

**Date and Time:** Thursday, May 2, 2024 6:44:00PM EEST

**Job Number:** 223362336

## Documents (100)

### 1. [Viewing guide](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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### 2. [Critics' choice](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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### 3. [News in Brief](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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### 4. [Thousands mourn victims of Israeli gunman: MIDEAST / Ariel Sharon meets with Arab Israeli leaders, seeks calm before pending settler pullout](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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### 5. [Defiant Israelis march on to Gaza](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

6. [Supporters bid emotional farewell to Arafat](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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7. [3 Israelis killed in suicide bombing; Palestinian group claims responsibility](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

8. [Harvard student recounts experience in Arab environment](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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9. [Palestinian Authority executes 4 criminals in Gaza](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
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**Narrowed by**  
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10. [Lessons from the cold war](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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11. [Turkish PM accuses Israel of practising state terrorism](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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12. [MAUREEN MESSENT COLUMN: EVERY ONE A LOSER IN LAND OF BEAUTY; A NO-NONSENSE REFLECTION ON THE WEEK'S EVENTS BY THE MAIL'S](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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13. [Leaders' resolve raises hopes for lasting peace](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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14. [Power shifting in Middle East](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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15. [Al-Qaeda tape calls for a coup in Pakistan ; The speaker, said to be bin Laden's No. 2, calls Musharraf a traitor and urges his ouster.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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16. [Europeans are too slow to react to anti-Semitism](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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17. [Many challenges await Abbas](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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18. [WORLD REPORT](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

19. [WORLD DIGEST](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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20. [Female Palestinian suicide bomber kills two officers](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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21. [\*Suicide bombers kill at least 16; Bombings of two Israeli buses end calm; militant group claiming responsibility\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

22. [\*Israel Lowers Its Flag in the Gaza Strip\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

23. [\*Suicide blasts shatter calm in Israel\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

24. [\*28 Palestinians killed as Israel targets refugee camp: Operation aims to root out militants; army 'sorry' children hurt in crossfire\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

25. [\*Suicide bombers blow up two buses in Israel , killing 16\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

26. [National Briefs](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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News

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27. [US hoaxer hijacks news to get ahead](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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28. [Condi's false note](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

29. [ISRAEL ISOLATES CAMP IN GAZA; AIRSTRIKES KILL 11, RESIDENTS SAY](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

30. [ISRAEL ISOLATES CAMP IN GAZA; AIRSTRIKES KILL 7, RESIDENTS SAY](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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31. [BLACK FLAGS AND VEILS AS RELIGION RETURNS TO CAMPUSES OF IRAQ](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

32. [A glimpse of a rebellious future, a study of a clandestine past, and a cop-show deja vu](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

33. [NEWS SUMMARY](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

34. [INSIDE TODAY'S PAPER: News & Views in Record time](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
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**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

35. [AN AMORAL DISTINCTION](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

36. [Israel , Palestinians bicker in final phase of Gaza pullout](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

37. [TEN DEAD IN POLICE SUICIDE BOMBING](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

38. [The West's fear of Islamism backfires ; Mideast democracy](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

39. [Desperation, resignation as soldiers clear Gaza: Sporadic violence marks evictions in five settlements](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

40. [Rewarding terrorism; a really bad idea](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

41. [Anguish, anger in Gaza as Israeli troops begin evicting settlers: Sporadic violence but operation was moving quickly](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas



**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
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42. [THE GAZA PULLOUT: Sacrifices of Israel need to be matched](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
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43. [WORLD REPORT](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
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44. [5 Minute Herald: Breaking news at calgaryherald.com](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

**Narrowed by**  
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45. [Settlement becomes a virtual ghost town; Protesters opposing Gaza withdrawal gather in Tel Aviv](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
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46. [Winds of change in Middle East](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

47. [\*Elmasry hanged by his own words\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

48. [\*Sharon-Abbas summit ends in deadlock\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

49. [\*Winds of change begin to blow in Middle East\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

50. [\*Uses a hammer, but nails delicate issues\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

51. [\*Israeli uses a hammer to nail delicate issues\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

52. [\*Israelis, Palestinians resume quest for peace talks after two-week freeze\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

53. [\*Palestinians rule prospects for real peace\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

54. [\*Democracy the big winner in Iraq\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

55. [\*Your say\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

56. [\*Palestinian leaders check on Arafat's health\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

57. [\*Children on Both Sides Killed on Northern Border of Gaza Strip\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

58. [\*Tearfully but Forcefully, Israel Removes Gaza Settlers\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

59. [\*In the global war, Islam isn't the enemy; Islamism is\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

60. [\*An unholy war\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

61. [\*Exodus: Anger and anguish as Israeli soldiers drive out settlers\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

62. [\*Sharon vows to expand military effort in Gaza\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
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**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
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63. [LEADER COLUMN; BRITAIN AND THE US MUST LEAD THE WAR AGAINST TERROR](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
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64. [Five life sentences for leader of the intifada](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
Dec 01, 2005

65. [Fighting rages as Israelis bulldoze refugee camp](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
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66. [WHEN ADULTS PUT CHILDREN IN THE PATH OF DANGER](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
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67. [Arab democracy summit is canceled ; Tunis, the host, cites lack of commitment](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

68. [In Focus](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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**Narrowed by**  
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69. [QUICK NEWS](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

70. [Prosecutors, Al-Arian Defense Dispute Payment](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

71. [Arab Summit Meeting Collapses Over Reforms](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
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**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

72. [WHEN TERROR BITES INTO YOUR SANDWICH; FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR STEVE BIRD OVER A RESTAURANT SNACK](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to

Dec 01, 2005

73. [\*Israeli teen kills four on bus: Mob then beats him\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

74. [\*ISRAELI RAIDS TURN INTO DEADLY FIREFIGHTS\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

75. [\*YOU'RE AS BAD AS THE GESTAPO, SAY GAZA PROTESTERS\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

76. [\*Angry women protest hijab ban\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

77. [\*The art of useless condemnation\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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78. [Gaza Strip settlement empties ahead of withdrawal deadline: Rows of homes left abandoned as protests mount](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

79. [Isolating Iran will only strengthen hardliners](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

80. [TERRORISM: Even sincere censures have little effect](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

81. [INSIDE TODAY'S PAPER: News & Views in Record time](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

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82. [Bomber Kills 3, Injures Dozens At Israeli Seaside](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
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83. [Rice silent on women's rights in Middle East](#)



**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
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**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

84. [Move towards democracy a messy one in the Middle East](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

85. [Laura Bush keeps smiling despite protests, heckling: At every stop, first lady appeals for peace](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

86. [An Islamic path to democracy](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

87. [Blast disrupts Israeli calm; 1st suicide attack since Nov.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

88. [Iraq experience shows democracy is right](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
Dec 01, 2005

89. [Letters to the Editor](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
Dec 01, 2005

90. [Letters from readers](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
Dec 01, 2005

91. [LETTERS](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
Dec 01, 2005

92. [War's Full Fury Is Suddenly Everywhere](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
Dec 01, 2005

93. [Letters from readers](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

94. [\*You'll never bury Arafat in Jerusalem, Israelis vow\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

95. [\*Teen bomber kills 3 Israelis\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

96. [\*Why tolerate intolerance?:\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

97. [\*Can a peacemaker emerge?\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

98. [\*In Focus\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to Dec 01, 2005

99. [\*Bombings linked to al-Qaida\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
Dec 01, 2005

100. [\*Bedouin admits selling explosives used in Egypt\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

**Search Type:** Natural Language - Expanded Results

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2004 to  
Dec 01, 2005

## [Viewing guide](#)

The Times (London)

October 17, 2005, Monday

Copyright 2005 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Features; Times2; 31

**Length:** 499 words

**Byline:** David Chater

## **Body**

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DISPATCHES. Channel 4, 8pm

Kim Jung Eun's courageous film offers a rare and shocking glimpse of what life is like in North Korea under the last surviving Stalinist-style dictatorship. It begins with smuggled footage of two public executions, with locals being ordered to watch the shooting of people accused of smuggling refugees out of the country.

Five years ago, two million people starved to death; now Kim Jong Il's response to the latest shortages has been to expel the aid agencies. Bodies lie in the street, unburied and ignored. Human Rights Watch estimates that North Korea has 200,000 political prisoners. The sign above the entrance to one prison, which officially does not exist, reads: "Give up your life for the sake of our dear leader."

ISRAEL AND THE ARABS: ELUSIVE PEACE. BBC Two, 9pm

The second part of this exemplary series follows the doomed attempts to promote peace during one of the bloodiest and most turbulent periods of Arab/Israeli relations. The **Hamas** suicide bomb that devastated the Park Hotel in Netanya during Passover three years ago put paid to the latest US peace initiative. "I had hoped that people would be killed,"

says an imprisoned Palestinian leader, "but I didn't dare hope for so many. I felt God's hand had guided us." The Israelis invaded the West Bank, laid siege to Yassir Arafat in his compound and flattened Jenin. "We destroyed the whole neighbourhood," says an Israeli soldier. "Simple as that." Once again, the chaos of current affairs is forged into a clear and compelling narrative using the calm testimony of those involved.

VINCENT. ITV1, 9pm

In the second episode of Vincent, the series hits its stride. Ray Winstone's performance as the private eye continues to dominate the series in the same way that Robbie Coltrane's performance defined Cracker. But by now, other members of his motley team have had the chance to establish their own personalities, and tonight's story is a heavyweight bout between Vincent and an underworld boss determined to keep his son out of prison. "I'm right in the middle of your f\*\*\*ing world," the villain snarls, "and I'll tell you for nothing I'll destroy it. I'll destroy you and the people around you. I'll cause you such havoc unless you leave my boy alone." As a rule, it is not a good idea to threaten Ray Winstone.

SHOCK DOCS. Five, 11.05pm

## Viewing guide

People who deliberately cut themselves often do it as a distraction from emotional pain or a form of affirmation ("I hurt, therefore I am"). This is a documentary about three people who use serial sex with strangers as their razor blade. One woman, who worked as a prostitute, says: "It's all to do with being a loser at the end of the day. The whole thing comes down to that. I always think that I am crap." Another of the three, a retired miner in South Wales who meets women on the internet, is pure Alan Bennett. But although he provides a dash of pitch-black humour, the film is mostly a chronicle of self-harm that is neither funny nor titillating.

**Load-Date:** October 18, 2005

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End of Document

### Critics' choice

Sunday Times (London)

October 16, 2005, Sunday

Copyright 2005 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Features; Culture; 64

**Length:** 532 words

**Byline:** Victoria Segal, Helen Stewart and Sarah Dempster

## **Body**

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The week's best: A day in the life.

Days That Shook The World: The Cost Of Betrayal (BBC4, 9pm) See Watch it, page 58.

A golden oldie.

The Big Dig (BBC2, 3.30pm).

Simon Mayo was once one of Radio 1's "cooler" DJs. Now he fronts a daytime television show about allotments. Visiting Wales's Rhonda Valley and Highgate, north London, he examines one of Britain's fastest-growing hobbies and explores the divide between traditional owners and the new "allotmenters" who bring modern techniques to this old-fashioned pastime.

Pray for today.

The Battle For Britain's Soul (BBC2, 7pm).

The Rev Peter Owen-Jones reaches the 20th century in his lively series on Britain's religious history. He explores the conflict between Christianity and secularism, telling the story of how atheists won the right to be cremated rather than buried and how Charles Bradlaugh became the first MP to be sworn in without taking a religious oath.

Eastern enders.

Dispatches: Undercover In The Secret State (C4, 8pm).

So repressive is the government of North Korea that if a citizen was caught watching this remarkable documentary they would likely be publicly executed. The film-maker Kim Jung-Eun interviews defectors and dissidents still at risk from the secret police, viewing executions, concentration camps and starving children. There is hope for the population, however, in the unlikely form of smuggled videos of South Korean soap operas, which show life outside Kim Jong il's totalitarian regime.

Never the twain?

Israel And The Arabs - Elusive Peace (BBC2, 9pm).

## Critics' choice

After dealing with President Clinton's failure to establish peace between Israel and the Palestinians, this compelling series moves on to 2001-02. Ariel Sharon has replaced Ehud Barak, George W Bush has replaced Bill Clinton, and Yasser Arafat remains defiant in his compound. From Sharon and Colin Powell, to **Hamas** recruiters, this series provides often shocking details of violence and hatred.

Not quite the daddy.

Vincent (ITV1, 9pm).

An interesting crime drama, but this does not hold a candle to consistent American shows such as the CSIs and The Shield.

Ray Winstone's bloated Vincent is, at least as yet, not as attractive a lead character as his **female** colleagues would have us believe and the plots are complicated beyond reason. This week, Roy Marsden plays a dignified gangster who appears to be involved in the death of a young man.

A boy's best friend.

Hidden Lives: Middle-Aged Mummies' Boys (Five, 9pm).

According to this unsuitably cheery film, one in five 29-year-old men in Britain lives in the parental home. Ratan is 34 but still lives with his mother, Katie, who says she finds him nauseating and wishes "the world would open up and swallow me when he comes near me". Unsurprisingly, he is the one who seems to be suffering from severe depression.

It gets in your eyes.

Stoned In Suburbia (Sky One, 9pm).

High on the success of Weeds, Sky One remains lucid long enough to deliver an entertaining treatise on our relationship with cannabis, including the generational attitudes towards legalisation, biological implications of regular use, and why 3.5m Brits regularly indulge.

Victoria Segal, Helen Stewart and Sarah Dempster

## Graphic

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Television; Monday 17 October

**Load-Date:** October 21, 2005



## *News in Brief*

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)  
September 29, 2005 Thursday Final Edition

Copyright 2005 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA/WORLD; Pg. A12; Brief

**Length:** 538 words

### **Body**

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Report finds reservists lack credible crisis plan

CALGARY Canada lacks a co-ordinated crisis plan for its soldiers and reservists to work together in war or a natural disaster such as the devastating U.S. hurricanes, says a new report.

Military historian Jack Granatstein, who co-authored the document for the Calgary-based Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute, says Canadians should be asking tough questions about emergency preparedness.

"What plans (exist) if B.C. has a major earthquake? What plans (are there) if a tsunami hits the East Coast?" asked Granatstein, whose report into the state of Canada's part-time soldiers, sailors and pilots concluded there's no communication between army, navy or air force reserves when it comes to crisis planning.

Spectator wire services

Accident rates climbing for all our railways

EDMONTON The day after CN Rail's cleanup of its eighth derailment in two months, new figures from the Transportation Safety Board show accident rates have been climbing for all Canadian railways, especially Canadian National.

Since early August, eight CN trains have come off the tracks. At least two derailments have caused significant damage.

The most recent accident occurred yesterday near New Sarepta, Alta.

CN spokesman Jim Feeny says the board's numbers are accurate but include all accidents, minor and serious.

Air Canada jet misses collision by 30 metres

WASHINGTON An America West passenger jet taking off from Las Vegas missed hitting an Air Canada jet by about 30 metres last Thursday night, according to a preliminary report, because a controller in the tower confused two planes and issued conflicting instructions.

The controller has been taken off duty and sent for more training, according to the Federal Aviation Administration.

America West Flight 539, departing for Cleveland, was cleared for takeoff. At the same time, Air Canada Flight 593 had landed on a parallel runway, on a flight from Toronto, and had been cleared to taxi to the terminal. A collision

## News in Brief

was averted because the America West plane was airborne by the time it reached the point where the Air Canada plane was crossing.

## Israel widens offensive on Palestinian militants

JERUSALEM Israel shut down charities with ties to **Hamas** across the West Bank yesterday as it widened a five-day offensive against Palestinian militants despite their pledges to stop firing rockets at Israel.

Israeli aircraft fired missiles at several Gaza targets early yesterday, knocking out power in Gaza City for most of the night, damaging several buildings and destroying an overpass. Troops also fired live artillery shells into northern Gaza for the first time, hitting an area the army said was used to fire rockets.

Al-Qaeda embraces **female** suicide bomber

BAGHDAD Al-Qaeda in Iraq is calling a woman who carried out a deadly suicide attack one of its own "blessed" sisters.

Officials say at least six people were killed and 35 wounded when a young woman disguised as a man blew herself up at an army recruiting centre in northern Iraq.

It's believed to be the first such attack by a **female** bomber.

The claim of responsibility was made in an Internet posting, signed by the spokesman for al-Qaeda in Iraq.

The statement doesn't identify the bomber.

**Load-Date:** September 29, 2005

**Thousands mourn victims of Israeli gunman: MIDEAST | Ariel Sharon meets with Arab Israeli leaders, seeks calm before pending settler pullout**

The Vancouver Sun (British Columbia)

August 6, 2005 Saturday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A15

**Length:** 485 words

**Byline:** Kristen Stevens, Associated Press

**Dateline:** SHFARAM, Israel

## **Body**

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SHFARAM, Israel -- Thousands of residents of this Arab-Israeli town joined mass funeral processions Friday for four townspeople killed by a Jewish soldier opposed to the government's upcoming Gaza Strip pullout, as Prime Minister Ariel Sharon sought to calm the country's angry Arab minority.

Israeli officials, meanwhile, struggled to determine how they failed to prevent the attack by Eden Natan-Zada, 19, who recently deserted the army with his weapon to protest the Gaza withdrawal and had been identified as a security threat. Sharon condemned the attack as "a despicable act by a bloodthirsty terrorist," and Israeli newspapers referred to the shooting as an act of terrorism, language usually reserved for Palestinian suicide bombers.

Sharon spent the day in talks with community leaders and Israeli Arab legislators "expressing his sheer outrage and shock and sending his condolences to the families of those killed and wounded," said David Baker, an official in the prime minister's office.

In a sign of widespread outrage, Natan-Zada's body was held in a morgue as officials tried to determine where to bury him. Jewish law requires swift burial of the dead.

Defence Minister Shaul Mofaz refused to grant the man a military funeral, and officials in his hometown of Rishon Lezion and the West Bank settlement where he recently lived refused to accept the body.

Yitzhak Natan-Zada, the soldier's father, appeared on Israeli TV outside the morgue demanding release of the body so that it could be buried according to Jewish law, but he was refused.

For months, Israeli security has warned that extremists might try to sabotage the mid-August pullout from Gaza and four small northern West Bank settlements by attacking Arabs in a bid to raise tensions and divert forces carrying out the withdrawal.

Eden Natan-Zada, who had recently moved to a hard-line Jewish settlement in the West Bank, boarded a bus Thursday bound for Shfaram, a town of 35,000 Muslims, Christians and Druze Arabs.

Thousands mourn victims of Israeli gunman: MIDEAST | Ariel Sharon meets with Arab Israeli leaders, seeks calm before pending settler pullout

The soldier, who was wearing the skullcap, beard and sidelocks of an ultra-Orthodox Jew, opened fire on the driver when the bus entered a Shfaram neighbourhood, then proceeded to kill three other passengers before he was subdued and beaten to death by an angry crowd. More than 20 people were wounded.

The shooting enraged Israel's Arab minority, which enjoys citizenship but has long suffered from poverty, unemployment and discrimination by Jewish governments.

Thousands of police were deployed in northern Israel and in Jerusalem in anticipation of possible rioting. But prayers at the Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, and the funeral processions in Shfaram proceeded without incident, though Hamas terrorists in Gaza threatened retaliation.

More than 10,000 Muslims, Christians and a small group of Jews joined a pair of funeral processions, one for two Muslim sisters who died and the second for two Christian men who were killed.

## Graphic

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Photo: Feiza Turki is comforted as she grieves over the coffins of her daughters Hazar Turki, 23, and Dina Turki, 21. The Muslim women were killed by a Jewish army deserter opposed to the pullout of settlers in the Gaza Strip.

**Load-Date:** August 6, 2005

## *Defiant Israelis march on to Gaza*

The Australian

July 20, 2005 Wednesday All-round Country Edition

Copyright 2005 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 10

**Length:** 573 words

**Byline:** Abraham Rabinovich

### **Body**

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Jerusalem

TENS of thousands of right-wing Israeli marchers intent on blocking the planned evacuation of the Gaza Strip next month have camped out on the approaches to Gaza after police efforts to head them off failed.

Because of the intense summer heat, march leaders said their action would be resumed only at night.

Police officers, however, declared that the protesters "will not be permitted to take one step further".  
MATP

More than 10,000 troops and police stood between the marchers and the Gaza settlements, 9km away. March organisers put the number of participants at 50,000, and news reports said it was 40,000.

The army has declared the settlements a closed military zone barred to civilians, believing that if marchers reach the settlements, thousands will remain until the evacuation gets under way in mid-August in the hope that security forces will be unable to remove them.

The march was organised by the Yesha Council, a relatively moderate body that represents all settlers on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In requesting a police permit for the march, organisers said their intention was to begin with a mass rally in the southern town of Netivot, in Israel's southern Negev region, and then march from there towards Gaza over the course of three days.

Police initially said they would approve the rally and a short leg of the march, but would not permit a close approach to Gaza.

On Monday afternoon, however, National Police Chief Moshe Karadi ordered police around the country to stop 600 buses preparing to take demonstrators to the Netivot rally.

Mr Karadi said the decision was taken after police learned that the organisers intended to lead the march into the Gaza Strip and not halt on its approaches.

However, protests from political figures and civil rights organisations quickly caused the police to relent and the buses were permitted to set out.

## Defiant Israelis march on to Gaza

The police were outmanoeuvred a second time after revoking approval for the short leg of the march following the rally. The line of police attempting to block the route gave way when the marchers put women and children in prams in the lead.

The marchers halted after 6km outside the village of Kfar Maimon, where they spent the night in tents.

March organisers said they intended to continue a few more kilometres on Monday night to another encampment before completing the march on Tuesday.

Security officials believe that if the marchers were to reach the second encampment, close to Gaza, they would break up into hundreds of small groups that would attempt to get around security forces blocking the way to the settlements.

Given the determination of the marchers and the frustration of the police at having been outmanoeuvred, a clash seems inevitable. Organisers have promised that the marchers will not use violence against the security forces -- even verbal violence -- but it is questionable whether emotions can be controlled in the highly charged circumstances.

The organisers hope the deliberately long and dramatic event they are staging will evoke public sympathy for their cause and lead the Government to freeze the evacuation plan and put it to a public referendum.

In the Gaza Strip itself, Palestinian militants continued to fire mortars and rockets at Israeli targets but attacks on towns inside Israel halted for the first time in four days.

Hamas agreed on Monday to halt its participation in the flare-up and abide by the ceasefire it agreed to four months ago.

**Load-Date:** July 19, 2005

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End of Document

## *Supporters bid emotional farewell to Arafat*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

November 19, 2004, Friday

Copyright 2004 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** WEB; Pg. 25

**Length:** 1190 words

**Byline:** By Ben Lynfield and Dan Murphy

**Dateline:** RAMALLAH, WEST BANK AND CAIRO

**Highlight:** Chaotic burial ceremony underscores challenges ahead for new leadership.

### **Body**

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This file was originally posted on Friday, 11/12/2004.

Palestinians closed a chapter of their history by burying Yasser Arafat, their founding father and leader for three and a half decades, amid gunfire and chaos.

It was a day of charged emotions for the Palestinian public, including militiamen, as they parted with a leader loved by many for his total devotion to their cause, a controversial man who used terrorism and diplomacy to put Palestinian statehood on the international agenda but was unable to put an independent state on the map.

"Yasser Arafat was a leader for all of the Palestinian people everywhere," says Nuri al-Okbi, a Palestinian citizen of Israel who was on hand to bid farewell to Arafat. "He made the whole world know the Palestinian problem. [Former Israeli Prime Minister] Golda Meir said there is no such thing as the Palestinian people. Because of Arafat, even Sharon now says there should be a Palestinian state."

For Friday's funeral, the Palestinian Authority intended to keep the public outside of the Muqata, Mr. Arafat's battered headquarters, while a ceremony took place in one of its halls for diplomats, officials, and clergy.

But the PA, which under Arafat lost control of the street to militiamen and factions in areas of the West Bank, lost control of his funeral, too. A crowd of thousands poured into the Muqata, with the behavior of some increasing concern that Arafat's passing could lead to intensified chaos and violence. Amid consistent gunfire and overwrought emotions, Arafat was laid to rest early to avoid potential unrest.

Arafat's final journey began in a more orderly fashion, with a tightly guarded military funeral in Cairo, the city of his birth and the source of his noticeable Egyptian accent. The morning ceremony was hastily scheduled, since many of the Arab leaders in attendance refuse to go to the occupied territories and because security would have been harder to assure there.

There were no chances of security problems in Cairo. Thousands of officers sealed the roads leading into the Galaa Club, the military social club where services were held in a makeshift tent and a small mosque.

While ordinary Egyptians were kept far away from the proceedings, the popularity of the Palestinian cause within the Arab world was brought home by the presence of at least 20 foreign leaders, the largest number of foreign

## Supporters bid emotional farewell to Arafat

heads of state in Cairo since the funeral of Anwar Sadat, the Egyptian President assassinated in 1981 after having made peace with Israel.

Even Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad, whose father Hafez tried to assassinate Arafat in the 1980s and denounced him as a traitor to the Arab world in the 1990s for signing an agreement with Israel, flew in for the ceremony.

After a brief ceremony, Arafat's coffin, draped in a Palestinian flag, was carried on a horse-drawn carriage through the sealed streets to a nearby airbase, as most of the dignitaries walked slowly behind. A military band played the Palestinian national anthem while Arafat's wife, Suha, and his 9-year old daughter wept. From there he was flown to Ramallah, where his body was supposed to lie in state for two hours and then be buried by sundown in accordance with Islamic custom.

But things quickly unraveled, with a crowd surging around the helicopter that carried Arafat's coffin along with new PLO chief Mahmoud Abbas and Omar Suleiman, the Egyptian head of intelligence, who is also the country's principal liaison with the Palestinians. It took about 20 minutes for the men to alight and the coffin to be removed.

The thousands who came to the Muqata - some Palestinian citizens of Israel - took control. The Muqata, which had somehow survived Israeli army actions, simply couldn't withstand the crowd of mourners. As people mingled outside in the early afternoon, youths began scaling the metal gateway. Palestinian police tried to stop them but couldn't. Other youths began pounding on the gateway. Eventually, the doors opened and the crowd poured in.

Many if not most of the crowd wore checkered scarfs, shawls, or headbands similar to the checkered black keffiyeh that was the trademark of Arafat, also known by his nom de guerre, Abu Ammar. Some of the scarfs bore maps of historic Palestine, including cities that are now part of Israel. Several women wore traditional Palestinian embroidery. Children held up black flags.

Young men chanted defiantly, "with spirit and blood we redeem you Abu Ammar," and, "There is no God but God and Abu Ammar is the dear one of God."

In a sense, it was the ideal place to pay last respects. The compound, with its stucco and stone buildings, some damaged by Israeli army fire, conjures Arafat's courage and steadfastness in the eyes of his supporters. "The headquarters of Arafat is the symbol of the struggle," says Hamzeh Abu Ayash. "It is a place of destruction and construction. The starting point of freedom."

The new start for the Palestinians begins tomorrow, which also marks the end of Ramadan, the Muslim fasting month, a time when many Muslims take stock and look ahead. The Palestinians hope to hold elections for a new president in 60 days. But whoever wins, the principal challenge for the new leadership will be to assert itself in areas where Arafat failed.

Leaders like Mr. Abbas and Prime Minister Ahmed Qurei have to pull together their movement's competing factions while also winning the support of the US and the ear of Israel that Arafat lost. But with the militant group Hamas, which Arafat had sought to sideline, now demanding a bigger place at the table, it will be far from easy. Hamas suicide attacks typically draw Israeli reprisals that weaken all Palestinian institutions.

Emphasizing the challenges ahead was the funeral crowd, a cross section of Palestinian society that included cabinet ministers and unemployed youths. Some politicians worried about the future, saying international pressure is needed to make Palestinian elections, which Israel has opposed in the past, possible. Wasil Abu Yusuf, an activist of the Palestine Liberation Front, said elections are essential for the legitimacy of any new leader.

Ahmad Barahan, who is 13, voiced worry about the future: "I am afraid we won't have anyone like Abu Ammar," he says.

But when the two helicopters bringing Arafat were sighted, thoughts of the future were set aside. The crowd began clapping and chanting as if it were a football match. "Yasser, Yasser," they cried. There were cheers as the



## Supporters bid emotional farewell to Arafat

helicopters approached, and gunshots rang out. When Arafat's coffin was finally removed from the helicopter, people lunged to touch it while security forces tried to hold them back.

Throughout the afternoon there was a steady staccato of gunfire. Slowly the coffin moved forward, but the flag had been stripped from it. One militiaman started shooting even before his gun was pointed skyward, nearly hitting a journalist.

The tumult led to a hasty rearranging of plans. Instead of lying in state in the afternoon, Arafat's coffin was quickly lowered into a marble grave in a corner of the Muqata, gunshots ringing out all the while.

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**Load-Date:** November 18, 2004

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End of Document

**3 Israelis killed in suicide bombing;  
Palestinian group claims responsibility**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

July 13, 2005 Wednesday

Home Edition

Copyright 2005 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**The Atlanta  
Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** News;

**Length:** 539 words

**Byline:** MARGARET COKER

**Body**

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Kfar Sava, Israel --- Rattling an already fragile truce between Israel and the Palestinians, a suicide bomber stepped among a group of teenagers near the entrance of a shopping mall Tuesday and blew himself up, killing at least three Israelis and wounding about 30 other people.

Islamic Jihad, a Palestinian militant faction, claimed responsibility for the attack in the coastal town of Netanya. It was the second major bombing carried out by the militant group since Israel and the Palestinian Authority entered an informal cease-fire five months ago.

Police said two of the dead Israelis were women and Israeli TV reported that a badly burned 6-year-old girl was among the wounded.

The attack was likely to increase Israeli calls for Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to crack down on Palestinian militants. It also will intensify domestic criticism of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's plan to start evacuating Israeli soldiers and 8,000 Jewish settlers in the Gaza Strip next month.

After the bombing, Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz convened a meeting of his senior civilian and military advisers and promised military retaliation.

Saeb Erekat, the Palestinian Authority's chief negotiator, condemned the attack, calling it an attempt to "sabotage" the peace process and efforts aimed at a "smooth and peaceful disengagement from Gaza."

Tuesday's blast occurred shortly before 7 p.m. near the Hasharon Mall. Israeli police said the bomber walked into a group of teenagers crossing an intersection crowded with pedestrians and detonated the bomb strapped to his body.

### 3 Israelis killed in suicide bombing; Palestinian group claims responsibility

Minutes earlier, an Islamic Jihad militant tried to drive a car bomb into a Jewish settlement in the West Bank, according to police. The bomber was captured after the explosives detonated prematurely, police said, adding that the two attacks were linked.

The names of the Netanya victims were not immediately disclosed. The attacker was identified as 18-year-old Ahmed Khalil from the tiny village of Atil, near the West Bank town of Tulkarem, about eight miles east of the mall.

In a farewell video, Khalil said the motive behind his suicide attack was reprisal for perceived Israeli breaches of the February truce.

"We reiterate our commitment to calm, but we have to retaliate for Israeli violations," he said.

Citing Israeli truce violations, Islamic Jihad abandoned the cease-fire accord with a suicide bombing Feb. 25 that killed five Israelis at a nightclub in Tel Aviv, just two weeks after Abbas brokered the accord.

Palestinian factions had promised to halt military operations, including suicide attacks, if Israel's army would stop its arrests and incursions into the West Bank and Gaza. Israel did not sign a truce deal, but said it would decrease its military operations to help bolster Abbas. In the last week alone, however, Israel has arrested at least 20 Palestinians.

While larger militant groups like **Hamas** and Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades have adhered to the agreement, Islamic Jihad has not. Some analysts say the continuing violence by the group is an attempt to gain popularity within Palestinian society.

The Netanya mall has been a previous target for suicide bombers. On May 18, 2001, a Palestinian blew himself up at the mall, killing five Israelis.

## Graphic

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MIHAIL KREMER / Associated Press A victim is carried from the site of Tuesday's suicide bomb attack in Netanya, Israel. After meeting with his senior advisers, Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz promised military retaliation.

**Load-Date:** July 13, 2005

## *Harvard student recounts experience in Arab environment*

University Wire

September 29, 2004 Wednesday

Copyright 2004 The Justice via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 1208 words

**Byline:** By Eric Trager, The Justice; **SOURCE:** Brandeis U.

**Dateline:** WALTHAM, Mass.

### **Body**

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This past summer I lived a lie: to everyone on my Summer Arabic Program at the American University of Beirut, I was German-Irish, Unitarian and vegetarian. As carefully as possible, when prompted, I shared St. Patrick's Day stories that never happened, spoke of Christmas presents I never received and, at one point -- when a self-identifying atheist challenged me -- spoke about Jesus' message in such a way that my Catholic roommate started nodding.

I must have been saying the right things, because -- with the exception of one other Jew who had confided his Judaism to me first -- nobody knew that I was Jewish.

My official reason for going to Lebanon this past summer was to study Arabic at the American University of Beirut. After taking two years of Modern Arabic at college, I realized that I would only be able to achieve fluency by situating myself smack in the middle of the Arab world. You can imagine my disappointment when I found that virtually everyone in Beirut spoke English. Which is why it was good that I had a second, more pressing reason to travel to Lebanon: getting to know the Arab world that I had read so much about in the past three years of college. In this vein, I also spent a few days each in Egypt, Syria and Jordan, before wrapping up my summer in Israel.

What I witnessed in the Arab world is a society in utter mental and philosophical stagnation -- a society where, very truly, the more things change, the more they remain the same.

In Lebanon, even in spite of increasing Westernization and liberalization, Hezbollah -- which seeks to make Lebanon a second Iran -- remains popular because it fights Israel. In Syria, even as sanctions are making the polluted streets of the last-standing Baathist regime dirtier, Dictator Bashar al-Assad remains popular because he represents the last thread of Arab nationalism that might one day challenge Israel.

In Jordan, in spite of a peace treaty, The Protocols of the Elders of Zion is available at virtually every newsstand. In Egypt -- which has enjoyed a 25-year-long peace with Israel -- Cairo residents drive daily on the Oct. 6 Highway, named in celebration of Egypt's 1973 Yom Kippur attack on Israel. In countries without relations with Israel, the continued standoff is glorified; in countries with peace with Israel, the former wartime years are viewed romantically.

In embracing such ideology on a fundamental policy level, the dictatorships of the Arab world are acting only as dictatorships will. Unlike a democracy -- which understands that the primary justification for its own existence is dependent on its ability to defend the rights and safety of its citizens -- a dictatorship is primarily committed to the ideology of its unitary dictator, and the continuity of his power. Thus, even if it means worldwide sanctions that will

## Harvard student recounts experience in Arab environment

continue to deny its people such luxuries as toilets, the Assad regime in Syria will continue to support Palestinian terrorism.

Even if it means inciting a war with Israel that will endanger the lives of thousands of Lebanese civilians, the Lebanese government will stand whole heartedly behind Hezbollah in the interest of Arab nationalism. And even if it means jeopardizing the longevity of peace with Israel, the Egyptian government will broadcast anti-Semitic television series in pursuit of temporarily satisfying Jihadists. The future safety of Arabs and calm in the region is de-prioritized, while perpetuating the failed ideology of Arab and Muslim nationalism takes the driver's seat.

On a grand scale, Arabs are failing to recognize the extent to which their well-beings has been sacrificed for the sake of an untenable ideology. Even more disturbingly, they are internalizing the very ideology that is hampering their very development, and are further advancing the ideology by fostering the most impassioned anti-Semitism of the last 60 years.

In Lebanon -- where I spent the vast majority of my summer -- I saw this phenomenon first-hand. I spent my first day on campus in utter shock at the amazing number of Hamas signs glorifying assassinated leader Sheik Yassin as a "martyr." Indeed, Hamas signs out-numbered Pepsi signs on the streets just outside the University. On my second day, while getting my haircut, a multilingual, educated lawyer in the barbershop shared that he loved Hitler, and only wished that he had "finished the job." On my third day -- the day of orientation -- my professor, in trying to assure us that the work would not be overburdening, declared, "This isn't a concentration camp."

Our weekend trips were led by a teaching assistant who didn't buy from Starbucks because, as she told another student, "It's owned by Jews," or, as she told me, "It funds Zionist propaganda." The newsroom of the Lebanon Daily Star -- Beirut's English newspaper -- displayed a bumper sticker declaring, "Boycott supporters of Israel." The bookstores I passed every day just outside the campus contained titles such as "How the Jews Made the Holocaust" and "Uncle Sam's Talmud: The Hebrew Myths Upon which America was Founded," among others. That such sentiments can run so deeply even in Lebanon -- home to the Arab world's most liberal society, freest press and most educated elite -- demonstrates the dire societal challenge that Israel and America are being confronted with today.

I am not entirely without hope for the region, largely because even as the Arab world immerses itself in violent rhetoric and embraces the most radical of failed ideologies, Israel moves forth and perseveres. When I had finally completed my Beirut to Jerusalem summer and was walking on Ben Yehuda Street, I found an Israel that four years into the Intifada was as lively as I had ever seen it. The barren streets that signaled the temporary death of tourism when I had visited two years ago were repopulated, teeming with a nice mix of American tour groups and Israeli families.

I only wish that Bashar al-Assad or the students at the American University in Beirut could walk on Ben Yehuda Street for just a few minutes -- it would completely invalidate the ideology that is currently prioritized over the security of their own countries, and perhaps encourage them to seek a more productive means toward dealing with Israel.

As it stands today, any future trip I take to the Arab world will necessitate my telling people that I am not Jewish. I am proud to say, however, that the need to hide one's religious identity is not endemic in the Middle East. When I was in Israel, I conducted research for a day at the Hebrew University on Mount Scopus, and noticed a fair number of Muslim women wearing the traditional Muslim hijeb, or head-covering. Israel's status as a democracy insures that tolerance has a place in the Middle East, and I only hope that such societal open-mindedness -- so characteristic of democracies -- will one day prove infectious.

It is our responsibility as Americans both to protect democratic Israel, and encourage other nations of the region to foster just, democratic societies. Encouraging the development of democracies is not merely morally right. As the violent ideologies that currently control the Arab world show us, our and Israel's national securities depend on it.

Harvard student recounts experience in Arab environment

**Load-Date:** September 29, 2004

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End of Document

## *Palestinian Authority executes 4 criminals in Gaza*

The International Herald Tribune

June 13, 2005 Monday

Copyright 2005 International Herald Tribune

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 535 words

**Byline:** Christine Hauser

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM:

### **Body**

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Four Palestinian men convicted of murder were executed Sunday in the Gaza Strip, the Palestinian Interior Ministry said.

The executions marked the first time in about three years that the death penalty has been implemented by the Palestinian Authority, which says it is trying to restore order in the territories under its control.

They also come at a time when the Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas, is increasingly concerned with domestic security issues in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He is under pressure to maintain a truce ahead of Israel's withdrawal from settlements in the Gaza Strip this summer, and to unify Palestinian factions, including the militant groups *Hamas* and Islamic Jihad, under the control of one government under one law.

The New York Times

The sentences were carried out after a period in which several days of shootings took place in Gaza City, the main city in the strip. The latest was on Saturday, when Palestinian security forces exchanged fire with militants, who shot up the house of the Gazan commander of preventive security, General Rashid Abu Shbak, and launched a rocket-propelled grenade at it, witnesses said. Gunmen have also been protesting after being denied jobs in the Palestinian security forces.

News of the executions came in a statement from Tawfiq Abu Khoussa, the Interior Ministry spokesman, which was published by the official Palestinian news agency, Wafa.

Three of the men, Salah Khalil Musallam, Mohammad Owda Abu Azab, and Wael Shaaban al-Shubaki, were hanged at dawn. The fourth man, Mohammad al-Khawaja, was executed by firing squad.

The Interior Ministry would never "be slack" in chasing each incident of security chaos, Khoussa said in an interview with Voice of Palestine radio, in which he also added that the shooting incidents in Gaza were under investigation.

He did not say when the men were sentenced, but an activist with the Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Hamdi Shaqqura, said in a telephone interview from Gaza that the sentences for the murders, some of which took place during robberies, were handed down between 1995 and 2000.

"The last time a Palestinian was executed by the Palestinian Authority was Aug. 7, 2002, for killing two Palestinian women," Shaqqura said. "It is of great concern to us. Why now? This is what is surprising."

## Palestinian Authority executes 4 criminals in Gaza

The late Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, suspended the death penalty in 2002 under international pressure.

Shaqqura, who is the head of the center's democratic development unit, said that the Palestinian Authority had issued 73 death sentences since its establishment in 1994. With the four deaths in Gaza Sunday, nine sentences have so far been officially implemented, he said.

"But according to our documents, others were killed extra-judicially," he said, either by armed militias that attack prisons or in attacks in courtrooms.

A Palestinian legislator in Gaza, Ziad Abu Amr, said that the implementation of the sentences appeared to be an attempt by the Palestinian Authority to show "resolve and determination." The authority "is responding to public pressure here and to assert itself," he said in a telephone interview. "There have been complaints that the P.A. was not exercising leadership."

**Load-Date:** June 13, 2005

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End of Document



## *Lessons from the cold war*

South China Morning Post

April 14, 2004

Copyright 2004 South China Morning Post Ltd.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 13

**Length:** 518 words

**Byline:** Mike Moore

### **Body**

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Assessing the situation in the Middle East, Prince Hassan of Jordan said: "The makings of a third world war are happening before our very eyes." The horror and humiliation of the Middle East has a global reach, sparking violence everywhere. We have heard it before; the struggle for global supremacy between the democratic west and the communist east did not produce a third world war. But it did produce a deadly cold war.

The war on terrorism can be compared to the cold war, which took half a century to win; with soft and hard policies. Soft policies included the Marshall Plan, open markets and democracy building. Confusing nationalism and the legitimate longing for self-determination when the old empires refused to die was a tragic miscalculation. Sordid deals were struck and almost anyone's murderous policies were excused as long as they were anti-communist.

In the war against terrorism, unusual allies and coalitions are fast being assembled. British Prime Minister Tony Blair's historic trip to Libya to meet the once-despised leader of global terrorism, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, is a bit like president Richard Nixon's visit to Mao Zedong in the 1970s.

Common enemies make uncommon alliances. The US once sponsored Saddam Hussein when he fought Iran. Israel sponsored Hamas, hoping to weaken the Palestinian Liberation Organisation. Pakistan sponsored the Taleban, and now hunts its soldiers.

Perhaps it was easier to understand when it was war between states. Many still underestimate the meaning of the clash between radical Islam and the concepts of modernity, democracy, women's rights, private enterprise and an open society.

For Osama bin Laden, the very concept of the nation-state is impious. The heroes of nationalism and independence - Gamal Abdel Nasser, the father of modern Egypt, and Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the father of modern Turkey - are said to be traitors to the overarching principle of the Islamic Caliphate. Thus, from Saudi Arabia to the Philippines, governments are threatened.

The European mainland is under siege. Spanish experts are convinced that the Madrid rail bombs were designed to bring down the whole station, killing thousands. After his capture, the first question of one of the accused Islamic terrorists was: "What happened in the election?" It is simplistic to accuse the Spanish people of appeasement. However, it must give heart to al-Qaeda.

Soft power backed by hard power won the last cold war. Soft power, promoting the United Nations, open economies, democracy and the rule of law, has worked. It has lifted millions out of extreme poverty. It made

## Lessons from the cold war

partners out of Germany, Italy, Japan, China and Russia. A similar strategy towards modern Islam aimed at building partnerships can also work. We can be encouraged by the victories of moderate Islam in Malaysia and Indonesia. Democracy is compatible with Islam, as is human rights. All this will take time and patience. We have no option.

Mike Moore, a former prime minister of New Zealand, was the first director -general of the World Trade Organisation

**Load-Date:** August 17, 2004

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End of Document

## *Turkish PM accuses Israel of practising state terrorism*

The Guardian (London) - Final Edition

June 4, 2004

Copyright 2004 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 15

**Length:** 527 words

**Byline:** Chris McGreal in Jerusalem

### **Body**

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The prime minister of Turkey, Israel's closest ally in the Middle East, has accused Ariel Sharon of "state terrorism" against Palestinians and likened their treatment to that of Jews under the Spanish inquisition.

Recep Tayyip Erdogan's comments to the Israeli newspaper, Ha'aretz, come after an international outcry over the killing of about 60 Palestinians, including many civilians and children, in last month's military assault on Rafah in Gaza.

The army was also responsible for the widespread destruction of Palestinian houses in Rafah, which left about 1,600 people homeless. Yesterday, the military continued the demolitions, with more than 40 homes destroyed in Rafah camp this week.

Ha'aretz asked Mr Erdogan - who recently defined three kinds of terrorism: personal, institutional and state - if he believed Israel was practising "state terrorism." He replied: "When you look at the structure of what has happened, how else can you interpret it?"

Mr Erdogan noted that Turkey had welcomed Jews driven out of Spain by the inquisition.

"Jews were the victims at that time. Today, the Palestinians are the victims, and unfortunately the people of Israel are treating the Palestinians as they were treated 500 years ago. Bombing people - civilians - from helicopters, killing people without any considerations - children, women, the elderly - razing their buildings with bulldozers."

Turkey has long had close relations with Israel, including military and intelligence cooperation. In recent years Israeli arms manufacturers have sold hundreds of millions of dollars worth of weapons to Turkey, and the two countries agreed a multibillion dollar deal to ship water to the Jewish state.

The Israeli government was shaken last week by press reports that Mr Erdogan had instructed Turkey's security establishment not to sign new weapons contracts and to scale down military and intelligence cooperation.

The government in Ankara has previously been critical of the Israeli assassinations of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin and other Hamas leaders in Gaza, and said it believed Mr Sharon was not interested in a negotiated peace.

Mr Erdogan reiterated the point yesterday. "We are in favour of the peace process being regenerated, and the government of Israel has not contributed to our efforts to do so."

## Turkish PM accuses Israel of practising state terrorism

The Israeli government did not respond directly to the comments. But the foreign ministry referred to a statement it issued this week after Mr Erdogan met the Israeli infrastructure minister, Joseph Paritzky, and asked what the difference was between Palestinians who kill Israeli civilians and the Israeli army, which also kills civilians.

The foreign ministry described those remarks as unfortunate. "The blame for the standstill in the peace process can be placed squarely at the door of the Palestinian terrorist organisations, whose murderous actions have taken the lives of over 900 innocent Israelis in the last three and a half years," it said.

"Turkey, a state that has itself suffered for many years from the cruel effects of terrorism, could be expected to show more understanding and solidarity for Israel's struggle to defend itself."

[guardian.co.uk/turkey](http://guardian.co.uk/turkey)

**Load-Date:** June 4, 2004

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**MAUREEN MESSENT COLUMN: EVERY ONE A LOSER IN LAND OF  
BEAUTY;  
A NO-NONSENSE REFLECTION ON THE WEEK'S EVENTS BY THE MAIL'S**

Birmingham Evening Mail

March 26, 2004, Friday

Copyright 2004 Midland Independent Newspapers plc

**Section:** First Edition; FEATURES; Pg. 28

**Length:** 457 words

**Byline:** MAUREEN MESSENT

## **Body**

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IT'S a bit much for world leaders to condemn Israel for wiping out **Hamas** leader Sheikh Yassin.

Were Britain or America to have captured Osama bin Laden dead or alive, jubilant 'gotcha' messages would have dominated headlines.

But that's the trouble with disputed territories, isn't it? One man's freedom fighter is another's murderer.

What emerges from the Middle East this week is the life and death necessity of preventing Arabs and Jews tearing each other apart: the most pressing territorial problem on Earth and my heart is touched by both sides.

I know every inch of Jerusalem and the West Bank as well as I know Birmingham.

I've come to love its disparate peoples and recognise it as the most beautiful and spiritual region in the world - but the current hatred, exacerbated by Yassin's murder, seems baked into walls and paving stones.

How can there be tranquillity between two factions when one claims the land is their God-given right, while the other, dispossessed and povertystricken, live and die in refugee camps?

And Israel and Palestine share their tragedy. Both have right on their side.

My Jewish friends shrug off the notion that Israeli settlements on the West Bank are provocative.

'We make the desert bloom,' they say. 'Arab men sit in their coffee shops all day. You have only to see the state of what is now Israel back in the 1940s to realise the Arabs left it fallow.'

The Arabs shake their heads. 'It's our homeland,' they say. 'We have been robbed of everything.'

Both speak the truth. This is a stage that to the watching world throws up no good men or bad men. Only victims.

About ten years ago, during a relatively untroubled time, you could walk through East Jerusalem to the Arab bus station.

MAUREEN MESSENT COLUMN: EVERY ONE A LOSER IN LAND OF BEAUTY; A NO-NONSENSE  
REFLECTION ON THE WEEK'S EVENTS BY THE MAIL'S

There you'd climb aboard a rickety vehicle and find a perch among families travelling with chickens and goats and, for just a shekel or so, you'd be driven through Manger Square in Bethlehem and up the dusty road to the West Bank.

Old women with henna coloured hair and black dresses with embroidered bodices would appear by the roadside from nowhere to climb aboard with grandchildren.

As the road looped like a dusky pink ribbon through greyish olive groves on hills that Christ would have walked, the passengers would pluck at Western sleeves, wanting to know, in halting English supplemented by gestures, where you came from.

Then it would be Ramallah and everyone would decant for tiny cups of black Arab coffee before the bus moaned and complained its way up to Nablus, heartland of Arab nationalism.

Now there is terrible anger here, sending out tentacles of terror to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem where the Israelis - many of them Arabs, don't forget - hold their breaths and pray.

God help them all in the weeks ahead.

**Load-Date:** March 26, 2004

## *Leaders' resolve raises hopes for lasting peace*

The West Australian (Perth)

February 22, 2005 Tuesday

METRO

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**Section:** GENERAL; Pg. 16

**Length:** 524 words

### **Body**

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Israel's historic decision to withdraw from 25 settlements in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank is a powerful statement of commitment to the peace process. It gives the lie to arguments by Israel's opponents that it is not genuinely interested in reaching a lasting accord with the Palestinians.

The Israeli Cabinet voted 17-5 to approve the removal of settlements from territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war. Nearly 9000 settlers in the areas to be evacuated have been given until July 20 to leave.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, previously a strong supporter of the settlements, said the decision on the withdrawals was the hardest he had made. It is certainly the most politically painful, causing angry divisions among Israelis.

Settlers have vowed to resist the pullout and have threatened mass civil disobedience in protest. A group of extremist women has launched a campaign of anarchy. Protesters have drawn a threatening link between Mr Sharon and former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was shot dead in Tel Aviv in 1995 by an ultra-nationalist Israeli who wanted to destroy a potential Middle East peace deal.

No one should ever have expected that progress towards a lasting peace would be achieved without much political pain for both sides.

Mr Sharon has finally accepted the political reality that peace could never be achieved without the removal of settlements from the occupied territories, which the Palestinians want for a future state.

On the other side, terrorist violence, which often has had the mark of tacit official endorsement, also has been a continuing obstacle to peace. Newly elected Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has acknowledged this by his actions aimed at stopping attacks on Israeli targets.

He sent a strong signal of his seriousness about trying to maintain a ceasefire when he sacked several senior security officials last week after Hamas terrorists attacked an Israeli settlement in the Gaza Strip with mortars and rockets. Those dismissed included the police chief and the chief of public security.

At one level his action was intended to show Palestinians that he will not tolerate violence by militant factions. At another, it was a gesture to Israel of good faith and commitment to continuing negotiations.

## Leaders' resolve raises hopes for lasting peace

Both leaders have shown courage in the face of politically daunting internal resistance to their efforts to achieve a lasting peace. The strength of their resolve gives cause for genuine hope that a mutually acceptable settlement in the Middle East might be within reach.

### **New plane for police needed urgently**

Regardless of which party wins Saturday's election, the new government must act urgently to give WA's counter-terrorist police a plane that meets their needs.

It is not only ridiculous but also potentially disastrous that the plane available to police in the event of a terrorist attack in the north or south of WA can carry only four tactical response group officers or all their gear, but not both.

Police must get the equipment they need in this vast State in the age of terrorist threat, and they must get it quickly in the interest of public safety and security.

**Load-Date:** February 22, 2005

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## *Power shifting in Middle East*

University Wire

March 9, 2005 Wednesday

Copyright 2005 Daily Texan via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 526 words

**Byline:** By Ori Raphael, Daily Texan; **SOURCE:** U. Texas-Austin

**Dateline:** AUSTIN, Texas

### **Body**

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Muslims, Christians and Druze together have taken to the streets to take back their nation from Syria's grip.

That Syria would promise to leave Lebanon is a development that would have been unthinkable since the '80s when Syria took control of the country. But drastic changes seem to be happening all over the Middle East from the fall of oppressive dictators to free elections. This is just another event in the domino effect that has begun since the beginning of President Bush's involvement in the Middle East. Whether you like him or not, Bush has taken enormous strides in his Middle East policies, and history will view him as a great leader of change.

In the past four years, more changes have occurred in the Middle East than in the past 50. Where previously there was only one true democracy, Israel, now there are three. The Iraqi and Palestinian people both had free elections this year with competing parties. The seeds are still spreading, as we see in Lebanon. It was Bush's policies that facilitated this growth in democracy.

The war in Iraq deposed Saddam Hussein, and the president's policies marginalized Arafat, taking him out of the peace process and into his dark place in history. Even Libya's leader, Muammar el-Qaddafi, has pledged to the world that he no longer desires to be a menace and has not been a problem since. No one in the world thought that these dictators would be deposed or made worthless, but our new international policy changed things for the better.

Bush is unifying the world against the evil intentions of Iran and Syria and showing everyone the two nations' true colors. The president is at the forefront of halting Iran's attainment of nuclear weapons and is the main critic of Syria's grip on Lebanon. Iran's propaganda screams "Death to America," and the two nations are poisoning the region and even the world with their support of terrorist groups such as Hezbollah, **Hamas**, Islamic Jihad and allegedly al Qaida. These groups are losing strength daily due to the American involvement in the region, and everyone there is being or will be affected for the better.

This series of events has led to a shout of freedom from a diverse population living under tyranny. Lebanon, with no outside help, is feeling the birth pangs of its own democratic formation, and its people realize freedom is attainable, and the world would support them. The Lebanese have seen that Iraqis and Palestinians can try their hand at democracy, and others could follow suit.

While nothing is certain yet, the progress is incredible. Dictators have fallen, elections have occurred and other injustices are being fixed. **Women**'s rights, liberty and the freedom to speak are issues that are being confronted,

## Power shifting in Middle East

and that is a change for the better. We do not know where Lebanon and all the other places will end up, or what other problems will arise, but we do know that positive progress has been made in a troubled region.

A song by Genesis best sums up President Bush's view: "This is the world we live in, and these are the hands we're given. Use them, and let's start trying to make this a place worth living in."

(C) 2005 Daily Texan via U-WIRE

**Load-Date:** March 9, 2005

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**Al-Qaeda tape calls for a coup in Pakistan;  
The speaker, said to be bin Laden's No. 2, calls Musharraf a traitor and urges  
his ouster.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

MARCH 26, 2004 Friday CITY-D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A02

**Length:** 476 words

**Byline:** Sarah El Deeb ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** CAIRO, Egypt

## **Body**

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An audiotape purportedly recorded by Ayman al-Zawahiri, the second-ranking figure in the al-Qaeda terror organization, calls Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf a traitor and urges people to overthrow his government.

The Arab satellite channel Al-Jazeera broadcast a seven-minute excerpt from the tape, which it said it had received yesterday. The tape's authenticity could not immediately be verified, but the speaker sounded like Zawahiri and made references to the Islamic holy book, the Koran, which is known to be Zawahiri's style.

The speaker also called for a military uprising in Pakistan.

"Musharraf seeks to stab the Islamic resistance in Afghanistan in the back," the speaker said. "Every Muslim in Pakistan should work hard to get rid of this client government, which will continue to submit to America until it destroys Pakistan."

Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman Masood Khan said the government had no comment on the tape. When a Zawahiri tape released in September called for Musharraf's overthrow, the government said it would not be deterred in its pursuit of terrorists.

In Washington, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said he had heard news reports about the tape. He said that if it was authentic, the speaker "is clearly an individual who is very high-ranking and is capable of, and has in the past, killed innocent men, women and children. And so one has to recognize that."

The tape was broadcast as Pakistani troops were in the second week of a campaign along the Afghan border in South Waziristan, a hiding place and stronghold of Islamic fighters from al-Qaeda and Afghanistan's Taliban movement.

Al-Qaeda tape calls for a coup in Pakistan ; The speaker, said to be bin Laden's No. 2, calls Musharraf a traitor and urges his ouster.

After Musharraf spoke hopefully of capturing a "high-value target," there was speculation that Zawahiri might be in the rugged border area, where local tribes have more power than the Pakistani federal government.

Pakistani Interior Minister Faisal Saleh Hayyat said yesterday that more than 50 terror suspects had been killed in the operation. More than 150 suspects have been captured, said Brig. Mahmood Shah, chief of security in Pakistan's tribal areas.

It was not known when the tape was made, but the speaker appeared to be referring to the conflict in South Waziristan when he said: "I call on the Pakistani army: You, poor army, what a miserable state Musharraf has put you in. . . . Musharraf ruins your natural fences - those tribes on the border - by engaging you in a fight with them. Then he removes your nuclear weapons.

"Will you stay silent until Pakistan is divided again?"

The speaker did not mention Israel's killing Monday of **Hamas**' founder, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, suggesting the tape was recorded before then.

Al-Jazeera spokesman Jihad Ballout said the Qatar-based channel received the tape yesterday, but he declined to reveal how. The tape is 17 minutes long. "Indications are that it is authentic," Ballout said.

**Load-Date:** August 23, 2005

## *Europeans are too slow to react to anti-Semitism*

Financial Times (London, England)

January 13, 2004 Tuesday

USA Edition 2

Copyright 2004 The Financial Times Limited

**Section:** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR; Pg. 12

**Length:** 499 words

**Byline:** By DAVID HARRIS

### **Body**

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From Mr David A. Harris.

Sir, The two letters (January 7) responding to a recent article ("Europe's moral treachery over anti-Semitism," January 5) were as revealing for what they did not say as for what they did.

Both letter-writers used the occasion to engage in a frontal assault on Israel. In doing so, they conveniently ignored pesky truths that might have placed recent Israeli actions in context.

Are we to forget that three years ago Ehud Barak, then Israeli prime minister, with full US backing, proposed a comprehensive two-state solution to the Palestinians, only to be turned down by Yassir Arafat, Palestinian Authority chairman, who once again revealed a preference for violence over diplomacy?

Are we to ignore the nearly 1,000 Israelis murdered in the past three years by terrorist bombers who believe that deliberately targeting innocent men, women and children will give them a place in heaven? Are we to gloss over the fact that the principal organisations perpetrating the terror and mayhem, including Hamas and Islamic Jihad, do not recognise Jewish sovereignty over any part of Israel, seeking instead an Islamic state in all of historic Palestine?

What would any other democratic state do in Israel's place if faced with the same challenges? Obviously, negotiation and mutual compromise are the preferred paths. Israel, in its peace accords with Egypt and Jordan and two-state proposal to the Palestinians, has amply demonstrated its good faith. The same, tragically, cannot be said for the Palestinian Authority led by Mr Arafat, who has repeatedly failed his own people in his period of corrupt rule.

Israel, like any other state, is subject to legitimate criticism. Indeed, as it is a democracy, that criticism can be read every day in the Israeli press and heard in the parliament. But when that criticism comes from those who repeatedly single out Israel for vilification, regardless of the facts, and blithely ignore massive human rights violations elsewhere in the region, despite their purported interest in the human rights of the Palestinians, something far more insidious is going on.

And when the Jewish people, uniquely in the world, are attacked by some for exercising the right of self-determination, while Palestinians and others are assumed to have that right, once again underlying motives must be questioned.

## Europeans are too slow to react to anti-Semitism

Too many European governments and institutions, including the media, have watched this growing attack on Israel from the sidelines and, in some cases, have contributed to it. This, in turn, has created a far more menacing climate for many European Jews, who have witnessed increased incidents of anti-Semitism. Shockingly, Europeans, who should know better than anyone the dangers of the slippery slope of anti-Semitism, have, with a few notable exceptions, been too slow to react. While that has begun to change, it has undoubtedly left its scars.

David A. Harris, Executive Director, American Jewish Committee, New York, NY 10022, US [www.ft.com/bronfman](http://www.ft.com/bronfman)

**Load-Date:** January 12, 2004

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End of Document

## *Many challenges await Abbas*

The Gazette (Montreal)

January 11, 2005 Tuesday

Final Edition

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**Section:** EDITORIAL / OP-ED; Pg. A20

**Length:** 524 words

**Byline:** The Gazette

### **Body**

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The election of Mahmoud Abbas, the quiet pragmatist who takes over as president of the Palestinian Authority, is a cause for hope for Palestinians, Israelis and the prospect of peace in the Middle East.

Abbas won a definitive victory on Sunday, with more than 62 per cent of the vote, three times as many as his nearest rival. Voters, including a large number of women, came out in force: Turnout calculations were complicated, but the vote appears to have surpassed 70 per cent of the 1.1 million registered voters - despite calls for a boycott by the terrorist groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

The success of the election, an event remarkable for its rarity in the Arab world, demonstrates that when people are given the choice, they will welcome genuine democracy.

The size of Abbas's victory and the strength of the turnout give him a mandate to begin dialogue again with Israel over how to achieve a peaceful coexistence.

He will, however, be hamstrung in those efforts by the fact that the Palestinian statelet he now leads is not a government like most others - it does not have a monopoly, or even a near-monopoly, on the use of force. Militias and terror groups based in the West Bank and Gaza have been ready to kill Israelis, and willing to kill Palestinians, in pursuit not of peace with Israel but of peace with no Israel.

In the course of campaigning, Abbas sent mixed signals which must now limit the optimism one can feel about the prospects for peace. While he acknowledges that the intifada has harmed Palestinian interests, Abbas himself referred once to "the Zionist enemy."

In office more fully than in power, Abbas will have to work out a modus vivendi with the terror groups. While it seems unlikely that he will co-operate with them as Yasser Arafat did, it is by no means clear that he will work steadily and purposefully to de-legitimize them. Even if that is his goal, he can hardly make it clear, after all.

How then can Israel, the United States, and the rest of the world help move peace forward? U.S. President George W. Bush, welcoming the result, called on Israel to withdraw from the territories it has "pledged to withdraw from," and to support development of the Palestinians' state institutions, economy, and health-care system. Bush said Abbas must see to the reorganization of security forces, and weed out those who aim to destroy Israel. This is all easier said than done.

## Many challenges await Abbas

However supportive the international community promises to be, Abbas, 69, faces daunting challenges. A new generation of Fatah supporters developed their political sense and aims while Abbas was in exile in Tunis. They might not be patient with him. By early August - when Fatah is to hold its sixth congress along with internal elections - Abbas needs be able to produce some tangible results to show he is an able leader. Easing the checkpoints that make the day-to-day lives of Palestinians so difficult might prove helpful, but does anyone want to run the risk of more suicide bombs in Israel?

Nothing is ever easy in the Mideast. But Arafat was clearly an obstacle to peace; Abbas might prove, we are entitled to hope, to be the opposite.

**Load-Date:** January 11, 2005

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## WORLD REPORT

Windsor Star (Ontario)

March 10, 2004 Wednesday Final Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. B2; News; Brief

**Length:** 1204 words

**Dateline:** Helsinki, Finland; Birmingham, England; London; Northolt, England; Istanbul, Turkey; Moscow; Gaza City, Gaza Strip; Jakarta, Indonesia; Patchogue, N.Y.;

### **Body**

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**Female** explorer headed to North Pole feared lost

Helsinki, Finland

Rescue helicopters searched Tuesday for a **female** explorer who was feared lost on a journey to the North Pole, a spokesman for the expedition said.

Finnish adventurer Dominick Arduin, 43, hoped to be the first woman to reach the North Pole alone and unaided.

She was last heard from Friday, the first day of her trip, when she called from Arctic Russia on a satellite phone, said Reijo Hietanen.

At the time, Arduin said she had switched on an Argos beacon, a transmitter that sends a positioning signal, but her expedition team has not been able to detect it.

Compiled from Star News Services

Show probes allegations favoured dog was sedated

Birmingham, England

Organizers of Britain's largest dog show are investigating allegations that a dog favoured to win in its category performed poorly because it was given a sedative.

Clive and Nancy Evans, owner of a 22-month-old Doberman named Kerri, said their dog may have been fed a piece of contaminated meat containing a sedative just before she was to compete Saturday at the Crufts Dog Show.

Trevor Turner, Crufts' chief veterinary officer, said he examined the dog afterward.

"She was quiet, subdued and a little bit wobbly on her back legs," Turner said. "She showed signs of sedation, but there is no evidence of this."

Britain OKs planting genetically modified crops

London

## WORLD REPORT

The British government risked an environmental and consumer backlash Tuesday by giving conditional approval for the first genetically modified crop to be planted in British soil for commercial use.

But the government's approach to genetically modified crops, often described as "Frankenstein foods" in Britain, will be tentative. The corn that can be grown is a cattle feed and it must be grown under strict conditions before it gets final approval for cultivation.

After five years of public consultation and three years of field trials, Britain's food and environment minister said she has decided to look at each potential GM crop on a case-by-case basis before deciding whether it will get commercial approval.

Girl named Diot Coke in 1379: Researchers

London

Naming your child after a popular soft drink could be seen as a little bit faddish, but the parents of young Diot Coke might be forgiven -- they gave their baby daughter the name in 1379.

Researchers at Britain's National Archives believe the girl, was the unfortunate victim of the corruption of the name Dionisia. One of the diminutives derived from that name on its path to the modern-day Denise was Diot.

The girl's surname is believed to be a variation on the name Cook.

Five men released from jail arrested in England

Northolt, England

Police arrested five Britons as they returned to England late Tuesday after more than two years in U.S. military detention at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The five were among nine Britons whose captivity at the U.S. military prison had proved a sticking point between the warm allies for more than two years.

Explosion at Masonic lodge kills two people

Istanbul, Turkey

A bomb exploded at a building housing a Masonic lodge Tuesday, killing at least two people and wounding five others, reports said, months after four suicide attacks struck this city.

NTV television said police blamed the attack on a suicide bomber. CNN-Turk said a man chanting, "Allah, Allah," entered the building and detonated a bomb.

Officials sent ambulances and firefighters to the scene in the residential Kartal district, the Anatolia news agency said. One of the injured was reported in critical condition, television reports said.

The Masons, a secretive society that traces its roots to medieval craft associations, are active in this predominantly Muslim but strictly secular country.

Slain Chechen rebels

'had British papers'

Moscow

Two men carrying British documents have been killed while fighting in Chechnya, a Russian news agency reported Tuesday.

## WORLD REPORT

The two fighters apparently died after the band of Chechen rebels they were with was attacked by Russian troops at a camp in the Kurchaloi district.

One of the men, who was carrying a British travel document issued in February 2001, was named as Binatia Yasin, who was born in Algeria in 1979, the Russian news agency Interfax reported.

An anti-terrorist official said the other, Osman Larusi, was British or Algerian. The official said a letter was found in Larusi's pocket, addressed to his sister in London, in which he apparently asks her to seek out two men at the Finsbury Park mosque whom Russians claimed were recruitment officers for the rebels.

Leader urges deal with Palestinian factions

Gaza City, Gaza Strip

The founder of the militant group **Hamas** told The Associated Press on Tuesday that rival Palestinian factions and Yasser Arafat's government should work out a deal now on who will control the Gaza Strip after a proposed Israeli withdrawal later this year.

Sheik Ahmed Yassin, the Islamic group's spiritual leader, said such an arrangement would be crucial to securing and stabilizing the territory. But he stopped short of explicitly demanding a role for **Hamas** in controlling Gaza.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has said Israel would remove Jewish settlements and pull out of most or all of Gaza if peace efforts remain stalled. U.S. and Palestinian officials have criticized the plan, under which Israel also would impose a boundary in the West Bank, saying such moves should follow negotiations.

Militant cleric has jail sentence cut in half

Jakarta, Indonesia

Indonesia's Supreme Court on Tuesday reduced the prison sentence of a prominent militant Muslim cleric accused of links to terrorism, clearing the way for his release on April 4.

The United States and Australia said they were disappointed by the decision cutting in half Abu Bakar Bashir's three-year sentence. Bashir is alleged to be the spiritual leader of Jemaah Islamiyah, a Southeast Asian militant group tied to al-Qaida.

Bashir will be set free on April 4, said Moegihardjo, a court official who like many Indonesians uses only one name.

The 65-year-old cleric was arrested shortly after 2002 nightclub bombings on Bali that killed 202 people, mostly foreign tourists, including two Canadians.

Man killed during service at Masonic lodge

Patchogue, N.Y.

A man was killed during a ceremony at a Masonic temple when another member fired a gun loaded with real bullets instead of the expected blanks and shot him in the head, police said Tuesday.

A 76-year-old man alleged to have fired the shot was arrested.

William James, 47, was shot while participating in an induction Monday night at the Southside Masonic Lodge, Suffolk County police said. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Albert Eid, of Patchogue, was arrested and scheduled to be arraigned Tuesday, police officer Al Prim said. The district attorney's office said the .32-calibre pistol used in the shooting was licensed to Eid.

## WORLD REPORT

Police Det.-Lt. Jack Fitzpatrick said the ceremony included a loud noise to frighten the new member. The inductee faces the front of the room and cans are stacked up behind him, he said. A gun is fired near the inductee's head and the cans are toppled, Fitzpatrick added.

**Load-Date:** March 10, 2004

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End of Document

## WORLD DIGEST

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

December 19, 2004 Sunday

FIVE STAR LIFT EDITION

Copyright 2004 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A15; World Digest

**Length:** 489 words

**Byline:** FROM NEWS SERVICES

### **Body**

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#### GAZA STRIP Israel ends raid on Palestinian camp

Israeli troops moved out of a Palestinian refugee camp in southern Gaza on Saturday night, the army said, ending a two-day raid that killed 11 Palestinians and wounded dozens, the largest Israeli military operation since Yasser Arafat's death last month.

The raid in Khan Younis was launched Friday in response to Palestinian mortar and rocket attacks over the past week.

Residents of Khan Younis said they saw 10 Israeli tanks pulling out of the area Saturday evening. Palestinian security confirmed the troops had left.

A total of 11 Palestinians, including at least seven militants, were killed and 43 others wounded, since Israeli tanks and bulldozers entered the camp Friday.

#### FRANCE Police question 5 in brutal hospital killings

The bodies of two **female** hospital workers, one decapitated and the other with her throat slit, were found Saturday at a psychiatric hospital in southwest France, a local prosecutor said.

Police were questioning five people, including a recent patient said to be the main suspect, in connection with the grisly killings in the town of Pau, prosecutor Eric Maurel told The Associated Press.

The bodies of a nurse and a nurse's aide were found around daybreak Saturday in a building in the geriatric ward of the hospital, where a shattered window pointed to a possible break-in, Maurel said.

#### NIGERIA Sudan's government keeps up rebel attacks

Sudan's government kept up attacks on rebels in Darfur on Saturday, defying a deadline set by African Union mediators for an end to active hostilities, officials of the African Union said.

Mediators at peace talks being held in the Nigerian capital, Abuja, gave Sudan and rebel delegates a 24-hour ultimatum Friday to stop fighting by 6 p.m. Saturday or face possible referral to the U.N. Security Council.

## WORLD DIGEST

African Union officials said the government continued attacks.

Union spokesman Assane Ba told reporters that government helicopters were attacking the town of Labado. But Sudan's government claimed it was defending against an insurgent offensive.

"What the government is doing in these areas is actually within its sovereign rights," Sudan's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Najib Abdulwahab said in a statement.

HAITI Residents, ex-soldiers loot police arsenals

Bands of former soldiers and armed residents looted police arsenals, set bonfires and fired shots into the air amid escalating chaos in this impoverished Caribbean nation.

On Saturday, armed civilians set the bonfires of tires to block a road in the southwestern town of Petit Goave, a day after they shot into the air and hurled stones at Sri Lankan peacekeepers who tried to wrest control of a police station from rebels.

The U.N. troops were forced to retreat, said Elisee Sincere, a reporter with local Radio Vision 2000 who witnessed the confrontation. U.N. officials could not immediately be reached for comment, and it was unclear if anyone was hurt.

mdl

## Graphic

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photo

Photo by THE ASSOCIATED PRESS - Thousands of people wave various Islamic flags as they surround a burning model of an Israeli army tank at a rally Saturday in Nablus in the West Bank marking the 17th anniversary of the founding of **Hamas**.

**Load-Date:** December 21, 2004

## **Female Palestinian suicide bomber kills two officers**

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)

September 23, 2004 Thursday Final Edition

Copyright 2004 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A9; NEWS

**Length:** 461 words

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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A Palestinian teenager blew herself up at a busy Jerusalem bus station Wednesday, killing two Israeli policemen who stopped her for a security check and wounding 16 bystanders in an attack that evaded Israel's clampdown on the West Bank for the Jewish holidays.

Hours later, an Israeli helicopter fired a missile at a Gaza refugee camp, wounding 12 people, Palestinians said. In earlier retaliation, Israeli tanks entered the Khan Younis refugee camp and a bulldozer tore down a house across from a bloc of Jewish settlements. The military said the purpose was to clear areas used by militants to fire at Israelis.

Associated Press

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, meanwhile, dropped a plan to evacuate 21 Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip simultaneously at the beginning of next year, reverting to an earlier formula -- a staged pullout in the summer of 2005.

That prompted U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell to say Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia -- and not Palestinian President Yasser Arafat -- should be empowered to take control of Gaza. Arafat "is not able to act in this manner," Powell said Wednesday. Israel and the United States are boycotting Arafat, the head of the Palestinian Authority.

Sharon also hinted that Israel might one day assassinate Arafat, as it did with two leaders of the Islamic militant group **Hamas** responsible for scores of suicide bombings.

The Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a violent group with ties to Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for Wednesday's bombing, but it was unclear what would trigger an Israeli move to assassinate Arafat. Israel has not carried out earlier threats despite attacks with dozens of casualties.

The blast at a busy intersection in the French Hill neighbourhood of northern Jerusalem destroyed a nearby police post, leaving shards of glass in the road as the smell of burning rubber wafted in the air.

The Al Aqsa Brigades identified the bomber as Zainab Abu Salem, 19, from the Askar refugee camp near the West Bank city of Nablus.

A group member in Nablus told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity that Zainab volunteered for a suicide attack, saying she wanted to avenge Palestinian militants killed recently in Nablus.

## Female Palestinian suicide bomber kills two officers

"She said that if we refused, she would attack an army post with a knife," the Al Aqsa member said. "So we organized quickly. We set up the attack within 17 hours and we chose this site in Jerusalem because we know it."

Her father, Ali Abu Salem, 48, collapsed and his wife, Sahar, wailed at the news of their daughter's attack.

"Why? Why is this happening to us?," Sahar asked.

Police said two border guards at the bus stop spotted the young woman carrying a bag and asked her to open it. She refused, then detonated as much as five kilograms of explosives inside.

## Graphic

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Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; Israeli security forces gather evidence at the site of a bombing in Jerusalem yesterday after a **female** Palestinian suicide bomber blew herself up near a bus stop, killing two people and wounding at least 16 others.; Photo: Zainab Abu Salem, 19, blew herself up yesterday in a suicide bombing in Jerusalem.

**Load-Date:** September 23, 2004



**Suicide bombers kill at least 16; Bombings of two Israeli buses end calm;  
militant group claiming responsibility**

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)

September 1, 2004 Wednesday Final Edition

Copyright 2004 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A7; NEWS

**Length:** 518 words

**Dateline:** BEERSHEBA, ISRAEL

## **Body**

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Palestinian suicide bombers blew up two buses almost simultaneously in this southern city yesterday, killing at least 16 passengers and wounding more than 80 in the first major attack inside Israel in nearly six months.

The explosions, for which the Hamas militant group claimed responsibility, ended a period of relative calm. Israel has attributed the lull to its crackdown on Palestinian militants and continued construction of a separation barrier in the West Bank. Palestinian militants have acknowledged they have faced increasing difficulties carrying out attacks. Associated Press

The two buses blew up 15 seconds apart, about 100 metres from a busy intersection in the centre of Beersheba. "People were screaming and yelling. Everybody was running," said witness Tzika Schreter, 50, a college lecturer.

Rescue workers scoured the scene, cleaning up body parts and scattered pieces of the wreckage as dozens of onlookers gathered nearby. A hand with a ring lay on a charred seat, and blood was splattered on the walls of the mangled buses.

The blasts came hours after Prime Minister Ariel Sharon presented to his Likud party the most detailed timetable yet for Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, and warned party rebels the plan "will be implemented, period."

After the attacks, Sharon met with top security officials to plan a response, and more talks were scheduled later in the evening. Israel has historically struck hard at militant targets after suicide bombings.

"Israel will continue fighting terror with all its might," Sharon said, adding that he would push forward with the Gaza pullout. "This has no connection to disengagement," he said.

Police said the devastation at the scene was complicating the recovery of bodies and warned the death toll could rise. They said the 16 people did not include the bombers.

Israel's Magen David Adom rescue service said 30 of the wounded were in serious or moderate condition.

Authorities stepped up security throughout Beersheba after the attacks, placing checkpoints on major roads and snarling traffic in and out of the city.

In Gaza, Muslim leaders praised the "heroic operation" over mosque loudspeakers.

Suicide bombers kill at least 16; Bombings of two Israeli buses end calm; militant group claiming responsibility

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew expressed "deepest sympathies" to Israel and condemned yesterday's bombing.

"Resorting to terrorism not only is inhuman and criminal, but it is holding back all Palestinians from their aspirations to peace and statehood," Pettigrew said in a statement. "I call on every Palestinian to reject terrorism and to seek an end to the conflict through a negotiated settlement."

"The Palestinian Authority has condemned the bombing, but this is not enough. It must immediately take meaningful steps to prevent violent acts against Israeli civilians, to dismantle the infrastructure of terrorism and to restore law and order in the territories under its control."

The attack was the deadliest since a female suicide bomber killed 21 people nearly a year ago in the northern city of Haifa. Militants hadn't carried out a suicide bombing in Israel since March 14, when 11 people were killed in the port of Ashdod.

## Graphic

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Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; Rescue and recovery volunteers work at the scene of a double-bombing in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba yesterday. Two buses blew up, killing at least 15 people and wounding more than 80 in what appeared to be the first Palestinian suicide bombings inside Israel in six months.

**Load-Date:** September 1, 2004

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End of Document

## *Israel Lowers Its Flag in the Gaza Strip - Correction Appended*

The New York Times  
September 12, 2005 Monday  
Late Edition - Final

### **Correction Appended**

Copyright 2005 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 4; Foreign Desk; Pg. 10

**Length:** 1285 words

**Byline:** By GREG MYRE; Steven Erlanger contributed reporting from Gaza City for this article, and Dina Kraft from Neve Dekalim, Gaza Strip.

**Dateline:** KISSUFIM CROSSING, Gaza Strip, Monday, Sept. 12

### **Body**

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The last Israeli troops poured out of the Gaza Strip early Monday in an overnight withdrawal that marked the end of Israel's 38-year presence here.

With deafening roars and suffocating blasts of diesel fumes, convoys of tanks and armored personnel carriers rumbled past a fence at the Kissufim crossing, on the eastern side of Gaza, which had just been completed hours earlier.

In moves coordinated with the Israeli military, Palestinian security forces immediately entered the evacuated Jewish settlements, where they raised Palestinian flags. Hundreds of Palestinians followed.

Palestinians began celebrating even before the Israeli departure, with some climbing on their rooftops for a better view. From loudspeakers at mosques, speakers praised the "liberation" of Gaza, and fireworks lit up the sky.

Hours after the Israelis left the settlement of Neve Dekalim, young Palestinians were tearing aluminum window frames and metal ceiling fixtures out of the main synagogue there, as fires burned inside. The Palestinian flag and the flag of the militant group **Hamas** flew from the roof. The floor, still slippery from the cooking oil that Israeli resisters had spread last month to try to impede the police who pulled them from the building, was covered with broken glass.

Just before dawn, young men from the Khan Yunis refugee camp went through the settlement, taking whatever they could scavenge: aluminum they could sell by weight, an old washing machine, tools from an empty warehouse.

At the settlement of Tel Katifa, hundreds of young Palestinians gathered anxiously Sunday evening around busloads of Palestinian security forces waiting for the Israelis to leave. At about 2 a.m., they rushed in, leaping over barbed wire and racing up a dirt hill to the ruins of an Israeli Army outpost. They waved Palestinian flags and members of **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad shot guns in the air and shouted, "Thanks to God -- God is great!" as horns blew in the background.

## Israel Lowers Its Flag in the Gaza Strip

Once inside the settlements, Palestinian forces did their best to keep a kind of order, but there was an atmosphere of celebration and chaos. Young Palestinians from the refugee camps of Khan Yunis and Deir al-Balah managed to circumvent fences and enter the settlements, which were large piles of rubble with scattered fires in the dark and no electricity.

Muhammad al-Najar, 21, a student from Khan Yunis, said he and his companions had walked nearly six miles to get to Neve Dekalim. He said they had "seen places we've never seen before, that we've heard about for years." Asked what surprised him the most, he said: "The clean streets and all the trees."

At the nearby Palestinian village of Mouassi, where some residents had worked for Neve Dekalim settlers, women in long robes and headscarves stood at the roadside waving Palestinian flags, ululating and chanting thanks to God. The mukhtar of Mouassi, Daman Hajaj, said, "as long as we feel freedom, I feel wonderful, and I feel freedom today."

"I can move easily," he said. "There are no checkpoints."

In the Palestinian quest for statehood, Gaza presents the most significant opportunity yet for Palestinians to run their own affairs in at least part of the land they seek for a future state.

However, the Palestinians say that tiny, impoverished Gaza will never be viable on its own, with Israel strictly controlling its borders. Even as the Israelis were leaving, the two sides were trading recriminations over the question of Palestinian movements at the borders.

A Sunday afternoon transfer ceremony between Israeli and Palestinian security officers at the Erez crossing, on Gaza's northern border, was abruptly canceled when the Palestinians refused to attend, citing the differences over the borders.

The Israeli cabinet, after a last-minute debate, on Sunday reversed an earlier decision and voted 14 to 2 not to tear down about 20 synagogues in the Jewish settlements in Gaza. On Sunday, the cabinet approved the end of military rule in Gaza, which was established after Israel captured the territory from Egypt in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Since the summer of 2004, the government had been saying the synagogues would be destroyed when Israel left. The cabinet reaffirmed the decision recently, and it was upheld by the Supreme Court.

But prominent rabbis argued that it was wrong for the state of Israel to tear down synagogues and would send a message that it was acceptable to do so elsewhere, causing cabinet ministers to rethink their stance.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Israel was left with two bad choices: tearing them down, or leaving them standing with the knowledge they might be desecrated. He voted with the majority to leave them in place.

"Jews do not destroy synagogues," the foreign minister, Silvan Shalom, said Sunday. "I hope the Palestinian Authority will come to its senses and not allow barbarism and vandalism to rule over the synagogues."

The Palestinians responded with dismay, saying the synagogues should have been demolished by Israel, as were 1,500 homes occupied by settlers, which have been reduced to mounds of rubble.

Mohammed Dahlan, the Palestinian civil affairs minister, described the Israeli decision about the synagogues as a "political trap."

The Palestinian leadership said it respected places of worship, but did not want the responsibility of having to protect buildings that many Palestinians want to tear down as symbols of Israel's occupation. Late Sunday night, Tafi Abu Khossa, a spokesman for the Interior Ministry, told The Associated Press that the Palestinian Authority planned to destroy the synagogues.

## Israel Lowers Its Flag in the Gaza Strip

While the evacuation of Jewish settlers last month included confrontations between the Israeli security forces and opponents of the withdrawal, the pullout on Sunday was simply a matter of the Israeli government giving the go-ahead.

The military conducted several controlled explosions earlier in the day, taking down a number of military installations and sending white plumes of smoke rising over Gaza.

At a flag-lowering ceremony at a military headquarters next to Neve Dekalim as the sun set on the Mediterranean Sea, Brig. Gen. Aviv Kochavi, the commander of the Gaza forces, said, "The gate that is closing after us is also a gate that is opening."

"We hope it will be a gate of peace and quiet," he added. "A gate of hope and good will."

Israel says its control over Gaza is effectively ending with its departure, but the Palestinians say Israel will still be occupying Gaza from the borders.

"By reserving for itself the ability to invade the Gaza Strip and by maintaining control over Palestinian air space, territorial waters, and, most important, its borders, Israel will continue its military rule over the Palestinians," Mr. Dahlan, the Palestinian civil affairs minister, said at a news conference in Gaza City. "Israel is deluding itself if it believes that its occupation over the Gaza Strip has ended."

Jibril Rajoub, a security adviser to the Palestinian leader, Mahmoud Abbas, predicted that the first few days after the Israeli departure "will be pandemonium."

Mr. Abbas was already struggling to maintain control in Gaza before the withdrawal. There were several instances of unrest there last week, including the assassination of one of Mr. Abbas's security advisers.

The Israelis and Palestinians are continuing their discussions over Gaza's borders. The Palestinians are demanding control of the Rafah crossing, on Gaza's southern border with Egypt, which would give them a gateway to the world that bypasses Israeli security.

But last week, Israel closed Rafah and plans to move the crossing point several miles to the east.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Correction

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A contributors' note yesterday with an article about the departure of the last Israeli troops from the Gaza Strip misstated the writers' locations. Steven Erlanger was at the Tel Katifa and Neve Dekalim settlements, not in Gaza City; Dina Kraft was at a military outpost on the Israeli side of the border, not at Neve Dekalim.

**Correction-Date:** September 13, 2005

## Graphic

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Photo: Tanks bearing the last Israeli soldiers roared out of Gaza this morning, ending 38 years of military presence. (Photo by Rina Castelnuovo for The New York Times) Map of the Gaza Strip highlighting Kissufim crossing: Israeli troops returned to Israel through the Kissufim crossing.

## Israel Lowers Its Flag in the Gaza Strip

**Load-Date:** September 12, 2005

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## *Suicide blasts shatter calm in Israel*

The Australian

September 1, 2004 Wednesday All-round Metro Edition

Copyright 2004 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 10

**Length:** 544 words

**Byline:** Correspondents in Beersheba

### **Body**

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AT least 12 people were killed and more than 80 wounded last night in a twin suicide bomb attack on two buses in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba, the first Palestinian suicide bombings inside Israel in six months.

Ten of those being treated in hospital were in either serious or critical condition, said sources from Magen David Adom, the Israeli equivalent of the Red Cross.

Police sources said one bomber had boarded each of the buses several moments before the explosions in the centre of the city, which is 15km from the West Bank and 40km east of the Gaza Strip.

AFP, AP

"This attack was carried out by two suicide bombers who carried their charges for three minutes on the buses before blowing themselves up," one source said.

The explosions went off shortly before 3pm near the city hall, destroying one of the buses and setting the second on fire. The two buses were 100m apart when the blasts occurred. Several charred bodies wrapped in plastic were still seen lying next to the remains of one of the vehicles.

Police spokesman Gil Kleiman said no specific warnings had been received prior to the blasts, but he said there had been "general warnings".

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was quoted by army radio as saying his Government would not relax in its "fight against terror".

"We have to fight terror: that is what my Government is doing. The struggle against terror will be pursued to the fullest extent," he said.

Hezbollah's al-Manar television station in Lebanon quoted Palestinian sources as saying they had carried out "martyrdom operations", a phrase used to describe suicide bombings. **Hamas** later claimed responsibility.

Israeli officials accuse the Lebanese guerilla group of aiding Palestinian militants.

Negotiations Minister Saeb Erekat said the Palestinian Authority condemned any attack that hit civilians.

"The Palestinian Authority condemns attacks which target civilians, whether they be Israeli or Palestinian," Mr Erekat said.

## Suicide blasts shatter calm in Israel

The blasts came hours after Israeli guards manning the main crossing point between Israel and the Gaza Strip thwarted a suicide attack when they detained a man who had been carrying an explosives belt.

The last Palestinian attack in Israel was on July 11, when one young **female** soldier was killed in a blast at a bus stop.

Israel has said the lull was due to its success in fighting militants, not a lack of effort by the armed groups. Israel has arrested or killed dozens of militants in recent months.

Israel also says its contentious West Bank barrier has prevented numerous attacks.

The barrier, about one-quarter complete, has not reached the area near Hebron, the closest Palestinian city to Beersheba. Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman David Saranga said the attack was proof of the Palestinian Government's failure to crack down on militant organisations as laid down in the troubled road map peace plan.

"While Israel is trying to move forward by implementing the disengagement plan (which involves a withdrawal from the Gaza Strip), the answer of the Palestinian terror organisations is more attacks," he said.

"We call on the (Palestinian Authority), once again, to dismantle the terror infrastructure, to collect illegal weapons and to carry out their obligations under the road map."

**Load-Date:** August 31, 2004



## **28 Palestinians killed as Israel targets refugee camp: Operation aims to root out militants; army 'sorry' children hurt in crossfire**

Ottawa Citizen

October 1, 2004 Friday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A7

**Length:** 468 words

**Byline:** The Associated Press

**Dateline:** JEBALIYA REFUGEE CAMP, Gaza Strip

### **Body**

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JEBALIYA REFUGEE CAMP, Gaza Strip - Israeli troops struck deep inside the largest Palestinian refugee camp yesterday, battling masked gunmen in an unprecedented campaign to stop deadly rocket fire on Israeli towns.

Twenty-eight Palestinians were killed and 131 wounded, the bloodiest single-day toll in fighting in 30 months.

Three Israelis -- two soldiers and a **female** jogger -- were killed in two Palestinian shooting attacks in northern Gaza.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon approved a large-scale military operation in the northern Gaza Strip after meeting with advisers late yesterday, an Israeli official said. The plan was a response to the killing of two Israeli children, ages two and four, by a **Hamas** rocket attack on an Israeli border town on Wednesday. However, he stopped short of ordering a callup of reserves.

The plan has the backing of Defence Minister Shaul Mofaz. Under the plan, troops would focus on the Jebaliya refugee camp and the nearby town of Beit Hanoun.

The army's push yesterday into the centre of Jebaliya -- a first in four years of fighting -- signalled a change in military tactics. Since fighting erupted in 2000, the military has refrained from reoccupying large areas of crowded Gaza for long periods, for fear of being bogged down in urban combat.

Armoured vehicles rolled into squalid Jebaliya, a militant stronghold with 106,000 residents, yesterday morning. Throughout the day, masked Palestinians taking cover in camp alleys fired assault rifles -- and occasionally anti-tank missiles and grenades -- at tanks, which responded with machine-guns. Militants were seen laying explosive charges and unravelling detonation wire.

In the bloodiest incident, a tank fired a shell toward a group of gunmen, killing seven Palestinians and seriously wounding 23, including gunmen and civilians. Many of the wounded lost limbs, and at least four were under age 14, doctors said.

28 Palestinians killed as Israel targets refugee camp: Operation aims to root out militants; army 'sorry' children hurt in crossfire

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan expressed grave concern at the escalation of violence and "especially mourns the death and injuries of children," UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said.

Kamal Adwan Hospital was overwhelmed by the influx, and doctors had to treat some patients on the blood-soaked floor and on cafeteria tables.

Ahmed Salem, 10, said the shell was fired from a tank at a UN school near Jebaliya's market. "I was hit and fell to the ground. The man lying next to me had no head," said the boy, who was wounded by shrapnel in the leg.

Maj.-Gen. Dan Harel, the army commander in Gaza, said the shell was aimed at militants who had fired an anti-tank shell at an armoured personnel carrier, lightly wounding three soldiers. He said several Palestinian children were apparently nearby.

"We are very sorry that civilians are being hurt," Maj.-Gen. Harel said, but accused gunmen of using civilians as a shield.

## Graphic

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Photo: Adel Hana, The Associated Press; Palestinians run for cover from Israeli army fire at the Jebaliya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. Armoured vehicles rolled in to the squalid camp yesterday morning. Ahmed Salem, 10, said a shell was fired from a tank at a UN school near Jebaliya's market. 'I was hit and fell to the ground. The man lying next to me had no head,' said the boy, who was wounded in the leg by shrapnel.

**Load-Date:** October 1, 2004

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End of Document

## **Suicide bombers blow up two buses in Israel, killing 16**

The Guardian (Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island)

September 1, 2004 Wednesday

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. A9

**Length:** 515 words

**Byline:** AP

### **Body**

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Palestinian suicide bombers blew up two buses almost simultaneously in this southern city Tuesday, killing at least 16 passengers and wounding more than 80 in the first major attack inside Israel in nearly six months.

The explosions, for which the **Hamas** militant group claimed responsibility, ended a period of relative calm. Israel has attributed the lull to its crackdown on Palestinian militants and continued construction of a separation barrier in the West Bank. Palestinian militants have acknowledged they have faced increasing difficulties carrying out attacks.

The two buses blew up 15 seconds apart, about 100 metres from a busy intersection in the centre of Beersheba. "People were screaming and yelling. Everybody was running," said witness Tzika Schreter, 50, a college lecturer.

Rescue workers scoured the scene, cleaning up body parts and scattered pieces of the wreckage as dozens of onlookers gathered nearby. A hand with a ring lay on a charred seat, and blood was splattered on the walls of the mangled buses.

The blasts came hours after Prime Minister Ariel Sharon presented to his Likud party the most detailed timetable yet for Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, and warned party rebels the plan "will be implemented, period."

After the attacks, Sharon met with top security officials to plan a response, and more talks were scheduled later in the evening. Israel has historically struck hard at militant targets after suicide bombings.

"Israel will continue fighting terror with all its might," Sharon said, adding that he would push forward with the Gaza pullout. "This has no connection to disengagement," he said.

Police said the devastation at the scene was complicating the recovery of bodies and warned the death toll could rise. They said the 16 people did not include the bombers.

Israel's Magen David Adom rescue service said 30 of the wounded were in serious or moderate condition.

Authorities stepped up security throughout Beersheba after the attacks, placing checkpoints on major roads and snarling traffic in and out of the city.

In Gaza, Muslim leaders praised the "heroic operation" over mosque loudspeakers.

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew expressed "deepest sympathies" to Israel and condemned Tuesday's bombing.

## Suicide bombers blow up two buses in Israel , killing 16

"Resorting to terrorism not only is inhuman and criminal, but it is holding back all Palestinians from their aspirations to peace and statehood," Pettigrew said in a statement. "I call on every Palestinian to reject terrorism and to seek an end to the conflict through a negotiated settlement."

"The Palestinian Authority has condemned the bombing, but this is not enough. It must immediately take meaningful steps to prevent violent acts against Israeli civilians, to dismantle the infrastructure of terrorism and to restore law and order in the territories under its control."

The attack was the deadliest since a female suicide bomber killed 21 people nearly a year ago in the northern city of Haifa. Militants hadn't carried out a suicide bombing in Israel since March 14, when 11 people were killed in the port of Ashdod.

## Graphic

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An Israeli Zaka rescue and recovery volunteer gathers body parts for burial on a destroyed bus at the scene of a double- bombing in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba, Tuesday. Two buses blew up in the southern Israeli city on Tuesday, killing at least 15 people and wounding 44, in what appeared to be the first Palestinian suicide bombings inside Israel in six months, rescue officials said.

**Load-Date:** September 1, 2004

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End of Document

## National Briefs

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

August 7, 2004 Saturday

Copyright 2004 Woodward Communications, Inc.

**Section:** National/World; Pg. a5

**Length:** 551 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** DELTONA, Fla.

### Body

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6 found violently slain in home

Four men and two **women** were found slain in a home Friday after one of them failed to show up for an early morning shift at a nearby Burger King, and authorities said the killer apparently was at large.

"It appears that we have a murderer on the loose," Volusia County Sheriff's spokesman Gary Davidson said.

Sheriff Ben Johnson did not offer a possible motive or specify how the victims died. "There was an extreme level of violence," he said.

Greyhound bus runs into truck, 3 die

JACKSON, Tenn. - A Greyhound bus rammed into a tractor-trailer just before dawn Friday as the truck moved from the breakdown lane onto Interstate 40, killing two passengers and the bus driver.

Seventeen other bus passengers, including two who were seriously injured, were sent to hospitals, officials said.

The impact crushed the nose of the bus back to a few rows behind the driver's seat, said Capt. Lynn Allen of the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

Deputies subpoenaed for Columbine grand jury

DENVER - Current and former employees of the sheriff's office began appearing Friday before a state grand jury trying to determine if police documents connected to the Columbine High shooting attack were stolen or destroyed.

Witnesses refused to comment and jurors would only say they were told to expect a long day at the Denver City and County Building.

Former Chechen official granted asylum

MONTPELIER, Vt. - A former Chechen official accused of having terrorist ties by Russian authorities has been granted asylum in the United States over Moscow's protests.

## National Briefs

Ilyas Akhmadov was appointed foreign minister by separatist leader Aslan Maskhadov, now denounced by Russian authorities as a terrorist.

An investigation determined Akhamadov had no connection to terrorism, and Homeland Security withdrew its appeal, said Russ Knocke, a spokesman for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

3 charged in Muslim charity case released

DALLAS - Three men indicted last week on charges of using a Muslim charity to finance terrorists were released from jail Friday while they await trial, but were ordered to wear electronic monitors.

A federal magistrate ordered the release of the men, including the president and chairman of the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, which prosecutors say was a financial supporter of the militant group **Hamas**.

'Tigger' allowed to go back to work

ORLANDO, Fla. - A Walt Disney World employee acquitted of charges he fondled a 13-year-old girl while dressed as Tigger can return to work, company officials said Friday.

Michael Chartrand had been on unpaid administrative leave since his arrest. A jury found him not guilty of lewd and lascivious molestation earlier this week.

Chartrand was reinstated after meeting with Disney entertainment officials Friday, said Donna-Lynne Dalton, an official of the union that represents the park's costumed workers.

Trial might determine Terri Schiavo's wishes

TAMPA, Fla. - Attorneys for Gov. Jeb Bush argued Friday a trial is needed to determine the wishes of a severely brain-damaged woman at the center of a contentious right-to-die case.

The governor's arguments respond to those made by attorneys for Michael Schiavo, who is suing Bush over the constitutionality of a law that blocked the removal of Terri Schiavo's feeding tube last October.

**Load-Date:** August 11, 2004

## *US hoaxer hijacks news to get ahead*

The Sunday Herald

August 8, 2004

Copyright 2004 Scottish Media Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Pg. 1

**Length:** 500 words

**Byline:** By Neil Mackay

### **Body**

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WHAT kind of person fakes his own beheading at the hands of the most brutal Islamic terrorist operating in Iraq, tapes it, shows it to the world over the internet and then admits it was all a hoax when his mum blows the whistle on him?

Benjamin Vanderford is a 22-year-old musician and computer geek and thought the stunt would get him enough publicity to secure his election into the exciting world of San Francisco municipal politics. When the news broke yesterday morning that the terror group run by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi had beheaded another American, the world reacted in horror. Zarqawi, an al-Qaeda affiliate, had previously beheaded the American Nick Berg as well as hostages from South Korea and Bulgaria.

The video, given the no-nonsense title Abu Musab al-Zarqawi Slaughters an American, showed Vanderford sitting on a chair, his hands tied behind him, trembling and rocking backwards and forwards, while dressed in a T-shirt. Zarqawi's victims are usually clad in US prison-style orange jumpsuits.

In the video, Vanderford says: "I have been offered in exchange for prisoners here in Iraq. We need to leave this country alone. We need to stop this occupation."

Just before his "beheading" is shown, Vanderford gives his name and says: "I am from San Francisco, California. We need to leave this country right now. If we don't, everyone is gonna be killed in this way." A hand holding a large knife then slices through the neck of a limp body.

The footage was alternated with photographs of mutilated Iraqi men, women and children. The sound-track was the chanting of verses from the Koran. Reuters, AP and other wire news agencies and broadcasters all carried the details of the apparent execution.

Vanderford's beheading stunt knocked some real news on the Iraq war off the agenda such as the kidnapping of a Turkish truck driver who was threatened with beheading unless the company he works for quits the country.

The story of Vanderford's death rumbled on until early afternoon yesterday when his mum, Theresa, came out and said: "It's a hoax. He's very computer savvy and stuff."

Vanderford then emerged to give an interview in his kitchen, stripped to the waist, sipping a fizzy drink and noticeably hairy.

## US hoaxer hijacks news to get ahead

"It was part of a stunt" he said, "I did this for a couple of reasons. One is to attract attention. But two is to just make a statement on these types of videos and how easily they can be faked."

Vanderford spliced the faked up death scenes with footage taken from a **Hamas** website. He then used production software to downgrade the film quality to make it look like other execution tapes by Zargawi's organisation.

Apart from pretending to have his head cut off in occupied Iraq, Vanderford has done little to drum up support for his campaign for the low-level political office of district supervisor.

Although, he has appeared at the Canibus Club in San Francisco's legendary Haight Ashbury area to give a 'spoken word' performance billing himself as the 'Great White Hype'.

## Graphic

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Benjamin Vanderford, left, appeared at his home in San Francisco on Saturday to explain why he had faked his own beheading, above Main photograph: AP

**Load-Date:** August 9, 2004



## Condi's false note

National Post (f/k/a The Financial Post) (Canada)

June 27, 2005 Monday

National Edition

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**Section:** ISSUES & IDEAS; Pg. A19

**Length:** 1392 words

**Byline:** Robert Satloff, The New Republic

## **Body**

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Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, America's most politically powerful pianist, delivered a virtuoso performance in Cairo last Monday.

She struck just the right notes in a speech calling on Arab states to implement a long list of democratic reforms. Two days earlier in Ramallah, however, Rice's tune was uncharacteristically flat -- so much so that neither Israelis nor Palestinians really understood her message on the critical issue of fighting terror. The result was that Israelis took matters into their own hands last week, arresting 50 presumed jihadists against whom the Palestinians themselves had refused to take action. Increasingly the prospects for deepening bilateral co-ordination in advance of Israel's disengagement from Gaza this summer look bleak.

Let's start with the good news: Rice's speech in Cairo injected clarity and vigour into the administration's "forward strategy of freedom" in the Middle East. Ever since a first-term President Bush sketched the broad outlines of his near-messianic commitment to spreading democracy in the world's least democratic region, this idea has prompted among the Middle East's residents a mix of bemusement and bewilderment.

Indeed some of the White House's staged efforts in this initiative -- such as last year's Forum for the Future in Rabat, Morocco -- have been the-emperor-has-no-clothes events, in which all the participants seem to humour the hyperpower while snickering behind his back.

Rice's speech may change that dynamic. If there was any doubt about the centrality of democratic change to Washington's Middle East policy, Rice erased it by taking her message forcefully to the capital of the most populous and most powerful Arab state. Addressing the American University in Cairo, she outlined in terms more specific and credible than ever before the administration's rationale for pursuing a "different course" in Middle East policy-making, one dedicated to giving the peoples of the region what she termed "the power to choose."

Rice was stunningly blunt. In a city where female political activists have recently been manhandled by police, she underscored the essential role that women must play in public life -- not once, but three times.

In a country that has been ruled under virtual martial law for nearly a quarter-century, she did not ask for change, she demanded it: "The day must come when the rule of law replaces emergency decrees -- and when the independent judiciary replaces arbitrary justice." In fact, in reference to Egypt, she used the word "must" on eight separate occasions, not the usual diplomatic parlance for a guest.

## Condi's false note

At the same time, however, Rice kept some powder in reserve. She made no hint of conditioning economic or military aid on political progress, nor did she imply that President Mubarak was part of the problem rather than a potential agent of progress. There is enough time in the months and years ahead to inject both ideas into the policy mix, if circumstances warrant. This was a smart move given the fact that democratization in Egypt -- if done right -- will be an evolutionary process that takes years to succeed; persistence, not brinksmanship, will be key.

Some of the most important moments of Rice's speech were the powerful blows she landed against Islamist radicalism. Instead of calling for "freedom of religion," for example, she made the more precise demand for "the right to worship as you wish," implicitly dismissing the idea that there is only one brand of legitimate Muslim practice. And in characterizing America's mission as securing "natural" and "universal" rights, she implicitly skewered the Islamists' triumphalist, self-congratulatory view of the world. For an administration so friendly to religious rhetoric, this was a remarkably secular speech.

Indeed, the absence of any reference to God -- who usually makes at least a cameo appearance in the President's speeches -- could not have been by accident.

Rice's address in Cairo was a smash because of her refreshing candour, her thoughtful delivery, and her sheer courage in speaking truth to power. And it was the absence of these qualities from her visit to Ramallah that made her performance there so unsatisfying.

Here's the setting: In less than 60 days, Israel will start its evacuation from Gaza and the northern West Bank. The Palestinian leader, Mahmoud Abbas, has the historic opportunity of taking advantage of Israel's departure to build the foundations of a Palestinian state, thereby beginning to fulfill the political aspirations of his people.

While many factors will affect the level of prosperity and satisfaction enjoyed by the citizens of independent Palestine, only one will determine whether the state exists at all: the willingness of the central government to maintain security and preserve law and order. This is essential not only to ensure the safety of individual Palestinians but also to convince the world -- especially but not only Israel -- that Palestine merits entry into the community of nations.

If, as President Bush has rightly argued, a two-state solution is the answer to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, then America has a powerful interest in seeing the imposition of law and order by the Palestinian Authority.

The problem is that anarchy, not security, reigns today in the Palestinian areas. Terrorists lob missiles over Gaza's fences and shoot at Israelis on West Bank roads. Hooligans, armed with AK-47s, ransack police stations, hospitals and even the house of the Palestinian prime minister.

Why don't Palestinian security forces deal with the problem? Because Abbas's political strategy is based on being nice to the terrorists and the hooligans -- members of Hamas, Islamic Jihad and even his own Fatah party's most violent wing, the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades -- rather than actually implementing his own principle of "one authority, one law, one gun." Indeed, when one radical group threatened to break what passes for a ceasefire last week, Abbas didn't threaten its leaders with jail; he ordered the release of nine terrorists from jail. In her visit to Ramallah, Rice had the chance to give Palestinians -- both leaders and their constituents -- the same dose of straight talk that she would later deliver in Egypt. She could have reminded Palestinians that no state survives long when militias, terrorist groups and gangs run unchecked through the streets; she could have added that President Bush's two-state vision does not extend to the creation of a terrorist safe-haven on Israel's southern and eastern flanks.

Alas, she said none of that. Yes, she repeated the standard line about Hamas as a "terrorist organization [with which] we have no contact." But that is just a descriptive phrase, nothing like the prescriptive measures she called for in Cairo. In fact, there was no public hint that the United States disagrees with any aspect of Abbas's strategy of trying to co-opt the terrorists.

This is tragic. With each passing day, the situation in Gaza and much of the West Bank seems to grow more like Jordan circa 1970-71, when King Hussein felt he had no choice but to cede authority to emboldened Palestinian fedayeen, then led by Yasser Arafat. Eventually, Hussein's own army forced him to take tough action against the

## Condi's false note

militants, lest his regime perish. In the Palestinian areas, however, it's not even clear there are enough officers and soldiers itching to do the job; the Abbas regime -- a noble experiment in popularly elected government -- may perish without a fight.

Strong words from Washington -- even now -- could help reverse this deteriorating situation. Elected with a resounding 62% of the vote just six months ago, Abbas enjoys a mandate to lead, but so far his government has put a higher premium on consensus than leadership. Unfortunately, rule by consensus can never work if the consensus is abused by a few at the expense of the many.

Unless Abbas is prodded to use the power of his position to impose -- through force, if necessary -- the principle of "one authority, one law, one gun," then Palestinian statehood stands no chance. Down the drain too would go the much-prized Palestinian democracy, the nurturing of which has been a signal achievement of the Bush administration. If that happens, then everyone who has been betting on a two-state solution will really have to face the music.

## Graphic

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Cartoon: Andy, (David Anderson), National Post; Condoleezza Rice

**Load-Date:** June 27, 2005

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## **ISRAEL ISOLATES CAMP IN GAZA; AIRSTRIKES KILL 11, RESIDENTS SAY**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

May 18, 2004 Tuesday Five Star Late Lift Edition

Copyright 2004 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A12

**Length:** 508 words

**Byline:** Tamer Ziara/ The Associated Press

**Dateline:** RAFAH, GAZA STRIP

### **Body**

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Israeli tanks and bulldozers moved into a Gaza refugee camp early today, hours after panicked residents fled amid fears of an incursion. Helicopters fired missiles at the camp, killing at least 11 and wounding 30, residents said.

As the bulk of Israeli forces deployed around the shantytown in preparation for a major operation, bulldozers and troops moved into an area known as the Tel Sultan neighborhood, digging a trench to separate it from the rest of the camp, witnesses said. Soldiers backed by dozens of military vehicles searched house to house.

The moves early today appeared to start a major effort to widen a military patrol road between Rafah and the Egyptian border to stop arms smuggling, arrest militants and widen a buffer zone. The decision came after Palestinians blew up an armored vehicle there last week, killing five soldiers assigned to destroy arms-smuggling tunnels.

The gunships attacked twice after midnight. Palestinians said that around dawn, two missiles killed at least eight people as they left a mosque after prayers. They said 23 others were wounded and part of the mosque set on fire. **Hamas** said that three of the dead were members of the militant group.

A few hours earlier, a helicopter fired three missiles, killing three people and wounding seven. Doctors said at least two of the dead were militants.

The Israeli military said both airstrikes were aimed at groups of armed militants.

Frantic residents loaded belongings onto trucks and donkey carts Monday and headed to the neighboring town, also named Rafah. The U.N. Relief and Works Agency set up shelters in schools and pitched a tent camp.

**Women** balanced mattresses on their heads, children carried blankets and men carted away sofas. One man lowered a cooking gas container by rope from a second-floor window, and another piled firewood onto a horse cart.

Raouf Abu Jazar said dozens of people crowded his store, stocking up on rice, bottled water and baby food. "Many had no money to pay, but I gave them what they want, because we all are brothers," he said.

Last week, Israeli troops destroyed about 100 houses in the camp, and officials said hundreds more may be torn down. In all, more than 11,000 Palestinians in Rafah - out of a population of 90,000 - have been made homeless by Israeli demolitions since the outbreak of fighting in 2000.

## ISRAEL ISOLATES CAMP IN GAZA; AIRSTRIKES KILL 11, RESIDENTS SAY

At the United Nations in New York, Arab nations requested a Security Council meeting Tuesday to consider Israel's move against the camp.

The Arab Group called on members to take "necessary measures" against Israel for violating international law.

Palestinian militants planted bombs around Rafah, residents said. A 23-year-old Palestinian was killed early Tuesday when a bomb he was assembling exploded, they said.

Yuval Dvir, an Israeli reserve colonel who oversaw destruction of houses to create the patrol road in the 1980s, said that Israel must leave Gaza now, and that the plan to widen the patrol road would not enhance Israeli security. "We are following our guts and not our brains," he told Israel Army Radio.

## Graphic

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PHOTO; Color Photo by THE ASSOCIATED PRESS - An Israeli riot police officer falls from his horse Monday as police try to remove some of the hundreds of Jewish settlers protesting the dismantling of Mitzpeh Yitzhar, an unauthorized outpost in the West Bank.

**Load-Date:** May 18, 2004

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## **ISRAEL ISOLATES CAMP IN GAZA; AIRSTRIKES KILL 7, RESIDENTS SAY**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

May 18, 2004 Tuesday Five Star Lift Edition

Copyright 2004 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A12

**Length:** 503 words

**Byline:** Tamer Ziara/ The Associated Press

**Dateline:** RAFAH, GAZA STRIP

### **Body**

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Israeli tanks cut off the Rafah refugee camp from the rest of Gaza on Monday, sending panicked residents fleeing amid fears of a major military operation. Helicopters fired missiles at the camp hours later, killing at least seven people and wounding two dozen, residents said.

Early today, Palestinians said Israeli tanks and troops began digging a trench to separate one-quarter of the camp from the rest. Soldiers, backed by dozens of military vehicles, searched house to house.

Israel wants to widen a military patrol road between Rafah and the Egyptian border after Palestinians blew up an armored vehicle there last week, killing five soldiers assigned to destroy arms-smuggling tunnels.

The gunships attacked twice after midnight. Palestinians said that around dawn, two missiles killed at least four people as they left a mosque after morning prayers. They said 17 others were wounded and part of the mosque was set on fire. The militant group **Hamas** said three of the dead were members of the group.

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Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has proposed a unilateral pullout of soldiers and settlers from Gaza, but his party rejected the plan.

## Graphic

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PHOTO; Color Photo by THE ASSOCIATED PRESS - An Israeli riot police officer falls from his horse Monday as police try to remove some of the hundreds of Jewish settlers protesting the dismantling of Mitzpeh Yitzhar, an unauthorized outpost in the West Bank.

**Load-Date:** May 18, 2004

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## **BLACK FLAGS AND VEILS AS RELIGION RETURNS TO CAMPUSES OF IRAQ**

The Independent (London)

March 29, 2004, Monday

Copyright 2004 Independent Print Ltd

**Section:** First Edition; FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 25

**Length:** 536 words

**Byline:** ROBERT FISK IN BAGHDAD A memorial service in Baghdad for students killed in recent suicide attacks  
AP

### **Body**

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THE BLACK flags of Muharram are draped over the front of the School of Arts, banners of mourning erected by Shias at the vast campus of the University of Baghdad. The words praise Imam Hussein's revolution in the seventh century against the Omayyads and they seek to draw all students - Christian as well as Sunni - into their tears of martyrdom.

"Yes, yes for the Army of Mehdi," says one. There are other, more political emotions displayed; posters of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the Hamas leader assassinated by Israel last Monday, wishing his soul a swift path to paradise, condemnation of American killing of civilians in the Sunni city of Fallujah.

Religion is now being established on the campus. Before the American invasion, about half the female students would wear the veil. Today, almost 75 per cent of the girls wear head scarves. Not necessarily a bad thing if this is their choice, but lecturers are reporting an unhappy phenomenon: students who demand to leave class to take part in demonstrations, suggestions that lecturers are not sufficiently sympathetic to religious students, claims that God deserves a large part in class. Another poster notes ruefully: "When Danger is Past, God is Forgotten."

On the other side of town, at the ancient University of Mustanseriya, the dean removed pictures of Ayatollah Ali Sistani and other Iraqi Shia leaders from walls. Shia students closed the university for two days, preventing those of other sects from entering the building and objecting to the dean, Dr Abdul-Samia al-Janabi.

You would think there were more pressing problems. The library of Baghdad University was gutted by arsonists a year ago, although a Japanese donor has offered to rebuild it. But one lecturer made the remarkable observation that the occupation, though widely hated among students, has ignited an interest in American drama. Tennessee Williams, Eugene O'Neill and Arthur Miller are now set books. Who would have thought American tanks could promote Death of a Salesman?

One teacher invited me to his drama lecture yesterday morning and to ask his students anything I wished. Of the 19 women, I noticed, 15 wore the veil. One of them spoke first - but hers were not the prepared words of the Saddam era. "I want to tell you that we are suffering and you should care more about us," she said. "We don't have enough books and we live in insecurity ... and we as a people are being humiliated by your American and British occupation." Then she smiled sadly and added: "You do not care about us." All the girls and about half the 10 male students nodded.



## BLACK FLAGS AND VEILS AS RELIGION RETURNS TO CAMPUSES OF IRAQ

But surely, I said - "but surely" has become the occupier's all-purpose get-out phrase in Iraq - but surely you can now speak freely. Just over a year ago, I said, Iraqi secret policemen would have been listening to our conversation - which would not have been a conversation at all. There was laughter. "But now we have freedom without law," another girl said.

So I asked about Saddam. At this point something almost palpable drifted darkly through the room, a silence so acute that we could hear the voice of the lecturer in the next room. My host leant towards me. "This is one taboo I don't think they have got over yet," he muttered.

**Load-Date:** March 29, 2004

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End of Document

***A glimpse of a rebellious future, a study of a clandestine past, and a cop-show deja vu***

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

October 25, 2005 Tuesday

First Edition

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**Section:** NEWS AND FEATURES; Entertainment; Pg. 17

**Length:** 582 words

**Byline:** Doug Anderson

## **Body**

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Foreign Correspondent

9.20pm, ABC: You've met the Fockers, now meet the Freeters - a subset of Generation Z. These are young Japanese who have rejected the numbing treadmill of the corporate rat-race and opted for a more balanced existence where life and career are defined by a freelance outlook. Freeters are regarded as far weirder by many other Japanese than more sartorially extreme subcultures, such as, say, the Goth-Lolitas. Kiyomi Hirayama wears tight black outfits, a leather dog collar and long lace gloves - which hide the many mutilation scars on her wrists. Hirayama hates her father, loves loud trance music, works as a bar hostess and rejects outright the values and aspirations of her parents' generation.

Then there's the Okatu - a tribe of uber-nerds whose existence revolves around computer games and cyber-romance. Or the phase-locked slackers, the NEETs - Not in Employment Education or Training. Rebellion is nigh on inevitable, but in Japan it seems more of a tribal thing than a matter of individual statement and self-defined identity. Eric Campbell examines the social byproducts of Tokyo's sclerotic economy and, quite possibly, glimpses the future. Then it's off to Bali to see the dividend of another battered economy, largely defined by hedonism and opportunism. Who is going to define the region's future? Tourists? The Balinese? Indonesian carpetbaggers and Australian entrepreneurs, drug dealers or terrorists? Helen Vatsikopoulos reports.

The Cutting Edge

8.30pm, SBS: Dining with the Devil is a doco probing links between the CIA and the PLO in the past 35 years. Obviously, "US interests" in the Middle East are at the fulcrum of clandestine relationships between an arm of the US Administration and a terrorist organisation. A crucial case in point involves millions of dollars being siphoned to Jibril Rajoub, head of the Preventive Security Service in the West Bank. This cash helps him address American concerns over Islamic extremism in the territory and in Gaza. Members of Rajoub's group were intensively trained by CIA agents to offset the activities of Hamas. Revelations of some 40 Palestinian special forces operatives training at the CIA's Langley complex in 1998 subtly change the complexion of sensitive manoeuvres involving Israel, Palestine and the US - both at that time and since. How much money is in the West Bank? It's normal to have a quideach way, so how intense is US hedging as a suppurating sore deteriorates?

Insight

A glimpse of a rebellious future, a study of a clandestine past, and a cop-show déjà vu

7.30pm, SBS: It's hard enough preventing rape but even harder proving the crime in a court. While there has been an increase in the number of women reporting sexual assaults, the number of convictions for rape has dwindled. Jenny Brockie and a forum of experts ask - and perhaps answer - the hard questions.

CSI

8.30pm, Nine: Tonight's episode is entitled Fur and Loathing, as well it might be. Cops investigate the shooting of a man dressed as a raccoon. Out of season! Dearie me! We've been this way before in an old instalment of LA Law. Elsewhere in Las Vegas - where else! - a gunshot victim, frozen solid, is located in a freezer. At least the stench isn't a major concern.

Marie Antoinette

12.30am (Wed), ABC: Was she a notorious miser? A raving nympho? A reckless punter? A foreign spy dressed in black, raccoon-skin frocks and a studded dog collar with numerous self-harm scars concealed by elbow-length gloves? Was she trained by the CIA? High time we were told the truth about the cake-loving consort of Louis XVI.

**Load-Date:** July 17, 2007

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End of Document

## NEWS SUMMARY

The New York Times

April 4, 2004 Sunday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2004 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section 1; Column 3; Metropolitan Desk; Pg. 2

**Length:** 540 words

### **Body**

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#### INTERNATIONAL 3-16

##### Madrid Suspects Die in Blast

Three men believed to be responsible for the Madrid train bombings blew themselves up inside an apartment house in Leganes, a working-class district of Madrid, as the police prepared to assault the building Saturday night, officials said. One officer was killed and at least 11 others were wounded. 1

##### Arafat Responds to Sharon

The Palestinian leader, Yasir Arafat, said that he was not troubled by warnings from Israel that it could act against him. Meanwhile, Hamas claimed responsibility for the gunman who killed an Israeli man at a West Bank settlement. 12

##### Syria Jails Rights Advocates

A Syrian military court sentenced 14 human rights advocates to jail for belonging to a banned group after they attended a lecture condemning the country's emergency law. 3

##### Thousands March in Baghdad

Thousands of supporters of Iraq's virulently anti-American Shiite cleric, Moqtada Sadr, left, marched through the streets of Baghdad in a show of strength punctuated by anti-occupation speeches. 16

##### Brazil Leader's Backing Wanes

A widening corruption scandal that began in mid-February in Brazil has all but immobilized the government of President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, whose support was already eroding because of the weak performance of the economy during his first year in office. 12

The road that stretches from the Brazilian border and climbs into the heart of Peru could be paved, a plan its proponents are calling South America's infrastructure project of the century. It would mean the continent's first trans-oceanic highway linking the two countries. 16

##### Sri Lanka Elections Uncertain

## NEWS SUMMARY

The alliance headed by President Chandrika Kumaratunga of Sri Lanka, left, appeared headed for victory after parliamentary elections, but officials said that final results would be delayed by about a week because of the need to repeat the vote in two districts. 4

## South Korean Party's Struggle

South Korea's conservatives are courting women and young voters for the crucial parliamentary elections on April 15. 14

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## Job Records Altered

The illegal doctoring of hourly employees' time records is more prevalent than most Americans believe, experts on compensation say. The practice, commonly called shaving time, has spurred a growing number of lawsuits and settlements. 1

## More Hmong to United States

As many as 15,000 Hmong refugees will arrive in the United States this summer. They have been living in Thailand for decades since being driven from their mountain homelands in Laos in the waning days of the war in Southeast Asia. 18

## Move to End Ban on Tolls

The White House wants to relax the taboo on highway tolls, and the House of Representatives went along by passing a highway bill that encourages new express toll lanes. 18

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## Statue's Reopening Delayed

The Statue of Liberty, closed after the Sept. 11 attacks, is scheduled to be reopened this summer. But interviews show it could have been reopened much earlier. 1

## New Doubts in '88 Murder Case

New evidence has raised doubts in the case of Mark Tankleff, who is imprisoned for 50 years to life for the murder of his parents. He has proclaimed his innocence. 33

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<http://www.nytimes.com>

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NEWS SUMMARY

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**INSIDE TODAY'S PAPER; News & Views in Record time**

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

January 17, 2004 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2004 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** FRONT; Pg. A2; NEWS

**Length:** 507 words

**Body**

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SHORT HITS: Brief news items from around the world. A9

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COMING UP MONDAY

SPORTS

Who will be left standing after tomorrow's NFC and AFC Championship games? Will it be the Carolina Panthers or Philadelphia Eagles representing the NFC in the Super Bowl? Can the Indianapolis Colts upset the New England Patriots in their AFC clash? See Monday's Record for all the answers.

THAT'S INTERESTING . . .

WORTH QUOTING

The two-faced answer or the plain protective lie. W.H. Auden

TODAY IN HISTORY

An earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale rocked the Los Angeles area 10 years ago today, in 1994. The quake buckled highways, flattened buildings, ruptured gas lines and sparked fires. At least 61 people were killed. Damage was estimated at \$30 billion.

Also on this date in:

1972 -- Canadian air traffic controllers went on strike, grounding most commercial flights for the 10 days of the walkout.

TOMORROW IN HISTORY

CRTC regulations governing Canadian content in radio music programming took effect 33 years ago today, in 1971. The regulations stated that 30 per cent of music broadcast between 6 a.m. and midnight had to be by Canadians.

Also on this date in:

1912 -- Capt. Robert Scott's expedition reached the South Pole, but never returned.

**Load-Date:** January 17, 2004

## **AN AMORAL DISTINCTION**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

January 26, 2004 Monday

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2004 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** LIFESTYLE,

**Length:** 552 words

### **Body**

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A nugget of information buried deep inside a recent news story could be something significant -- something that, if correctly understood and applied, would really further the evolutionary progress of humankind.

This particular item may have been widely overlooked because of its barbaric context. It appeared near the end of a graphic account of the first mother to become a suicide bomber in the un-ending Middle East conflict.

Reem al-Reyashi, 22, the mother of a 3-year-old son and 1-year-old daughter, blew herself up at a Gaza Strip security inspection center earlier this month, killing four Israeli security personnel and wounding seven people. In a video that **Hamas** leaders released after the attack, the young Palestinian mom had stated: "It was always my wish to turn my body into deadly shrapnel against the Zionists and to knock on the doors of heaven with the skulls of Zionists."

Now that is certainly interesting from both an anatomical and moral viewpoint. Since Reyashi made her wish about being shrapnel come true, it's likely that she had neither a skull nor hands to grab someone else's as she exited this world, making it exceedingly difficult, therefore, to knock on the gates of heaven. Perhaps the gatekeeper would overlook this problem since Reyashi left earth in a powerful hurry, you know.

Although this scenario is quite interesting, a more important moral issue is the current theological debate reportedly taking place among Islamic militants. After noting that **women** were not used as suicide bombers when the current Palestinian uprising began three years ago, the article noted that "some Islamic groups [have] raised questions as to whether it was permitted under Islamic law."

In other words, some believe suicide bombing is OK with Allah, but not if the bomber's a chick. File this one under "Human beings, moral evolution of."

But don't stop with filing. What if we were to bring this fineness of moral distinction to other problems of our time? Could real, if incremental, progress be made?

If so, here are some steps that might be taken, both here and around the world:

\* We would not execute mentally-retarded criminals without first providing sufficient social and educational services to ensure that they could understand their impending punishment.

\* Crazy pro-life gunmen would assassinate only abortion providers whose own children are already grown and out of the house.

## AN AMORAL DISTINCTION

\* Abortion providers would give second-trimester fetuses pain-killers before inserting surgical scissors into them, vacuuming them out and crushing their skulls.

\* Political activists whose Web site posted a video comparing this nation's president to the author of the Holocaust would defend themselves by stating that their posting of such a video does not constitute an endorsement of it. (Oh, wait -- that bit of moral progress has already been achieved).

\* CEOs relaxing at estates purchased with their golden parachutes would find part-time gardening and handy-man work for all the retirees whose pensions they plundered.

\* International industrialists would put dehumidifiers in their sweat shops.

We have to encourage this kind of hair-splitting, this willingness to parse and parry on the slippery slope to destruction, because if we didn't find some crumb of hope somewhere, we'd have to cry.

## Notes

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Ruth Ann Dailey can be reached at [rdailey@post-gazette.com](mailto:rdailey@post-gazette.com).

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2004

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## *Israel, Palestinians bicker in final phase of Gaza pullout*

The Star Phoenix (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

September 12, 2005 Monday

Final Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. B6

**Length:** 569 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

**Dateline:** MORAG, Gaza Strip

### **Body**

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MORAG, Gaza Strip (AP) -- Triumphant Palestinian troops accompanied by cheering, flag-waving crowds took control of abandoned Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip early Monday, as convoys of Israeli troops rolled out of the Gaza Strip in the final phase of Israel's pullout from the territory after 38 years of occupation.

Fireworks lit up the night sky, gunmen fired in the air in celebration and crowds set fire to the synagogue in the abandoned Morag settlement, closest to Palestinian towns. In another synagogue, gunmen climbed on the roof and waved flags of militant groups, including Hamas, shouting "God is great."

"It is only the first step to more liberation ... tomorrow we liberate all of Palestine," Gaza resident Mohammed Khamish Habboush shouted into a mosque loudspeaker.

Israel had demolished nearly all buildings in its 21 Gaza settlements, but decided at the last minute to leave 19 synagogues intact, a decision criticized by the Palestinians and the United States. Early Monday, Palestinians started carrying off what was left in the debris in the settlements, including chairs, tables and shopping cars. Young men tore down electricity poles, grabbing the wires, and several people carried off window frames.

In Netzarim, women ululated in celebration.

Some 5,000 Israeli troops left in Gaza began driving toward Israel before dawn Monday, and the last Israeli soldier was to be out by daybreak. Just before 3 a.m. Monday, the first convoy approached the Kissufim crossing between Gaza and Israel.

Late Sunday, Israeli troops had lowered their national banner in Neve Dekalim, snapped farewell pictures and closed army headquarters, which were left intact for use by the Palestinians.

In a sombre farewell ceremony, the Israeli commander in Gaza, Brig.-Gen. Aviv Kochavi, expressed hope the pullout would be a step toward peace. "The gate that will close behind us is also the gate that will open," he said. "We hope it will be a gate of peace and quiet, a gate of hope and goodwill, a gate of neighbourliness and if a bad wind breaks through then we will greet it with a force of troops ready and waiting."

## Israel , Palestinians bicker in final phase of Gaza pullout

But the withdrawal, code-named "Last Watch," was overshadowed by Israeli-Palestinian disputes, including over border arrangements and Israel's last-minute decision not to demolish Gaza synagogues. The army was forced to cancel a handover ceremony, initially set for Sunday, after angry Palestinians said they wouldn't show up.

There was also concern about last-minute bloodshed. A 12-year-old Palestinian boy was among four Palestinians wounded by Israeli army fire when a crowd got too close to the abandoned Gush Katif bloc of Jewish settlements.

The withdrawal marks the first time the Palestinians will have control over a defined territory. They hope to build their state in Gaza, the West Bank and east Jerusalem, which are areas that Israel captured in the 1967 Israeli-Arab war. Gaza is seen as a testing ground for Palestinian aspirations of statehood, but many Palestinians fear that after the Gaza pullout, Israel will not hand over additional territory.

The Palestinians say the occupation is not really ending, noting that Israel will continue to control Gaza's airspace, territorial waters and border passages. "Despite Israeli claims to the contrary, the Gaza Strip will remain occupied Palestinian territory under international law," said Palestinian cabinet minister Mohammed Dahlan.

## Graphic

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Photo: Associated Press; Israeli soldiers fold the national flag at the end of the closing ceremony at the military headquarters near the evacuated Jewish settlement of Neve Dekalim in the Gaza Strip

**Load-Date:** September 12, 2005

## **TEN DEAD IN POLICE SUICIDE BOMBING**

Birmingham Post

January 30, 2004, Friday

Copyright 2004 Midland Independent Newspapers plc

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 9

**Length:** 544 words

**Byline:** JAMES MCBRIDE IN JERUSALEM The wreckage of the bus in which ten died and at least 50 were injured in Jerusalem; Ariel Sharon: Peace talks doubt

### **Body**

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A Palestinian policeman swapped his uniform for a suicide bomber's outfit yesterday and blew himself up on a crowded bus outside Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's residence killing ten passengers and wounding 50 bystanders.

It was the deadliest attack in four months but did not stop a long planned prisoner exchange between Israel and Lebanese guerrilla group Hezbollah.

The Jerusalem blast sent body parts flying into nearby houses. Shaken survivors crawled out of broken bus windows. A chunk of the bus' roof landed on top of a two-storey building, and witnesses said there was an overpowering smell of blood and smoke.

Sharon was not home at the time of the attack, claimed by the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a militant group close to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

The bomber, identified as Ali Jaara, 24, a Palestinian policeman from the Aida refugee camp on the outskirts of Bethlehem, left a note saying that he wanted to avenge eight Palestinians killed in fighting with Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip the day before.

The attack marked another setback for stalled peace efforts. It came at a time when senior US State Department officials were in the region to try to revive the road map plan.

Washington has criticised the Palestinian Authority for not doing enough to stop militants, and the bomber's ties to the security forces was particularly embarrassing. Bethlehem is one of only a few Palestinian towns not under Israeli military control.

Jaara, who lived in a two-storey home in the West Bank with his parents and nine siblings, was described by relatives as quiet and a devout Muslim who showed little interest in politics.

Distraught relatives filled the house, as Jaara's mother sat on a mattress on the floor, crying uncontrollably.

She carried a picture of her son in a police uniform carrying his police-issued Kalashnikov rifle. Many family members said they opposed attacks against Israelis.

'These operations are really bad for us. They only hurt us,' said his 26-year-old sister, Ola.

## TEN DEAD IN POLICE SUICIDE BOMBING

Police spokesman Gil Kleiman said the bomber had been carrying about 15 pounds of explosives in a bag and detonated them on the bus just 15 yards from Sharon's official residence.

The green bus was charred, with wires dangling everywhere. One side of the bus had been blown out and the back half of the roof was blown off.

Eli Beer, a paramedic, said victims had been scattered over a wide area.

'There were a lot of heavy injuries, a lot of the people were in bad condition, a lot had missing limbs,' he said.

It was the deadliest attack since a female suicide bomber killed 21 people at a seaside restaurant in Haifa in October.

In response, Sharon and his foreign minister, Silvan Shalom, cancelled a planned meeting on the humanitarian crisis in the Palestinian areas that was to include the Americans, Palestinians and international donors.

In a statement, they said 'it is not the time' to discuss the easing of restrictions on Palestinians 'when innocent Israeli citizens are murdered in the streets.'

Abdel Aziz Rantissi, a Hamas leader in Gaza, praised the attack. 'It's not important who carried out this operation.

'The only thing which is very important is that we are resisting occupiers who occupy our land and kill our people,' he said.

**Load-Date:** January 30, 2004

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**The West's fear of Islamism backfires ;**  
**Mideast democracy**

The International Herald Tribune

September 1, 2005 Thursday

Copyright 2005 International Herald Tribune

**Section:** OPINION; Pg. 8

**Length:** 638 words

**Byline:** Jonathan Power

**Dateline:** LONDON

## **Body**

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In Washington and other Western capitals a view is gaining ground that a popularly elected government in the Middle East is better than a shaky autocratic client. Maybe there is some element of truth in this. Yet there is still a marked reservation about going the extra mile and accepting that a free and open poll might bring Islamist parties to power.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has said a few measured things about the need for the result of Egypt's presidential election on Sept. 7 not to be a foregone conclusion, but the United States is hardly keeping the pressure on, presumably fearing an opening will be exploited by the Muslim Brotherhood with its "secret agenda." International Herald Tribune

We have still not come far enough from the attitudes that followed the 1990 elections in Algeria. France, the former colonial master, and the United States ignored the fact that the Islamists had clearly won a majority, and turned a blind eye when the army rejected the result, sparking a bloody civil war.

Yet the truth is that Islamist parties in many countries have faced enough persecution, prosecution, imprisonment, torture and repression to form an instinctive empathy for the calls and cause of democracy and human rights. Human rights, if the West is clever, should be the wedge that keeps the door open if and when Islamist parties come to power.

The platform of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood calls for parliamentary rule, separation of powers and the protection of minorities. In Lebanon the militant Hezbollah has adopted progressive stands on social and religious issues, and like **Hamas** in Palestine is participating vigorously in electoral politics. In Morocco, Islamists are firmly behind the government's efforts to expand **women's** rights.

As Reza Aslan wrote in a recent issue of Prospect magazine, "It is pluralism that defines democracy, not secularism. And Islam has had a long and historic commitment to religious pluralism." No other monotheistic religion can match the reverence with which the Koran speaks of other religious traditions.

Of course, there is no doubting that all over the Islamic world some born-again Muslims have been seduced by the call of violence. But the predominant trends in Islamic societies remain nonviolent, even more so following the havoc wrecked by Al Qaeda and despite rising anti-Americanism brought on principally by the invasion of Iraq.



## The West's fear of Islamism backfires ; Mideast democracy

The important trends to watch in contemporary Islamist theology are toward what Westerners call human rights. Islamist intellectuals like Rashid Ghanoushi, the Tunisian leader, and Abdal-Wahhab el-Affendi, the Sudanese writer, are now arguing that restoring Shariah law "from above" by political action is a "recipe for tyranny and violence."

Many Islamic scholars are now revisiting the influential writings of the Iranian scholar Jamal al-Din al-Afgani, who lived from 1838 to 1897. He preached a message of reform that has been dubbed the "Protestant Islam." He argued that just as Islam had been open to absorbing Greek philosophy in the Middle Ages, so it should be open to European ideas today.

Fundamentalism, as Edward Mortimer wrote in his magisterial "Faith and Power," should be properly seen as "an effort to define the fundamentals of one's religion and a refusal to budge from them once defined. Surely anybody with serious religious beliefs of any sort must be a fundamentalist in this sense." The West will not progress in its effort to replace autocratic regimes with democratic ones until it sheds its knee-jerk antipathy to Islamic fundamentalism. The likes of President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, with their rigged elections, will continue to feel secure until the West faces up to this fact squarely.

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Jonathan Power is a commentator on foreign affairs.

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**Load-Date:** September 1, 2005

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**Desperation, resignation as soldiers clear Gaza: Sporadic violence marks evictions in five settlements**

The Star Phoenix (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

August 18, 2005 Thursday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. D8

**Length:** 574 words

**Byline:** Matthew Fisher and Jeff Heinrich, CanWest NewsService

**Dateline:** GANEI TAL, Gaza

## **Body**

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GANEI TAL, Gaza -- More than 15,000 Israeli soldiers and police moved quickly through Gaza Strip settlements Wednesday, dragging out those few Jewish settlers who would not leave their homes willingly as part of the government's forced withdrawal from the tiny territory.

Security forces enjoyed lightning success in evacuating five Gush Katif bloc Gaza settlements, and expect to add the most troublesome, Neve Delakim, to the list of settler-free communities sometime today.

Yet there were sporadic acts of isolated violence in and near several Gaza settlements.

At one checkpoint just outside the strip, a West Bank settler woman suffered burns to 60 per cent of her body after setting herself on fire to protest against the evictions.

In Morag, one of the southernmost settlements, a ***female*** soldier was stabbed after an altercation with a resident who didn't want to leave his house. He was arrested and taken away.

In Neve Dekalim, the town that is Gaza's centre and the heart of the resistance, two injured soldiers were taken to hospital; so was a foreign journalist who was hurt when a door collapsed on him during one of the house evacuations.

In the West Bank settlement of Shiloh, a Jewish settler, upset over what Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has called his Gaza disengagement plan, killed four Palestinians whom he regularly drove to work.

A similar attack less than two weeks ago on a bus by a Jewish soldier who was absent without leave from the army resulted in the deaths of four Israeli Arabs.

Sharon described Wednesday's murders as an act of "Jewish terror . . . aimed against innocent Palestinians, out of twisted thinking, aimed at stopping the disengagement."

From its Gaza headquarters, ***Hamas***, which is regarded as a terrorist organization by Canada and some other western countries, quickly announced its intention to avenge these deaths. It hinted it may wait until after Israeli

## Desperation, resignation as soldiers clear Gaza: Sporadic violence marks evictions in five settlements

forces complete the expulsion of about 9,000 settlers and as many as 5,000 of their supporters from 21 Gaza villages and four remote West Bank settlements.

That may take far less time than had been expected. Senior officials overseeing the historic pullout said the hugely controversial process has gone so well on its first day that it was likely all settlers would be gone from Gaza by Monday or Tuesday.

In the devout farming settlement of Ganei Tal, the entire Orthodox community of about 500 was on hand to scream defiance at about 1,000 unarmed police and troops tasked with carrying out the Gaza evictions Wednesday.

But despite the heartfelt sorrow and dread that so many felt at having to give up land they believe was given to Jews by God, virtually everyone in Ganei Tal was on the road out of Gaza by dusk, carting furnishings and dug up trees behind them, after a last communal prayer in the village's synagogue.

It was a similar scene in six other Gaza settlements Wednesday. As surveillance blimps circled overhead, 17-member evacuation teams encouraged settlers to leave voluntarily or risk being carried out.

Meanwhile, out in the streets, protesters attempted to provoke soldiers and police officers.

"Are you Jews?" they shouted in Hebrew and sometimes in English. "Here come the heroes of Israel," and "You are no different than the Nazis."

"It was harder to deal with it when it was real than it was in training," said an air force captain who praised his two evacuation teams in Ganei Tal for remaining focused on their duties.

## Graphic

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Colour Photo: Getty Images; Israeli police officers escort a Jewish settler and her young daughter to a waiting bus Wednesday

**Load-Date:** August 18, 2005

## *Rewarding terrorism; a really bad idea*

University Wire

August 24, 2005 Wednesday

Copyright 2005 Rocky Mountain Collegian via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 533 words

**Byline:** By Ryan Chapman, Rocky Mountain Collegian; **SOURCE:** Colorado State U.

**Dateline:** FORT COLLINS, Colo.

### **Body**

---

Fall is finally here. Classes are back in session, football season is nearly upon us, and it is a great time to be a student at Colorado State University.

As it turns out, it is also a great time to be a terrorist, especially if you're a Palestinian terrorist. Now some of you may be wondering why exactly it would ever be a great time to be a terrorist, and I will tell you. Thirty-eight years of blowing up buses, cafe's, and every innocent civilian in sight has finally paid off for the Palestinians. Israel is giving back the Gaza Strip.

That's right; they finally got what they wanted. Last week Israel began the forced evacuation of its own citizens from the Gaza Strip in an attempt at peace with the Palestinians. This move, which liberals in America seem to think is gallant and intelligent, I see as utterly insane.

If the only respectable democracy in the Middle East starts conceding to the demands of terrorist murderers who kill women and children, then any hope of peace in that region is even farther away than we thought. Rewarding terrorists for having a twisted perspective on war and human life in general will only encourage them.

When casually discussing this issue with my father the other day a bystander said to me, "They only became terrorists because we took their land!"

Now let me tell you why this is not only wrong, but stupid. First of all, "we" didn't take anything; Israel took the debated territory (along with the Sinai Peninsula, West Bank, and Golan Heights) in the Six Day War of 1967. This war, mind you, was instigated by Israel's Arab neighbors -- Egypt, Syria, and Jordan -- who were then completely humiliated and defeated in, you guessed it ... six days.

Now while these areas are the spoils of war, Israel has no responsibility to return them. Myself and those who understand how the world works have agreed on that for the better part of 40 years. That is until last week when those Israelis who have settled in the West Bank were drug, kicking and screaming, from their homes by teary-eyed soldiers from their own army. I don't think this is the scene Moses had in mind when he called this the "promised land."

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon called the move an attempt to "disengage" from the conflict. At the same time the militant group Hamas, which is responsible for many of the attacks on Israeli citizens, saw the pullout as a victory

## Rewarding terrorism; a really bad idea

and even hung posters in the city of Gaza in celebration. Now I don't know about you, but purposefully giving barbaric murderers something to cheer about, makes me angry and confused.

How can this make sense? All we are doing is conditioning these animals to kill more people the next time they want something because they have gotten results in the past. I predict that this move will produce very little progress toward peace. Instead it will ultimately just put Israel, and the rest of the world for that matter, at risk from the newly inspired and revitalized wave of suicide bombers from the Middle East.

But hey! That's just me, and that's my opinion for the week. And I hope all my readers have as much success this semester as terrorism has had in the past week.

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**Load-Date:** August 24, 2005

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End of Document

**Anguish, anger in Gaza as Israeli troops begin evicting settlers: Sporadic violence but operation was moving quickly**

The Vancouver Sun (British Columbia)

August 18, 2005 Thursday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A7

**Length:** 541 words

**Byline:** Matthew Fisher and Jeff Heinrich, CanWest News Service; The Montreal Gazette; Associated Press

**Dateline:** GANEI TAL, Gaza

## **Body**

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GANEI TAL, Gaza -- Jewish settlers sobbed and screamed, some of them ripping their shirts in mourning, as Israeli troops dragged them from homes and synagogues Wednesday -- the beginning of the end of Israel's 38-year occupation of the Gaza Strip.

In the West Bank, a settler killed four Palestinian labourers in a shooting rampage, which Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon denounced as a twisted act of "Jewish terror" designed to stop the historic pullout.

More than 15,000 Israeli soldiers and police moved quickly through Gaza settlements, dragging out those few Jewish settlers who would not leave their homes willingly as part of the government's forced withdrawal from the tiny territory.

Security forces enjoyed lightning success in evacuating five Gush Katif-bloc Gaza settlements, and expect to add the most troublesome, Neve Dekalim, to the list of settler-free communities sometime today.

Yet there were sporadic acts of isolated violence in and near several Gaza settlements.

At one checkpoint just outside the strip, a West Bank settler woman suffered burns to 60 per cent of her body after setting herself on fire to protest the evictions.

In Morag, one of the southernmost settlements, a **female** soldier was stabbed after an altercation with a resident who didn't want to leave his house. He was arrested and taken away.

In Neve Dekalim, the town that is Gaza's centre and the heart of the resistance, two injured soldiers were taken to hospital; so was a foreign journalist who was hurt when a door collapsed on him during one of the house evacuations.

In the West Bank settlement of Shiloh, a Jewish settler, upset over what Sharon has called his Gaza disengagement plan, killed four Palestinians whom he regularly drove to work.

Sharon described Wednesday's murders as an act of "Jewish terror . . . aimed against innocent Palestinians, out of twisted thinking, aimed at stopping the disengagement."

Anguish, anger in Gaza as Israeli troops begin evicting settlers: Sporadic violence but operation was moving quickly

From its Gaza headquarters, **Hamas**, branded a terrorist organization by Canada and some other western countries, quickly announced its intention to avenge these deaths.

It hinted it may wait until after Israeli forces complete the expulsion of about 9,000 settlers and as many as 5,000 of their supporters from 21 Gaza villages and four remote West Bank settlements.

That may take far less time than had been expected. Senior officials overseeing the historic pullout said the hugely controversial process has gone so well on its first day that it was likely all settlers would be gone from Gaza by Monday or Tuesday.

In the devout farming settlement of Ganei Tal, the entire Orthodox community of about 500 was on hand to scream defiance at about 1,000 unarmed police and troops who arrived to carry out the Gaza evictions Wednesday.

But despite the heartfelt sorrow and dread that so many felt at having to give up land they believe was given to Jews by God, virtually everyone in Ganei Tal was on the road out of Gaza by dusk, carting furnishings and dug-up trees behind them, after a last communal prayer in the village's synagogue.

It was a similar scene in six other Gaza settlements Wednesday. As surveillance blimps circled overhead, 17-member evacuation teams encouraged settlers to leave voluntarily or risk being carried out bodily.

## Graphic

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Colour Photo: Sebastian Scheiner, Associated Press; Members of a settler family take one final look at Neve Dekalim before leaving the Gaza Strip settlement on Wednesday.

**Load-Date:** August 18, 2005

## **THE GAZA PULLOUT: Sacrifices of Israel need to be matched**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

August 17, 2005 Wednesday

Home Edition

Copyright 2005 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

### **The Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** Editorial;; Column

**Length:** 544 words

**Byline:** SHMUEL BEN-SHMUEL

### **Body**

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The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal."

Israel is taking historic and unprecedented steps to reignite the peace process in the Middle East by unilaterally disengaging from the Gaza Strip and parts of the West Bank. More than 8,000 Israeli men, women and children --- many of whom have lived in these areas for more than two generations --- will be moved from their homes in this formal disengagement.

The sacrifices being made by the Israeli people cannot be understated. The financial burden of the disengagement is approximately \$2 billion, which amounts to 3.5 percent of the yearly Israeli budget. More than 5,000 schoolchildren are being pulled from their schools and homes. Synagogues are being dismantled and cemeteries uprooted in this painstaking process, including graves of Israelis murdered in Palestinian terror attacks.

The key to moving toward a genuine and lasting peace is putting a stop to terrorism by dismantling the terrorist regimes. More than 1,000 Israelis have been murdered in the campaign of terror by Palestinian extremists from Hamas, Islamic Jihad and other terrorist groups over the past four years. There is currently a 30-1 ratio between Palestinian security forces and terrorists living among them. Yet, we are still waiting to see if there is a will to dismantle these groups who seek to wreak havoc on Israel and the entirety of Western society. To these terrorist cells, "Israeli," "American" and "Jew" are synonymous, and they are intent on destroying democratic society worldwide.

The Israeli people have tried to create the framework for a formidable peace between them and the Palestinian people. Former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was even murdered because of a willingness to make sacrifices in exchange for peace. This is the dawn of an historic opportunity for the Palestinian people and their leader, Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen). The Palestinians deserve leadership that will finally stand up for their safety, security and economic well-being rather than fulfill selfish desires of power and wealth.



## THE GAZA PULLOUT: Sacrifices of Israel need to be matched

Hundreds of millions of dollars in aid and economic assistance are pouring into the Palestinian Authority from countries around the world to aid this process. The question is whether the Palestinian leadership will use this support and the goodwill of the international community to follow Israel's example to become the second true democracy in the Middle East.

In his announcement of the disengagement plan in December 2003, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon stated, "Like all Israeli citizens, I yearn for peace. I attach supreme importance to taking all steps which will enable progress toward resolution with the Palestinians. However, in light of the other challenges we are faced with, if the Palestinians do not make a similar effort toward a solution of the conflict, I do not intend to wait for them indefinitely."

Unfortunately, it takes two partners to make peace and only one side to make war, and we have yet to see a Palestinian partner stand up against terrorism and fight for a lasting peace.

Shmuel Ben-Shmuel is Israeli consul general in Atlanta, the nation's highest-ranking diplomat in the southeastern United States.

## Graphic

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DAVID GUTTENFELDER / Associated Press An Israeli soldier sits in the back yard of a Jewish settler's home Monday after he and fellow troops arrived to distribute eviction notices in the Jewish settlement of Neve Dekalim. Tears, anger and resignation greeted soldiers as they sought to deliver the notices to thousands of Jewish settlers as Israel ended its 38-year occupation of the Gaza Strip and in four small settlements in the West Bank. ; Shmuel Ben-Shmuel ONLINE FORUM Once the Gaza pullout is complete, what would be Israel's next step toward peace? Weigh in at [www.ajc.com/opinion](http://www.ajc.com/opinion).

**Load-Date:** August 17, 2005

## WORLD REPORT

Windsor Star (Ontario)

February 13, 2004 Friday Final Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. C2; News; Brief

**Length:** 1911 words

**Dateline:** Rome; London; Port-Au-Prince, Haiti; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Dingdang, China; Bangkok, Thailand; Gaza City, Gaza Strip; Jerusalem; Fallujah, Iraq; Ramat Hasharon, Israel; Washington; Wichita Falls, Texas; Pasadena, Calif.; Fountain Green, Utah

### **Body**

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Pope urges Iran to help with nuclear inspections

Rome

The Vatican issued a stern message on nuclear weapons during the visit of a top Iranian official Thursday, with Pope John Paul urging Tehran to continue co-operating with UN inspectors and his foreign minister warning that the pursuit of such weapons only multiplies conflicts.

The message was delivered to Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi, who denied Tehran had any nuclear weapons ambitions and played down the discovery by UN inspectors of drawings of equipment that can be used to make weapons-grade uranium.

"We do not have anything to hide and we are ready to be inspected more (seriously) by IAEA inspectors," Kharrazi said.

Iran agreed last year to end nearly two decades of nuclear secrecy by opening its facilities to inspections by the UN International Atomic Energy Agency.

Wife jailed for killing man, faking sex game

London

A woman who stabbed her husband to death with a cheese knife, then tied him up to disguise the killing as a sex game that went wrong, was imprisoned for 15 years for murder Thursday.

Compiled from Star News Services

Carol Croydon blamed several other people before finally admitting to killing her husband Philip.

The prosecution told court that Philip Croydon had arranged to meet his wife at a hotel in a bid to boost their "flagging" marriage.

Within 40 minutes of meeting at the hotel, Carol Croydon had stabbed her husband 22 times in the neck and chest, Spencer said.

She then tied neckties around each of his wrists, one around his neck and left him naked at the foot of the bed.

## WORLD REPORT

When arrested, Croydon told police she had left her husband in the hotel room with a couple of "swingers," couples who like to swap partners for sex.

## Ex-U.S. Marine pleads guilty to girl's abduction

London

An American man pleaded guilty Thursday to abducting a 12-year-old British girl he met on the Internet.

Toby Studabaker, 32, changed his earlier not guilty plea in a hearing at Manchester Crown Court in northern England, admitting charges of abduction and incitement to gross indecency.

Studabaker, a former U.S. Marine whom prosecutors said had travelled to France and Germany with a schoolgirl he met in an Internet chat room, was extradited to Britain in August from Germany, where he was arrested July 16.

Studabaker, from Constantine, Mich., told a court in Frankfurt he did not have sex with the girl, who cannot be named for legal reasons and maintained that he thought she was 18.

## British Airways cancels Washington, Riyadh flights

London

A much-disrupted British Airways flight from London to Washington, D.C. has been cancelled again over security fears, the airline said Thursday.

British Airways said Flight 223 from Heathrow to Washington's Dulles Airport would not fly this coming Sunday. Monday's Flight 263 from London to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, also was scrapped.

The airline said the decision "follows government advice to cancel those flights for security reasons."

Flight 223 has been delayed or cancelled eight previous times this year due to security threats.

## Aristide militants force opponents to cancel rally

Port-Au-Prince, Haiti

Militants crushed a rally against Haiti's president before it began on Thursday, setting up flaming barricades along the route of a protest march and hurling stones as demonstrators tried to gather in the capital.

Opposition leaders accused President Jean-Bertrand Aristide of orchestrating the suppression Thursday, following a week of violence in the Caribbean country that has killed 49 people and blocked food and fuel supplies to Haiti's north.

In the capital, Port-au-Prince, which is in the south and has not been affected by the uprising, about 100 Aristide supporters began lobbing rocks as protesters tried to gather. Protest organizers said one person was hit by a bullet and three were injured by rocks.

Associated Press Television News footage showed Aristide loyalists chasing an opponent and stoning him as he fled, then stumbled and fell. His condition was unknown.

## Bin Laden's driver detained at Cuban prison

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Osama bin Laden's driver is being held at the Guantanamo Bay prison camp, but the man had no connection to Afghanistan's ousted Taliban regime or the al-Qaida terror network, his defence lawyer said Thursday.

## WORLD REPORT

Salim Ahmed Salim Hamdan, 34, left Yemen in 1996 for Afghanistan. He planned to continue on to Tajikistan to join Muslims fighting against former Soviet communists but was forced to take a job to support his family, said his lawyer, navy Lt.-Cmdr. Charles Swift.

Hamdan began working for bin Laden in 1997 on his farm earning about \$200 US a month driving a truck and moving farm workers to the fields.

Neither Hamdan nor any of the other 660 some detainees at the camp have been charged. He is the first detainee at Guantanamo publicly identified as having a link to bin Laden.

Anti-bird flu measures showcased internationally

Dingdang, China

Trying to reassure a worried world, Chinese authorities have been showcasing anti-bird flu efforts, busing foreign reporters from farm to farm in the area of the first confirmed outbreak.

Pang Jijun, an administrator at a farm in the southern province of Guangxi, said he inoculates his birds frequently and quarantines newborn chicks. Many experts in China and abroad say poultry diseases are endemic to this country -- but Pang scoffed at that notion.

"I had never even heard of bird flu and I've been raising chickens longer than some of you have been alive," he told visiting reporters from news organizations in the United States, Britain, Japan, Singapore and Hong Kong.

The reporters also were taken on Thursday to villages that had been cleared of chickens and other poultry.

WHO says no sign hybrid may spread to people

Bangkok, Thailand

Thailand confirmed three new human bird flu cases Thursday as health officials warned it could take two years to conquer Asia's outbreak. The World Health Organization said the latest tests show no sign of a killer hybrid virus that may pass between people.

Fears of an outbreak prompted Singapore, which is believed free of bird flu, to gas healthy chickens to death to prepare for any infection.

Tens of millions of chickens across Asia have been killed by infections or slaughtered in containment efforts as bird flu spread across half the continent, jumping to people in Vietnam and Thailand. The human death toll stood Thursday at 19.

Two of the three people labelled as new human cases in Thailand have recovered, officials said. The additions bring to eight the number known to have bird flu in the country. Five have died.

Palestinians mourn 15 killed in Israeli raids

Gaza City, Gaza Strip

Tens of thousands of Palestinians packed the streets in Gaza City for funeral processions Thursday, accompanied by the popping beat of gunfire and threats from militants to avenge 15 Palestinians killed in Israeli raids a day earlier.

In violence Thursday, an activist of the Islamic militant group **Hamas** was killed by Israeli army fire during an arrest raid in the West Bank.

**Hamas**, meanwhile, fired a rocket at the Israeli town of Sderot, just outside Gaza, causing no casualties or damage.

## WORLD REPORT

**Hamas** said the rocket fire was just the beginning and was issuing appeals to all its cells in the West Bank and Gaza to attack Israelis.

Israeli soldier faces manslaughter charge

Jerusalem

An Israeli soldier has been charged with manslaughter in the shooting of a British activist who died nine months later without regaining consciousness, the military said Thursday.

The activist, 22-year-old Tom Hurndall, was shot in the head April 11 while in southern Gaza Strip.

The soldier was arrested in December and charged with intent to cause injury. Because Hurndall has died, the charges were upgraded to manslaughter, the Israeli military said.

Commander of U.S. forces unharmed during attack

Fallujah, Iraq

Insurgents launched a brazen attack Thursday on an Iraqi civil defence outpost visited by Gen. John Abizaid, commander of all U.S. forces in the Middle East. Abizaid and his party escaped injury in the gun battle.

Just moments after a convoy carrying Abizaid and his party pulled inside the headquarters of the Iraqi Civil Defence Corp, an explosion rang out. Seconds later, two more explosions were heard.

Anti-bomb turnstiles for buses to thwart attackers

Ramat Hasharon, Israel

A bus security system involving explosives sensors and a remote-controlled turnstile designed to thwart suicide bombers is being rushed into service in Israel amid a heightened terrorist threat.

Four buses fitted with the new system will be part of a three-week trial starting this month. Passengers will be faced with a turnstile that will emerge through the door of the vehicle when it arrives at a bus stop.

Only when a sensor has established that the passenger is not carrying explosives and the driver is satisfied that there is nothing suspicious will a red light turn to green and the turnstile be unlocked.

Poll shows public trust in Bush at lowest level

Washington

The public's trust in President George W. Bush is at the lowest point of his presidency, with about one-half of those surveyed saying he is honest and trustworthy and almost that many saying he is not, a poll released Thursday indicated.

The ABC News-Washington Post poll found 52 per cent said Bush is trustworthy, while 42 per cent did not. The poll found public support for the war in Iraq slipping and people were about evenly split on whether they approve of the job Bush is doing as president or not.

For the first time in this poll, support for the war dipped below one-half, 48 per cent, with an equal share, 50 per cent, saying it is not worth fighting.

U.S. Air Force probing rape reports at base

Wichita Falls, Texas

## WORLD REPORT

The U.S. Air Force is sending an official to Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas to investigate about two dozen rapes of military women in the last year, a legislator said Thursday.

U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison sent a letter to Air Force Secretary James Roche on Wednesday calling for the investigation "with emphasis on how commanders concluded each of these cases to the satisfaction of both the air force and the alleged victims."

In fiscal year 2002-03, between 20 and 25 Sheppard base women reported being raped, said First Step, a civilian rape-crisis centre in Wichita Falls.

Two 'busy rovers' back to work on Mars

Pasadena, Calif.

The Mars rover Spirit got moving again Thursday after an interruption caused by cold and controllers figured out how to drive its twin, Opportunity, so that it won't slip on the sloping Martian terrain.

NASA had been unable to send commands to Spirit through its high-gain antenna Tuesday after the rover's mast unexpectedly cast a frigid shadow over the motors that are used to position the lollipop-shaped antenna and keep it oriented toward Earth. The cold disabled the motors. As a result, Spirit remained parked for a day instead of continuing its journey toward a crater.

Man discovers turkey carnage in barn

Fountain Green, Utah

Jason Sunderland sensed he was walking into something alarming, but he didn't expect the carnage in his barn -- 1,198 bludgeoned turkeys.

Sanpete County Sheriff's Capt. Gary Larsen said there are no suspects in the attack, but investigators are following several leads. Since the attack, about 60 more turkeys have died from stress or injuries.

## Graphic

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Riot police battle protesters: Riot police try to stop activists of Bangladesh's main opposition, the Awami League, during a demonstration Thursday in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Riot police used tear gas and batons to disperse thousands of protesters during an anti-government general strike injuring at least 30 people. Associated Press photo: Pavel Rahman

**Load-Date:** February 13, 2004

**5 Minute Herald: Breaking news at calgaryherald.com**

The Calgary Herald (Alberta)

November 12, 2004 Friday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. B12

**Length:** 1226 words

**Byline:** Calgary Herald

## **Body**

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Top Stories

Senior Tory Officials Stay Mum on Vote Controversy

Senior Conservative party officials say they need more information about Calgary Conservative MLA Hung Pham's alleged involvement in the Ward 10 voting controversy before addressing the matter in public.

Page A1

Arafat's Successor Named in Advance of State Funeral

The Palestinian Authority swore in little known Rawhi Fattouh, the speaker of its parliament, as Yasser Arafat's interim successor less than eight hours after the 75-year-old Palestinian leader's death. Arafat's body reportedly was to be taken to a military club in Cairo before being flown for burial to his headquarters in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

Page A1

News Sections -- A and B

City & Region

Bar Owner Vows to Run Tight Ship at New Club

The owners of a club formerly plagued by violence and health violations under another name are vowing to enforce a zero tolerance policy when the northeast establishment opens today. Once called Renegades, the The Club is completely renovated and is starting fresh with a new clientele, menu and attitude, vows owner Youssef Abouarabi.

Page B1

Thousands Remember

Thousands of Calgarians marked Remembrance Day in ceremonies at the Memorial Park cenotaph and the Roundup Centre.

Page B1

Canada

### Faith Helps Man Carry Burden of Losing Family

The sorrow breaking him, Marc Woerlen held his mother-in-law tight, saying he carries no anger and that his faith precludes any despair. It is this faith that has helped him face every hour since his pregnant wife, Monika, and their seven children died in a southern Ontario farmhouse fire Monday night.

Page A10

The World

### **Hamas** Threatens to Step Up Violence

The terrorist group **Hamas** says its campaign of violence against Israelis was set to intensify following the death of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat.

Page A4

### Mars Find Hints of Life

Methane gas detected on Mars could be a sign of extraterrestrial life, scientists announced Thursday.

Page A8

### Transit-Traffic

- Single lane closure: Both sides of Shaganappi Trail at Edgemont Boulevard N.W. today from 9 a.m. until end of day. Minor delays expected.
- Single lane closure: Westbound 16th Avenue between 17th Street and 19th Street N.W. today from 8 a.m. until end of day.
- Construction: Macleod Trail at 58th Avenue N.W. today from 10 a.m. until end of day. Moderate delays expected.
- Single lane closure: Westbound 32nd Avenue between Crowchild Trail and 31st Street N.W. today from 9 a.m. until end of day.

### Commuter Weather

6 A.M. Off to Work: Mainly sunny.

Temperature: -7 C

12 P.M. Lunch: Mainly sunny.

Temperature: 3 C

5 P.M. Heading Home: Mainly clear.

Temperature: 4 C

Overnight: Mainly clear. Low: -6 C

Saturday: Variably cloudy. High: 6 C Low: -4 C

Thursday: High: 10.1 C Low: -5.1 C



## Online Extras

Medicine: A new heart failure medication is being called the "black pill" because it is aimed solely at African-Americans

NEWS: An Iraqi politician was assailed Thursday at McGill University for calling the U.S. military liberators.

## Quote of the Day

"We wanted to beat Martha Stewart to the punch"

Washington State Penitentiary prison spokesman Lori Scammahorn quoting an inmate explaining the release of The Convict Cookbook

## Business -- C1

### Markets

- TSX Composite 44.50 8886.17

- Dow Jones 84.36 10469.84

- Nasdaq 26.71 2061.27

- TSX Venture 12.69 1645.36

## Peace Air Spreads Wings

Peace Air will add Fort McMurray to its network this month, the latest destination in a slow but steady expansion by the province's largest regional carrier. And there's room to grow, says the airline's chief executive.

## Page C1

### Nortel Again Delays Release of Numbers

The accounting calamity at Nortel Networks Corp. deepened Thursday as Canada's largest technology company again delayed its financial statements and restatements.

## Page C1

### Microsoft Revs Up New Search Engine

Microsoft Corp.'s new search engine includes a feature that answers questions such as "What is the capital of Turkey?"

## Page C1

## Editorial -- A22

### When Less Is More

Liberal Leader Kevin Taft suggests Alberta would be as well served if its complement of 83 members of the Legislative Assembly was reduced to 65. He may have a point. Given the expense, does Calgary really need more MLAs (21) than aldermen (14 plus one mayor)?

## Page A22

## Letter of the Day

"Deng Kuol's family believes he was shot and killed because he was Sudanese. That is irrelevant. The only important fact is that a police officer was stabbed while doing his job."

Lahni Rawlings, Page A23

Sports -- E1

Talent Can Spell Trouble

In the bleak reality of a no-Jarome Iginla world, the Hitmen's Ryan Getzlaf is as close to hockey royalty as this town's got. Big. Strong. Sublimely gifted. A signed first-round draft pick of the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim, things at this level come easy to him now. Too easy, too often. And therein lies the danger. Raw ability can be a curse, as well as a blessing.

Page E1

Roughriders Tread Lightly Heading Into Gm Place

The Saskatchewan Roughriders, blessed with some of the Canadian Football League's most outspoken players, refuse to slag the B.C. Lions, who play host to the Green and Polite in Sunday's West Division final. How can all this excitement be so dull? Blame Riders head coach Danny Barrett.

Page E1

Scoreboard

Hockey

WHL

Everett 2 Brandon 1

Kamloops 4 Red Deer 1

Soccer

**Women** FIFA World Under-19

Championship

(Group C at Phuket, Thailand)

U.S. 3 South Korea 0

Russia 4 Spain 1

Men (Italy)

Messina 0 Palermo 0

CIS Championship (Round robin)

Western 3 Montreal 0

McGill 0 Saint Mary's 0

**Women** (Pool A)

P.E.I. 0 Trinity Western 0

McGill 0 Western 0

Entertainment -- D1

Keeping Up With the Jones

Renee Zellweger is easy to watch on screen as Bridget Jones in the sequel following the life and times of the slightly chubby diarist and reporter-at-large, says reviewer Katherine Monk.

Page D1

Doc Focuses on Hope

Naomi Klein and Avi Lewis's first feature documentary film goes where Michael Moore's Roger and Me couldn't -- Moore captured despair, this pair captured hope.

Page D1

Tonight's TV Picks:

- The Long Kiss Goodnight: 10 p.m. on W Network (Ch. 23).
- Medical Investigation: 8 p.m. on CTV (Ch. 3), 11 p.m. on NBC (Ch 16).

Real Life -- F1

But Wait, There's More

Today, gifts with purchase aren't just for marketing facial creams and lipstick. They can be found offered with the purchase of sofas, houses, cars, vacation packages, bottles of wine, and, for the truly young among us, breakfast cereals and Happy Meals.

Page F1

Vintage Stars Fit to a T

Concert T-shirts are nothing new. What makes them special now is that they're all about old guys.

Page F1

People

Cooking With Conviction

Inmates at the Washington State Penitentiary have just produced The Convict Cookbook, which includes recipes that can be made inside a cell without a stove, including Po' Mans Burritos, Cell Block Fudge and Jail Mix. The book also offers a user-friendly glossary of prison slang.

Page A2

Senator's Wife Begins Cancer Treatment

Elizabeth Edwards, wife of Democratic vice-presidential candidate Senator John Edwards, this week began her battle against breast cancer with a 16-week round of chemotherapy, to be followed by surgery, then radiation.

Page A2

Royal Has Brush With British Fighter

An aircraft carrying Princess Anne, the Queen's only daughter, was involved in a near miss with a British fighter plane over northern England on Thursday.

Page A2

Watch for This in Saturday's Herald

Entertainment: Bridget Jones's latest secrets exposed

## Graphic

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Colour Photo: Hung Pham;

Colour Photo: Yasser Arafat; Colour

Photo: Youssef Abouarabi;

Colour Photo: Marc and Monika Woerlen with six of their seven children.;

Colour Photo: Czarek Sokolowski, Associated Press; Picture of the Day: A Polish boy waves his nation's flag Thursday during Poland Independence Day ceremonies in Warsaw.;

Colour Photo: Ryan Getzlaf;

Colour Photo: Danny Barrett;

Colour Photo: (See hard copy for photo description).;

Colour Photo: Prison cooking;

Colour Photo: Elizabeth Edwards;

Colour Photo: Princess Anne

**Load-Date:** November 12, 2004

**Settlement becomes a virtual ghost town; Protesters opposing Gaza withdrawal gather in Tel Aviv**

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)

August 12, 2005 Friday Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A12; NEWS

**Length:** 584 words

**Dateline:** NISSANIT, GAZA STRIP

## **Body**

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One of Israel's largest Gaza Strip settlements was a virtual ghost town yesterday.

With less than a week before the Israeli pullout begins, most residents have cleared out of Nissanit, leaving rows of abandoned homes and lawns littered with discarded furniture and garbage.

Israeli officials urged the thousands of settlers who remain to follow suit and leave their homes before soldiers come to remove them.

Associated Press

Tens of thousands of anti-pullout demonstrators gathered Thursday in Tel Aviv to denounce the impending withdrawal, the last in a series of large-scale protests in recent weeks.

President George W. Bush endorsed the withdrawal in an interview broadcast Thursday on Israel TV. "The disengagement is, I think, a part of making Israel more secure and peaceful," he said.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon repeatedly has said he will not back down from his plan to remove about 9,000 Jewish settlers from 21 settlements in Gaza and four in the northern West Bank in a massive military operation scheduled to begin Wednesday.

Nissanit, a community of about 1,100 people at the northern edge of the coastal strip, was nearly deserted.

The furniture, windows and even the red roof tiles had been removed from many of the houses, leaving them empty shells, their yards filled with boxes and broken hunks of plastic furniture.

A small pink bike lay abandoned next to one house.

Two women hugged and cried in the middle of the street.

A few people filled pickup trucks with the last remaining boxes and chairs they needed to move.

Israeli flags, small signs of protest, flew over many of the empty houses, each marked with small "x" by the army. "Sharon is garbage; you destroyed our lives," read graffiti on one house.

Settlement becomes a virtual ghost town; Protesters opposing Gaza withdrawal gather in Tel Aviv

"It looks awful. It hurts my heart to see the houses like this," said Yossi Elus, a 30-year-old electrician from the settlement, as he removed air conditioners for his neighbours.

A small group of people who recently moved here to protest the pullout said they planned to stay until troops force them out.

Israeli officials do not expect strong resistance from the residents of Nissanit. Settlers in some of isolated settlements in central Gaza and the Gush Katif cluster of settlements further south are expected to be more problematic.

In Neve Dekalim, with 2,700 residents the largest settlement to be evacuated, many of the stores in the town square were closed and the supermarket shelves were half empty.

The town's post office was closed and a sign on the door read: "The post office is closed in anticipation of redemption." The settlement's residents are Orthodox Jews.

A few people were packing their belongings, but most were expected to defy the deadline.

The settlement was crowded yesterday with hundreds of teenagers, many of them reinforcements from outside Gaza.

Police estimate that 2,000 pullout opponents have infiltrated Gaza in recent weeks and settler leaders have said thousands more were on the way. To prevent this, the army yesterday banned all visitors from entering Gaza.

Israeli and Palestinian officials also are concerned that Palestinian militants will attack soldiers during the pullout to give the impression they are driving Israel out.

The Islamic group **Hamas** agreed to co-operate with the Palestinian Authority in ensuring a smooth transition during the withdrawal, officials said yesterday.

Also yesterday, Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas ordered Palestinian security forces to protect foreigners in the Gaza Strip, a statement from his office said.

## Graphic

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Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; Protesters hold placards against Israel's plan to dismantle four Jewish settlements in the northern West Bank during a demonstration rally in Tel Aviv yesterday. Israel's controversial Gaza withdrawal is to begin on Aug. 17.

**Load-Date:** August 12, 2005

## *Winds of change in Middle East*

The Guardian (Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island)

June 10, 2005 Friday

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**Section:** EDITORIAL; Pg. A6

**Length:** 636 words

**Byline:** Gwyn, Richard

### **Body**

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Something very strange has been happening on the streets of Cairo these past few days. And something equally strange has been taking place in the newspapers of Damascus. The unusual event in Cairo is that people have been going into the streets and saying what they want.

They are members of an organization called Kefaya - it means "Enough" - an alliance of leftists and liberals. Specifically, they are demanding that President Hosni Mubarak allow truly open races in parliamentary and presidential elections scheduled for later this year.

"We want to challenge the culture of fear and unblock the channels of free expression," says Hany Enan, a businessman and a founder of Kefaya.

To do this is extremely daring - and extremely dangerous. Public demonstrations are forbidden in Egypt unless authorized by the government. The government also has a second line of defence that it has already used against Kefaya. Thugs from the ruling National Democratic party have attacked the Kefaya demonstrators, hitting the men and tearing the clothes off women.

Nevertheless, the Kefaya rallies have continued. And they are having an "echo" effect. The Muslim Brotherhood, long outlawed, has started to stage its own street rallies, similarly demanding genuine political freedoms.

The events in Syria's capital of Damascus are at one and the same time similar and dissimilar. There, the unusual is happening in the most conventional of ways - in government-owned newspapers.

In the daily Tashreen, a Dr. Khalaf Al-Jarrad has called for the ruling Baath party to "take on the difficult and public initiative of self-criticism."

In the same newspaper, a prominent opposition activist, Michel Kilou has declared, "There is no doubt that Syria as a state, as a society, as a regime, has reached the end of its path and a new beginning is now inevitable."

The controlling hand in Damascus is that of President Bashar Assad. He seems to be undertaking a kind of perestroika or openness in the manner of former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Assad seems to be attempting a top-down reform of his own authoritarian regime by retiring many of the old guard and permitting the creation of opposition parties.

## Winds of change in Middle East

Assad's objective, of course, is to assure his own continued hold on power. This, similarly, has provoked Egypt's Mubarak to propose constitutional changes to allow rival presidential candidates to actually oppose him in the elections, but within very strict limits, as Kefaya loudly points out.

So the steps are small. But both are clear signs of movement. Of movement, in other words, toward democracy.

At its beginning, democracy is always exceptionally messy everywhere. Thus, in Lebanon, it appears that what's mostly happened in the elections since the Syrian troops pulled out is that all the old ethnic and religious rivalries that almost destroyed the country in civil wars have reasserted themselves.

And while U.S. President George Bush may have been leading the call for Middle East democracy, many of the answers are not at all those he would want.

In Kuwait, an Islamist organization has just formed a (still illegal) political party. Its principal policy is the removal of the 30,000 American troops stationed there. In the occupied Palestinian territories, Hamas, the hard-line anti-Israel organization, has just done exceedingly well in municipal elections.

Yet all these steps are going in the same direction.

With extraordinary speed, democracy is taking hold in the Middle East. Not in the sense that any society there is yet democratic, or near to it. But in the sense that democracy has become the litmus test for political legitimacy and modernity.

It really is all exceptionally messy. But it is also all exceptionally creative.

Richard Gwyn is a political affairs writer. Copyright 2005: Torstar Syndication Services.

**Load-Date:** June 10, 2005



## *Elmasry hanged by his own words*

The Toronto Star

October 27, 2004 Wednesday

Copyright 2004 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A01

**Length:** 1357 words

### **Body**

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"... hateful, inflammatory and unworthy of a respected large circulation daily newspaper..."

These were the words of Mohamed Elmasry, president of the Canadian Islamic Congress, in a complaint filed with the Ontario Press Council earlier this year.

The complaint was directed towards a column in the Toronto Star - which I wrote - after Israel's targeted assassination last March of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, spiritual leader of Hamas, the terrorist organization he co-founded at the start of the first Palestinian intifada in 1987, as an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood.

And these are Elmasry's words, during a discussion of terrorism on The Michael Coren Show last week, wherein he declared that all adult Israeli civilians (over 18), regardless of gender, are fair targets, ostensibly because a term of military service is mandatory for nearly all Israelis. "They are not innocent if they are part of a population which is ... (the) total population of Israel is part of the army ... even if they have civilian clothes ... The same if they are women in the army ... anybody above 18 is a part of the Israeli popular army."

Coren gave Elmasry ample opportunity to reconsider or qualify his statement. Elmasry did not modify his view. He never indicated - far from it - that he didn't personally share the view he'd just espoused.

In a later interview with The Globe and Mail, Elmasry amplified his position on the legitimacy of targeting Israeli civilians: "Israel has a people's army and a draft and therefore they should be considered legitimate targets. They are part of the occupying power, and Palestinians consider them targets for suicide bombers as well as other means."

Only in this interview did Elmasry begin to back off any personal endorsement of terrorism aimed at civilians. "Suicide bombings is a technique they are using out of desperation. It's not for me to say if it's okay or not. In the final analysis, it has done more harm than good."

It was a feeble clarification and most certainly not an apology for a position that palpably justified terrorism against civilians, a view swiftly denounced by other Muslim and Arab organizations in Canada.

Over the weekend, the CIC issued a statement in which it sought to convince that Elmasry was articulating the beliefs of some Palestinians rather than asserting his own views.

This is disingenuous because Elmasry was quite emphatic - his comments not susceptible to interpretation - on Coren's show. The CIC further added that Elmasry regretted his remarks, but there has been no apology, even as other Muslim community leaders have called for him to resign.

## Elmasry hanged by his own words

I began this column with an excerpt from Elmasry's complaint (along with one other individual) against the Star for two reasons: First, to be candid about my history with him. The Press Council - an agency that enjoys precisely the degree of professional respect within my industry that it deserves - upheld the complaint. That complaint focused on a paragraph in which I expressed no regret about Yassin's assassination.

Yassin, committed to the annihilation of Israel, fell victim precisely to the tactics that he'd extolled. The council focused on one phrase in particular, wherein I described how hatred is "bred in the bone" in some societies. In a future column, I will lay out that case more quantifiably, citing from some Arab school textbooks and widely disseminated preachings from various Muslim religious personages that not only promote virulent hatred of Jews (and Christians) but clearly incite the faithful to violent jihad. It's a lesson taught in some societies from the most tender age, as even Saudi Arabia's education ministry - largely responsible for exporting these objectionable textbooks to Muslim countries - has belatedly acknowledged and vowed to amend.

Whenever terrorism is justified as a matter of political course or tactical expediency, no matter who's doing it, is not hatred bred in the bone - or planted in the soul, however you wish to express it?

Second, and more to the point, I use Elmasry's own words to illustrate his own professed objection to inflammatory opinions and how they are expressed. What can be more inflammatory than justifying the killing of all Israelis? Oh, pardon me, only those over the age of 18.

I can find no evidence that Canadian Muslims or Arabs have ever been polled on the righteousness of killing all adult Israelis. But I will accept, without qualms, that they are opposed to the concept that Elmasry postured on behalf of Palestinians (many of whom are not Muslim; this is a dispute about land and sovereignty, not religion).

Elmasry - as head of the CIC - has done a grave disservice to Canadian Muslims by justifying terrorism against civilians (or even military members in Israel, where service is mandatory).

His comments will further stoke the suspicions of those who view Muslims as somehow more intrinsically disposed toward violence, no matter how many times we're reminded that Islam is a great religion of peace and tolerance, despite the corruption of its core tenets by some jihadist elements.

More specifically, Elmasry's argument will undermine public support of the Palestinian cause by yoking it, favourably - in his own words - with indiscriminate terrorism.

It is hardly a stretch to accuse Elmasry of promoting hatred not just against Israelis but against Palestinians. His words were no less unclear than the messages draped across ballistic missiles showcased at an Iranian military parade recently: "Crush America" and "Wipe Israel Off The Map."

It would be instructive, I think, to more closely evaluate the thrust of Elmasry's commentary, even within the revisionist context that he was merely expressing a view held by Palestinians.

Is Elmasry correct in his characterization of Palestinian society, and their support/justification of violence against Israeli civilians to rid themselves of Occupation?

This is an area that has been extensively polled in the region.

A survey taken last month - the fourth anniversary of beginning of the second intifada - by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip found that 59 per cent of Palestinians polled supported suicide bombings in Israel, and 41 per cent were opposed. That might seem to support Elmasry's assertion, but what I see in the numbers is a significant divide in public opinion.

And that divide, the internal conflict over the means and effectiveness of the intifada, is more palpably illustrated in the survey's other findings:

## Elmasry hanged by his own words

Sixty-four per cent of Palestinians believe armed attacks will help achieve an independent and sovereign Palestine, yet an overwhelming majority, 86 per cent, want the mutual cessation of violence, and 59 per cent said they would support measures to prevent attacks in Israel when a political agreement to halt the violence is reached.

According to the survey, total support for all "Islamists" (Hamas, Islamic Jihad, etc.) had dropped to 32 per cent. Eighty-six per cent of Palestinians felt a loss of personal security and safety after the intifada.

Significantly, the largest group (44 per cent) responded that they viewed unemployment and the spread of poverty as the most important problems confronting Palestinians today, followed by the continuation of occupation (35 per cent), and the spread of corruption and lack of internal reform (15 per cent).

The survey also found doubts about the "seriousness" of the Palestinian Authority in holding elections, implementing reform and dealing with corruption.

Palestinians are not stupid people. They can see the tremendous losses that have accrued to them from the intifada and the repercussions of violence aimed at Israel, which always comes back with even more destructive force: 2,800 Palestinians killed in the past four years, every accord and roadmap for peace derailed.

Israel remains the enemy. But Palestinians increasingly take a more discerning view of their own leaders and those who profess to speak on their behalf.

People like Mohamed Elmasry, even though I doubt most Palestinians have ever heard of him. Hung - in this country - by his own words.

**Load-Date:** October 27, 2004

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End of Document

## *Sharon-Abbas summit ends in deadlock*

The Guardian (London) - Final Edition

June 22, 2005

Copyright 2005 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 16

**Length:** 626 words

**Byline:** Chris McGreal in Jerusalem

### **Body**

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A rare meeting between Ariel Sharon and the Palestinian leader, Mahmoud Abbas, ended in deadlock yesterday after the Israeli prime minister said there could be no political progress, or even gestures, "so long as terrorism continues".

The Palestinians described the first meeting of the two men since February's ceasefire declaration as "difficult" after the Israeli prime minister said "this is not the time for concessions" following a series of attacks by armed Palestinian factions that have killed two people, and a failed attempt to send a female suicide bomber to blow up an Israeli hospital.

At the beginning of the talks, a microphone picked up Mr Sharon telling Mr Abbas: "We are still taking casualties."

Mr Abbas appealed for practical concessions that would bolster his support among Palestinians increasingly sceptical about the real intent of Israel's withdrawal from Gaza this summer and the value of cooperation with Mr Sharon.

He also called for Israel to fulfil a commitment made in February to withdraw from five Palestinian cities, to lift roadblocks that restrict travel through the West Bank and to release thousands of Palestinian prisoners.

The Palestinian leader also appealed for a return to peace negotiations shortly after Israel completes its Gaza withdrawal, and demanded an end to the continued expansion of Jewish settlements.

Mr Sharon said he is prepared to hand over control of two Palestinian towns, Bethlehem and Qalqilya, to release some prisoners and to grant an additional 39,000 permits for Palestinians to work or trade in Israel in an effort to ease economic hardship. Israel also said the international airport and sea port in the Gaza strip might be permitted to reopen once Jewish settlers had left.

But Mr Sharon's spokesman, Raanan Gissin, said it was all conditional on the Palestinian leadership doing more to "end terror", including disarming armed groups.

"None of this can be accomplished as long as terrorism continues to run rampant, as long as the Palestinian Authority does not take the steps necessary to stop terrorism," Mr Gissin said. "It is not only Abu Mazen (Mr Abbas) who has problems. If the public does not support (Mr Sharon's) plan, the whole thing will fail."

Mr Sharon said continuing Palestinian attacks, led by Islamic Jihad, are helping to weaken public support for the Gaza pullout.

## Sharon-Abbas summit ends in deadlock

The Palestinian prime minister, Ahmed Qureia, who also attended the talks, said the meeting achieved little. "There were no positive answers to the issues we raised," he said.

Hours before the summit Israeli forces arrested 52 Islamic Jihad activists in its first big sweep against the organisation since the ceasefire declaration.

Israel's defence minister, Shaul Mofaz, said the military would no longer show "restraint" toward the armed Islamist group because the Palestinian Authority had been "ineffectual" in confronting it.

"When we found out that the Islamic Jihad was carrying out acts of terror and wasn't adhering to the truce . . . then there was no choice but to take resolute action," he said.

But Mr Abbas's national security adviser, Jibril Rajoub, said Mr Sharon's unwillingness to make further concessions was complicating the Palestinian Authority's attempts to rein in the armed factions. "Without help, without cooperation from the Israeli side, without the Israeli side treating him as a partner, as a neighbour, I do not think (Mr Abbas) can do anything," he said.

Israel is demanding that Islamic Jihad, **Hamas** and similar groups be confronted and disarmed. Mr Abbas has sought to draw them into the political process by offering the prospect of electoral legitimacy in return for abandoning the armed struggle.

Avi Shlaim, page 26

Leader comment, page 27

[guardian.co.uk/israel](http://guardian.co.uk/israel)

**Load-Date:** June 22, 2005

## *Winds of change begin to blow in Middle East*

The Toronto Star  
June 7, 2005 Tuesday

Copyright 2005 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

**Section:** OPINION; Pg. A13

**Length:** 641 words

### **Body**

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The controlling hand in Damascus is that of President Bashar Assad. He seems to be undertaking a kind of perestroika or openness in the manner of former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. His Baath party holds a convention this week, and Assad seems to be attempting a top-down reform of his own authoritarian regime by retiring many of the old guard and permitting the creation of opposition parties.

Assad's objective, of course, is to assure his own continued hold on power. This, similarly, has provoked Egypt's Mubarak to propose constitutional changes to allow rival presidential candidates to actually oppose him in the elections, but within very strict limits, as Kefaya loudly points out.

## Winds of change begin to blow in Middle East

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Richard Gwyn's column appears Tuesdays and Fridays. gwynR @ sympatico.ca.

**Load-Date:** June 7, 2005

## *Uses a hammer, but nails delicate issues*

National Post (f/k/a The Financial Post) (Canada)

March 18, 2005 Friday

All but Toronto Edition

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**Section:** ARTS & LIFE; Pg. B3

**Length:** 534 words

**Byline:** Chris Knight, National Post

### **Body**

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#### WALK ON WATER

In the opening scene of *Walk on Water*, Mossad agent Eyal (Lior Ashkenazi, who looks like Steve Carell after a funny-ectomy) tracks down and kills a *Hamas* mastermind while the man is on holiday with his wife and child. Eyal injects the evildoer with poison, and, as he crumples, his little boy stands next to him, clutching a red balloon and crying. Director Eytan Fox might as well be waving a flag and shouting: "Look! Corruption! Next to innocence! Right here!"

Eyal returns to Israel and gets high-fives all around from his Mossad handlers -- then finds his wife has committed suicide in their apartment. It's not the last time Fox will do everything short of song and dance to alert us to themes and connections in his picture, not trusting us to grasp such subtleties as the fine line between justice and vengeance, or how in the end one death is pretty much like another.

Actually, he uses song and dance, too. Eyal's next assignment is to pose as a tour guide and get close to a German brother and sister, grandchildren of a Nazi criminal-at-large. Never mind that he's in his nineties, says Eyal's boss: "I want to get him before God does." When Ayel meets Axel (Knut Berger), the grandson, he discovers the peaceable German has no interest in the Doors or Bruce Springsteen -- he prefers *female* singers. (Much later, Ayel learns that Axel is gay, something any sharp-eyed viewer or devotee of Fox's work will have guessed right off the bat.)

But if you can dodge, duck, dip and dive around Fox's over-the-head symbolism (including, as a kind of unofficial theme song, Dusty Springfield's *For What It's Worth*), you'll find a remarkably layered story of personal and generational guilt. Axel and his sister, Pia (Carolina Peters), are no Nazis, but they have the raw, unfocused feeling of culpability carried by many Germans, even those born decades after the war. Pia describes how her Israeli boyfriend, upon hearing about her grandfather, eventually broke up with her, telling her he couldn't stop thinking about it.

Even before sexual politics arise, Eyal has issues with these "German peaceniks" who dare to wonder what horrors would drive Palestinians to blow themselves up in suicide bombings. He balls his fists and asks, "What's to think about? They're animals."

But while Israel is a nation founded from the ashes of the Holocaust, its own human rights record is not without blemish. Fox explores these issues on a very intimate level, often shooting with handheld cameras to provide a



Uses a hammer, but nails delicate issues

sense of closeness. (Sometimes the angles suggest a security camera's point of view, another reality in modern Israel.)

Eyal, however, refuses to take his assignment seriously. He feels he is being wasted by spying on these young people who may not even know of their grandfather's whereabouts, and he wants to go after bigger fish than ageing Nazis. He suspects this sinecure is the result of his refusal to see a psychiatrist after the death of his wife.

As an Israeli filmmaker, Fox is well placed to examine the moral grey areas of his homeland. He might have done so with more circumspection, but the issues he raises are no less important for being shouted rather than whispered.

Rating three

## Graphic

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Black & White

Photo: Lior Ashkenazi and Knut Berger by the Dead Sea.

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2005

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End of Document

## *Israeli uses a hammer to nail delicate issues*

National Post (f/k/a The Financial Post) (Canada)

March 18, 2005 Friday

Toronto Edition

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**Section:** POST MOVIES; Pg. PM4

**Length:** 538 words

**Byline:** Chris Knight, National Post

### **Body**

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Rating three

## Graphic

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Black & White

Photo: EYTAN FOX'S WALK ON WATER: shouting at issues, rather than whispering.

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2005

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End of Document

## *Israelis, Palestinians resume quest for peace talks after two-week freeze*

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

January 27, 2005 Thursday

Final Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 14

**Length:** 629 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM (AP) -- Israeli and Palestinian negotiators achieved significant progress Wednesday toward ending violence and resuming peace talks, completing a plan for deploying Palestinian forces in the southern Gaza Strip and aiming for a summit within two weeks between the Israeli and Palestinian leaders.

A senior aide to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and a Palestinian cabinet minister sat down together to discuss the summit idea and an emerging truce deal -- the first high-level diplomatic contact between the two sides in months.

"These talks are promising in all aspects," said Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas.

Palestinians said they expect to take control of five West Bank cities within 10 days, and Israel indicated it would refrain from targeted killings of militants.

New violence, however, underscored the fragility of the new momentum for peace. A Palestinian pre-schooler in southern Gaza was killed by Israeli gunfire after militants fired a rocket at Israel. Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian militant and wounded two others during a West Bank arrest raid.

Also, about 100 Jewish settlers disrupted a meeting between Israeli and Palestinian commanders in southern Gaza, throwing stones and slashing tires of participants' vehicles.

But none of this appeared to spoil a new flurry of peace moves that is offering the prospect of an end to four years of Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed following the Nov. 11 death of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

After cutting ties with Palestinians two weeks ago in response to a militant attack in Gaza that killed six Israelis, Israel resumed diplomatic contacts Wednesday.

Sharon aide Dov Weisglass and Palestinian cabinet minister Saeb Erekat met for two hours and concurred that their bosses would meet as soon as the two sides agreed on an agenda, participants said. Erekat and Weisglass were to meet again next week.

## Israelis, Palestinians resume quest for peace talks after two-week freeze

Palestinian official Hassan Abu Libdeh said a summit could be held within two weeks. Sharon spokesman Ranaan Gissin confirmed that a summit was planned but said "our main concern is security -- that the Palestinians continue to take additional steps to end the violence, terrorism and incitement."

Palestinians want the summit agenda to focus on other issues, such as the release of Palestinian prisoners and stopping construction of the separation barrier Israel is building in the West Bank.

Speaking in the West Bank city of Ramallah, Abbas said the Palestinians asked the Israelis to release "an initial group of prisoners, and we asked that the release be in co-ordination with us."

Abbas also expressed concern about an arrest raid Wednesday in the West Bank town of Qalqiliya, where the army shot three men it said were wanted militants. Maher Abu Sneineh, 24, was killed and two were seriously wounded.

"The Israelis are continuing with these operations," Abbas said. "They know that we are fully committed to calming things down and they have to be responsible. They have to stop these operations so as not to ruin our efforts."

In Gaza, masked Palestinians who said they represented the Al Aqsa group threatened to renew attacks if Israel did not stop such operations within 24 hours.

Security officials said Abu Sneineh was planning a suicide bombing attack in which a **female** bomber would blow herself up in the Israeli city of Kfar Saba.

A senior U.S. envoy, William Burns, arrived Wednesday for talks with top Israeli and Palestinian officials. After meeting Israeli Vice-Premier Shimon Peres, Burns said the U.S. government is committed to taking advantage of what it sees as "a very promising moment."

Abbas has won wide praise in recent days for securing a pledge from militant groups such as **Hamas** and the Al Aqsa Martyr's Brigades to call a temporary halt to attacks against Israelis.

**Load-Date:** February 17, 2006

## *Palestinians rule prospects for real peace*

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

February 28, 2005 Monday

Home Edition

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### **The Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** Editorial;; INTERNATIONAL ATLANTA; Column

**Length:** 575 words

**Byline:** SHMUEL BEN-SHMUEL

### **Body**

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The Israeli government recently made a historic decision to implement the Disengagement Plan, which calls for unilateral withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and part of the West Bank. This decision demonstrates that Israel is a country that seeks peace and is ready to pay a high price to achieve it. It also reflects the fact that Israel does not wish to rule over the Palestinian people.

More than 9,000 Israeli settlers are being uprooted from their homes in this formal disengagement, many of whom have lived in these areas for more than two generations.

Other unilateral steps of goodwill that already have been taken in recent weeks by the state of Israel, in order to show its willingness to make difficult sacrifices for the prospect of peace are:

- \* Release of 900 Palestinian prisoners to the Palestinian Authority;
- \* Transfer of security responsibility within important areas of the West Bank to the PA;
- \* Vocal willingness to reopen negotiations with the new Palestinian Authority leadership.

The peace process itself is based on the willingness to forge greater progress and understanding on both sides of the equation. With a decrease in violence and terror activities, Israel can ease its security presence in the West Bank.

The onus on the new Palestinian Authority is to show their willingness and ability to reform their system, and crack down on terrorist organizations and "private militias," so that they can govern as the singular, moderate leadership of the Palestinian people.

Our expectations for the future rest on the premise that the leadership of the new PA will put an end to the Palestinian campaign of terror that has ravaged the Israeli people for more than four decades and has resulted in

## Palestinians rule prospects for real peace

homicide attacks and bus bombings, killing more than 1,000 men, women, and children in the last three years alone. This is the only way that we can both capitalize on this rare opportunity and proceed with the prospect of peace.

There are, therefore, at least four necessary steps for the Palestinian Authority to take:

- \* Put a stop to Palestinian terrorism;
- \* Break up the infrastructure of the terrorist organizations (Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, etc.) that seek to destroy the state of Israel and target innocent civilians;
- \* Seize illegal weapons held by Palestinian terrorists and private militias;
- \* Put an end to the fallacious propaganda that preaches hate toward Israelis and Jews to the next generation of Palestinians.

A ceremonial cease-fire is not a long-term solution. It is merely a ticking bomb that will explode in the face of dissension. There can be no compromise in dismantling the terrorist infrastructure and destroying the terrorist cells at their base. Only when terrorism is confronted and eliminated can a serious, pragmatic Palestinian leader emerge with the authority and vision to achieve a long-term solution.

From President Anwar Sadat of Egypt to King Hussein of Jordan, Israel has shown itself to be a willing partner for peace with every single Middle Eastern leader who has extended an olive branch. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has already demonstrated his willingness to make difficult sacrifices for even a mere prospect of peace.

It is now up to the Palestinian leadership to prove their willingness for a long-term, peaceful solution to this ongoing conflict.

\* Consul General Shmuel Ben-Shmuel, based in Atlanta, is the highest-ranking Israeli Diplomat in the Southeast United States.

## Graphic

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Shmuel Ben-Shmuel ; The Israeli security barrier, still under construction, runs between the West Bank village of Abu Dis and Jerusalem. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's Cabinet recently approved a revised route for the barrier that would move the fence closer to Israel's original frontier. / BRENNAN LINSLEY / Associated Press

**Load-Date:** February 28, 2005

## *Democracy the big winner in Iraq*

The Toronto Star

February 15, 2005 Tuesday

Copyright 2005 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

**Section:** OPINION; Pg. A17

**Length:** 605 words

### **Body**

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If The New York Times reporter got his quotes right, perhaps the most important discussion about democracy ever held in Iraq took place not long ago in the Shiite holy city of Najaf.

Adel Abdul Mahdi, a leader of the Shiite-dominated United Iraqi Alliance that has just been confirmed as having easily come first in the election, was reportedly being questioned by Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, the country's most powerful Shiite leader. Sistani queried Mahdi on reports that he favoured a constitution in which Islam, while significant, would not be the only source of legitimacy.

"You were not elected," Sistani told Mahdi, a member of the U.S.-appointed Governing Council Mahdi answered Sistani right back, "You were not elected."

Mahdi then returned to Baghdad to continue working on what could be called an "Islam-lite" draft constitution. (As an example, Afghanistan's new constitution provides that no measure offend Islamic principles, but not that all must be specifically Islamic.)

The election, the first fully free one in Iraq's 85 years as a nation, was the first, near-miraculous step in Iraq's evolution toward becoming the Arab world's first genuine democracy (or second, now that events are moving so fast in Palestine).

A second step, as near-miraculous and even more extensive in its consequences, will depend on whether, now that the election results have been reported, what follows can be called politics. Less democracy, in other words, than politics: log-rolling, bargaining, wheeling and dealing, compromise, and, above all, the general recognition that if winners try to take it all, no one will get anything but blood and bombs.

That such a comment could be said to Sistani and that he, however nettled, could accept Mahdi's right to say it, suggests that those who've assumed that civil war would follow the election - precipitated by the losers, the Sunni - may turn out to be as wrong as those who assumed that elections and democracy were un-Arabic.

It is easy to identify bumps and potholes, and indeed huge craters, in the road ahead. The Kurds, who did well, may demand more autonomy than any federal system can withstand. The Sunnis, most of whom stayed away, whether in fear or in contempt, may still stay away and still throw bombs. The Shia, who were the big winners, may try to take everything. The Americans may go back to blundering. But the wind has changed. It's now blowing for democracy and against the extremists and the terrorists.

And it's becoming an Arabic wind.



## Democracy the big winner in Iraq

In Palestine, President Mahmoud Abbas has gained such authority by winning a democratic election that he's been able to convince the militants in **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad to accept a ceasefire with the Israelis and to declare flatly that the long war with Israel is over.

In Saudi Arabia, the first-ever elections have just been held. They are only municipal ones. **Women** have been excluded. Half the posts will be filled by appointees. Yet it's happened within the Middle East's most ultra-conservative society. And **women** are now organizing for the next election round.

In Iraq, the last election was incomplete because most Sunni boycotted it. But there'll be a second election by the end of the year and if enough politics, and log-rolling and compromise take place between now and then, a complete election and a national healing becomes probable.

Forget the argument about whether George W. Bush was right.

The answer to a far more important question that has the potential to transform the Middle East is now becoming clear. It is that democracy is right.

Richard Gwyn's column appears Tuesdays and Fridays. gwynR @ sympatico.ca.

**Load-Date:** February 15, 2005

## *Your say*

Herald Sun (Melbourne, Australia)

April 22, 2004 Thursday

Copyright 2004 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** OPINION; Pg. 18

**Length:** 1338 words

### **Body**

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Intelligence downgraded

ALLEGATIONS of political interference in defence and intelligence agencies only make sense if we keep in mind what has happened to the public service, of which intelligence and defence are an important part.

Successive Labor and Liberal governments have all played a role in weakening independence in these important areas.

The Public Service Board was abolished in the early 1990s and the Howard Government abolished the public service exam for recruiting junior officers.

State governments have done similar things with their police and public services.

The message seemed to be that merit no longer counted and that it was who you knew and not what you knew that got you a job.

In times of stress, such as the present war on terror, this nation needs the best people in key jobs, not yes men who only report information that is comforting to our political leaders.

Steve Shepherd, Doveton

Labor lopped off ASIO's arm

I STILL recall the smile on the face of former Attorney-General Lionel Murphy as he raided ASIO's offices in 1973.

Gough Whitlam set up a royal commission into ASIO's powers and function and, from that date, ASIO has worked with one arm amputated because of either lack of consensus or fortitude by government.

Various state Labor governments continued the assault on internal intelligence gathering services and disbanded special branch units.

Now, with internal intelligence gathering services in disarray, one thing is clear.

We have lost this battle against religious extremists and others who want to harm Australia and its people.

Let us hope that the Federal Government does not let us lose the war. Give the internal services the power to act for the wellbeing of the people.

Your say

A.W. Love, Highett

Nature v nurture

FOR those who have studied psychology, the case of the 13-year-old girl only brings up the nature v nurture debate.

Does the girl have natural, inborn, lesbian tendencies, or is it the way she has been brought up that has caused her to act in the way she does?

If there is no psychological answer, should she have the right to have an operation or

is it her maturity that everyone doubts?

Eli Yarrow, Caulfield

Latham a Sydney man

MARK Latham once again holds court in Sydney's western suburbs. At least Prime Minister John Howard talks to Victorians about a state Labor government hell-bent on ignoring its constituents.

Heaven help us if we get a Sydney-centric Prime Minister Latham in the Lodge. Victoria will never get a look in.

Mary Aldred, Upper Beaconsfield

Republic plan waste of time

MARK Latham's suggestion that voters be asked whether they want a republic and later what kind of head of state they prefer is costly, unnecessary and counterproductive.

This can all be rolled into one composite plebiscite. Why stuff around with this for years?

Klaas Woldring, Pearl Beach, NSW

NSW schools as bad as Victoria's

STUDENTS have to endure poor facilities in the Victorian state school system, but as a NSW teacher I can tell you the same problem exists here.

But no mention is made of the teachers who have to work in these inadequate and archaic conditions, many for far longer than the children.

At least both state governments are achieving parity in their schools, poor salaries and poor conditions.

Gerard Fitzpatrick, Eastwood, NSW

CONTINUED page 19

Ticket to ride in comfort

THERE is uproar about the appalling behaviour of ticket inspectors on our trams and trains and their unethical and violent behaviour.

But would there be a problem if the idiots making these claims just bought a ticket?

I've never copped a bruising, been abused or felt the need to jump from a moving train because of the ticket inspectors.

Why not? I've got a Met card.

## Your say

Rachael Ryan, Taylors Lakes

### Caught in cruel trap

I HAVE had the horrific experience of seeing my beloved dog caught in the rubber-jawed traps used by the Department of Primary Industry.

These barbaric devices are nothing more than old-fashioned steel traps with the teeth flattened and a thin veneer of rubber. They are only marginally less cruel than the original traps.

Wild dogs must be killed, but they ought not to be tortured. They are only wild because their owners have dumped them or their parents.

Needless to say, native animals are also killed in these traps, which are used for economic reasons, rather than employ trained hunters.

We could never tolerate the spectacle of an animal writhing in pain in a trap in a public park.

Why allow our taxes to pay for this to happen behind our backs?

Margaret Baker, Yellingbo

### Land sale objection

AS a ratepayer of Greater Dandenong I object to the proposed sale of Department of Defence land as a prime private development site.

Selling it is a great disservice to the people of this region.

The property is in the heart of Dandenong Park and it is crucial to retain whatever parkland remains.

I sincerely hope our state and local governments will do whatever is necessary to make sure that ownership of this land remains with all Victorians and ratepaying residents of Greater Dandenong.

Geraldine Gonsalvez, Dandenong

### UN debates wrong subject

THE UN Security Council called an emergency session to debate the killing of Hamas leader Abdel Aziz al-Rantissi but has never moved to condemn the Palestinian terror orchestrated by Rantissi.

Nor has it demanded that Palestinian leaders accused of murder turn themselves over to authorities.

Nor has it demanded that Hamas leaders, who have openly declared war on Israel, set themselves apart from their civilian population, as required under the Geneva convention.

Effectively, Israel is expected to allow its citizens to be killed and is prohibited by international opinion from taking any action to prevent it.

The Palestinians are being oppressed by their own leaders who deny them freedom.

Robbie Friedman, Caulfield

### Territory for security

MOST observers agree that UN Security Council resolution 242 is pivotal to the Arab/Israel conflict. It requires Israel to withdraw from "territories" in exchange for "secure and recognisable" boundaries.

## Your say

The UN was deliberate in drafting the resolution not to specify all the territories because it was realised that Israel would have to retain some territory in the West Bank to guarantee its security.

Paul Rozental, St Kilda

The Cooks' new neighbour

SHIFTING Governor La Trobe's cottage from the Domain to the Fitzroy Gardens to complement Cooks' Cottage is well overdue.

The cottage is tucked behind the Shrine and is extremely hard to find. The sooner it is moved, the better.

It is laden with history and will add to the tourist attractions of the Commonwealth Games in 2006.

Rex Condon, Ashwood

Beck's genes the best

RE "Becks shows there is a beast in us all" (April 19): I congratulate Matthew Pinkney on his article.

Let's accept it, humans are animals and are subject to the same rules of natural selection and survival as other species.

Our ability to manipulate some of the forces of natural selection has given us an enormous advantage, and created enormous problems.

Nevertheless, the fittest organisms are the ones that spread their genes around the most and produce the most offspring for selection.

David Beckham is healthy, strong, has good physical features and is virile and successful.

Why wouldn't the female of the species not want his genes? I suggest people watch television programs that show animal behaviour and reproduction and try to understand what life and survival in the animal world is all about.

Sumner Berg, Beechworth

Poo, what a thief

HOW will I ever convince my children, aged 10 and 8, that the world is not full of evil and dishonest people?

Over Easter, a horse-poo thief removed nine of 11 bags of manure they had collected to be sold on the roadside.

Payment was by means of an honesty box. May the thief's garden grow many nettles.

Bronwyn Jeffery, Molesworth

**Load-Date:** April 21, 2004

## *Palestinian leaders check on Arafat's health*

The Irish Times

November 9, 2004

Copyright 2004 The Irish Times

**Section:** World; Pg. 10

**Length:** 608 words

**Byline:** Michael Jansen in Ramallah

### **Body**

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Middle East: Four senior Palestinian leaders arrived in Paris last night to obtain first hand information about their leader, Mr Yasser Arafat. They are expected to seek to consult his doctors today, as well as the French government, to determine what to do next.

Their arrival in the city, after Mr Arafat's wife, Mrs Suha Arafat, accused them of conspiring to "bury him alive", raises the prospects of an unseemly squabble today as they try to visit Mr Arafat while she seeks to bar them from his bedside.

A hospital spokesman said last night that Mr Arafat's condition was "stable" and that his condition "limited the number of visitors he was allowed to receive". Previously the hospital has made clear that it was deferring to the wishes of Mr Arafat's family - which, in effect, means Mrs Arafat.

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The hospital and Mrs Arafat continue to insist that Mr Arafat is alive.

Mrs Arafat made her allegations against the Palestinian leadership in an emotional statement to the Arabic satellite television channel, al-Jazeera, on Sunday. Mr Mahmud Abbas, acting head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Mr Ahmad Korei, the prime minister, and Mr Nabil Shaath, the foreign minister, responded initially by postponing their Paris journey.

However, after consulting cabinet colleagues and members of the Palestinian Authority, they decided to proceed and Mr Rawhi Fatouh, speaker of the Palestinian legislative council, was invited to join them.

The addition of Mr Fatouh is significant because, according to the Palestinian Basic Law, he is to assume Mr Arafat's powers if he can no longer carry out his duties as president of the Palestinian Authority.

The mission is seen as an attempt to maintain the unity the leadership has tried to foster since Mr Arafat collapsed two weeks ago.

Mrs Arafat, who was already very unpopular in the West Bank and Gaza, was castigated as a spoiler by both commentators and the populace. A group of Palestinian women belonging to Mr Arafat's Fateh movement assembled at the presidential compound to protest at her comments. Mr Sami Abu Zuhri, a spokesman for the Islamist Hamas movement, said her statement reflected deep rivalries in the Palestine Authority which could only be overcome by a collective leadership.

## Palestinian leaders check on Arafat's health

Mr Hatem Abdel Kader, a deputy from Jerusalem, said: "Suha has tried to make Arafat's health strictly a family issue, but it is an issue for the whole Palestinian people. Their representatives have every right to know what is happening."

Before the row erupted, Palestinian and Israeli sources reported that Mr Arafat's life support system could be disconnected on Tuesday because it is generally believed that he is brain dead. If this is true, the final step could be postponed for a few days.

An informant close to the Muslim religious establishment in Jerusalem said that clerics argue it is unlawful to sustain life by extreme measures if a person has no hope of recovery. This ruling removes a potential obstacle to shutting down Mr Arafat's support system if this is warranted.

A Palestinian aid worker employed in West Bank refugee camps and towns stated that the situation must be clarified as soon as possible to avert an explosion. "People believe Arafat has been poisoned by Israel or the US . They do not understand that he is being kept alive by machines and think there is some sort of conspiracy."

Dr Ziad Abu Amr, a lawmaker from Gaza, said that the Gaza Strip was calm. The common view there that Mr Arafat was poisoned was strengthened when Mr Korei said that the Palestinian Authority was not excluding any possibility in the diagnosis of Mr Arafat's still unidentified ailment.

**Load-Date:** November 9, 2004

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## *Children on Both Sides Killed on Northern Border of Gaza Strip*

The New York Times

September 30, 2004 Thursday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2004 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 6

**Length:** 564 words

**Byline:** By GREG MYRE; Taghreed El Khodary contributed reporting from Gaza for this article.

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM, Sept. 29

### **Body**

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A Palestinian rocket attack killed two Israeli children, ages 2 and 4, and Israeli soldiers killed five Palestinians on Wednesday in bloodshed that claimed young lives on both sides of the Gaza Strip's northern border.

Israeli troops also shot dead two people suspected of being militants who were trying to evade arrest in the West Bank, the army said.

In response to the Israeli deaths, a spokesman for Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Israel would probably broaden the scope of an already large invasion in northern Gaza aimed at halting the rocket attacks.

"This is a very severe act of terror and Israel will respond with full force," said the spokesman, Raanan Gissin. "One can expect a widening of our military operation in Gaza over the next few days."

Dozens of Israeli tanks, bulldozers and other armored vehicles charged into northern Gaza late on Tuesday after Palestinian rocket salvos earlier in the day.

On Wednesday, Israeli soldiers clashed repeatedly with Palestinian gunmen and stone-throwing youths on the outskirts of the Jabaliya refugee camp, a leading source of the rocket fire, the military said.

The Palestinian dead included three boys, ages 13, 16 and 17, who were among the stone throwers, Palestinian witnesses said. Two were killed in Jabaliya, and the third in a separate incident outside the Jewish settlement of Netzarim, farther to the south, Palestinian hospital officials said.

One Palestinian gunman was fatally shot and another Palestinian was killed in a missile strike. More than 20 Palestinians were wounded, several of them teenagers wearing school uniforms, said Dr. Mahmoud al-Asali, the head of Kamal Adwan Hospital.

Despite the large Israeli military presence, Palestinians unleashed a rocket on Wednesday night that came crashing down on a pathway between two residential buildings in Sederot, an Israeli town just beyond Gaza's perimeter fence.

The blast killed the children, Dorit Anisso, a 2-year-old girl, and Yuval Anisso, a 4-year-old boy, the Israeli media reported. The two were related, but it was not clear whether they were cousins or siblings.



## Children on Both Sides Killed on Northern Border of Gaza Strip

The attack came as Jews prepared for the holiday of Sukkot, the fall harvest celebration, which began at sundown. About a dozen people were wounded.

At the site, several women collapsed to the ground in grief. A shredded pair of children's sandals remained in a puddle of blood. A trail of blood led up a set of steps and into a house where one victim had been taken before an ambulance arrived.

The Islamic faction Hamas claimed responsibility.

The crude, homemade Qassam rockets are wildly inaccurate, but are a constant threat to Sederot's residents. Palestinians have fired several hundred in recent years, and the Wednesday incident was the second time Israelis were killed. A man and a boy were killed by shrapnel in an attack in Sederot in June. The Palestinians also stage frequent mortar attacks, and an Israeli-American woman was killed at a Jewish settlement in Gaza on Sept. 24.

In Jabaliya, Said Abu Eish, 13, left his home on Wednesday morning carrying his school bag, with instructions to go directly to the classroom because he had exams, his mother said.

But a short while later, another son returned home with Said's bag, she said. The boys had gone to throw stones at Israeli tanks, and Said was shot and killed, his mother said as she wept at her home.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

**Load-Date:** September 30, 2004

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## *Tearfully but Forcefully, Israel Removes Gaza Settlers*

The New York Times

August 18, 2005 Thursday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2005 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 6; Foreign Desk; Pg. 1; THE GAZA WITHDRAWAL: THE EVACUATION

**Length:** 1303 words

**Byline:** By STEVEN ERLANGER; Dina Kraft contributed reporting from Neve Dekalim for this article.

**Dateline:** KEREM ATZMONA, Gaza Strip, Aug. 17

### **Body**

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Nearly 10,000 Israeli soldiers and police officers began the forcible evacuation of Israeli settlers from Gaza on Wednesday, carrying some screaming from their homes in scenes that moved a number of the soldiers to tears.

After months of argument and political maneuvering, the Israeli forces moved in strength, but without weapons, to carry out the will of the government to give up part of the territory that Israel conquered in the 1967 war and that the Palestinians consider a part of their future state.

The mood was somber and serious, with experienced soldiers and police officers quietly trying to negotiate voluntary departures first with sometimes hysterical settlers, while ignoring their taunts. Only later in the afternoon did the forces resort to widespread forced evacuations in various settlements, in some cases dragging parents away in front of their frightened children.

Israeli officials spoke Wednesday evening of finishing the pullout here by the middle of next week, before moving to dismantle four smaller settlements in the West Bank.

While there was little serious violence in Gaza, an Israeli settler in the West Bank grabbed a gun from a guard near the settlement of Shiloh and opened fire on Palestinian workers. The settler, Asher Weissgan, 40, killed four Palestinians and wounded one other, and the killings are bound to increase tensions further, with the Palestinian militant group **Hamas** vowing revenge.

One of Israel's prime concerns has been the possibility of pulling settlers out under Palestinian fire from mortars or rockets. The Palestinian Authority has worked closely, and thus far successfully, with Israel to keep the quiet while Israeli troops are busy with their own citizens. But the killings and the **Hamas** threat have increased the chances of a serious confrontation that could delay the pullout, which is likely to be what the Shiloh settler had in mind.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon condemned the murders as an act of "Jewish terror." The State Department condemned the attack and called on the Palestinians and the Israelis to show restraint.

The Israelis also uncovered what they called an effort by the Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad to commit a suicide attack during the pullout, and made four arrests, the Israeli Army said. An explosives belt that was to have

### Tearfully but Forcefully, Israel Removes Gaza Settlers

been used in the attack was discovered in a solar-power water panel in a house in the Palestinian enclave of Mawassi, which borders the main Gush Katif southern settlement bloc.

[Early on Thursday, Reuters reported that the Israeli Army said Palestinian militants had fired two mortar bombs at the Gadid enclave in Gaza. There were no injuries or damage.]

The army moved into most of the main Gaza settlements, leaving only two of the most militant, Kfar Darom and Netzarim, alone. By nightfall, the army said it had cleared the settlements of Morag, Bedolah, Kerem Atzmona, Ganei Tal, and Tel Katifa. Gadid, Peat Sadeh, Rafiah Yam, Shalev, Dugit and Nisanit were already empty or nearly so. Action was continuing in the largest Gaza settlement, Neve Dekalim, where several hundred young protesters, most of them there illegally from the West Bank, were taking refuge in the main synagogue.

The tactics were to move slowly, increasing the pressure on residents with a show of force. Special teams of police officers and soldiers tried negotiation first, and mostly successfully. Only later were the crowbars unpacked and doors forced open. Large groups of protesters, like those in Neve Dekalim's synagogue, were surrounded and then isolated, and the police may deal with them early on Thursday, when they are tired and many are asleep.

But in Morag, negotiations with protesters in that militant settlement's synagogue resulted in many men in prayer shawls being carried out by officers. The women then agreed to be escorted away by female officers.

In Neve Dekalim, Dikla Cohen, 41, insisted on being carried out of her house, as were many of her nine children and their friends. "I feel that today was a pogrom," she said.

The family locked their large wooden front door and refused to open it to the soldiers, who eventually used a crowbar to pry it open. The operation took 90 minutes amid much drama and many insults.

In Morag, Adi Hendel left her house screaming at the officers. "You should be ashamed," she said. "You're doing a crime that the Arabs didn't do. You're puppets in the hands of this dictator Sharon!"

Her husband, Eran, in a prayer shawl, pried off the mezuzah at the door of his house with a knife, then burst out crying and keening. He cut his shirt, to indicate mourning, then fell to the ground, sobbing. Four policemen picked him up and carried him away. A younger soldier, standing on the street as backup, put his hands over his face and wept.

Here in Kerem Atzmona, one of the most militant and religious of the settlements, more than 1,500 police officers and soldiers, some in riot gear, broke through gates and a barricade to surround fewer than 20 house trailers.

Few left voluntarily, and many houses had to be broken into, and their inhabitants carried away. Still, most of those carried screaming onto buses also had their bags packed.

In one house, a settler who had thrown eggs at soldiers and journalists was one of the last to go. His door had a poster from the Nazi era, implying that Israel was making Gaza a "Jewish-free" zone. He wore an orange Star of David on his shirt, marked "Jude," German for Jew. When his wife finally agreed to leave the house, all her children left with their arms up, screaming in unison, all wearing an orange star, a piece of theater for the television cameras. The police commissioner, Moshe Karadi, was there, and he said the day was hard on his officers and on the soldiers.

"If you asked the police, maybe half would support the settlers, but we don't ask them," he said. "Our government has decided, and we have to do this task with the utmost sensitivity, but also with a clear and obvious will."

A police spokesman said 13 members of the security forces were wounded in clashes with settlers and their supporters, including nine soldiers, but none seriously.

In Netivot, outside Gaza, a woman set herself on fire to protest the pullout and was in serious condition, and 2,000 other Israelis protested outside Mr. Sharon's farm near Sederot.

## Tearfully but Forcefully, Israel Removes Gaza Settlers

Speaking to reporters in Jerusalem, Mr. Sharon praised the settlers and the security forces. "When I see the families with tears in their eyes and soldiers and police with tears running down their cheeks, too, as they help them pack their possessions and the children's toys, you can't watch it without -- I find myself crying, too. I'm proud that our army and police are capable of displaying such great sensitivity alongside the effort to fulfill all the instructions they have been given," he said.

The army's deputy chief of staff, Maj. Gen. Moshe Kaplinski, also came here to Kerem Atzmona to oversee the difficult operation, hoping to learn lessons for those to come, like Kfar Darom and Netzarim. "It's very complicated operationally and emotionally," he said. Asked about the emotional effect on soldiers, he said simply, "You can understand why." But the first day had gone "pretty well," he said, raising hopes of finishing this evacuation quickly. But for the military to then destroy the houses of the settlers, and pull out its own equipment, will take several more weeks, he said.

Doron Kotler, the head of operations for the Israeli ambulance service, Magen David Adom, said he was impressed by the unusual patience shown by the police and soldiers, and the silence.

"There's a lot of sorrow," he said. "There's a kind of sadness, and all the faces are serious. The quiet and the silence here amazes me."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

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Photos: A settler clashed with members of the Israeli security forces who tried to put him on a bus to remove him from Neve Dekalim yesterday on the first day of forced evacuation from settlements in the Gaza Strip. (Photo by Yoray Liberman/Getty Images)

Israeli soldiers tried yesterday to persuade a man to leave a friend's home peacefully in Neve Dekalim. (Photo by Ruth Fremson/The New York Times)(pg. A10)

Dikla Cohen, center, insisted on being carried out of her house in the Gush Katif settlement bloc yesterday. "I feel that today was a pogrom," she said. Many of her nine children and their friends were forcibly evacuated. (Photo by Ruth Fremson/The New York Times)

Palestinian militants celebrated yesterday near the Morag settlement. After negotiations with protesters in the Morag synagogue, many men in prayer shawls were carried out by members of the Israeli security forces. (Photo by Suhaib Salem/Reuters)(pg. A1)

**Load-Date:** August 18, 2005

*In the global war, Islam isn't the enemy; Islamism is*

The Vancouver Sun (British Columbia)

September 3, 2004 Friday

Final Edition

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**Section:** EDITORIAL; Pg. A10

**Length:** 570 words

**Byline:** Ottawa Citizen

## **Body**

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Russia opposed the Iraq war, often sides with the Palestinians and for decades gave enormous military support to Arab nations such as Egypt and Syria. Now suicide bombers are downing Russian airplanes and holding Russian children hostage. There could be a lesson here.

The lesson is that it is impossible to inoculate oneself against Islamic terror. Actually, that's not true. There is one way, and that is to become Muslim. With every new outrage committed in the name of Islam, it becomes clear that, for the terrorists, this is a religious war. The victims, whether Jews in Tel Aviv or Christians in Spain, are denounced as "infidels," suggesting that their principal crime was not "occupation" or imperialism but the fact they were non-Muslim.

This week, 12 Nepalese working in Iraq were slaughtered like cattle by a group called Army of Ansar al-Sunna. Again, the terrorists focused on their victims' religious affiliation. The Nepalese believe "in Buddha as their God, [so we] do not feel any mercy or pity for these nasty and spiteful people." Nepal did not participate in the Iraq war, but that made no difference. Whether it's Ansar al-Sunna, **Hamas** or al-Qaida, the message is always the same: Non-believers must die.

It's interesting to recall that after the Sept 11, 2001 attacks, two competing schools of thought emerged. One held that al-Qaida hated the U.S. because of what the U.S. does -- that is, because of its foreign policy. The other argued that al-Qaida hated the U.S. because of what it is -- namely, a capitalist democracy that embraces religious freedom, **women**'s rights and MTV.

The second theory seemed more plausible, mainly because U.S. foreign policy had in so many ways been pro-Arab and pro-Muslim. The U.S. led the effort to stop ethnic cleansing of Muslims in Bosnia. There was even a movie, *Black Hawk Down*, about American soldiers who died trying to get food to Somalia, a Muslim country (a country, furthermore, where the U.S. had no strategic interest).

With the exception of the Israel-Palestinian dispute, in conflicts between Muslims and non-Muslims the U.S. consistently sides with Muslims -- with Turkey over Greece in Cyprus, with Afghanistan over the Soviets, with Kosovo over Yugoslavia and others.

Yet after Sept. 11, many people insisted that militant Islam despises Americans and other westerners for what we do rather than for what we are. The idea that Islamic terrorists hate us for what we are was too disturbing to contemplate, for it means there's no way to appease the enemy. If our foreign policy were the problem, we could

In the global war, Islam isn't the enemy; Islamism is

change it. If the problem is our pluralism, secularism and modernism -- the fact we don't organize our societies according to principles of Islamic law -- then we're in trouble.

There is a difference between Islam and Islamism. Islam is a noble religion, whereas Islamism is a totalitarian and violent political ideology. Islamists want to establish, by force, "Allah's rule on earth," as one of their great theoreticians, Sayyid Qutb, put it four decades ago. Fortunately, the great majority of Muslims reject this expansionist political program -- and for that they too have been killed.

Moderate Muslims, as well as the people of Spain, France, Russia, Israel, the U.S. and now Nepal have been touched by Islamist terror. It's impossible to pretend this is anything other than a global war, one that we have no choice but to fight.

**\*\*START-IO-STORY\*\***

**Load-Date:** September 3, 2004

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## *An unholy war*

Ottawa Citizen

September 2, 2004 Thursday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A16

**Length:** 568 words

**Byline:** The Ottawa Citizen

### **Body**

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Russia opposed the Iraq war, often sides with the Palestinians and for decades gave enormous military support to Arab nations such as Egypt and Syria. Now suicide bombers are downing Russian airplanes and holding Russian children hostage. There could be a lesson here.

The lesson is that it is impossible to inoculate oneself against Islamic terror. Actually, that's not true. There is one way, and that is to become Muslim. With every new outrage committed in the name of Islam, it becomes clear that, for the terrorists, this is a religious war. The victims, whether Jews in Tel Aviv or Christians in Spain, are denounced as "infidels," suggesting that their principal crime was not "occupation" or imperialism but the fact they were non-Muslim.

This week, 12 Nepalese working in Iraq were slaughtered like cattle by a group called Army of Ansar al-Sunna. Again, the terrorists focused on their victims' religious affiliation. The Nepalese believe "in Buddha as their God, (so we) do not feel any mercy or pity for these nasty and spiteful people." Nepal did not participate in the Iraq war, but that made no difference. Whether it's Ansar al-Sunna, *Hamas* or al-Qaeda, the message is always the same: Non-believers must die.

It's interesting to recall that after the Sept 11, 2001 attacks, two competing schools of thought emerged. One held that al-Qaeda hated the U.S. because of what the U.S. does -- that is, because of its foreign policy. The other argued that al-Qaeda hated the U.S. because of what it is -- namely, a capitalist democracy that embraces religious freedom, *women*'s rights and MTV. The second theory seemed more plausible, mainly because U.S. foreign policy had in so many ways been pro-Arab and pro-Muslim. The U.S. led the effort to stop ethnic cleansing of Muslims in Bosnia. There was even a movie, *Black Hawk Down*, about American soldiers who died trying to get food to Somalia, a Muslim country (a country, furthermore, where the U.S. had no strategic interest). With the exception of the Israeli-Palestinian dispute, in conflicts between Muslims and non-Muslims the U.S. consistently sides with Muslims -- with Turkey over Greece in Cyprus, with Afghanistan over the Soviets, with Kosovo over Yugoslavia and others.

Yet after Sept. 11, many people insisted that militant Islam despises Americans and other westerners for what we do rather than for what we are. The idea that Islamic terrorists hate us for what we are was too disturbing to contemplate, for it means there's no way to appease the enemy. If our foreign policy were the problem, we could change it. If the problem is our pluralism, secularism and modernism -- the fact we don't organize our societies according to principles of Islamic law -- then we're in trouble.

## An unholy war

There is a difference between Islam and Islamism. Islam is a noble religion, whereas Islamism is a totalitarian and violent political ideology. Islamists want to establish, by force, "Allah's rule on earth," as one of their great theoreticians, Sayyid Qutb, put it five decades ago. Fortunately, the great majority of Muslims reject this expansionist political program -- and for that they too have been killed.

Moderate Muslims, as well as the people of Spain, France, Russia, Israel, the U.S. and now Nepal have been touched by Islamist terror. It's impossible to pretend this is anything other than a global war, one that we have no choice but to fight.

**Load-Date:** September 2, 2004

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End of Document



## *Exodus: Anger and anguish as Israeli soldiers drive out settlers*

Belfast Telegraph

August 18, 2005

© Copyright 2005 Belfast Telegraph Newspapers Ltd.

**Length:** 1447 words

**Byline:** Donald Macintyre in Neve Dekalim

### **Body**

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Sarit Cohen knelt down and clawed with her hand into the desert sand surrounding her house. Turning first to the row of policemen on her right and then to those on her left, she let the sand slip through her fingers in a gesture that all could see. "You are leaving this sand for the people who are trying to kill us," she wailed to the silent, sombre-faced men who had come to take her away with all the gentleness they could muster. It was a scene of almost Shakespearean intensity. Indeed everything that took place in this, the largest of the Gaza settlements from which forcible evacuations began yesterday, had something theatrical about it. The one deadly event of the day was outside Gaza, in the West Bank.

In an act described by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon as one of "Jewish terror", Asher Weisgan, a 38-year-old Israeli driver from Shvut Rahel settlement in the West Bank, who transported workers to and from the industrial area in the settlement of Shiloh every day, killed two Palestinian passengers with a stolen gun and ran into an industrial area, killing another worker and wounding two others. The attack was less than three weeks after an extreme right-wing opponent of disengagement killed four Israeli arabs in Shfaram.

A total of 8,518 settlers are being removed in Gaza. Across the territory yesterday, the day after the voluntary deadline, there were protests, tears

## Exodus: Anger and anguish as Israeli soldiers drive out settlers

and confrontations.

In southern Israel, a 54-year-old woman set herself on fire. Within Gaza, 14,000 troops entered six Jewish settlements where settlers and protesters were refusing to leave. In Morag, soldiers encountered cement blocks and burning rubbish. Dozens of protesters were carried out of a synagogue. In Bedolah, an ageing local rabbi was taken from the synagogue still clutching a Torah scroll.

In Neve Dekalim, as security forces converged on the synagogue where most of the extreme right anti-disengagement youth were holed up, Sarit Cohen's family sang their last prayers outside the house. Led by the matriarch, wearing a pillbox woollen hat and long skirt and clutching a large, black bound and embossed Bible, a slow procession of about 15 people took place: the family itself, with two daughters weeping copiously, and local well-wishers. It ended at the waiting bus, the matriarch herself stopping frequently to declaim to passing soldiers and policemen the error of their ways. As the family boarded the bus, a friend of the Cohens and their religious teacher, declared: "This is a beautiful family who has never hurt anybody and had a life project. To give a prize for terror, to show that terror works, that is not what the world needs."

The atmosphere was funereal. The Cohens' friend tore his shirt as the family reached the bus in the familiar gesture of Jewish mourning. The police made reporters wait 10 metres down from the garden gate as the family left, out of respect for their wishes. It was hard to realise that no-one had died here. Or that the dark mood of bereavement was because a democratically elected government was dismantling communities on occupied land, long declared illegal under international law; a move which the world community judges as an essential contribution to peace. And one for which the 8,500 settlers themselves are being lavishly compensated and rehoused at a cost of around \$ 1bn (£550m).

This is not to underestimate the strength of feeling of the settlers as the

## Exodus: Anger and anguish as Israeli soldiers drive out settlers

army began yesterday afternoon to evacuate them with a combination of what was officially described as "sensitivity and determination". An apt description for an operation by an army not known for its gentleness. Although only about 100 of 450 families had volunteered to leave by the official deadline, Brigadier General Nitzan Muriel, observing the operation, said that "the level of struggle" by the settlers was lower than the army had allowed for. Some people had put up a "small struggle" by insisting on being carried out of their homes "because they want to be in a position to say to their children and their grandchildren 'yes we resisted evacuation'."

Yet this does not adequately describe another Cohen evicted yesterday. Shmuel, a check-shirted, black-bearded bear of a man, struggled with such ferocity for every one of the 15 metres from his front door to the waiting bus, that seven well-trained soldiers were required to carry him before forcing him into the vehicle.

His wife required four women soldiers to carry her as she also struggled all the way, as did several of their seven tearful children. The officer in charge of the operation, who gave his name only as Major Sagy, said this family was not unique. Most had either walked out quietly, or had asked to be carried out simply in order not to be seen leaving voluntarily. "But we visited this family in the morning and we realised that unfortunately we would have to use force," he added.

The Zanora family refused to answer the door to police. Having at first said they would do so after they had prayed at 1.30pm, they failed to answer repeated knocks. Police used a sledge-hammer to force open the door and found the family sitting on the floor awaiting their eviction.

And so the evacuation went on. General Muriel said they would deal with the bulk of the infiltrating youths, "up to 3,000 of them", once families were out. The woman who set fire to herself was in hospital with 70 per cent burns. By yesterday evening the only deaths were those of the three

## Exodus: Anger and anguish as Israeli soldiers drive out settlers

Palestinians in Shiloh.

Yet even yesterday, some could not believe what was happening. A US tax attorney who came to Gush Katif from Boston, Massachusetts, urged, in a stage whisper, a gang of extreme right infiltrators to stop burning green plastic skips of rubbish to create billowing, angry clouds of smoke.

The skips would be needed in months to come, he told them, because even at this late stage God would prevent the evacuation taking place. Around him, police were carrying scores of screaming, struggling, teenage ideologues into prison buses.

The Israeli view

'It's like we live in different worlds, Tel Aviv versus Gush Katif'

For media-saturated Israelis, the forced evacuation from Gaza seemed a distant development - eliciting sympathy, perhaps, but little sense of solidarity.

"It's like we live in different worlds, Tel Aviv versus Gush Katif," said lawyer Dedi Cohen in reference to the main Gaza settlement bloc, the scene of often violent confrontations between diehard right-wingers and security forces who came to remove them. "Over here, we are living our lives as usual, while the Gaza settlers see themselves fighting for their lives. I think this withdrawal was inevitable, the only sane thing to do," Mr Cohen, a Tel Aviv resident, said.

The first evacuation of settlements on land Palestinians want for a state may have been a dramatic moment for Israel, but at the height of the operation its commercial television channels switched from live coverage to daily soap operas.

There was no sign of the traffic disruption opponents of the pullout had threatened. As security forces and settlers scuffled in the Gaza heat, it was another day at the beach in Tel Aviv.

Polls show a narrow majority of Israelis support Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's vision of "disengaging" from conflict with the

## Exodus: Anger and anguish as Israeli soldiers drive out settlers

Palestinians by quitting Gaza and a corner of the West Bank, territories occupied since the 1967 war.

Dan Williams

The Palestinian view

'We have liberated part of our land. The resistance will continue'

Militant factions in Gaza City lost no time claiming victory over the departing settlers and warned of further resistance as jubilant Palestinians celebrated the liberation of part of their land occupied for 38 years.

A **Hamas** spokesman, Sami Abu Zuhri, pasted posters on the walls of Gaza showing a **Hamas** fighter standing on the roof of a settlement house. "

This is a historic turning-point in the Arab-Israeli conflict," he said. "We have liberated part of our land, as a result of our resistance. The resistance will continue in the West Bank."

About 300 masked fighters in military fatigues, carrying rifles and rockets, paraded in front of the Al Gheroub cafeteria overlooking the Mediterranean.

Abu Hamzeh, who said he was in charge of 90 militants, said: "We are not going to give up the weapons of the resistance until the liberation of all Palestine. This [withdrawal] is the beginning of our victory."

From his smallholding overlooking a settlement in Deir al Balah, 51-year-old Mohammad Al-Salqawi, watched the Israeli troops move in. "Of course I am happy," he said. "I will take my land back. I lost greenhouses which were demolished to make room for the settlement."

Said Ghazali

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2006

## *Sharon vows to expand military effort in Gaza*

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

October 4, 2004 Monday

Home Edition

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### **The Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** News;

**Length:** 570 words

**Byline:** MARGARET COKER

### **Body**

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Jerusalem --- Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon vowed Sunday to expand the military operation under way in the Gaza Strip, an invasion he said was necessary to ensure his long-term plan to withdraw Jewish settlers and Israeli soldiers from the territory.

At least 59 Palestinians have died, including seven on Sunday, in the five-day-old Israeli incursion. Two Israeli soldiers also have been killed.

Cox International Correspondent

Israel on Wednesday moved nearly 200 tanks and an estimated 2,000 soldiers into Gaza, marking one of the deadliest flare-ups in four years. The operation came in response to a rocket attack by Palestinian militants. Two toddlers in Sderot, an Israeli town bordering Gaza, were hit by the homemade rocket. Also Wednesday, a **female** jogger was shot at her Jewish settlement inside Gaza.

Sharon said Sunday that the army would stay in Gaza until the threat of Palestinian rocket attacks was gone. The Israeli casualties have intensified an already sticky political situation for Sharon, who is facing sharp criticism from the right-wing over his plan to quit the Gaza settlements and withdraw soldiers before September 2005.

Seeking to appear tough to critics who believe a withdrawal will make Israeli border towns more vulnerable to Palestinian attacks, Sharon told Israel's Army Radio the Gaza operation "is not a short thing. The forces will have to remain there as long as this danger exists."

Israel has killed militant operatives in its campaign, but as many as 20 of the dead have been civilians, including three kindergartners and at least eight other children, according to Gaza human rights and hospital workers.

Sharon gave no details about how to end the threat posed by the rockets, highly mobile and relatively crude weapons that Israel's army has struggled to counter. We must "operate to stop the shelling of Israeli communities in Gaza now and during the evacuation," he said.

## Sharon vows to expand military effort in Gaza

The Palestinians militant group **Hamas**, which is based in Gaza, developed homemade pipe-launched rockets as a way to bypass fortifications Israel has built around the territory.

Militants lob the Qassam missiles by the dozens into Jewish settlements in Gaza and into nearby Israeli towns. But because they have no guidance system and only a rudimentary explosive nose cone, the rockets usually cause minimal damage. Only two of the hundreds of rockets launched have ever caused fatalities.

Israeli army officials said the offensive, dubbed "Operation Days of Penitence," now controls a 3-square-mile area in northeastern Gaza.

Army officials said the operation was designed to destroy cover used for firing rockets into Israeli territory. Palestinians, however, call it collective punishment.

On Sunday, Israel opened a second front. The army said it moved tanks and bulldozers from a settlement in the south-central section of Gaza to a refugee camp in Khan Younis, apparently to destroy Palestinian homes there.

Multiple news reports indicated a worsening situation for tens of thousands of Palestinian residents trapped in the area of conflict.

Armored bulldozers were deployed during the weekend in the Jabaliya refugee camp, a township of around 100,000. The army vehicles demolished homes, citrus orchards, a clothing factory and a kindergarten, according to residents.

About 15,000 people living in the area of the raid have been without water and electricity for days, according to human rights workers.

## Graphic

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Photo: A Palestinian woman looks out Sunday from the doorway of her house, damaged in an ongoing Israeli army operation in the Jebaliya refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip. / HATEM MOUSSA / Associated Press

**Load-Date:** October 4, 2004

## LEADER COLUMN; BRITAIN AND THE US MUST LEAD THE WAR AGAINST TERROR

Sunday Express

September 5, 2004

Copyright 2004 EXPRESS NEWSPAPERS

**Section:** LEADER; Pg. 22

**Length:** 619 words

### **Body**

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THE bloody siege in the Russian school must serve as a wake-up call to us all. There is a growing network of extremist militant Islamic groups throughout the world who do not wage war on soldiers but who slaughter the innocent without compunction.

And in this war there is no room for compromise. Either they win or we do. Islamofascists want nothing from us.

They simply want our destruction. They who have corrupted the peaceful message of the Koran hate us and all we stand for. In their eyes we are infidels.

Now local hostilities between Muslims and non-Muslims are being hijacked by extremists and are becoming part of the big war between them and us.

The war had begun before we realised it. Not until September 11 did we start to see acts of terrorism by Islamic extremists, not as isolated events, but as part of a wider attack on the West and Western values. Since then we have had the Bali, Turkey and Madrid bombs. Now world news is dominated by terrorism. An Italian journalist is murdered by terrorists. Two French journalists are held by terrorists in Iraq. Twelve Nepalese workers are murdered by militants. In Russia, 89 people die in what is believed to be bombings of two planes. In Moscow a **female** suicide bomber kills 10 and injures 51. In Israel a double suicide attack by Palestinian group **Hamas** kills 16 and injures 100. Refugees are starving in Darfur in the Sudan because they have been being terrorised out of their villages by Arab militia. Now children are targets.

The escalation of terrorism has enormous implications for international politics, underlining the desperate need for a new world order. Britain and America must take the lead in bringing all freedom-loving nations to the table to work out a clear global strategy to deal with the threat.

Conflict in Israel fans flames of terrorism that must be doused. Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon must be told that peace between the Israelis and Palestinians must be his long-term aim. Similarly, stability must be brought to Iraq. Pressure must also be applied on states that sponsor and support terrorism to force them to stop.

We are living in complex times when statesmanship is required but, sadly, Prime Minister Tony Blair is not up to the job. Neither is President Bush. Indeed we cannot think of any politician capable of pulling off this miracle.

All democracies must ready themselves as if for war. In Britain that means the Government must reverse the cuts in our military capability.



## LEADER COLUMN; BRITAIN AND THE US MUST LEAD THE WAR AGAINST TERROR

And right-thinking Muslims everywhere must distance themselves from those with hate in their heart. If they are not with us they are against us.

We applaud the patriotism of the Muslims in France who led the show of unity with their government over the kidnap of the two French journalists. The kidnappers have demanded that France rescind its new ban on Muslim schoolgirls wearing headscarves, a move intended to defend the principle that France is a secular state.

Although many French Muslims hate the ban they have put their country first.

We want to see Muslims here showing the same degree of fidelity to the country that has nurtured them.

It is a chilling thought, but the unimaginable horrors that happened in Russia could happen anywhere. And every day we are getting less safe. We cannot cut down the leaders of terrorism and hope it will wither on the vine for it needs no leaders. It feeds on warped ideology.

But there is hope. The best way for civilised countries to defeat terrorism is to defend their own culture.

In Britain, we must abandon the aim of a multicultural society and reassert our identity while retaining tolerance of differences between people. Only then will we become strong enough to beat the enemy.

**Load-Date:** September 7, 2004

## *Five life sentences for leader of the intifada*

The Times (London)

June 7, 2004, Monday

Copyright 2004 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news; 16

**Length:** 619 words

**Byline:** Stephen Farrell in Tel Aviv

### **Body**

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THE manacled hands went up in the familiar victory salute, but to no avail.

Two years after his arrest in Ramallah, Marwan Barghouti, the charismatic leader of the intifada, yesterday became the most senior Palestinian Authority figure to be jailed by an Israeli court.

Barghouti, seen as a potential successor to Yassir Arafat, was sentenced to five life terms and 40 years in jail -all consecutive -for murder, attempted murder and membership of a terrorist organisation.

After a series of hearings lasting 18 months Barghouti, 44, denounced the three-judge Israeli panel who found him guilty of organising attacks against Israelis and heading the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades.

"You judged me before the trial started," shouted the bearded intifada leader as he was led away from the Tel Aviv courtroom, where for months he had proclaimed himself victim of a court which had no jurisdiction to try him.

"You are like the pilots who drop bombs on the Palestinian cities. You are just the same."

The Israeli judges, however, accepted the prosecution's case that while serving as general secretary of Mr Arafat's Fatah movement on the West Bank, Barghouti organised, instigated, funded and motivated armed Palestinian militants. He was convicted of killing a Greek Orthodox monk in the West Bank in 2001, an Israeli at the Jewish settlement of Givat Zeev in 2002 and three people at a Tel Aviv restaurant in 2002. He was also convicted on one charge of attempted murder.

Daniel Taub, an Israeli Foreign Ministry official, praised the court for taking a "courageous" decision in the face of Palestinian efforts to make the trial a political forum.

"I think this court again and again has proved that it does have jurisdiction in this case. The offences took place in Israel, the victims were Israelis and the goal was to try to (create) an atmosphere of panic in Israel."

To most Israelis, Barghouti is a murderer, a key figure who helped to persuade Mr Arafat that Fatah's al-Aqsa Brigades should join **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad in launching attacks inside Israel during the early years of the intifada.

To most Palestinians he represents a wasted opportunity: a fluent Hebrew speaking politician dedicated to a two-state solution who became increasingly disillusioned with Israel's continued settlement building and military occupation after the Oslo peace accords.

## Five life sentences for leader of the intifada

They believe he will be one of the first Palestinians released in any peace deal.

In Ramallah, where he was captured in April 2002 at the height of fighting between Palestinian militants and Israeli tanks reoccupying West Bank cities, Barghouti's supporters gathered in a huge tent adorned with posters.

When the court's decision was announced over a loudspeaker, women began weeping and ululating, but his wife, Fadwa, who has raised their children during his frequent absences in jail and exile, said that the sentence would not stop the intifada.

"This is an oppressive decision like the occupation. It is null and void," she said.

"The court wanted to say by sentencing Marwan it is dealing a deadly blow to the intifada. But the crowds gathering here in Ramallah and throughout Palestine are telling Marwan, 'We support you'."

Outside the court Israeli protesters, waving banners and holding up a huge mosaic bearing the names and pictures of Israeli victims, chanted through loudspeakers: "Peace will come when the terrorism stops."

Barghouti's Palestinian supporters inverted the slogan, shouting back: "Peace will come when the occupation ends."

A Palestinian legislator, Hatem Abdul Khader, said: "It is an illegal decision. An Israeli court has no jurisdiction over Marwan Barghouti. He is an elected member of the Palestinian Legislative Council."

**Load-Date:** June 7, 2004

## *Fighting rages as Israelis bulldoze refugee camp*

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

May 15, 2004 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2004 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA/WORLD; Pg. A16; News

**Length:** 593 words

**Byline:** Tamer Ziara

**Dateline:** RAFAH, GAZA STRIP

### **Body**

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According to the army and witnesses, heavy fighting raged in this refugee camp yesterday, killing two Israeli soldiers and a Palestinian man and trapping frightened residents in their homes.

Troops seized several houses and army bulldozers knocked down at least nine buildings in the camp, trying to secure the area for soldiers searching for the remains of five others killed in a blast earlier in the week.

Military officials said once this search was over, the army could launch a wide-scale move to expand a military patrol road between the camp and the Egyptian border -- a move that would see hundreds of houses in Rafah flattened.

The Associated Press

During yesterday's clashes, gunmen moved through the narrow alleys of the camp, firing homemade rockets and rifles at the troops. The Israelis responded with missiles launched from helicopter gunships and heavy machine-gun fire.

One soldier was shot as he escorted a Palestinian woman into a house troops had commandeered, the army said. A force who tried to evacuate him was hit by sniper fire that killed another soldier and wounded two others, the army said. Helicopters airlifted the wounded soldiers to hospital in Israel.

The Islamic group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for the shooting and said it would release footage of the attack.

On the Palestinian side, one man was killed in a missile strike and a second died when an explosive device blew up prematurely. Eight Palestinians were wounded, two seriously.

Residents were trapped in their homes by the heavy fighting. Hisham Mohammed, 35, said he was stuck on the third floor of his apartment building and the rest of his family on the ground floor.

Local officials in Rafah said bulldozers tore down nine homes yesterday close to the patrol road that runs between Rafah and the Egyptian border.

In the wake of the deadly attack that killed five soldiers on Wednesday, military officials said the army wanted to widen the patrol road, a move that would destroy hundreds of homes that border the road.

## Fighting rages as Israelis bulldoze refugee camp

Since the outbreak of fighting in September 2000, the Israeli military has razed 1,026 houses in Rafah and damaged 767, according to local officials. The destruction has left more than 10,000 Palestinians homeless.

Israel does not confirm those numbers, but says houses were targeted because they provided cover for gunmen or for weapons-smuggling tunnels. In the past three years, Israeli troops have uncovered 80 tunnels running between Egypt and Rafah, the army said.

Palestinian cabinet minister Saeb Erekat called for U.S. intervention to halt the destruction.

"This is a catastrophe. At a time when the Israelis are speaking of disengaging from Gaza, this is really re-engaging," he said. "I hope that President (George W.) Bush, who says he is encouraged by disengagement, will interfere to stop the demolitions."

The latest violence -- a total of 13 soldiers have died in Gaza this week -- has triggered hot debate over Israel's presence in the area, which is home to 7,500 Jewish settlers and 1.3 million Palestinians.

The Gaza fighting has claimed the lives of 29 Palestinians since Tuesday and about 250 have been wounded.

Also in Gaza yesterday, Israeli troops shot at a car travelling near the northern settlement of Netzarim, medics said. A Palestinian women, 27, was seriously wounded by a bullet and her three small children were lightly wounded by flying glass, hospital officials said.

Violence also continued in the West Bank. In the Tulkarem refugee camp, soldiers wounded three Palestinians who threw firebombs at the troops, the army said.

**Load-Date:** May 15, 2004

## **WHEN ADULTS PUT CHILDREN IN THE PATH OF DANGER**

Philadelphia Daily News

MARCH 29, 2004 Monday 4STAR EDITION

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**Section:** EDITORIAL OPINION; Pg. 22

**Length:** 543 words

### **Body**

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ITOTALLY AGREE with Michael Smerconish's column on children in peril, like Delimar Vera and Erica Pratt.

What leaves me scratching my head is how the adults involved have so little regard for their children that they put them in extremely perilous or even life-threatening situations. Yet they're in shock when the tragedies occur and so quick to jump in front of the TV cameras and exonerate themselves from blame.

Don't they realize that the authorities do extensive investigations into cases that show elements of foul play - and the truth will eventually come out? Which is what I hope happens in the Delimar case because of the reputations that got smeared in the early stages of this supposed feel-good

story/movie of the week. The questions raised by the Daily News follow-up article still need to be answered.

Sam DuMond, Philadelphia

Terrorist musings

As I watched the clips of the recent anti-war rallies (aka anti-Bush/America rallies), I could not help thinking what might be going through the minds of the terrorists watching them.

I suspect they must be saying to each other, "We kill thousands of their citizens, and they blame it on Bush and America."

Jerry Komar, Collingswood, N.J.

Mayor No-Show

Warrant Officer Joseph LeClaire died in the line of duty, doing a job that for many would seem too dangerous for too little pay.

He did this job for me and you, getting people off of the street who didn't belong there. He did his part in trying to make Philadelphia a little better for you and me. He was a Marine and protected our country.

## WHEN ADULTS PUT CHILDREN IN THE PATH OF DANGER

For the years he put in, did his boss, the mayor, show any concern? I don't think so. He could not bother to show his face on Tuesday night nor for Wednesday's funeral. Was MTV's "Real World" more important than Philadelphia's Real World?

Mayor Street had time to support a street party for a drug dealer- but not the officer who tried to get drug dealers off the streets of Philadelphia. I am glad I left this city three years ago.

Kim Heckrote, Blackwood, N.J.

Shame on you, Mayor Street!

Does Mayor Street know that Officer LeClaire lost his life working for this city? I don't think he does.

It's pretty pathetic that he could make it to a building being imploded - and not to an officer's funeral.

Bernadine Weaver

Philadelphia

Why Yassin was killed

Sheik Yassin and the Hamas fighters he commanded have been responsible for dozens of massacres of Israelis and hundreds of deaths. This is a war that has gone on for decades to destroy Israel, a war the world has never been prepared to let Israel win.

Most recently, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat rejected a state in 2000 and chose more war instead. It was not that Israel's offer at Camp David was too limited. Rather, it was too good. That threat of an enduring peace scared Arafat, Yassin and their followers, who rejoice in the murder of Israel's men, women and children, because their goal has always been the destruction of Israel, not a state living alongside Israel.

If an American president failed to order an attack on Osama bin Laden, instead allowing him to orchestrate an unending string of murderous assaults on our cities, we would demand his resignation or impeachment. Israelis have a right to expect no less from their leaders.

John R. Cohn

Philadelphia

## Notes

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LETTERS

**Load-Date:** August 23, 2005

*Arab democracy summit is canceled ;  
Tunis, the host, cites lack of commitment*

The International Herald Tribune

March 29, 2004 Monday

Copyright 2004 International Herald Tribune

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 5

**Length:** 631 words

**Byline:** Neil Macfarquhar

**Dateline:** TUNIS:

## **Body**

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The summit meeting of Arab leaders billed as the first serious effort to make a collective commitment to democratic reforms has ended before it began, with the host country, Tunisia, insisting that it be postponed indefinitely.

A statement issued on Saturday by the Tunisian government said it felt that the commitment of Arab states toward reforms -- from human rights to a greater role for women -- was insufficient for the 22 foreign ministers gathered here to reach an agreement on common goals that the heads of state would endorse.

"It became clear that there was a variance of positions on proposals related to fundamental issues on modernization, democratic reform, human rights, the rights of women and the role of civil society," the statement said.

Some foreign ministers had refused to include certain words like "democracy" and "parliament" and "civil society," said Oussama Romdhani, an official spokesman for the Tunisian government. Officials who had taken part in the meeting said the very idea of supporting nongovernmental organizations as the building block for civil society had dragged on for four hours.

The New York Times

Even by the erratic standards of Arab summit meetings, long marked by public displays of anger and mutual insults, the sudden cancellation of such an important gathering just before it was to begin seemed to come as a surprise.

"They thought the issues were so serious that we cannot finalize a resolution in a hasty way for the heads of state to sign," said Sheik Muhammad Sabah al-Salem al-Sabah, the foreign minister of Kuwait.

Most ministers were tight-lipped, refusing to even comment on a decision that they said had been made by Tunis in the absence of any consultation with them. Some rejected the idea that there had been no agreement on the various issues, saying the Tunisians seemed to have some unspecified reason of their own for wanting to cancel.

Amr Moussa, the secretary general of the Arab League, had said during a news conference earlier in the day that there had been "heated discussions" but that he expected those attending the meeting to reach some form of consensus.



Arab democracy summit is canceled ; Tunis, the host, cites lack of commitment

The Bush administration had made no secret of its desire for the meeting to end with a strong statement backing more open, democratic change in the Middle East. For Washington, an echo of democratic change across a region marked by autocratic governments would help justify the decision to go to war to depose Saddam Hussein.

But the United States got off on the wrong foot when its Middle East proposal, which laid out a blueprint it hoped the Arab states would follow, was leaked before any Arab leader was aware of its contents.

Many Arab governments had objected to opening a discussion about reform under such direct pressure from the United States. That was particularly true after Israel killed Sheik Ahmed Yassin, the spiritual leader of **Hamas**, in Gaza days before the summit meeting started.

Some Arab states thought it would send the wrong signal to emphasize reform at the meeting at a time when the Middle East peace effort was in disarray.

"We spent almost the entire first day just over the order of items on the agenda, and it was such an acrimonious debate," a participant said.

Another important factor was the absence of Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, who had said he would not attend. No official reason was given, but Al Riyadh, a Saudi daily that often reflects official thinking, published an editorial on Saturday saying the meeting was doomed to failure.

Among the reasons cited was the fact that too many small states were pushing their own initiatives on reform, rather than letting the larger states come up with an overarching plan that all could support. Saudi Arabia had been working together with Syria and Egypt on a plan.

**Load-Date:** March 29, 2004

## *In Focus*

The Gazette (Montreal)  
October 4, 2005 Tuesday  
Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A2

**Length:** 631 words

**Byline:** The Gazette

## **Body**

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Work on upset stomachs wins Nobel Prize

Background: Before 1982, scientists believed stomach problems, including ulcers and gastritis, were caused by emotional stress.

New: Australian scientists Robin Warren (left) and Barry Marshall win the Nobel Prize in physiology and medicine for discovering a common bacterium causes most stomach inflammation and ulcers.

Next: The Nobel Prize in physics will be awarded. Details, Page A17

Skeptical Europeans talk Turkey

Background: The European Union made Turkey an associate member in 1963 with the prospect of future membership, but Ankara's shaky human rights and poor economic past have kept it from becoming a full EU member.

New: Britain secures agreement from all 25 EU nations to begin membership talks with Turkey.

Next: Turkey now faces years of talks in which every aspect of politics, human rights and civil liberties will be scrutinized by a skeptical EU. The process is due to end in 2014. Details, Page A16

Bus Stop Rapist gets 18-year prison term

Background: Between June 2002 and May 2004, a rapist prowled Montreal and Laval, victimizing young women as they got off city buses.

New: Michel Cox, the Bus Stop Rapist, is sent away to prison for 18 years by a judge who noted the lives of his eight victims have been scarred by his attacks.

Next: Cox, declared a long-term offender, will be monitored for 10 years after he gets out of prison. Details, Page A6

Green shine at Poly

## In Focus

Background: The U.S. Green Building Council is an industry group that promotes environmentally responsible building practices.

New: Ecole polytechnique inaugurates two new pavilions that have won the council's gold certification for features that include pressed wheat-straw room fixtures, rain-water collection for toilets, and grass growing on the roofs for insulation.

Details, Page A6

## Business

Shipping group aims for double

The Oceanex intermodal shipping group has doubled its capacity on its Montreal-Newfoundland run by introducing the Avalon, a \$59-million super-container

vessel. Oceanex, which delivers anything from cars and consumer goods to truck trailers and oil industry gear from "anywhere in North America" to Newfoundland and Labrador, already claims 50 per cent of Quebec's intermodal cargo market.

Details, Page B1

Painkiller boost

Shares in Labopharm Inc. climbed yesterday as the pharmaceutical research company announced a licensing and distribution pact with GlaxoSmithKline for its once-daily tramadol painkiller in 20

Latin American and Caribbean countries. Laval-based Labopharm said the combined market of the 20 countries covered represents pain product sales of more than \$1.2 billion. Details, Page B3

## Sports

Angels may fly

The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, with a raft of former Expos, including Vladimir Guerrero, could surprise the New York Yankees in the American League playoffs, says Gazette baseball writer Stephanie Myles. Details, Page C1

Back in the saddle

It's been a strange trip for Jim Barker, even in the wacky Canadian Football League. He was fired two years ago as Calgary Stampeders coach, but is back as general manager. Details, Page C3

Milan cover-up

The fashion shows of Milan picked up where the fashion shows of New York left off - with clothes that are more feminine, and more modest. Bare skin is out.

Details, Pages D1, D3.

Rules to run with

There are always plenty of rules to follow when exercising. Fitness columnist Jill Barker runs down seven simple ones that will help you get the most from your workout. Details, Page D4

Follow Ups

## In Focus

Public unions dispute: A union leader puts a possible price on moving toward a settlement in the Quebec public unions dispute. Page A11

Cops demand weapons: Palestinian police officers storm the parliament building, complaining they do not have enough firepower to confront **Hamas**. Page A19

## Graphic

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Photo: (Australian scientists Robin Warren (left) and Barry Marshall win the Nobel Prize in physiology and medicine for discovering a common bacterium causes most stomach inflammation and ulcers);

Photo: (Milan cover-up)

**Load-Date:** October 4, 2005

## QUICK NEWS

Hobart Mercury (Australia)

April 5, 2004 Monday

Copyright 2004 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 12

**Length:** 596 words

### **Body**

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#### Holocaust victim payouts

CHEQUES for about \$1000 are being sent to 266 British survivors of the Holocaust or their heirs as a token payout on Nazi-era insurance. For decades, insurance firms refused payments because victims' policies had been lost or destroyed by the Nazis but set up a fund in the face of bad publicity. Payouts will be made to 15,890 families in 62 countries.

#### Hong Kong poll reaction

CHINA has slammed the United States for raising concerns about its decision to set election laws in Hong Kong. Beijing's move is seen as an attempt to stifle the former British territory's democratic aspirations. A government document on Hong Kong's political future describes democracy as "a goal".

#### Forum focus on turtle danger

A ZOOLOGIST forum has been told most turtle and tortoise species are found in southeast Asia and half of them are listed as being critically endangered, yet at least 15 million are victims each year of a lucrative trade in food and pets. Zoologists from Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Sri Lanka are in Singapore to discuss ways to protect turtles and tortoises.

#### God's decree simply insanity

A WOMAN in Texas who claimed God ordered her to bash in the heads of her sons was acquitted of all charges by reason of insanity after a jury found she did not know right from wrong during the killings. Deanna Laney, 39, was deemed legally insane when she killed her two older sons, ages 6 and 8, in the front yard and left the youngest, now 2, maimed in his crib last may. Laney is expected to be committed to a maximum security state hospital.

#### China out of tune with lyrics

TWO Tibetan musicians have been detained in western China over perceived political content in some of their songs. Namkha, a singer, and Bakocha, a composer, were arrested in Qinghai province, which adjoins Tibet. The Chinese Government is sensitive to issues regarding Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama. Debate raged in Tibet yesterday over whether the song lyrics were political or merely an over-reaction by Beijing.

#### Israel bulldozes family's house

## QUICK NEWS

ISRAELI forces have demolished the family house of a **Hamas** militant who killed an Israeli in a weekend attack at a Jewish settlement, the army said yesterday. The troops entered the Tulkarem refugee camp overnight and demolished the home of Zohair Arda, 18, who was shot dead during the attack. Arda, who was released last week from an Israeli prison, infiltrated the West Bank settlement of Avnei Hefetz and opened fire on a house, killing an Israeli man and wounding his 14-year-old daughter.

Curt theory on Kurt's killing

THEORIES persist that the violent death 10 years ago today of Nirvana singer Kurt Cobain was a murder, not suicide. A new book, *In Love and Death: The Murder of Kurt Cobain*, by Max Wallace and Ian Halperin, says it was impossible for Cobain to shoot up with heroin, pen a suicide note then kill himself with a shotgun. There were no fingerprints found on the shotgun nor the pen with which Cobain wrote his suicide note. "Dead men don't wipe fingerprints off their own guns," Wallace said yesterday. Cobain's wife, singer Courtney Love, was listed as a suspect.

Arnie gets help on sex claims

ARNOLD Schwarzenegger has taken a training course on steering clear of sexual harassment claims. The actor-turned-politician's campaign to become governor of California was almost derailed by allegations he had groped and molested 16 **women**. After he took office in October, he quickly dropped his pledge to investigate the abuse claims but volunteered to take the training course.

**Load-Date:** April 5, 2004

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End of Document

## *Prosecutors, Al-Arian Defense Dispute Payment*

The Tampa Tribune (Florida)

September 20, 2005 Tuesday

FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** METRO; Pg. 5

**Length:** 645 words

**Byline:** MICHAEL FECHTER, , [mfechter@tampatrib.com](mailto:mfechter@tampatrib.com)

**Dateline:** TAMPA

### **Body**

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CALLS SAID MONEY WAS FOR BOOKS

By MICHAEL FECHTER

[mfechter@tampatrib.com](mailto:mfechter@tampatrib.com)

TAMPA - In a trial in which "shirts" and "magazines" are considered coded references to money, talk about "books" just may be talk about books, a defense attorney said Monday.

FBI agent Ed Ortega acknowledged a secretly recorded telephone call about a 2003 money transfer to the Middle East did reference books for defendant Sameeh Hammoudeh.

Hammoudeh is one of four men, including former University of South Florida Professor Sami Al-Arian, charged with conspiracy to commit racketeering and to provide material support to terrorists. Last week, Ortega detailed a series of money transfers defendant Hatim Fariz sent to a charity that prosecutors say is part of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terrorist group.

Ortega's testimony showed the defendants discussing money, then arranging to send it through a Chicago financial services office.

Under questioning by defense attorney Stephen Bernstein, Ortega acknowledged he doesn't read or speak Arabic and did not check to see whether Hammoudeh or other defendants ever received books mentioned in a call with Hammoudeh's father in the West Bank. After Hammoudeh's father indicated he had not received an anticipated \$1,000 transfer, the men talked about a specific author and whether Sameeh Hammoudeh needed copies of the Koran.

Later, defense attorney Kevin Beck, who represents Fariz, picked up on Bernstein's point. Ortega said he didn't know whether the conversation, in fact, was about books.

"Sir, how do you know they are not?" Beck fired back.

## Prosecutors, Al-Arian Defense Dispute Payment

Other calls preceding money transfers discussed buying an ambulance for a Gaza hospital and supporting a charity for blind women.

The money was not sent directly to those outlets. Rather, most of it went to the Elehssan Society, considered an arm of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad that operates in the West Bank and Gaza. Agents found printouts of a Web page from the society when they searched Fariz's home after his 2003 arrest.

Beck emphasized the society's self description as a cultural, charitable and athletic club established in 1998. It even had a theater troupe called Al Noor, Beck said, reading from the document.

But federal prosecutor Alexis Collins twice pointed to a play performed by that troupe, called "Children rushing toward martyrdom."

She also pointed to the Elehssan Society's report that the troupe performed for Hamas leader Ahmed Yassin and an Islamic Jihad leader named Abdullah Al-Shami.

Meanwhile, defense attorneys are fighting government plans to recall two computer experts to introduce evidence from an Islamic Jihad Web site called Qudsway. com. Assistant U.S. Attorney Terry Zitek said the FBI experts discovered new information after testifying in June.

The evidence shows Salah Abu Hassanein, the recipient of many money transfers from Fariz, used the Web page to communicate with Fariz and others.

Agents also have determined that the Web site is based in Tehran, Iran, a country that provides the Islamic Jihad with the bulk of its funding.

Allison Guagliardo, another of Fariz's attorneys, argued that the evidence is coming too late for the defense to prepare adequately. Their computer expert estimates needing four to six weeks to analyze the new material.

"At this point," she said, "it's way too late in the game for us to be able to deal with this," she said.

She added that information from Web sites constitutes hearsay and cannot pass legal hurdles. Moody deferred ruling on the motion until he receives more specific information from the defense experts.

#### (CHART) WHAT HAPPENED

Prosecutors and defense attorneys offer varying interpretations of money the defendants sent to a Palestinian charity from 2001 to 2003.

Reporter Michael Fechter can be reached at (813) 259-7621.

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## Notes

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COURTS

## Graphic

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PHOTO CHART



Prosecutors, Al-Arian Defense Dispute Payment

Defense attorney Stephen Bernstein pressed an FBI witness about a shipment of books discussed in a taped phone call.

**Load-Date:** September 26, 2005

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End of Document

## **Arab Summit Meeting Collapses Over Reforms**

The New York Times

March 28, 2004 Sunday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2004 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section 1; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 18

**Length:** 634 words

**Byline:** By NEIL MacFARQUHAR

**Dateline:** TUNIS, Tunisia, March 27

### **Body**

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The summit meeting of Arab leaders billed as the first serious effort to make a collective commitment to democratic reforms ended Saturday before it began, with the host nation, Tunisia, insisting that it be postponed indefinitely.

In a statement, the Tunisian government said it felt that the commitment of Arab states toward reforms -- from human rights to a greater role for women -- was insufficient for the 22 foreign ministers gathered here to hammer out an agreement on common goals that the heads of state would endorse.

"It became clear that there was a variance of positions on proposals related to fundamental issues on modernisation, democratic reform, human rights, the rights of women and the role of civil society," the statement said.

Some foreign ministers had refused to include certain words like "democracy" and "parliament" and "civil society," said Oussama Romdhani, an official spokesman for the Tunisian government. Officials who took part in the meeting said the very idea of supporting nongovernmental organizations as the building block for civil society had dragged on for four hours.

Even by the erratic standards of Arab summit meetings, long marked by very public displays of anger and mutual insults, the sudden cancellation of the such an important gathering just before it was to begin seemed to come as a surprise.

"They thought the issues were so serious that we cannot finalize a resolution in a hasty way for the heads of state to sign," said Sheik Muhammad Sabah al-Salem al-Sabah, the foreign minister of Kuwait.

Most ministers were tight-lipped, refusing to even comment on a decision that they said had been made by Tunis in the absence of any consultation with them. Some rejected the idea that there had been no agreement on the various issues, saying the Tunisians seemed to have some unspecified reason of their own for wanting to cancel.

Amr Moussa, the secretary general of the Arab League, had said during a news conference earlier in the day that there had been "heated discussions" swirling around the issue, but he expect those attending the meeting to reach some form of consensus. The Bush administration had made no secret of its desire for the meeting to end with a strong statement backing more open, democratic change in the Middle East. For Washington, an echo of

## Arab Summit Meeting Collapses Over Reforms

democratic change across a region marked by autocratic governments would help justify the decision to go to war to topple Saddam Hussein.

But Washington got off on the wrong foot when its Middle East proposal, which laid out a blueprint it hoped the Arab states would follow, was leaked before any Arab leader was aware of its contents.

Many Arab governments had objected to discussing reforms under such direct pressure from the United States. That was particularly true after Israel killed Sheik Ahmed Yassin, the spiritual leader of **Hamas**, in Gaza days before the meeting.

Some Arab states thought it would send the wrong signal to emphasize reform at the meeting when the peace effort was in disarray. "We spent almost the entire first day just over the order of items on the agenda, and it was such an acrimonious debate," one participant said.

Another factor was the absence of Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, who had said he would not attend. No official reason was given. But Al Riyadh, a Saudi daily that often reflects official thinking, published an editorial on Saturday saying the meeting was doomed to fail.

Among the reasons cited was the fact that too many small states were pushing their own initiatives on reform, rather than letting the larger states come up with an overarching plan that all could support. Saudi Arabia had been working with Syria and Egypt on a plan.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

**Load-Date:** March 28, 2004

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End of Document

**WHEN TERROR BITES INTO YOUR SANDWICH;  
FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR STEVE BIRD OVER A RESTAURANT SNACK**

Birmingham Post

March 24, 2004, Wednesday

Copyright 2004 Midland Independent Newspapers plc

**Section:** First Edition; FEATURES; Pg. 10

**Length:** 619 words

**Byline:** STEVE BIRD

## **Body**

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Sitting in a fried chicken fast-food restaurant yesterday, perusing the morning papers, including the Birmingham Post, it suddenly occurred to me how radically the world had changed since September 11, 2001. I'm not sure why it had taken so long for me to appreciate this fully (presumably most people have absorbed this already) but while wincing at an awful picture of the shattered remains of the wheelchair of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, spiritual leader of Hamas, I suddenly found myself looking around the restaurant for discarded and suspicious bags or parcels.

I know it was a Israeli missile that killed him, but for some reason, suddenly, grabbing a quick lunch in an American junk food bar, in the middle of the nation's second city, had taken on dark and worrying connotations.

Giving a shudder and getting a grip of myself -tutting for having too vivid an imagination -I returned to the news.

Needless to say the report went on to detail the threatened backlash from the Palestinians and, despite condemnation from around the world, the dogged determination of Israel not to change their policies regarding the Palestinian question.

Meanwhile, in Pakistan government soldiers, along with American and British troops on the Afghan side of the border, continue to hunt down al Qaida terrorists after a hundred suspected members had been rounded up.

In Iraq terrorists, suspected to have al Qaida connections, continue to kill and maim at will in order to do anything they can to destabilise the transition to a fully elected democracy. A demonstration about conditions in Basra had erupted on the news of Yassin's killing leaving several British soldiers injured.

In Madrid, with a new government in place, citizens still mourn the rail massacre victims and police are hunting down the increasing likely al Qaida culprits.

In Indonesia, needless to say, I doubt whether holiday revellers revel quite so easily in the bars and clubs any more.

The French, who you would have assumed would be safe, after their refusal to join the coalition to sort out Iraq, suddenly find that they have to reassess their security as threats materialise regarding the headscarves in schools controversy.

## WHEN TERROR BITES INTO YOUR SANDWICH; FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR STEVE BIRD OVER A RESTAURANT SNACK

In Britain David Blunkett is busily revising security measures along with European counterparts and in America the upcoming presidential election seems to hang on how the war on terror is being handled.

And here I sit, literally yards from the newly-opened European shopping capital, the Bullring, wondering if that Harvey Nicks bag actually belongs to the women devouring the triple chicken burger.

What to do? How will this growing threat be defeated -for defeated it surely must be. You can't negotiate with hundreds of bearded chaps with rucksacks full of semtex.

George Bush, not renowned for his grip on international affairs -or for having a cranium stuffed with brain cells for that matter -was right about one thing. The world is at war with terrorists.

And climbing Big Ben will not appease them. Nor marching through the streets of London.

This is a war where all of us in this multi-racial country of ours have to be counted. We have to darken our thoughts and start to think about the kind of atrocities they commit and look out for the danger signs.

We've been here before and not that long ago. Birmingham is not a stranger to the terrorist outrage. For anyone who remembers the pub bombings of 1974, there's a sinister feeling of deja vu.

But we should not panic, for then they are winning, but just keep an eye out for the obvious during the course of our routine days. Not alarmed but alert, as David Blunkett has frequently suggested recently.

Diligence could be our saviour in the weeks and months to come.

**Load-Date:** March 24, 2004

## *Israeli teen kills four on bus: Mob then beats him*

National Post (f/k/a The Financial Post) (Canada)

August 5, 2005 Friday

National Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. A10

**Length:** 639 words

**Byline:** Yuval Afriat, Reuters, with files from news services

**Dateline:** SHFARAM, Israel

### **Body**

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SHFARAM, Israel - A soldier from a Jewish settlement on the West Bank shot dead four people on a bus in an Israeli Arab town yesterday in what Prime Minister Ariel Sharon called an attack by a "bloodthirsty terrorist" before the Gaza pullout.

The teenage attacker, who was wearing Israeli army uniform and the skullcap of a religious Jew, was beaten to death by residents of the northern Galilee town of Shfaram, who stormed the bus and smashed the windows.

Security agencies had warned that Jewish militants against the evacuation of Gaza settlements, which is due to start in two weeks, could attack Palestinians in a bid to wreck a pullout they see as abandoning a biblical birthright.

**Hamas** threatened reprisals for the shooting, the deadliest by a Jewish radical since 29 Palestinians were killed in 1994.

Mr. Sharon called it "a sinful act by a bloodthirsty terrorist."

"This terror incident is a deliberate attempt to harm the relations between the citizens of Israel. Terror between civilians is the most dangerous thing for the future of Israel and its democratic stability," his office said in a statement.

The army named the gunman as Eden Nathan Zaada, 19, and said he had "deserted and was of a problematic background." Other reports called him Eden Tzuberi.

Police said the teen had been living at Tapuach, home to some of the most extreme settlers. It is dominated by followers of the U.S.-born Rabbi Meir Kahane, who believed in expelling Arabs from Israel. Mr. Kahane was murdered in New York in 1990.

Zaada's father, Yitzhak, told the Israeli news Web site Ynet his son had left his home in Rishon Letzion, near Tel Aviv, for the West Bank settlement after failing to report back to his military duty two months ago. He was a staunch opponent of Israel's planned Gaza pullout and left a note at his base that condemned the plan, the Web site said.

Witnesses described how the teen boarded the bus and got into an altercation with the driver before opening fire. While Palestinians are forbidden to carry firearms in Israel, Jewish Israelis are allowed to bear arms.

## Israeli teen kills four on bus: Mob then beats him

The police later said the dead -- all Israeli Arabs -- included the driver and two **female** passengers. Twelve people were also wounded as the gunman sprayed a magazine of bullets at passengers.

In the chaotic aftermath, there were reports the bus was surrounded by a mob throwing stones and bottles and trying to get at the shooter.

Police tried to intervene but failed, and the gunman was eventually killed by the crowd. Five policemen were injured.

The government has accused some ultranationalists of trying to incite violence before implementation of the plan to remove 9,000 settlers from Gaza and a corner of the West Bank, the first time Israel will uproot settlements from land Palestinians want for a state.

Mainstream settler leaders, who have vowed peaceful resistance, condemned the attack.

"Such incidents cannot be part of the democratic struggle in Israel," said Benzi Lieberman, chairman of the Yesha settler council, from a demonstration outside the Gaza Strip where thousands have gathered to protest against the pullout.

Mr. Sharon says the Gaza withdrawal plan aims at "disengaging" from conflict with the Palestinians. Opponents say it gives up a biblical claim to the land captured in the 1967 war and rewards terrorists who staged attacks in Israel and the territories over the past five years.

Polls show most Israelis back Mr. Sharon's plan.

Palestinians welcome the pullout, touted by the United States as a possible step to peacemaking, but fear it is a ruse for Israel to strengthen its hold on West Bank settlements, where plans for new building were revealed yesterday.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said the shooting was a dangerous development and hoped it would not affect the pullout.

Arabs make up about 20% of Israel's population.

## Graphic

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Black & White

Photo: Yedioth Ahronot, AFP, Getty Images; A crowd storms a bus in the village of Shfaram, where a teenaged Israeli soldier was beaten to death after killing four Israeli Arabs.

**Load-Date:** August 5, 2005

## **ISRAELI RAIDS TURN INTO DEADLY FIREFIGHTS**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

March 8, 2004 Monday

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2004 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 597 words

**Byline:** JAMES BENNET, THE NEW YORK TIMES

**Dateline:** NUSSEIRAT REFUGEE CAMP, Gaza Strip

### **Body**

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Israeli armored forces raided the outskirts of two neighboring refugee camps in the Gaza Strip yesterday, igniting a gun-and-grenade battle that lasted for hours and left 14 Palestinians dead.

At least 10 of the dead were gunmen, but Palestinians said three were unarmed youths. These included a 9-year-old boy who had told his mother he was going to school but apparently went to watch the fighting instead. No Israelis were wounded.

It was the deadliest single Israeli raid in more than a year. Witnesses and the army described a bedlam of gunfire and explosions of grenades and firebombs after Israeli tanks and helicopter gunships moved on the camps and mosque loudspeakers summoned gunmen to jihad.

After dawn, hundreds of children and teenagers, some of them flinging stones from improvised slings, swarmed the uncertain edges of the congested battlefield, a mix of orange orchards in fragrant bloom and fetid, sandy camp lanes.

Eighty-three people were injured, including 40 under the age of 18, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry.

The Israeli army said soldiers were searching for weapons and for militants responsible for firing mortar bombs and antitank missiles at nearby Jewish settlements.

The Israeli forces eventually withdrew under what the army described as extraordinarily heavy Palestinian fire, including antitank missiles, mortar bombs and rocket-propelled grenades. They did not make any arrests or seize any weapons.

The raid came a day after a brazen suicidal Palestinian assault on an Israeli-controlled boundary crossing from Gaza. That attack on Saturday killed the four assailants and two Palestinian policemen without harming any Israelis.

It suggested a new daring by militants as the governing Palestinian Authority crumbles and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon speaks of an eventual, unilateral withdrawal from most or all of the Gaza Strip.



## ISRAELI RAIDS TURN INTO DEADLY FIREFIGHTS

Raanan Gissin, spokesman for Sharon, said of the raid yesterday, "This is a signal to show that even though there are talks about disengagement, we are not going to let them use these camps to launch their attacks."

He said soldiers tried to avoid hurting civilians. He expressed regret for the deaths of the children but said, "The children flock to the gunmen. No doubt the gunmen are using them."

Palestinians accused Israel of conducting the attack in hopes of drawing out and killing militants.

In a statement, the Islamic militant group **Hamas** identified nine of the dead as members of its violent wing. Two were known to be particularly active in firing mortar bombs and rockets at Israeli targets.

Nusseirat and the neighboring Bureij camp held a ritual yesterday that is grimly familiar to the residents. Middle-aged and elderly men gathered to sit quietly on plastic chairs outside the homes of the dead, **women** gathered to sit on the floors inside, and young men and boys lofted the bodies through the streets in roiling crowds, shouting that God is great.

The Israeli army frequently enters Palestinian cities in the West Bank in what it says are searches for wanted men, and gunmen now seldom resist those raids. But in Gaza, militants continue to fight back. An Israeli raid into Gaza City on Feb. 11 left 12 Palestinians dead, and another on Jan. 28 left eight dead. In both cases, most of the dead were gunmen.

The army said the fight here was unusual in that the Palestinians responded so quickly, and with considerable firepower. The Palestinian fire actually intensified during the withdrawal, the army said. At least one armored vehicle was partly disabled and had to be rescued.

## Graphic

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PHOTO: Mohammed Abed/Agence France-Presse/Getty Images: Palestinians run to take cover from Israeli fire during clashes yesterday in the Nusseirat refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

**Load-Date:** March 8, 2004

## **YOU'RE AS BAD AS THE GESTAPO, SAY GAZA PROTESTERS**

The Express  
August 17, 2005

Copyright 2005 EXPRESS NEWSPAPERS

**Section:** U.K. 1st Edition; NEWS; Pg. 9

**Length:** 644 words

**Byline:** GABRIEL MILLAND

### **Body**

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TENSIONS boiled over in the Gaza Strip last night as the deadline for Jewish settlers to leave their homes passed.

Jews called fellow Jews "Nazis" and shouted "You are as bad as the Gestapo" as insults were hurled at soldiers clashing with angry settlers determined to stay put. Protesters pelted troops with eggs, stones and paint-filled balloons. Some were left with bloodied faces, others tried to persuade the soldiers - many as young as 18 - to switch sides.

About 50 people were arrested after scuffles in Neve Dekalim - the largest Jewish settlement in Gaza - during which bins were set alight and water cannons put on standby.

Security forces were forced to cut through the settlement gate with an electric saw as crowds of protesters blocked the entrance.

The violence broke out after security forces attempted to disperse hundreds of protesters, mostly youths, who tried to block removal vehicles from entering the area.

One policeman was seen being led away from the scene with blood coming from his mouth. According to Israeli TV, an activist had poured acid on his face.

By early afternoon the chaotic scenes had largely subsided, as settlers' leaders addressed the crowds and asked that they let the vehicles through.

Gaza's 8,500 Jewish settlers had until midnight local time last night (10pm British time) to leave voluntarily. Israeli officials claimed yesterday that nearly half have already left of their own accord.

Those who remain beyond the deadline face forcible eviction and could also lose a third of their state compensation ranging from £83,000 to £220,000 per family.

"The only way is out, " said Eival Giladi, strategic co-ordinator of the pull-out. "This plan is going as scheduled. Close to 50 per cent of the residents have left. I would say that in a few days, there will be no Jewish settlers or infiltrators left in Gaza."

Dugit, a northern secular settlement, was completely emptied of its 79 residents, an army official reported yesterday. But elsewhere witnesses told how some settlers - many of them women and children - were involved in confrontations with their own troops.

## YOU'RE AS BAD AS THE GESTAPO, SAY GAZA PROTESTERS

The soldiers have been ordered to remain in the area until every settler has left. Israel's defence minister Shaul Mofaz said: "We will make every effort to have law and order in this process and anyone who acts illegally will be treated according to the law."

In contrast to Mr Giladi, he estimated that the evacuation would take about a month to complete and said that the Palestinians will not be allowed in until the army leaves. Confrontations between the troops and the settlers are expected to worsen once the enforced evictions begin.

Troops are likely to begin by removing the thousands of hardliners from Israel and the West Bank who have joined the protesting settlers out of solidarity.

This is the first time that Israel has agreed to dismantle settlements built on Palestinian land seized in 1967.

In a TV address on Monday, Premier Ariel Sharon said Israel could not "hold on to Gaza forever" and that withdrawing was the best way to ensure security.

The Gaza Strip is home to 1.4 million Palestinians, many of whom were celebrating yesterday. Militant group **Hamas** views the pull-out as a victory and has promised not to attack the troops and settlers as they leave.

Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas has hailed the withdrawal as "historic" but said Israel should also pull out of the West Bank.

Watching the troops enter, 49-year-old resident Ofra Siton said: "I feel ashamed tonight and I will destroy my home."

The World Court describes Israeli settlements as illegal but Israel disputes this.

White House spokeswoman Dana Perino told reporters in Crawford, Texas, where US President George W Bush was on holiday yesterday: "Mr Bush supports Prime Minister Sharon and his bold initiatives and believes that this will strengthen Israel."

**Load-Date:** August 17, 2005

## **Angry women protest hijab ban**

The Toronto Star  
January 18, 2004 Sunday  
Ontario Edition

Copyright 2004 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A07

**Length:** 463 words

**Byline:** Ho Anderson, Toronto Star ; Canadian Press

**Highlight:** Thousands march in worldwide demonstrations Racism in guise of secularism, says Toronto activist

### **Body**

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**Women** outraged by France's plan to ban the wearing of the hijab in public schools demonstrated in Toronto and around the world yesterday.

More than 100 people, mostly **women**, crowded outside the French consulate on Bloor St. W. near Avenue Rd.

"It's important to expose it as the racism it is because if people think it's about defending secularism in schools they might be swayed by it, but it's clear they're only targeting Muslims," local activist Michelle Robidoux of the Toronto Coalition to Stop the War said in an interview.

The group was founded to protest last year's war in Iraq, and was one of a number that helped organize the protest.

"This is part of how many Muslim **women** dress, a part of their religious expression," she said of the headscarf.

About a dozen police officers guided pedestrian traffic and watched the peaceful demonstration. A parade of activists and organizers spoke out against France's proposed ban which also includes yarmulkes and large crosses. If passed, the ban could be extended to political symbols like kaffiyehs and anti-war pins.

According to Robidoux, the ban was ostensibly put forward to protect secularism in French schools. But she sees it more as a means of dividing and conquering the student population.

"How is secularism defended by excluding Muslim **women** from school?"

The hijab, controversial to some because it partly symbolizes Muslim **women**'s subservience to men, could be seen on the heads of many at the protest.

Tarek Fatah, host of the weekly television show Muslim Chronicles, came to show his support. While he feels it's wrong that laws exist that force **women** to wear the hijab, he finds a ban "equally despicable."

"I'm here to show solidarity with Muslim **women** who choose to wear hijab," Fatah said. "My wife and daughter don't but that's their choice."

## Angry women protest hijab ban

Amima Juma, 18, stood with a group of friends, all of whom wore the hijab. "I think the thing they're doing in France is completely ridiculous for the fact that they say they're about liberty and fraternity and pluralism in the country, but they're really not when you're basically trying to pass a law that forbids us from wearing what we want to wear."

In Paris, about 10,000 marched for four hours and urged French legislators to scrap the bill that will go before parliament next month. In London, 2,400 people demonstrated near the French embassy in upscale Knightsbridge. Waving placards, they chanted: "If this is democracy, we say 'No, merci!'"

Across the Middle East, protesters denounced the French ban. The largest turnout was in the Lebanese capital of Beirut, where some 2,500 people marched. Smaller rallies drew up to 100 people each in the Jordanian capital of Amman, in Cairo and in Kuwait.

Some 300 Palestinian women protested in the West Bank city of Nablus.

## Graphic

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MOHAMMED SALEM/reuters A Hamas supporter holds a copy of the Qur'an as she attends a demonstration in Gaza City yesterday against plans by the French government to ban the Islamic headscarf from schools. MICHEL SPINGLER/ap Women chant during a demonstration in Lille, in northern France, yesterday. The proposed ban would also include yarmulkes and large crosses at public schools. Tannis Toohey/toronto star Muslims protest at the French consulate in Toronto. About a dozen police officers were on hand. MICHEL SPINGLER/ap Women chant during a demonstration in Lille, in northern France, yesterday. The proposed ban would also include yarmulkes and large crosses at public schools. Tannis Toohey/toronto star Muslims protest at the French consulate in Toronto. About a dozen police officers were on hand.

**Load-Date:** January 18, 2004

## *The art of useless condemnation*

Philadelphia Inquirer

August 14, 2005 Sunday CITY-D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** CURRENTS; Pg. C07

**Length:** 739 words

### **Body**

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David D. Perlmutter

is an associate professor of mass communication and a senior fellow at the Reilly Center for Media & Public Affairs at Louisiana State University

Call it the prewritten script of terrorism. After the deed, after the horror on the front pages and the television and Web screens, come the ritual condemnations. World leaders attack the heinous crimes. Clergy and women revile the perversion of religion. Even other terrorist groups, seeking to separate their cause from the present outrage, denounce the terror.

Condemnations also become political issues. How sincere are they? Who should make them? How quickly? How clearly? What is their wording?

Instead, we should ask a simpler question. Do condemnations against terrorism work? Do they have any effect on the terrorists, their supporters, or, more important, murderers-in-waiting, cells yet to be activated, or young men mulling over the decision to take up a backpack and bomb?

Certainly, condemnations fill news copy. My students and I found several thousand print, television and Internet stories dealing with somebody's denunciation of the London bombings, for example. Condemnations may also make victims feel better: the world standing with them, as the saying goes. In addition, censure of terrorism is politically revealing when it is flawed or insincere.

But stated disapproval of terrorism probably has no effect against terrorists, present or future, for several reasons. First, condemnations have become too predictable and repetitive, like a police force responding to a crime by rounding up the usual suspects. When some act of terror occurs, it seems almost everyone in any position of authority holds a news conference to condemn it. Yet, in media-effects research we know that while it is true that repeating any message helps us remember it, oversaturation diminishes its impact or leads us to tune it out.

Second, condemnations have limited value when we suspect that they are self-serving political opportunism. So when we hear a leader of a repressive regime elsewhere in the world condemn terror, we should wonder if what he means is: "Good, now I can crack down harder on my opponents and call it antiterrorism."

## The art of useless condemnation

Conversely, in the case of the London attacks, the condolences by other terrorist groups who use the same tactics, like **Hamas**, cannot be taken seriously.

Then there is the problem of loophole condemnations, full of obscure language or irreverent points. For example, after the July 7 attacks, a group of British Muslim leaders issued a well-publicized censure of terrorism. Unfortunately, they prefaced their condemnation by the following: "The tragedy of July 7 demands that all of us, both in public life and in civil and religious society, confront together the problems of Islamophobia, racism, unemployment, economic deprivation, and social exclusion - factors that may be alienating some of our children and driving them toward the path of anger and desperation." In other words, all the fault, according to them, was on the British government and society, and on factors that will not be solved in the foreseeable future.

The use of the word children, however, is significant. Almost all terrorists - the ones who kill and kill themselves if not their paymasters and organizers - are indeed young males. That makes loophole condemnations counterproductive. Imagine telling your child the following: "You did something bad, but you were completely justified in doing it because other people are at fault for alienating you and driving you to do it." We would call that bad parental guidance; likewise, it is poor antiterrorism rhetoric.

Even more ominous, does it really matter to angry young men what distant elders say to them, vaguely or concretely? We would not expect an American 18-year-old to stop binge-drinking, for example, because his senator, some group of clergymen, or the King of Belgium held a news conference to condemn the act. Would-be terrorist males are even more impervious to attitude change. In fact, they may be more energized for terror by wanting to rebel against authority, a trait not uncommon in the teenager.

So, yes, we should all condemn terrorism, but to solve the problem of terrorism we have to find ways to address future terrorists on the street level, among their peers, in their private rooms, and not just ritualistically through news conferences and speeches.

David D. Perlmutter ([dperlm@lsu.edu](mailto:dperlm@lsu.edu))

**Load-Date:** August 14, 2005

**Gaza Strip settlement empties ahead of withdrawal deadline: Rows of homes left abandoned as protests mount**

The Calgary Herald (Alberta)

August 12, 2005 Friday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A19

**Length:** 619 words

**Byline:** Ravi Nessman, The Associated Press

**Dateline:** NISSANIT, Gaza Strip

## **Body**

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One of Israel's largest Gaza Strip settlements was a virtual ghost town Thursday.

With less than a week before the Israeli pullout begins, most residents have cleared out of Nissanit, leaving rows of abandoned homes and lawns littered with discarded furniture and garbage.

Israeli officials urged the thousands of settlers who remain to follow suit and leave their homes before soldiers come to remove them.

Tens of thousands of anti-pullout demonstrators gathered Thursday in Tel Aviv to denounce the impending withdrawal, the last in a series of large-scale protests in recent weeks.

U.S. President George W. Bush endorsed the withdrawal in an interview broadcast Thursday on Israel TV. "The disengagement is, I think, a part of making Israel more secure and peaceful," he said.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon repeatedly has said he will not back down from his plan to remove about 9,000 Jewish settlers from 21 settlements in Gaza and four in the northern West Bank in a massive military operation scheduled to begin Wednesday.

Nissanit, a community of about 1,100 people at the northern edge of the coastal strip, was nearly deserted.

The furniture, windows and even the red roof tiles had been removed from many of the houses, leaving them empty shells, their yards filled with boxes and broken hunks of plastic furniture. A small pink bike lay abandoned next to one house.

Two women hugged and cried in the middle of the street. A few people filled pickup trucks with the last remaining boxes and chairs they needed to move.

Israeli flags, small signs of protest, flew over many of the empty houses, each marked with small "X" by the army. "Sharon is garbage; you destroyed our lives," read graffiti on one house.



Gaza Strip settlement empties ahead of withdrawal deadline: Rows of homes left abandoned as protests mount

"It looks awful. It hurts my heart to see the houses like this," said Yossi Elus, a 30-year-old electrician from the settlement, as he removed air conditioners for his neighbours.

A small group of people who recently moved here to protest the pullout said they planned to stay until troops force them out.

Israeli officials do not expect strong resistance from the residents of Nissanit. Settlers in some isolated settlements in central Gaza and the Gush Katif cluster of settlements farther south are expected to be more problematic.

The military commander in charge of the pullout appealed on Thursday to all the settlers to leave their homes quietly. "After the 17th, the only thing left will be for them to fight with the army," Brig.-Gen. Dan Harel said.

In Neve Dekalim, with 2,700 residents the largest settlement to be evacuated, many of the stores in the town square were closed and the supermarket shelves were half empty. The town's post office was closed and a sign on the door read: "The post office is closed in anticipation of redemption." The settlement's residents are Orthodox Jews.

A few people were packing their belongings, but most were expected to defy the deadline.

The settlement was crowded Thursday with hundreds of teenagers, many of them reinforcements from outside Gaza.

Police estimate that 2,000 pullout opponents have infiltrated Gaza in recent weeks and settler leaders have said thousands more were on the way. To prevent this, the army on Thursday banned all visitors from entering Gaza.

Israeli and Palestinian officials also are concerned that Palestinian militants will attack soldiers during the pullout to give the impression they are driving Israel out.

The Islamic group **Hamas** agreed to co-operate with the Palestinian Authority in ensuring a smooth transition during the withdrawal, officials said Thursday.

Also Thursday, Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas ordered Palestinian security forces to protect foreigners in the Gaza Strip, a statement from his office said.

## Graphic

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Photo: Emilio Morenatti, Associated Press; A Jewish settler sets up an Israeli flag on a rooftop before leaving his home in Nassanit, the Gaza Strip, Thursday.;

Photo: Emilio Morenatti, Associated Press; Israeli flags and other items are left behind in a house recently emptied by a family in the Jewish settlement of Nissanit, the Gaza Strip, Thursday.

**Load-Date:** August 12, 2005

## *Isolating Iran will only strengthen hardliners*

The Toronto Star  
June 26, 2005 Sunday

Copyright 2005 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

**Section:** OPINION; Pg. A17

**Length:** 702 words

**Dateline:** BERLIN

### **Body**

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The Bush administration paints Iran as a totalitarian state run by dictatorial mullahs itching to get their hands on a nuclear bomb.

This view is echoed by two pro-American factions of the 3 million-strong Iranian diaspora: the terrorist Mujahideen on the left and the monarchists on the right, who daydream of installing the late shah's son on a restored Persian throne. This unholy troika, however, has little credibility outside the U.S.

Europe, and Germany, in particular, has a more nuanced view.

Unlike Washington, it does not consider outgoing president Mohammed Khatami to have been a total failure.

The Conservatives, who control key parts of the government did, indeed, checkmate him at every turn. Frustrated, he was reportedly ready to give up after his first term in 2001 but was persuaded to carry on.

Now, according to a well-informed source, Khatami may, in fact, leave Iran and return to Germany, where he spent his exile years during the reign of the Shah and learned to speak German. Or, he may move to Vienna.

Despite all that, Khatami did make a difference. He argued for the compatibility of democracy and Islam. As he elegantly put it: "The perceived dichotomy between liberty and religion has been removed."

By being a moderate and intellectually refined cleric, he de-legitimized the hardliners who, since the 1979 revolution, had been invoking Islam to justify their harsh policies.

He empowered voters to demand accountability from their leaders.

He helped end secret executions and assassinations, as Nobel Laureate Shirin Ebadi said last week. He had the fatwa against author Salman Rushdie revoked. He opened relations with Saudi Arabia and other Arab neighbours. He normalized relations with Germany and most of Europe.

But Khatami failed in his primary goal: establishing the rule of law. He did not stop censorship, the closing down of newspapers and the jailing of intellectuals and writers.

Khatami also stood by as the conservatives stole back control of parliament and, now, the presidency.

## Isolating Iran will only strengthen hardliners

The election to choose his successor has been tainted by credible reports of vote buying and stuffing of ballot boxes to eliminate moderates from the final round of balloting Friday.

Yet, Iran's democracy is far more advanced than the minimalist steps in Egypt, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan that George W. Bush hails as proof of his drive to democratize the region.

Iranian women, while disbarred from the presidential election, have made impressive gains compared to their counterparts in Arab lands.

Bush also never mentions that while the governments he cites are pro-American, their publics are anti-American. The opposite is true of Iran.

A majority of Iranians want to normalize relations with the U.S. But most disagree with Bush's reasons for demonizing Iran: its nuclear program and its support for Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Israeli-occupied territories, both branded terrorists by America but considered by Iran as legitimate resistance groups.

Iranians are also averse to any hint of American intervention. That's the legacy of the 1953 pro-Shah coup organized by the CIA. Bush's belligerency, therefore, only strengthens the hardliners.

Iran did mislead the world on its nuclear program but it has not violated any international treaty. It will agree to strict international supervision but will not give up its right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Nor will it agree to be a vassal of Washington.

Europe understands. Germany, in particular, is also sensitive to Iran's security concerns.

American troops in Afghanistan and Iraq surround Iran. Nuclear Israel, India and Pakistan refuse to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Iran wants to be vigilant.

Iran is an important regional power. Its population is three times that of Iraq. It is an old civilization with a great intellectual and cultural tradition and a strong sense of its Shiite identity. Under Khatami, it has seen the potential to develop into a democracy and become the Shiite equivalent of moderate Sunni Turkey and Malaysia.

Isolating Iran is the worst possible course to follow.

Haroon Siddiqui is the Star's editorial page editor emeritus. His column appears Thursday and Sunday. [hsiddiq @ thestar.ca](mailto:hsiddiq@thestar.ca).

**Load-Date:** June 26, 2005

## **TERRORISM: Even sincere censures have little effect**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

August 15, 2005 Monday

Home Edition

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### **The Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** Editorial;

**Length:** 728 words

**Byline:** DAVID D. PERLMUTTER

### **Body**

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Call it the pre-written script of terrorism. After the deed, after the horror on the front pages and the television and Web screens, come the ritual condemnations. World leaders attack the "heinous crimes." Clergymen and women revile "the perversion of religion." Even other terrorist groups, seeking to separate their cause from the present outrage, denounce the terror.

Condemnations also become political issues. How sincere are they? Who should make them? How quickly? How clearly? What is their wording?

Instead, we should ask a simpler question. Do condemnations against terrorism work? That is, do they have any effect on the terrorists, their supporters or, more important, murderers-in-waiting, cells yet to be activated or young men mulling over the decision to take up a backpack and bomb?

Certainly, condemnations fill news copy. My students and I found several thousand print, television and Internet stories dealing with somebody's denunciation of the London bombings, for example. Condemnations may also make victims feel better: the world "standing with them," as the saying goes. In addition, censure of terrorism is politically revealing when it is flawed or insincere.

But stated disapproval of terrorism probably has no effect on terrorists, present or future, for several reasons. First, condemnations have become too predictable and repetitive, like a police force responding to a crime by rounding up the "usual suspects." When some act of terror occurs, it seems almost everyone in any position of authority holds a news conference to condemn it. Yet, in media effects research we know that while it is true that repeating any message helps us remember it, oversaturation diminishes its impact or leads us to tune it out.

Second, condemnations have limited value when we suspect that they are self-serving political opportunism. So when we hear a leader of a repressive regime elsewhere in the world condemn terror, we should wonder if what he means is "Good, now I can crack down harder on my opponents and call it anti-terrorism." Conversely, in the case of the London attacks, the condolences by other terrorist groups who use the same tactics, such as Hamas, cannot be taken seriously.

## TERRORISM: Even sincere censures have little effect

Then there is the problem of "loophole condemnations" full of obscure language or irreverent points. For example, after the July 7 attacks, a group of British Muslim leaders issued a well-publicized censure of terrorism. Unfortunately, they prefaced their "condemnation" with the following: "The tragedy of July 7 demands that all of us, both in public life and in civil and religious society, confront together the problems of Islamophobia, racism, unemployment, economic depravation [sic] and social exclusion --- factors that may be alienating some of our children and driving them towards the path of anger and desperation."

In other words, all the fault, according to them, was on the British government and society, and on "factors" that will not be solved in the foreseeable future.

The use of the word "children," however, is significant. Almost all terrorists --- the ones who kill and kill themselves if not their paymasters and organizers --- are young males. That makes loophole condemnations counterproductive.

Imagine telling your child the following: "You did something bad, but you were completely justified in doing it because other people are at fault for alienating you and driving you to do it." We would call that bad parental guidance; likewise, it is poor anti-terrorism rhetoric.

Even more ominous, does it really matter to angry young men what distant elders say to them? We would not expect an American 18-year-old to stop binge drinking, for example, because his senator, some group of clergymen or the king of Belgium held a news conference to condemn the act. Would-be terrorist males are even more impenetrable to attitude change. In fact, they may be more energized for terror by wanting to rebel against "authority," a trait not uncommon in the teenager.

So, yes, we should all condemn terrorism, but to solve the problem of terrorism we have to find ways to address future terrorists on the street level, among their peers, in their private rooms, and not just ritualistically through news conferences and speeches.

David P. Perlmutter is a senior fellow and an associate professor of mass communication at Louisiana State University.

## Graphic

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David P. Perlmutter

**Load-Date:** August 16, 2005

**INSIDE TODAY'S PAPER; News & Views in Record time**

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

January 15, 2004 Thursday Final Edition

Copyright 2004 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** FRONT; Pg. A2; NEWS

**Length:** 602 words

**Body**

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WHEELS

BMW is known for sedans that feel like roadsters and sport utility vehicles that feel like sedans. The 2005 X5 SUV looks much like its predecessors, but under the skin has much that's new.

THAT'S INTERESTING . . .

WORTH QUOTING

## INSIDE TODAY'S PAPER; News &amp; Views in Record time

If Shakespeare had to go on an author tour to promote Romeo and Juliet, he never would have written Macbeth.

Dr. Joyce Brothers

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Queen Elizabeth I was crowned 445 years ago today, in 1559. The only child of King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, Elizabeth took England through one of its greatest eras. Her 45-year reign marked the growth of commerce, the defeat of the Spanish Armada and the flourishing of art, music and literature.

Also on this date in:

1535 -- Henry VIII declared himself head of English Church.

1831 -- The first U.S.-built locomotive to pull a passenger train made its first run.

1895 -- Tchaikovsky's ballet Swan Lake opened in St. Petersburg, Russia.

1919 -- Twenty-one people drowned and 150 were injured when more than 75,000 hectolitres (2 million U.S. gallons) of molasses flooded a section of Boston. The accident in a north-end industrial area occurred when the giant tank containing the crude molasses ruptured, and its entire contents spilled within seconds.

1976 -- Sara Jane Moore was sentenced to a life term for trying to assassinate U.S. President Gerald Ford.

1986 -- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev proposed eliminating nuclear weapons by the year 2000.

## STATISTICS CANADA

Recent production data suggest that by the end of 2003, Canada had been producing almost 15 per cent of the world's supply of diamonds, making it the third largest producer, behind Botswana and Russia.

## TODAY'S CHUCKLE

It was so cold today I saw a lawyer with his hands in his own pockets.

## Graphic

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Photo: 2005 BMW X5 SUV

**Load-Date:** January 15, 2004



## **Bomber Kills 3, Injures Dozens At Israeli Seaside**

New York Sun (Archive)

July 13, 2005 Wednesday

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**Section:** FOREIGN; Pg. 7

**Length:** 705 words

**Byline:** By HENRY CHU

**Dateline:** NETANYA, Israel

### **Body**

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A Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up outside a shopping mall in this seaside town yesterday, killing three other people, injuring dozens more, and shattering a long stretch of comparative calm in the weeks before Israel's expected pullout from the Gaza Strip.

The early-evening attack was the first of its kind since the end of February and battered an already shaky truce declared that month by Palestinian Arab militant groups, which agreed to observe a period of quiet up through Israel's evacuation of Jewish settlements in Gaza and the northern West Bank.

Israeli and Palestinian Arab officials quickly condemned the blast, describing it as an attempt to disrupt the withdrawal, scheduled to begin in the middle of next month.

"Once again we return to the same sights [of carnage]," Israel's deputy minister of internal security, Yaacov Edri, told reporters at a hospital where some of the wounded were taken. "It's unbelievable, but we knew that there would be those who would try to sabotage the disengagement process."

The Israeli government has insisted that it will not carry out its "disengagement" plan under fire from Palestinian Arab radicals, but officials said yesterday that the pullout would go on as planned.

"Those who stand behind [the attack] are working against the Palestinian people. No sensible person can do such things on the eve of the withdrawal from Gaza and the northern West Bank," the president of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, said. He promised harsh punishment for those behind the attack.

A wing of the militant group Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility, calling the attack retaliation for Israel's continued pursuit of its members. But as of late yesterday, the organization's central leadership had not put out a formal statement affirming its involvement, as is customary with the group.

Still, of the main Palestinian armed factions, Islamic Jihad had long been considered the most likely to ignore the informal cease-fire because of its hardline stance against Israel, its ties to Iran and Lebanon, and its loose command structure that allows maverick cells to mount their own operations. The last suicide bombing, which killed five people outside a Tel Aviv nightclub on February 25, was the work of Islamic Jihad.

## Bomber Kills 3, Injures Dozens At Israeli Seaside

Yesterday's bomber was identified as 18-year-old Mustafa Ahmed abu Khalil from the West Bank village of Atil, about 10 miles west of Netanya. The Al Jazeera satellite news channel aired a farewell videotape by Khalil in which the young man vowed vengeance against Israel.

There were also reports last night that Israeli forces had moved into Khalil's community and the neighboring Tulkarm, sealing off entrances to a city that was handed over to Palestinian control just four months ago.

Earlier yesterday, about 7 p.m., Khalil was among a knot of pedestrians crossing the street in front of the popular Sharon mall in Netanya, a coastal resort town. In the middle of the crosswalk, he detonated an explosive belt, spraying blood and flesh and radiating a flash of intense heat.

"I felt like a ball of fire was coming down from the sky. We weren't sure what happened, and we ran into the mall," said Adi Menashe, 16, who was heading into the shopping center to buy some balloons. "I saw people lying there. One lady had caught on fire."

Two women were declared dead at the scene, a third victim died soon afterward, and the number of injured topped 60.

No large-scale retaliation by Israel is expected, in part because the government is scrambling to get ready for next month's Gaza pullout and because the other Palestinian militia groups, such as Hamas, have signaled their willingness to abide by the cease-fire.

But Israeli officials repeated their demands that Mr. Abbas disarm the radicals, something the Palestinian leader has been loath to do for fear of igniting civil war among feuding factions, including his own Fatah party.

A meeting scheduled for yesterday evening among Israeli, Palestinian, and American officials to discuss the withdrawal plan was canceled following the blast. Besides the Netanya attack, Islamic Jihad also appeared responsible for an unsuccessful car bombing just minutes before in the West Bank Jewish settlement of Shavei Shomron.

**Load-Date:** July 13, 2005

## *Rice silent on women's rights in Middle East*

Sunday Times (London)

June 26, 2005, Sunday

Copyright 2005 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news; News; 22

**Length:** 691 words

**Byline:** Tony Allen-Mills and Jon Swain

### **Body**

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SHE may be America's most powerful woman but Condoleezza Rice, the US secretary of state, made clear during her tour of the Middle East last week that she is not about to become its most outspoken supporter of women's rights.

During her week-long sweep through Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, Rice steered clear of confrontation over one of the region's most volatile issues -the role of women in Islamic societies.

Her admission that there were "boundaries" to the US drive for democratic reform in the region -notably in Saudi Arabia, where she declined to take up the cause of women, who are barred from driving cars -spurred accusations of American hypocrisy.

Critics claimed it also reduced the effect of a hard-hitting speech in Cairo, where Rice urged Middle Eastern rulers to "abandon the excuses" they had advanced for avoiding the "hard work" of democracy.

She warned the leaders of Egypt and Saudi Arabia -both American allies -that Washington was no longer ready to "pursue stability at the expense of democracy", as it had done for the past 60 years.

But chatting to reporters as she flew from Riyadh to Brussels, Rice was asked why she had "very pointedly" declined to take a public position on the issue of Saudi women.

"It's just a line I've not wanted to cross," she replied. "The United States has to recognise that even after democratic processes have taken place, places are not going to look like the United States ... I think it's important that we do have some boundaries about what we're trying to achieve."

Her response fuelled complaints by human rights activists such as Shirin Ebadi, the Iranian feminist who won the 2003 Nobel Peace prize. Earlier this year Ebadi accused the administration of "hypocrisy" in its attitude to unfriendly nations such as Iran.

"Given the longstanding willingness of the American government to overlook abuses of human rights, particularly women's rights, by close allies in the Middle East such as Saudi Arabia, it is hard not to see the Bush administration's focus on human rights violations in Iran as a cloak for its larger strategic interests," Ebadi said.

State department officials insisted that Rice had spoken out repeatedly about women's rights around the world. "Women's rights are not a 'women's issue'," Paula Dobriansky, undersecretary of state for global affairs, told a

## Rice silent on women's rights in Middle East

recent meeting of Arab businesswomen. "They are a fundamental building block for democracy, prosperity and stability."

Others noted that while Rice made no mention of Saudi discrimination against women in her discussions in Riyadh, she had pressed Saudi officials on the fate of three dissidents who were jailed for presenting officials with a petition calling for a new constitution. In the past Washington has been criticised for ignoring the treatment of opponents to the royal family.

"Condi doesn't see herself as someone who is supposed to carry the torch for women's rights," said one of her associates. "She knows that the absence of women's rights is a major component of backwardness in the Arab world," the associate added. "But just because she's a female I don't think she sees herself pushing disproportionately this part of the democratisation agenda."

Rice pressed the case for greater democracy in Egypt by meeting Ayman Nour, a more moderate dissident figure who intends to challenge President Hosni Mubarak in elections called for September.

Nour goes on trial this week on charges of forging the signatures he needed to register a political party. Most outsiders view the trial as a politically calculated effort to eliminate a potential rival to Mubarak. Despite Rice's intervention, the Egyptian authorities last week barred Nour from leaving the country to address the European parliament.

"The main dilemma that US policy faces is what to do if the democratic process brings to the fore parties taking anti-western, anti-US and anti-Israeli positions," Rice's associate said. US officials are already in a quandary over how to deal with the potential emergence as mainstream political parties of militant groups such as Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Palestinian territories.

**Load-Date:** June 27, 2005

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End of Document

## *Move towards democracy a messy one in the Middle East*

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)

June 7, 2005 Tuesday Final Edition

Copyright 2005 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** OPINIONS; Pg. A9; COLUMN

**Length:** 642 words

**Byline:** RICHARD GWYN

### **Body**

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Something very strange has been happening on the streets of Cairo these past few days. And something equally strange has been taking place in the newspapers of Damascus.

The unusual event in Cairo is that people have been going into the streets and saying what they want.

They are members of an organization called Kefaya -- it means "Enough" -- an alliance of leftists and liberals. Specifically, they are demanding that President Hosni Mubarak allow truly open elections in those planned for parliament and for the presidency later this year.

Torstar News Service

"We want to challenge the culture of fear and unblock the channels of free expression," says Hany Enan, a businessman and a founder of Kefaya.

To do this is extremely daring and is extremely dangerous. Public demonstrations are forbidden in Egypt unless authorized by the government.

The government also has a second line of defence which it has already used against Kefaya. Thugs from the ruling National Democratic Party have attacked the Kefaya demonstrators, hitting the men and tearing the clothes of women.

Nevertheless, the Kefaya rallies have continued. And they are having an "echo" effect. The Muslim Brotherhood, long outlawed, has started to stage its own street rallies, similarly demanding genuine political freedoms.

The events in Syria's capital of Damascus are at one and the same time similar and dissimilar.

There, the unusual is happening in the most conventional of ways -- in government-owned newspapers.

In the daily Tashreen, a Dr. Khalaf Al-Jarrad has called for the ruling Ba'th Party to "take on the difficult and public initiative of self-criticism."

In the same newspaper, a prominent opposition activist, Michel Kilou has declared, "there is no doubt that Syria as a state, as a society, as a regime, has reached the end of its path, and a new beginning is now inevitable."

The controlling hand in Damascus is that President Bashar Al-Assad's. He seems to be undertaking a kind of perestroika or openness in the manner of the former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. His Ba'th Party holds a

## Move towards democracy a messy one in the Middle East

convention this week, and Assad seems to be attempting a top-down reform of his own authoritarian regime by retiring a lot of the old guard and permitting the creation of opposition parties.

Assad's objective of course is to assure his own continued hold on power. This similarly has promoted Egypt's Mubarak to propose constitutional changes to allow rival presidential candidates to actually oppose him in the elections, but within very strict limits as Kefaya loudly points out.

So the steps are small. But both are clear signs of movement. Of movement, that's to say, towards democracy.

At its beginning, democracy is always exceptionally messy everywhere. Thus, in Lebanon, it appears that what's mostly happened in the elections since the Syrian troops pulled out is that all the old ethnic and religious rivalries that almost destroyed the country in civil wars have reasserted themselves.

And while U.S. President George W. Bush may have been leading the call for Middle East democracy, many of the answers are not at all those he would want.

In Kuwait, an Islamist organization has just formed a (still illegal) political party with its principal policy being the removal of the 30,000 American troops there. In Palestine, Hamas, the hard-line anti-Israel organization, has just done exceedingly well in municipal elections.

Yet all these steps are going in the same direction.

With extraordinary speed, democracy is taking hold in the Middle East. Not in the sense that any society there is yet democratic, or near to it. But in the sense that democracy has become the litmus test for political legitimacy, and for modernity.

It really is all exceptionally messy, But it is also all exceptionally creative.

Richard Gwyn writes on international affairs for Torstar News Service.

## Graphic

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Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; Egyptians walk by a poster of President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo last month that reads: 70 million Egyptian Muslims and Christians say yes to Mubarak.

**Load-Date:** June 7, 2005

**Laura Bush keeps smiling despite protests, heckling: At every stop, first lady appeals for peace**

The Calgary Herald (Alberta)

May 23, 2005 Monday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A5

**Length:** 584 words

**Byline:** Nedra Pickler, The Associated Press

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

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Laura Bush waded into Middle East tensions Sunday during chaotic visits to sacred religious sites, where crowds and hecklers grew so rowdy that armed guards had to restrain them.

America's first lady said what she witnessed showed that passions are running high among Palestinians and Israelis. "The United States will do what they can in this process," she said, urging both sides to work for peace.

Before entering the ruins of an eighth-century palace in the West Bank town of Jericho, she told reporters, "As you can tell from our day here, this is a place of emotion, everywhere we went, from the Western Wall to the Dome of the Rock to here."

At the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest shrine, protesters demanded the U.S. release an American Jew imprisoned for spying for Israel. At her stop nearby at the Dome of the Rock, a mosque on a hilltop compound known to Muslims as Haram as-Sharif and to Jews as Temple Mount, she faced heckling from angry Palestinians. One man yelled, "How dare you come in here! Why your husband kill Muslim?"

As she moved into the Palestinian territory, she said both sides in the conflict sent her the same message. "We're reminded again of what we all want, what every one of us pray for," she said. "What we all want is peace."

Laura Bush placed a note in the Western Wall that she wrote while flying Sunday from Jordan to Israel. She wanted to keep the contents private, a spokeswoman said.

Dozens of protesters stood nearby, shouting, "Free Pollard now." Convicted spy Jonathan Pollard, now serving a life sentence in the United States, was a civilian intelligence analyst for the U.S. navy.

The first lady's five-day visit to the Middle East was intended partly to help defuse anti-American sentiment in the region. Strains have arisen because of the U.S.-led war in Iraq and allegations that American interrogators have mistreated Muslim prisoners.

Laura Bush keeps smiling despite protests, heckling: At every stop, first lady appeals for peace

Some visitors Laura Bush encountered near the Dome of the Rock shouted at her in Arabic. "None of you belong in here!" one man yelled as the entourage arrived. The first lady removed her shoes as she entered the mosque and walked barefoot on the red carpet.

She held a black scarf tightly around her head as she gazed up at the gilded dome and the colourful mosaics.

Some of the women studying inside the mosque were clearly annoyed at the intrusion and waved their fingers at the U.S. entourage. Despite the chaos at both sites, the first lady kept smiling and said little. As she left, visitors and media grew so aggressive that Israeli police locked arms and encircled her in a human chain.

No protesters were evident when she had lunch with leading Palestinian women at a hotel in Jericho, a town that Israel recently turned over to Palestinian control, or when she visited the palace ruins and appealed for peace.

"It will take a lot of baby steps, and I'm sure it will be a few steps backward on the way," she said.

"But I want to encourage the people that I met with earlier and the women that I just met with that the United States will do what they can in this process. It also requires the work of the people here, of the Palestinians and the Israelis to come to the table, obviously. And we'll see."

The militant group Islamic Hamas said on its website. "We in principle don't reject anyone's visit to the Al Aqsa Mosque (compound), but we see in the visit of Mrs. Bush an attempt to whitewash the face of the United States, after the crimes that the American interrogators had committed when they desecrated the Qur'an."

## Graphic

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Colour Photo: Emilio Morenatti, Associated Press; Surrounded by Israeli security guards, Laura Bush visits the Western Wall and the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in Jerusalem's Old City on Sunday.

**Load-Date:** May 23, 2005



## *An Islamic path to democracy*

National Post (f/k/a The Financial Post) (Canada)

April 13, 2005 Wednesday

National Edition

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**Section:** ISSUES & IDEAS; Pg. A20

**Length:** 711 words

**Byline:** Oliver Roy, Financial Times

### **Body**

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From the recent torrent of analysis about trends in the Middle East, two contradictory views have emerged. The first is that the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq has set off a wave of democratization -- as exemplified by elections in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Palestinian territories, as well as Lebanon's "cedar revolution."

The alternative view is that Western intervention has fuelled Islamist extremism; it has underpinned the emergence of a "narco-state" (Afghanistan) and even a militantly Islamic state (Iraq). Lebanon may be on the verge of a new civil war, Iran is the big winner of the Iraqi elections and an overstretched U.S. army is struggling to cope.

Regardless of which narrative one prefers, U.S. military intervention in the Middle East was a watershed. And there have been at least some positive long-term effects.

To begin with, democracy is clearly popular among Arabs. Even if many dislike America's role in promoting it and are suspicious of Washington's agenda, they are hungry for more freedom.

But the kind of democratization we are talking about has little to do with the abstract Jeffersonian-style democracy that Washington wanted to implement in Iraq. Developing a real, working democracy is more complicated than simply holding elections.

Another myth was the belief that a democratic regime would be automatically friendly to U.S. interests. In fact, democratization cannot work without political legitimacy, and this legitimacy in the Middle East is rooted first in nationalism and Islamic beliefs. The democratization processes we've seen so far reflect that: Palestinian democrats are no less nationalist than their more militant counterparts, and constitutionalist Iraqi Shia clerics are still calling for Islamic sharia principles in their country's laws.

On a more positive note, the merging of nationalism and democracy is undermining links between local anti-western movements (whether nationalist or Islamist) and the internationalist radicals who claim to support them, such as al-Qaeda. When domestic national agendas dominate the political scene there is no room for strangers who are pushing only their internationalist struggle and ignoring local issues.

This polarization is at work in Afghanistan, where the Taliban lost whatever support it had not by opposing the Americans but by calling for violent disruption of the country's elections. Many former Taliban members are now giving up armed struggle to join the political process.

## An Islamic path to democracy

The same may be happening in Iraq. Foreign volunteers who once could have been perceived, at least by the Sunni Arab minority, as allies against a foreign invasion are increasingly seen as foreigners who are killing Iraqis and disrupting a legitimate political process.

This is part of a trend: The radical internationalists have less and less to propose in terms of local politics, and tend to rely on despair and oppression. In places where there is an alternative that can reconcile democracy, nationalism and Islam, they inevitably lose their appeal.

One important lesson is that there is no way for the region to move further toward democracy without integrating Islamo-nationalist movements such as Hamas and Hezbollah.

The need to include religious groups in any democratization effort is underscored by the state of supposedly secular regimes in the region such as Tunisia and Syria. The main mistake of the West, and more specifically Europeans, was to favour authoritarian secularism over democracy in the name of curbing militant Islam -- thus delinking secularism and democracy in the minds of many Muslims.

Many Europeans are now calling for the gradual reform of these states as an alternative to Iraqi-style regime change. But these regimes are clearly unable to reform themselves. They can achieve neither secularism nor democratization -- let alone promote efficient economic development. Thus, they fuel what could be called "re-Islamization," since religion is often the only way for people to escape the authoritarian monotony of political life.

Even if the road to democratization in the Middle East proves rougher than expected, there is no alternative. And if it is to succeed, Arab nationalists and Islamic groups must be taken on as partners, whatever we may think of their agendas.

## Graphic

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Black & White

Photo: Paula Bronstein, Getty Images; Afghan women wait to vote in that country's Oct. 9 election.

**Load-Date:** April 13, 2005

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**Blast disrupts Israeli calm;  
1st suicide attack since Nov.**

Philadelphia Daily News

FEBRUARY 26, 2005 Saturday 4STAR EDITION

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**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. 05

**Length:** 689 words

**Byline:** GAVIN RABINOWITZ Associated Press

**Dateline:** TEL AVIV, Israel

## **Body**

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A Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up in a crowd of young Israelis waiting outside a nightclub near Tel Aviv's beachfront promenade, killing at least four other people, wounding dozens and shattering an informal Mideast truce.

The blast, just before midnight yesterday, ended several weeks of calm and presented the first serious test to the unofficial cease-fire declared by Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas on Feb. 8 at a dramatic summit in Egypt.

Israeli officials indicated the attack would not derail the tentative peace efforts. But the bombing put new pressure on Abbas to take action against militants, who have not formally accepted the truce.

The Palestinians must "do much more to prevent such attacks," said Gideon Ezra, the Israeli public security minister. Despite the violence, he said contacts with the Palestinians should continue.

There was no official claim of responsibility. But Palestinian officials and militant leaders said the Lebanese guerrilla group Hezbollah had orchestrated the attack.

Abbas pledged to track down those responsible, accusing them of trying to derail the peace process.

"The Palestinian Authority will not stand silent in the face of this act of sabotage," Abbas said in a statement after holding an emergency meeting early today with his security chiefs. "We will follow and track down those responsible and they will be punished accordingly."

Palestinian security officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Israeli army identified the bomber as Abdullah Badran, 21, a university student. Israeli officials arrested five people, the officials said, including two of Badran's brothers and the local imam.

### Blast disrupts Israeli calm; 1st suicide attack since Nov.

Israeli troops also imposed a curfew on the West Bank village of Deir al Ghusun today, the apparent home of Badran, the Palestinian officials said.

The Israeli army said troops had carried out an arrest raid and that a curfew had temporarily been imposed but gave no further details.

Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz was to convene a meeting of security chiefs later today to discuss an Israeli response, Israeli Army Radio reported.

In Washington, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice condemned the attack "in the strongest possible terms" and said it is essential that Palestinian leaders take "immediate, credible steps" to find those responsible.

Rice took note of the Palestinian condemnation of the attack. "We now must see actions that send a clear message that terror will not be tolerated," she said.

Hezbollah has emerged as the biggest threat to the fragile Israeli-Palestinian truce, offering West Bank gunmen thousands of dollars to attack Israelis. The group, which is backed by Iran and Syria, has hundreds of West Bank gunmen on its payroll, according to Palestinian security officials.

**Hamas**, Islamic Jihad and the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, the largest Palestinian militant groups, all denied involvement, saying they were respecting the recent calm.

However, a senior Al Aqsa commander said one of its members had been recruited by Hezbollah to carry out the attack. The commander spoke on condition of anonymity.

The bombing occurred at the Stage, a nightclub located near Tel Aviv's seaside promenade, as about 20 to 30 people were waiting to enter the club. The area was especially busy on a mild weekend night.

Tel Aviv police Chief David Tzur said security guards outside the club spotted the bomber and didn't allow him in. "The impact, if he would have gone inside, would have been tragic," he said.

He said four people were killed and dozens wounded. At least one of the dead was **female**. Israeli police said about 50 people were wounded, more than 10 of them seriously.

Israeli police spokesman Gil Kleiman said the blast was exceptionally powerful.

The explosion ripped off the front of the nightclub, shattering windows of nearby restaurants and blackening cars.

It was the first suicide bombing since the cease-fire declaration, as well as the first such attack since the death of longtime Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Nov. 11. The last suicide bombing killed three people in a Tel Aviv market on Nov. 1. \*

## Graphic

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PHOTO;

Associated Press

Israeli police inspect the scene of an explosion outside a nightclub near Tel Aviv's beach front promenade late last night.

**Load-Date:** September 7, 2005

Blast disrupts Israeli calm; 1st suicide attack since Nov.

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***Iraq experience shows democracy is right***

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)

February 15, 2005 Tuesday Final Edition

Copyright 2005 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** OPINIONS; Pg. A9; COLUMN

**Length:** 612 words

**Byline:** RICHARD GWYN

## **Body**

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If the New York Times' reporter got his quotes right, perhaps the most important discussion about democracy ever held in Iraq took place not long ago in the Shiite holy city of Najaf.

Adel Abdul Mahdi, a leader of the Shiite-dominated United Iraqi Alliance that has just been confirmed as having come first, easily, in the election, was reportedly being questioned by Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, the country's most-powerful Shiite leader.

Sistani queried Mahdi on reports that he favoured a constitution in which Islam, while significant, would not be the only source of legitimacy.

"You were not elected," Sistani told Mahdi, a member of the U.S.-appointed Governing Council

Mahdi answered Sistani right back, "You were not elected."

Mahdi then returned to Baghdad to continue working on what could be called an 'Islam-lite' draft constitution. (As an example, Afghanistan's new constitution provides that no measure offend Islamic principles but not that all must be specifically Islamic.)

The election, the first fully free one in Iraq's 85 years as a nation, was the first, near-miraculous step in Iraq's evolution toward becoming the Arab world's first genuine democracy (or second now that events are moving so fast in Palestine).

A second step, as near-miraculous and even more extensive in its consequences, will depend on whether, now that the election results have been reported, what takes place is politics.

Less democracy as such, this is to say, than politics -- log-rolling, bargaining, wheeling and dealing, compromise, and above the general recognition that if winners try to take it all, no-one will get anything but blood and bombs.

That such a comment could be said to Sistani and that he, however nettled, could nevertheless accept Mahdi's right to say it, suggests that those who've assumed that after the election had to come civil war -- precipitated by the losers, the Sunni -- may turn out to be as wrong as those who all along have assumed that elections and democracy were un-Arabic.

Bumps and potholes, and indeed huge craters, in the road ahead are easy to identify. The Kurds, who did well, may demand more autonomy than any federal system can withstand.

## Iraq experience shows democracy is right

The Sunnis, most of whom stayed away, whether in fear or in contempt, may still stay away, and still throw bombs. The Shia, who were the big winners, may try to take everything. The Americans may go back to blundering.

But the wind has changed. It's now blowing for democracy and against the extremists and the terrorists.

And it's becoming an Arabic wind.

In Palestine, President Mahmoud Abbas has gained such authority by winning a democratic election that he's been able to convince the militants in Hamas and Islamic Jihad to accept a cease-fire with the Israelis, and to declare flatly that the long war with Israel is over.

In Saudi, the first-ever elections have just been held. They are only municipal ones. Women have been excluded. Half the posts will be filled by appointees.

Yet it's happened within the Middle East's most ultra-conservative society. And women are now organizing for the next election around.

In Iraq, the last election was incomplete because most Sunni boycotted it. But there'll be a second election by the end of the year and if enough politics, and log-rolling and compromise, takes place between now and then, a complete election, and a national healing, becomes probable.

Forget the argument about whether George W. Bush was right. The answer to a far more important question that has at the very least the potential to transform the Middle East, is now becoming clear. It is that democracy is right.

Richard Gwyn writes on national affairs for Torstar News Service.

## Graphic

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Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; Residents celebrate on the street waving flowers, flags and posters of Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani and Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim, in Baghdad's Shiite enclave of Sadr City during the Jan. 31 election.

**Load-Date:** February 15, 2005

## Letters to the Editor

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia)

May 3, 2004 Monday

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**Section:** FEATURES-TYPE- LETTER-COLUMN- LETTERS; Pg. 20

**Length:** 1408 words

### **Body**

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Judge him by the company he keeps

Columnist Michael Duffy would have us spare a thought for that 21-year-old Sydney "kid", Izhar ul-Haque, so sadly locked up in solitary confinement in Goulburn jail when all he really wants to do is become a doctor and help the community. ("Defendant who just wants to be a GP," Daily Telegraph, May 1). I'm touched.

After all, the argument goes, Mr ul-Haque was hardly intending to hurt Australians (who he refers to as "animals") when he allegedly joined Lashkar-e-Toiba for terrorist training.

He was more interested in becoming a martyr by freeing faraway Kashmir.  
MATP

As I shed a tear, I'll spare a thought, too, for victims of the recently deceased head of Hamas, paediatrician Abdel Aziz Rantisi, who only wanted to become a doctor but ended up sending children strapped in bombs to kill other innocent victims.

I'll also spare a thought for the eye-specialist President of Syria, Dr Bashar al-Asaad, who only wanted to become a doctor but today runs a country notorious for nourishing worldwide terrorism.

How folksy Michael Duffy makes it all sound: a despondent Mr ul-Haque, having failed his second-year medical exams, decides on a new career with

the Kashmir liberation "folk". Perhaps while the police do their job before the courts decide what role (if any) Mr ul-Haque planned to play through his alleged terrorist training, Duffy can usefully update himself on the records of the goodly folk of Hamas and the Baathist regimes.

Ralph Cohen, Dover Heights

Stealth stopped in its tracks

As a Blue Mountains resident, it was with joy that I read that Stealth would not be filmed in our pristine wilderness area. David Penberthy's belief that lining the pockets of film companies is more important than our flora and fauna beggars belief, particularly when there are 30 other areas where filming would not be as destructive as in this Grose Valley pocket ("Will film industry die to save a dragonfly," Daily Telegraph, May 1).



## Letters to the Editor

Judy Sweeney, Woodford

## Woeful Waratahs

The Waratahs were disappointing in the Super 12 match against the Highlanders on Saturday. They are merely a franchise team full of well-paid contracted players but have no heart and, indeed, appear to have no pulse.

They let down their 38,000 loyal paying fans with a traditional belly-up performance. And what are we to make of the tactics in kicking away possession and then not even contesting the lineouts? Coach Ewen McKenzie, please explain.

Chris Seage, Berowra

## Inhumanity unconfined

The reported cowardly attacks against Iraqi prisoners have been described by their respective leaders as un-American and un-British.

This is yet another example of the arrogance of such powers suggesting that their citizens are somehow above such barbarity.

Irrespective of the perpetrators' nationality, such acts are inhumane and in contravention of the Geneva Convention.

Throughout the centuries, invading armies have inflicted atrocities on the vanquished; their ethnicity does not make them immune from such acts.

Ian De Landelles,

Hawker, ACT

## Lost fare

On Wednesday, April 28, about 7.30am, my friend and I went to the taxi rank at Chatswood railway station. Five Legion cabs were on the rank and one from Combined. We were the only two people at the rank.

We got into the first taxi and gave our destination to the driver. We wanted to go to Bayview. But not only did the driver not know where the suburb was, he could not read a street directory and he asked us to try the next taxi.

We did this, but not one of the other Legion taxis would take us to Bayview. The driver of the other, Combined, taxi said he was not sure of the destination but he would take us if I looked in the street directory for him.

I honestly could not believe that five drivers from one company did not know how to get to Bayview. I tried to explain this to Legion but the company was not interested because I could not provide the taxis' licence numbers.

Lyn Smede,

Hornsby

## Innocent until proved otherwise

The facts of the Bulldogs matter remain that the police, despite intensive and prolonged investigations and forensic tests, have been unable to verify the complainant's version of events and to establish evidence of criminality.

The call now seems to be that the Bulldogs "got away with it", without any possibility that the claims made were perhaps confused or lacked veracity.

## Letters to the Editor

If the players have been guilty of a criminal offence, they should be prosecuted with vigour. They are entitled to the presumption of innocence until such prosecution is successfully concluded. Any other conclusion is grossly unfair.

Paul Ford, Bonnell's Bay

## Step on it

Further to Dr Doug Stewart's excellent article in The Daily Telegraph on April 30, in which he asks whether exercise should be made compulsory, I would draw your readers' attention to an innovative exercise program called "Stepping On".

It is designed for the over-75s, and results from a partnership between the Central Sydney Health Service, Sydney University, Leichhardt Council and Balmain Leagues Club. The course consists of exercises designed to improve strength and balance, and presentations aimed at avoidance of accidents in the home and community.

Research attests to its effectiveness. "Stepping On" is being taken up by other local authorities and has attracted international interest.

The demographic time bomb that will increase the over-65s to 25 per cent of the population by 2050 makes it imperative that we act to promote healthy exercise. "Stepping On" is a shining example of how it can be achieved. Dependence is our fear; independence is our hope.

Keith Pulham, Rozelle

## Waiting for workplace reform

As your report said, it is six months since Industrial Relations Minister John Della Bosca promised tougher laws to prevent workplace deaths ("Memorial not law," Daily Telegraph, April 29).

Joel Exner, aged 16, was killed last October and Mr Della Bosca was to set up an expert panel to advise on reform of offences and penalties.

How long does it take for this to be done? Do we wait for the next death?

Bill Cremen, Illawong

## Safety first

Before even discussing funding a trial of a Families Tribunal ("Joint custody trial planned," Daily Telegraph, April 27), other more fundamental and pressing findings contained in the child custody inquiry report must be addressed first. The report clearly identified the frightening number of claims of domestic violence and child abuse that are not being investigated.

This was attributed to systemic problems in the interface between the state-based child protection agencies and the federal Family Law Court.

The recent case of two children being murdered by their father (Daily Telegraph, April 27) is an example of the tragedy that occurs as a result of the lack of investigation of domestic violence. According to newspaper reports, Jayson Dalton had been arrested twice for breaches of a domestic violence order. He had also, reportedly, threatened to kill his family and to end it all.

If this was the case, we are left to wonder why the children remained in his custody at all after he was denied primary care. Safety, surely, is fundamental to the best interests of the child and should therefore be funded before another layer of bureaucracy.

Catherine Gander,

## Letters to the Editor

NSW Women's Refuge Resource Centre, Redfern

To the point

Never mind weapons of mass destruction: the blatant abuse and mistreatment of prisoners of war by American and British forces has given their enemies a far more powerful weapon, the weapon of propaganda. I pray that our Australian soldiers have the professionalism and discipline not to imitate such behaviour.

Scott Davis, Tweed Heads

All those Australians who have been retrenched or are unable to find suitable work through no fault of their own since the Liberal Government came to power can only be dismayed with the money being showered on cane farmers. If it's good enough for them, then everyone who is unable to work because of economic trends should receive \$100,000 to find a new trade.

Trevor Smith, Chippendale

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Letters may be edited.

**Load-Date:** May 2, 2004

## Letters from readers

Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)

March 25, 2004, Thursday, Metro Edition

Copyright 2004 Star Tribune

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 20A

**Length:** 1468 words

### **Body**

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Israel's Bin Laden

Sheik Ahmed Yassin was the founder of and leader of Hamas.

Those who think he somehow should have been treated with kid gloves because he was "just an old man in a wheelchair" should remember that he founded and directed Hamas from that chair. He oversaw the murder of hundreds of people and the maiming of thousands more from that chair.

The real question is, how many Israelis did Yassin put in wheelchairs?

Nathan M. Hansen, North St. Paul.

Did not the United States set the precedent for assassinating political and military leaders when Japanese Admiral Yamamoto was shot down in 1943 during World War II? Most analysts have seen this as an effective blow to Japanese morale that saved American lives. Should we not have ambushed him in the air?

Stephen Feinstein, Minneapolis.

Since your March 24 editorial "Why kill Yassin? / How does it make Israel safer?" raises the questions, here are the answers:

- Sheik Ahmed Yassin was a murderer and a terrorist. He was committed to the destruction of the Jewish people and the Jewish state. Punishing murderers and terrorists is a constructive policy for any nation, including Israel. Including ours.

- The elimination of Yassin demonstrates to the enemies of Israel and their fellow travelers that unilateral withdrawal from Gaza and portions of Judea and Samaria and constructing a security fence are not signs of weakness. Israel will continue to take the fight to terrorism proactively and not wait to be murdered by terrorists. The United States pursues the same policy, and has the same critics, like the editorial staff of the Star Tribune.

Dan Cohen, Minneapolis.

Who is a terrorist?

I read the letters and articles defending the Israeli strike on Sheik Yassin. The deceit is in pretending Israel is fighting terrorism, as though Israel were created by peaceniks and not terrorists.

Letters from readers

Who defines who is a terrorist? Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was directly responsible for the Sabra and Shatila massacre, which killed hundreds if not thousands of Palestinian civilians, and he also provoked this latest 3 1/2 years' violent uprising, which has killed thousands - mainly Palestinian civilians.

President Bush called for a war on Iraq, an illegal war that killed more than 10,000, mainly Iraqi civilians.

In defense of Yassin, he was fighting an illegal, brutal occupation using terror, whereas Bush and Sharon were not. They were using terror to oppress Iraqis and Palestinians and occupy their lands.

Fedwa Wazwaz, Brooklyn Park.

Where was Bush?

Richard Clarke said that on Sept. 12, 2001, in the White House Situation Room, George Bush told him to "See if Saddam did this."

White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan responded to that by saying, "There's no record of the president being in the Situation Room on that day."

It was the day after the biggest terrorist attack in U.S. history. The Situation Room was likely filled with the country's top military and intelligence people dealing with a huge crisis. And Bush wasn't there at all that day?

Erik Kosberg, Minneapolis.

Protecting our fabric

After attending the rally supporting a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage at the State Capitol on Monday, I was truly encouraged by the number of people wanting to preserve the basic foundation of society.

I realized that people of all ages and faiths realize that this is the basic "fabric" of our nation and redefining an absolute truth is not something we should dare experiment with.

Andrea Rohne, St. Louis Park.

What percentage a citizen

Gov. Tim Pawlenty and many of his supporters have conveniently discarded cornerstones of American society such as "justice for all" and "all men [sic] are created equal."

As a gay Minnesota citizen, I am legally denied the choice to marry. Can the governor and Legislature please quantify my citizenship? Am I three-fourths of a citizen? Or a half? Less?

Please inform me by April 15 so that I may pay my taxes accordingly.

Wendi Storhoff, Minneapolis.

Sharing the joy

Why does the right wing focus only on the negative and never the positive aspects of marriage? I've been happily married for more than 15 years and would never think of talking, or forcing, someone out of the same happiness I've experienced.

Bob Pollard, Prior Lake.

Not in the top 10

A March 24 letter writer to this newspaper claimed that gay marriage is "the most critical issue facing voters this year."

## Letters from readers

A curious comment, considering our unprecedented national debt, a deteriorating economy, the degradation of our environment and falsehoods routinely spun out of Bush administration "leadership."

Chris Trevis, Lake Elmo.

## Evolution of liberty

Over the course of 30 years (1860-1890), women gradually won the right to control their own earnings, to equal guardianship of children after divorce, to control and maintain property, to share in a deceased husband's estate and to enter into any occupation or profession. In 1919 Congress finally passed a law stating that a woman could vote. That was 85 years ago.

Less than 50 years ago, this country was divided over interracial marriages. Court decisions, civil disobedience and protests thrust the issue upon a nation still grappling with desegregation. People claimed it was morally and scripturally wrong to mix the races. An abomination, they proclaimed. Sound familiar?

Now, it's recent court decisions paving the way for gay marriages.

Once again the self-proclaimed "land of the free" is struggling to give another group of citizens their due rights. Must we keep fighting the same battles over and over again? Maybe one day this country will finally accept the fact that the phrase "liberty and justice for all" means all.

Jeb Brown, Mankato.

## Not its role

Whatever one thinks about gay marriage, the idea of amending the Constitution to ban such unions profoundly misunderstands one of the primary purposes of our Constitution, which is to protect minorities from the possible tyranny of the majority.

Thomas Fisher, Minneapolis.

## Apologizing for prayer

I am a Christian who attended the "Minnesota for Marriage Rally." As I read the March 23 article on the rally, I was angry, disheartened and saddened to read of a prayer that Senate Majority Leader Dean Johnson heard - a prayer condemning all homosexuals to hell.

On behalf of all Christians, I want to ask forgiveness for this prayer (and for the rallygoers who said it). It is not a prayer that Jesus would have uttered.

I want all gays and lesbians to know that we love them. I attended this rally because I cannot find a place in scripture that affirms marriage other than between a man and a woman, so I cannot support them in wanting that privilege.

Barb Berggren, New Brighton.

## Whalen's play

Star Tribune columnist Patrick Reusse almost got it right when he compared Lindsey Whalen's performance against UCLA to that of Bobby Jackson's in 1997 (Star Tribune, March 22).

However, Jackson was not playing after a five-week layoff due to a broken hand.

Whalen's performance against UCLA, against Kansas State on Tuesday and all year long has been a showcase of talent, teamwork and respect for the game of basketball.

Letters from readers

As a testimony to her impact as a player, please note that even Sid Hartman had to finally recognize what Whalen has accomplished in the world of women's and men's athletics at the University of Minnesota.

You go, girl!

Bruce Crawford, Orono.

What they deserve

A March 22 letter writer states that "The bus strikers have disrupted the lives of thousands of people."

Shouldn't people that important to society have access to decent health care and wages?

Jim Aspholm, Minneapolis.

Don't count out Hubble

NASA is not giving up on Hubble! In fact, our Hubble team is working on other options to save this great scientific instrument. These actions contradict the assertions in your March 22 editorial "Stellar photos / Hubble captures the first stars."

NASA is working to develop other options besides a manned shuttle servicing mission to extend Hubble's service life. Since there are 3-4 years before Hubble's support systems give out, we have the time and the resident engineering talent to examine other options. Meanwhile, as we continue operations, while seeking to extend Hubble's service life, the capabilities of the Chandra, Spitzer and upcoming Kepler and James Webb space telescopes, combined with an array of ground instruments, will keep the astronomy observations flowing for a long time to come.

Glenn Mahone, Washington, D.C.;

assistant administrator

for public affairs, NASA.

**Load-Date:** March 25, 2004

## LETTERS

The Forward

April 2, 2004

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**Section:** Editorial; Pg. 8

**Length:** 1476 words

### **Body**

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#### Our Lawless World

Columnist Kathleen Peratis presents a typically Western perspective on human rights and law in an age of terrorism ("Rule of Law, or the Law of the Jungle," March 26). Missing totally, however, is the view of the adversary. From al-Qaeda to Hamas to Saddam Hussein, the intent, language and actions of these foes are consistent only with war.

Several wars are being conducted simultaneously on different fronts. Islamists are fighting global, total war against the West, while totalitarian states are fighting brutal wars against their own populations and the international system. The inadequacy of the fragile tissue of law as constraint or remedy is seen in the piles of newly dead, atop the previous mountains of the murdered. The incalculable threat posed by states like Iran or North Korea, not even laughably constrained by the United Nations and its inept organs, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency, promises to raise the stakes, and possibly the death toll, still higher.

Legal recourse is only possible in a world where law reigns. The secondary but unstated implications of Peratis's column, and NGO culture as a whole, are that Western legal concepts must be imperialistically extended to the world. Ironically, this might be accomplished in Iraq. But until we somehow overcome the aggression and perhaps evil inherent in our very beings and achieve the much-sought-after utopia where law reigns supreme, we must recognize we are engaged in a war. Refusing to do so does no justice to our adversaries and their stated goals and means.

Alexander H. Joffe

Alexandria, Va.

#### It's Not Greek To Me

In "Culture War, Take Two" (March 26), columnist David Klinghoffer compares liberals and supporters of gay marriage to those "progressive" Syrian-Greeks and their Jewish lackeys who oppressed our Judean ancestors.

This may be news to him, but those Greeks were slave-owning imperialists. And, did those "progressive" Greeks form trade unions, sponsor health insurance, have social security and support equal rights for women, too?

The Maccabees fought the good fight because the ancient Greeks tried to force their religion down the throats of our ancestors. In modern terms, their First Amendment rights were being violated. Who is forcing you to marry a man, Mr. Klinghoffer?



## LETTERS

Sheldon Ranz

Merrick, N.Y.

### A Win-Win Situation

Sheikh Ahmed Yassin and the other **Hamas**-niks claim to want to be martyrs ("The Killing of the Sheikh," March 26). So, they want to die; Israel wants to kill them. It's a win-win situation.

Paul Kujawsky

Valley Village, Calif.

### A Struggle, But Not His

Your article on Ariel Foxman, the editor-in-chief of the new Cargo magazine, makes reference to Foxman's position as editor-in-chief of his high school paper, The Struggle ("Metrosexy' Son Takes the Helm of Condé Nast's Cargo," March 26).

More than 25 years ago, I was faculty adviser to the very first issue of Frisch High School's fledgling newspaper. When students frequently complained about their heavy workload of study, exams and homework, then-principal Rabbi Menahem Meier often said to them, "High school is a struggle!" Thus, in semi-jest the name of our newspaper was born and has remained with us to this day.

Contrary to your article's statement that "bizarrely" the name of our school's newspaper was inspired by Hitler's ideological manifesto "Mein Kampf," The Struggle never had any connotative or other relationship either to Hitler or "Mein Kampf."

We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of our alumnus Ariel Foxman, for whom high school was decidedly not a struggle.

Phoebe B. Weisbrot

Director, College Guidance

The Frisch School

Paramus, N.J.

### Facing Uzbek Realities

As someone who has worked in Uzbekistan for international agencies, it was gratifying to read Stephen Schwartz's corrective "Letter From Uzbekistan" ("Ex-Soviet Republic Counts Many Critics, Few Friends," March 19).

Much needs to be done in Uzbekistan to secure civil rights, transparency and democracy, but the situation is not hellish nor it is deteriorating as some human rights groups would have us believe. After all, their mission, which is valuable and sometimes even courageous, as well as their funding require defense of victims of Islam Karimov's authoritarian regime - not nuanced reporting of the situation in this key Central Asian ally of the United States.

Like the other Central Asian countries, Uzbekistan practices a tolerant and relaxed form of Islam, which tolerates alcohol, **female** equality and birth control. Few **women** are veiled. As for Jews, they are regarded as a treasured and traditional part of Uzbek culture. The Tashkent Jewish community center, Chesed, works effectively and openly, as do the other dozen such centers in the country. The Lubavitch synagogue requires no guards, unlike many in Western Europe. The prominent Israeli embassy in Tashkent works to help Uzbeks develop their agricultural economy and occasionally to help out Russian-speaking Israelis trying to do business in the country. Israeli athletes compete proudly in Tashkent's annual tennis tournaments.

## LETTERS

There are thousands of Muslims in Uzbekistan's prisons, but many of them have been associated with such organizations as Hizb-ut-Tahrir, illegal throughout the region, which is struggling to transform all these countries into a new caliphate. While not openly violent in their tactics, Hizb-ut-Tahrir is antisemitic and anti-Western, like the apparently defunct Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan. Generally speaking, worshippers at mosques and peaceful Muslims are not bothered, though doubtless there have been unjust arrests and rough treatment. No one can say how many. Torture is now illegal but may still go on.

If Uzbekistan were judged by the standards we apply to Pakistan or Saudi Arabia or Egypt, it would look a lot better than it often does in the pages of The Washington Post.

Martin C. Spechler

Bloomington, Ind.

The writer is a professor of economics and faculty affiliate of the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center at Indiana University.

Seeing Near and Far

It is a pleasant surprise to find myself writing to the Forward, not about the travails of Zionism, but rather to say "Bravo!" on your editorial endorsing the saving of the Hubble telescope "Postcards From Creation," March 19).

You correctly noted that Hubble can see farther than any Earth-based telescope. In fact, it can also see more of that which is closer. In particular, Hubble can measure starlight at wavelengths in the ultraviolet, which the atmosphere filters out from Earth-based telescopes. This light provides fundamental insight into the structure and evolution of stars. My own doctoral dissertation in astrophysics more than 30 years ago involved the laboratory measurement and the calculation of those properties that determined how a star's brightness in the ultraviolet could be related to the abundance of various atoms in the star. The Hubble telescope made the first measurements of these brightnesses, thus confirming not only the laboratory experiments, but the fundamental quantum theory that undergirded the calculations.

I do not endorse any and all space initiatives, because they are often political, and because their costs must be balanced against expenditures for critical societal problems. But Hubble is a proven success, and, as the Forward notes, society also runs on ambitions and dreams.

Jeffrey V. Mallow

Professor of Physics

Loyola University Chicago

Chicago, Ill.

The writer is the immediate past president of the Labor Zionist Alliance.

Fixing Mideast Studies

H.R.3077, the International Studies in Higher Education Act, would establish an advisory board for the Title VI subsidies program for area studies (including Middle Eastern studies) in our universities. Your article "Groups Back Bill To Monitor Universities" (March 12) exaggerates the role of Jewish groups in the birth of the legislation by suggesting that they "initiated the bill."

In fact, Rep. Peter Hoekstra of Michigan initiated the bill as part of the reauthorization process of the Higher Education Act. Jack Kemp and William Bennett's organization Empower America played the leading role in lobbying for the bill's provision for an advisory board. Most of the Jewish organizations that are now urging the Senate to adopt similar legislation endorsed the effort only months after the bill passed the House.

LETTERS

H.R.3077 is not about the Arab-Israeli conflict or academic freedom. It is about the role of universities in meeting new challenges facing the United States in the world. Title VI subsidies to universities are the tax dollars of all Americans, and all Americans have a stake in improved Middle Eastern studies.

Martin Kramer

Tel Aviv, Israel

The writer is the author of "Ivory Towers on Sand: The Failure of Middle Eastern Studies in America" (Washington Institute for Near East Policy, 2001).

**Load-Date:** June 14, 2006

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## *War's Full Fury Is Suddenly Everywhere*

The New York Times

April 11, 2004 Sunday

Late Edition - Final

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**Section:** Section 4; Column 1; Week in Review Desk; Pg. 1; The World: Roadblock

**Length:** 1376 words

**Byline:** By JEFFREY GETTLEMAN

**Dateline:** Baghdad, Iraq

### **Body**

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JUST the other day, on the outskirts of town, clouds of black smoke boiled up from the highway. A fuel truck was on fire, engulfed in flames.

Another day in Baghdad. Another hit on a military convoy.

But when a photographer and I stepped out of our car to take pictures, it was clear we were stepping into another Iraq.

Insurgents flooded onto the roadway, masks over their faces, machine guns in their hands. They began to fire at approaching Humvees. The neighborhood around us scattered into a mosaic of panic. Women slammed gates behind them. Cars shot gravel from their tires as they raced away. And we were just 20 minutes outside the city center in a place that up until the last few days was as safe as any.

In Kufa, a palm-lined town on the Euphrates, bearded Shiite militiamen who swear their allegiance to a rebel cleric are driving around in police cars. American officials had just bought those police cars. American soldiers had just trained the policemen who had been riding in them.

In the Khadamiya neighborhood, one of the prettiest spots in Baghdad, men passed out grenades where just days ago children sat under umbrellas, licking ice cream. It was stunning how natural it looked, how quickly armed men seemed the norm, how nobody seemed to bat an eye, even though the heart of Baghdad now looked like the heart of Kabul.

The atmosphere in Iraq has completely changed. In just a week, a fading guerrilla war has exploded into a popular uprising. "Six months of work is completely gone," said a State Department official working in southern Iraq. "There is nothing to show for it."

It was as if the clock had been set back to the early days of occupation. Again tanks are blasting apart targets in Baghdad neighborhoods. Cities like Falluja and Ramadi are under siege or, more accurately, re-siege.

But there is a difference. Back then, last April, when I was a reporter embedded with the United States Army, Iraq seemed as if it was slowly coming under control. Now, after three months on my current stint here, that nascent sense of order is collapsing into chaos.

## War's Full Fury Is Suddenly Everywhere

This past week, a photographer (yes, the same one) and I headed to Ramadi, 50 miles west of Baghdad and the scene of a fierce battle that claimed the lives of 12 marines. The trip was supposed to take two hours. We had to take back roads.

The fields glowed green with rice, the palm trees swayed, and children splashed in rivers. We saw women in the doorways of mud huts squinting at us. We saw a slice of life in Iraq that was quiet and simple.

But just as I was admiring the scenery, a minivan zoomed in front of our car and blocked the road. A dozen gunmen with scarves tied over their faces jumped out. Some had heavy machine guns. Some had rocket-propelled grenades. We were surrounded. "Out! Out!" the men shouted. We were in a bulletproof car. Or allegedly bulletproof. Who really knew? The insurgents banged on the inch-thick glass with the tips of their Kalashnikovs. I didn't want to open my door.

But with the fatigue of one who is thoroughly defeated, I got out. I stood in the dust and watched the men level their guns at my chest. I thought about my mother. I was hoping it wouldn't hurt.

The translator and driver, usually so cool, even joking, under fire, looked terrified. One insurgent swung the safety off his gun, making a very deliberate metallic sound I hope never to hear again, and unloaded half a clip into the sky.

"Move!" he shouted.

We stepped over the hot brass bullet casings that had just been spat into the dirt and got into the minivan. We had no options. We had driven into the heart of the Sunni resistance, into a little town between Baghdad and Ramadi completely overrun by mujahedeen fighters, right now one of the most anti-American places on the planet. We later learned that we had arrived just at the time of an attack.

Our captors were not sure if we were journalists or spies. Eventually, they satisfied themselves that they could trust us. The critical moment came when a man with aviator sunglasses brought us a bowl of water.

"Drink," he said.

My mouth was so parched from fear that no sip ever tasted so wet.

"Now," he said, "you are our friends."

Later someone told me that if you are offered water -- or tea, or anything in such a situation -- take it. The gesture means you are a guest. And hospitality in the Arab world can spell the difference between making it out of a sticky situation or not. The man with the aviator sunglasses wasn't just giving me water. He was giving me life.

Eventually, we were allowed to drive away from the village. As we left, the insurgents launched an attack on the marines. Rockets flashed. The insurgents cheered. The last we saw of them their fists were in the air.

And I was left with the question: Why now?

Why did the Shiites, who had been patient for a year, suddenly pour into the streets to kill Americans? Why are at least some Shiite and Sunni groups, who used to be rivals, now cooperating? How did the slaughter and mutilation of four American civilians in Falluja set off a chain reaction that reverberated beyond the Sunni Triangle and jolted the entire country?

I punched out an e-mail message to Kenneth W. Stein, a Middle East historian at Emory University, who suggested in response that the killing of four American contract workers in Falluja on March 31, and the macabre celebration afterward made extreme violence possible and even invigorating.

"These examples whip up emotions, show to the public just how successful the struggle is against the foreigner, the occupier, the alien," Mr. Stein wrote. "Pack mentality can overcome reason and propriety."

## War's Full Fury Is Suddenly Everywhere

But before Falluja two things happened -- clear in retrospect -- that helped unravel what little hope was here.

The first was hundreds of miles away. On March 22, in the Gaza Strip, Israeli forces assassinated Sheik Ahmed Yassin, the leader of **Hamas** and a hero to Palestinians. Outraged Arabs hit the streets in Baghdad and other Middle Eastern capitals. Many Americans in Iraq braced for reprisals.

A few days after Sheik Yassin was killed, American authorities shut down the Hawza newspaper, the mouthpiece of Moktada al-Sadr, a radical Shiite cleric. The paper had been accused of printing lies. But closing it only played into Mr. Sadr's hand, fueling huge protests by his followers.

Then Falluja happened. The group that took responsibility said it was avenging Sheik Yassin.

The sheik's ghost returned to Iraq once more, on April 2, when Mr. Sadr announced that he was opening the Iraqi chapters of Hezbollah and **Hamas**, pro-Palestinian groups responsible for attacks on Israel.

The next day American authorities announced arrest warrants for several of Mr. Sadr's followers. His was soon to follow. Last Sunday, Iraq erupted. Mr. Sadr ordered his followers to take over government offices in Shiite areas across the country. In just days, the fighting pulled in thousands of people who weren't fighters before, and who took on a new identity. Until then, the insurgency had been a mysterious force behind a red and white checkered scarf. It had no uniform, no ideology, no face.

But Mr. Sadr provided that. Posters of him are everywhere now, even in Sunni strongholds like Falluja, something unthinkable before this crisis.

Mr. Sadr is only 31 years old. In the world of holy men, he is considered a religious lightweight. Compared with Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, the more moderate Shiite cleric whose decrees carry the force of law, Mr. Sadr's voice is just a suggestion.

But Mr. Sadr seemed to tap into a Shiite backlash percolating for some time.

Many Shiites have suffered the same humiliations as the Sunnis. They complain about soldiers bursting into their homes and harassing them at checkpoints, and all the other grievances experienced by those living under an occupation by foreigners from thousands of miles away. And as the anniversary of Baghdad's fall approached, the Shiites, who greeted American tanks with roses one year ago, had little to celebrate.

"When I wake up, I know this day is going to be a little worse than the last one," said Haider al-Kabi, a 29-year-old laborer from Najaf who said he was joining the resistance. "I got sick of it."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

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Photos: Outside Falluja last week, Sunni Muslim insurgents celebrating after setting vehicles on fire. They had just attacked an American military convoy. (Photo by Karim Sahim/Agence France-Presse -- Getty Images)(pg. 1)

A follower of Moktada al-Sadr. (Photo by Patrick Baz/Agence France-Presse -- Getty Images)(pg. 4)

**Load-Date:** April 11, 2004

## War's Full Fury Is Suddenly Everywhere

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### Letters from readers

Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)

March 23, 2004, Tuesday, Metro Edition

Copyright 2004 Star Tribune

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 10A

**Length:** 1472 words

## **Body**

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### Reinstated cops

The citizens of Minneapolis should be very proud of their government. Their mayor and City Council hired a police chief who is probably going to cost the citizens at least a few million dollars when the city loses the defamation of character lawsuit likely to be filed by the three senior police officers falsely accused of wrongdoing in public.

If I were on the City Council I would ask Chief William McManus why he had to publicly slander these officers before a prosecutor had reviewed the situation. It was unnecessary, unprofessional and ill-advised, and it's going to cost the city some serious money.

The mayor and the council made a great choice. Perhaps Mayor R.T. Rybak, McManus and City Council members should give up their salaries for a few years to cover part of the bill.

Jay A. Huyck, Maple Grove.

That three highly esteemed Minneapolis police officers have been cleared of any criminal wrongdoing brings neither relief nor glee to anyone in the loop.

Calling a cop "criminal" is like calling a judge crooked or a scientist stupid: It is a devastating libel.

I suspect that the unmerited damage to these officers' reputations will now find redress in court, and at taxpayer expense.

Chief William McManus has wielded a type of autocratic power which may have worked fine in Dayton, but is unusual and unwelcome in Minneapolis, where tough decisions are typically made by process, deliberation and consensus.

Frederic Bruno, Minneapolis.

Police Chief William McManus' irresponsible and reckless behavior in regard to police officers Lucy Gerold, Mike Martin and Mike Carlson is insupportable. Minneapolis will be ill-served if this person remains as our police chief.

Gretchen Vander Weide,

Minneapolis.



## Letters from readers

## Enough with Strom

Regarding the March 19 profile of David Strom, when will the Star Tribune do a profile of a policy mover and shaker who is actually seeking to benefit all Minnesotans?

I'll look forward to a profile on Marcia Avner, public policy director for the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, on the front page of this coming Friday's paper. She has done more to promote sound (and honest) policy change than almost anyone in this state. She deserves the profile, not the hired gun for some of the wealthiest business owners in Minnesota.

Rachel Callanan, St. Louis Park.

## Truly Golden Gophers

Thank you to the Gopher women's basketball team for the most exciting sports performance I've ever seen (Star Tribune, March 22). It goes without saying that what Lindsey Whalen did was nothing short of spectacular. But it was a team effort, and it was that effort that kept the more than 12,000 fans on their feet for almost the entire game. Thanks for an unforgettable memory!

Susan Glinsek, Lino Lakes.

## Go after the big guns

Rep. Mark Buesgens describes the cost of health care benefits for striking bus drivers as "out of control" (Letters from readers, March 22). He thinks they should join the race to the bottom and accept less.

Has he ever made the same request of the executives of giant health care "nonprofits" who receive enormous compensation packages? How do they rate such pay if they cannot do a better job of keeping everyone's costs under control?

John D. Farrell, Minneapolis.

## Israeli terrorism

Israel again flouts international law as it kills an old man it labels a terrorist - Hamas founder Sheikh Ahmed Yassin - although Palestinian leaders deny that he was involved in terrorism.

European and Middle East leaders condemn it as "reckless" and "illegal." If Yassin was involved in terrorist activities, then he should have been arrested and tried in a court of law.

Israel kills civilians every day - usually Palestinians, but also Americans and Europeans. These are also acts of terrorism, but the media refuse to condemn Israel for these acts, and the United States provides political support for Israel every time it kills innocents.

Double standards like these are why the world considers the United States and Israel to be the most dangerous countries in the world - and why Americans will never be safe from terrorism.

Michael Madden, Minneapolis.

## A blow to peace effort

What a stroke of genius! Israel has finally murdered the blind, paraplegic Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin. Even though he was confined to a wheelchair for the greater part of his life, Israel recognized his attitude embracing resistance and respect among Gaza inhabitants had to be addressed. By this act of bravery and military acumen, the Israeli Defense Force has proved beyond a doubt that its advanced military weaponry, coupled with superior military intelligence, can defeat even an occupied and enslaved people.

## Letters from readers

Now there will surely be peace in Gaza and the West Bank!

Harry Greenberg, Minneapolis.

A concurring opinion

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia wrote that "the nation is in deeper trouble than I had imagined" if anyone thinks a Supreme Court justice can be bought for a hunting trip and a free plane ride. He's right. It is.

Clayton Bennett, Minneapolis.

Why trust them?

As damning as former Bush administration counterterrorist adviser Richard Clarke's statements on "60 Minutes" were, he didn't make the most damaging comment.

Stephen Hadley, deputy national security adviser, did when he said, "Iraq, as the president has said, is at the center of the war on terror. We have narrowed the ground available to Al-Qaida and to the terrorists. Their sanctuary in Afghanistan is gone; their sanctuary in Iraq is gone."

The connection between Iraq and Al-Qaida has now been completely discredited, and yet this high-level administration official still can't give up the lie that Iraq was a "sanctuary" for Al-Qaida.

Tell me again why we should trust the Bush administration.

Jon Kortebein, Minneapolis.

A critic with credibility

Even the Bush team must find it difficult to attack the credibility of Richard Clarke, its former chief counterterrorism expert, who has also served in the administrations of Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

Clarke has pulled no punches in exposing the abject failure of the Bush administration in preventing the 9/11 attacks. Clarke's urgent and repeated warnings of an "imminent Al-Qaida threat" as far back as January of 2001 tragically fell on the deaf ears of an administration already afflicted by an obsession with Iraq.

He believes that Bush's subsequent misguided invasion of Iraq has only served as a perfect recruiting tool for countless more Al-Qaida terrorists. In a word, he describes Bush's job on terror as "terrible."

I used to wonder why this president, who bills himself as strong on terror, has had to be dragged kicking and screaming before the commission investigating 9/11. Now I think I understand.

Dave Dvorak, Minneapolis.

Bud in Baghdad

I found Sid Hartman's March 21 column on Bud Grant's visit to Iraq interesting. The troops were very positive and upbeat, and they felt they had a real purpose for being there and were accomplishing good things.

This is in contrast to the media's version, showing doom and gloom and problems everywhere you turn. To think I had to get the real facts from a sports columnist. Our troops deserve better.

Wayne Sanderson, Glencoe, Minn.

The comments of Bud Grant after his return from visiting our troops in Iraq are refreshing! Grant said that "the troops wanted to convey that the situation in Iraq is not like it is portrayed by the media in this country." He goes on to say that "so much is good, and nobody wants to report that."

Letters from readers

Why doesn't the Star Tribune dispatch its legions to report on some of the positive things happening in Iraq?

Bruce Talso, Brooklyn Park.

Biased coverage

The Star Tribune's coverage of the March 20 antiwar/propeace demonstration held in St. Paul missed and distorted the story.

How about a headline and lead that state the facts: "Two thousand people showed up in St. Paul to protest the U.S. war and subsequent occupation of Iraq, marching to the State Capitol on a cold, blustery day. The multigenerational crowd reflects the broad-based dissent that has grown up around the issue of the Iraq occupation."

Yet the article focused on a handful of people who showed up to support the war.

The type of "balanced reporting" in your report is seriously imbalanced.

Shelley Sherman, St. Paul.

The law according to John

In response to the gay marriage issue, what if our nation starts passing amendments based on other scripture in the Bible? It could be against the law to covet our neighbor's house, and it could be a felony to skip church on Sunday.

Jerry T. Johnson, Bloomington.

**Load-Date:** March 24, 2004

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## *You'll never bury Arafat in Jerusalem, Israelis vow*

The Sun Herald (Sydney, Australia)

November 7, 2004 Sunday

Late Edition

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**Length:** 607 words

**Byline:** PATRICK BISHOP RAMALLAH

### **Body**

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ISRAELIS and Palestinians opened a new front in their endless conflict yesterday with a macabre dispute over where Yasser Arafat should be buried.

The leading Muslim cleric in Jerusalem declared that Mr Arafat wished to be buried in the holy city.

Grand Mufti Ikrema Sabri said ailing Mr Arafat told him three months ago that he would like to be interred in the compound of the al-Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third-most-sacred site. "We must, and have to, honour his will," he said.

This first official statement of Mr Arafat's wishes brought a brutal response from Israeli Justice Minister Yosef Lapid. "He will not be buried in Jerusalem because Jerusalem is the city where Jewish kings are buried and not Arab terrorists," he said.

The idea had already been comprehensively quashed by Mr Arafat's archenemy, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. The al-Aqsa compound is sacred to Jews, who know it as the Temple Mount. The fear is that if Mr Arafat was buried there it would reinforce Palestinian claims to Jerusalem as the capital of a future state.

Israel seems to have rejected a compromise whereby he would be buried in the suburb of Abu Dis, which overlooks the Haram al-Sharif, or Noble Sanctuary, where the mosque is sited.

There was growing speculation on Friday that Mr Arafat would end up in the Gaza Strip, his father's ancestral home, although he was born in Cairo. His mother is buried there and the overgrown family plot, near a vegetable market in the town of Khan Younis, was one of the first places he visited on his return from exile 10 years ago.

More likely spots are a plot near his old headquarters in Gaza City or in its martyrs' cemetery.

Mr Lapid said on Friday that Israel "had no problem with Gaza". Providing security for the hundreds of dignitaries expected to attend the funeral would, however, be an enormous task.

Holding the funeral amid Gaza's spectacular squalor would give the Palestinians an excellent opportunity to show VIPs the reality of their conflict.

Meanwhile, preparations for the post-Arafat era are gathering pace. On Friday leaders of the main Palestinian factions in the Gaza Strip, including the Islamist **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad groups met to discuss security before

## You'll never bury Arafat in Jerusalem, Israelis vow

meeting Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qurei. It is feared Mr Arafat's departure will create a power vacuum that armed factions will rush to fill.

Mourning had already begun among Mr Arafat's supporters. A tearful Halima Ajouri remembered how women wearing Palestinian embroidered dresses ululated his name during traditional camp weddings, drowning out that of the bridegroom.

For the 64-year-old woman and her neighbours in a squalid camp near Amman, Jordan the largest in the Middle East Mr Arafat's name is synonymous with her people's quest for statehood.

"Arafat gave Palestine its fame and reputation," said the woman who left her village near Ramle in present-day Israel in 1948.

"I have been crying for the last day," Ibrahim Salam said as his family huddled on the concrete floor glued to the television in their corrugated-iron-roofed two-room home. Many of Jordan's 5.3 million citizens are Palestinians whose families settled there after successive Arab-Israeli wars, placing the kingdom at the heart of the conflict. Jordan hosts an estimated 1.8 million Palestinian refugees of the nearly 4 million scattered across Arab countries.

Disenchanted camp dwellers were angry at Arab rulers they say let Mr Arafat down as Israel confined him to his half-demolished West Bank compound for almost three years.

"Arab leaders deserted him and watched Israel imprison him to preserve their chairs as leaders," said Hamza Najjar, 32, a teacher.

## Graphic

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PHOTO: WAITING GAME: A Palestinian woman walks past a portrait of Yasser Arafat on the separation barrier between Israel and the West Bank.

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2007

## *Teen bomber kills 3 Israelis*

The Toronto Star

November 2, 2004 Tuesday

Copyright 2004 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A13

**Length:** 673 words

**Byline:** Mitch Potter, Toronto Star

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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The fragile Palestinian leadership sitting in for ailing Yasser Arafat called for calm yesterday after a 16-year-old suicide bomber ignited an explosives belt in a crowded Tel Aviv market, killing himself and three Israelis.

Another 32 Israelis were injured in the midday blast at the open-air Carmel Market, which was claimed by a relatively obscure militant group known as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

The attack was seen as a direct challenge to Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia and his predecessor, Mahmoud Abbas, both known moderates who find themselves temporarily in control of Palestinian politics while Arafat undergoes tests for a mystery ailment in Paris.

"We strongly condemn this act which targets civilians. We don't think it serves our cause, especially under the current circumstances," Qureia told the Palestinian cabinet at a meeting convened to discuss developments related to Arafat's failing health.

Arafat was said to have condemned the attack and "the killing of civilians on both sides" in a telephone call from his sickbed in France, according to his spokesman, Nabil Abu Rdeneh.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon seized upon the attack as bloody evidence that with or without Arafat, the Palestinian leadership remains unfazed by the militant tactics of terrorizing Israeli civilians.

"Today's terror attack proved that there has been no change in the Palestinian Authority. Until they take substantial steps to eradicate terror and dismantle terrorist organizations, to carry out reforms and stop the incitement, Israel will continue its policy," Sharon said. "Words, promises and half-hearted condemnations will not suffice. We demand full implementation of the Palestinian commitments."

Prime Minister Paul Martin called Sharon yesterday to express "shock and sorrow" over the attack. "During times such as these, the Canadian people identify with Israel," he said, according to a statement issued by Sharon's office.

The statement quoted Martin as congratulating Sharon for his success in winning Israeli parliamentary consent last week for his plan to unilaterally withdraw from the Gaza Strip next summer, and offering "any necessary assistance for the realization" of the pullout.

## Teen bomber kills 3 Israelis

The Tel Aviv bomber was identified as Amar al-Far, 16, a resident of the Askar Refugee Camp on the eastern outskirts of the West Bank city of Nablus.

The teen's mother, Samira Abdullah, 45, called the militant recruiters "immoral" for manipulating her son to commit an act he was too young to comprehend.

"It's immoral to send someone so young," Abdullah was quoted as saying.

"They should have sent someone who understands the meaning of his deeds."

Israeli security officials said al-Far likely trekked south from Nablus to Jerusalem in order to find a gap in Israel's security barrier, which is still under construction in the Holy City, before turning west into the coastal plain toward Tel Aviv.

Two women and one man, identified as Shmuel Levy, 65, were killed at Carmel, Tel Aviv's largest and most boisterous street market, when the bomber triggered himself in front of a dairy shop.

In the aftermath of the attack, dazed vendors milled through the mess as rescue crews tended to the wounded.

At a nearby greengrocery stall, a 57-year-old vendor who identified himself only as Vede credited his splattered produce for absorbing shrapnel that would otherwise have killed one of his best friends, who was standing alongside at the time of the blast.

"I swear to God, vegetables saved his life," said Vede. The secular PFLP, though an active faction among the disparate militant elements that feed the Palestinian uprising, has largely been overshadowed by the bombs of Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade in the campaign of suicide attacks during four-year intifada.

Amid growing doubt over Arafat's ability to resume his duties, there are fears the PFLP attack could trigger a new wave of bombings, as factions scramble for a place in the shifting hierarchy of Palestinian power politics.

## Graphic

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ERIK SULTAN ao Survivors of a suicide bombing that killed three Israelis in Tel Aviv's Carmel market yesterday await medical help. The bomber was a 16-year-old from a West Bank refugee camp near Nablus.

**Load-Date:** November 2, 2004

## *Why tolerate intolerance?:*

The Calgary Herald (Alberta)

October 30, 2004 Saturday

Final Edition

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**Section:** OPINION; Pg. A22; Danielle Smith

**Length:** 702 words

**Byline:** Danielle Smith, Calgary Herald

### **Body**

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The Muslim Council of Montreal thinks the media are unfairly picking on Mohamed Elmasry.

Elmasry, president of the Canadian Islamic Congress, came under fire this week for his outrageous comments on Michael Coren's television talk show. In a discussion on terrorism, Coren and Elmasry began a surreal exchange about who is and who isn't a legitimate target of Palestinian suicide attacks. Here's part of it:

Elmasry: . . . Totally innocent are the children, obviously. OK? But they are not innocent if they are military in civilian clothes. OK?

Coren: What civilians?

Elmasry: The same if they are women in the army.

Coren: Anyone over the age of 18 in Israel is a valid target?

Elmasry: Anybody above 18 is a part of the Israeli popular army.

Coren: Everyone in Israel and everyone and anyone in Israel, irrespective of gender, over the age of 18 is a valid target?

Elmasry: Yes. I would say.

Afterward, the CIC tried to distance Elmasry from his words, implying he was merely expressing the commonly held view among Palestinians. Elmasry apologized for his comments, eight days later, and offered to resign, but the board of directors of the CIC refused. Then, the counterspin began.

The head of the Montreal Muslim organization, Salam Elmenyaw, stated the media coverage of this incident "smacks of a vendetta against Dr. Elmasry due to his critical comments of the Canadian media's coverage of Islam and Muslims." It seems Elmasry, who is now the subject of a police hate crimes investigation and who faces possible disciplinary action from the University of Waterloo, is the real victim.

If the media is demonstrating a certain zeal in their coverage, it's only because nobody likes a hypocrite. Elmasry is among the worst for flippantly levelling accusations of hate. Here's a sample from the CIC's 2004 archives:



## Why tolerate intolerance?:

In response to a Montreal Gazette editorial cartoon joking about terrorists getting "extra points" for suicide bombings during Ramadan: "False identification of Ramadan -- the holiest month of the Muslim year -- with terrorism is offensive in the extreme. It is, in fact, hate literature."

In response to a quote by Carleton University professor Martin Rudner on terrorist infiltration in Canada: "We at CIC believe Mr. Rudner has crossed that line into the area of hate-literature and it is shameful behaviour for a Canadian academic."

After a National Post story by Bob Fife, documenting Saudi funding of radicals in Canada: "At best, it is transparently

biased journalism; at worst, it is outright hate propaganda."

To a Toronto Star columnist writing on Muslims who lamented the execution of **Hamas** leader Sheik Ahmed Yassin, and criticized such societies "where wickedness is bred in the bone": "That is hateful, inflammatory and unworthy of a respected large circulation daily newspaper. . . ." (This one, at least, was upheld by the Ontario Press Council.)

In response to Jewish groups who hosted Italian lecturer and Muslim convert Abdul Hadi Palazzi, who has accused a majority of mosques and Muslim organizations in Canada of being controlled by active terrorist elements: "To bring this known anti-Islam campaigner into our midst is bad enough and tantamount to hate crime."

In answer to the publication of a book on Islamic terrorism by authors Richard Perle and David Frum: The CIC "has found An End To Evil to be a thinly disguised anti-Muslim hate manual."

Elmasry regularly denounces reporters, columnists, professors, authors and cartoonists as hate-mongers. Yet, he and his organization expect forgiveness when he takes the stage to rationalize the cold-blooded terrorist murder of all Israelis over the age of 18. Many Canadians have become so battered by political correctness, they believe they must be tolerant of intolerance. But my sympathy well has run dry.

If Muslim organizations are going to make hate crime accusations, they better be sure that when one of their own leaders crosses the line, he is also held to account. There are more than 700,000 Muslims in Canada, and the CIC claims to speak for 70 per cent of them. Let's hear them speak with one voice, and demand that

Elmasry step down.

More on this topic can be seen on Global Sunday. Smith is the host.

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**Load-Date:** October 30, 2004

## *Can a peacemaker emerge?*

Herald Sun (Melbourne, Australia)

November 12, 2004 Friday

Copyright 2004 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** ED; Pg. 22

**Length:** 703 words

**Byline:** Colin Rubenstein

### **Body**

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THERE is little doubt that the death of Yasser Arafat at the heart of Palestinian politics is the end of an era.

Throughout the past four decades, he personified the destructive contradiction that was the heart of Palestinian nationalism.

While Arafat embodied the quest for Palestinian statehood, his refusal to relinquish terrorism and accept the legitimacy of the Jewish state thwarted that objective.

On Arafat's watch, the Palestinians lurched from miscalculation to hallucination on a long slow slide of self-inflicted trials, troubles and tribulations.

The Palestinians rejected every major peace offer save one -- the 1993 Oslo Accord -- and they reneged upon the terms that Arafat signed.

And foremost within this catalogue of rejection was the far-reaching offer of an independent Palestinian state on 97 per cent of the West Bank and Gaza, made by President Clinton and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak at Camp David and Taba in 2000-01.

By repeatedly spurning every serious diplomatic initiative, Arafat personified the observation by former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Ebban that, "the Palestinians never miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity."

The consequences for the Palestinian population have been little short of disastrous.

And their resultant misery was substantially worsened by the misappropriation of funds, cronyism and general corruption that marked Arafat's tenure as president of the Palestinian Authority.

Yet despite all of the policy misjudgments, and despite the news that Arafat amassed more than \$400 million in personal European bank accounts, he had an enduring hold on the Palestinian national imagination.

While second-string political players like Gaza security chief Mohammad Dahlan or former Palestinian prime minister Abu Mazen have recently been jockeying for political position, no serious challenger to Arafat's rule ever emerged.

### Can a peacemaker emerge?

This was due, at least in part, to the ruthlessly authoritarian and machiavellian internal political manoeuvres Arafat used to deter any such challenge, but the Palestinian people must also bear some responsibility for tolerating such anti-democratic antics.

The bottom line is that Yasser Arafat was never willing to make the transition from terrorist to peacemaker.

He talked the talk of coexistence with Israel, but all the while he walked the walk of collusion with the terrorist radicals of Hamas, Islamic Jihad and his own Al-Aqsa Brigade who are dedicated to the Jewish state's destruction.

ARAFAT'S primary problem was that, while he symbolised Palestinian nationalism, his obsession was always with the abstract Palestinian cause, not the men, women, and children who make up the Palestinian people today.

According to his Palestinian collaborators, he viewed the Camp David negotiations as a trap to be avoided because he did not want to be remembered as the leader who surrendered any Palestinian rights.

Instead, he preferred to pass the conflict on to future generations in hopes of getting everything, rather than compromise.

This is why, shortly after Camp David, he told then-Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid that even if it took 150 years, the Palestinians would push the Jews into the sea.

It is also why, in 2000, he launched and encouraged the current wave of terrorist violence at enormous cost to the Palestinian populace, at a time when there were better prospects than ever for a peaceful resolution.

Arafat was only interested in statehood in the West Bank and Gaza if it did not include a promise to end the conflict.

He led the Palestinians down the primrose path of futility and frustration.

But the real price of Arafat's failures was borne by his people who have become poorer and more miserable with each passing year of his rule.

There will doubtless be some turmoil in the Palestinian leadership in coming weeks and months, but all observers of goodwill can only hope that the post-Arafat era will see the emergence of a responsible leadership that will have the courage to accept true coexistence with Israel, thus alleviating the suffering of Jews and Arabs alike.

Dr COLIN RUBENSTEIN is executive director of the Australia/Israel & Jewish Affairs Council

**Load-Date:** November 11, 2004

## *In Focus*

The Gazette (Montreal)  
October 6, 2004 Wednesday  
Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A2

**Length:** 689 words

**Byline:** The Gazette

### **Body**

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Israelis, Palestinians seek ceasefire talks

Background: The Israeli army launched a major offensive in the northern Gaza Strip six days ago, triggered by the killing of two Israeli children by Hamas rockets.

New: Israeli and Palestinian security

officials have begun indirect contacts aimed at ending the offensive, which has killed 68 Palestinian civilians and suspected members of terrorist groups.

Details, Page A20

Allawi's grim picture

Background: In Washington last month, Iraq's interim prime minister, Ayad Allawi, gave an optimistic account of the security situation in Iraq.

New: In his first speech before the interim national assembly in Baghdad, Allawi gives a much darker, more sobering estimate of the threat posed by the insurgency.

Next: Operations by U.S. and Iraqi forces against insurgent strongholds south of Baghdad, to wrest control from militants, continue. Details, Page A17

Montreal women suffer

Background: Quebec's Council on the

Status of Women analyzed 2001 Statistics Canada figures and found that women in Montreal are more likely to be killed by their spouses or to become pregnant as teenagers.

New: The council reveals that women in Montreal use public transit more often, hold more part-time jobs and generally are more depressed than their male counterparts. Details, Page A6

City, blue-collars settle

## In Focus

**Background:** The city of Montreal and its unionized blue-collar workers went to arbitration after they were unable to reach a new labour agreement.

**New:** The arbitrator's ruling, issued

this week, gives city officials most of what they wanted - a standard 36-hour work week, modest salary increases and more say for foremen and borough officials.

Details, Page A7

**Bill 57 gets 'incentives'**

**Background:** Last year, in the dying days of the Parti Quebecois government, the National Assembly unanimously adopted an anti-poverty law.

**New:** Employment Minister Claude Bechard introduces Bill 57 to implement that law, but added "incentives" to get people who are able to work off social assistance.

**Next:** Critics have called on Bechard to withdraw Bill 57 and to scrap a \$100-a-month cut in payments for welfare recipients living at home whose parents work. Details, Page A11

**PSAC talks to resume**

**Background:** Contract negotiations between the Treasury Board and the Public Service Alliance of Canada have been at a standstill with more than 40,000 PSAC members on strike.

**New:** The two sides have agreed to resume contract negotiations in a last-ditch attempt to avert a national strike. A deadline of Oct. 12 has been set for the 100,000 workers in three PSAC bargaining units. The union called a truce until then. Details, Page A15

**'No respect' comic dies**

Rodney Dangerfield, the comic whose self-deprecating one-liners brought him stardom in clubs, TV and films and made his lament "I don't get no respect" a catchphrase, has died at age 82. Details, Page C7

**business**

**Quebec seniors blessed**

Retirees in Quebec have it good compared with seniors in other industrialized countries, but lag behind other Canadians in retirement income, according to a study commissioned by the Regie des rentes du Quebec. Details, Page B1

**Third Wal-Mart union?**

Workers at a third Wal-Mart store in Quebec have filed an application to form a union as the province becomes the key battleground for labour drives at the U.S. retail giant. Details, Page B4

**Sports**

**Walker powers Cards**

Canadian Larry Walker homered twice and the St. Louis Cardinals tied a postseason record by hitting five homers, overwhelming the Los Angeles Dodgers 8-3 in their National League division series opener. Details, Page C2

**Arts & Life**

**R.E.M.: Still feeling fine**

## In Focus

R.E.M. has released its new CD, *Around the Sun*, into a marketplace gone soft on rock and on the band itself. But frontman Michael Stipe says he's happy with whatever happens. He says the band has never been a slave to the Top 40. Details, Page D1

Turkey time a dump fest

As predictable as the keg parties that welcome freshmen to their new college lives comes the turkey dump. That's when sweethearts come home for the holidays only to break up with the high school love they left behind and have now outgrown. Details, Page D1

## Graphic

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Photo: (R.E.M.);

Photo: (Israelis, Palestinians)

**Load-Date:** October 6, 2004

## **Bombings linked to al-Qaida**

The Star Phoenix (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

October 9, 2004 Saturday

Final Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. B8

**Length:** 652 words

**Byline:** Associated Press; Canadian Press

**Dateline:** TABA, Egypt

### **Body**

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TABA, Egypt (AP-CP) -- Israeli officials said Friday they believe al-Qaida was probably behind three suicide car bomb attacks targeting Red Sea resorts filled with Israeli tourists, as investigators searched for evidence and rescuers pulled bodies from the twisted wreckage of a five-star hotel and casino.

Thursday night's bombings in Egypt's Sinai peninsula killed 29 people, according to Israeli authorities, who were leading the rescue effort. Egyptian officials could confirm only 24 dead. More than 100 people were injured, with reports as high as 160.

Using everything from jackhammers and drills to dogs and bare hands, rescuers searched the wreckage of the Taba Hilton, site of the first and by far the deadliest of the bombings. But after turning on flood lamps as darkness fell on Friday, they did not expect to find many more bodies underneath the piles of concrete and metal, and appeared to be losing hope of finding survivors.

The number of missing was unclear. Israeli authorities had a list of about 100 people who had not yet checked in, said Maj.-Gen. Yair Naveh, head of the Israeli Home Front Command.

Israelis fled the Sinai by the thousands Friday, and authorities across the border in the Israeli city of Eilat put them up in community centres while they arranged to get home. Many tourists complained bitterly about Egyptian authorities who they said initially prevented them from leaving their hotels.

The 10 p.m. explosion at the Hilton sheared outer rooms off a 10-storey wing. A hotel employee sleeping on the third floor was blown about three metres into the air and killed, her blood staining the ceiling. A mother and daughter fell from the seventh floor to the first, a plunge that killed the elder woman. Another woman died after falling two storeys in a bathtub. Trees near the hotel were littered with the bodies of charred birds.

The attack was quickly followed by two more car bombings outside beach-bungalow camps south of Taba.

Participants in an emergency meeting of the Israeli cabinet said the military intelligence chief told them al-Qaida was probably behind the attacks. Deputy Defence Minister Zeev Boim called Osama bin Laden's terrorist network the most likely suspect.

## Bombings linked to al-Qaida

Egyptian authorities were more cautious. "We have to wait until the investigation is over to make sure if the attack was related to al-Qaida, or any other organization, or not," said Maged Abdel Fattah, spokesperson for Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Foreign Affairs Minister Pierre Pettigrew issued a statement Friday condemning the attacks and expressing sympathy to the victims and their families.

"While the details of these bombings are still coming in, it seems clear that the targets were the many Israeli tourists who were on vacation at these Egyptian resorts," Pettigrew said from Ottawa. "It is all the more offensive that Israelis were targeted during the religious holiday of Sukkoth.

"Canada condemns this assault and calls for the swift apprehension of those responsible," he added.

In Washington, a U.S. counterterrorism official, discussing intelligence on the condition of anonymity, said American officials suspect -- but aren't certain -- that al-Qaida had a role in the bombings.

The co-ordinated bombings show a level of sophistication that fits al-Qaida's usual operational style, the official said.

Not ruled out are Palestinian groups, such as Hamas, or local Egyptian militant groups, the official said. One significant Egyptian group, Egyptian Islamic Jihad, merged with al-Qaida several years ago; its leader, Ayman al-Zawahri, is now bin Laden's top deputy. The Egypt-based Islamic Group also has ties to al-Qaida.

U.S. President George W. Bush offered to help Egypt track down those responsible.

"By targeting Muslims and Jews, Egyptians and Israelis, and women and children, the terrorists have shown their total contempt for all human life and for all human values," he said.

## Graphic

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Colour Photo: Associated Press; Carpets hang from the damaged rooms of the Hilton Hotel in Taba, Egypt

**Load-Date:** October 9, 2004



## *Bedouin admits selling explosives used in Egypt*

Philadelphia Daily News

October 11, 2004 Monday 4STAR EDITION

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**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. 18

**Length:** 673 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

**Dateline:** TABA, Egypt

### **Body**

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A Bedouin tribesman has confessed to selling explosives that might have been used in three deadly car bombings targeting Israeli tourists, and investigators were looking into possible Palestinian militant involvement, Egyptian security officials said yesterday.

The tribesman said the buyers, whom he could not identify, told him the explosives would be used in the Palestinian territories, an Egyptian investigator said.

The Egyptians reportedly have asked Israel to provide information about specific Palestinians who recently entered their country.

Three car bombs, each packed with 440 pounds of explosives, exploded Thursday night - one at the Taba Hilton, just south of the Egypt-Israel border, and two at a Red Sea town of beach bungalows, Ras Shitan, 35 miles to the south.

Israeli Maj. Gen. Yair Naveh, head of the Israeli army home front command, said that in addition to the Isuzu pickup truck that exploded at the Taba hotel, a suicide bomber inside detonated another bomb.

"To our relief, the bomber who entered the hotel did not enter the hotel restaurants, something which would have brought down at least half the hotel," Naveh said.

Egypt has put the death toll at 34.

Naveh, speaking in Taba, said at least 32 bodies had been found, plus body parts that may include the remains of others.

The dead included Egyptians, Israelis, Italians, a Russian woman and others from the former Soviet Union and eastern Europe.

## Bedouin admits selling explosives used in Egypt

Israeli rescue officials said 12 Israelis have been positively identified among the dead and a few more Israelis were still unaccounted for.

Egyptian security officials said some of dozens of Bedouins detained for questioning after the car bombings in Taba and Ras Shitan have been cooperating with authorities and have provided valuable information about explosives.

Sinai is inhabited by about 10 semi-nomadic Bedouin tribes, whose population is estimated at about 4,000. Many tribesmen are known for their knowledge of Sinai's vast deserts and mountain ranges, while police accuse some of smuggling weapons, drugs and people across Egypt's border with Israel and Gaza.

Israeli officials have complained in the past of weapons and explosives being smuggled into the Gaza Strip from Sinai which borders the Palestinian territory. The Israelis maintain they come through tunnels beneath the Egypt-Gaza border.

Palestinian and Egyptian officials also told the AP that Egyptian security and intelligence officers have been discussing the attacks with officials from the Palestinian factions Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

The Egyptians were seeking information about members of the groups upset about Egypt's plan to help secure the Gaza Strip if Israel withdraws. Egypt has come under fire from some Arabs for allegedly aiding Israel; Egypt maintains it needs to ensure stability along its border in the event of a security vacuum left by Israel's departure.

The officials said Egypt is not suggesting the two factions were behind the attacks, but rather is probing the possibility that disgruntled defectors from the groups might have been involved.

On Saturday, Egyptian investigators said they suspected a group of eight to 10 terrorists carried out the attacks, possibly slipping in from Saudi Arabia or Jordan on speed boats. Israel has blamed al Qaeda for the attacks.

- Meanwhile, on the Gaza Strip, an Israeli aircraft fired a missile at Palestinian gunmen in the Jebaliya refugee camp after nightfall yesterday, killing one and wounding seven, in the second airstrike of the day.

Palestinian security officials said the target of the missile strike was a group of gunmen organizing to attack Israeli forces. They identified the dead man as a 20-year-old activist of the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a violent group with ties to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

Israeli military sources said the second airstrike was aimed at Palestinians planting a bomb.

Large numbers of Israeli troops and tanks have been operating in northern Gaza for nearly two weeks, trying to stop militants from firing rockets at nearby Israeli towns. \*

## Graphic

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PHOTO;

Associated Press

Two Italian women walk from Taba Hilton hotel yesterday.

**Load-Date:** September 1, 2005