled to a level of influence within Foreign Affairs that is denied to all other religions, (2) Foreign Affairs believes that Islam poses such unique foreign policy challenges to Canada that a dedicated operational unit is required, or (3) It is a leftover of the last government's pandering to any group that would help keep them in power? The answer may lie in the announcement and mandate of this group. The announcement to form such a group was made by former Foreign Minister Pierre Pettigrew before the National Council on Canada-Arab Relations in August 2005 following the Islamist bombing of the London transit system. In Mr. Pettigrew's own words, this group will be charged with "creating a course on Muslim civilization for Canadian diplomats the emphasis will be on Muslim civilization rather than on contemporary political issues". Sorry,

but we are not threatened by "Muslim civilization". We are threatened by "contemporary political issues" within Islam. Based on such a mandate and the choice of staffing, one could conclude that pandering, not the security of Canadians, was a major factor in creating this group.

The right medicine must be the removal of this metastasized tumour from the body politic so that taxpayer-funded civil servants will again execute the will of the democratically-elected government, not their own political agendas.

Another area where Canada needs to adopt a more pro-democracy foreign policy is toward Taiwan and China. On his visit to China last year, then Prime Minister Paul Martin signed an agreement on behalf of all Canadians that "...Taiwan is an inseparable part of Chinese territory. Canada reaffirms its adherence to its One China policy." Where does a Canadian Prime Minister get the right to determine the fate of Taiwan, a modern, prosperous democracy of 23 million people, a nation that has never, not for a week or a day or even a minute, been part of the Peoples' Republic of China?

What changes are needed to create a Canadian foreign policy that stands for democracy over tyranny in the Far East?

- We could start by revoking our endorsement of the One China policy, an action comparable to China and the US signing an agreement ending Canada's independence within North America.

- We could allow elected representatives from Taiwan to visit Canada.

Canada could reverse its policy of offering preferential, developing-nation tariffs to a manufacturing giant like China, while charging full rate for Taiwanese imports.

- Canada could support Taiwan's entry into the World Health Organization, against the bullying of China.

- And finally, Canada could end its approximately \$60 million per year in foreign aid to China, a country with the world's largest army, a GDP over \$7 trillion, and 700 missiles aimed at peaceful, democratic Taiwan.

The last government has never, to my knowledge, explained to Canadians who benefits from our China policy. With the balance of trade overwhelmingly in China's favour, it isn't Canadian workers. And it certainly isn't the advance of democracy and national sovereignty in the Far East. We can all speculate on what motivated Paul Martin and Jean Chrétien to be so accommodating of China to the point of selling out a democratic ally. And we can all hope that those reasons no longer motivate the present government to continue this practice.

Now back to the Middle East. Canada has poured one third of a billion dollars into the Palestinian territories. Yet today, there is more violence, hatred, incitement and dependency than ever. When a medicine produces such deadly adverse effects and no demonstrable benefit, a competent doctor will consider a strategy other than continually increasing the dosage as demanded by the addicted patient and his friends.

On this subject, Peter MacKay once again showed global leadership, when he led the world in cutting funding to the Hamas-dominated Palestinian Authority.

But the PA is not the only problem. Canada's decision to continue funding the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) at a level of \$10 million per year is little different from funding Hamas directly. There is a mountain of evidence, including an admission by UNRWA's former secretary general, that UNRWA employs Hamas members, that UNRWA assets including ambulances are used for terrorist attacks against Israel, and that incitement and hatred at the daily staple at schools in UNRWA camps. After 60 years, the status of refugees under UNRWA is worse than ever. In short, UNRWA's actions have been not to solve the Palestinian refugee problem, but to perpetuate and inflame it as part of the Arab strategy to destroy Israel.

Canada must end funding to UNRWA until such time as UNRWA's mandate is aligned with that of UNHCR, the agency responsible for all the world's refugees except Palestinians, and until the hiring criteria for UNRWA matches the hiring criteria for UNHCR. In other words, no terrorists on the payroll. Even better, as head of the Refugee Working Group of nations, Canada is in an ideal position to pressure the other nations bankrolling UNRWA to make these demands, or to collapse UNRWA and place the Palestinians under UNHCR who will hopefully, as they have done in most other situations, peacefully resettle those under their charge.

Canada has rightly called for reform of the United Nations, a forum that has become dominated by non-democratic nations. Yet Canada has failed to promote India's entry as a permanent member of the security Council, just as Canada joins with undemocratic China in opposing Taiwan's entry as a member of the General Assembly. Could there be better role models for aspiring democracies than India, a nation with 23 official languages united under the world's largest democracy, and Taiwan, a nation that has moved on its own from civil war through military dictatorship to full parliamentary democracy? Let us hope that this government sees the value in giving these democratic success stories a voice at the United Nations.

We have entered a new era in foreign relations, one in which someone finally realized that the old medicine was killing, not curing, the patient. There is work left to do, but we have witnessed one hell of a start! We look forward to more of the same.

Thank you. (Www.CanadianCoalition.com May 10)

The IDF's Suicide Attempt By Caroline Glick

It would seem that the IDF's General Staff has lost its collective mind. On Independence Day last Wednesday, at the annual ceremony at the President's House honoring outstanding IDF soldiers, Sergeant Hananel Dayan, upon receiving his decoration, saluted IDF Chief of General Staff, Lt. Gen. Dan Halutz, but refused to shake his hand. When asked by President Moshe Katzav the meaning of his action, Dayan explained "My family was expelled from Gush Katif."

Members of the audience at the ceremony had no idea what was happening on the stage. The incident was over before it began. It would have been easy for Halutz to shrug the incident off. But he chose not to.

After Dayan descended the stage, he was accosted by Maj. Gen. Elazar Stern, head of the IDF's Manpower Division who berated him for his action. Stern demanded an apology. Dayan refused to provide one.

Stern later claimed that the IDF would have shrugged off the incident were it not for the presence of the media at the ceremony. Yet this claim is ridiculous. Had the IDF ignored the episode, the media would also have ignored it. In the "worst case" scenario, a reporter would have asked Halutz to comment on Dayan's action. Halutz would have said that it is understandable that those whose families were forced out of their homes in Gaza during the withdrawal last summer have hard feelings about what happened. Case closed.

But rather than ignore the minor incident, the IDF went bananas. Stern held a disciplinary hearing for Dayan on Thursday, even though Dayan had violated no IDF regulation. Dayan's brigade commander then expelled him from his unit and barred him from serving in any combat unit. Stern is now considering revoking Dayan's award for outstanding service.

The IDF's decision to react to Dayan's expression of his personal sentiment by crushing him with the full weight of the General Staff is indicative of a serious problem that has repercussions for both Israel's continued national viability and the IDF's continued capabilities as a fighting force.

Halutz, Stern and their subordinates accuse Dayan of having brought politics into the army by expressing his personal anger over what the IDF did to his family last August. It is true that Dayan's grief over the expulsion of his family is shared today almost exclusively by the Right, but that fact does not make his expression of his opinion either a crime or an act of politicization of the IDF. On the other hand, the generals' hysterical reaction to his refusal to shake Halutz's hand indicates that the politicization has already occurred.

Today, the national religious sector makes up some 15 percent of the overall population, yet its sons make up more than 30 percent of combat soldiers in the IDF. Soldiers from the national religious camp make up a plurality of cadets in combat officer training courses and a majority of soldiers in most commando units.

SOME 60 percent of NCOs in combat units graduated from national religious high schools and last year, 80 percent of company commanders in Golani infantry brigade were from the national religious camp. National religious officers are similarly overrepresented - by a ratio of between 2:1 to 4:1 in all combat units to the level of battalion command in the IDF. During the course of the Palestinian terror war since September 2000, 30 percent of soldiers killed in action were from the national religious camp.

The IDF's implementation of the expulsion orders last summer caused a sea change in the way that Israelis from the national religious camp perceive the IDF. The brutal police commanded evacuations of protesters at Amona last February - which left more than 300 demonstrators wounded - only widened the rift.

In an interview with Haaretz last week, Halutz claimed that there has been no decrease in levels of volunteerism of members of this sector since last summer. Yet members of the General Staff claim that his statement was misleading. The decreased motivation and ruined moral is evident today mainly in reenlistment rates. Company and battalion commanders are increasingly refusing to reenlist when their contracts end in anticipation of orders to carry out further withdrawals and expulsions.

RATHER THAN contend with this situation with the necessary self-interested sensitivity in light of the damage a breach of relations with the religious Zionist camp will cause to the IDF as a fighting force, Halutz has been going out of his way in recent months to publicly chastise, insult and alienate this public. Several months ago, referring to the violence at Amona and the protests last summer against the expulsions from Gaza, Halutz

described the protesters as "poisoners of wells." On Holocaust Memorial Day he accused them of belittling the Holocaust for using the slogan "We won't forget and we won't forgive" regarding the expulsions last summer, although the same slogan has been used by the Left numerous times in the past. Halutz has held publicized meetings with members of the extremist Left wing group Machsom Watch but rudely refused to meet with Col. (res.) Moti Yogev, the former deputy commander of the Gaza Division who was wounded by police at Amona.

Halutz recently appointed Brig. Gen. Tal Russo as his personal emissary to the national religious sector to try to build bridges between religious leaders and youth and the IDF. IDF sources claim that Russo's appointment was the result of successive opinion polls that showed that the national religious camp despises Halutz. Russo has been going from community to community talking with rabbis and youths aged 16-18 to convince them to maintain their motivation to serve. Yet actions like those taken against Dayan directly undercut Russo's work.

UNFORTUNATELY, a recent report indicates that perhaps Russo's mission is a mere feint. According to Middle East Newline, a news service that specializes in coverage of the IDF, Stern recently revised the IDF's guidelines for recruitment. In light of Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's intention to expel tens of thousands of Israelis from their homes in Judea and Samaria, the IDF no longer believes that soldiers from the national religious camp are trustworthy. So, according to an officer in the Manpower Division quoted in the report, the IDF will now limit the recruitment of religious soldiers. The shortfall will be made up by juvenile delinquents who are currently barred from serving in combat units.

Over the past several months, a significant number of religious youths have received notices in the mail informing them that their IDF service had been cancelled just days before they were scheduled to show up at the induction centers. In most cases, the youths were scheduled to begin infantry basic training and were caught completely by surprise. When in some cases the youths pulled strings to reinstate their conscription, they were forced to undergo lengthy interrogations by Shin Bet officers who grilled them about their spiritual connections to the Land of Israel and their willingness to participate in expulsions.

Taken together, the IDF's treatment of Dayan; its new recruitment guidelines and Halutz's anti-religious rhetoric reveal a dangerous politicization of the IDF. It seems that today, with Hamas now in charge of the Palestinian Authority and Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Defense Minister Amir Peretz now in charge of Israel, the IDF views Israelis rather than Arabs as its principal threat. Halutz and Stern, in criminalizing actions like Dayan's while minimizing the significance of the Hamas takeover of the Palestinian Authority are sending a clear signal of where they believe the IDF should be devoting its energies.

The IDF General Staff's decision to attack religious Zionists is perhaps the most disturbing development in Israel's recent past. Israel is in the middle of a war -- a war it has given its enemies every reason to believe they are winning. The result of Halutz and Stern's goading of the national religious camp is already being felt as its members make increasingly unrestrained statements regarding their unwillingness to fight for the country. If the current trend is not quickly reversed, not only will the IDF itself degrade its fighting capabilities by rejecting its best soldiers and recruits. It will be transformed into a force charged not with defending Israel against its enemies, but with defending the government against its political opponents. (Jerusalem Post May 8)

From Londonistan to Palestan By Frank J. Gaffney, Jr.

The Bush administration has yet to adopt the war footing required to counter Islamofascism, let alone hold our allies - real and imagined - accountable for their appeasement of its practitioners. The United States can no longer indulge in such a dereliction of duty, or tolerate, to say nothing of encourage, it in others

In courtrooms and movie theaters this spring, Americans are being exposed in an unvarnished way to the true character and evil purposes of our enemies in this War for the Free World. Yet, governments around the world - including, on most days, ours - seem still to be unwilling, or unable, to come to grips with these realities.

Zacharias Mousau used his trial on charges of assisting in the 9/11 conspiracy to put a vivid, and frightening, human face on today's totalitarian ideology bent on our destruction: Islamofascism. Some may discount as bravado or delusion his oft-repeated desire to kill Americans. His lack of remorse is no act though. It is the hallmark of a true believer, and a staple of his creed.

Such sentiments are also much in evidence in the new movie "United 93." Its reconstruction of the horror-filled September 11, 2001 flight of the fourth

hijacked plane leaves audiences shaken as much by the cold-blooded lust for death exhibited by our foes as by their intended purposes, prevented in that instance only by the extraordinary courage of ordinary Americans.

So why do ostensibly friendly governments not recognize the threat posed by Islamofascism for what it is: a viral ideology that threatens non-Islamist Muslims as much as the rest of us, one that cannot be appeased and must be rooted out and destroyed?

- The easiest case to address is that of the Saudi government. The Washington Post reported on Sunday that "Saudi Arabia has mobilized some of its most militant clerics, including one Osama bin Laden sought to recruit as his spiritual guide, in a campaign to combat the continuing appeal of al Qaeda's ideology in the Kingdom about the latest Saudi effort to counter al Qaeda."

The article recounts how the Saudis are using teams of three clerics and a psychiatrist or psychologist to "reeducate" young men by exposing them to hours of clerical discourse. "Some detainees attend five-week courses in the fine points of Wahhabism, the fundamentalist sect of Islam that dominates Saudi society and lends crucial support to the ruling family."

In other words, the Saudis - who are the world's most aggressive and generous champions of Islamofascism - are trying to ensure that their young men adhere to the Wahhabi strain of this ideology, rather than bin Laden's. The only perceptible difference between the two is that the former holds that it is Allah's will to kill non-Islamist Muslims and non-Muslims outside the Kingdom; the latter includes among his target list Saudi royals who have adopted Western ways and mores. Thanks for the help, King Abdullah.

- A riveting new book by JWR contributor Melanie Phillips, Londonistan, makes clear that for years Great Britain has been scarcely less complicit than the Saudis in affording safe haven to Islamofascist recruiters and operatives. She recounts how the UK's principal domestic security service, MI5, "was guilty of a combination of flawed analysis and cynicism...[As a result,] it never understood the power of the Islamic nation - or ummah - over its scattered members and for a variety of reasons believed it was not in Britain's interest to act against Islamist radicals. The security service was content instead to watch as Londonistan [a term the author has coined to describe Islamofascism's rising power in Britain's capital] took shape, apparently either oblivious or indifferent to the carnage that its proponents might be inflicting overseas."

Ms. Phillips (who will be presenting her book at the Heritage Foundation on Wednesday) adds, "Shocking as this may be, the intelligence debacle is only the tip of the iceberg. Among Britain's governing class - its intelligentsia, its media, its politicians, its judiciary, its church and even its police - a broader and deeper cultural pathology has allowed and even encouraged Londonistan to develop, one which persists to this day."

- A similarly self-destructive pathology is clearly at work in another allied nation, Israel. Later this month, the newly elected prime minister of Israel, Ehud Olmert, will be coming to the United States seeking President Bush's endorsement of his "convergence" plan - the euphemism adopted to describe his intention to withdraw over the next few years between 50,000 and 100,000 Israeli civilians and Israel's security forces from up to 95 percent of the West Bank. Mr. Olmert will also reportedly be seeking \$10 billion in U.S. aid to underwrite this retreat.

In a superb analysis and withering critique of the convergence plan (http://www.centerforsecuritypolicy.org/Olmerts_Convergence_Plan.pdf), my colleague, Caroline Glick, makes clear that Israel's earlier abandonment of the Gaza Strip has turned it into an area not only governed by the terrorist organization, Hamas, but used as a training and operational base for allied Islamofascist entities like al Qaeda, Hezbollah and Iranian intelligence. The threat posed by such activities is already real, not only for Israel but the United States and the rest of the Free World, as well. It will become infinitely greater, however, should the West Bank also be allowed to become a safe haven for such forces. Call it Palestan.

The Bush Administration has, of late, become a bit clearer about the ideological character of Islamofascism. It has yet to adopt, however, the war footing required to counter it, let alone hold our allies - real and imagined - accountable for their appeasement of its practitioners. The United States can no longer indulge in such a dereliction of duty, or tolerate, to say nothing of encourage, it in others. (Jewish World Review May 9)

The writer heads the Center for Security Policy.
