

LEVITT LETTER

“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved.” – Romans 10:1

Last year, at this time, celebrated editorialist Patrick Cox contributed an article as an anonymous author. He was “downsized” recently, and now can publish under his own name. He has agreed to become a contributing editor for the LEVITT LETTER. He has written 150 editorials for USA TODAY and his heart is certainly in the right place toward Israel. Here’s his skillful summary of where we stand now. — Zola



ZOLA LEVITT

“Reluctant to Die in Martyrdom”

By Patrick Cox, Contributing Editor

With critics, including the former VP Al Gore, characterizing the overthrow of Saddam Hussein’s regime as the “worst foreign policy mistake” in America’s history, it is easy to forget how profound was the success of the US military in Iraq. Historians, even those who opposed the war, acknowledge that no coun-

try of appreciable size, so arrayed for war, has ever been defeated in so short a time and with so few casualties among both civilians and attacking troops.

With world events unfolding at such an astonishingly rapid pace, it’s hard to believe it has been less than a year since the Tikrit stronghold fell, ending major military operations in Iraq on April 15. One notable result of that landmark victory was that President Bush accrued a mantle of power and prestige unparalleled in modern times — in part because the world is devoid of a second superpower actively challenging American influence.

To be sure, Saddam had his allies, ranging from the tattooed Islamist radicals, who flocked to join his Fedayeen rape squads, to his many Western trading partners. Russia, Germany and France sold massive quantities of weapons to Saddam, and were awarded oil contracts in return. Russian military planners actually helped design Iraq’s defenses, fleeing only days before the land invasion began. German companies built the deep bunkers the Baathist elite hid in during the initial bombing.

Even before the war, French President Jacques Chirac’s role, lobbying

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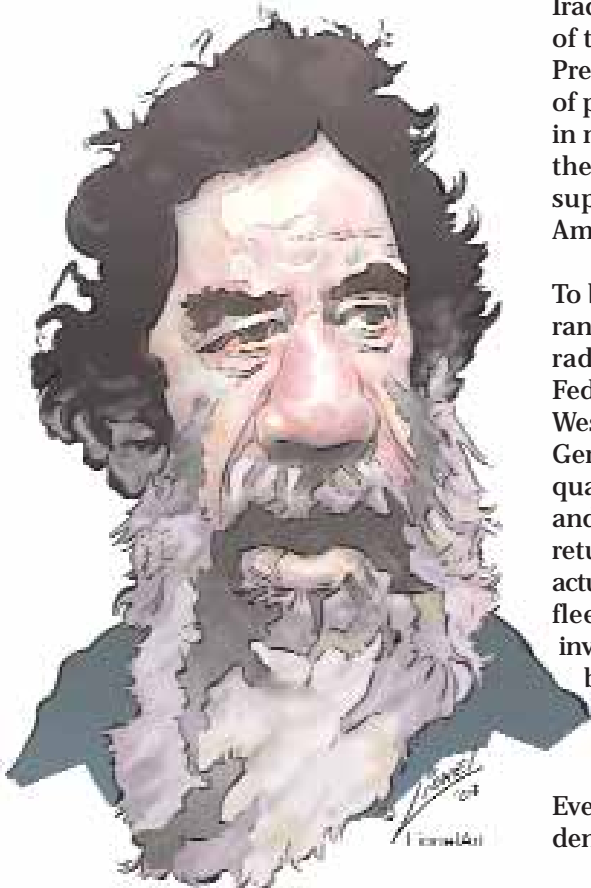
This very informed writer is a friend of our ministry — Zola

As America Sleeps

By Victor Mordecai, www.vicmord.com

As I travel around the US on the lecture circuit, I perceive an increased apathy in both Jewish and Christian circles with regard to the rise of Islam throughout the world. It seems that President Bush has everything under control with the global war on terrorism. The prevailing attitude is “Let the government handle it. We’re off to the mall.”

Indeed, the American economy is rebounding, and it is human nature to prefer the comfort zone rather than worry about the spread of Islamic fundamentalism around the world. But it’s happening right here in America. Saudi Arabia is spreading Islam by “peaceful” means in the way of new mosques, control of American banks, corporations, and the media.



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for the contract to build the Osiraq nuclear power plant outside Baghdad, had earned him the nickname among his own countrymen of "Jacques ChIraq." An absurd anomaly in one of the most oil-rich countries in the world, the Osiraq facility seemed to have been designed for one purpose alone — to provide Saddam with the fissionable materials needed to construct nuclear weapons. Electricity from the plant would have cost far more than power from plants run on the petroleum that is virtually free beneath the Iraqi landscape.

Israeli forces bombed the French-built plant just before it was to open in 1981. As usual, Israel was vilified by the UN and the international community for defending itself from a country that flaunted its permanent declaration of war against the Jewish state — a declaration made real by decades of support for terrorism and four unprovoked invasions. Today, however, it is clear that the elimination of the Osiraq plant prevented the development of nuclear weapons. Coalition troops, in particular, owe Israel an enormous debt.

It therefore came as a shock when, two weeks after Tikrit surrendered, President Bush turned his unprecedented clout to the support of the "Roadmap." Drafted by the European Union, the United Nations, Russia, and the United States, the plan sets forth a timeline for a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict — differing from the Oslo agreement primarily in that it leaves final border negotiations until after the creation of a Palestinian state.

For many, it seemed that the administration had learned nothing from the 9/11 attacks. It was difficult to interpret the president's support of the Roadmap as anything but an endorsement of "equivalency" — the notion that Israel is as guilty as those who blow up innocent women and children in buses and synagogues

when it targets those who order the murders.

"If you harbor a terrorist...you are a terrorist," the president proclaimed before using the full force of the US military to remove malevolent regimes in Afghanistan and Iraq. The Roadmap's message to Israel, however, seemed to be: "negotiate with terrorists and hand over strategically important lands to those seeking to destroy you."

Some observers blamed the "Arabists" within the US State Department, a large and influential clique with ties to diplomats in the Middle East and their families. This group, whose members frequently retire to high-paying jobs in Saudi-funded think tanks, has long favored a policy of "evenhandedness" in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Their position is that the president can win over Muslims who accuse America of being biased against them by treating Israel as if it were equally responsible for the conflict with the Palestinians.

Others believe the president was paying a political debt to European allies who needed a show of chiding both Arab and Jew. British Prime Minister Tony Blair, in particular, put his political career in jeopardy by participating in the Coalition. His own Labor Party, like much of the British left, accepts the canon that the root cause of all Middle Eastern conflict is the lack of an autonomous Palestinian state — which they attribute to Israeli intransigence.

The depth of this hostility was demonstrated by a recent European Union poll. When asked what country presents the greatest danger to world peace, the most common answer was not the blackmailing, nuclear-arms selling North Korea or the genocidal Kim Jong-il. It was not China, the country that conquered and still occupies peaceful Tibet, and has hundreds of missiles aimed at democratic Taiwan. It was not Syria, the country that occupies the for-

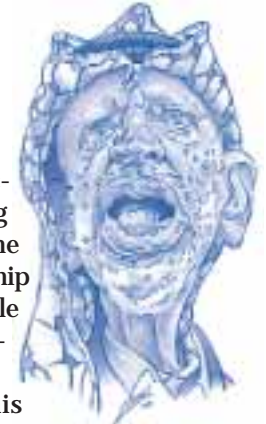
merly democratic Lebanon, where 100,000 Christians were killed and millions more forced to flee in the modern diaspora.

No, the number one, most dangerous country in the world, according to Europeans, is Israel — a tiny sliver of a nation with 5 million Jewish citizens surrounded by 360 million Muslims in 22 hostile countries. Four times since its official founding in 1948, it has defended itself from massive military invasions by surrounding Arab and Islamic countries, all proclaiming proudly their goal of killing or driving the Jews from the Middle East each time.

It is difficult to imagine that the president or his advisers actually thought that yet another attempt to win Arab acceptance of Israel's existence by coercing more concessions from the Jewish state might actually succeed. President Clinton's efforts to forge a workable treaty at Camp David actually increased anti-Jewish terrorism — though most analysts believe his deal heavily favored the Palestinians by wringing strategically important lands from Israel.

The rejection of Camp David by Yasser Arafat, however, did serve the purpose of convincing many, including Bill Clinton, that the Palestinian leadership was the real obstacle to a two-state solution. Not surprisingly, Arafat and his allies set about to sabotage this latest peace plan with a series of particularly bloody attacks on Israel. When Israel Defense Forces went after those who had ordered the murders, Arafat and other terrorist leaders condemned the "aggression" and promised "retaliation."

Arafat has never stopped promising the destruction of Israel, at least when



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speaking in Arabic to his own people. His official state symbols and insignia include the entire land of both Israel and Palestinian territories — labeled as Palestine. He even wears his keffiyah headdress in the same, meticulously arranged shape of "Palestine," embodying his promise to replace Israel with an Islamic Palestinian nation.

Nor did the Bush administration ever pretend that Arafat, who holds near-absolute power over the Palestinian people, wants peace. Colin Powell pointedly refused even to meet with him when he visited Israel — which is why it is curious that the president pushed Israel to negotiate with Arafat's handpicked, but powerless, prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas.

No peace plan, by definition, can succeed until the Palestinian Authority begins to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure. Arafat, however, has never agreed to yield control of the Palestinian police forces needed to do that. On the contrary, Arafat continues to use his police to arm and protect terrorist organizations.

Whatever reason President Bush had for using his influence to promote the Roadmap, he made one serious miscalculation. Following the deaths of thousands of our fellow citizens in the 9/11 attacks, pictures of Israelis ministering to the wounded and dying in the streets of Tel Aviv and Haifa struck a far more resonant chord with Americans, still scarred by memories of New Yorkers fleeing the collapsing trade towers. With funerals of Pentagon workers and New York City firemen still fresh in our minds, many refused to assume that Israel had somehow earned the animosity of terrorists.

It is also true that, because of the attacks on America, more people have taken an interest in the Middle East conflict today. Even media sources with traditionally pro-Palestinian perspectives have begun, occasionally, to present more balanced coverage of the conflict in the Holy Land.

One of the most important instances of balanced media coverage was a CBS *60 Minutes* segment on the evidence gathered by Israeli intelligence in the March 2002 raids on Arafat's Ramallah headquarters. The documents, supported by the testimony of captured terrorists, proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the Intifada, the so-called Palestinian uprising following Arafat's rejection of the Camp David Accords, was anything but a homegrown liberation movement. Rather, evidence showed that the PLO and its terrorist affiliates are funded and directed, often quite specifically, by their clients — the same Muslim tyrannies that have been trying to wipe Israel off the map since its founding.

This shouldn't have been a surprise, as it is only a continuation of the centuries-long effort by radical Muslims to either subjugate or drive Jews and Christians out of the Middle East.

The administration was unprepared for the angry American reaction to the Roadmap. Without fanfare, the president's focus on the plan began to wane. Though all parties today pretend the Roadmap is still viable, the rhetoric has cooled significantly.

More than one commentator wrote that the principles of the plan, if implemented by America, would have had George Bush negotiating with Osama bin Laden and the Taliban instead of attacking them. (Perhaps, in keeping with the Roadmap, we should offer to trade Manhattan to Al-Qaida in return for a promise to end terrorism.)

Though anti-Semitism and anti-Israeli senti-

ments seem to be growing daily in Europe, where many say that the US invited the 9/11 attacks by supporting Israel, more Americans seem less convinced than ever before that the endemic violence and tyranny that plague the Middle East are the fault of the tiny minority of Jews in that part of the world. Ironically, very few Islamists themselves blame Israel for their actions. For them, Israel is simply the first obstacle in their goal of reestablishing a unified Caliphate, stretching from Africa to Spain and beyond.

One particularly important Islamist expression of the movement's motives can be found in the book *The Future of Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula After the Fall of Baghdad*, published just a few months ago. The writer, Yussuf al-Ayyeri, was one of Osama bin Laden's closest advisers and a onetime commander of an Afghan Al-Qaida training camp.

Available only in Arabic, the treatise was published by The Centre for Islamic Research and Studies — a publishing house set up personally by bin Laden in 1995. An Islamist *Mein Kampf*, the book plainly states the real reason that the medieval rulers of the Middle East hate both Israel and America, noting that the only legitimate goal of Islam is

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"abolishing the final traces of all other religions, creeds and ideologies." Moreover, al-Ayyeri wrote that what threatens the "very survival" of Islam is "democracy."

Democracy, he says, convinces people that they can decide how they and their societies will live. This, he explains, is "rebellion" and a direct challenge to Shari'a (the Islamic law that allows beheadings, amputations, etc.). Democracy brings prosperity, he laments, filling Muslims' lives with happiness that makes them "reluctant to die in martyrdom" for the Jihad to impose their faith on the rest of the world.

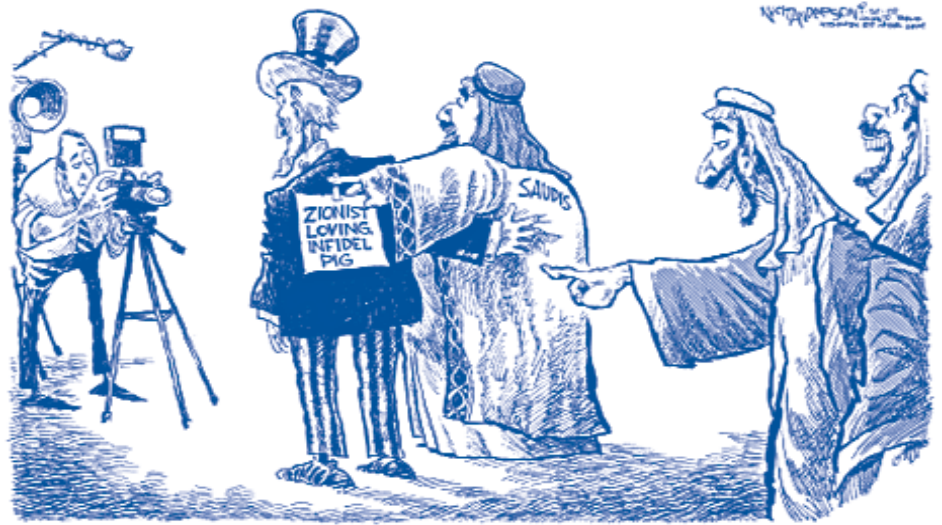
Al-Ayyeri understood the reason that the leaders of the Middle East spend so much time and money indoctrinating their people with hatred of the Jews. The problem is not the lack of a Palestinian nation. It is Israel's refusal to subject itself to the rules of Shari'a.

A recent poll of Palestinians proved this point. Sixty percent said that the war to eliminate Israel should continue even if a Palestinian state is established. Eighty percent insisted that Israel honor the "right of return" which would give Israeli citizenship to so many Muslims with familial ties to the region that Jews would instantly be a minority in a Muslim Israel.

Remarkably, amid all this dismal evidence, yet another peace plan has emerged — the Geneva Accords. Written by private Palestinian and Israeli citizens, it too is being spoken of as a serious move toward peace. The plan, however, does not even require that Palestinians stop publishing textbooks that teach Palestinian children that they have a duty to drive Jews from the region. In short, it is yet another triumph of wishful thinking over realism.



Patrick Cox



Worse, Iran and Saudi Arabia are seeking the Islamic Bomb — nuclear weapons to threaten the very existence of Israel. It's no secret that despite Iran's offer to cooperate with inspections at its nuclear sites, it is using subterfuge to hide its plans to attain the atomic bomb. Saudi Arabia is seeking to obtain Pakistani nuclear warheads for its arsenal of CSS-2 Chinese-made ballistic missiles.

At the same time, Saudi Arabia is increasing PR efforts in the US to present itself as an ally in the war against terrorism, while in truth, its own rigid Islamic schools are largely responsible for fomenting that terror. Christians cannot build churches in Saudi Arabia, but the Saudis are building mosques in the West, trying to convert Americans and Britons to Islam, and, of course, delegitimizing Israel. Nevertheless,

the Bush administration speaks highly of "our Saudi allies."

I really pray that I am wrong, but it may take another 9/11 type incident for people to come out of their stupor in the US. A similar attack in Europe could also take place, especially in allied countries such as England, Spain, or Italy. But I am afraid that the next Islamic terrorist incident will make 9/11 pale in comparison, according to a promise by Osama bin Laden.

Though all Bible believers know to Whom is the victory, we cannot wait for the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to do everything. We all have a responsibility to be on the alert to inform others, to pray, and to stand against Satan as he rears his ugly head against Israel and Western civilization. ★



Roadmap to Armageddon...

"Ye shall be hated of all nations"

This new addition to our *Signs of the End* series is specifically aimed at the "Roadmap," the latest internationally inspired peace process directed at Israel and the Palestinians. We are very skeptical of that plan for reasons thoroughly explained in these twelve programs.

(3 videotapes, please see page 31 to order.)

CHORAZIN: A WARNING

Zola speaks from the archaeological site of Biblical Chorazin, located on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. This was once a flourishing city, but its ruins are a reminder of what happens when we do not listen to God.

RUMORS OF WARS

From the studio, Zola shares his thoughts about the End Times. He warns that the Roadmap reflects a part of the Lord's prophecy: Matthew 24 says "...ye shall be hated of all nations." Zola quotes several news sources as examples of the media's distortion of the truth.

GENERAL OF THE NORTH

Zola interviews Brigadier General Avi Mizrahi at his headquarters in the Golan Heights. The general defends the IDF's actions in Jenin, comparing Israel's efforts at controlling terrorism to the US efforts in Iraq.

PEACE BY PIECE

From a panoramic view of Jerusalem, Zola speaks about the danger in the Roadmap's plans to divide Jerusalem. The Holy City was divided between 1948 and 1967, and it obviously didn't work. In part II, Stu Arden talks about the history of the area, starting with the British Mandate and leading to the present-day Palestinian efforts to divide Israel "peace by piece."

INTO THE SWINE

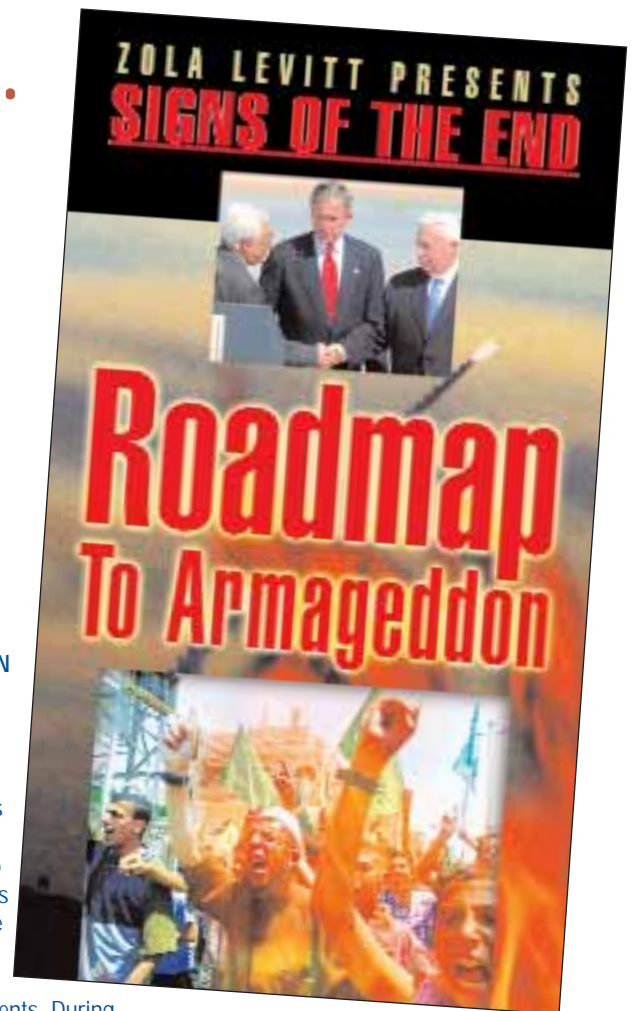
Zola interviews Nisim Mezig, an archaeologist who has spent many years digging at Biblical Gergesa, presently called Kursi. It was here that the first Gentile Christian pilgrims came and built their first church in Israel. Recently uncovered ruins reveal the biggest monastery ever found in the Holy Land.

ISAIAH RETURNS

Zola interviews an old friend, Jerusalem resident Dan Hendrickson, who has played the role of Isaiah on a past program. Dan says that there can be no change in Israeli-Palestinian relations until there is reform in Palestinian education.

THE REFUGEE PROBLEM

From the Mount of Olives, Zola talks about the Al-Aqsa mosque. Sitting atop the Temple Mount, this mosque was built in the 8th century by the Arabs and has become a symbol of their occupation, along with the neighboring Dome of the Rock. As a central shrine, the mosque appeals to those Arabs called "refugees from Israel."



THE COMING INVASION

A bridge over the Jordan River serves as Zola's backdrop as he talks about the coming End

Times events. During the invasion by Gog and Magog, the enemy must cross this bridge. The US has inadvertently helped to provoke this future invasion.

THE BATTLEGROUND

Standing next to a Syrian bunker in the Golan Heights, Zola presents the history of the area, starting with the story of Rebecca. Biblical sites such as Bethsaida and Kursi are nearby. In the 20th century, battles over the area intensified.

THE MIRACLE AT DEGANYA KIBBUTZ

Zola tells the fascinating story of how the Syrians attacked a small, unarmed kibbutz in 1948 with 26 tanks, and lost. One of those tanks remains as a memorial to the daring defense mounted by Israelis living on Deganya Kibbutz.

THE WATCHMAN

Itamar Marcus, Director of the Palestinian Media Watch, monitors the daily information seen in the Palestinian areas. He is concerned about the seeds of terror that are sown in the Palestinian news, talk shows and music videos. Itamar asserts that all too often the media glorify "Death for Allah."

MARCHING FOR ZION

We hear from Americans who gathered in Crawford, Texas, to voice their objections to the Roadmap. As the Texas headquarters of President Bush, Crawford is usually a quiet, sleepy little town. But, when the pro-Israel marchers take to the streets, the Bible becomes a vibrant reason to "lift your voice unto the Lord."

ZOLA'S BULLETIN BOARD

THIS Year in Jerusalem!



With almost 80 tours to Israel under our belt, we can give you an "insider's look" at the Holy Land and key Biblical sites, giving you the most for your money and a tour you won't forget. Join Zola for anywhere from ten days to nineteen on these options:

- Deluxe Tour** (Israel only): March 14-24
- Grand Petra** (Israel & Petra): March 14-28
- Grand Athens** (Greek Isles & Israel): March 9-24
- Ultra-Grand** (Greek Isles, Israel & Petra): March 9-28

See Israel with Zola before the Rapture (and again, after).



Office Space Praise Report

The bad news is that we are renewing our lease where we've had three office break-ins and two car windows broken. The good news is that the landlord is lowering our rent considerably. We have taken some measures to improve security and look forward to the continued efficiency our space gives us - plus not having to move.

Our Israeli Correspondent

Serving as "Our Man in Jerusalem," Will King sold or gave away most of his possessions and moved to Israel. If you ask when he will return to America, he responds, "I live here now." Will has written *Levitt Letter* articles from the informed perspective of an experienced US Army captain. He presently attends Hebrew University in preparation to pursue a master's degree in Mid-East History. He recently received press credentials in Israel, so he will have the same access to breaking news as major news organizations. And, most importantly, he is a Believer who tells the truth.

"Feed My Sheep"

The Trinity Foundation in Dallas communicates the love of God by providing food, shelter, and a sense of community to the poor and distressed. They are also the leading "watchdog" of televangelists, conducting investigations and providing information used to expose fraud and abuses committed in the name of God. They presently need a car and a pickup truck. You can contribute to their work through us by designating your gifts for the "Trinity Fund," or writing directly to them at P.O. Box 33, Dallas, TX 75221 or calling them at (214) 827-2625.



Zola's Bible Exchange

If you have an extra Bible to pass on to someone less fortunate, such as an inmate or someone on fixed income, then please send it to us to forward. On the other hand, if you need a Bible and can't afford one, then please send us your address and mention any preferences you might have, and there will be no charge. (Our ministry theologian Dr. Tom McCall refers to a New Testament bound by itself as "The Amputated Bible.")



News Briefs

Campus Rally for Terror

The "Skill Share Discussion Workshop" at Ohio State University was entitled "Deconstructing Zionist Responses On Your Campus." The topic? How to dismiss concern over suicide bombings while debating the Israel/Palestine issue. "Refuse to discuss it," said one student. "Don't get defensive," said one. "Blame it on Israel," said another.

Was this discussion held in some clandestine basement setting? Actually, it was held publicly on the campus, which hosted The Third Annual National Student Conference On Palestine Solidarity. For three days, Islamist radicals gathered in America's heartland to openly call for the destruction of Israel, the overthrow of the US government and to take the side of the murderers in the War on Terrorism. Source: Lee Kaplan, *Front Page Magazine*

This Midwestern university would never have invited me to speak during my last summer's tour. I can't say that of the Danville Area Community College (IL) where Believers sponsored my appearance, but, according to a whistleblower, the college suppressed it. We have letters giving lame excuses from DACC personalities covering up for petty anti-Semites on campus.

The apparent suppression of announcements about my appearance was so effective, only two hands were raised when I asked how many students were in the crowd. In reality, local church folks and even people from Champaign (home of the University of Illinois) were in attendance. Those from Champaign drove four hours to hear the talk, but students right on campus seemingly weren't aware of it. Anti-Israelism prevails on even the smallest and most mediocre of our campuses. — Zola

"The Laughing Stock of the World"

"The Arabs are completely impotent," Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi said on state radio. "The 1948 war was the only war in which the Arab nations fought together against the Jewish state. At that time, Arab leaders were a thousand times better than today. Today, they have no courage, no honor, no pride, and no Arab blood in their veins."

In another speech, Gaddafi accused his Arab brethren of being weak. "The Arabs have become the laughing stock of the world.... Arab men have become so weak, that Moslem women have to take the initiative [in suicide bombings]." Gaddafi called on Arab women to take up the struggle against Israel and America, "We

must show women how to build car bombs and hide explosives in their clothes, shoes, baby strollers, and the toys of their children." Source: *Israel Today*

Shortly after making these thunderous orations, dictator Gaddafi caved in to American pressure to give up his weapons of mass destruction. He suddenly became a nice guy! Did he lose his Arab blood? Are you listening to his preaching? — Zola

Revolver in a Stroller

Israeli security forces discovered a revolver and ammunition in a stroller at a checkpoint north of Jerusalem. An Arab woman, from a village near Jerusalem, was taken into custody. The Palestinians, who are enormously inconvenienced by the checkpoints, say they increase hatred. But this incident is further proof of why Israel has no choice but to keep the unpopular checkpoints in place. Source: *Israel Today*

Are We Next?

Islamic militants burned to the ground thirteen churches, 40 businesses, and many Christian homes in a remote northern Nigerian town after a 12-year-old Christian student was accused of blasphemy, police said.irate youths torched churches, houses, and shops in Kazaure, some 50 miles north of Kano, a northern provincial capital where hundreds have died in religious clashes in the past three years. The dispute began when a Christian student was accused of insulting the Prophet Mohammad and a group of Muslims were not satisfied with the response of school authorities. Source: Reuters, *Pakistan Christian Post*



Methodists and Methodists

I could not help but look at the article about the Methodist Church in your personal letter. Do you believe all Methodists support the PLO and terrorism? I would think the United Methodists would support the PLO. What about the more conservative Methodists, like those at www.emchurch.org? I personally think they are very Christian and would never support the PLO and terrorism. — RB



Truly, it is not all Methodists that I am trying to convict, since I have known many true Believers in that church. However, the evidence is overwhelming (as with our missionary Tonie, who in the January issue of my personal letter reported the actions of certain "United" Methodists in Israel). We also have consulted with a viewer who, for a matter of years, has tried with no results at all to get the Methodist bishops to tell him exactly where the tithes go. (Our audited financial statements are available to anyone for the asking. So is information about where your money goes.) — Zola

Hide Your Levitt Letter

I work as a production supervisor in a factory in the upper Midwest. The workforce that we employ has grown quite culturally diverse and includes significant numbers that practice Islam. We have discovered all the concessions that need to be made for those employees that practice Islam: prayer times, diet, wardrobe, etc., etc.

The other day, my boss noticed a stack of *Levitt Letters* on my desk. He told me to put those away because the contents might insult other employees. I sat in my chair with my jaw resting on the floor at his comment. Obviously, we do not want to offend those of the Muslim faith, but if you're a Christian and a Zionist, you are an offense to the world. — GC

Discharged!

What can be done to help this young couple? I know we can pray, and that may be sufficient. Thanks! — WBD

[Enclosed was an Associated Press article "Jewish Couple Decry Discharge From Army,"

Letters to

Some letters have been edited for space.

by Mark Babineck. It told of Refael and Margaret Chaiken, who were studying to be interrogators for the US Army. Although the US military can bar a religious observance only in the case of military necessity, officers had nevertheless forbidden the two to skip classes to attend services for *Yom Kippur*, [day of atonement] the holiest day of the Jewish year. When the two went to the services anyway, the army discharged them.]

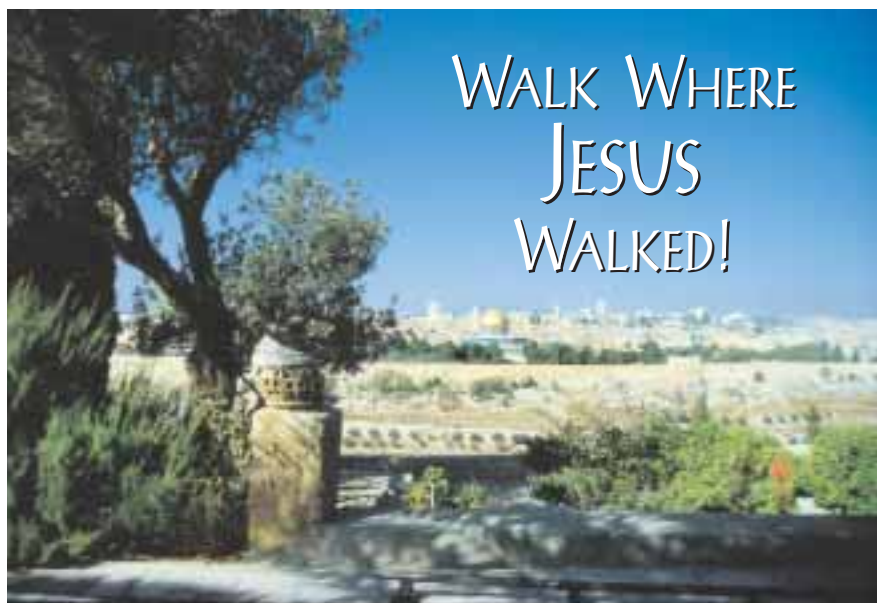
As the Tribulation approaches, we have to look forward to American anti-Semitism as predicted by our Lord to his Israeli disciples, "You shall be hated of all nations" (Mt 24:9). — Zola

Forgiveness

Several years ago, my wife and I attended a prophetic conference in Niagara Falls at the overlook of the beautiful Horseshoe Falls. One of the speakers was Texe Marrs, who at that time was respected and a repeated invitee to such conferences, until he turned out to be a basher of just about everything and everybody.

But my concern is his November 2003 publication of his *Power of Prophecy*, in which the lead article is entitled: "All Hail The Jewish Master Race!"

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In addition to Holy Land tours and Mediterranean cruises, **Travel Experience International** offers weekends at the Holy Land Experience in Orlando, FL, The Great Passion Play in Eureka Springs, AR, and The Biblical Arts Museum in Dallas, TX.

Here he quoted Rabbi Mendel Schneerson and others who believe (Marrs says) that the Jew is superior and a “totally different species.” He then proceeded to hold up this line as the liberal Jewish agenda, even asserting that the several leading candidates of the Democratic Party are Jewish (secret or otherwise), including Hillary Clinton, John Kerry, Howard Dean, Wesley Clark, and Joseph Lieberman. — DAK

I asked our senior theologian, Dr. Tom McCall, why there seem to be some crazy people in the church. He gave me a very Biblical answer: “Because they are welcome. People don’t want them in their country clubs or homes, but they are among Jesus’ favorite people. He always stopped to help them.” It gave me a lot of forgiveness for those among us Believers who are just plain crazy. — Zola

A Helping Hand

PAX TV in our area is also on a local TV channel besides cable and satellite. I checked on 41 this morning to see, if, by chance, you would be on. And you were! I spent the half hour calling people from my church who are home during the day and told them to tune in. We had a “senior dinner” today at church and I continued to tell people over and over to remember 8:30 AM on Thursdays. Many of our seniors don’t have cable, so this is great. Thank you, thank you, thank you. — GH

Thank you for the helping hand. We have expanded our outreach for just such viewers as you who now have a more convenient opportunity to watch us. Praise God that you are representative of the many thousands who have discovered our new airtime.

Currently we appear on TBN on Monday (8:00 AM Eastern Time, 7:00 AM Central Time, 6:00 AM Mountain Time, 5:00 AM Pacific Time); on ABC-FAM on Sunday evenings/early Monday mornings (1:00 AM Monday both coasts, Sunday midnight Central Time, 11:00 PM or 2:00 AM Monday Mountain Time); and on PAX on Thursday mornings (9:30 AM both coasts, 8:30 AM Mountain and Central Time). Be sure to check our full listing of TV airing schedules, including those for our independent TV stations across America, at our web page: <http://www.levitt.com/airsch.html>, or contact us so that we can mail you our airing schedule (or check out our truncated listing on pages 18 and 19). — Zola

The Time Is Now

The war in Ezekiel 38-39 is supposed to take place at a time when Israel is living in peace, without fear of being invaded (according to Ezekiel 38:11).

So when has Israel ever lived in peace and when in the future could they possibly be living like this before the invasion? Ezekiel clearly says the invasion will take place when Israel is unsuspecting. No one that I have ever heard talk about prophecy, particularly this war, has mentioned this verse in Ezekiel 38:11. Are you aware of this part of Ezekiel’s prophecy? — WB

I’m aware of the verse, and the time Ezekiel is talking about is now. Very simply, you imagine that Israel is in a terrible situation because CNN says so. But that simply isn’t the case. While Israel has some casualties with the occasional homicide bombing, these don’t compare to the violent crime rates in America or almost any other democracy. The fact is that no enemy has attempted to come over Israel’s borders in 30 years, and that in itself, in such a beleaguered part of the world, is evidence of the safety called for in the prophecy. — Zola

The Greatest Plague

You are helping to open the eyes of many to what may be the greatest plague ever on the face of the earth. That would be the spread of Islam. I would guess that 99.9 percent of the non-Islamic world is unaware and unconcerned with the history of Islam and its cult of hatred. The battle lines are being drawn. — DS

The Bottom Line

I agree 90 percent with your beliefs and opinions. However, I was quite angry and confused on several that you stated in the October issue. In reference to the article entitled, “Denial,” I greatly admire Dr. James Dobson and find your remark about him and others very disheartening. Who are you to judge this man? — BF

We had a number of letters complaining about my comments about several Christian leaders. I respect Dr. Dobson, Pat Robertson, and others, and obviously, many are positive spokesmen for Israel. It is simply a matter of emphasis. In my own view, End Times prophecy is of paramount importance today, far more than who sits on the Supreme Court or even the niceties of Christian family life. These are social issues that, after the Rapture (which could happen tonight), will have no meaning whatsoever to anyone, anywhere.

It simply troubles me to see the immense talent and intelligence of these leaders going into refining a nation which will be cut in half when the Lord takes His Church away, with what remains left to the Antichrist for its final disposal. — Zola

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22)

Dear Friends:

I received the following thought-provoking letter and couldn't help but pour my heart out in my reply.

Dear Zola:

Last year my husband gave me a New King James Open Bible by Thomas Nelson Publishing. It was a wonderful Bible; that is, until I started looking at the maps and reading the notes. Israel is more often than not referred to as "Palestine." This really upset me so I called their Customer Service line and shared my extreme dissatisfaction with the fact that they called Israel "Palestine." I told her that nowhere in the Bible is Israel called Palestine and that I thought it heretical that Thomas Nelson would do this.

She gave me some lame-brained excuse about the historical usage of the name. So, I hung up and wrote them an email. I got an even worse excuse. I could no longer stand to use that Bible (a very expensive one) and I gave it away.

This afternoon, a friend of mine brought me a copy of your newsletter and I was so happy to read your "A Note From Zola" which addresses in depth this problem of Bible notes. Kudos to you. Meanwhile, I am telling everyone (including Thomas Nelson) that I will no longer buy any of their publications — including Bibles — until they remedy this problem.

Here is my answer: Of course the problem with Thomas Nelson is that, like Zondervan, it is run by unbelievers, who only want to make money. I am not surprised that their Biblical sensitivity has greatly declined. I had trouble with them when I authored one book for them years ago. Likewise with Zondervan, who objected when our ministry questioned their publication of the awful *A Survey of the New Testa-*

A Note From Zola

ment, by Robert H. Gundry, which was used at Criswell College.

Unfortunately, Christians often sell their companies to the highest bidder when they retire, and then that new owner damages the faith while helping himself to Christian funds.

That goes right along with Revelation 2:9, in regard to "the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan." This passage, often misunderstood, refers to unbelievers who had infiltrated the highly Jewish church of Smyrna and dressed as Jews to appear as legitimate members of the church, while their real motive was simply to trade with the church members for their own gains.

When I was in college, I applied for a job with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. I was asked if I would be available to go to church every Sunday. I informed my interviewer that I was Jewish and had never been in a church, to which he replied something like, "Don't worry about that, we don't go for any other purpose but to sell insurance to church members."

So unbelievers who take over or infiltrate Christian congregations — as with many liberal churches, with perverse Catholic priests, with Hollywood personalities making religious movies, and finally with these mediocre publishers, we simply have to watch out for what Scripture calls,



"false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves" (Mt 7:15).



Time and again we hear from folks who object to the *Levitt Letter* dealing with "politics." It is really not politics we are trying to comment on, but rather prophecy apparently being fulfilled. The Biblical picture of the End Times projects a certain configuration of nations and powers, and we are in a ministry of comparing the actions of those nations to the observations of the prophets. Far more of our readers are heartened by the similarities between events today and Scripture than are offended by this coverage.

Please know that we do consider this type of commentary to be Bible teaching. The real problem is that many seminaries and churches have been remiss in not preparing Believers for real application of the Biblical End

Times scenarios. They just don't teach accurate prophecy. As "watchmen on the wall" (Eze 33:7), we must sound whatever alarms we perceive to be relevant.



Prime Minister Sharon's new idea for disengagement from the Palestinians is effective, but sad. We must realize

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Watch out for "false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing."

that the Arabs started in 1964 with a bogus claim to the land in Israel and have taken it to the point where the Israelis, the legitimate owners of the land, have to build a fence to protect themselves from murderers, and then are accused of promoting apartheid or some such malarkey. The sad part of it is that the Israelis really own all of the land, but are forced to fence off a part of it just to get away from these dangerous aliens.

It's as if the Los Angeles police decided the best policy to control the gangs would be to build a chain-link fence around their neighborhood, only to have the gangs accuse the police of stealing the rest of the city from the gangs!

American prejudice goes so far as *The Orlando Sentinel*, which recently ran the inexplicable headline "Israel Threatens to Impose Border." Never mind that Israel would be ceding a very large part of a country they have owned since God gave it to Abraham, to illiterate murderers who want nothing but their total destruction.

Even the president expressed misgivings about this tragic plan to take land from a civilized 21st century country and concede large portions of it to Dark Age killers.

But the only issue of concern to Israel is the murders. The homicide bombers must be stopped.

The terrorism that just keeps on coming is what they are trying to prevent. They have tried 1) peace conferences, 2) actually giving away their land to their enemies, 3) going into Palestinian cities and towns to rout out the terrorists themselves, and now, finally, 4) building a fence across their own land to keep the bombers out.

And it doesn't matter if nearly two hundred nations of the world are in opposition, and horrible calamity is threatened for building the fence, they are going to do it, and that's

all there is to that. No sane people will just wait for others to murder them.



I was recently asked which church denominations are pro-Israel and which are not. In the past, we picked on the United Methodists since I have personal knowledge of their anti-Israel policies. But, suffice it to say, the distance of a church from Scripture equals the amount of anti-Israelism (and usually anti-Semitism) it will practice. I have found in 30 years of speaking experience that those who read the Bible faithfully and understand its doctrines love Israel and the Jewish people.

And, unfortunately, the converse is also true. Those who get into modernistic false doctrines, Bible criticism, disbelief in inerrancy, Progressive Dispensationalism, and a thousand other mistakes, share the characteristic of being anti-Jewish and anti-Israel. The Catholic Church stands out as one extreme. The liberal Protestant denominations are also included in that group, I'm afraid. But the Bible churches invariably support the Chosen People and the Promised Land.

Shortly after Saddam Hussein's arrest, the Vatican came out objecting to his treatment by US soldiers and doctors. This also correlates with my theory: The distance of a church from Scripture equals its distance from God, from Israel, and from rationality. They "call evil good, and good evil" (Isa 5:20).

Even our prisons here in the US reflect this hypocrisy. Prisoners are subjected to Islamic evangelism on a steady basis. Yet a Christian witness like the *Levitt Letter* is not allowed. The Michigan Department of Corrections, on November 19, 2003, claimed our newsletter was "advocating racial supremacy or ethnic purity which is reasonably likely to promote or cause violence or group disruption in the facility."

Yet Islam, which inspired the 9/11 attacks, continues to be preached there.



Terrorism in Israel has greatly moderated as we go to press. It seems that the fence is already effective and that Palestinians are taking stock of what a poor image of themselves they have projected. Tourism is recovering nicely and we are making arrangements to have a tour of Israel in March. The Deluxe Tour, visiting Israel only, will depart on March 14th and will return on the 24th. Our Grand Petra Tour, visiting both Israel and Petra, will depart on March 14th and return on the 28th. The Grand Athens Tour, cruising the Greek Isles and touring Israel, extends from March 9th through the 24th. Finally, our Ultra-Grand Tour, with everything — the Greek Isles, Israel and Petra — will begin on March 9th and end on the 28th.

For more information or the confirmation of tour dates, check with Tony at (214)696-9760 during business hours. You can also call 1-800-WONDERS (1-800-966-3377) anytime for a brochure about any of our tours.

I want to give another heartfelt "thank you" to our readers because donations are meeting our needs as we broadcast on the PAX network. This is most understanding and most generous, and we are very grateful. But please remember that this is a long-term commitment, and that we will continue to need generous giving in order to pay for the extended airtime. It will take persistent prayer and giving from our regular readers and viewers to maintain our expanded outreach. Thanks.

And as always, remember to pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Your messenger,



A Note From Zola: 1979

To celebrate the Silver Anniversary of the *Levitt Letter*, we will be running articles from the last 25 years throughout this year. So here is our first issue's "Note from Zola," in which I attempted to introduce Israel, and it's difficult situation, to our new audience of church people. The topics involved here are surprisingly up-to-date. — Zola

The question keeps coming up before the world, "What right does Israel as a nation have to exist?" And more especially, "What right does she have to return home to her historical land?"



Anyone reading Bible prophecy knows the answer to these questions. The people of Israel were scattered worldwide as prophesied and are now returning just as almost all the Old Testament prophets foretold.

But the world doesn't read, nor especially believe, the historic and prophetic statements of Scripture. There are clearly demonic forces binding the world and preventing the nations from understanding God's Divine viewpoint.

Nevertheless, God's purposes and programs will be carried out. Though the Jews are prophetically scattered around the globe, a small handful has always been in the land. Within a 110 year period — with but a trickle at first — Jewish immigrants began to return to Palestine, buy land from Turkish landowners, and redevelop the country. In 1881 there were about 25,000 Jews in Israel, and by 1922 there were some 83,000.

In recent years, a myth has cropped up through the pressure of Arab propaganda... "Palestine was always an exclusively Arab country." The fact is, for many centuries, Turkey controlled Palestine from across the Mediterranean Sea. And, although Arabic gradually became the language of the majority of the population after the Arab invasion of the seventh century, Palestine was never an exclusive Arab country.

There was never an Arab state or Palestine Arab nation in the land. The Palestinian Arabs never ruled the country, nor did they create their own self-contained unit, or form any social or political identity. They were not autonomous at any time.

Too, it's a well-known fact that the Arabs living in Palestine over the past centuries actually destroyed the land. Being nomads and feeling no ties nor loyalty to the land, the area was literally dead and lifeless in every aspect. Mark Twain visited Palestine in 1867 and wrote: "Desolate country whose soil is rich enough but is given over wholly to weeds — a silent mournful expanse. There was hardly a tree or shrub anywhere."

In 1913, a Palestinian Royal Commission report said, "There are no orange groves, orchards, or vineyards... no villages with irrigation... The sanitary conditions are horrible... no schools exist."

In 1931, another British report read, "We found the land inhabited by Arabs who lived in mud hovels... large areas were uncultivated... many Arabs were cattle thieves and harbored other criminals... there was little public security."

In the midst of this sad state of affairs in the land, God began moving His people, and even the nations, in bringing about the promised return to the land. "And the Lord will gather you from all the nations... and will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it..." (Deut. 30:1-10).

In 1917, before World War I was over, the British issued the Balfour Declaration: "His Majesty's Government views with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people."

After the World War was over, the British tried to bring about this homeland fulfillment and the Arabs even welcomed the Jews. King Emir Faisal wrote: "The Arabs, especially the educated among us, look with deepest sympathy on the Zionist movement... We will wish the Jews a hearty welcome home... We are working together for a reformed Near East and our two movements complete one another."

As the Jews began returning in the 1920s all seemed to be going well. The famous British officer T. E. Lawrence ("Lawrence of Arabia"), when visiting Palestine, wrote: "The sooner the Jews farm the land the better; their colonies are bright spots in the desert."

Without question, the Jews began to do wonders. The land was reclaimed and irrigated, swamps were drained, millions of trees planted. Two to five crops were harvested off the same acreage each year.

But, by the 1930s war had broken out between the Arabs and the Jews. Why?

The only answer is that until Israel's Messiah returns and the people's eyes are opened, the Jews will be hounded even in their own land. There is satanic opposition to God's people, the Jews, until God consummates His program with them. In Revelation 12, John the Apostle writes a parable about the nation Israel, in which, in the End Times, even he sees Israel chased into the wilderness "where she [Israel] has a place prepared by God" who will protect the Jews.

Yes, the Jews of the land will have no rest until after the great coming world tribulation. Then, after that period, all who survive will accept Christ as their personal Savior and national Messiah (Zechariah 12:10; Romans 11:26).



I was as disheartened as any other *USA Today* reader to learn that our military had been using “cluster bomblets” in Iraq. The story below details the consequences of this awful weapon in what amounts to a lack of military ethics. I just want to say that I am not going to listen to any more American criticism about collateral casualties caused by the Israeli army. We are, far and away, the major cause of collateral casualties in the Middle East. — Zola

Are You Listening to Our Preaching?

By Paul Wiseman, *USA Today*

The little canisters dropped onto the city, white ribbons trailing behind. They clattered into streets, landed in lemon trees, rattled around on roofs, settled onto lawns.

When Jassim al-Qaisi saw the canisters the size of D batteries falling on his neighborhood just before 7 AM, April 7, he laughed and asked himself: “Now what are the Americans throwing on our heads?”

The strange objects were fired by US artillery outside Baghdad as US forces approached the Iraqi capital. In the span of a few minutes, they would kill four civilians in the al-Dora neighborhood of southern Baghdad and send al-Qaisi’s teenage son to the hospital with metal fragments in his foot.

The deadly objects were cluster bomblets, small explosives packed by the dozens or hundreds into bombs, rockets or artillery shells known as cluster weapons. When these weapons were fired on Baghdad on April 7, many of the bomblets failed to explode on impact. They were picked up or stumbled on by their victims.

The four who died in the al-Dora neighborhood that day lived a few blocks from al-Qaisi’s house. Rashid Majid, 58, who was nearsighted, stepped on an unexploded bomblet around the corner from his home. The explosion ripped his legs off. As he lay bleeding in the street, another bomblet exploded a few yards away, instantly killing three young men, including two of Majid’s sons — Arkan, 33, and Ghasan, 28. “My sons! My sons!” Majid called out. He died a few hours later.

The deaths occurred because the world’s most modern military, one determined to minimize civilian casualties, went to war with stockpiles of weapons known to endanger civilians and its own soldiers. The weapons claimed victims in the initial explosions and continued

to kill afterward, as Iraqis and US forces accidentally detonated bomblets lying around like small land mines.

A four-month examination by *USA Today* of how cluster bombs were used in the Iraq war found dozens of deaths that were unintended but predictable. Although US forces sought to limit what they call “collateral damage” in the Iraq campaign, they defied international criticism and used nearly 10,800 cluster weapons; their British allies used almost 2,200.

The bomblets packed inside these weapons wiped out Iraqi troop formations and silenced Iraqi artillery. They also killed civilians. These unintentional deaths added to the hostility that has complicated the US occupation. One anti-war group calculates that cluster weapons killed as many as 372 Iraqi civilians. The numbers are impossible to verify: Iraqi hospital records are incomplete, and many Iraqi families buried their dead without reporting their deaths.

In the most comprehensive report on the use of cluster weapons in Iraq, *USA Today* visited Iraqi neighborhoods and interviewed dozens of Iraqi families, US troops, teams clearing unexploded ordnance in Iraq, military analysts, and humanitarian groups.

The findings: The Pentagon presented a misleading picture during the war of the extent to which cluster weapons were being used and of the civilian casualties they were causing. Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters on April 25, six days before President Bush declared major combat operations over, that the United States had used 1,500 cluster weapons and caused one civilian casualty. It turns out he was referring only to cluster weapons dropped from the air, not those fired by US ground forces.

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In fact, the United States used 10,782 cluster weapons, according to the declassified executive summary of a report compiled by US Central Command, which oversaw military operations in Iraq. Centcom sent the figures to the Joint Chiefs in response to queries from *USA Today* and others, but details of the report remain secret.

The US Air Force used new, improved cluster bombs in Iraq that pose fewer dangers to civilians. But US ground forces used old cluster munitions with a history of leaving unexploded bomblets (duds) that can detonate any time after they are deployed, causing civilian casualties.

“The bulk of civilian casualties caused by cluster munitions (in Iraq) appear to have resulted from ground-launched munitions rather than by aircraft,” Sen. Patrick Leahy, an advocate on behalf of civilian war victims, recently wrote Gen. Richard Myers.

The US military was aware of the threat cluster munitions posed and was determined to minimize them. Col. Lyle Cayce, an Army judge advocate general (JAG), led a team of 14 lawyers providing advice on the battlefield to the 3rd Infantry Division on the use of cluster munitions, as well as other weapons, during its 21-day, 450-mile drive north from Kuwait to Baghdad. The goal was to ensure that US forces complied with international humanitarian law, enshrined in the Geneva Conventions. “No other army in the world does that,” Cayce says. “We value the rule of law.”

Cayce and the other lawyers looked at potential targets and advised US commanders whether the military benefits of using specific weapons against those targets justified the risks to civilians. Cayce gave advice 512 times during the war, usually in cases involving cluster munitions. Most involved sites outside populated areas. Cayce estimates he dealt with only 25 to 30 “controversial missions.” For example: He approved a strike against an Iraqi artillery battery in a soccer field next to a mosque because it was firing on the 3rd Infantry Division’s artillery headquarters.

Children were particularly vulnerable. About a week after the cluster attack on Hillah, Mahmoud Medhi al-Jabouri, 15, was wandering the Nader neighborhood’s trash-filled streets with his brother Salem, 13. Mahmoud either picked up a dud cluster bomblet or stumbled across one concealed by refuse. There was an explosion, and Mahmoud was killed. “The bomb tore away his face,” says his father, Mehdi Tali al-Jabouri, 53. Salem spent three days in a hospital with leg injuries; he has recovered.

Duds continued to turn up in gardens, trees and fields months after the military campaign ended. Al-Furat resident Adel Khalil al-Taie, 35, found one on his roof when he went up to install a satellite dish in July. It was an irony he relished: The US campaign to topple Saddam Hussein gave him the freedom to put up a previously forbidden satellite dish, but left a deadly explosive on his roof.

Cayce, the Army lawyer, believes US forces acted responsibly. Even so, he says: “Ethically and morally, we need to find alternatives to cluster weapons in cities.” ★

Dark Days in “Palestine”

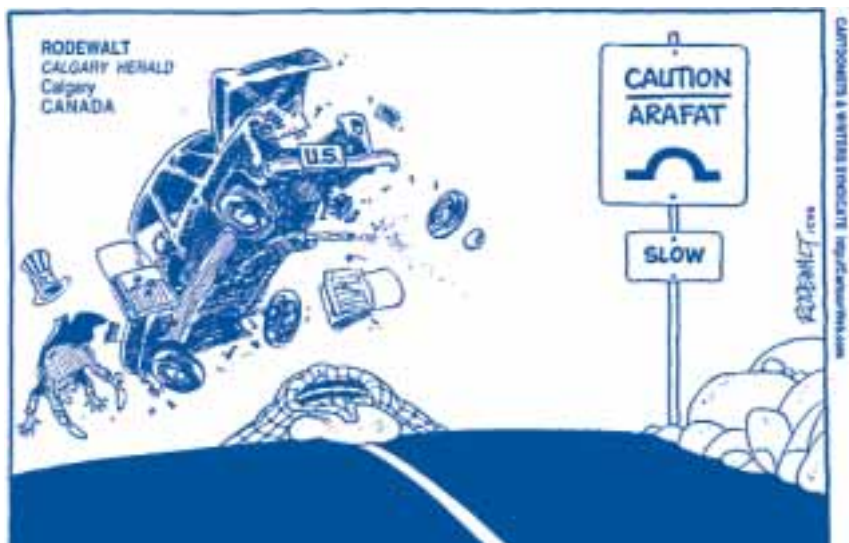
By Julie Stahl, CNSNews.com

Palestinians were saddened by the capture of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and even more so because it represented a victory for the Americans. The deposed Iraqi dictator was a hero for the Palestinians, who saw him as the only leader of an Arab state who was willing to fight for their cause and stand up against America.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was one of the few Arab leaders to support Saddam Hussein when he invaded Kuwait in August 1990, which led to the Gulf War in 1991. In the last three years, Saddam gave generous gifts to families of terrorists, with families of suicide bombers receiving \$10,000 or more.

Neither Arafat nor Palestinian officials were commenting on the capture. But senior Hamas leader Abdel-Aziz al-Rantissi was quoted as saying that what the US did was “ugly and despicable” and “an insult to the Arabs and Muslims.” He warned that the US would “pay a very high price” for what he called “the mistake.”

Many Arabs were shocked that the man who had encouraged them to fight to the death didn’t fire a shot in his own defense or even try to commit suicide. ★



Our Man in Jerusalem Reports...

What's in a Name?

By Will King

So how exactly should we refer to that thing that Israel is constructing around Judea, Samaria, and Jerusalem? Is it a wall, a fence, or something else altogether? According to *Merriam-Webster Online*, "a fence" is a means of protection, a barrier intended to prevent escape or intrusion or to mark a boundary. They define a "wall" as a high thick masonry structure forming a long rampart or an enclosure chiefly for defense. CNN calls it the "West Bank Fence," BBC the "West Bank Barrier," and the Associated Press the "Separation Barrier." Does the purpose of the fence change by calling it a different name, or are the varying names meant only to serve differing political agendas, and in the case of the media, to satisfy political correctness?

Since the Israelis are the ones constructing the fence, it is important to look at their position to understand what it is and why it is being built. The Israelis call it a "security fence," and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs explains that, as "a legitimate, temporary, security measure, the fence will help to end terror and restore calm—steps that are necessary for renewing the peace process."

For Israel, the very function of the fence is to stop the bombers and other terrorists from killing Israelis, thereby achieving calm in the area and helping to set the conditions for any peace negotiations to proceed. Since the fence is only a temporary measure, it can be moved once the borders of any future Palestinian state have been determined through negotiation. Israeli ambassador to the UN, Dan Gillerman, even called the fence "Arafat's Wall," emphasizing that Arafat's continued support of, and refusal to dismantle, terrorist organizations have made the fence a necessity for Israel. For Israel, the fence is clearly about the safety and security of its citizens, which every sovereign nation has the right and the responsibility to ensure.

So how do the Arabs refer to Israel's security fence? They are quick to refer to it as a wall, and have even referred to it as a "racist wall," likening it to the Berlin Wall. Many Palestinian leaders go a step further and call it the "apartheid wall." They claim it is a land grab by the Israelis, who also seek to destroy any future negotiations.

The Palestinians also maintain that the purpose of the fence is to cut them off from their farmlands, thereby destroying their economy and their infrastructure. They give no weight to Israel's assertion

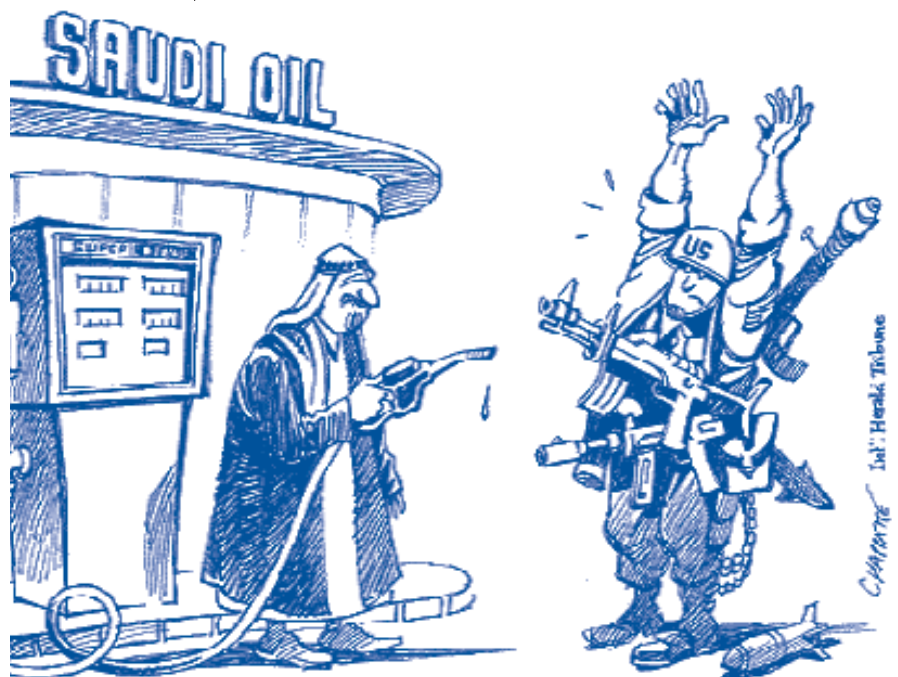
that the fence is to stop terrorists, the Arab's greatest weapon. By calling it a wall, they hope to conjure up images of a hideous and very permanent-looking structure designed to keep them in their "prison" that is the West Bank.

And finally, how does the international community refer to the security fence? Organizations like the United Nations and the European Union have always been very pro-Arab, and their conduct, financial support, and biased resolutions continually reaffirm their position. The UN General Assembly Resolution ES-10/13, passed overwhelmingly last October, "Demands that Israel stop and reverse the construction of *the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*, including in and around East Jerusalem, which is in departure of the Armistice Line of 1949 and is in contradiction to relevant provisions of international law" (emphasis added).

Once again, the Arabs managed to get it on record with an international organization that the land is indeed Arab land, that the Israelis are occupiers, and that they are in violation of international law as well. Clearly, this kind of biased resolution shows that organizations such as the UN, and the countries that favor these resolutions, have already predetermined the outcome of peace negotiations and the borders of a future Palestinian state.

The definitions of fence and wall both indicate that they are primarily for defense, so both sides are correct in their naming there. However, only a small portion of the barrier will be built of concrete; the majority of it will be chain-link and razor wire. Therefore, the word fence is more appropriate, which means that all that is left now is to determine the real purpose of the fence: security or humiliation and racism.

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In another abuse of an international organization, the Arabs have passed another UN resolution which will send the issue of the security fence to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague. This court, which routinely deals with such serious matters as war crimes and genocide cases, will now render a decision on an internal Israeli security matter. By the way, has anybody informed the ICJ of the fence that the United States is building along its border with Mexico?

Interestingly, the US army in Iraq has been placing barbed wire fences around certain enclaves in Iraq, for precisely the same purpose as the Israel fence. And, here in the US, do we ask farmers to not fence in their lands when dealing with coyotes and wolves? Do we ask them to reason with these predators? Perhaps sit down and discuss peace with them? The US government's position would be to give half the farm to the coyotes and wolves to see if these animals would be satisfied in killing half the livestock. — Zola



Scrap Israeli Nukes?

By The BBC

The head of the United Nations nuclear watchdog has urged Israel to surrender its alleged nuclear weapons in order to further peace in the Middle East. International Atomic Energy Agency chief Mohamed El Baradei told an Israeli newspaper such weapons were not “an incentive for security.”

El Baradei told *Haaretz* (Israeli newspaper) that the IAEA operated under the assumption that Israel had nuclear weapons despite the fact it had never been officially confirmed. “Frankly, I am not happy with the status quo, because I see a lot of frustration in the Middle East due to Israel’s sitting on nuclear weapons or [its] nuclear weapons capability, while other parties in the Middle East are committed to the Non-Proliferation Treaty,” he said.

El Baradei added that Israel and its neighbors should enter into dialogue to halt the spread of nuclear weapons in the Middle East.

BBC correspondent James Reynolds says the Egyptian-born IAEA chief’s careful remarks reflected his awareness that many Israelis see him not as a disinterested observer, but rather as a citizen of a onetime enemy of Israel. ■

Since Biblically, Israel will prevail in all future invasions such as Gog and Magog, and Armageddon, we can only assume it will keep the best of its weapons through all such protests as this one above. — Zola

Religion of Peace?

There are millions of peaceful Muslims, but the fact is that radical Muslims are using core texts of Islam that are deeply rooted in Islamic theology, tradition, history, and law to justify their actions, and those radical Muslims are able to recruit and motivate terrorists around the world by appealing to these core Islamic texts.

As far as the radical, violent elements of the religion go, they are very deeply rooted, and we are naive in the extreme if we don’t recognize that and try to get moderate Muslims to acknowledge it, so that real reform can take place.

You find many moderate Muslim spokesmen and American-Muslim advocates in this country, who quote you the peaceful and tolerant verses, and no reference to the violent verses. When you read Islamic theologians themselves, you find they actually confront this problem directly.

Some of the most respected thinkers in Islamic history say that when you come upon these kinds of disagreements — where you see peace in one place and violence in the other — you have to go with what was revealed last, that cancels out what was revealed before. Unfortunately for the moderates, the violent verses were revealed later and they cancel out the peaceful ones — but you won’t hear this from the American Muslim advocacy groups. — Robert Spencer, author of *Onward Muslim Soldiers: How Jihad Still Threatens America and the West*, as interviewed by Laurence A. Elder, WorldNetDaily.com.

Dry Bones



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Please refer to the “Note from Zola” for a commentary on Israel’s “intransigence” on the issue of the security fence. They have three reasons: Murders, murders, and murders. — Zola

Israel Increases Budget For Security Fence

By Julie Stahl, CNSNews.com

Despite international opposition to the route of a security fence now under construction, Israel’s finance minister is pouring more money into the project to speed up its completion.

Finance Minister Binyamin Netanyahu increased the fence-building budget by more than \$160 million for the current year.

The barrier dividing Israel and the West Bank has been the source of a great deal of friction between Israel and most of the rest of the world.

The United Nations Security Council has been unable to pass a resolution against the fence due to US veto power, but the UN General Assembly last week referred the matter to the International Court of Justice in the Hague for an advisory ruling on the legality of the barrier.

Some countries, including the US, say they are not opposed to the fence itself — but they do object to the route the fence is taking, because it cuts across land Palestinians would like to claim for a future state.

Speaking at a national security conference in the Mediterranean coastal city of Herzliya Wednesday, Netanyahu said that building the fence is so effective in stopping suicide bombers, he decided to allocate another 700 million shekels (about \$160 million) to the fence budget for this year.

“It is very, very effective. Its success is proven... against this kind of terror,” Netanyahu said. “This won’t stop all the terror. There is a problem with rockets, but this helps.”

Security officials say the fence has slowed down several suicide bombers by making them go around the fence, giving Israel the time it needed to thwart the attacks, including one that was planned for a high school in northern Israel.

Netanyahu compared the situation that Israel is now facing in combating suicide

bombers to the threat of terror attacks and hijackings on civilian airliners, which the world faced in the 1970s and 1980s.

At the time, people were in despair and frustrated because they believed they could not solve the problem, he said. But according to Netanyahu, he himself said that countries could go on the offensive against terrorist organizations first by imposing economic, aviation, and political sanctions, and then by taking security measures in airports and on airplanes. “It did bring a decrease in terror,” he said.

The Western nations had “built a fence” so to speak, he said. “They simply put a partition between the terrorists and their targets.”

Likewise, Israel is also taking aggressive action against terrorism first by going on the offensive by attacking centers of terrorist activity deep inside Palestinian territory, thereby limiting their ability to carry out attacks, and then by taking the defensive measure of constructing the fence.

“We are building a security fence that will separate... the Palestinian terror and the Jewish population center,” Netanyahu said.

Palestinians complain that not only does the fence cut many off from their farmlands, schools or towns, but they also charge that Israel is constructing the fence as part of a political move to establish facts on the ground and seize lands from a future state.

Israel’s Security Agency Chief Avi Dichter said on Tuesday that the fence must be completed no matter how it is financed. ★



In December, a peace treaty was signed between certain Israelis and certain Palestinians, none of whom were in office at the time. It's not surprising that the Palestinians signed the accord, since Israel simply was being given to them. Such pretense comes from pure European and Arab anti-Semitism. It is as if US Democrats, not now in office, were to conclude some deal with China or North Korea, and then expect the rest of us to abide by it. This writer is an especially astute observer of the situation and had this to say a few days before the signing. — Zola

Geneva Sellout

By Charles Krauthammer, *The Washington Post*



A peace agreement will be signed by Israelis and Palestinians. And the signing itself will be greeted with much hoopla. Journalists are being flown in. Jimmy Carter will be heading a list of foreign dignitaries. The US Embassy in Bern will be sending an observer.

This is all rather peculiar: The agreement is being signed not by Israeli and Palestinian officials, but by two people with no power.

On the Palestinian side, the negotiator is former information minister Yasser Abed Rabbo, Arafat's ear. The Israeli side is led by Yossi Beilin, a man whose political standing in his own country is so low that he failed to make it into Parliament.

There is a reason why he is one of Israel's most reviled and discredited politicians. He was the principal ideologue and architect behind the Oslo agreements which brought a decade of the worst terror in all Israeli history.

Now he is at it again. And Secretary of State Colin Powell has written a letter to Beilin and Rabbo expressing appreciation for their effort, and is now planning to meet with them.

This is scandalous. Israel is a democracy, and this agreement was negotiated in defiance of the democratically elected government of Israel. If a private US citizen negotiated a treaty on his own, he could go to jail under the Logan Act. If an Israeli does it, he gets a pat on the back from the secretary of state.

Moreover, this "peace" is entirely hallucinatory. It is written as if Oslo never happened. The Palestinian side repeats solemn pledges to recognize Israel, renounce terror, end anti-Israel incitement, etc. — all promised in Oslo. These promises are today such a dead letter that the Palestinian side is openly bargaining

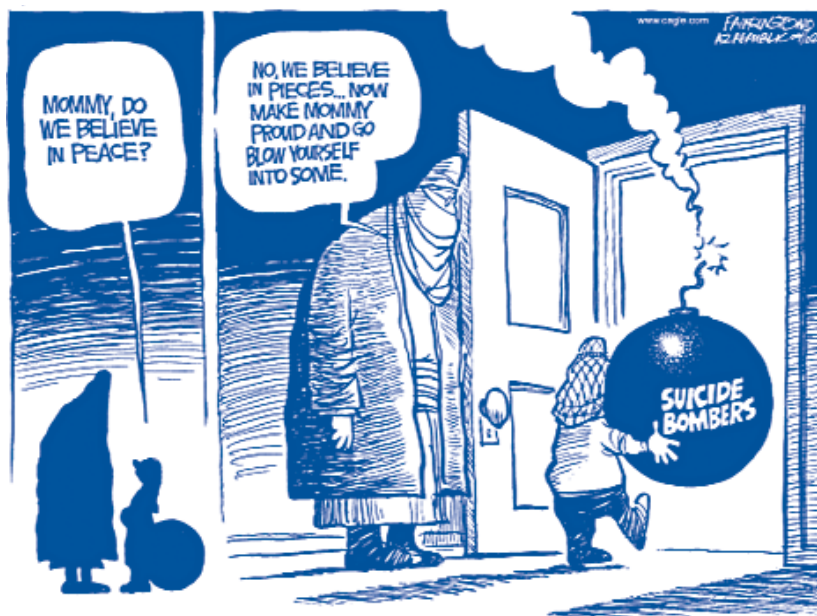
these chits again, as if the Israelis have forgotten that in return for these pledges 10 years ago, Israel recognized the PLO, brought it out of Tunisian exile, established a Palestinian Authority, permitted it an army with 50,000 guns, and invited the world to donate billions to this new Authority.

Arafat pocketed every Israeli concession, turned his territory into an armed camp, and then launched a vicious terror war that has lasted more than three years and killed more than 1,000 Israelis. It is Lucy and the football all over again, and the same chorus of delusionals who so applauded Oslo — Jimmy Carter, Sandy Berger, Tom Friedman — is applauding again. This time, however, the Israeli surrender is so breathtaking it makes Oslo look rational.

A Palestinian state, of course. Evacuating every Jewish settlement in new Palestine, of course. Redividing Jerusalem, of course. But that is not enough. Beilin gives up the ultimate symbol of the Jewish connection and claim to the land, the center of the Jewish state for 1,000 years before the Roman destruction, the subject of Jewish longing in poetry and prayer for the 2,000 years since — the Temple Mount. Jews will visit at Arab sufferance.

Beilin also returns Israel to its 1967 borders, arbitrary and indefensible, but he does so without any serious security safeguards.

Palestine promises to acquire and buy no more weapons than specified in some treaty annex. This is a joke. Oslo had similarly detailed limitations on Palestinian weaponry, and nobody even pretended to enforce them. Palestine will be free to acquire as much lethal weaponry as it wants. ★



Battles With Seminaries

I recently obtained *Battles with Seminaries*. I am currently an external studies student at Moody Bible Institute and was unaware of their employment of professors who are stepping away from traditional dispensationalist teachings. I am happy to report that I have not found that to be the case in their correspondence college classes. — DW

It's mainly the Chicago campus, which attracted our attention as slipping into real apostasy. Since the administration of President Joseph Stowell began in the 1980s, Moody has struck out in a liberal direction, broadening its theology to take in students of all sorts of denominations, hiring secular professors and Roman Catholics, and, in general, missing the boat when it comes to End Times prophecy. The heartbreaker is their evident indifference to Israel and what is happening today in the world in regard to prophetic scripture.

I, too, have met students in the extension courses who said those doctrines do not affect these courses. Typically, a few "young Turks" arrive on campus (as at Dallas Seminary or Talbot, as well as Moody), and as older professors retire, their new doctrines take over. Those doctrines are very broadened, designed to increase enrollments. But our Lord pointed out, "The way is narrow" (Mt 7:14). — Zola

Where They Stood

I am a friend of a prominent and longtime member of the faculty at Dallas Theological Seminary. He has told me that several faculty members at Dallas Theological Seminary believe the Church is taking the place of Israel. My friend said that the majority on the faculty does not agree with this doctrinal position. He also told me that the official doctrinal position of DTS is that "Replacement Theology" is not corroborated by the Scriptures. And then he told me that the president of DTS, Dr. Mark Bailey, does not believe in "Replacement Theology." Instead, he believes in the God-given role to be followed by Israel in these End Times.

I then asked about the teaching of Progressive Dispensationalism at DTS and my friend said that several faculty members believe in it. He replied that these several faculty members believe erroneously that the Millennial Kingdom began at the first Advent and progressively has continued up to the present time. My friend added that the majority of the faculty at DTS, including Dr. Mark Bailey, do not believe in Progressive Dispensationalism, but believe that the Millennial Kingdom will be started in the future when Israel repents.

It is my hope that those faculty members at the semi-

nary who believe in the teaching of true doctrines regarding Israel will take steps toward removing those professors who are teaching false doctrines and that they do so before the school's reputation is permanently damaged. — DCT

Your letter is refreshing and informative. It reminds me of a conference held at Moody some time ago, to discuss their doctrinal statement entitled "Where We Stand." After long, heated debating, they made certain subtle changes to accommodate various new doctrines. At the end, the professors privately called it "Where We Stood." — Zola

Where Your Treasure Is...

The world has a saying, "Put your money where your mouth is!" The Word of God says, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Mt. 6:21), and "The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil out of the evil brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from the abundance of his heart" (Lu. 6:45).

You, Zola, declare the Truth of God that is well-pleasing to God's heart. I have felt the call of the Lord in my heart to monthly support the Lord's ministry which He has raised up in you, but the "P.S." on the end of your November *Personal Letter* sealed my knowing the time to support you financially monthly is now! Surely the Spirit of the Lord is moving on many hearts He has readied to respond to the greater outreach of His Truth through a national cable and satellite network in more than fifty cities. Isn't fifty the Scriptural number of Pentecost and the Year of Jubilee? I am believing the LORD to move mightily in this open door to reach a great multitude with the Truth of God! — JC



Christians Need Not Apply

A Review of David Limbaugh's *Persecution*

By Rabbi Dr. Morton H. Pomerantz, NewsMax.com

If I had been told 40 years ago that American society would be guilty of persecuting religious practice, I would have expressed disbelief. If I had been told that the religion discriminated against was Christianity, I would have broken up in laughter.

After all, America did not persecute religious people for religious practice, and America was a nation whose people were overwhelmingly Christian.

It is now 40 years later, and I am not laughing.

How far does this persecution of Christianity go?

Well, Mr. Limbaugh reports to us that in Montana, Jaroy Carpenter, a motivational speaker, was prevented from speaking to students to help them cope with teen suicides and accidental deaths because Mr. Carpenter was a Christian.

Understand that Mr. Carpenter was scheduled to make an entirely secular presentation that he had made many times before, in many places. Understand, this was to be far from a revival meeting.

The simple fact that Mr. Carpenter was, in fact, personally a Christian believer, was enough to cancel his presentation.

At this point, it is good to consider basic American values. Forget the First Amendment and deal with the body of the Constitution itself. It is clearly stated that there is to be no religious test for public office.

As one who espouses Judaism, it has long been a source of personal pride to me that, unlikely and farfetched as such an occurrence might be, our first president technically could have been Jewish.

Nevertheless, Mr. Carpenter was barred from speaking to students in Montana, not for anything he would say or do, but because he was a Christian believer — this in spite of the fact that Mr. Carpenter had made over 200 “secular” presentations at assemblies in schools around the country and had never once addressed religion.

Mr. Carpenter was lucky. Joshua Burton, a fourth-grade student, found himself in all kinds of trouble in his public school.

What horrendous acts did little Joshua perform that caused the consternation of the authorities of his school? Little Joshua was reading his Bible silently during free time. It was necessary for Joshua's parents to file suit against the school, which eventually did pay Joshua's legal fees.

Let us understand something else. What is involved here is not merely someone insisting on separation of church and state to the point of nuttiness; what is involved here is an open and full-scale assault upon Christianity and Christian religious practice.

Mr. Limbaugh points out that if the religion is not Christianity, but Islam, then a very different standard is followed in the public schools. In public schools in California, the textbook *Across the Centuries* was taught together with what were called “Islam simulation materials.”

Bad enough that the textbook is biased in favor of Islam and against Christianity; the book does not even mention the history of bloody military Islamic conquest.

There is no mention of the invasions of the Moors, the battle of Tours, and incidentally, nothing at all is said about the execution of Jews in Quarayza. When the simulation materials were put into play, students were compelled to pretend that they were Muslims; they were to pray in the name of Allah, the “Compassionate, the Merciful.”

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To further demonstrate the difference between separation of church and state and separation of mosque and state, the students were made to chant, "Praise to Allah, Lord of Creation!" Not satisfied with this, the school authorities had the students simulate their own Jihad through a game and plan to make a pilgrimage to Mecca.

Remember our little friend Joshua, who got into trouble for reading a Christian Bible silently? Well, as part of this learning experience, teachers encouraged their students to employ such phrases as "Allah Akbar," which means Allah is great.

So much for claiming that the attacks on Christianity are merely motivated by a desire for separating church and state.

It is not merely the public schools that are subject to persecution of Christianity; it is every aspect of society.

In 1999, the Brooklyn Museum of Art sponsored an exhibition that featured a collage of a black Virgin Mary, employing elephant dung. It should be noted that the tax money used for this display was exacted from Christian believers, who are almost certainly a majority of the taxpayers funding the Brooklyn Museum.

The New York Performance Alliance gave a dozen performances of the play "'Tis a Pity She's a Whore." To advertise their production, they used an illustration of the Virgin Mary with the Immaculate Heart and the inscription "'Tis a Pity She's a Whore."

It should be noted that while attacks on Christianity as a whole go on regularly and frequently, Catholic-bashing is a subspecies of this persecution to be found everywhere.

The Institute for the Study of Islam and Christianity, which is based in the U.K., finds a disturbing trend in making excuses for Muslim violence by presuming that the violence is only a response to conditions created by others.

Take one example: When Muslims killed eight people during riots in India, guess whose fault many in the media implied that it was. Was it the fault of the Muslims or some of their more extreme leaders? No, silly! It was the fault of the Rev. Jerry Falwell because he had said something disparaging about Islam.

The assault on Christianity finds a willing and able ally in Hollywood. Thus, a movie was made of the life of Jesus in which he is portrayed as sinful and lustful and

the apostle Paul is portrayed as a liar. Where, one asks, can there be a hero in such a film? That's easy: Judas Iscariot is portrayed as a hero. No, I am not joking.

Mr. Limbaugh argues his case by and large anecdotally. This may be troubling to some. However, the sheer number of his anecdotes, all scrupulously and fairly examined, amount to an ocean of evidence that, time after time, in public arena after public arena, there is an active, deliberate and conscious attempt to obliterate Christianity from at least the public square.

Christianity, to its enemies, is something to be practiced far from public view, in veiled secrecy.

This was not the view of Christianity held by our founding fathers, nor was this kind of activity part of the America in which I grew up. Everyone is entitled to display his religious beliefs in public, in the public square and, yes, on public property, provided no one is displaying something else there first.

This should be the birthright of everyone who is an American; it should certainly be the birthright of the 87 percent of our fellow citizens who call themselves Christians.

Soon it will be the Christmas season. In schools everywhere, I hope Christians will be able to sing songs and make displays about what this holiday means to them. No one should be forced to worship anything he or she does not want to worship, and no one should be forced to hide his or her religion from public view.

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Funny, They Don't Look Jewish

"Barbie" dolls have been banned in Saudi Arabia — because they ostensibly look Jewish and wear Jewish clothes. Their doll clothing can also be removed, making them a further affront to the Islamic moral code. Source: *Israel Today*

They further should not be required to surround their expressions of belief with Santa Claus giving gifts or Frosty the Snowman or dancing icicles or anything else.

They should be able to express their belief openly and freely.

David Limbaugh has written a very troubling book. *"Persecution"* is not too strong a title. I am a rabbi; I am worried. If Christians are not free to express their faith openly and completely everywhere, then none of us is free to do so. That is the opposite of the ideals and standards of the America in which I grew up.

Despite the offenses to Christianity, no Christians have attempted to do harm to teachers who have brought Islam to our schools, who have prevented Christian motivational speakers from working, or who have written blasphemous plays about Biblical heroes. — Zola



Although this issue has been covered up and we hear no more about it, here is a small-town newspaper with enough latitude to print this important letter. — Zola

"General Boykin Is Correct"

"Letter to the Editor,"
The Winfield Daily Courier
(Winfield, KS)

For those who disagree with the comments of General William Boykin, I would like to say that to me, this was a fresh breath of truth. One of his comments was that our God was stronger than the god of an Islamic enemy who worshipped idols. On this point he is politically incorrect, which is why he is in hot water. Biblically speaking, however, he speaks the truth — that is the truth of God.

Psalm 96:4-5 reads, "For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of

the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens."

Please note that the word "gods" is not capitalized and therefore does not refer to the Jehovah God that the Jews and Christians worship. Read for yourself Isaiah 45:5: "I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides Me, there is no God."

In regard to General Boykin saying that the war on terror is a battle against Satan, again the general speaks the truth according to God's inspired Word. Ephesians 6:12 reads, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but... against the spiritual forces of wickedness in heavenly places." I would ask that if Satan is not the spiritual force of wickedness, then who is?

From what I have read about the faith of Islam, the Christian and Jew are infidels according to the Koran; they are worthy of nothing except submission to the Islamic faith or death. If that is truly how the Muslim thinks, how could the general's comments only make things worse for Americans in the Islamic world? The Muslim is going to believe what his Koran teaches, regardless of what anyone says about their religion.

It's ironic that the general might be disciplined by Mr. Rumsfeld for speaking his convictions while he is one of our many brave military personnel that defends every American's right to free speech — even the right of the "new Christian right." — Patrick Potter, Winfield, KS ■



Arabs Rough Up Egyptian Official at Mosque in Jerusalem

Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher, on a mission to restart Israel-Palestinian talks, was called a traitor by militants when he went to Al Akaa.

When Muslims take over your nation, it is not through majority vote, but the shrill outcries, protests, and righteous indignation that are supposed to make you back off and let them have the place. Johnny Hart, a good friend of this ministry, drew this cartoon. The story below shows a kind of religious lunacy where Muslims have taken an innocent cartoon as a personal insult and an encoded offense to their faith, and screamed and raged with the purpose of impressing us, making us back off, making us apologetic, etc., etc.

In reality, Europe has been taken over in some cases by only ten percent or so of the population (such as in France, England, or Germany) which screams all the while in the manner of this article. Rather than being apologetic, or even laughing at them, as this columnist cleverly does, we ought to throw some of their protest back at them. Perhaps we can tell them that we're sick and tired of listening to this kind of thing, and that if they don't like it here, they can go back to where they came from. Or, they can learn that in a democracy one gives his views, come what may, and protests are done in an orderly way, without this hostile and belligerent attitude.

I don't think we can avert the Muslim takeover of the US, since our very government seems to be, or pretends to be, unaware of it. I just hope that the Rapture will come before any further Islamic attacks overtake us. Amen and come quickly, Lord Jesus. — Zola

It Ain't Funny 'til the Fascist Laughs

By Kathleen Parker, Tribune Media Services

So there's this caveman, see, and he goes to his outhouse in the middle of the night, slams the door and, noticing the aroma therein, says: "Is it just me or does it stink in here?"

Get it? Of course you get it. In America we call this bathroom humor. No doubt Johnny Hart's recent "B.C." comic strip depicting same got lots of little-boy giggles from fans of his strip, which he began in 1958 when Americans still had a sense of humor.

But, in a bizarre turn that makes even cavemen seem sophisticated, the panel also has provoked howls of outrage from some Muslims, as well as academics and assorted harrumphers, who feel the cartoon was a crude assault on Islam.

I know what you're thinking: How could a cartoon about an outhouse insult Islam? Let's just say it helps if you're the sort who can see subliminal sexual messages concealed in the ice cubes of liquor ads.

The strip in question featured three frames, each showing an outhouse, which is distinguished from a plain shed by the traditional outhouse symbol, which is — can you take it, Harvard? That's right — a crescent moon! The crescent moon is also shown hanging in the sky just outside the outhouse to indicate — Yale? Bingo! It's nighttime.

OK, now pay close attention because this part gets tricky. Between frames one and two Hart wedged the vertically written letters S-L-A-M. Anyone? Anyone? Yes, you back there in the CAIR [Council On American-Islamic Relations] T-shirt.

"Quite obviously, it's a slam against Islam."

Allrighty. Anyone else? Yes, you, the young man in the cowboy hat.

"What the heck's he talking about, I-slam? He slammed the dadgum door. Slam means slam."

Since Hart's comic strip appeared Nov. 10, he's been the object of the sort of debate that makes one wonder whether we've been transported to an alternate, humorless universe where everything is literal.

The stink began when someone posted a comment on washingtonpost.com that the strip made no sense except metaphorically. Crescent moons, you see, are associated with Islam as well as with American outhouses. Therefore the strip was a veiled attack on Islam.

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Then CAIR jumped on the bandwagon and noted that vertically stacking “SLAM” between the two frames — which could be viewed as the shape of an “I” — could be viewed as signifying Islam. *The Washington Post* even found an expert in symbols to suggest as much.

Marshall Blonsky, professor of semiotics (for you cowboys, that's the philosophical theory of signs and symbols) at the New School in New York, found the SLAM perplexing and intriguing. “Why is the door slamming?” he mused. “You don't slam an outhouse door... You gently close an outhouse door.”

Oh, and by the way, since we're going literal here, I should probably point out that cavemen didn't use outhouses. Forget slamming the door with, as *The Washington Post* put it, “a melodramatic flourish.”

Hart, meanwhile, has denied any hidden anti-Islamic message, saying: “My goodness. That's incredible. That's unbelievable.”

More to the point, what if Hart were poking fun at Islam? We routinely poke fun at Catholicism and fundamentalist Christianity, the group to which Hart happens to belong. Why the kid-glove treatment only for Islam? Hart has a right to express even an unpopular view.

In answer to the question he posed in “B.C.,” it's not the outhouse that stinks. It's our virtuous “sensitivity” and the demand for tolerance by the manifestly intolerant that reeks.



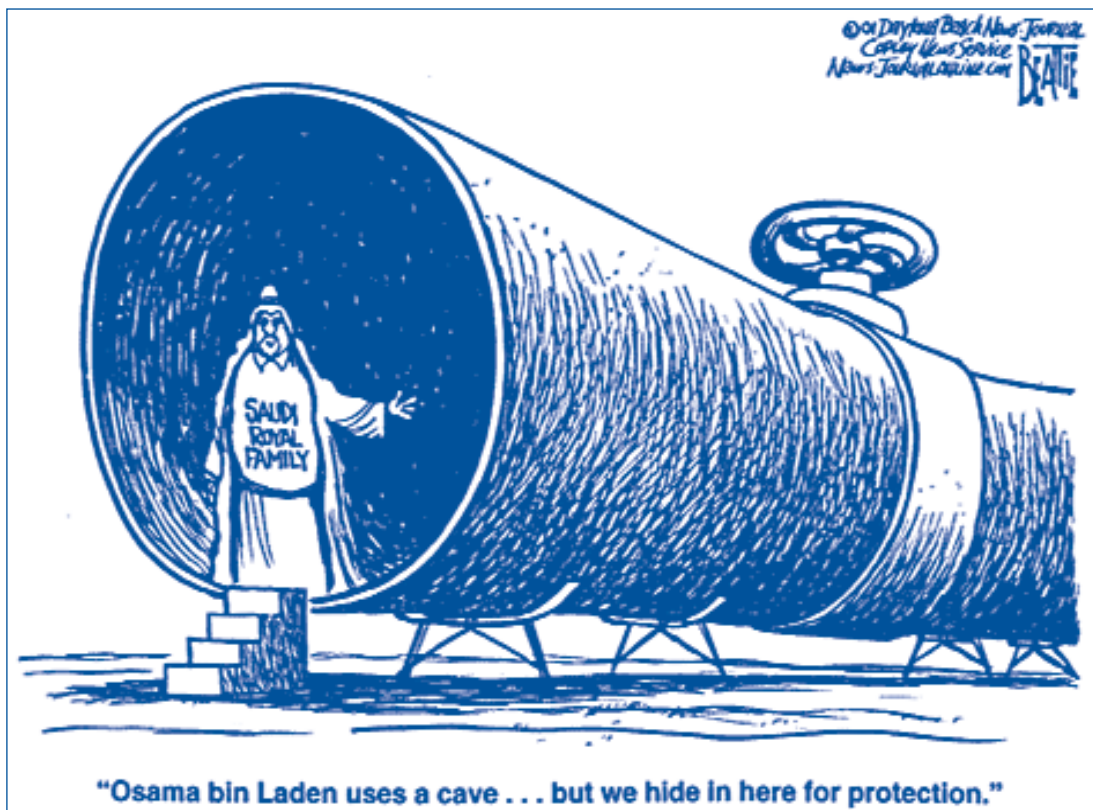
Toys for Snots

An Osama bin Laden doll holding the Pentagon is one of the toys available to Palestinian children for the Id al-Fitr holiday. As pictured in *The Jerusalem Post*, the flaming Twin Trade Towers — shorter than bin Laden — are standing nearby. The three-day Id al-Fitr holiday marks the end of the month of Ramadan, a time when radical religious passions run high and terrorists are more inspired to carry out attacks. — CNSNews.com

The Islamic Way

Mohammed Sajid, 19, poured acid on the face of his fiancée Rabia Bibi in Bahawalpur, a city in eastern Pakistan. The woman lost both eyes and her face was burned in the attack, which police said followed a minor dispute between the couple.

Judge Afzal Sharif ruled that Sajid be jailed for seven years, and blinded by acid. The judge ordered that a doctor perform the punishment publicly at a sports stadium. “This is an Islamic way of doing justice,” the judge wrote in his verdict. — AP



In this ministry, we have found that true Believers give to God most generously. — Zola

A Lot or a Little?

By Al Neuharth, *USA Today*

It is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35).

Nearly all of us gave and received gifts this past Christmas, because that's traditionally the season of giving. Actually, many make gifts or donations year-round. For most of us, giving is a private matter, whether to charities, churches, family, friends. But for the famous, that's not the case, because nearly every dollar is documented and the media often make a big deal of it.

Young Bill Gates



The December 1st issue of *BusinessWeek* features the US's 50 top givers, with a comparison of their net worth and their philanthropy. Most interesting numbers involve the two richest men in the US, Microsoft founder Bill Gates and Berkshire Hathaway boss Warren Buffett. Comparisons of their 1999-2003 wealth and giving:

Buffett



Gates and wife Melinda gave away \$22.9 billion, nearly 50% of their \$46 billion net worth.

Buffett and wife Susan gave away \$230 million, less than 1% of their \$36 billion net worth.

What makes some of the very rich very generous, or some sometimes seemingly a bit stingy? My hunch is it's the way they made their money. Quickly and fairly easily. Or slowly, the hard way.

Gates, 48, broke the bank as a relative kid. He founded Microsoft at age 19 and quickly rode the high-tech boom to the top.

Buffett, 73, has been working away at more old-fashioned investments for a half-century. Steadily, but more slowly.

Gates and Buffett are interesting studies in contrast. To understand how they and other wealthy people give away well-gotten gains we have to appreciate from whence they came.

Replies to the above writer (which appeared with the original article) included the story of a black cleaning woman who bequeathed a gift in six figures, which she certainly earned very slowly, to a college. Such stories dispel the writer's theory. She is like the widow (Mk 12:42) who gave so very much in the Lord's estimation. — Zola

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Your Taxes for PLO Propaganda

By David Bedein, *Front Page Magazine*

Ever wonder who is behind the well-oiled Palestinian propaganda operation that reaches out to every media outlet and every college campus in sight? Who pays for Palestinian efforts to lobby Congress to overlook its campaign of homicide bombing? Who finances glowing histories of the PLO's role in "stabilizing" the Middle East?

Look no further than your own tax return.

The US government has finally acknowledged that the US Aid For International Development (USAID) funds the Palestine Academic Society For the Study of Academic Affairs (PASSIA), the PLO lobby group in Jerusalem which trains PLO media professionals.

USAID reports directly to the White House, which makes that allocation of particular significance to US taxpayers. This funding arrangement was made possible back in 1997, under an agreement reached between the PLO and the man who was then the US Consul in Jerusalem, Mr. Edward Abington.

Immediately upon leaving his position as consul in Jerusalem in 1997, an employee of the US State Department, Abington was hired by the PLO to be their paid lobbyist and official foreign agent in Washington, DC, where Abington continues to lobby for the PLO under the framework of Bannerman and Associates. There's nothing like paying back a friend who helps you out.

From 1997-2004, USAID has given (or is scheduled to give) the PASSIA lobby a total of \$1.7 million. PASSIA provides skills and capacity to young Palestinian professionals in areas such as fundraising, strategic planning, advocacy, and training of trainers. Such "trainers" may even be exported to the US to teach pro-Palestinian "activists" at the Third National Palestine Solidarity Conference "Hate Fest" at Ohio State — all on the American taxpayer's dime.

David Nassar, former field director of the Arab-American Institute of Washington, DC (AAI), now directs the PASSIA "Civil Society Empowerment" project. He states flatly that the average reporter "often does not respond but writes what they are told to write." Readers of this American taxpayer-funded exercise are instructed to "hit their targets as we (AAI) do in the US all the time."

One such "target" is the US Congress, which "cut aid to the Palestinians for not improving the way in which the PA deals with suicide bombers." The objective was, "To do whatever we needed to stop this resolution," sponsored by Senators Diane Feinstein and Mitch McConnell. In other words, PASSIA receives funds from USAID to lobby the US Congress.

Tendentious "education" booklets produced by PASSIA with funds from USAID can be exemplified by their widely circulated booklet "Media and Communication Skills." Under the heading "Israel Occupation in 1967," Mr. Nassar writes: "The establishment of the PLO in the mid-1960s contributed to the success of the attempts to create and restructure civil institutions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip." From reading this USAID-funded description of the PLO, one would think that the PLO was a branch of the Peace Corps.

The Registrar for Non-Profit Organizations reported to a query from the US House International Relations Committee in which he indicated that PASSIA has not recorded USAID funds on its books. So much for US requirements for rigorous standards of financial responsibility.

The House of Representatives cannot get an accurate accounting of PASSIA's USAID funds, but it is the US taxpayer who deserves an explanation: Why are his tax dollars being used to manipulate his own government in favor of suicide bombers? ★



Photo: Israel Today

I think that Arafat has failed to kill as many of his own people as Saddam has, because the Palestinian nation is smaller. But he has tried. — Zola

Did the Good Guys Really Win?

By Gary Cooperberg, Project Shofar, Inc.

Saddam Hussein was a symbol of defiance to the power of the United States and the free world in general. He mocked the first President Bush and the present one, and really thought he could get away with it. The first time he really did get away with it, and I have a feeling that, were it not for the horror of 9/11, he would have succeeded again. And, to be perfectly frank, it is too early to be certain that he will not succeed again.

Okay, great, we got the murderous dictator. It has been reported that he has been offered a deal. Tell where he is hiding the weapons of mass destruction and he will spend life in prison rather than be executed. Nice try. How come no one offered him a Nobel Prize for chutzpa? Does anyone honestly expect that he will be executed? No way.

Let's take a look at Israel. She has in her custody a far greater criminal than Saddam, yet she is forbidden to assassinate him or even to bring him to trial and then execute him. Why? Bush has already agreed that he is persona non grata (not to mention a major terrorist murderer). What makes Arafat so special? It should also be pointed out that he is great friends with Saddam. He and all of his PLO cohorts are devastated at the news that Saddam has been captured.

Although President Bush appeared very pleased as he announced the good news, I don't really think that he can honestly believe that now Iraq will turn into an

oasis of democracy. And, I daresay, I sincerely doubt that Saddam will suffer serious punishment either. Saddam did not knock off the Twin Towers, and we still didn't find the WMD. But, what is more significant, I do not think Saudi Arabia would be too happy to see a fellow Islamic fanatic dictator demeaned any more than he already has been. You see the war against terror does have its limitations. Arafat is off limits. It will be very interesting to see how Saddam squirms his way out of this one. And he will.

George Bush has turned a blind eye to the Bible and developed a "vision" of a two state solution for Israel because Saudi Arabia is blackmailing him. He is keeping Arafat safe for the same reason. And it is also for this same reason that Saddam cannot and will not be executed. Were the President of the United States truly his own man, he would have Saddam tried and executed and place his own puppet Islamic government over Iraq. If he doesn't do this, Iraq will simply be taken over by some other Islamic dictator who is not likely to be friendly to the United States.

Were he sincere in his war against terror, and not under the thumb of Saudi petrodollars, not only would he not tie the hands of the Israeli government, he would encourage Jewish settlement in all of the Land of Israel, especially Judea, Samaria and Gaza, and he would declare Arafat and the PA or PLO the terrorists that they are, giving Israel the green light to eliminate them.

Unfortunately, his war against terror is little more than a facade. If Bush fails to muster the personal courage to stand up to the evil forces which are thwarting him from confronting the real enemies of the United States, not only will he fail to stop terror in the USA, he will effectively encourage the enemies of America to continue to plague that nation with untold horrors. ★



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Like a Mouse in a Hole

By Zola Levitt

I was serving in a Florida church on the Sunday morning when Saddam's capture was announced. I thought the pastor put it pretty well: "...caught like a mouse in a hole."

This Scion of the Kings of Babylon, this Field Marshal, this swaggering braggart, who tried to intimidate us with "the mother of all battles," ended up lying face down in the dirt, the international sign of no resistance. He gave himself up to privates and corporals without a fight and submitted to the indignities of any prisoner of war.

This King of Dictators turns out to be nothing but a scared, tired, homeless, defeated weakling who would not even defend himself, but rather, was taken alive, perhaps in hopes that his French, Russian, or German partners in crime would help him back to some sort of normal life.

I doubt that we'll let that happen.

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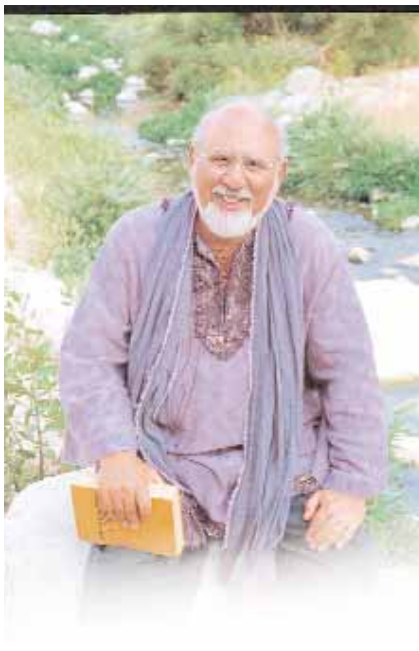


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