



## ISRAEL NEWS

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

### Commentary...

#### Stand up and Fight

By Stewart Weiss

The Talmud sums it up succinctly: "In times of war, every Jew goes to battle; even the bridegroom and bride must leave their bridal canopy and fight."

War is a horrible thing, and even the worst peace is preferable to the best war. But if we ARE at war - and make no mistake about it, this is war - then it makes no sense to wage it halfway; we need to use every weapon in our arsenal to defeat the enemy quickly and decisively.

Sadly, our adversaries seem to understand this better than we. They devote all their energies to defeating us. They educate their masses to hate us, demonizing Jews/Israelis at every opportunity. They unceasingly produce and hoard weapons, feverishly smuggling, purchasing and manufacturing armaments of all types. They try to strangle us economically, by enforcing the Arab boycott, striking at our tourism, forcing us to spend billions on defense. And they isolate us politically, insisting that the world at large shun us.

And they are proud of it, too. Even as Shimon Peres was criss-crossing the globe, shamelessly begging the world to fund the "poor" Palestinians, Arafat was demanding that no nation renew diplomatic relations with the Jewish State.

We need to learn to also marshal our forces. We need to let the IDF do its job, to hold firm against cynical public opinion, to punish, rather than reward, every act of Palestinian violence.

Among the weapons we must better learn to use is the judicial system. For while Arab terror is fueled in part by fanatical fundamentalism, it is also about money. Without money, terrorists could not be paid to shoot freely at Jews, explosives couldn't be bought and officials couldn't be bought off. A million Palestinians couldn't afford to sit idle all day, plotting new ways to murder Israelis.

And Arafat and his cronies - who have a penchant for fast cars and fancy French villas - would have to create a viable economy instead of a brutal thugocracy to maintain their power.

To cut off the money supply, we have to employ the gavel as our ally. We have to file suit against anyone who commits acts of terror, supports terrorists, or sustains the environment in which terrorism thrives. That means we must drag to court not only the Palestinians implicated in the violence, but their Arab patrons as well: The Saudi bankrollers, the Iranian arms suppliers, the Syrian godfathers.

We need to litigate against the EU, which funnels \$30 million a month to the Palestinian Authority, money which facilitates terrorism through either direct funding or fungibility. It's a whole lot easier to spend the day making bombs when the EU is paying one-third of the average Palestinian's annual per-capita income.

We need to block U.S. payments to the Palestinians, currently running at \$213 million a year. Despite bitter criticism of the PA by American officials, the money keeps rolling in with virtually no restraint. We need to sue the PA itself, as was done successfully in U.S. court recently by the family of Yaron Ungar, murdered in a drive-by shooting in 1996. The PA was socked for \$119 million for complicity in the double murder.

And yes, we need to litigate against our own government as well. As the Post's Caroline Glick recently pointed out, we hand over more than 1 billion shekels a year (!) to our sworn enemies, while paying a pitiful pittance to Israeli victims of terror. Imagine the reaction if we were to take 500 million NIS of Palestinian tax revenues and give it to suffering Jewish families.

We've got to hit 'em where it hurts - in their wallet.

To that end, our own family has decided to join the efforts of the Terror Victims Litigation Project (see website: terrorvictims.us), which recently launched an \$875 million suit against the Arab Bank of New York on behalf of several American victims of terror. Extensive evidence shows that the Arab Bank channeled large sums of money to terror groups like Islamic Jihad - which took "credit" for the murder of our son, Ari z"l - and paid generous stipends to numerous suicide bombers and their families.

This is partially about the money, of course. Every dollar taken out of

terror's hands and given to grieving families is in itself a Mitzva. But this is also about justice, and balancing the scales. Those who take a life must know that they are forfeiting their own rights. And it is about refusing to capitulate to the forces of evil and allowing them to act with impunity. The higher the price they pay, the more seriously they will think before perpetrating future crimes.

Mostly, this is about empowering the victims, and disenfranchising the criminals.

For almost three years, the citizens of Israel have absorbed blow after blow, while the terrorists have acted with brazen arrogance. It's about time we have our day in court. (Jerusalem Post Aug 2)

*The writer is director of the Ohel Ari Jewish Outreach Center in Ra'anana..*

#### Darfur - Exposing Arab Goals for What They Are

By Shlomo Avineri

The EU and the UN have finally decided to take the first timid steps to try to put an end to what is happening in Darfur in the Sudan.

The recent report by Human Rights Watch on Darfur corroborates the worst suspicions of those who have followed developments in western Sudan. There have been killings on a massive scale, expulsions, the systematic torching of villages and - last and not least - the use of rape as a weapon of intimidation and humiliation against the province's black population.

These are not just the depredations of unruly Arab militias. They are the instruments of the Arab-dominated government in Khartoum in its war against the black, non-Arab population of the province.

This is, of course, not the first time Sudan has been involved in violence against its non-Arab population. For decades the Sudanese government has been trying to suppress an insurrection of black tribes, mainly the Dings, in the South. In that case Khartoum was trying to impose Islamic law on the Southerners, who are mainly Christians and animists. In Darfur, those oppressed by the Sudan government are themselves Muslims. But in both cases, the Khartoum government has been engaged in oppressing and brutalizing black, non-Arab population groups.

International public opinion - obviously slow to react, as in the case of Rwanda, to a horror in a far away land, where the victims are blacks and the details appear murky - has, however, overlooked the wider context in which these actions have occurred.

One of the characteristics of Arab nationalism - epitomized in the official ideology of the Arab League - has been to view the region as exclusively Arab. Obviously, the majority of the population in the arc stretching from Morocco to Kuwait are culturally and linguistically Arab.

Yet by calling it "the Arab region," Arab nationalist discourse states not only a demographic fact but also presents a normative entitlement: In the book of mainstream Arab nationalism, there is only one legitimate nation-bearing people in the area - the Arabs.

This exclusivist, hegemonic aspect determines much of Arab politics. Hence there is no Arab voice accepting the rights of the Kurds in northern Iraq for self-determination; hence the difficulties of Algeria in accepting the Berbers - and their language - as a legitimate political component of the country; hence the violent opposition to the attempts of the Christian Maronites to mold a slightly different identity for Lebanon; hence the angry response in Egypt when the issue of the Christian Coptic is raised. The Egyptian riposte has consistently been that there are no minorities in Egypt.

It is in this context that the deep unwillingness to accept the legitimacy of Israel has to be understood.

If any nation in Central or Eastern Europe were to maintain that it has the monopoly of being a Staats-Nation (to use a historically discredited German term), nobody would accept it - and international opinion would, justly, brand it as racist and chauvinistic.

This, however, is at the core of the belief system of Arab nationalism. The violence in Sudan - as well as the current violence in Iraq, aimed, among others, also against Kurdish autonomy - is just a more violent expression of the same pernicious thread running through dominant Arab political thinking.

No wonder the Arab League, so vociferous on other issues, has been

**Yasher Koach and thank you to our supporters. Thank you also to Continental Press for their ongoing support.**  
**Readers are requested to please mail contributions to: BAYT - re: Israel News, 613 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill, Ontario. L4J 5V3**  
**Annual Rates: Friend - \$36, Supporter - \$50, Benefactor - \$180. Dedications are welcome at \$120/week.**  
**Call (905) 886-3810 for further info. Israel News can be viewed on the internet at [www.bayt.org](http://www.bayt.org)**

silent.

What is happening in Darfur is much worse than what Slobodan Milosevic tried to do to the ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. Nobody wants to see the international community involved in another humanitarian war in Africa.

But the issue in Darfur is not just a need for more or quicker humanitarian aid. It is the consequence of a deep, far-reaching version of ethnocentric Arab nationalism, and it has to be robustly confronted, intellectually and politically, for what it is. (Jerusalem Post Aug 2)

*The writer is professor of political science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.*

### **Who is Humiliating Whom?** By Eli E. Hertz

The average Israeli is "humiliated and harassed" by being searched far more times a day than the average Palestinian.

Palestinians say they feel humiliated and harassed when Israeli authorities search them and their belongings; when they are prevented from traveling freely because of checkpoints, roadblocks, closures and curfews. They say they feel "corralled" behind security fences and ugly concrete walls.

Israel is criticized for these measures even by those who understand the causal relationship that makes such security steps necessary. The cynical use of the movement of innocent Palestinians, including people in need of urgent medical treatment) and Palestinian day laborers crossing to work in Israel is used as a convenient cover for the perpetration of terrorist acts.

Palestinians take advantage of Israel's sensitivity to Arab female honor to mobilize women as live bombs. The two latest -- a 40-year-old mother of seven who carried a suicide belt across army checkpoints; and the second, Reem Salah Riashi, 21, a mother of two young children who dreamed of "becoming a martyr" since she was 13.

Riashi, approaching a checkpoint, claimed a medical disability; she said she had a metal pin in her leg and was escorted to an examination room to be checked by a female security officer. She then blew herself up, murdering four Israelis and wounding 12. As a result, Palestinian women and patients who appear to be in obvious pain will no longer be exempt from thorough physical scrutiny, to ensure that they, too, are not human bombs. This increased hardship for innocent Palestinians has been caused by their own leadership, which cynically continues to claim that the Israelis humiliate their citizens.

Strangely, no media outlets and not a single human rights organization has fully and objectively reported or protested the daily humiliation and harassment Israelis suffer because of the Palestinian Authority's 'factory of terror.' In Israel, every Israeli is searched numerous times during the course of a day. Israelis are asked to open their bags and purses for inspection. In most cases, they are subjected to body searches with a metal detector every time they enter a bank or a post office, pick up a bottle of milk at the supermarket, enter a mall or train station, or visit a hospital or medical clinic. Young Israeli men and women are physically frisked in search of suicide belts before they enter crowded nightclubs.

As a matter of routine, Israelis' car trunks are searched every time they enter a well-trafficked parking lot. Daily, their cars pass through roadblocks that cause massive traffic jams when security forces are in hot pursuit of suicide bombers believed to have entered Israel. Far from a rare occasion, in the two and a half months of relative quiet between the October 4, 2003 bombing of the Maxsim Restaurant, a popular Christian-Jewish-owned eatery in Haifa (which left 22 dead and more than a 100 injured) and Christmas, a Christian day of peace, 24 suicide bombers headed for Israel proper and another 15 with West Bank targets were apprehended before they could reach their destinations. Israelis are searched not only when they go out for a cup of coffee at the local Starbucks or Pizza Hut, but also when they go to the movies or the theater or a concert, where the term "dressed to kill" has an entirely different meaning.

These ordinary daily humiliations now extend to similar searches when Israelis go to weddings or bar mitzvahs. No one abroad talks about the humiliation Jews in Israel are subjected to, having to write at the bottom of wedding invitations and other life cycle events, "The site will be secured [by armed guards]" -- to ensure relatives and friends will attend and share their joyous occasion.

One out of four Israeli children, ages 11 to 15, fear for their lives. One out of three report they fear for the lives of their family members, and more than a third report they have changed their patterns of travel and social lives due to security concerns. (2) These ubiquitous security checks do not exist in Arab cities and towns in Israel (or, for that matter, in the West Bank and Gaza) because those places are not and never have been targets of Palestinian terrorism. In fact, the average Israeli is "humiliated and harassed" by being searched far more times a day than the average Palestinian. Not one human rights group has so much as noted this massive intrusion into the rights of privacy and person imposed on Israelis.

The latest source of criticism is the security fence -- designed to serve as a barrier against Palestinian suicide bombers, a measure critics brand as a form of ghettoization and another form of Israeli harassment.

To date, no one protests the fact that, since the 1970s, Jewish schoolchildren in Israel are surrounded by perimeter fences, with armed guards

at the schoolyard gates, as if their schools were the domiciles of Mafiosi. Not one Arab village in Israel or the Territories has a perimeter fence around it. Guards are not required at Arabic shops, cafes, restaurants, movie theaters, wedding halls or schools -- either in Israel or in the Territories. Palestinians also do not need armed guards to accompany every school trip, youth movement hike or campout. They are not targets of terrorism.

Arab children have never been willfully attacked by Jews, while Arabs have purposefully murdered Jewish youngsters at boarding schools, junior high school students on overnight trips and teens on a nature hike. Arab Palestinians attacked Jewish school buses carrying elementary school children (twice), murdered two children playing in a cave near their homes, killed a toddler in a nursery and murdered small children hiding under their beds -- all in addition to wave after wave of suicide bombings. Countless Israelis in sensitive areas within the Green Line -- not only in the Territories, but also in Jewish towns, villages and bedroom suburbs -- are "ghettoized" behind high fences. Three years ago, Jewish urbanites in the Gilo neighborhood of Jerusalem were closed in by an ugly high concrete wall that blocked their view of the city and the bullets of Palestinian gunmen from the Arab neighborhood of Beit Jallah. While the General Assembly protests the inconvenience Palestinians suffer because of the layout of the security fence, not one UN organ has protested the fact that, for years, an entire country has been harassed and humiliated. Israelis traveling north from Jerusalem to the Beit She'an Valley, or south from Jerusalem to Beersheba, have been forced to make a 60 to 90-minute detour to avoid traveling across the West Bank and the Jordan Valley, where drive-by shootings by Palestinian snipers and other attacks on civilian traffic threaten their lives.

Motorists traveling between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv on Route 443 are forced to negotiate a lengthy trough-like gauntlet that runs between two high concrete walls that protect them from Palestinian sniper fire. Yet there have been no UN protests against these walls -- only against the 'ugly' wall that prevents terrorists from the Palestinian town of Qalqiliya, (3) from attacking cars "inside Israel" on a major cross-country toll road, and against a number of other short sections, where the security barrier is concrete, not fencing.

Israelis' freedom of movement is compromised daily as countless citizens seek to avoid crowded areas or events, change their daily routines by sticking to side streets, avoid traveling close to public buses, or simply stay out of the heart of their own capital entirely. Most school trips have been cancelled or curtailed during the past three years.

Many Israeli motorists avoid major arteries that pass through Arab areas of Israel, while Arab citizens and Palestinians from the Territories continue to enter Jewish cities and go about their business without peril. Israelis are told, in effect, to disguise themselves when traveling abroad - not to speak Hebrew in public and not to wear garments that reveal their Jewish/Israeli origins. Even Israel's national airline -- El Al -- has been forced to remove its logo from the tails of its aircraft at certain airports, out of concern for the safety of its passengers. This followed several attempts to down Israeli civilian aircraft with missiles. On the other hand, Arabs who frequent Jewish cities and towns in Israel wear their traditional Arab headgear without fear of being attacked or harassed.

An article in Forbes, "Cold Calculation of Terror," estimates Israeli economic losses due to continuous terrorism is 3 percent of the \$110 billion gross domestic product. Tourism alone fell 50 percent and lost \$2 billion [yearly]. As of this writing, "Interrogation of terrorists belonging to various organizations in Samaria has indicated that the security barrier does indeed present a significant obstacle to terrorists wishing to infiltrate into Israeli territory." (4) The security fence, in areas where already constructed, is remarkably effective and saves lives. Can the UN General Assembly calculate the 'proportionality' of building a fence that saves lives to Palestinian terrorism and barbarism?

All this begs the question: Who are the victims and who are the victimizers? Who are the ones being harassed and humiliated? Palestinians or Israelis? (Aish.com)

(1) Such dastardly conduct extends to hiding suicide belts under sick children in ambulances, using ambulances to move operatives in and out of closed areas disguised as paramedics or patients in need of immediate care - then complaining that heartless Israelis stop ambulances.

(2) "Survey: 1 in 4 teens live in fear of terror," Jerusalem Post, June 3, 2004.

(3) What the Secretary-General report does not disclose is the fact that Qalqiliya was and is a home to Palestinian terrorists who produced so far five terror attacks on civilian targets within Israel, contributing to the death of 28 innocent civilians and many more injuries. The last non-lethal incident took place on August 31, 2003, when an Israeli Arab construction worker was moderately wounded in a shooting attack. See [http://www.ict.org.il/arab\\_isr/mideast\\_attacksearch\\_frame.htm](http://www.ict.org.il/arab_isr/mideast_attacksearch_frame.htm)

(4) Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center at the Center for Special Studies (C.S.S) at <http://www.intelligence.org.il/>

### **Unsettling Thoughts on Occupation** By Shmuel Katz

Some 30 years ago Abba Eban, Israel's foreign minister, commenting on the heavy bias the Arabs enjoy in the UN General Assembly, declared that if the Arabs were to propose to the UN a resolution that the earth was flat, it would be passed by an overwhelming majority.

Nothing has changed since then in the UN, and nobody expected that body to upset the judgment against Israel of the International Court of Justice at The Hague. Indeed, it is safe to say that it was in order to evoke a judicial-sounding opinion delegitimizing Israel's status in "the territories" that the UN asked the court for an opinion in the first place.

Too bad that international law didn't play a role in the judges' decision.

Israel's hold on Judea and Samaria is emphatically not in contravention of international law. The law in question, The Fourth Geneva Convention, is simply not relevant to Israel. The convention, after all, defines its own scope in clear and simple language.

Clause 2 reads: "The present Convention should apply to cases of partial or total occupation of the territory of a High Contracting Party."

Israel captured the territory in question, Judea and Samaria (together with the Jordan Valley), from the Kingdom of Jordan in a war of defense in 1967. Jordan, far from being a High Contracting Party, was an illegal occupier of the territory, and had been ever since its illegal invasion of western Palestine in 1948.

That crucial piece of information is conspicuously not discernible in the Hague judgment.

Indeed, once the judges did undertake a case of this nature they could be expected to delve into the unique history of the Palestinian question, and the juridical aspects of that history. There is no sign that they made any such investigation.

Let us take a close look.

The last sovereign ruler of Palestine was the Ottoman Turkish Empire, which was defeated in World War I. Substantial areas of land in the Middle East fell into the hands of the victorious Allies, Britain and France. Under the auspices of the League of Nations (set up after the war), allocations of lands were made to the Arabs and to the Jews.

These lands were to be administered by mandatory powers until they were deemed ripe for self-government: Britain over Palestine and Mesopotamia (which is Iraq); and France over Syria and Lebanon.

The terms of the Mandate for Palestine were unique. Its preamble establishes that the Mandatory Power was to put into effect the British Declaration of 1917 favoring the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine.

The preamble goes on to explain that "recognition has thereby been given to the historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine and to the grounds for reconstituting their national home in Palestine."

This recognition lends stress to the additional fact that, throughout the dynasties that ruled Palestine over the centuries, no people except the Jews presented a national claim to Palestine.

Later in the body of the text the Mandate lays on the administration the obligation to "encourage," in the projected Jewish National Home, close settlement of the land, including state Lands and waste lands."

On the eve of the Mandate's ratification, the British mandatory power excluded from the provisions on Palestine three-quarters of the territory (all of Palestine east of the Jordan) and handed them over to the Arabs. This territory ultimately became the Kingdom of Transjordan.

In 1947 the United Nations decided to recommend the partition of Palestine between Jews and Arabs, offering the Arabs a part of the land which had been designated for the Jewish national home. The Jews, however reluctantly (this was two years after the Holocaust), accepted the recommendation, and set up the State of Israel.

The League of Arab States rejected the proposal. Instead, they launched war on Israel with the declared intent of destroying the newborn state. They did not succeed in this purpose, but the Kingdom of Transjordan captured Judea and Samaria and their surroundings. It held on to them and even annexed them, granting citizenship to the Arabs living there. Here was undoubtedly a case of illegal belligerent occupation.

Nineteen years later, the Arab alliance, led by president Nasser of Egypt, and including Jordan (the new name for Transjordan) again launched war, invading Israel once more. By this time, Israel was strong enough to repel the invaders' second attempt, and took the lands the Kingdom of Jordan had invaded.

These, again, were the lands the Arabs had refused to accept when offered them by the United Nations in 1947. Again, these were part of the lands originally allocated for the Jewish National Home.

By what inversion and distortion of international law, then, could the Hague Court have come to the conclusion that Israel was an illegal occupier of these lands?

After Israel's victory in the Six Day War of Arab aggression in 1967, the government (some would say, foolishly; some would say, quixotically) offered to hand over the lands it had won to the Arabs. To this offer, the reply was brusquely negative: no negotiations with Israel, no peace with Israel, no

recognition of Israel.

It was then, after that refusal, in the early Seventies, that Israel allowed Jews to come and settle in the land that had indeed been designated internationally for their settlement.

Whatever the future may hold, whatever political decisions may be taken, the Hague Court decision is a travesty of justice.

The Jewish presence in the whole of western Palestine, the Land of Israel, can be much more closely described as a historic act of restitution.

*The writer, who co-founded the Herut Party with Menachem Begin and was a member of the first Knesset, is a biographer and essayist.*

(Jerusalem Post Aug 4)

---

### **Where We Excel** By Amnon Rubinstein

A report recently released by the UN refutes the nonsensical rumblings that Israel is a Third World country.

The Human Development Index, a sub-category of Human Development Report 2004 – Cultural Liberty in Today's Diverse World, issued by the UN Development Program, is a composite measuring economic, health and educational factors. In it, Israel ranks number 22, immediately following some of the richest countries in the West and ahead of some European Union countries.

But beyond our ratings in the various sections, the UN report reveals a number of intriguing facts: Israel's figures have been steadily improving, even during the current terror war against us.

In 1975, Israel scored 0.794 on the index (out of a maximum of 1.0), and by 2000 it had gone up to 0.907, an improvement of 14 percent.

With the exception of Hong Kong and Singapore, no wealthy country can boast an increase of this magnitude. During these years of Palestinian violence, Israel's improvement rate slowed down; but what is remarkable is that a level of growth persisted nonetheless.

For the past four years Israel has been subject to multiple assaults: Our citizens have been attacked by bombers; the prevalent international atmosphere has been hysterically against us; there's been a drastic drop in immigration and little tourism, and there have been attempts to impose trade and academic boycotts against us.

That Israel was able to demonstrate any improvement at all in the Human Development Index is a huge achievement.

Second, whereas Israel is ranked number 22 in the general index, it ranked much higher in the specific indexes.

For example, Israel is in eighth place in the general longevity index. In the index that measures the chance, at birth, of reaching age 60, Israel is in second place, immediately after Sweden and ahead of Holland, Belgium, Finland, Norway and even Japan, the land of long life.

Regarding the chances of reaching 65, at birth, Israel is in first place for women and ninth for men.

Other health figures are astonishing. In the category of the prevalence of HIV in the population group aged 15-49 for 2003, Israel shares the lowest rate in the world together with Finland, Sweden, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and Britain.

Israel can boast a particularly impressive achievement in the area of infant mortality. We have gone from an infant mortality rate of 24 for every 1,000 live births in 1970 to only six in 2002 – lower than the level in the United States.

The report also measures educational achievement – not the scores attained in international competitions, but in school enrollment rates. Here too, Israel is among the top 10 for enrollment rate in elementary schools.

For high school, it received a lower ranking, apparently due to a lower enrollment rate in the Arab sector, but still higher than Switzerland, Germany, Australia and the US.

It is notable that all these figures apply to Israel's entire population – Jews and Arabs, secular and haredi. This achievement is all the greater when we recall that Israel has absorbed tens of thousands of penniless immigrants in recent years and that the Jewish state is being compared to countries with homogeneous populations such as Japan and Scandinavia.

If everything is so great, then why is Israel only in 22nd place? If its health and education systems are at the top, why isn't Israel ranked in the top 10 countries?

It is our economic figures that are keeping us down. Israel's human potential is not being fully tapped because of its low productivity rate.

Israel's gross national product for 2002 was \$15,792. From 1990 to 2002, Israel's GNP increased by only 1.8 percent per year – a rate lower than any of the countries listed in the top ten.

There are a number of explanations of Israel's economic retardation: the current terror war and international isolation are certainly less than ideal for economic growth.

But internal reasons also come into play. A key factor is the low proportion of participation in the workforce – especially among Israel's two poorest population sectors, the Muslims and ultra-Orthodox.

Secondly, we are hindered by monopolies in the public utilities and

services sector – electricity, water, ports, airports – which have no parallel in developed countries.

These two factors require comprehensive reform, reform that only a stable government with the ability to lead the economy forward can carry out. In other words, Israel's economic backwardness is also related to a change in our governing structure.

Israelis are healthier and get a better education than the citizens of many wealthier nations, but they produce less and, consequently, are poorer. Measured only according to economic criteria, Israel would not be number 22 on the list; it would be number 25.

That is the part of the glass that is half-empty. (Jerusalem Post Aug 4)  
*The writer, founder of the Shinui movement and a former education minister, is dean of the Radzyner School of Law at The Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya.*

---

### **Crush or Be Crushed** By Edward Bernard Glick

Events in both Israel and Iraq prove that the winning-hearts-and-minds approach to ending wars and insurrections has the same success rate as getting rain by praying for it. If it were indeed the key to victory, armies would have exchanged their weapons for public relations kits ages ago.

The ancient Persians conquered the Babylonians, and the Greeks the Persians, and the Romans the Greeks, and the Turks the Byzantines, and the British the Turks not by capturing their hearts and minds, but by overwhelming them with so much might that they lost their will to fight and surrendered.

Swords, not sermons, swept Islam quickly from the Middle East to Africa and the Far East. Swords, not sermons, enabled King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella to rid Spain of 700 years of Moorish rule. And it was swords, not sermons, that stopped the Muslims at the gates of Vienna.

During the Revolutionary War, Great Britain's King George III did not relinquish his American colonies because General George Washington had somehow won his mind and heart. Similarly, England's Duke of Wellington didn't prevail at the Battle of Waterloo because he won the heart and mind of France's Napoleon Bonaparte.

And the South didn't surrender and end the American Civil War because Union General Ulysses S. Grant won the hearts and minds of General Robert E. Lee and his Confederate troops.

Nor did the Allied powers vanquish the Axis powers in 1945 because their brilliant propaganda and psychological warfare tactics captured the latter's hearts and minds. Germany and Italy surrendered because they knew in their brains and their bowels that they had been beaten by slow, sustained, and superior force, applied over a number of very bloody years.

And the Empire of Japan surrendered not because US navy captain (later admiral) Ellis Zacharias, a specialist in intelligence and psychological operations, was able to broadcast our surrender terms in fluent Japanese, but because Japan had already taken the measure of America's atom bomb.

IN 1970, Canada presented an excellent, if forgotten, example of force prevailing over hearts and minds.

French Canadian terrorist separatists had kidnapped James Cross, the British trade commissioner, and Pierre Laporte, Quebec's minister of labor. They later murdered Laporte. Instead of trying to win their hearts and minds, Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, himself a French Canadian, got parliament to proclaim a War Measures Act and suspend Canadian civil liberties.

Then he ordered Canadian troops and mounties to search the streets of Quebec house by house. They arrested 500 people and crushed the terrorists.

The Cold War did not end in the 1980s because Voice of America broadcasts or State Department exchange programs eventually got to the hearts and minds of the Soviet people. It ended because the Kremlin leadership finally realized that president Ronald Reagan, with the backing of most of the American people, was ready to use all means, including economic strangulation and military prowess, to end communist domination of Eastern and Central Europe.

On the other hand, since the Korean War was at best a draw, and the United States did not win in Vietnam, many Americans no longer accept war as part of the human condition. So they seek to appease with nonmilitary approaches enemies who cannot be appeased.

Neither can these Americans fathom that when a nation does go to war, it is entirely proper, as US president Franklin Delano Roosevelt and British prime minister Winston Churchill knew so well, for it to sacrifice one in order to save 10, ten to save hundreds, hundreds to save thousands, and thousands to save millions.

Islam does not look kindly upon infidels who lose. So the issue confronting Israel and the United States is not whether one is pro-Bush or anti-Bush, pro-Sharon or anti-Sharon, for or against the invasion of Iraq, or for or against Israel's leaving the Gaza Strip unilaterally. The issue is how can the United States and Israel defeat their foes?

The Ba'athists and the jihadists will not stop fighting the Great Satan because they have been made to like, respect, or fear the United States. They will stop fighting only when they are convinced that America's Vietnam trauma is over and that America is once again willing and able to use crushing force.

And Israel, the Little Satan, will prevail over its existential enemies only

when it realizes that in order to survive it must fight by the rules of the neighborhood in which it lives.

In short, America's and Israel's struggles will end favorably only if they follow Churchill's dictum: "Victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory however long and hard the road may be; for without victory there is no survival." (Jerusalem Post Aug 4)

*The writer is professor emeritus of political science at Temple University in Philadelphia and author of Peaceful Conflict and Soldiers, Scholars, and Society.*

---

### **'Palestine' Continuing to Self-destruct, as Arab on Arab Violence Increases** By Joel Greenberg

They informed on terror masterminds, were convicted for doing so, and then were murdered in their hospital beds

Palestinian gunmen burst into Gaza City's main hospital twice Monday and killed two convicted informers for Israel in their beds after they were wounded when a prison guard hurled two grenades into their cell, medical and security officials said.

The killings heightened concerns about spreading lawlessness in the Palestinian areas, which have been plagued in recent weeks by violent unrest triggered by factional power struggles and demands for reforms in the Palestinian Authority.

The shootings in the supposedly protected hospital in the heart of Gaza City highlighted the inability of the Palestinian police to control armed militants and impose law and order.

Monday's violence began when a prison guard hurled two hand grenades into a cell in Gaza's Central Prison that held inmates convicted of serving as informers for the Israeli security services. Seven prisoners were injured, and one later died of his wounds.

At Shifa Hospital in downtown Gaza City, where the wounded were treated, gunmen entered the room of one of the injured prisoners and fatally shot him in the head, police and medical staff said.

The prisoner was identified as Mahmoud Al-Sharif, convicted in 1999 of giving the Israelis information that led to the killing of his cousin, a leader of Islamic Jihad, four years earlier.

Palestinian militants have killed scores of suspected informers, and the Palestinian Authority has executed two in the past four years of violent conflict with Israel.

The gunmen apparently slipped into the hospital as a crowd, including mourners with assault rifles, gathered outside the building for the funeral of three militants killed overnight by Israeli troops as they tried to attack a Jewish settlement. Unarmed police are usually stationed near the hospital, but entry to the building is not tightly controlled.

A few hours later, gunmen struck at the hospital again. About 20 militants pulled up at the hospital in four vehicles and blocked the street as four gunmen went into the intensive care unit and fatally shot another wounded prisoner in the head and chest, witnesses said.

The prisoner was identified as Walid Hamdiyeh, 42, convicted in 2002 of giving information that helped the Israeli security forces track and kill five Hamas members, including Imad Akel, a commander of the group's armed wing, who was killed in 1993.

The armed wing of Hamas claimed responsibility for the grenade attack and the killing of Hamdiyeh. "The Qassam Brigades announces that the time of punishing collaborators has come," it said in a statement.

Palestinian militants have killed scores of suspected informers, and the Palestinian Authority has executed two in the past four years of violent conflict with Israel. Israeli-targeted killings of [terrorists -- editor] during the conflict has heightened hostility among Palestinians to informers said to be guiding the Israelis.

As the violence unfolded in Gaza, Palestinian leaders met in the West Bank town of Ramallah to discuss ways to stop the slide into chaos. Saeb Erakat, a Cabinet minister, said Yasser Arafat gathered his security chiefs and directed them to enforce law and order.

The Palestinian Cabinet decided to replace more than 20 police commanders, and Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia said police officers would from now on patrol prominently in the streets.

In the West Bank city of Nablus, where gunmen briefly abducted three foreign church workers over the weekend, shots were fired at the home of Ghassan Shaka, the former mayor who is close to Arafat, Palestinians said. No one was hurt. (Jewish World Review Aug 3)

---