**APRIL 2006** 

"Brethren, My HEART'S DESIRE AND PRAYER TO GOD FOR ISRAEL IS THAT THEY MIGHT BE SAVED." - ROMANS 10:1 The world is now in real trouble. This writer clearly reveals why. - Zola Witer clearly reveals why. - Zola

# It's Later Than We Think By Arnaud de Borchgrave, www.washingtontimes.com

The man in charge of hoodwinking the Western powers about Iran's now 18-year-old secret nuclear program believes the apocalypse will happen in his own lifetime. He'll be 50 in October.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's Shiite creed has convinced him lesser mortals can not only influence, but hasten the awaited return of the 12th Imam, known as the Mahdi. Iran's dominant "Twelver" sect holds this will be Muhammad ibn Hasan, the righteous descendant of the Prophet Muhammad. He is said to have gone into "occlusion" in the 9th century, at age 5. His return will be preceded by cosmic chaos, war, bloodshed, and pestilence. After this cataclysmic confrontation between the forces of good and evil, the Mahdi will lead the world to an era of universal peace.



"The ultimate promise of all divine religions," says Ahmadinejad, "will be fulfilled with the emergence of a perfect human being [the 12th Imam], who is heir to all prophets. He will lead the world to justice and absolute

peace. Oh mighty Lord, I pray to you to hasten the emergence of your last repository, the promised one." He reckons the return of the Imam, AWOL for 11 centuries, is only two years away.

Mr. Ahmadinejad is close to the messianic Hojjatieh Society, which is governed by the conviction that the 12th Imam's return will be hastened by "the creation of chaos on Earth." He has fired Iran's most experienced

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### "First the Jews, then the Christians"

By Jan Willem van der Hoeven www.israelinsider.com

All over the planet, a new reality is dawning. Islam has vowed to conquer the whole world.

Here are some of the words of Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal which he delivered in a Damascus mosque, spelling out myriads of others daily are



he delivered in a Damascus mosque, spelling out what myriads of others daily are saying in their mosques and through their media channels. The address was delivered following the Friday sermon at the mosque, and was aired on Al-Jazeera TV on February 3, 2006:

"We say to this West, which does not act reasonably, and does not learn its lessons: By Allah, you will be defeated. You will be defeated in Palestine, and your defeat there has already begun. True, it is Israel

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#### "I like listening to Zola"

(From a post on Zola's Online Discussion Board, www.levitt.com)

I like listening to Zola. Zola accepts invitations to "talk" and that is what he does — talk. He doesn't lecture, he doesn't posture, nor scold, though he is great at deflecting the pompous without crushing them at the Q and A session at the end of a talk.

I had the distinct pleasure of visiting Hank Lindstrom's church twice this weekend. Zola talked Saturday evening and again Sunday morning. Getting there for Sunday was a bit tricky to pull off as I had to play hooky from my own church services to do it. I went in to see that all seemed well and boogied out of there.

Hank Lindstrom has a pretty simple, humble facility near the airport and a very relaxed way of holding services. He tends to lead the singing though there is a small choir. He also has the most excellent organist, a man blind from birth that makes an organ flow like a piano and he just knows song after song after song, for obviously, he doesn't read music. Had a real good time there. It is nice to get out once in a while and hear other congregations.

I'll have to listen to the tape of our service else I will be behind in our exposition of the Book of Matthew that has been going on for, gee, I think two years now?? Time flies maybe it is just a year and a half. Anyway, the point is, I enjoyed the presentation.

Zola Levitt looks pretty good, though he has a bit of a cold. He does crack a few Jewish jokes during a talk, some are real good, others, well they are Jewish, so who knows?

May this serve as a reminder to pray for not only Zola but his wife and family, plus the staff at ZLM as they all are part of the ministry that makes it possible for us to post here. — M.W.

#### **Rocks on Graves**

Dear Zola:

I have a question: Why do Jewish people put rocks on graves? J.M.

Dear J.M.: I was told in Israel that burial long ago involved a shallow grave and a flat slab covering the top. Since predator animals would remove the slabs and open the grave, people placed heavy boulders on the slabs to hold them down. Later on, they began to cement the slabs to the grave, but they never gave up the boulders. Now they have become pebbles and they certify a visit to the grave. That scene was shown at the end of Schindler's List, and the practice continues at Jewish cemeteries around the world. - Zola

#### With Pleasure

Dear Zola :

Please add my name to your mailing list to receive the Levitt Letter.

Your television show has such interesting guests and relevant topics that it has become my favorite program. I just wish I had discovered it sooner. With Biblical prophecy being fulfilled before our very eyes, how can anyone afford to ignore what the Bible says about Israel and the End Times? — S.T.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



#### LETTERS TO ZOLA continued

#### **Top Score**

Dear Zola:



I am so proud to be a part of your ministry, as a loyal viewer.

I am also proud of your four-star rating with Charity Navigator, but I believe it should be a solid five-star rating (I might be biased), for the truth that emanates from your ministry is not surpassed by any other that I have seen, and I am always looking for the truth!

Yours in Christ,

D.D.

Dear D.D.: Four stars is the top score, but we are delighted with all these secular awards. — Zola

#### Case Closed?

Dear Zola:

Israel can best be compared to Nazi Germany. Case closed!

J.K.

#### The Most Beautiful Music



Dear Zola:

I just purchased your special music CD, *The Works* and want to thank you for the most beautiful music on earth. I have patiently waited for these several years and finally decided to get them last week and share them with as many others as possible during Erev Shabbats in our community.

I would like to tell you how much your newsletters have blessed me, I have prayed for your continued ministry, and for you during your recent surgery. I thank G-d for your Bold Voice of Truth, and your love for Israel. You are truly a Watchman on the Wall.

I encourage everyone to purchase your music and videos — they are wonderful. I am buying as many as possible. I had the privilege of meeting you at a prophecy conference in Dallas several years ago. I just watched *The Miracle of Passover* again last week. It is like being there. Shalom,

#### A Jewish Blessing

Dear Zola:

I am enclosing a check for \$20.00 for another year of your newsletter. I am a Jew and I do not care to support your ministry, but do enjoy the *Levitt Letter* because of the information it contains about my religion and what is happening is Israel. The *Levitt Letter* has more information on the Middle East than can be found in any American newspaper or magazine.

I do not agree with some who say you are not a Jew if you are a Christian. I don't think your religion would have saved you in 1940 Germany any more than any other Jew. It is our ancestry that makes us Jews.

Thank you for the information you provide and G-d bless you.

Sincerely,

T.H.

Dear T.H.

We are returning your \$20 gift. The Levitt Letter is free.

#### — Zola

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



London Muslim protesters' demand

— R.B.

#### From a Prisoner

#### Dear Zola:

As I watch CSPAN (in prison) I see Muslims wanting federal dollars used for mosques. Never do they mention anything about Christians. Muslims have a voice and tell our government what to do. Christians are told to keep silent.

I was told by a Muslim during work that he did not want me to put the *Levitt Letter* in our Christian Chapel, which is used for a multicultural room. It's hard here in prison.

They allow Muslims, Jews, pagans, and Native American churches to meet together. But the Christians have to be supervised by staff and guards. The others don't.

I have seen Muslims watching jihad training videos for when they are released and set free to act out their commission to overtake America.

You, Zola, are one of the only voices preaching the truth about Islam.

I pray that your newsletter will spread throughout this prison.

Is there a law that could keep the Muslims from taking the *Levitt Letters* off the stand and throwing them away?

Anonymous

Dear Anonymous: I'm more concerned with a law to prevent them from destroying our country. — Zola

#### "This Scary World"

Dear Zola and Staff:

I would just like to take the opportunity to thank you for all that you do, and the light that you are in this scary world. My husband and I especially appreciate receiving the *Levitt Letter* — filled with so much truth.

We were both raised in Christian families, however since I have Russian-Jewish roots, I always felt an urge to find something deeper, and the answer to that was in Christianity's Jewish heritage. Your ministry is exactly what I needed, and I know God filled my need in what I was searching for, as I discovered your program as I flipped through the channels late one night.

I so look forward to learning Jewish culture and religion as a way to grow closer to our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the help of your ministry. I love Israel and the Jewish people, and my family prays for the peace of Israel.

R.S.

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ARAB POLITICAL CARTOONS



BOMBS AWAY: Sharon's infusion uses blood from Israeli bombs 'Al-Watan' (Oman)



'HEART OF STONE' 'Akhbar al-Khalij' (Behrin)



AN OPEN COFFIN welcomes Sharon 'Akhbar al-Khalij' (Behrain)

SHARON'S BRAIN embodies evil 'Al-Watan' (Qatar)



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diplomats and scores of other officials, presumably those who don't share his belief in apocalyptic conflagration.

The Iranian leader's finger on a nuclear trigger would be disquieting under any circumstances. Positively alarming would be a nuclear weapon in the hands of a man who badgers Israel, the U.S. and the European Union in belief a pre-emptive aerial attack on Iran's nuclear facilities will hasten the return of the missing Mahdi. Such an attack presumably would trigger anti-Western mayhem throughout the Middle East.

When he became Iran's sixth president since the 1979 revolution last summer, Mr. Ahmadinejad decided to donate \$20 million to the Jamkaran mosque, a popular pilgrimage site where the faithful can drop their missives to the "Hidden Imam" in a holy well. Tehran's workingclass faithful are convinced the new president and his Cabinet signed a "compact" pledging themselves to precipitate the return of the Mahdi — and dropped it down Jamkaran's well with the Mahdi's zip code.

In Mr. Ahmadinejad's eyes Iran is strong, with oil inching up to \$70 a barrel and America, dependent on foreign oil, is weak. He has said publicly that America and Europe have far more to lose than Iran if the U.N. Security Council votes for tough economic sanctions. He also figures if Israeli and/or U.S. warplanes strike Iran, all he has to do is give the U.S. a hard time in Iraq as American forces prepare to withdraw. Moving two or three Iranian divisions into Iraq and activating Shiite suicide bombers and hit squads throughout the region would not be too hard for a country that fought an 8-year war against Iraq (1980-88) and had no compunction about giving thousands of youngsters a key to paradise and 72 virgins before sending them across Iraqi minefields.

A top Ahmadinejad officer, Brig. Gen. Mohammad Kossari, who heads the political watchdog, or Security Bureau, of Iran's armed forces, recently taunted the U.S. when he bragged "we have identified all the weak points of our enemies" and have sufficient cannon fodder — i.e., suicide operation volunteers — "ready to strike at these sensitive locations." Iranian television recently broadcast an animated film for Iranian children glorifying suicide bombers.

So far, Supreme Leader and Chief of State Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who sits in the holy city of Qom, has not expostulated. Mr. Ahmadinejad appears to have his religious backside well covered. His ideological mentor and spiritual guide is Ayatollah Mesbah Yazdi, who heads the ultraconservative acolytes who believe the 12th Imam's return is "imminent."

The son of a blacksmith, Mr. Ahmadinejad earned an engineering Ph.D. and was a member of Iran's notorious Revolutionary Guards at a time when dissidents and "counterrevolutionaries" were executed by the thousands.

A.Q. Khan, father of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal, first showed Iran how to build a nuclear weapon 18 years ago. He opened his nuclear black market to Iranian engineers and scientists.

The Bush administration is anxious to clear the decks in a democratic Iraq before facing the Islamist counterpart of the "Rapture" in the *Left Behind* series of books on the end of times by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins. President Bush says all options are on the table. But the military option is probably the one the "twelvers" would look forward to. Some Washington think tank strategists argue that if Iran's "Dr. Strangelove" attacked Israel with a nuclear weapon, five Iranian cities would be vaporized the next day.

It might behoove the United States to sit down with "axis of evil" Iran to find out if the MAD (Mutually Assured Destruction) doctrine that kept the Soviet Union and the U.S. at peace for a half-century could still be made to work.

In any event, one would have to be irredeemably myopic not to see that Iran has an active nuclear weapons program. The only question is how far this secret program is from delivering a usable weapon and fitting it in the nose cone of a Shahab-3 missile with the range to reach Israel. The Israeli Air Force will be "overhead" in Iran long before.



#### "FIRST THE JEWS, THEN THE CHRISTIANS" continued

that is being defeated there, but when Israel is defeated, its path is defeated, those who call to support it are defeated, and the cowards who hide behind it and support it are defeated. Israel will be defeated, and so will whoever supported or supports it."

"America will be defeated in Iraq. Wherever the [Islamic] nation is targeted, its enemies will be defeated, Allah willing. The nation of Muhammad is gaining victory in Palestine. The nation of Muhammad is gaining victory in Iraq, and it will be victorious in all Arab and Muslim lands."

"Their multitudes will be defeated and turn their backs [and flee]. These fools will be defeated, the wheel of time will turn, and times of victory and glory will be upon our nation, and the West will be full of remorse when it is too late."

"They think that history has ended with them. They do not know that the law of Allah cannot be changed or replaced. 'You shall not find a substitute for the law of Allah. You shall not find any change to the law of Allah. Today, the Arab and Islamic nation is rising and awakening and it will reach its peak, Allah willing. It will be victorious. It will link the present to the past. It will open up the horizons of the future. It will regain the leadership of the world. Allah willing, the day is not far off."

"Don't you see that they believe they are capable of using democracy to deceive the people, but then democracy is turned against them? Don't you see that they are spending their money in efforts to block the way of Allah, to thwart Hamas, to defeat it, and to help those whom they want, but that [this plot] is turned against them? They are not acting reasonably. They do not understand the Arab or Muslim mentality."

"Tomorrow, our nation will sit on the throne of the world. This is not a figment of the imagination, but a fact. Tomorrow we will lead the world, Allah willing. Apologize today, before remorse will do you no good. Our nation is moving forward, and it is in your interest to respect a victorious nation."

"Our nation will be victorious. When it reaches the leadership of the world and controls its own decisions, then it will prevent this overt interference [in our affairs], and its pillaging of natural resources, and will prevent these recurring offenses against our land, against our nation, and against our holy places — then you will regret it."

"Before Israel dies, it must be humiliated and degraded. Allah willing, before they die, they will experience humiliation and degradation every day. America will be of no avail to them. Their generals will be of no avail to them. The last of their generals has been forgotten. Allah has made him disappear. He's over. Gone is that Sharon behind whose back they would hide and find shelter, and with whom they would feel relatively secure."

"Today they have frail leaders who don't even know where our Lord placed them."

"Allah willing, we will make them lose their eyesight, we will make them lose their brains."

"Israel has begun to sense that its superiority has come to an end. Its army, which has superior conventional weapons — the air force, the armored corps, and the missiles — there are no longer wars in which these are used."

Add to this the words reported by *Arutz Sheva* (08/02/2005):

Terrorism specialist Matthew Levitt writes of a Hamas "incitement machine" in the Winter 2004 *Middle East Quarterly*, describing, for instance, a kindergarten graduation run by a Hamas charitable association. The event "featured 1600 preschool age children wearing uniforms and carrying pretend rifles. A five-year-old girl reenacted attacks on Israelis by dipping her hands in red paint, mimicking the bloodied hands Palestinians proudly displayed after the lynching of two Israelis in Ramallah."

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#### "FIRST THE JEWS, THEN THE CHRISTIANS" continued

He describes an Islamic school in which "11-year-old Palestinian student Ahmed states, 'I will make my body a bomb that will blast the flesh of Zionists, the sons of pigs and monkeys. I will tear their bodies into little pieces and cause them more pain than they will ever know.'"

This is a frightening reality, and it draws nearer by the day, until it may indeed conquer the whole world.

Tiny little Israel is one of the few reasons that Islam has not yet fully conquered the West. But once this nation has succumbed, swallowed up by the ferocious hate-filled forces of Islam, the way will be free for Islam to swallow up the rest of the Western world. Once they have beaten the U.S. in Iraq and Afghanistan and Israel, securing victory in the Middle East, there will be little to stop them on their path to bring the whole Western World into subjection, and then become the conquerors of the whole world, exactly as they all believe Allah has long intended that they will do.

It is frightening because of all the violence, terror and cruelty that will accompany this conquest. We already see it happening all over the world. Islam can kill, murder, lynch, torture, and make holy war, all in the name of Allah; Islam can burn and destroy churches and synagogues as they do — misusing Christian and Jewish sanctuaries their terrorists use as they have in Lebanon, Bethlehem and other places; Islam can desecrate, confiscate or shred Bibles; Islam can publish monstrous caricatures about Jews and Christians; Islam's followers can explode themselves as suicide bombers in unsuspecting crowds of people, blow up planes full of passengers in midair, or fly planes through trade towers and the Pentagon — this all in the name of Allah. All of this is permitted.

But should Muslims in turn be dealt even a minuscule percentage of such affronts or indignities themselves, literally all hell breaks loose: They burn the flags of the U.S., Denmark, Israel, and others; they torch thousands of cars in Paris; they demonstrate with fury and hate, and no one who gets in their way is safe.

They will demonstrate with violence all across Muslim lands when their religion is dishonored, even as they simultaneously burn synagogues and trample upon everything that is holy and dear to other faiths. In the Old City of Jerusalem alone they destroyed 53 synagogues before the Six Day War.

European pastors who still dare to speak up about Israel in the light of God's Word have had to go into hiding.

England has been served notice that it will be the first Muslim-dominated country in Europe, as British Muslim leaders proclaimed in their big mosque in Regency Park: "Our way to conquer Europe runs via London."

And so it goes on. They demand respect, freedom and their right to build mosques all over the world, but Christians cannot build one church in Saudi Arabia and cannot bring even their own private Bibles on the plane with them. Where is the tolerance so freely given by nearly every western country to Islam in Islam's own motherland towards Christians or Jews? It is non-existent. "We shall fight on Saturday, and then on Sunday," Muslims chant; first the Jews and then the Christians. It is already happening all over the world!



#### LETTERS TO ZOLA continued

#### A Polite Request

Dear Zola:

Please, I would like to request a free subscription to the *Levitt Letter*.

I am an Orthodox Jew, not messianic, but I do like the pro-Israel, anti-Islamic articles in your magazine. We truly need more material like that in this prison.

D.B.

Dear D.B.: Your subscription is on the way.

#### **Change Churches**

Dear Zola:

I watch you occasionally on TBN. A while back, you and David Reagan of the Lion and Lamb Ministries were talking about the lack of doctrine being taught in churches today. I totally agree. It's more of a feel-good ministry that people are looking for.

My church is basically sound on doctrine, but teaches very little on prophecy and the Jewish people. In fact, our pastor recently said our belief was more like the Muslims than the Jews. That offended me.

In the last ten years, God has given me a love for the Jewish people. We owe them so much. They wrote the Bible and proselytized us Gentiles. I know they are God's Chosen People and He has a plan for them. I often pray for the peace of Jerusalem and that they will come to recognize Jesus as the true Messiah.

Thank you for being outspoken and aggressive in your beliefs. I believe Jesus expects us to not compromise our faith.

Love in Christ,

D.H.

LETTERS CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

### **America's Port Partners**

Gary Bauer's End of Day Report

• 73% of UAE citizens had a negative view of the United States; only 14% had a favorable view.

• Only 5% of UAE citizens felt that "democracy" was an "extremely important" reason for the U.S. invasion of Iraq. Preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruc-

#### EDITORIAL

tion was cited by 16%. "Oil" and "domination of the Muslim world" were the main reasons offered by UAE citizens for our invasion of Iraq.

• 81% of UAE citizens felt Iraq was worse off after the war. Only 4% said it was better off without Saddam.

• Asked to identify their "most admired" world leaders, 18% of UAE citizens chose Osama bin Laden. "No one" finished first with 22%.

• When asked how they viewed themselves, only 19% said they identified first and foremost as citizens of the United Arab Emirates, while 66% said they saw themselves as "Muslims" first.

We should not be so quick to deceive ourselves about the nature of this "friendship." The United Arab Emirates is not Great Britain. Its citizens share neither our values nor our interests. Yes, the rulers of the UAE have been cooperating with us, but they are sitting on a powder keg of radical Islamic fundamentalism, making it much more likely that Dubai Ports World, and thus the U.S., will be susceptible to infiltration.

Our government apparently has no problem allowing this country operational control of 21 American ports. — Zola



#### EDITORIALS

#### **Thanks for Sharing**

Dear Zola:

I just recently received three of your books, *The Seven Feasts of Israel, The Miracle of Passover* and *A Christian Love Story,* which I ordered from you. WOW! I am 32 and have been a Christian ever since I can remember, being brought up in a Christian home and going to church every time the doors were open, but when I read these, I understood more. You explained SO much! My mother always taught me to respect the Jewish people (we even attended a service in the local synagogue), but I never understood certain Scriptures until I read your books.

Thank you SO much for sharing what God has taught you. I am now a pastor of a church God instructed me to establish. As of February 1st we were 2 years old. Which is the reason for this email. I would like permission to teach these, and other books as I purchase them from you, to God's congregation. It would bless them so much. I am always reminding them that the Bible is a Jewish book and we need to understand that to correctly interpret Scripture, and your books would certainly demonstrate that. I pray that you would allow me to do this. May God continue to bless you and instruct you in His ways.

In HIS Ministry, — J.M.

Dear J.M.: Feel free to use any of our books, especially in church. — Zola

#### **No Thanks**

By Zola Levitt

On the subject of the United Arab Emirates controlling our ports, as far as I'm concerned, there's absolutely nothing to say. This is an absurd discussion. Regardless how Muslim people play at helping us out or doing business or whatever else, some of them are deadly enemies, and if we invite them to our ports, they will have an opportunity to use those ports against us.

It's a subject about which I find trouble expressing myself. It's impossible for me to understand why anyone would even open such a discussion, let alone talk about making some big money or praising a country that does not recognize Israel, that has cooperated with al-Qaeda, that has laundered monies, etc. As far as I'm concerned, if we continue this kind of talk of "working with" our "Arab friends," I'd say it's over for us.

We need to understand that they have been supporters of al-Qaeda and that two of the 9/11 hijackers were from the UAE.

No Middle Eastern country, except Israel, can be trusted

in any way. Our ports should be watched by our own people. That's too obvious to say. I was stupefied by the President's support of this tyrannical regime, which like all other Arab countries is simply owned and operated by a dictator, his family, etc. I'm simply stunned. I don't understand what's going on.

#### **Israel's New Capital**

On Fox News Sunday, February 5, a crawl line under the screen (the news bulletin that rolls by as people are talking) printed a line about Israel deciding to release, for the moment, tax money collected that it pays monthly to Palestinians. Israel, at first had held off the payments, but released the first month's tax money to Hamas.

### However, Tel Aviv says future transfers, vital to the Palestinian economy, are unlikely.

This is "newsspeak" for a way of getting the public used to the idea that somehow Jerusalem is going to be given away. Tel Aviv did not decide anything and is not the seat of the Israeli government. Fox News — the only sensible news source about Israel as it is — knows that very well. The Arabs do the same trick, and they were once caught at it in *The Washington Times*.

To put it in a clearer context, it would be the same as saying that Congress today decided some particular policy in New York or Chicago. Anti-Israelism is a kneejerk reaction around the world, and to me is still totally inexplicable. Israel is 100% blameless in all of its transactions that I can see and, if it had its choice, would simply seal its borders and stay away from all mankind after this much hatred. — Zola



## The General's Assessment

By Will King, www.gazabook.com

"To deal with the motivation [of the terrorists] will take years. He who wants to win in the War on Terror must understand that it will take a very long time." That is a quote from Maj. Gen. Ze'evi Farkash, who retired in



late 2005 as the head of Israel's military intelligence. Gen. Farkash, who was responsible for producing Israel's national intelligence assessment, spoke recently at the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs on terror groups, the Palestinians, Israel's neighbors, and some of his lessons and predictions from his tour in intelligence.

Gen. Farkash identified the three most important things that he observed in his last four years: 1) the effectiveness of the "Arab nation" had become weaker; 2) the weakening of the "Arab nation" was bad for Israel; and 3) Muslim fundamentalist parties are becoming stronger. He identified the "Arab nation" as being the Arab collective, and feels that it has been weakened due to demonstrations (such as the cartoon fiasco), a negative image caused by worldwide jihad, and by the media and internet. With the "Arab nation" weakened, the "Arab street" seeks change and begins to identify more with the proactive fundamentalist groups. Gen. Farkash noted not only a rise of Hamas in the Palestinian Authority (PA), but also of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and Syria, as well as the entrance of Hezbollah into Lebanese national politics. He was also concerned about the rise in activity by al-Qaeda affiliated terror groups operating in Egypt and Jordan. According to Gen. Farkash, the goal of al-Qaeda around Israel is to weaken and discredit the current governments there through terror attacks in order to change public sentiment, and replace them with Islamic fundamentalist governments, thereby providing easier access to strike targets in Israel.

Syria was also seen as another source of concern due to the steady weakening of Bashar Assad's regime. Gen. Farkash believes that the United Nations' investigation into former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri's assassination will prove incredibly damaging to Assad and his ruling party, and may force him into a corner where the only option he has is to lash out violently. He said that Assad is only interested in the Golan Heights as a source of winning public support and shoring up his regime. Iran is a big supporter of Syria and Hezbollah, both financially and militarily, making the proliferation of WMD from Iran of great concern as well.

Speaking on Iran, Gen. Farkash said that he believes that if left unchecked, Iran will have a working nuclear device by 2010, possibly as early as 2008, and that, "...achieving this capability will bring us to live in a different Middle East." He said that the most important step of the process, the completion of the independent R&D for enriching uranium, will be achieved within the next year. Once the R&D is complete, then it's only a matter of time for Iran to enrich enough nuclear material to produce a working bomb. Gen. Farkash pointed out that Iran already has a delivery means capable of striking Israel and Saudi Arabia, the Shahab-3 rocket, and within 2-3 years will have a rocket capable of covering all of Europe, and the eastern US in another 5 years.

Despite all the negatives on the horizon, Gen. Farkash did identify several positive vectors which were occurring within the region. He said that the political process begun in Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon, and the PA were all strong because of the presence and involvement of the US, and that the American presence makes it harder for the radical camp to carry out terror activity. Gen. Farkash also gave praise to the international community's pressure on Syria to withdraw from Lebanon, as well as unifying against a nuclear armed Iran. As for Israel, he said that the threat of conventional warfare is less than the asymmetrical threat, meaning that Israel must continue to focus its resources on the Palestinian terror groups. Gen. Farkash did warn, however, that outside groups like al-Qaeda are crossing from Egypt into Gaza and bringing with them terror know-how and weapons, possibly even shoulder-fired antiaircraft missiles and Katyusha rockets.

As we approach the End Times, the picture becomes darker and darker. Now, more than ever, Israel needs the prayers and support of its Christian friends. Now is also the time to come to Israel and show that support by standing shoulder to shoulder with God's people in their hour of need. Please pray for Israel's leaders, pray for God's Spirit to work within His people, and pray for the peace of Jerusalem.



#### The Cartoon Jihad

By Jackie Mason and Raoul Felder, www.jewishworldreview.com

#### Giving kultur kampf an entirely different meaning

The Muslims have pronounced their verdict. The cartoon man has been found guilty. The real crime is, of course, not being a Muslim. Now that they have established the crime, they have also pronounced the sentence. Even if you never saw or heard of the cartoon, you deserve to be hit with rocks, your car wrecked, and your embassies destroyed because you are an infidel — and incidentally, there are no appeals. There was even television coverage of a Muslim religious leader screaming in some unintelligible language. However, on the bottom of the screen the translation appeared. This religious leader was shouting that whoever drew the cartoon should have his hands cut off. This hardly seems for us to be a reasonable penalty for somebody taking a piece of paper, picking up a pen, and drawing something.

#### **One Out of Twelve!**

The Israel-bashing newspaper, the *Orlando Sentinel*, recently devoted an entire page to the question "Which Way on the Road to Peace?" and printed twelve letters of which one had actual facts and the other eleven blamed Israel for all troubles in that land.

The letter I found that agreed with the situation as I understand it was called "Cut Off Aid," and it stated:

The naïve liberals making excuses for the Palestinians all of these years have been exposed as fools. With the election of Hamas, Palestinians have proved to the world that they have no interest in living peacefully with Israel. Hamas openly states its true intentions: the destruction of the State of Israel, and the murder of every Jewish or Israeli man, woman, and child. No compromise, no negotiations, no peace.

The Palestinians are a lost cause poisoned by a deep hatred caused by years of school maps showing all of Israel labeled as "Palestine," by a media full of anti-Semitism and anti-Israel rhetoric, and by a society that glorifies "martyrs" who die while killing Israeli teenagers in discos and pregnant women and children having lunch.

All aid to the Palestinians should be cut off immediately, until they show some concrete moves toward peaceful coexistence. International aid could be better spent helping people in Darfur, Haiti, or any number of places where the recipients won't be using it to kill other people. Whatever money given to the Palestinians that their leaders don't steal will only go toward further attacks on Israel. Sharon Sernik Altamone Springs, FL

All of the other letters censured Israel for this or that sin — principally for standing there while a bomb went off. Enough said. — Zola

#### Moody's Tour Improved

One should take some care in choosing tours to Israel. Please know that we are not competing with other agencies, since each of our tours is full and, in fact, we closed our March tour almost seven weeks before departure. As we pointed out last year, some tour operators teach very muddled doctrines concerning Israel, but gladly take a profit on the place.

With all that said, Moody Bible Institute has improved their upcoming tour by actually flying into Tel Aviv and supplying a "hand-picked Israeli tour guide" on each bus. If the guide is Jewish, and the land agency also, that will be quite an improvement indeed. Unfortunately, however, their tour offers a "special banquet" in Bethlehem, though they will not visit the Church of the Nativity. I have the uncomfortable feeling that they or their representatives have been dealing with Muslim authorities who now utterly control Bethlehem and its holy sites.

In plain language, no American should try to visit the city of Bethlehem at this time, when they will have to pass through Palestinian checkpoints, be exposed to a certain amount of abuse and danger, and where they will eat suspect food. No American should give any support whatsoever to Hamas, now the Palestinian "government." — Zola



#### Dear Friends,

I really hate to report this, but I have been diagnosed with metastatic lung cancer. It has gone into the brain and liver, and I have little choice but to proceed with radiation and chemotherapy.

With that said, I am maintaining my post as long as possible, making TV programs and otherwise supervising this ministry. I don't particularly feel well—this is a disease that seems to bring on a symptom per day but I have a kind of spiritual peace about my upcoming death. I will probably be seeing the Lord sometime this spring, and I very much look forward to that. After all, Paul said, *For me...to die is gain* (Phil. 1:21).

I was attended by a nice young man when I was being prepared for an MRI exam in the hospital. After the exam, he helped me again. We had some brief conversation and then he said, "I have been working here for nine years and I have met very angry and bitter people with this awful illness, but you are the happiest man I have ever met." I shared with him about the Lord and the fact that I had nothing to worry about. He shook my hand as I left.

I also have kind of a hunch that the Rapture is just around the corner, looking at actions in Iran and also with Hamas in Israel. These greedy societies of thugs may well try to fall upon Israel, each in their own way, and be defeated summarily, but that will bring on the larger invasion called Gog and Magog (Ezekiel 38 and 39). We will be out of here before that invasion takes place, and thus, I think the Rapture is a distinct possibility ahead.

I'm not just saying that as a date setter, but as someone who has considered these prophecies for 35 years, talked them over with other teachers, and come to the conclusion that virtually nothing else has to happen before the Lord's coming. And again, it's not wishful thinking. This faith, put to the test, sustains you beautifully. I went through two bypass operations, either one of which could have been fatal, and ended up telling my doctors: "Don't worry. When I awake, I'll either see you or the King."

I'll have some problems with speaking engagements, tours, etc., obviously, but work here on the home front continues, and I will go on writing for this newsletter, and editing the articles in it.

In all ways, I will attempt to keep a normal schedule and also take these treatments. But I think that is the kind of challenge which I may be unable to overcome. In any case, <u>I really covet your prayers at a time like this.</u> If you want to send flowers to this ministry, please send donations instead because that is what is most needed (*How shall they preach except they be sent?* Romans 10:15).





We are still sending missionaries and, of course, TV crews to Israel, and we need to finance those things. We support two settlements in Israel at this point, as well as sending money to Bridges For Peace, and so forth.

I hope I won't receive two hundred different home remedies this time. I respect the folks who deal in home remedies, fruit juices, etc., but this is a dreadfully serious cancer that's very progressed. It totally surprised me, and I have to treat it with very serious medicines.

Our June tour, which we now call our "**Discovery Tour**," is scheduled for June 6-16, and will be led by my wife, Sandra. She has become quite the expert, in her own right, when it comes to Israel, and you will have a memorable tour. We are still working out the details for our September, **Holy Land Experience Tour** in Orlando with our good

friend Harvey Zion. Harvey is a Messianic Jew who has been helping with our Orlando tours, and has been to the real Israel. We'll have more information available in our next *Levitt Letter*.



Our fall tour dates are now in place, and we are waiting for some final prices before going to print with the brochure. You may choose from any of the following options for fall: the **Deluxe Tour** (Israel only), October 29-November 8; the **Grand Petra Tour** (Israel/Eilat/Petra), October 29-November 12; the **Grand Athens Tour** (Greek Isles Cruise & Israel), October 24-November 8; our allinclusive **Ultra Grand Tour** (Greek Isles/Israel/Eilat/ Petra), October 24-November 12.

For more tour information, please contact Tony at 214-696-9760 regular business hours, call 1-800-WONDERS (966-3377) anytime, or log on at www.levitt.com and click on **Zola's Tours** to fill in a brochure request online.

As always, please pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Your messenger,

# Of the People, By the People, For the Terrorists

By Frank Salvato, www.chronwatch.com

Common sense dictates that it is unwise to fund those who want to do you harm. It makes no sense to buy bullets for a gun that will be shot at you. In fact, it wouldn't be out of line to say that funding those who have declared that you are the enemy, for any reason, is a pretty stupid move. In light of this bit of logic, why is the United States, or any other free nation for that matter, still mulling the possibility of funding a Hamas-led Palestinian government?

Recently, the U.S. State Department, in response to declarations by senior Hamas leaders refusing to acknowledge the right of Israel to exist, and the refusal of those now elected to power by the Palestinian people to renounce violence and terrorism, asked — asked — the Palestinian Authority to return 50 million U.S. dollars so taxpayers were not funding a Hamas-lead Palestinian government.

The fact that Hamas refuses to both acknowledge Israel's right to exist and renounce terrorism isn't surprising. After all, Hamas is a terrorist organization and recognized as such, not only by our Department of State, but by just about every credible entity on the face of the planet. Those who don't recognize Hamas as a purveyor of terror are those who are themselves involved in terrorism, those who are corrupt beyond salvage, "progressive" college students vulnerable to their socialist-leaning professors, and Jimmy Carter.

There is an important point that needs to be highlighted. "Aid" that is issued in the name of the U.S. government to any country or organization for any reason is literally derived of taxpayer dollars. Whether it is \$350 million for tsunami relief, an initial \$50 million for Pakistani earthquake aid, or \$87 billion for the liberation, stabilization and reconstruction of Iraq, it is all derived from taxpayer dollars.

So, when the U.S. government sends \$50 million to coax Hamas terrorists into not murdering their Israeli neighbors, and to reward them for restraining from strapping on suicide vests made of nails and C4 in a quest to acquaint themselves with those 72 virgins, the bribe is bankrolled by American taxpayer dollars.

Keeping that in mind, the Department of State, although it has asked for the \$50 million still in Palestinian Authority hands to be returned, says it will "continue to work to meet the humanitarian needs of ordinary Palestinians using non-governmental entities."

Translation: The U.S. government is going to find ways to continue to give American taxpayer dollars to the

people who are directly responsible for voting a terrorist organization into power, and are knowingly complicit with the actions of a terrorist organization sanctioned through their democratic process.

The United States has given over \$1.5 billion in aid to the Palestinians over the past decade, channeling most of the aid through non-governmental entities. Over the same period of time, the vitriol aimed at the United States coming from the leaders of Hamas, and those groups aligned with Hamas — not to mention the Palestinian people — has grown exponentially. The experiment of trying to "buy the child's love" has failed miserably and, as in real life, the child has grown to resent the adult, this time to the point of wanting to kill him.

The U.S. State Department officially recognizes Hamas as a terrorist organization. Therefore, it is illegal for aid, in any form — whether from a governmental, a non-governmental or a private entity — to be given to the Hamas-led Palestinian Authority or those who voted it into power for any reason.

If, as the State Department says, the U.S. government continues to "work to meet the humanitarian needs of ordinary Palestinians using non-governmental entities," it is in violation of the law. Essentially, the U.S. government would be "laundering" taxpayer dollars through non-governmental groups to give aid to a terrorist organization.

Humanitarian aid is one thing, but when U.S. taxpayer dollars are being given to the very people calling for our country's downfall, "We the People" must stand up, say enough is enough — and make sure that we are heard.

It is time that those elected to represent us in Washington, D.C. understand fully that they are elected to represent us, the voters, the taxpayers, not to extract hard-earned dollars for the benefit of terrorist organizations that would dance in the streets at our ruin.



# No Men, No Women, No Christians

By Kevin McCandless, www.cnsnews.com

A Christian faith group at a major university in England has been thrown off campus for refusing to open up its membership to all faiths and beliefs.

The 76-year-old Evangelical Christian Union announced it would take legal action against Birmingham University's student council for revoking recognition of the group following months of heated negotiations.

At the heart of the matter, both sides agree, is the fact that the group refuses to amend its constitution to allow non-Christians or atheists to become voting members.

Although the group, which has 100-plus members, says all students are welcome to attend meetings, it insists that it is well within its rights to restrict membership to people who profess faith in Jesus Christ.

The union also objected to demands to remove the words "men" and "women" from its charter in order not to offend transsexuals.

Pod Bhogal, communications director for the union's national parent organization, said the events at Birmingham University were unique in his experience.

Despite the existence of dozens of Christian Union chapters at universities across the United Kingdom, he said that he'd never seen anything like it.

With the mood of the country turning more and more against Christianity, he said, he worried that similar events might now occur elsewhere.

"I think we're going to increasingly see this political correctness gone mad," he said. "Under the guise of tolerance, we're going to see intolerance."

Student council president Richard Angell said his organization was obligated to insist on the changes under education laws covering student-funded university groups.

He said Birmingham University currently had 13 faith-based student societies, five of them Christian. (The five are Anglican, Catholic, Methodist, Adventist and a social justice group called Fusion.) No other group had a problem making the changes, Angell said.

"It had by no means anything to do with their faith. It was simply a matter of following the laws."

The student council couldn't change the law and there was little room for compromise, Angell added.

But he said he hoped the university administration would step in to mediate and that a solution could be worked out short of court.

"We want to welcome them back as a society. If they can work within the bylaws, that would be brilliant."

The university administration issued a brief statement saying that it was aware of the "internal dispute" between the two groups and that it "understood" the Christian body had not yet exhausted appeals procedures. The university press office declined to make further comment.

Bhogal said he thought the student council — which controls access to university facilities and some student dues funds — was confused on the matter.

Though opening all clubs to universal membership sounded good in principle, it didn't work well when it came to some kinds of groups.

For example, it would be ludicrous for Christians to tell a Muslim group who its leaders should be, or for conservative students to join a Labor Party group in large numbers.

"The problem with that is that when you deal with groups who unite around ideology it really doesn't work."



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Happy Birthday, Zola

On December 3, 1938, Zola was born for the first time. He was born again on March 14, 1971. Most folks would agree that he looks closer to 67 than 35. A couple of years ago, Zola had lived half his mortal life as a Christian. No wonder, more than half the time, he seems "not of this world"!

### 702 Hours of Television

Andy Rooney recently commented that, over twenty years, he has done 900 pieces for *60 Minutes.* "That's about 38 hours of television programming," he added. Zola created his first TV program in December 1978. Thirty minutes per week ever since, as of his 27th television-broadcasting anniversary, in December, 2005, totaled 702 hours. And all of them, unlike Mr. Rooney, audience-supported only!

# **Two Thumbs Up**

Phil Overton at **Carlson Wagonlit Travel** is among our favorite suppliers. He provides reliable service that helps us conserve funds. If you purchase airline tickets with a credit card, then you probably will find Phil much easier to deal with than the airlines. He's the one who books the domestic connections for our Israel tours. You can reach him at 800-466-7801 or

#### reservations@carlsonuta.com. (And yes, we are bestowing

these compliments without any incentive beyond genuine gratitude.)

# Free Levitt Letter Overages

Would you like 50 recent *Levitt Letters* to offer at your church? We have begun printing a few extras for people like you who want to serve as Newsletter Ambassadors. Imagine delivering Zola's teaching to those who don't know it even exists — totally free of charge! Please help us to reach more people by periodically letting us know how many newsletters you can put to good use.

0

### **The Age of Terror** TV Series Eight 30-Minute TV Programs on Two DVDs (See page 31 to order)

When God chose Israel as His people, He not only placed them at the crossroads of history, but also at the center of the empires of their times. Time and again, this little country has endured siege and upheaval, destruction and exile, only to rise from the ashes and start anew. In this series, Zola takes you from the terrors of the ancient past to present-day conflicts and the battles yet to come.

In each of these programs, Zola is joined in the studio by Walid Shoebat, an ex-Muslim terrorist who was born in Bethlehem. Walid provides unique insights into the world of terrorism and sounds a clear trumpet of warning concerning the days ahead. His testimony of faith is poignant and his view of Biblical prophecy commands your attention.

**V772 The Assault on Israel** Visiting Dor, on Israel's coast, Zola paints a picture of Israel's ancient enemies, the Phoenicians and Philistines. He highlights the many assaults from foreign powers against God's chosen nation and suggests that the coming Antichrist may be of Greco-Syrian heritage.

**V773 History of the Mount** Atop the Mount of Olives, Zola presents the fascinating history of the Temple Mount, the place that saw God save Isaac from sacrifice, that saw temples raised and temples destroyed, and where restored Israel looks forward to a final temple that will herald Messiah's return.

**V774 Rewriting History** At the Southern Steps at the Temple Mount, Zola presents the history of the area and the current efforts by the Muslims to expand their place of worship within the Mount, excavations that have led to bulges and a weakness within the supporting Temple Mount walls.

V775 Mark of the Beast From the Mount of Olives, Zola pictures the Antichrist entering the future temple and claiming to be God. Antiochus, a Syrian king who violated the Holy of Holies and defiled the temple with an unclean sacrifice, was a forerunner of this Antichrist.

#### V776 Battle of the Gods

On location at the Dor Museum, Zola talks about the Phoenicians and Philistines who settled in the area thou-



sands of years ago, bringing their false gods with them. Elijah challenged the priests of Baal, and with fire from Heaven, the God of Israel proved that He alone is God.

**V777 A Cup of Trembling** Stationed at a strategic position overlooking Jerusalem, Zola outlines the three key attacks this city has received since Israel became a state in 1948. Armaged-don is next, and again the might of the world will not prevail.

**V778 Siege of the Holy Temple** At the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv, Zola reviews the history of the Jewish temples, from Solomon's to Herod's. The Roman siege of 70 AD, depicted behind Zola, is symbolic of the many empires that have come against God's holy place.

**V779 When Good is Called Evil** From Tel Aviv, Zola reminds the viewer that Israel is a safe, thriving country. Despite the media's efforts to portray it as a battleground, this little nation is a secure, efficient democracy in which deserts bloom and God's Chosen People await His coming.

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# **Cartoons & Nukes**

By Patrick Cox, Contributing Editor



A few years ago, I was one of two guests asked to speak at the inaugural fundraising event for a new Jewish temple in Central Florida. The other speaker was a rabbi from one of the wealthiest burgs in Southern California.

First up, I celebrated the congregation's efforts and told them I thought it critical that American Jews make their presence known to, and interact with, the wider Christian community. The reason, I said, was that Jews and Israel were coming under increasingly vicious and concerted attacks by forces dedicated to reducing their political and cultural influence in America. In many ways, I said, it was 1938 again, because intimidations and media manipulations by anti-Semites today are comparable to similar efforts in Europe prior to World War II and the Holocaust.

The good rabbi then spoke, specifically contradicting me and asserting that it was not 1938 and it could never be so again. Perhaps he thought I was implying that Jews would cooperate with their executioners, which I was not. Regardless, events of the last few weeks have reinforced my earlier conclusion.

On January 25, Hamas was democratically chosen to head up the Palestinian government, and has refused since even the pretense of renouncing its intentions to make all Israel a Jew-free Islamic state. Rather than being expelled from the UN, efforts are underway to take Hamas off the list of terrorist organizations so it can receive international aid. of Allah, we will destroy you, blow you up, take revenge against you, purify the land of you pigs that have defiled our country... This operation is revenge against the sons of monkeys and pigs."

Even more important, however, was the admission on the same website by a Hamas official that the organization has long been supported financially by Hezbollah, the joint Iranian-Syrian terrorist organization based in Southern Lebanon. All but the willingly blind have known this for some time, and Hezbollah didn't even bother to deny the truth of the Hamas statement.

So now we "officially" know, thanks to Hamas, that Iran is already waging war, by proxy, on Israel. We also know that Iran has kicked out UN inspectors and restarted its uranium enrichment program designed, according even to the French, to provide nuclear weapons to the Islamic theocracy. Almost daily, Iranian officials promise to annihilate the Jews of Israel.

Take a moment and think what life is like for Israelis today. Imagine living in the shadow of such maniacal depravity, while most of the world blames the Jewish victims of this unrelenting hatred simply for protecting themselves from further attacks. Personally, I wonder if I could endure it.

Now, consider the psychological impact of recent images, shown daily, of demonstrators around the world repeatedly and gleefully trampling the Star of David on Israeli flags alongside the crosses on Danish flags. Understand, especially, that Denmark has long been one of the most partisan supporters of Palestinian libels against Israel.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Perhaps emboldened by its victories, Hamas put several startlingly significant items on its official website.

The first was the last video messages from two Hamas suicide terrorists, sent by the organization to kill Israeli Jews.

"My message to the loathed Jews," one seethed, "is that there is no god but Allah. We will chase you everywhere! We are a nation that drinks blood, and we know that there is no blood better than the blood of Jews. We will not leave you alone until we have quenched our thirst with your blood, and our children's thirst with your blood. We will not leave until you leave the Muslim countries."

The other terrorist added, "In the name



#### CARTOONS & NUKES continued

#### **TV AIRING SCHEDULE**

Still, these sketch-frenzied mobs insist that it was Jews, of course, behind the plot to dishonor their prophet. A cartoon from a newspaper in Bahrain, for example, shows two triangular cheese wedges, stacked and turned to form the Jewish star. The caption reads, "Boycott it!"

While the connection between Israel-bashing Danes and the imaginary Zionist conspiracy may not be apparent to you, it was clear enough to the Iranian government,

as it is sponsoring a retaliatory contest for cartoons mocking the Holocaust.

Muslims have stamped through Berlin holding up banners that say, in English, "God Bless Hitler." Similar hate-fests have been held in Paris, London and Manila. Dozens of churches have been torched and scores have died in Asia, Africa and Middle East protests. The curiously synchronized themes of these mobs include the message that freedom of speech, if it dares question Islam, is a racist, bigoted attack on a peaceful religion that must be punished through beheadings.

Finally, add to this the cowardice and capitulation of the Western media toward those who believe that caricatures of Mohammed warrant the burning of embassies and a million dollar reward for the assassination of an offending cartoonist. One might have hoped that such blatant examples of religious thuggery would have stiffened the resolve of the press. Rather, the same newspapers and magazines that have published intentionally offensive depictions of Christian and Jewish religious symbols have chosen a more "sensitive" route regarding Muslims.

Journalists who revel in "speaking truth to power," when criticizing the U.S. or Israel, are mumbling pathetically about multicultural tolerance for divergent views — now that they themselves are the subject of death threats. Instead of standing up for free speech and an open press, *The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times,* CNN and other organizations have implemented policies to ensure that easily offended Muslims will not suffer from further cartoons and criticisms. Europeans are considering laws that would criminalize such expressions. All Muslims are not Islamofascists. All Germans weren't Nazis. But an unprecedented international crescendo of anti-Semitic delirium, in combination with the specter of a nuclear Iran, presents a threat as grave as any that loomed over Europe in the 1930s.

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# PBS Station Nixes Show on Terrorism



By Jennifer Siegel, www.forward.com

Following last-minute cries of protest from Muslim leaders, a Public Broadcasting Service affiliate in Dallas recently canceled the premiere of a documentary on the roots of Islamic terrorism.

"The Roots of War: The Road to Peace" was scheduled to air on KERA-TV on Sunday, January 29, but the premiere was postponed by the station's managers after a local Muslim group alleged that the program contains inaccuracies and anti-Muslim bias. The documentary's producers, Niki and Dennis McCuistion, have defended their work; they have refused to make changes.

The Dallas controversy emerged just as an international feud reached a boiling point over a Danish newspaper's publication of satirical cartoons of the prophet Muhammad. After the Danish government refused to issue a sanction against the independent newspaper that ran the cartoons, Libya and Saudi Arabia withdrew their ambassadors from Copenhagen and Muslim organizations called for a boycott of Danish goods.

American Jewish community leaders drew a connection between the two controversies, even though Muslim leaders in Texas voiced their protests in terms that were described as respectful by the Dallas station and by the producers.

"There's a real danger in this," American Jewish Congress general counsel Marc Stern said in an interview with the *Forward.* "Whatever the legalities, you take all this together, and you have the Muslim world saying,

### 'You can't criticize us.'

It's one thing for them to say, 'You can't come to Saudi Arabia and criticize us,' but to say, 'You can't criticize us in Denmark, and you can't criticize us in the United States' — even the excess and extremism in some parts of the Muslim world — that's a rather glum and ominous state of affairs."

"The Roots of War" is a two-hour documentary that combines footage shot in several Middle Eastern countries, including Israel, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Lebanon. Commentary is included from such sources as 9/11 Commission member John F. Lehman, Palestinian legislator Hanan Ashrawi, Jewish communal leaders, the grand ayatollah of Lebanon, United States Ambassador James C. Oberwetter, and Richard Miniter, the author of *Losing bin Laden: How Bill Clinton's Failures Unleashed Global Terror.*  Mohamed Elibiary, president of the Dallas-based Muslim advocacy group The Freedom and Justice Foundation, raised concerns after viewing the film at an advance screening.

"I was expecting them to break new ground, to take not a pro the other side [view], but take a close look at the other side and take a more critical look at our side here, and see, does the other side have any story to tell, have anything to say," Elibiary told the *Forward.* "Unfortunately, they failed in that regard."

Elibiary's organization sent the station a letter of concern several days before the documentary was set to air, alleging that the film inaccurately portrays the distinction between Wahhabism and Salafism, two strains of Islam. The letter also stated that the film incorrectly includes the nation's largest Muslim advocacy group, the Council on American-Islamic Relations, on a list of American organizations with "associates" convicted of terrorism and that it repeatedly shows a Texas mosque even though the program focuses on radical Islam in the Middle East.

The letter acknowledged "every documentary maker's right" to express his or her own viewpoint, but it asked the Dallas PBS affiliate to postpone the broadcast, add a disclaimer and tape a "citizen town hall" meeting, to air following the program. Niki McCuistion said that her team is willing to add a disclaimer and to tape a town hall segment, but it will not make changes to the documentary's content.

Richard Pearlstein, a professor of political science at Southeastern Oklahoma State University who studies terrorism, was interviewed in the film. He told the *Forward* that, in his view, the end product is "extremely accurate and evenhanded and balanced" and that it makes

clear the distinction between radical and mainstream Islam.

> Officials at KERA-TV defended their decision to postpone the documentary in an effort to ensure that they were airing the final version. They said they plan to run it in April.

Elibiary characterized his discussions with both the station and the McCuistions as positive and focused on cooperation.

But he cautioned that "every community keeps all its civic rights on the table," and that the foundation will "use all the levers" if what it views as inaccuracies are not corrected.

"We'll let the station know and every station in the country know that this is an inaccurate product and it's defamatory to Islam and the American Muslim community and we ask you not to air it," he said.

#### Syria Accuses Israel Reuters

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad accused Israel of assassinating former Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, the cause of whose death in November of 2004 ago remains a mystery.

"Of the many assassinations that Israel



carried out in a methodical and organized way, the most dangerous thing that Israel did was the assassination of President Yasser Arafat," Assad told a gathering of Arab lawyers.

"This was under the world's gaze and its silence, and not one state dared to issue a statement or stance towards this, as though nothing happened."

Arafat died in Paris on November 11, 2004 at the age of 75 after being rushed from his West Bank compound to a French military hospital.

Israel has denied being responsible for the deterioration in Arafat's health before his death and has denied poisoning him.

Israeli officials said he had access to medical treatment, food, water and medication during the two years he spent in his battered compound in Ramallah, which was besieged by Israeli troops for months in 2002.

French doctors denied rumors that Arafat was poisoned, but have refused to publish his medical reports, citing strict privacy laws.

Arafat aides had quoted doctors as saying he had a low count of platelets, which help the blood to clot. They later said he had gone into a coma, suffered a brain hemorrhage and lost the use of his vital organs one by one. But no definitive cause of death was announced.

#### The New Troops of Zionism

By Hanan Greenberg, www.ynetnews.com

Dozens of Jewish teens from all over the world give up the safety and convenience of life back home, and come to Israel to join the army; Mofaz praises youngsters:

"I was shoved and pushed at the airport, and I was almost run over on the highway, but after 41 days in Israel, I realize how much I want to stay here," said Assaf, who came here all the way



from Texas. Assaf, along with 92 other teens from the United States, Switzerland, Canada, and other countries, came to Israel in recent months in order to join the army.

"What you are doing is the greatest, most Zionist act possible," Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz told the group in a recent meeting. "You constitute a bridge between international Jewry and the state of Israel," he continued. "If you stay here after you are discharged from the

army, this will be an even greater contribution."

And indeed, at a time when the IDF is concerned by the decrease in the number of Israeli teens joining the army, the youngsters'



unique decision is certainly not taken for granted.

The teens arrived in Israel in the framework of a program initiated by the Israeli Scouting Movement and the IDF called *Garin Tzabar* (Tzabar group), which started 15 years ago. Since its inception, about 800 young people came to Israel and joined the army; 70 percent of them remained in Israel after they were discharged and a third brought the rest of their family to the country.

The young future-recruits all appeared quite excited by meeting the defense minister. Their decision to come here was obviously not an easy one, and sometimes, as it turns out, leaving was even more difficult.

Ariel Silverman from Venezuela talked about how hard it was for him to part with his family and friends. Some of the young Americans talked about how difficult it was for them to leave, saying some parents even tried to prevent their kids from going by buying them jeeps and enlisting them in college. "At the end — Zionism won," one teen said.

"For most of them coming here — separating from their family and home — is not an easy decision," an IDF representative said.

"People must ask you 'what is wrong with you? Why do you want to go through basic training in the heat and dust and obey the orders of someone younger than you,'" head of the Security-Social branch in the Defense Ministry Avigdor Kahalani said to the teenagers.

"But you know the answer, you are full of motivation," he concluded.

# Briefs

### Talk Show vs. Islam

www.drudgereport.com

Los Angeles's top talk radio station is under fire from a Muslim civil liberties group because of comments made earlier in January by morning man Bill Handel. The Council on American-Islamic Relations has demanded an apology from Handel for making fun of a stampede

that killed hundreds of Muslims during an annual pilgrimage.

But the station and Handel are set to fire back, the *Drudge Report* has learned.



Handel will apologize IF the Council on American-Islamic Relations:

1) Decries all acts of terror (described specifically, not generally)

2) Agrees that Israel is a sovereign nation with the right to defensible borders

3) Has no ties of any sort, financially or otherwise, to any terror organizations or individuals.

KFI-AM Radio Management Statement:

KFI-AM does not condone making light of the deaths of people engaged in religious observances. We regret that listeners found the comments of one of our on-air hosts to be insensitive. KFI does not censor its hosts, nor does it tell them what to say or not to say. KFI is a strong and passionate believer in first amendment rights and that is at the very core of this radio station.

UPDATE: Ten days after this story broke, KFI-AM management caved in to CAIR, reprimanding Bill Handel and forcing him to apologize. CAIR, of course, didn't meet any of Handel's conditions. I speculate that the station management's families were being followed. — Zola

### Tourism to Israel Grows

**Associated Press** 

Tourism to Israel increased by 26 percent in 2005 over the previous year, reflecting a turnaround in the industry since Palestinian violence dropped.

A total of 1.9 million tourists visited Israel in 2005, up from 1.5 million in 2004, Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics said in a release.

But 2005's figure was still 21 percent less than the peak tourism year of 2000, when almost 2.5 million tourists visited the country, the release said.

Tourism to Israel began to plummet in September 2001 with the outbreak of Palestinian hostilities. A turnaround in the industry began when the violence dropped off significantly in 2004 and especially since last year's signed cease-fire.

Meanwhile, Israel's tourism ministry has given Israir, an Israeli charter airline, the right to operate regular flights to New York and back. Until now, only El Al Israel Airlines has had the license for regular flights.

Bringing in Israir will offer competition in ticket prices and increase tourism to Israel, tourism officials said.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



I recently received this article and note from my son, Aaron. — Zola

#### Alabama Churches Set Ablaze

www.foxnews.com

Don't worry everyone: No pictures of Mohammed were drawn in the vicinity, therefore, no outrageous attacks on religion have occurred. There will be no international outcry, no burnings of flags, no threats of boycotts, no hostages taken, no lives threatened, no swarms of gunmen — not even demands for an apology. The Christians will, as is usual in such cases, endure their sizable losses in comparative silence. — Aaron

CENTREVILLE, Ala. — The search for a possible arsonist or arsonists was under way after ten small churches in rural Alabama were found burning. The fires were suspected to have been set deliberately.

The fires were set "as fast as they could drive from one location to the next," Bibb County Chief Deputy Sheriff Kenneth Weems said of the cluster of blazes, all near U.S. 82 and Highway 139.

All of the churches were Baptist and all were near Birmingham. Five were destroyed and five others were damaged.

The churches were all within a 15 to 20-mile radius of each other. Authorities were uncertain of a motive or how many arsonists took part.

#### Arab State Must Replace Israel

www.bridgesforpeace.com

In an interview which aired on Al-Manar TV on January 25, 2006 (election day), Hamas leader Mahmoud Al-Zahar put the organization's principles forward very clearly, including plans to continue with terror. Al-Zahar's remarks included a determination to continue to murder Israeli civilians, a defiant refusal to recognize Israel's right to exist, and plans to replace Israel with an Arab state.

"We will not give up the resistance in the sense of Jihad," stated Al-Zahar. He added that "the war of tunnels and of security against the Israeli enemy, which ultimately led to its withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and part of the West Bank" would only continue. Al-Zahar also described Hamas' territorial aspirations: "Our education system will not represent Palestine [merely] as a coastal strip stretching from Rafah to Beit Hanoun [the Gaza Strip]," he stated. "Palestine means Palestine in its entirety from the [Mediterranean] Sea to the [Jordan] River, from Ras Al-Naqura to Rafah. We cannot give up a single inch of it."

Vowing to intensify education of youth to kill Israeli civilians, Al-Zahar discussed the reforms in the education system his group wishes to introduce: "Our ministry of culture will teach them [Arab children] how the martyr is turned into prose, literature, and poetry, and how a woman, who used to cook and do the laundry, turns into one of the heroes of Palestine."

BRIEFS CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

"The perpetrators of these cowardly acts will be brought to justice," Michael Jackson of the Bibb County sheriff's office told reporters in the news conference.

The FBI joined the investigation by state and local authorities.

The minister of The First Baptist Church of Woodstock — which was not burned — told FOX News that all the churches targeted were Baptist.



Regarding the "Right of Return," Al-Zahar remained very firm on this issue: "If the Right of Return is an individual right, neither Mahmoud Al-Zahar nor Abbas Zaki can relinquish it, because all these concessions will constitute a national catastrophe. If they claim that the Right of Return applies even after 2,000, 3,000, or 10,000 years to the Jews who used to be in Palestine, we say: Apply the same principle [to us]. We left Palestine only in 1948."

When asked for his reaction to U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's demand that Hamas recognize Israel's right to exist, Al-Zahar replied: "Why should we recognize Condoleezza Rice...or Israel's right to exist? In this region we have faced Roman occupation, Persian occupation, Crusader occupation, British occupation, and they are all gone. The Israeli enemy does not belong to the region. It does not belong to the region's history, geography, or faith."

Al-Zahar added: "If today, we are unable to win the conflict decisively, for reasons known to all, we must not pass on to our sons a disgraceful defeat by recognizing the Israeli enemy's right to exist, where it has no such right."

### Poll: Most Americans Support Israel www.ynetnews.com

According to an annual poll conducted by Gallup, 59 percent of Americans support Israel, the highest percentage of support since the first Gulf War. The support for the Palestinians, however, has decreased to 15 percent following Hamas' victory in the Palestinian parliamentary elections.

The poll indicates that the majority of Americans oppose the granting of economic aid to the Palestinians. Apparently, the average American's support for Israel rises the more he or she is in tune with global events.

Expectations for Middle East peace have dropped in the U.S. since Hamas' elections victory, with most Americans contending the U.S. should maintain diplomatic relations with the Palestinians only if they recognize Israel's right to exist.

According to the poll, two out of three Americans believe the Arab countries will never agree to live in peace beside Israel; 44 percent say diplomatic relations with the Palestinians should continue only if Hamas recognizes Israel, while 22 percent believe talks should be held with the organization in any case.

The poll shows that 57 percent of Americans oppose the granting of economic aid to the Palestinians; 30 percent said they would support aid should the Palestinians

recognize Israel, and only 5 percent said they back monetary assistance to the Palestinians regardless of their position on Israel.

Support for Israel in the U.S. was higher (64 percent) only during the Gulf War in 1991, when Iraq fired Scud missiles at Israel. On the eve of the latest war in Iraq, support for Israel climbed to 58 percent. Support for the Palestinians reached a new high of 18 percent in the last two years, but currently dropped to 15 percent.

American support for the Palestinians dropped to an all-time low of seven percent in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks.

According to the Gallup poll, 77 percent of Republicans support Israel, as opposed to only 50 percent of Democrats. Americans who follow the news tend to support Israel more than those who are not as in tune with global affairs by a ratio of 66 to 59 percent.

Israel's Ambassador to the U.N. Danny Ayalon responded to the poll by saying that "the findings prove once again that the U.S. is a great friend and ally of Israel, not only with regards to the decision-makers in Washington but to the American public from coast to coast."

#### **Shocking Remarks**



By Cal Thomas, www.jewishworldreview.com

Every time Al Gore opens his mouth it makes me even more grateful he didn't win the 2000 election. Gore was recently in Saudi Arabia denouncing what he called the "terrible abuses" of his own country following the September 11 terrorist attacks that left nearly three thousand of his countrymen dead. He claimed that Arabs had been "indiscriminately rounded up" and held in "unforgivable" conditions.

Never mind that nearly all the hijackers were Saudi citizens and the Wahhabi sect funds anti-American hatred through schools it supports in this country. You know his remarks are being carried all over the Muslim world to sustain the hatred and war against America.

Gore's remarks are worse than shocking and worse than outrageous. He most likely was paid a fee by the Jeddah forum which reportedly is run by members of Osama bin Laden's family. Bill Clinton spoke there a couple of years ago and was paid \$300,000. Former President Bush and his son, Neil, have also spoken at the forum.

Democrat hatred for the current President Bush is causing them to act not only as bitter losers, but in Gore's case, a traitor.

# First They Came for Israel...

By Dennis Prager, www.townhall.com

In 1945, the anti-Nazi German pastor Martin Niemoller wrote the following:

"First they came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they



came for the Catholics and I didn't speak up, because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time there was no one left to speak up for me."

This famous statement can be updated for Europeans: First they came for Israel, and we didn't speak up because we weren't Jews. Then they came for Lebanon's Christians, and we didn't speak up because we weren't Maronites. Then they came for America, and we didn't speak up because we weren't Americans. Then they came for Sudan's blacks, and we didn't speak up because we weren't Sudanese blacks. Then they came for us, and by that time there was no one left to speak up for us.

As long as Muslim demonstrators only shouted "Death to America" and "Death to Israel," Europe (and the rest of the world's Left) found reasons either to ignore the Nazi-like evil inherent in those chants (and the homicidal actions that flowed from them) or to blame America and Israel for the hatred.

But like the earlier Nazis, our generation's fascists hate anything good, not merely Jews and Americans. And now the Damascus embassy of Norway, a leading anti-Israel "peace at any price" country, has been torched. And more and more Norwegians, and Brits, and French, and Dutch, and Swedes, and the rest of the European appeasers who blamed America for 9-11 and blamed Israel for Palestinian suicide bombings, are beginning to wonder whether there just might be something morally troubling within the Islamic world.

Some on the Left here and in Europe are beginning to reassess whether America and Israel or their Islamic enemies are at fault.

The fact that major newspapers in most Western European countries published some or all of the cartoons that triggered the riots against Denmark, the country in which the offending cartoons of Muhammad first appeared, was a statement that at least some in Europe have had it with appeasement of Islamic violence.

And here in America, a left-of-center columnist for *The Los Angeles Times*, Tim Rutten, just wrote: "It's no longer possible to overlook the culture of intolerance, hatred and xenophobia that permeates the Islamic world." As it happens, I have sympathy with the notion that newspapers and others need to be sensitive to religious, including Muslim, sensibilities. However, when Muslim governments and religious spokesmen attack the West for its insensitivity to Muslims and its anti-Muslim prejudice, one has entered the Twilight Zone. Because nowhere in the world is there anywhere near the religious bigotry and sheer hatred of other religions that exists in the Muslim world.

Christians nearly everywhere in the Arab and Muslim worlds are usually second-class citizens at best and terribly treated at worst.

The Taliban Islamic regime in Afghanistan blew up the unique Buddhist sculptures in their country because they didn't want even a trace of a non-monotheistic faith to survive in an Islamic country.

About a million non-Arab and non-Muslim men, women and children have been slaughtered by the Islamic regime in Sudan. Nigerian Christians are periodically murdered by Islamic mobs. And regarding Jews, Andrew Sullivan writes in *TIME:* "The Arab media run cartoons depicting Jews and the symbols of the Jewish faith with imagery indistinguishable from that used in the Third Reich."

As for the riots and Islamic government protests, one question needs to be posed to these people: Which casts Islam in a worse light — political cartoons depicting Muhammad, or Muslims who murder innocents around the world in the name Allah and Islam?

Did any Jews riot when *The Los Angeles Times* published a cartoon of the holiest site in Judaism, the Western Wall, with its stones reconfigured to spell "hate"?

Did any Christians riot when museums displayed "Piss Christ," a crucifix submerged in artist Andres Serrano's urine?

What we have is a culture largely based on saving face and honor juxtaposed with a Judeo-Christian Western culture largely based on saving liberty and innocent life.

All of us, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, should pray that the better one wins.

\*

# Israeli Know-how

By David Brinn www.israel21c.com

What if they gave a winter Olympics and there was no snow?

That was the dilemma facing organizers of this winter's Olympic games taking place in Torino, Italy. And the solution they found, believe it or not, came from the hot and dry Middle East.

tor

Israeli company Bermad was charged with a key element of supplying man-made snow to the Games, which opened on February 10.

The organizers of the Games had a crisis on their hands: the quantity and the quality of snow was not up to the level necessary for world-class competition.

That's where Bermad came into play. As makers of water valves for over 40 years from their home base on Kibbutz Evron near Nahariya, the company's expertise lies in valve automation.

"Snow-making machines consist of a water cannon and a big blower fan," explained Ofir Marks, the company's export marketing manager. "The huge fan throws the water into the air making very small water bubbles. When the temperature falls to minus 2 degrees centigrade, the water turns to snow and falls to the ground."



2006

supervise the non-stop operation of the cannons which succeeded in creating enough snow to open the Olympics on time. However, nature intervened subsequently and snow finally fell on the ski resort of Sestriere, which hosted the Alpine skiing races at the games. Why would the Italians choose Israeli expertise to make, of all things, snow? "Our subsidiary in Milan has done

of all things, snow? "Our subsidiary in Milan has done a lot of work with ski resorts in Italy, and it was natural that we would be chosen for the Olympics," Marks said.

The company's engineers were in Italy to install the valves into the snow cannons and they stayed to

The main Bermad factory on the kibbutz employs 350 people, and the company has seven subsidiaries around the world, including one in California, totaling another 160 employees, according to Marks.

"Our bread and butter is irrigation and water works systems, the snow-making is just an interesting sideline," he said.

The irony — this cutting-edge technology is not being put to use in Israel's own ski site — Mt. Hermon.

"We tried, but the climate conditions in the Hermon don't allow the creation of snow in the quantity and quality that we are making here," Rafi Ovadia, the director-general of Bermad Italy, told Yediot Aharonot.

The solution was to enhance the natural base with artificial snow, created from strong streams of water that are scattered under extremely high pressure onto the ski runs. The effectiveness of the water cannons used to create this snow stems from the very precise amount of pressure that is created by the valves inside them.

"The cannon requires the water to be at a certain pressure and flow," Marks told ISRAEL21c. "We produce the automation that opens and closes the valves according to the instructions of the site operators — or it can be set on automatic according to the temperature. For instance, whenever the temperature falls below a certain point, the valve will open and the cannon starts shooting the water. "When you create large amounts of artificial snow in Israel — it just melts."

Speaking of creative Israeli snowmanship... nothing like a good prayer partner. >>>



# How the Cartoon Protests Harm Muslims



By Daniel Pipes, www.frontpagemagazine.com

What are the long-term consequences of the Muhammad cartoon furor? I predict it is helping bring on not a clash of civilizations, but their mutual pulling apart. This separation, which has been building for years, has dreadful implications.

Signs of disengagement are all around.

• Trade: Boycotts now exist in both directions. Even as the U.S. government sanctions Iranian products, Iran's president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad says his government will "revise and cancel economic contracts" with countries where newspapers published the cartoons. Several Muslim countries have suspended trade with Denmark, while Muslim-owned stores in Canada have removed Danish products. The Pakistani Medical Association even announced a boycott of medicines from five European countries.

 Consumer items: Muslims are increasingly replacing Western consumer items with their own. They purchase the extremely modest Fulla and Razanne dolls rather than the busty Barbie. In France, Beurger King provides halal food, competing with Burger King, just as Mecca Cola takes the place of Coke and Pepsi. Al-Jazeera is starting an English-language channel to go up against CNN and the BBC.

• Tourism: Islamist atrocities such as the murder of 60 Japanese, German, and Swiss tourists in Luxor in 1997 or the abduction of 32 German and other travelers in the Sahara in 2003 had already led some Westerners to avoid discretionary travel in the Muslim world. Cartoonrelated violence has prompted a Danish advisory warning citizens against travel to fourteen Muslim countries. Scandinavian tourist companies have cancelled many tours to North Africa.

 Foreign aid: Muslim aggression against aid workers in Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan, and the Palestinian Authority has led to the partial or complete withdrawal of European missions. In Chechnya, the Danish aid mission was expelled and the Iraqi transport ministry has rejected any future offers of Danish reconstruction money.

• Embassies: From the seizure of the U.S. embassy in Tehran in 1978 to the multiple attacks on Danish and other European embassies, the assault on Western diplomatic missions in Muslim countries is causing them to take on the features of armed fortresses, to be removed from the center of towns to the peripheries, and in some cases to be closed down.

• Westerners providing services: Zayed University in Dubai fired an American professor, Claudi Keepoz, for distributing the Muhammad cartoons to her students. Rampaging Palestinians caused the foreign observers staffing the Temporary International Presence in Hebron, or TIPH. to flee Hebron.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

• Financial investments: As a result of freezes on funds and the designation of terrorist entities, Muslims have moved large amounts of capital out of the West and invested these either in their own countries or in other places around the world, such as East Asia. Middle Eastern oil exporters before 9/11 annually put as much as US\$25 billion into American investments; since then, the amount is about US\$1 billion a year.

• Emigration: 9/11 caused a significant increase in obstacles to Muslims traveling to the West, so fewer Muslim business executives, students, hospital patients, conference goers, and workers are reaching there.



#### HOW THE CARTOON PROTESTS HARM MUSLIMS cont.

#### **HEBREW LESSON (below)**

These developments suggest what the prime minister of Malaysia, Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, has called a "huge chasm" between the Muslim world and the West. Or, in the more bellicose wording of the influential Sunni imam Youssef al-Qaradawi, "We must tell Europeans, we can live without you. But you cannot live without us."

Should the chasm widen, with its concomitant lessening of human interaction, commercial relations, and diplomatic engagement, the Muslim world will likely fall farther behind than it already has. As I wrote in 2000, "Whatever index one employs, Muslims can be found clustering toward the bottom — whether measured in terms of their military prowess, political stability, economic development, corruption, human rights, health, longevity, or literacy." Disengagement will only worsen the Muslim predicament. Reduced contact with the world's most modern, powerful, and advanced countries would likely cause Muslims to do even worse in those indices and lapse deeper into a condition characterized by self-pity, jealousy, resentment, anger, and aggression.

Especially when contrasted with Muslim successes in premodern times, these traumatic circumstances help explain the crisis in identity that often causes Muslims to seek solace in radical Islam. For everyone's sake, it is important that Muslims begin to more successfully negotiate their path to modernity, not to isolation.

### **Hebrew**Lesson

Delighting in the Lord







"Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart." (Psalm 37:4)

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your heart	the desires (of)	and He wi	Il give to you	the LORD	in	and de	light your	self

#### Hebraic Insight: Delighting in the Lord

Vehitanag al Adonai ... "Delight thyself also in the Lord."

This is an imperative statement, a command. Note that the verb translated "delight yourself!" is related to the word *oneg*, a noun that means "delight" or "exquisite delicacy," and today refers to a party or festive meal celebrated during Shabbat (Isa. 58:13) or other special occasion (such as a holiday or bar mitzvah). The first part of the verse, then, commands us to celebrate the presence of the Lord as we would "ooh and ahh" over the choicest of foods sumptuously spread out over a beautiful banquet table in the presence of our dearest of friends during a special occasion.

*Veyitten lekha mishalot libekha.* "And He shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

of our hearts are all bound up in the life and love of God. Whatever else we might think we desire, God knows that what we truly need is His love and delight within us.

When our affections are centered upon the Lord and we delight in Him, the deepest yearnings of our heart will be fulfilled by His personal love and grace for us. We shall ask what we will, and it shall be given unto us (John 15:7). And we shall be completely satisfied in Him, since



our enjoyment and worship of Him is our greatest gift and good, in this life — and in the life to come.



When we celebrate the presence of the LORD as our chief delight, He will give us the "desires" of our hearts. Note that the word translated "desires" (in the KJV) comes from the Hebrew verb *sha'al*, which means to ask or request something (a *she'elah* is a question you might ask a teacher). The deepest needs, desires, and questions

### The Long War By William Kristol, www.weeklystandard.com

The radical Islamists are on the offensive. Will we defeat them?

With demagogues to the right of them, appeasers to the left, media in front of them, volleying and thundering, can the Bush administration continue to charge ahead? Does it have the will — and the competence — to lead the nation for the next three years toward victory in the long war against radical Islamism?

From Copenhagen to Samara, the radical Islamists are on the offensive. From Tehran to Damascus, the dictators are trying to regain the upper hand in the Middle East. From Moscow to Beijing, the enemies of liberal democracy are working to weaken the United States. Across the world, the forces of terror and tyranny are fighting back. Are we up to the challenge?

It's not clear that we are. Many liberals, here and in Europe, long ago lost the nerve to wage war — or even to defend themselves —against illiberalism. Parts of the conservative movement now seem to be losing their nerve as well. In response to an apparent clash of civilizations, they would retrench, hunker down, and let large parts of the world go to hell in a hand basket, hoping that the hand basket won't blow up in our faces.

Remember: The United States of America and its allies — regimes that seek to embody, or at least to move towards, the principles of decent, civilized, liberal democracy — did not seek this war. But we are at war, and we could lose it. Victory is not inevitable.

Does that make Bush-supporting, liberaldemocracy-promoting, Iraq-war-defending neoconservative "Leninists," as Francis Fukuyama has recently charged? No. Does it mean we believe — as Fukuyama defines Leninism — that "history can be pushed along with the right application of power and will?" Does it mean that history does not automatically move in the right direction, that justice does not necessarily or easily prevail? Yes.

It would be nice to believe, as Fukuyama does, that "a long-term process of social evolution" is under way that will inevitably produce liberal democracy. It would be nice to enjoy the comfortable complacency of a historical determinism that suggests — as Fukuyama has it — that what we most need to do is to embrace a "good governance agenda" on behalf of a long-term process of "democracy promotion" that "has to await the gradual ripening of political and economic conditions to be effective."

As Marshall Wittmann of the Democratic Leadership Council recently observed. "We are in the midst of a jihadist offensive. The bombing of [Iraq's] Askariya Shiite Shrine is another indication of the worldwide jihadist offensive against the West. From the cartoon jihad to the Hamas victory to the Iranian effort to obtain nuclear weapons to the attempt by al-Qaeda to foment an Iraqi civil war — our enemy is taking the initiative. And the West is on its heels."

The Bush administration leads the West. If the West seems to be on its heels, it is because the administration seems to be on its heels. The fact that the left is utterly irresponsible, and some of the right is silly, is no excuse.

Wittmann continued, "Many mistakes have been made since 9/11. But at the end of the day, we should recognize that we are all Americans and part of the West that is under assault by a truly evil foe. Our bravest are on the front lines in this war. The least we can do at home is to demonstrate some moral seriousness that the moment demands."

Moral seriousness in this case means political seriousness. Make a real effort to destabilize Ahmadinejad in Iran. Do what it takes to defeat Zarqawi and secure Iraq. Stand with Denmark, and moderate Muslims, against the radical mob. This is no time for dishonorable retreat. It is time for resolve — and competence. After all, it would be most unfortunate if the administration summoned its nerve and charged ahead only to meet the fate of Tennyson's Light Brigade!



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#### El Al Fits its Fleet with Anti-missile System Reuters

El Al Israel Airlines has installed anti-missile systems on all its planes, becoming the first commercial carrier to field a protected fleet amid growing fears of aviation terrorism, security sources said.

They said aircraft were equipped with the Israeli-made "Flight Guard," which automatically releases diversion-

ary flares if a heatseeking missile is detected by onboard sensors.

Development of the system, which costs around \$1 million per unit, was step-



Industry analysts say other airlines could consider such measures too costly and unreliable. The Bush administration has encouraged feasibility studies on similar onboard systems, but said it may opt to fit airports with missile defenses instead.

El Al, Israel's national carrier and largest airline, declined comment, saying it did not discuss security issues.

El Al is regarded as the world's most security-conscious airline due to its stringent anti-hijacking precautions — such as armed guards on all flights and very close pre-flight checks on passenger lists.

The likelihood of a shoulderfired missile actually downing a passenger jet is considered to be remote, as such aircraft are built to withstand the loss of an engine.

An Airbus A300 cargo plane flown by U.S. delivery firm

DHL survived a missile strike over Baghdad in 2004.

Flight Guard was developed by state-owned Israel Military Industries and the Elta defense firm — a unit of state-owned Israel Aircraft Industries. El Al began installing the system in its planes in 2004, the transport ministry said at the time.



### Saddam Warned U.S. on Terror Strike

www.washingtontimes.com

Saddam Hussein told aides in the mid-1990s that he had warned the United States that it could be hit by a terrorist attack, ABC News reported,



citing 12 hours of tapes the network obtained of the former Iraqi dictator's talks with his Cabinet.

One of Saddam's sons-in-law also explained how Iraq hid its biological-weapons programs from inspectors of the United Nations, according to the tapes from August 1995.

The terrorist attack, Saddam predicted in the talks, could involve weapons of mass destruction. "Terrorism is coming. I told the Americans," Saddam is heard saying, apparently referring to a period before the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

"In the future, what would prevent a booby-trapped car causing a nuclear explosion in Washington or a germ or a chemical one?" Saddam said, although he added that such an attack would "not [come] from Iraq."

The State Department had no comment on the report. ABC News said U.S. officials confirmed the tapes were authentic. ABC News said that the CIA found the tapes in Iraq and that the network was provided 12 hours worth of material by Bill Tierney, a former member of a U.N. inspection team who was translating the tapes for the FBI.

Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz is heard telling Saddam that "the biological [attack] is very easy to make. It's so simple that any biologist can make a bottle of germs and drop it into a water tower and kill 100,000."

"This is not done by a state. No need to accuse a state. An individual can do it," he said.

Hussein Kamel, a son-in-law of Saddam's who was in charge of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction efforts, explained how Iraq held back information from the U.N. inspectors.

"We did not reveal all that we have," he said. "We did not reveal the volume of chemical weapons we had produced."

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# Select BRIEFS

#### **Palestinian Doublespeak** Israel Today

Beginning with the late Yasser Arafat, the Palestinians have become masters of talking peace to Western audiences while talking hat and terror in Arabic. The latest example, discovered by Palestinian Media Watch, came from Palestinian Legislative Council member Qadura Faras. Faras is a prominent supporter of the *Geneva* Initiative, an unofficial peace proposal drafted in 2003

by a group of far left-wing Israelis and "moderate" Palestinians who ostensibly oppose terrorism.

Addressing Israelis on the Geneva Initiative website, Faras said: "I am telling you with full sincerity, we are ready to reach an inclusive agreement with you, which will promise us freedom and liberty and statehood, and will promise you the thing we know you are sensitive to, which is your full right to live in peace and security."

But according to the official Palestinian newspaper Alhayat Al Jadida, Faras had a different message in a speech to Palestinians. "Faras mentioned the good traits of the *shahids* [martyrs for Allah, including suicide bombers and other terrorists], while clarifying their role in defending the homeland, fending off aggression and resisting the occupation."

**Did You Know?** Israel Today

The world's first cell phone (the brick) was developed at the Motorola factory. Motorola's largest development center is located in Israel.

# The Good Thief

Israel Today

Yaarit Kilchevski recently had to wait fourteen hours at Zurich Airport for her connecting flight to Israel. During that time her purse was stolen, which carried her plane ticket, passport and money. Nevertheless, the 18-year-old Israeli girl was allowed to board the plane and returned home to Israel.

A week later Yaarit received an envelope from Switzerland containing her passport, money and an anonymous letter and apology in English. The "thief" wrote to ask for forgiveness that Yaarit had been robbed in his country. He said he had found her things lying on the ground.

The honest person — or the repentant thief — sent the letter to the Ministry of the Interior in Herzliya, where Yaarit's passport was issued.

#### Port Deal Delay Gary Bauer's End of Day Report



As the political heat continues to grow, Dubai Ports World, the United Arab Emirates-controlled company, has offered to delay taking over significant operations at U.S. ports. Insiders are saying the delay will give the White House time to convince lawmakers there are no security risks in the transaction. I hope the delay will give the White House time to realize this is not a battle worth fighting — especially as the details appear to be changing by the hour. There are press reports that the deal includes not six, but 21 U.S. ports.

Here's another way out of this mess. When Dubai Ports purchased the London based company that was managing the U.S. ports previously, it also got the rights to ports all over the world, including China and India. Sources suggest it was those ports in China and India that Dubai Ports wanted most because of the exploding economies in those two countries. Dubai Ports stands to make a lot of money. Given the public outrage, why not "spin-off" this part of the deal? We couldn't care less if Dubai Ports controls facilities in India and China. The U.S. ports they now have rights to run could be sold for a fair price to another port management company — preferably American or a company based in an allied nation.

One final thought here. Let's say the White House spends incredible political capital and forces the deal through. From that day forward, the future of the Republican Party will be held hostage to what happens in those ports.

If two years from now there is. God forbid. a terrorist incident at one of those ports, or a dirty nuclear bomb comes through one of them to a major U.S. city, it will not make any difference whether Dubai Ports is implicated or not. Every ounce of media power and every liberal politician will blame it on the Bush port deal!



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