

**Date and Time:** Thursday, May 2, 2024 6:19:00PM EEST

**Job Number:** 223359134

## Documents (100)

1. [Israel hits Palestinian camp after kibbutz attack](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

2. [U.S. Israel policy not to blame](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

3. [The World: Peace Process in Reverse Learning to Trust That Things Will Get Worse](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

4. [Down a wrong road 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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

5. [PEACE DEAL HIT AS TANK RAID KILLS GAZA FAMILY](#)

**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, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

6. [\*Comment & Analysis: email: Victoria Brittain@ Gaza City\*](#)

**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, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

7. [\*Women at barricades keep an eye on their defenders\*](#)

**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, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

8. [\*Terrorists Cash In On Drug Trade\*](#)

**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, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

9. [\*Carnage on the bus; 7 Israelis die as the bombers strike then gun down fleeing survivors\*](#)

**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, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

10. [\*GUNMEN FLEE AFTER ISRAELI BUS AMBUSH\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

11. [Stop attacks on civilians, says Arafat: Palestinian leader's plea as Israel calls up reservists](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

12. [WHITE VAN MAN](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

13. [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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

14. [MILITANT GROUP REBUILDS; TEENS SWELL RANKS OF AL AQSA MARTYRS' BRIGADE THINNED BY ISRAELI ATTACKS](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

15. [Why Suicide Terrorism Takes Root](#)

**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, 2002 to

May 31, 2003

16. [Burning questions to inflame debate](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

17. [Vengeance Four page special report: The humiliation of a people](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

18. [Sabbath suicide attack kills 9: Powerful blast goes off as worshippers finish prayers](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

19. [Canada wants probe of Jenin battle](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

20. [Secret of Palestine 's first female bomber](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

21. [Israeli troops storm towns in West Bank: 'We are not re-occupying,' defence ministry insists](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

22. [BB shoots her mouth off in new book: Disses gays, misses lovely old street-walkers and Bob Dylan thanks actress Gina Gershon for decking him in his own boxing ring](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

23. [TEL AVIV ATROCITY: SECURITY SWOOP ON HOMES IN LONDON, DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE LAUNCH RAID ON HOME OF LIBYAN LEADER GADDAFI'S FRIEND; SIX BOMBING SUSPECTS HELD AS ISRAELIS HUNT FOR 'BRITISH TERRORISTS'](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

24. [Paul Hogan gets some Strange Bedfellows: Actor says new movie script is best he has ever read](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

25. [POINT OF REFERENCE: U.S. - SYRIA HISTORY](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

26. [\*Mideast peace road map in tatters; Weekend suicide bombings prompt Sharon to cancel trip to Washington\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

27. [\*SIX ARRESTS IN SUICIDE BOMB LINK\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

28. [\*The next tough nuts to crack - WAR ON IRAQ : DAY SIX\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

29. [\*Israel advocates peace in face of violence\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

30. [\*2 'doves' quit Israel 's Labor Party, join leftists\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

31. [Saturday Review: Virgins? What virgins?: It is widely believed that Muslim 'martyrs' enjoy rich sensual rewards on reaching paradise. A new study suggests they may be disappointed. Ibn Warraq reports](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

32. [LETTERS TO THE EDITOR; Grace period's end has no local effect](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

33. [Israeli flag tops Arafat compound](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

34. [Palestinian Council Debates Arafat's Cabinet, and Leadership](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

35. [Israeli Army begins retaliation attack](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

36. [FOUR DIE AS ANGER OVER ATTACK ON ARAFAT BOILS OVER](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

37. [UN 'fact-finding' legitimizes lies](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

38. [MIDEAST TURMOIL: BETHLEHEM Vowing to Stay at a Holy Site As Troops and Impasse Linger](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

39. [U.N. ENVOY SAYS ISRAEL 'LOST ALL MORAL GROUND' AFTER JENIN](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

40. [U.S. envoy heading to Persian Gulf in effort to encourage 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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

41. [Aiding The Enemy](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

42. [GAZA SUICIDE BOMBING IS FIRST THERE IN FIVE MONTHS](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

43. [WHAT W SHOULD say to Prince Abdullah](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

44. [BOMB KILLS 6 & INJURES 84 POWELL POSTPONES MEETING WITH ARAFAT](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

45. [UNDER SIEGE INSIDE BETHLEHEM CHURCH, PALESTINIANS VOW TO STAY](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

46. ['This is a battle for the survival of the Jewish people, for survival of the state of Israel'](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

47. [Powell heads home with peace hopes collapsing](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

48. [U.N. envoy criticizes Israeli action ; Military campaign: Suicide bomber wounds 2 soldiers](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

49. [Mideast can follow N. Ireland 's example](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

50. [Gunman kills 3 women 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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

51. [10 die in Jerusalem bombing; Some witnesses said the attacker was dressed as an Orthodox Jew. Most of the dead and hurt were celebrating bar mitzvahs.](#)

**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, 2002 to

May 31, 2003

52. [\*Intefadeh's female bomber; Why a Red Crescent worker blew herself up\*](#)

**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, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

53. [\*10 die in Jerusalem bombing; Some witnesses said the attacker was dressed as an Orthodox Jew. Most of the dead and hurt were celebrating bar mitzvahs.\*](#)

**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, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

54. [\*AIDING THE ENEMY; ISRAEL UNDER SHARON, PURSUING RASH MILITARY SOLUTIONS, HAS GIVEN ARAFAT A HEROISM HE DOESN'T DESERVE\*](#)

**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, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

55. [\*MIDEAST VIOLENCE CLAIMS 27 VICTIMS\*](#)

**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, 2002 to  
May 31, 2003

56. [\*Political correctness and overcompensation\*](#)

**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, 2002 to

May 31, 2003

57. [\*Islamic Jihad ends ceasefire after raids: Israeli military demolishes Palestinian homes in 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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

58. [\*Sharon accused of 'blind cruelty'; House-razing act against Palestinians labelled 'war crime'\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

59. [\*Female bomber kills self, Israeli man in Jerusalem\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

60. [\*The short life of Imad Abu Zahrah\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

61. [\*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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

62. [\*Now Palestine is a casualty of Gulf conflict\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

63. [\*Muslim extremists 'play into BNP hands'\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

64. [\*Marching for the oppressors The left deserts liberalism to stand with Islamofascists\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

65. [\*ON THE BRINK OF WAR: KURDS FEAR THEIR HARD-WON FREEDOM WILL BE THE PRICE OF TURKISH AID TO US KURDS READY TO DEFEND THEIR HARD-WON FREEDOM AGAINST INVASION BY TURKEY\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

66. [\*Selective Condemnation of Jewish State Is Antisemitic\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

67. [Foreign Briefs](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

68. [MIDEAST TURMOIL: THE VIOLENCE Israelis Kill at Least 40 After Arab Kills 5 Teenagers](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

69. [Your say](#)

**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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70. [MIDEAST TURMOIL: THE OVERVIEW In New Rebuff to U.S. , Sharon Pushes Military Sweep](#)

**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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71. [Homes destroyed in raids; Decision to fence holy site seen as annexation of land](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

72. [Freedom demonstration will be one-sided](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

73. [\*Campuses struggle to separate Islam from terrorism\*](#)

**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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74. [\*Martyrs to the cause of propaganda\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

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

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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75. [\*Israel starts fence with foes on both sides; Palestinians, right-wingers see drawbacks\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

76. [\*Campus threat was cry for help; ex-officer felt "thrown away"\*](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

77. [\*COVER STORY: ONCE UPON A TIME IN JENIN; WHAT REALLY HAPPENED WHEN ISRAELI FORCES WENT INTO JENIN? JUST AS THE WORLD IS GIVING UP HOPE OF LEARNING THE TRUTH, JUSTIN HUGGLER AND PHIL REEVES HAVE UNEARTHED COMPELLING EVIDENCE OF AN ATROCITY\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** Hamas

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

**Narrowed by:**

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2002 to May 31, 2003

78. [Parents deter some bombers; Growing numbers of Palestinians don't want their children in the blasts against Israel.](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

79. [400,000 under house arrest: Around-the-clock curfews are Israel 's main tool in latest foray into West Bank](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

80. [COVER STORY: ONCE UPON A TIME IN JENIN; WHAT REALLY HAPPENED WHEN ISRAELI FORCES WENT INTO JENIN? JUST AS THE WORLD IS GIVING UP HOPE OF LEARNING THE TRUTH, JUSTIN HUGGLER AND PHIL REEVES HAVE UNEARTHED COMPELLING EVIDENCE OF AN ATROCITY](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

81. [SUICIDE BOMBER KILLS 3, INJURES 50 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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

82. [Civilians as weapons](#)



**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

83. [Israel 's snub of UN committee to be expected](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

84. [In Gaza camp, Palestinians gird for battle; Citing the lessons of Jenin, they are stockpiling food and ammo - and urging everyone to stay.](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

85. [SHARON WON'T BACK DOWN; DAY BEFORE POWELL'S ARRIVAL, ISRAELI VOWS TO CONTINUE WEST BANK ATTACKS](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

86. [Nine days that shook the world of a Jenin teenager; The Israeli invasion has had a devastating effect, writes Sam Kiley](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

87. [Trudy Rubin: Sharon sends Jenin message of destruction](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

88. [ISRAEL RAIDS CENTRES OF WEST BANK MILITANCY](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

89. [HAVE 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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

90. [Top World newsmaker: Israelis capture strategic base; Fighting comes a day after Saudi peace proposal goes to UN](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

91. [Israel should show same restraint as U.S. : Tommy schnurmacher](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

92. [Female bomber had dual life: Worked as paramedic, but increasing bloodshed led her to Arafat militia](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

93. [America and Israel ; on the same page](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

94. [Israelis step up security, probe suicide-bombing by woman](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

95. [Miraculous devotion](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

96. [Sorting out the grim totals in Mideast's war of numbers: Associated Press investigation. Israelis and Palestinians try to portray themselves to world as the greater victim](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

97. [Lunch in the Limelight for the Producers ON THE GO](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

98. [Search for 20 more Britons on the suicide bomb trail](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

99. [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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

100. [YES: ON MONDAY, THE INDEPENDENT' PUBLISHED A SAVAGE CARTOON OF ISRAEL 'S PRIME MINISTER, ARIEL SHARON. IT PROMPTED COMPLAINTS FROM THE ISRAELI EMBASSY, JEWISH GROUPS, AND SOME OF OUR READERS, WHO WERE OFFENDED BY THE IMAGE. HERE, AND OVERLEAF, WE ASK THE QUESTION: WAS THIS CARTOON ANTI-SEMITIC?; YES BY NED TEMKO EDITOR OF THE JEWISH CHRONICLE'; IT IS NOT THE](#)

**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, 2002 to May 31, 2003

## *Israel hits Palestinian camp after kibbutz attack*

The New Zealand Herald  
November 12, 2002 Tuesday

Copyright 2002 The New Zealand Herald. All Rights Reserved.

**Section:** NEWS; World; Latest

**Length:** 699 words

### **Body**

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TULKARM, West Bank - The Israeli army swept into Tulkarm refugee camp in the West Bank early on Tuesday following a Palestinian militant attack on a kibbutz that killed five Israelis, witnesses said.

Israeli security sources had said hours before that Israel had decided on military action in the Tulkarm and Nablus areas of the West Bank because they were suspected of links to Sunday night's assault on the collective farm community inside Israel.

Military retaliation for the attack by a lone gunman, who killed the collective farm community's administrator, two women and two small children before escaping, was likely to complicate a new US peace mission that began on Monday.

Palestinian witnesses and security sources said around 30 tanks, armoured troop carriers and jeeps stormed into Tulkarm's camp around 3am (1pm NZT) and fanned through the streets.

They reported heavy gunfire from Israeli troops but no immediate resistance from Palestinian militants, who have waging an uprising against Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since September 2000.

The Israeli army had no immediate comment.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and new Defence Minister Shaul Mofaz, visited the kibbutz, close to the West Bank boundary with Israel and just north of Tulkarm, on Monday evening and discussed a "measured" military response to the attack.

Israeli security sources said afterward Sharon and Mofaz had opted for military action "in the coming hours" in Nablus, from which the gunman was believed to have come, and Tulkarm, the Palestinian city closest to the attack site.

In the Gaza Strip's Rafah refugee camp on Monday night, a two-year-old Palestinian child was shot dead in the arms of his father by what witnesses called unprovoked gunfire into the neighbourhood from an Israeli army watchtower, medics said.

An army spokesman said Israeli troops had responded to shots fired at them.

"This is a very hot area," he said, referring to past clashes with Palestinian militants in Rafah.

The gunman slipped overnight into Kibbutz Metzger and opened fire, killing a woman visitor and its administrator in what was a rare raid on an Israeli collective farm.

## Israel hits Palestinian camp after kibbutz attack

The militant burst into a house, gunning down a 34-year-old mother in the doorway of her children's room and killing two sons aged four and five as they held bedding over their heads.

The al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, an armed offshoot of Fatah, claimed responsibility. It said it was avenging Israel's killing of an Islamic militant commander and vowed "more martyrdom attacks until occupation leaves our land".

Arafat's Palestinian Authority (PA) has sought, so far in vain, to persuade Islamic militants spearheading the uprising for independence not to attack civilians inside Israel, as opposed to Israeli troops and Jewish settlers on West Bank and Gaza territory that Palestinians seek for a state.

It expressed "strong condemnation of the killing of civilians" at the kibbutz but said it was carried out while a "brutal war machine" was killing Palestinian men, women and children in occupied territories.

Hopes for a halt to suicide bombings in the uprising were renewed after Palestinian officials said the Islamic militant group Hamas had discussed a possible one-year suspension of such attacks during talks with Fatah in Cairo on Monday.

The new violence clouded US envoy David Satterfield's arrival to push a new peace "roadmap" entailing reciprocal steps by the two sides -- mainly Palestinian reforms and Israeli military withdrawals -- leading to a Palestinian state in 2005.

The proposal, part of efforts by an international "Quartet" made up of US, European Union, United Nations and Russian mediators, has met with scepticism from Palestinian officials and Israeli cabinet ministers.

Most in the region believe the roadmap will go nowhere at least until after Israel's general election on January 28 and a resolution to the crisis over Iraq's alleged weapons of mass destruction now preoccupying US President George W Bush.

At least 1655 Palestinians and 631 Israelis have been killed since the Palestinian revolt erupted in September 2000 after US-brokered talks on Palestinian statehood in the West Bank and Gaza stalled.

- REUTERS

**Load-Date:** December 20, 2002

## *U.S. Israel policy not to blame*

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

February 03, 2002, Sunday

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**Section:** PERSPECTIVE; LETTERS; Pg. 2D; LETTER

**Length:** 1383 words

### **Body**

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Re: The Sept. 11 attacks have left us behaving in un-American ways, by Bill Maxwell, Jan. 13.

In his column, Bill Maxwell referred positively to a new course on terrorism offered at the University of Florida. As course instructor and supervisor, respectively, we appreciate his endorsement of the course. However, we are concerned that the placement of the paragraph may mislead readers about the content of the course.

Specifically, Maxwell's complimentary remarks follow immediately his assertion that U.S. support for Israel and Israel's policies toward the Palestinians, which provoke enormous anger in the Muslim and Arab world, are chiefly responsible for the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. Maxwell's references to the course in the next paragraph seem to imply that the course supports his argument.

#### LETTERS

While we recognize that the Israeli/Palestinian conflict is a source of much frustration and anger in the Arab and Muslim world, we do not believe that U.S. support for Israel caused the Sept. 11 attacks.

Arab and Muslim leaders have too often attempted to divert attention from their own social, political and religious malfeasance by exploiting the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. In the same manner, these leaders invoke alleged Israeli misdeeds and American support to justify various acts of terrorism, Iraq's 1991 invasion of Kuwait and the failure of Arab and Muslim states to develop legitimate and acceptable forms of social, political, economic and religious forms of governance.

Israel is not responsible for these developments, and the problems of the Arab world would remain had Israel never existed. Indeed, Israel is not solely responsible for the terrible condition of Palestinians. That responsibility is shared by Egypt and Jordan, which occupied the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, respectively, for almost 20 years, as well as the British who played both Jews and Arabs against each other during the Mandatory Period. They also have legitimate grievances against all the Arab and Muslim states (except Jordan) that have used the plight of the Palestinians for political gain but have refused to grant them political rights and citizenship.

While we respect him as a courageous journalist, we would not want anyone to imagine that we share his views about the sources of the butchery on Sept. 11. Blaming Israel, directly or indirectly, ignores history and belies the terrorists' own words.

Adam L. Silverman, instructor, and

Kenneth D. Wald, professor,

U.S. Israel policy not to blame

Department of Political Science,

University of Florida, Gainesville

Militant Islam's threat

Re: Not all militant Islamic groups are out to get Americans, by Susan Taylor Martin, Jan. 27.

I unequivocally agree with Steven Emerson's statement that "militant Islamic fundamentalism is a phenomenon that seeks to impose its sovereignty around the world."

It does not matter if it is al-Qaida, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad or Hamas - they are all terrorist organizations that directly or indirectly threaten the United States.

Some of them are now busy with their own priorities but, ultimately, they will turn on the United States. After the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, many of them paraded in the streets, danced and distributed sweets to celebrate the "victory" over the United States.

Morton Wygodski, St. Petersburg

An equal offense

There you go again. Now you print the inaccurate opinions of Susan Taylor Martin as a column in addition to the anti-Semitic bellicosity of Bill Maxwell. Do you not realize that "militant groups" such as Hamas murdering Jewish children and women is tantamount to al-Qaida's murdering Americans?

Michael Andrew Zimmer,

St. Petersburg

Get the point: don't forget

Re: Detainees deserve dignity and protection of Geneva Conventions by Robyn Blumner and Don Wright's cartoon, Jan. 27.

Robyn Blumner should place a loved one's image in Wright's cartoon of a man in the World Trade Center, Sept. 11, with a plane coming directly at him, on the phone asking to be connected to a civil libertarian.

Since "we" don't get the point - the detainees shown stripped of their dignity, shaved heads (against their religion) and in shackled - Robyn must have forgotten that it's against their religion to kill. She forgot that they are "detained" so they don't repeat Sept. 11. She forgot that, if freed, they will probably kill more people before their beloved hair grows out. Did she forget the many heartbreaking images we've seen since Sept. 11? The image of the terrorists shackled, shaved and on their knees is not exactly what I imagined; I'd rather see the hurt and pain of losing a loved one in their eyes permanently. And did she forget the way they treat their own women? Eighty-seven percent of the American people have not forgotten Sept. 11, get the point!

Brenda Allen, Seminole

Unreasonable concern

The media's concern for the detainees at Guantanamo Bay is far out of proportion to the actual problem. If you would take time to examine the conditions for inmates in single-cell isolation in any state medium- or maximum-security correctional facility, you will find that by comparison, the detainees are having a nice walk in the park.

Since the Chinese are part of our coalition, we could turn these thugs over to them. Look at their record with us during the Korean War. There were 8,176 of our soldiers that are still carried as missing. Most of them were killed by the Chinese before they could become prisoners of war, and no one cared. Of the 6,856 GIs that were lucky



U.S. Israel policy not to blame

enough to be POWs, 2,438 (36 percent) died in captivity, and still no one cared. If the Chinese took the detainees, the problem for us would disappear, so would the detainees. I'm sure your writers would care if this were the case.

Why is it that the liberal civil liberties crowd seems to show more concern for our enemy than they have for our own troops?

(Source for this data: Office for the Secretary of Defense. Data released on Jan. 10, 2000.)

Frank Thoubboron, Belleair

Pretzel logic

Re: Editorial cartoon by Pat Oliphant, Jan. 27.

With all due respect to President George W. Bush, it may be easier to leave the piece of pretzel lodged in his throat. It may be the president's best defense. With that, he will be unable to cough up the truth, as well as the hundreds of thousands of dollars which the Enron Corp. contributed to his campaigns (gubernatorial and presidential). Pretzel, anyone?

JoAnn Lee Frank, Clearwater

There's no comparison

Re: Enron brings drama to hearing room, by Mary McGrory, Jan. 27.

Not so fast, Mary!

Your column demonstrates that the desire of the left-leaning editorial media to tar the Bush administration and excuse the Clinton era has gone a step too far.

After a bland reminiscence of Sam Ervin, your attempt to equate Enron with Watergate was both incorrect and inappropriate. As we all know, Watergate was a conspiracy stemming from executive branch hubris. Enron is no such thing. The White House certainly didn't cause the Enron collapse at all. Moreover, the executive branch acted morally despite of the large contributions from Enron to the political parties. The attempt to tie Watergate and Enron together just doesn't hold water. The facade of nostalgia for yesteryear can't cover the inappropriateness of the comparison.

The final comparison in the column in which the quotation from Sen. Cleland regarding the meaning of "is" is used to compare the Enron problem with the Clinton era crime of perjury is also completely off base. The fact that President Clinton lied to a federal court is certainly a failure far greater as regards a threat to our democracy than the bankruptcy of a large company that didn't receive government support after major campaign contributions and in which there is no indication of inappropriate government action, much less criminality.

Sorry Mary, this one just won't fly.

John J. Christman, Terra Verde

We'll miss you, Peggy

The line was a block long at the Paramount Theatre on Broadway in New York City. We were waiting to see and hear Peggy Lee.

Her style was unique and the phrasing perfect as she seemed to sing directly to you, in almost a whisper. Get Out of Here and Get Me Some Money, Too brought us to our feet, yelling for encores. And Fever? That really made our mercury rise.

Peggy, we'll miss you, but I'm afraid "That's all there is."

U.S. Israel policy not to blame

Sheila G. Brill, St. Petersburg

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2002

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End of Document

## *The World: Peace Process in Reverse; Learning to Trust That Things Will Get Worse*

The New York Times  
January 27, 2002 Sunday  
Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2002 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section 4; Column 1; Week in Review Desk; Pg. 1

**Length:** 1406 words

**Byline:** By JAMES BENNET

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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THIS is how peace was supposed to come to Israelis and Palestinians over the last eight years: Israel would yield territory parcel by parcel in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Palestinian Authority would strive to keep Israelis safe and the antagonists would come to understand and trust each other as they coordinated the handoffs.

It was to be a true process of peace, a self-reinforcing cycle powered by an incrementalism of ever-bigger, reciprocal concessions and tightening ties that would yield common economic interests, tranquillity and, ultimately, reconciliation.

Incrementalism turned out to be as powerful an engine as the framers of the Oslo accords envisioned. But it has so far proved most effective in reverse.

Things here have a way of going bad, staying that way long enough for everyone to adjust and then getting worse. Yesterday's horrifying attack becomes tomorrow's familiar tactic; yesterday's terrifying reprisal becomes tomorrow's starting point. Everyone says they have no other choice.

This conflict process explains why the cease-fire that for three weeks achieved relative, imperfect calm shattered so easily this month, leaving Israelis and Palestinians in an even uglier standoff. The two sides fell back to their most recent level of violence, headed downward under the burden of fresh despair over the failure of another truce.

The stepwise regression is reflected not just in the violence but in the efforts to end it. The agreements reached between Israelis and Palestinians during the 16-month conflict amount to a receding series of prefaces. After peace negotiations failed and the uprising began, a former senator, George Mitchell, brokered the Mitchell Plan to walk the parties back to the negotiating table. When that broke down, George J. Tenet, the director of central intelligence, brokered the Tenet Understanding, to walk the parties back to the Mitchell Plan.

Now a retired Marine Corps general, Anthony C. Zinni, is trying to broker an agreement to get the parties back to Tenet, through it to Mitchell, and onward and upward to substantive peace negotiations.

## The World: Peace Process in Reverse Learning to Trust That Things Will Get Worse

Last week, Israel's new head of military intelligence predicted a wave of terror attacks worse than anything Israel had seen -- a few hours before a Palestinian gunman shot up a busy shopping street here, Jaffa Road, killing two women and wounding 20 other people.

It may be hard to recall, but there was a time, during the first intifada, that Palestinians fought only with stones. Yitzhak Shamir, then the prime minister, was once asked what would happen to the Palestinians if they ever switched to wide use of guns. "There will not be even a memory of them left," he replied.

But the shooting spree on Jaffa Road barely interrupted television programming. "Walker, Texas Ranger" ran as scheduled.

The facilitator of this negative incrementalism is a numbing fatalism. People have not lost their sense of outrage, on either side. But they are losing their sense of surprise. They know what will come next, and they expect it to be even worse than the bad things they are used to. In fact, the Jaffa Road attack was followed Thursday by an Israeli helicopter missile strike that killed a Hamas militant in the Gaza Strip, and on Friday by an attack by an Arab suicide bomber in a Tel Aviv pedestrian mall. He wounded more than two dozen people. That day, Hamas launched rockets at the Erez crossing between the Gaza Strip and Israel, and in reprisal for the day's attacks Israeli F-16's struck in the West Bank and Gaza.

"The Israelis and the Palestinians are again entering a cycle of death," the analyst Hemi Shalev wrote last week in the newspaper Ma'ariv, "and all that remains is to identify the victims." Who would not long for "Walker"?

Within the course of the conflict, the shocking has routinely become the routine. It no longer seems surprising that Yasir Arafat -- the Palestinian leader, feted guest of a pope and prime ministers -- is a virtual Israeli prisoner in his compound in Ramallah, in the West Bank. Israel has placed tanks less than 100 yards away from him.

The first time Israel carried out a targeted killings of a Palestinian militant, the first time it used F-16's against Palestinian targets, the first time it seized Palestinian-controlled territory -- all these have become standard operating procedure, as the militants' attacks have multiplied.

Early this month, Israel captured a ship carrying 50 tons of munitions that the Palestinian captain said were headed for the Gaza Strip. The cargo -- rockets, antitank grenades, sophisticated explosives -- was impressive. But, some said, it was hard to imagine Palestinian militants using the munitions against Israel, for fear of the inevitable overwhelming retaliation.

A top Israeli military official snorted at that argument. "Let me tell you something," he said. "In 1996, we had some Palestinians shooting at us" -- after the Israeli government decided to open an entrance to an archeological tunnel beside a site holy to Jews and Muslims. "And we said, 'Wow, wow, wow -- terror!' " he continued. " 'How can they shoot at us?' But we said, 'Well these are only a few shootings -- but if they shoot at us for real, we will do terrible things.' "

Israelis, he said, would have gotten used to the new level of weaponry, and would not have responded disproportionately. "This terror campaign that he has been running in the last 15 or something months, has this nature of getting ever worse, and both sides yet keep some rules of the game," he said. He was repeating the Israeli assertion that Mr. Arafat, as the Palestinians' leader, is responsible for terrorist attacks committed by any Palestinian group.

Indeed, one function of this incremental slide is that, for all the talk of the brink of war, the antagonists never quite take the plunge. "We keep thinking this is the absolute worst," said one diplomat here. "It's going to fall apart, but it doesn't quite. We keep staggering down and down, but it never gets completely unstuck." This diplomat said his fear was that the two sides could stagger far enough, gradually enough, that they could find themselves at full-scale war.

Nobody talks much anymore about the Israeli government's decision last August to seize Orient House, the Palestinians' political center in East Jerusalem -- though it has never given it back. Fearing a similar capitulation to

## The World: Peace Process in Reverse Learning to Trust That Things Will Get Worse

a new status quo, Israelis began debating last week whether to call for Jews and other non-Muslims to be allowed on the holy site known to Jews as the Temple Mount and to Muslims as Haram al-Sharif. The Muslim supervisors closed it to non-Muslims when the new intifada began.

"When the parties despair of reaching a solution, time is the father of all solutions," wrote Nahum Barnea, the political columnist for the Israeli daily Yedioth Aharonoth. "A new status quo is beginning to become formalized on the Temple Mount, in which Israel has no role or stake."

In the same way, time is rendering normal the fundamentally weird and cruel divisions between the neighbors here. It is hard now to imagine a time -- just 17 months ago -- when Israelis felt safe driving to Palestinian-controlled Jericho to gamble in a casino, or when Palestinians did not have to plead with soldiers to be permitted to walk through a checkpoint.

Israelis who venture into Palestinian-controlled territory are now liable to heavy fines from their government, which is concerned for their safety. Many Palestinians say they have not been out of their hometowns for months.

IT is Oslo's fault, in part. The agreement created a crazy-quilt of Palestinian-controlled and Israeli-controlled areas in the West Bank, in part to preserve Jewish settlers' access to their homes and their claim to West Bank land. The two sides were supposed to coordinate security to keep people traveling easily across the quilt. In practice, the agreement sharply lengthened the Israeli-Palestinian boundary. As fear of violence grew, the checkpoints proliferated, appearing at the entrances to Palestinian-controlled areas and enmeshing the Israeli Army there.

In recent weeks, the checkpoints outside Bethlehem and Ramallah, once seemingly slapdash arrangements of concrete barriers and soldiers, have changed. They have grown metal railings to hold the cars and trucks in lines, and walkways lined with fences to do the same for pedestrians. Incrementally, a new status quo is emerging.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

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Photo: A Palestinian gunman opened fire in Jerusalem Tuesday, killing 2 and wounding at least 20. (Reuters)

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2002

## *Down a wrong road in the Middle East*

The Weekend Australian

September 28, 2002, Saturday

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**Section:** FEATURES-TYPE- LEADER-COLUMN- LEADER; Pg. 18

**Length:** 648 words

### **Body**

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ARGUMENTS still rage over whether the visit two years ago today of then Israeli opposition leader Ariel Sharon to the site in Jerusalem known to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary (Haram al-Sharif) and to Jews as Temple Mount was the spark for the current Palestinian intifada. What is not in dispute is the heavy price both sides have paid since the uprising began. Israel has been exposed to repeated suicide bombings and armed attacks on civilian targets leaving more than 600 men, women and children dead. Around 1900 Palestinians have died mostly at the hands of Israeli security forces, the Palestinian economy has been crippled by curfews and blockades and the Israeli army has reoccupied the West Bank.

MATP

The ugly cycle of violence has so far defied all attempts at finding a solution. With George Bush preoccupied with the war on terror and removal of Saddam Hussein, the US has let the Middle East peace process slide. Prime Minister Sharon has little time for finding accommodation with Yasser Arafat and, like the US President, is openly calling for the Palestinian leader's removal from power. Mr Sharon has a right to protect his people from suicide bombers by targeting bomb factories and extremists in groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad. His assessment of Mr Arafat as irrelevant, ineffectual, unreliable and a leader who has failed his people is largely correct. But in the court of world opinion the siege and rocket attacks on Mr Arafat's compound this week have put Israel in the dock.

Israel's defiance of this week's UN Security Council resolution to lift the siege and withdraw its forces from Palestinian cities has done little for its cause. Nor could it have come at a worse time as Washington attempts to win support from Arab and European countries for the enforcement of a new and tougher resolution on Mr Hussein. Although the US abstained from the vote it made a rare public criticism of Israel's defiance.

The criticism is understandable. Responding to terrorism with military means risks inflaming the Israeli-Palestinian confrontation. The US and Britain are acutely aware that the Arab world's anger at the moribund state of the peace process may undermine Western efforts to put pressure on Mr Hussein who in turn could exploit regional tensions. What makes the current situation so dangerous is that the conflicts in the Holy Land and the Iraq crisis are so interlinked yet so far from resolution. That's why Tony Blair deserves support for urging an international conference to jump-start peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians.

The immediate danger, however, is that Israel's military siege of Mr Arafat's compound, ostensibly to root out suspected terrorists, may have freed him from a political siege. If Mr Sharon wants to fast-forward a regime change that would produce a more moderate and effective Palestinian leadership, he is going about things the wrong way. Mr Arafat's stature has been in decline for months because of growing Palestinian anger and frustration over the intifada's failure to bring statehood any closer. Moderate Palestinians have been openly critical of Mr Arafat turning down the Clinton plan for a Palestinian state and have started questioning the logic and morality of suicide

## Down a wrong road in the Middle East

bombing. As Israeli bulldozers were moving in, plans were under way to divest Mr Arafat of his executive power and appoint a conservative as prime minister and reform the Palestinian Authority.

Now those demands have been quietly shelved. The siege has rallied Palestinians around Mr Arafat's leadership and probably emboldened the extremists. Mr Sharon said this week he was determined to disprove the assumption that Israel's response to terrorism would become more difficult the closer US comes to attacking Iraq. The danger is he has just created an opportunity where more force will be needed to counter a renewed terror threat.

**Load-Date:** September 27, 2002

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End of Document

## PEACE DEAL HIT AS TANK RAID KILLS GAZA FAMILY

The Scotsman

August 30, 2002, Friday

Copyright 2002 The Scotsman Publications Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 10

**Length:** 704 words

**Byline:** Ben Lynfield In Jerusalem

### **Body**

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A FRAGILE attempt to reduce the Palestinian-Israeli confrontation in the Gaza Strip was on the brink of collapse yesterday after an Israeli tank fired into a Palestinian encampment, killing four people, including a mother and her two sons.

Palestinians said that the tank had used a weapon considered illegal by human rights groups, the flechette shell, which spreads thousands of deadly darts over a wide radius.

Four other people were wounded in the Bedouin community at Sheikh Ajlin, a mile south of the Israeli settlement of Netzarim, near Gaza City. One of the wounded was a four-year-old boy who was said to be in critical condition.

Khamis Krayem, a doctor at the intensive care unit of Dar al-Shifa Hospital, in Gaza City, said X-rays showed clearly that Mohammed Hajeen, 21 "has three nails in the chest." The Israeli army declined to comment, saying the entire incident was under investigation.

In an incident last year, three Bedouin women were killed at their homes in a village in the Gaza Strip by flechette shells.

The move to reduce tensions, known as Gaza-Bethlehem First, had already been teetering on Wednesday amid Israeli charges of Palestinian arms smuggling and Israeli army activity near Sheikh Ajlin.

The peace effort was based on the idea of Israel making limited army pull -outs in exchange for Palestinian police taking responsibility for security in vacated areas.

If successful, it was supposed to spread to other cities through the West Bank. But Palestinian hard-liners vowed to keep up attacks on Israeli targets and hard-liners in the Israeli establishment are also wary of the understanding, on the grounds that the withdrawals could restore power to the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat.

"Gaza and Bethlehem first is almost at a dead end," said Menachem Klein, a political scientist at Bar Ilan University near Tel Aviv. "Israel is not really ready for such withdrawals."

Israel's defence minister, Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, the architect of the Gaza First plan, issued an apology for the killings. "I have ordered an investigation of what happened and I have announced I'm deeply sorry about it," Mr Ben-Eliezer told reporters. But that failed to stop the Palestinian interior minister, Abdul Razaq Yihya, from cancelling a planned meeting with him.



## PEACE DEAL HIT AS TANK RAID KILLS GAZA FAMILY

Military sources said that the shooting had taken place at night and had come after "suspicious movements" by people in an area that was off-limits to Palestinians.

Monir Hajeen, 45, a relative of those killed who lives in the encampment, said that tanks had driven toward it, firing shells. One of the shacks had been hit by five shells, he said. He said that some of those killed and wounded had been sleeping, and that others had been sitting under a fig tree.

Mahmoud Zahar, a leader of ***Hamas***, the Islamic resistance movement, said: "This gives new energy to escalate the resistance. We are not reacting, we are fighting to defend ourselves. Of Mr Yihya and other negotiators, he said: "They must take into account the feelings of the people. How can anyone sit down with the Israelis, and smile, while our blood is still fresh?"

Mr Arafat said in a statement that the attack was "a deliberate crime that aims to sabotage the peace efforts made by our friends, the Quartet group of international mediators and ... the Arab peace initiative."

Elsewhere, Lebanese Hezbollah guerrillas fired artillery rounds and anti-tank missiles at Israeli positions in the disputed Shebaa Farms border zone, provoking an Israeli air raid and artillery fire.

Israeli security sources said three Israelis had been wounded.

Witnesses said that the guerrillas had opened fire on at least three positions in the area at the junction of the Lebanese and Syrian borders and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

Israeli troops responded by firing artillery shells into the fringes of the border town of Kfar Shouba, overlooking Shebaa Farms, and an Israeli jet pounded that area with rockets. Two Israeli helicopter gunships were spotted pouring rocket fire on suspected Hezbollah positions. There were no immediate reports of casualties on the Lebanese side.

Witnesses saw Hezbollah fighters fire at, but miss, an Israeli helicopter with a surface-to-air missile.

**Load-Date:** August 31, 2002

**Comment & Analysis: email: Victoria Brittain @ Gaza City**

The Guardian (London)

September 16, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Leader Pages, Pg. 18

**Length:** 647 words

## **Body**

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Early in the morning the beach in Gaza City belongs to the older men who stride along the pale sand or do old-fashioned callisthenics in their swimsuits. The mist shrouds groups of swimmers out beyond the first line of waves. Clusters of men in green T-shirts from the Palestinian Authority collect the bottles and papers left from the previous day's family picnics.

By late afternoon, once the heat of the day has gone, the families are back. **Women** bathe fully clothed, skirts billowing in the water. Even tiny babies are carried to the edge of the warm sea. Families rent coloured tents, and some spend the night on the beach. The ubiquitous thin horses are brought for a wash-down as their working day ends.

In the restaurant above the beach, a table of friends sits chatting for hours with a few bottles of water and an occasional cup of coffee, watching the sun sink. Here it is easy to imagine that Gaza is a normal place, and to forget the Israeli missile that destroyed eight buildings killing 17 people, including 11 children.

The five young men at the table were discussing their families, not far away in the West Bank towns of Jenin and Bethlehem, but completely inaccessible. No Palestinians can leave Gaza, except ministers and others in special circumstances, who get an Israeli military permit for a day. But none of these five will be given any such permit in the foreseeable future as they are among the 26 men deported to Gaza by the Israelis as part of the deal ending the 40-day siege of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem after earlier this year.

Hatem, a restaurant owner, describes how every time he speaks to his five-year-old son on the phone the child asks him: "Why didn't you kiss me when you left, dad?" His family were a few metres away from him when he came out of the church, and his son shouted: "I want to see my daddy, I want to hug my daddy." But Hatem was hustled away by the Israeli military, "and the consequence is he's now blaming me and asking over and over again, why?" Hatem is haunted too by the thought of his brother, Bassem, who was badly wounded during the siege. "We were forced to surrender all the injured colleagues to the Israeli army medical team rather than the Red Cross." All were then arrested. Bassem lost a kidney, had 32 stitches, and spent three months being interrogated. "The court ordered him to be released, the family put up 20,000 shekels bail for him, but the Shabak (Israeli intelligence service) kept him."

The five men consider themselves well-off compared with the other 13 deportees who were forced to leave for Europe: "We're among our people." The PA has rented six apartments for the 26 men and they live together, many studying in the Islamic university.

The days and nights of the siege forged close bonds between them, although they come from political factions across the spectrum of Palestinian politics. Among these five, two are Fatah - both in the PA security - one is

**Hamas**, one Islamic Jihad, and one Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. As they were bussed to Gaza Israeli security told them: "Don't relax, we're after you."

"What was different about the Bethlehem invasion was the completeness of the occupation, the house-to-house searches, the lists of men the Israelis wanted to arrest or kill. We never planned to enter the church, but it became the only place that could be safe for us," said Mazen, a senior PA security official. They talk bitterly about their astonishment at the realisation after 35 days in the church that "no one was standing with us, not the international community, not the Christians. This deal the Americans and the Europeans got from the Israelis was the only alternative to us all being killed. The question we asked ourselves then is still our question: how can countries who say they are interested in freedom just watch what is happening here?"

**Load-Date:** September 16, 2002

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## *Women at barricades keep an eye on their defenders*

The Guardian (London)

August 14, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 14

**Length:** 672 words

**Byline:** Jonathan Steele in Jerusalem

### **Body**

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With her steely blue-grey eyes drilling him from under the brim of her sun hat, Yehudit Elkana approaches the armed Israeli border policeman at the checkpoint between Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

Almost all the Israelis who pass here are in vehicles. The walkway beside the coils of razor wire is mainly used by Palestinians.

"Shalom," she greets the suspicious policeman.

"Who are you?" he asks, as he studies the nameplate she wears with its Hebrew and Arabic writing. "Ah, you are human rights."

"Yes, and so are you," she replies.

At least once a week Ms Elkana joins Checkpoint Watch, which was set up by the Israeli organisation **Women** for Human Rights. In groups of three or four its members fan out around Jerusalem to monitor the treatment of Palestinians by soldiers and border police.

"They almost always behave better when we are around," she says.

As Israeli citizens and non-settlers, the monitors are not allowed into the West Bank, but they can observe what is going on at the 15 various entrances to the city. Some of the barriers are concrete and steel. Others are barricades of stones and rubble put up by armoured bulldozers to force Palestinians to cross only on foot.

People who are ill and some pregnant **women** have to be carried over to taxis and ambulances which wait on either side of the ugly barriers.

The policeman at the Bethlehem checkpoint turns Yehudit and her companions away from the walkway but lets her go out to the road and stand there. She immediately spots graffiti chalked on the side of the booth where police ask drivers to show their papers.

Apparently written by a Russian immigrant doing military service for Israel, one message reads: "A good Arab is a dead Arab."

"If that is not gone the next time I come here, I will be making an official complaint," she tells the young policeman.

## Women at barricades keep an eye on their defenders

A hundred yards away we find more armed police guarding a dozen Palestinians sitting on the pavement. They had been caught as they tried to sneak past the checkpoint through olive groves.

The women are not allowed to talk to the Palestinians, but by making notes and letting the police know they can turn up without warning they believe they exercise a restraining function. Half an hour later we see the men being escorted back through the checkpoint. They have not been locked up or charged.

Ms Elkana was a child in the 1948 war ("Israel's worst: 6,000 Jews died,") and has worked in human rights for many years.

"But it is only in the last year and a half that we have been monitoring what goes on for Palestinians with all these restrictions at the border. Increasingly, we are also trying to conduct joint protests with Palestinians," she says.

Her group is one of several in Israel which want to give the lie to the prime minister Ariel Sharon's slogan "There is no one to talk to."

It sets up dialogues and organises cooperative medical and educational projects with Israelis and Palestinians. Because of the ban on Israelis, other than settlers and the army, going into the West Bank, most projects take place in Jerusalem or outside Israel.

Last Saturday, on this same stretch of road outside Jerusalem, Ms Elkana joined 400 Israelis, including 100 Israeli Arabs from the organisation Taayush (Coexistence), who tried to walk to Bethlehem. The aim was to link up with 700 Palestinians and hold a meeting outside the Church of the Nativity.

The Palestinian side of the march had delegates from groups including Hamas and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Israeli soldiers and mounted police blocked the marchers, firing teargas to get them to disperse. Some yards back from the checkpoint the marchers approaching from the Israeli side were allowed to hold a rally, using a mobile phone to contact the Palestinians in Bethlehem and relay messages of solidarity to the crowd.

"I was not surprised the army stopped us. They don't let any such activity go on. It's not in Sharon's interest to have a peace agreement because that would mean removing the settlements," Ms Elkana explains.

**Load-Date:** August 14, 2002

## **Terrorists Cash In On Drug Trade**

The Times Educational Supplement

June 21, 2002

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**Section:** FIRST WORDS; No.4486; Pg.4

**Length:** 668 words

**Byline:** Reva Klein

### **Body**

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Reva Klein explains what international anti-drug day next Wednesday is about

The United Nations General Assembly first designated June 26 the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking back in 1987. The urgency of both issues has, if anything, increased over the years.

Where drug trafficking was once the preserve of organised criminals, a more sinister dimension has evolved in recent years, with terror groups in Latin America, Kurdistan, the Middle East and south-west Asia being bankrolled by illicit drug profits. Particularly robust is the al Qa'ida connection. Afghanistan is still the major source of opiate and cannabis products worldwide, despite the alleged destruction of a quarter of its opium crop this year.

American intelligence sources believe that Osama bin Laden has been involved in heroin trafficking activities to finance his terror organisation, as are Hezbollah and **Hamas**. One of the less appreciated consequences is the rising numbers of refugees and those from the indigenous local populations becoming addicted to heroin. But with sophisticated money laundering syndicates operating in that region and elsewhere around the world, these businesses are left to flourish with impunity.

In the eyes of the American Drug Enforcement Administration, the war on terror and the war on drugs cross dangerous paths in places such as Afghanistan, Colombia and the tri-border area of Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil, long a haven for Islamic extremists.

Drug trafficking occasionally shocks the world when people unwittingly caught up in it are apprehended. Just before Easter, a 12-year-old boy swallowed 87 packets of heroin before boarding a flight from London to New York, just a couple of days after a 13-year-old girl was charged with smuggling nearly Pounds 1 million worth of heroin into Britain. Increasingly, **women** and children are being used as drug "mules" by traffickers in the belief that they are less likely to be stopped by customs.

In this country, drug trafficking is not a major problem but the link between drugs and criminality is. In statistics collected in England and Wales in 1999-2000, two thirds of people arrested for burglary tested positive for opiates, including heroin, and one half had taken cocaine or crack. It was also found that the greater the drug use, the higher the involvement in crime.

But even without criminal and terrorist connections, the increasing level of drug misuse in the UK is a matter of concern. Cannabis, the most widely used drug in this country, has been tried by 44 per cent of 16 to 29-year-olds. While there has been a decline in the numbers using amphetamines, amyl nitrate and LSD and only a one per cent

## Terrorists Cash In On Drug Trade

increase in those who have tried ecstasy, cocaine use has gone up 4 per cent among people under the age of 30. It appears to be viewed positively by users, who are as likely to be employed as unemployed, as a drug that is socially acceptable and easier to control.

Even though heroin use has remained low in recent years, the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign has reported that more than 20,000 discarded and potentially infected needles were found in public places around the UK last year, including parks, public toilets, churchyards, abandoned cars and beaches. The main dumping ground for the needles was parks and playing fields, where children could easily pick them up.

There is concern among drug educators that the Government is looking to follow America's example by adopting a "just say no" approach to drugs which, they believe, is just as ineffectual as shock tactics on their own. As Dutch research shows, the most effective way of reducing drug experimentation is by talking about drugs within the context of young people's lives and the problems they face, supported by factual information.

Websites:

[www.drugscope.org.uk/druginfo](http://www.drugscope.org.uk/druginfo)

[www.undcp.org/adhoc/decade/](http://www.undcp.org/adhoc/decade/)

[www.bbc.co.uk/education/id/illegal\\_glossary.html](http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/id/illegal_glossary.html)

[www.dare.uk.com](http://www.dare.uk.com)

[www.lindesmith.org/library/international\\_index.html](http://www.lindesmith.org/library/international_index.html)

[www.isdd.co.uk/drugsearch](http://www.isdd.co.uk/drugsearch)

**Load-Date:** June 22, 2002

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End of Document

**Carnage on the bus;**  
**7 Israelis die as the bombers strike then gun down fleeing survivors**

DAILY MAIL (London)

July 17, 2002

Copyright 2002 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 14

**Length:** 621 words

**Byline:** David Williams

## **Body**

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SEVEN Israelis, including a baby girl, were killed yesterday when terrorists dressed as soldiers blew up a bus and then gunned down the passengers as they tried to escape.

The victims included three members of one family a grandmother, father and his eight-month-old daughter.

A pregnant woman, who was shot in the head, was one of 14 wounded in the carnage.

Doctors last night delivered her child, who was said to be in critical condition.

A two-year-old girl and two 12-year-old girls were also among the most seriously injured.

The bus, which had been fitted with protective panels, was en route from an ultra- orthodox suburb of Tel Aviv to the Israeli settlement of Emmanuel, near Nablus when it came under attack.

Eyewitnesses said at least two large bombs were detonated as the bus passed through hilly countryside.

As stunned survivors staggered from the wreckage, three Palestinians dressed as Israeli soldiers opened fire on them with automatic weapons.

The ambush was the worst attack since Israeli troops occupied seven of the eight Palestinian cities on the West Bank following suicide bombings in Jerusalem last month.

It ended three weeks of comparative peace and came as the U.S. hosted a four-way meeting to try to end the violence.

Earlier in the day, the U.S.

Secretary of State Colin Powell had indicated that the U.S. might be prepared to deal with the Palestinians if president Yasser Arafat moved to a mainly symbolic role.

Last night, a spokesman for the Israeli government said: 'Any time that the Palestinians see that there is a chance of progress in the peace process, this is what they do.' Yesterday's ambush occurred at the spot where Palestinians killed ten in a bus ambush last December.



## Carnage on the bus; 7 Israelis die as the bombers strike then gun down fleeing survivors

Abraham Cohen, a security officer at Emmanuel, arrived at the site a few minutes after the explosion.

'The shooting was still going on and shots were fired at my car,' he said.

'I was lucky to get out of my car before it was hit.' A paramedic said: 'We busted in the door to the bus. It was a shocking scene. **Women** and children were lying on the floor, bleeding and screaming for help.' Local resident Chazdai Eliezer described the scene as 'a massacre'. He said the gunmen carried on firing as drivers stopped to help the injured.

When Israeli troops arrived, there was a gun battle. The gunmen then escaped into the surrounding countryside.

Izzadine al-Qassam, the military wing of **Hamas**, claimed responsibility for the attack. It came as Tony Blair's special Middle East envoy, Lord Levy, held talks with Israeli leaders to try to restart the peace process.

And in New York, four senior diplomats from the U.S., EU, Russia and United Nations met as part of the joint international approach to settling the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

During the two-hour meeting, the group, known informally as the Quartet, planned talks with the foreign ministers of Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

But the three other powers disagreed sharply with the U.S. over Arafat's role.

Washington accuses him of running an administration tainted by terrorism and corruption. It says Mr Arafat has no place in any future peace talks and must be replaced as Palestinian leader.

Before the meeting, Mr Powell indicated that he was willing to consider a plan to retain Arafat as a symbolic leader.

He said he could entertain the idea of having Arafat 'kicked upstairs' to a figurehead post.

But UN secretary-general Kofi Annan, Russian foreign minister Igor Ivanov and EU diplomat Javier Solana say Mr Arafat legitimately heads his people's statehood movement.

They also disagreed with the U.S. on the best way forward.

The Bush administration wants to concentrate on ending Palestinian attacks on Israel.

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**Load-Date:** July 18, 2002

## **GUNMEN FLEE AFTER ISRAELI BUS AMBUSH**

The Scotsman

July 17, 2002, Wednesday

Copyright 2002 The Scotsman Publications Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 11

**Length:** 664 words

**Byline:** Ben Lynfield In Kfar Saba, Israel

### **Body**

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IN THE first major Palestinian attack since Israel reoccupied West Bank cities, gunmen detonated a bomb near a bus outside a Jewish settlement and then raked passengers with automatic gunfire as they tried to flee, military sources said.

Seven Israelis were killed and 15 wounded by the gunmen at Emmanuel, an orthodox settlement 10 miles east of here in the occupied West Bank.

The injured brought to Meir Hospital in Kfar Saba included a two-year-old boy with shrapnel in his head and a pregnant woman whose child was born in an emergency caesarian operation, doctors said.

A teenage girl clutching a sacred book walked slowly into the emergency room. She was to be treated for shock.

"The two-year-old had superficial shrapnel wounds in the head and arm, but he will be okay," said Dr Mario Stern, who was on duty.

Dr Stern, an immigrant from Argentina, has seen a lot of bloodshed since the start of the intifada, but was deeply shocked by the shootings.

"This is an extremely difficult experience for me," he said. "It is hard to imagine how a person could in cold blood open fire on babies and women."

The three or four gunmen were wearing Israeli army uniforms, Israeli media reported. Witnesses reported hearing a loud explosion followed by smaller grenade explosions and bursts of automatic fire that lasted for several minutes.

The settlement's security chief, Moshe Avraham Cohen, drove to the scene in his armoured car, only to find it eerily quiet.

"I opened the car door a bit. Suddenly I saw three soldiers at the side of the bus. I was happy, seeing they had already arrived. I asked them if I could help them, but before I could finish the sentence all three started shooting at me," he said.

A manhunt, including helicopter gunships, was underway last night for the gunmen.

## GUNMEN FLEE AFTER ISRAELI BUS AMBUSH

Yitzhak Yazdi, a taxi driver, said: "When I got there, there was an explosion, went ten meters high and stones flew over the road. I saw two terrorists who were running away and hid behind a rock. The soldiers came and I showed them where the gunmen were."

The attack was claimed by three separate groups, including the militant Islamic group **Hamas**, in a call to the Associated Press agency. The caller said the gunmen were safe in the Nablus area. The al-Aqsa brigades, the militia of Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, also claimed the attack, as did the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. An ambush in the same area killed 11 Israelis in December.

The violence shattered Israeli hopes that keeping 700,000 Palestinians under curfews that were imposed three weeks ago would prevent such bloodshed.

Settler leaders immediately called for even tougher army steps. The military had already been planning to introduce expulsions of relatives of suicide bombers, according to Ha'aretz newspaper.

It was the first large-scale attack since two bombings in Jerusalem killed 26 Israelis last month. Israeli troops have vigorously enforced the curfew, and yesterday used stun grenades in Nablus against Palestinians violating it.

The grenades were fired into a factory, causing it to catch fire and burning alive a civilian, Mahmoud Hilal, according to Palestinian reports.

With their eyes on a meeting of representatives of the US, EU, Russia and UN to discuss the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, Israel and the Palestinian Authority were quick to comment on the attack. The authority condemned it, saying it was against violence against all civilians, Israeli or Palestinian.

Israeli officials put the blame on Mr Arafat for the attack, saying such violence will not stop as long as he heads the Palestinian Authority.

"It is a continuation of his strategy of terror. He has not given any orders to his security forces to halt terror. In fact, they are actively involved in terror."

The White House spokesman Ari Fleischer condemned the attack, saying that it "underscores the importance of focusing on peace and working with leaders in the Palestinian Authority who are dedicated to peace".

**Load-Date:** July 17, 2002

## *Stop attacks on civilians, says Arafat: Palestinian leader's plea as Israel calls up reservists*

The Guardian (London)

June 21, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Foreign Pages, Pg. 17

**Length:** 697 words

**Byline:** Graham Usher in Jerusalem

### **Body**

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#### GRAHAM USHER IN JERUSALEM

The Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, made an impassioned plea to his people yesterday to end all attacks on Israeli civilians, as the Israeli army continued to enter West Bank cities in reprisal for two suicide bombings in Jerusalem that left 26 Israelis dead and more than 100 wounded.

In a sign that the incursions may be prolonged, the army issued a "limited" call-up of reserve officers yesterday to reinforce conscripts on active duty, Israeli army radio said.

In a statement read out on Palestinian Authority radio and published in Palestinian newspapers, Mr Arafat said: "Out of concern for our people, their land, and their future, I declare my complete condemnation of these attacks that target Israeli civilians.

"(Such attacks) have nothing to do with our national rights of legitimate resistance to Israeli occupation and our right to defend our holy sites against the settlement danger."

The denunciation is unlikely to appease an outraged Israeli public, yesterday mourning their dead at a second day of mass funerals, among them Noah Alon, 59, and her granddaughter, five-year-old Gal Eizenman.

They were two of seven Israelis killed on Wednesday when a Palestinian suicide bomber self-detonated outside a bus stop near the French Hill settlement in occupied East Jerusalem. They were identifiable only from their clothes as shown on a family video made just before their deaths.

"The two most energetic women in our family, my mother and my niece, are gone in a blink of an eye," Alon's daughter, Yifat, said.

The sense of horror was intensified yesterday when a mother and her children were among six people killed by Palestinian gunmen who infiltrated the Itamara settlement.

Mr Arafat's plea will cut no ice with the Israeli prime minister, Ariel Sharon. Addressing the World Zionist Conference in Jerusalem, he averred his long-held belief that "standing behind the terror attacks is the Palestinian terror authority and a terror axis (made up of) Iran, Syria and (Osama) bin Laden".

## Stop attacks on civilians, says Arafat: Palestinian leader's plea as Israel calls up reservists

Last night the US president George Bush assured Mr Sharon by phone that he was trying to find a way to bolster Israel's security while providing hope for the Palestinians.

The White House spokesman, Ari Fleischer, said: "Most of the conversation was about condolence and sympathy for what Israel is going through."

Mr Bush said he would announce his delayed peace plan at "an appropriate time".

At the state department, meanwhile, Colin Powell telephoned the foreign ministers of Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt to urge them to improve prospects for Mr Bush's pending statement on Palestinian statehood by doing what they could to deter terror attacks on Israel.

He also talked to and Russia, the European Union's defence supremo Javier Solana and the foreign secretary Jack Straw.

The army incursions yesterday included a full-scale invasion of Bethlehem and Tulkaram, suburbs of Ramallah and Nablus, and a village in the Gaza Strip. Curfews were also maintained in the West Bank cities of Jenin and Qalqiliya, reoccupied on Tuesday after a **Hamas** suicide bomber killed 19 Israelis in West Jerusalem.

In Jenin refugee campsite of the fiercest fighting during Israel's recapture of Palestinian West Bank cities in April - the Palestinian human rights group, LAW, said that 600 Palestinian men had been arrested, and 150 deported to neighbouring villages.

It is unclear whether these reoccupations will be permanent in line with the Israeli government's new policy of "capturing the territories of the PA" and holding them for "as long as the terror continues".

The Israeli defence minister and Labour party leader, Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, said yesterday that while "the reality" required a deepening Israeli military presence in Palestinian areas, he opposed "any permanent presence or to recapturing Palestinian land".

But officials in the prime minister's office quoted in the Israeli press said that Mr Ben-Eliezer had approved the new policy and was now distancing himself from it in the face of criticism from his own backbenchers.

A Palestinian during a 'March for Hunger' protest against both Israel and the Palestinian Authority in Gaza yesterday

**Load-Date:** June 21, 2002

## WHITE VAN MAN

The Sun  
July 27, 2002

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**Section:** INTERVIEW; BOBBY CHAPMAN; OPINION

**Length:** 579 words

**Byline:** Annabelle Steggles

### **Body**

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TODAY'S White Van Man is plant manager Bobby Chapman, who works for Meadowburn Mechanical Services. Bobby, 52, is married to Margaret with two grown-up kids and the couple live in Croftfoot, Glasgow. Bobby drives 400 miles a week in his Renault Master. Here, he talks to ANNABELLE STEGGLES.

Big Brother 3 ends with 10million watching final show.

WVM: I didn't see the point of it - I watched the programme a couple of times but it was just too boring. What's it supposed to prove? I think it's aimed at women, it's not my cup of tea.

Inmates at Shotts Prison are treated to a party just months after the SAS were called in during a siege at the jail.

WVM: Who dreams up these ideas? They're criminals and are in prison to be punished not to have parties.

MOD insist pilot error was to blame for the 1994 Chinook helicopter crash on the Mull of Kintyre.

WVM: The public are never going to know what happened. The only two people who knew were the pilots. But it's terrible for the Government to blame them when the families have battled so hard to clear their sons' names.

Disgraced Lord Archer refused leave to appeal against convictions for perjury and perverting justice.

WVM: The judges got it right but they should give him longer. He's no different from anybody else - if you break the law you pay the price.

Strathclyde fire bosses ban The Scottish Sun from fire stations.

WVM: That's not right. I don't think women are bothered by Page 3 anymore. It's part of the working day. I can't see what the fuss is about.

Hear'Say's Myleene Klass is told by record bosses to put her boobs away.

WVM: It's a lot of nonsense. Just because she shows them off it doesn't mean people are going to buy the records if they're no good.

Prince Andrew beats a speeding rap.

## WHITE VAN MAN

WVM: Anyone else would have got a fine and points on their licence. Why should he be allowed to get away with it?

Israeli jet kills ten children, including two babies, in attack on a Hamas terror boss' Gaza home.

WVM: You can't call a three-year-old kid a terrorist and you can't get away with dropping bombs on people. Both sides have to put a stop to the conflict over there - it's getting out of hand.

New waxwork of Kylie at Madame Tussaud's.

WVM: It's a good likeness and I'd definitely go and see it if I was in London. I'm quite a fan.

Sir Alex Ferguson breaks Manchester United's transfer record to get Pounds 29.1million Rio Ferdinand.

WVM: You get what you pay for and he is one of the top defenders around. He was outstanding in the World Cup, even against Brazil.

Inquiry reveals serial killer Harold Shipman killed at least 215 patients.

WVM: I don't think we'll ever know the total figure. It's hard to believe he got away with it for so long - that nobody sussed him out despite so many patients dying.

Celtic's row with newspapers over the rights to pictures taken at Parkhead leads to blackout.

WVM: It's a lot of nonsense. It's not as if they don't make enough money from strips and the players get paid too much anyway. It's pathetic and bad news for the fans.

TV's Rainbow characters Bungle, Zippy and George stolen from motorway service station.

WVM: It's probably a publicity stunt - they are no good to anybody, so why would anyone want to steal them?

Scotland's medal chances as Commonwealth Games get underway in Manchester.

WVM: I think we'll get a couple of medals - we'll not come away empty-handed. Our sportsmen and women will do Scotland proud and I'll definitely be cheering them on.

**Load-Date:** December 8, 2002

## WORLD REPORT

Windsor Star (Ontario)

May 23, 2003 Friday Final Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. C2; News; Brief

**Length:** 1569 words

**Byline:** Compiled from Star News Services

**Dateline:** London; Geneva; Bouake, Ivory Coast; Manila, Philippines; Ahmedabad, India; Taipei, Taiwan; Jerusalem; Gaza City, Gaza Strip; Washington; West Palm Beach, Fla.; Salt Lake City; Austin, Texas; New York

### **Body**

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Saudis ready to discuss jailed westerners

London

Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Britain has held out hope that five Britons and a Canadian who have been jailed in his country for fatal bomb attacks could be given clemency.

Prince Turki al-Faisal said his government is working with Britain on the cases of the six men, who deny involvement in the bombings.

"These people were tried, convicted, evidence was presented in court against them and they were sentenced, he said. "Now the British government and the Saudi government are dealing with each other to resolve this issue."

William Sampson, who has dual Canadian and British citizenship, was sentenced to death in Saudi Arabia for his role in a fatal bombing two years ago.

Windsor Star News Services

Jagger arts centre bans noisy rock concerts

London

The Mick Jagger performing arts centre in the grounds of his old school has banned rock concerts because of complaints about the noise.

Jagger was in London Thursday when he was told about the ban and was understood to be making inquiries about it.

Mike Taylor, who runs the centre at Dartford Grammar School in Kent, said the noise problem had not been caused by the bands but by their young followers.

The three-year-old centre has two theatres, each with a 250-seat capacity and a recording studio.

Drug patents hurting poor countries: Doctors

Geneva



## WORLD REPORT

Poor countries are granting more patents on medicines than necessary, making crucial drugs far too costly for them, the humanitarian group Doctors Without Borders said in a report Thursday.

Many developing countries do not have the scientific expertise to decide whether a patent is justified, so they grant protection even when it is not required under international law, the report said.

"It is becoming increasingly clear that drugs that are under patent are a barrier to access because this leads to higher prices," said a spokeswoman for the group. "Drug patents can and should be challenged."

Power-sharing cabinet makes show of unity

Bouake, Ivory Coast

Ministers of Ivory Coast's new power-sharing cabinet convened in a northern rebel headquarters Thursday, a venue meant to symbolize the divided country's reunification after civil war.

Participants agreed to disarmament and armistice plans for rebels behind the nine-month war in Ivory Coast, a one-time West African economic powerhouse.

The war killed thousands of people, uprooted one million and split the north and south of the country.

Philippines, Canada agree to repatriate prisoners

Manila, Philippines

The Philippines and Canada signed a treaty Thursday to repatriate prisoners and allow them to serve their sentences closer to their families.

The treaty, signed by Philippine Justice Secretary Simeon Datumanong and Canadian Ambassador Robert Collette, outlines the process that currently could affect seven prisoners -- five Canadians serving sentences in the Philippines and two Filipinos imprisoned in Canada, officials said.

Collette said the concept of offender transfers serves "a very important humanitarian purpose."

Bagful of crude bombs explodes in man's arms

Ahmedabad, India

A man was badly injured Thursday in India's violence-prone Gujarat state when a bag of crude pipe bombs he was carrying blew up, police said.

The man was taken unconscious to a hospital and his identity and motives were being investigated, Deputy Commissioner of police Ajay Tomar said. There were no other injuries.

Hundreds of pipe bombs were used last year by Hindu and Muslim mobs during religious riots in the western state last year. The attacks, which left more than 1,000 people dead, were the worst in India in a decade.

U.S. health expert falls ill after investigating SARS

Taipei, Taiwan

A disease expert from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention who was investigating SARS in Taiwan is returning to the United States after developing symptoms of the virus, a Taiwan health official said Thursday.

The official said the illness was not confirmed. But if the epidemiologist does have the respiratory virus, it would be the first time a disease investigator has become ill from SARS since Dr. Carlo Urbani died from SARS in the early days of the epidemic, according to the World Health Organization.

## WORLD REPORT

## Canadian activist spared deportation by court

## Jerusalem

A Canadian peace volunteer about to board a Toronto-bound plane at Ben Gurion airport late Thursday evening was saved from deportation by a last-minute court injunction issued by the Israeli Supreme Court.

Greg Rollins, 30, of Surrey, B.C., had been detained in an Israeli prison since Sunday for being in a closed Israeli military zone in the West Bank town of Hebron without authorization.

He was returned to his cell in the Ramle jail to await a plea for his release filed by his lawyer, Jonathan Kuttab.

Rollins, who has been stationed in Hebron with Christian Peacemaker teams, was detained with a fellow peace worker by Israeli soldiers for unauthorized presence in the closed military sector.

Palestinian PM arranges talks with Hamas

## Gaza City, Gaza Strip

The Palestinian prime minister has arranged a meeting with Hamas, his first since taking office a month ago, to persuade the militant group to stop attacks on Israelis, officials said Thursday.

The prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, is also weighing a U.S. proposal that he meet with President George W. Bush in Qatar, a Palestinian official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

U.S. administration officials have said Bush might visit the Mideast at the end of a European trip next month, with possible stops in the Gulf states of Kuwait or Qatar, countries that supported the United States during the invasion of Iraq.

In new violence, six Palestinian children ranging in age from 9 to 14 were wounded by Israeli fire after throwing stones at Israeli tanks in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Palestinian doctors said.

## U.S. general who led invasion of Iraq retires

## Washington

Gen. Tommy Franks, who planned and commanded the American-led wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, has decided to retire, defence officials said Thursday.

Franks won high praise from President George W. Bush and Defence Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld for his handling of the operation to oust Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The 57-year-old native of Midland, Texas, comes to the end of his three-year term as head of the military's 25-country U.S. Central Command in July, but it was not immediately clear when he would leave. No replacement has been nominated.

## Funeral homes charged after moving bodies

## West Palm Beach, Fla.

A funeral services company and its local operators were charged Thursday with felonies for allegedly unearthing older bodies to make way for more burials at two southern Florida cemeteries.

Menorah Gardens, its parent corporation Service Corp. International and two of its directors were charged with misconduct and incompetence in operating a cemetery, woeful negligence and failing to obtain authorization from a family before disinterment.

SCI is based in Houston and is the world's largest funeral services company.

## WORLD REPORT

SCI has blamed gravediggers for the burial problems and said it has quickly responded to other problems as they developed.

Hiker killed by boulder after saving companion

Salt Lake City

A hiker was crushed by a falling five-tonne boulder after he pushed a friend out of the rock's path, authorities said.

Seth Buhr, 22, was hiking with three friends in Big Cottonwood Canyon, about 24 km southeast of Salt Lake City, when the boulder fell as the group was taking a break beside a waterfall Wednesday, said Peggy Faulkner, a spokeswoman for the Salt Lake County sheriff.

Two of the hikers noticed a shift in the rocks above Buhr and a female hiker and yelled for them to get out of the way. Buhr pushed the woman into a pool before the boulder crashed down on him.

Court rejects appeal of mom on death row

Austin, Texas

A homemaker who prosecutors say killed her sons for insurance money to finance a lavish lifestyle lost the appeal of her murder conviction in the state's highest criminal court.

The Wednesday ruling by the Court of Criminal Appeals means Darlie Routier will remain on death row.

Routier's children, five-year-old Damon and six-year-old Devon, were stabbed to death in 1996 in their home in the Dallas suburb of Rowlett. Routier was convicted only in Damon's death.

In its 75-page unanimous opinion, the court rejected Routier's claims of botched trial records, a legal conflict of interest with her lead trial lawyer and mistakes in jury selection and evidence.

Desmond Tutu awarded prestigious service medal

New York

Columbia University's Teachers College has bestowed a medal for distinguished service on South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

"You who are going out as teachers have an incredible vocation," Tutu, a former high school teacher, told 425 graduates at their commencement.

"Each one of us is a masterpiece in the making," he said.

"How do you know if in your class you may have a Mother Teresa? How do you know if you have a Nelson Mandela? How do you know if you have a Dalai Lama?"

Tutu, 71, spent the past semester as a scholar-in-residence at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his battle against apartheid in South Africa.

Columbia also awarded medals to folk singer Pete Seeger.

## Graphic

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WORLD REPORT

SWEET DREAMS: A watermelon vendor's son rests on watermelons in Bhopal, capital of the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, Thursday. Watermelons are a popular refreshment in India. Associated Press photo

**Load-Date:** May 23, 2003

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**MILITANT GROUP REBUILDS;  
TEENS SWELL RANKS OF AL AQSA MARTYRS' BRIGADE THINNED BY  
ISRAELI ATTACKS**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

May 30, 2002 Thursday

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2002 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 633 words

**Byline:** MOHAMMED DARAGHMEH, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** NABLUS, West Bank

## **Body**

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Israel's military killed or arrested most of the leaders in the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade when it stormed into West Bank cities two months ago. But now the militia is rebuilding itself with an army of volunteers, including teen-agers.

The Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing and two shootings that killed six Israelis - including a toddler and three teen-agers -- on Monday and Tuesday, and also was behind several other recent assaults.

While most suicide bombers have been men in their 20s, two Al Aqsa attacks in the past week were carried out by teen-agers -- one 16, the other 18. The 16-year-old, Issa Bdeir, from a refugee camp in Bethlehem, was the youngest of more than 60 Palestinian suicide bombers in the current conflict.

"We came out of the Israeli invasion very weak, we lost so many of our leaders and cadres," said Abu Mujahed, the nom de guerre for the Al Aqsa spokesman in the West Bank city of Nablus.

"But we found a lot of young people who wanted to join us," he said in an interview with The Associated Press. "It's not as easy to make explosives and store them as before, because the Israelis are still coming in and out of the area. This hurts our activities, but doesn't stop them."

The group, which emerged shortly after the Palestinian uprising began in September 2000, is linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement -- but is increasingly at odds with Arafat's leadership over his call for an end to suicide bombings.

The dispute was seen as the reason why there was no Fatah seal on the statement, faxed on Monday to news agencies, claiming responsibility on behalf of Al Aqsa for a suicide bombing near an ice cream parlor in Petach Tikva, Israel. That bombing killed 18-month-old Sinai Kenaan and her grandmother, Ruth Peleg.

Arafat's government has issued statements condemning the recent bombings, but Palestinian security forces have not launched a major crackdown on the Al Aqsa group or other leading militant factions, such as **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad.

## MILITANT GROUP REBUILDS; TEENS SWELL RANKS OF AL AQSA MARTYRS' BRIGADE THINNED BY ISRAELI ATTACKS

Israel and the United States have demanded the Palestinian security forces take tougher action, something Arafat has long been reluctant to do.

With its West Bank incursion that lasted six weeks and ended earlier this month, Israel effectively declared it no longer was looking for security cooperation from the Palestinian Authority and would track down suspected militants on its own.

Many suspected militants were killed or arrested, and Palestinian attacks were down sharply in the days immediately after the Israeli operation. But the bombings are again on the rise.

"There is a renewal of the wave of terror ... because of the policies being carried out by Yasser Arafat," said Raanan Gissin, spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. "Arafat is allowing the rehabilitation of the terror coalition."

A Palestinian intelligence officer in Nablus, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the militants were being monitored -- but not arrested -- and a large number of youths, ages 16 to 20, were joining Al Aqsa to replace those killed or arrested.

With many unemployed youths hanging out in the streets, recruiting is easy for Al Aqsa, he said. "Resistance in Palestinian society is growing like a mushroom," the officer said.

Bassam Naem, a Fatah leader in Nablus, said the group now has "clear directions to stop suicide attacks inside Israel because it has brought a very bad result. No one in the world accepts killing women and children."

Asked how the Fatah movement should deal with the Al Aqsa group if it continues to carry out suicide attacks, he said, "We should not fight the Al Aqsa Brigades. We should deal with them, meet with them, and change their direction."

The Al Aqsa group has been particularly strong in Nablus and nearby Jenin.

## Graphic

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PHOTO: Eitan Hess-Ashkenazi/Associated Press: An unidentified woman consoles Chen Kenaan during a funeral yesterday for her 18-month-old daughter, Sinai, and mother, Ruth Peleg, 56, who were killed when a suicide bomber blew himself up in Petach Tikvah, near Tel Aviv, on Monday.

**Load-Date:** May 30, 2002

## **Why Suicide Terrorism Takes Root**

The New York Times  
April 4, 2002 Thursday  
Late Edition - Final

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**Section:** Section A; Column 1; Editorial Desk; Pg. 23

**Length:** 646 words

**Byline:** By Shibley Telhami; Shibley Telhami is professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland and co-editor of "Identity and Foreign Policy in the Middle East."

**Dateline:** COLLEGE PARK, Md.

### **Body**

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The Israeli government's strategy of massive military reprisal against Palestinian violence has not worked in the past and is proving even more disastrous in the era of suicide bombings.

We must not misunderstand the nature or the magnitude of the danger the Middle East now faces. The true horror of suicide bombings is that they are immensely empowering to many people in the region who no longer believe that their governments can do anything to relieve their humiliation and improve their conditions. The fact that some factions within Yasir Arafat's own Fatah movement seem to have endorsed suicide attacks is the result, not the cause, of popular support for a method first embraced by Islamist groups.

When a teenage girl suicide bomber recently left a taped message speaking of "sleeping Arab armies" and ineffective governments allowing girls to do the fighting, her handlers knew well how this would play among the masses. The most pervasive psychology in the Arab world today is collective rage and feelings of helplessness -- and the focus of this psychology is the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. While Israeli television shows the horror that innocent victims of suicide bombings endure today, Arab television is showing Israeli tanks smashing into Palestinian cities, the mounting Arab civilian casualties, and the scars of 35 years of occupation.

In this climate, suicide bombings take root because they free the desperate from the need to rely on governments altogether. Rather than being sponsored by states, this form of violence challenges states.

Those who have tried to explain suicide terror by religious doctrines have been proved wrong. Increasingly, secular Palestinians are adopting this method because they think it is effective in making occupation unbearable to Israel. From nonreligious young women to members of the semi-Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine to the secular Al Aksa Martyrs Brigades, groups and individuals have begun emulating the suicides of Hamas, the radical Islamist group.

Suicide bombings thrive in anarchy. The absence of effective government is their primary source of power. They are antigovernment, the lethal weapon of individuals and small groups. While deterrence works against states, even against states like Iraq, it is ineffective against dispersed and shadowy groups that do not have significant infrastructures to target. And even when one knows whom to target, retaliation is not generally effective against those willing to die.

### Why Suicide Terrorism Takes Root

The next stage of suicide terror may be more ominous. The method is likely to be copied and made more lethal beyond Palestinian areas, particularly in the era of globalization, when information, technology and weapons are readily available.

Like all terrorism, suicide bombings must be delegitimized by Arab societies and stopped because no ends can justify these horrific means. At the same time, there has to be a way of dealing with the realities that have made suicide bombings acceptable to a large number of Palestinians and others. To pretend that this issue is simply one of a choice between good and evil is to know nothing of human psychology. Today many Israelis support the expulsion of Palestinians from their homes as a way of stopping the unbearable horror of suicide terror; and many Palestinians support terror as way of ridding themselves of the unbearable pain of occupation. This was not the case only months ago.

President Bush is right that suicide bombings cannot be tolerated or rewarded because the consequences to the international system could be devastating. But there is only one way to reduce these acts of terror: putting forth a better alternative, a peace plan that revives hope. Violent retaliation is unlikely to end suicide terror, and may even increase it by adding to the humiliation that hardens the hearts even of decent people.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

**Load-Date:** April 4, 2002



## *Burning questions to inflame debate*

The Advertiser

April 20, 2002, Saturday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** OPINION; Pg. 28

**Length:** 670 words

**Byline:** Geoff ROACH

### **Body**

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SORRY but it's time again. Time to pose a few challenging questions and interpose some personal observations about, well, anything. Should you feel inclined to answer any or all of them, the e-mail address below will suffice. But their true purpose is to provoke you into pondering, for just a while, on some of life's current problems and pleasantries. Here goes.

HOW soon might it be before certain lawyers start inviting heroin addicts to sue the state on the basis they didn't know the drug was addictive or dangerous? After all, if the ploy works for smokers, why not junkies? More frightening still, how long before some so-termed liberal judge agrees with that premise?.

MIND, it might do some good if the rapidly escalating number of obese children in Australia began suing their parents for neglect. News that the nation's ranks of overweight or obese children has trebled in the past 15 years - allied to warnings that obesity has become a health crisis as serious as AIDS or smoking - should make every parent think thrice before condemning their offspring to a lifetime of health problems.

WHY is there widespread community approval of an Australian family's attempt to conceive a "designer baby " as a last-ditch bid to find a cure for their seriously-ill daughter but universal condemnation of a deaf American lesbian couple for taking every possible means to ensure their child, conceived by donor sperm, also would be deaf? And how long before boutique obstetricians start tailoring babies, like clothes, to the image and form desired by prospective parents?.

WHO said Muslim women are only tolerated as servants and sex chattels of their husbands? Apparently not Sheik Ahmed Yassin, leader of the Palestinian militant group Hamas which is now dispatching hate-indocrinated young females to perform the prized role of homicide bombers against Israel.

AND why does Dubya Bush keep threatening dire consequences on Israel for retaliating to those bombers when the world knows he will never invoke them for fear of jeopardising the massive financial and electoral clout provided by New York's Jewish collective to his party.

WHY is the delectable Nigella Lawson never displayed below the waist during her kitchen capers on TV? Could it be because all that slurping and swallowing has manifested itself on her ankles and thighs? Perish the thought.

HOW stupid and draconian is the AFL to fine footballers thousands of dollars for briefly pushing each other in what it absurdly terms "melees" when our courts rule that a speeding driver who kills a pedestrian, flees the scene,

## Burning questions to inflame debate

concocts a false alibi and later commits other offences should be "penalised" only by entering a \$1000 bond to be of good behaviour for two years?

AND why does an employee who embezzles money seem almost always go to jail, while thieves who break into homes or steal and wreck any number of cars always get a bond?

SHOULD Choice magazine be voted publication of the year for revealing that the meat content of your average frozen supermarket pie might consist of nothing more salubrious than goats' gristle, buffaloes' backsides and deers' ears? Such sordid contents are, however, unlikely to be present in pies produced by your friendly local baker.

HOW fortunate are South Australian sport fans to be able to appreciate the wondrous talent, team ethic and understated demeanour of both football's Andrew McLeod and basketball's Willie Farley at the same time? And has footy ever thrown up a more genuinely decent bloke than Mark Bickley?

WHAT does it say about Australian intelligence levels when the nation's top rating TV program is Big Brother? And how soon before Eddie McGuire demands to take over as its host?

WILL the astringent Kiwi Prime Minister and reluctant artist, Helen Clark, whom we last observed being interviewed on NZ TV by a ventriloquist's dummy, be an entrant in this year's Archibald Prize?

FINALLY, the most intriguing question of all. Why are there only 11 Tim Tams in a packet?

[roachg@adv.newsltd.com.au](mailto:roachg@adv.newsltd.com.au)

**Load-Date:** April 19, 2002

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## *Vengeance Four page special report: The humiliation of a people*

The Sunday Herald

April 14, 2002

Copyright 2002 Scottish Media Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Pg. 1

**Length:** 2308 words

**Byline:** Eye Witness By David Pratt In Jenin

### **Body**

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"Same shit, different day," read the slogan on the T-shirt of the young Palestinian man as he yanked it up to his shoulders to prove he wasn't carrying a bomb underneath. Rifles at the ready, the Israeli soldiers crouching some distance away behind an armoured personnel carrier were taking no chances, and ordered him to kneel by the roadside with his hands on his head.

Behind the man, waiting in line for the call to come forward, were perhaps 50 more Palestinians. Most were filthy, many gaunt and haunted-looking. All were men who had emerged from the rubble that was once a refugee camp in the West Bank town of Jenin.

Terrible things happened in Jenin. But then terrible things also happened in Nablus, Ramallah, Tulkarm, Bethlehem and Jerusalem in these recent dark days. Even by the bitter standards of Middle East bloodletting, events of the past few weeks have left Israelis and Palestinians alike in a state of collective trauma.

"I'm an old soldier, a paratrooper, this is my third war, including Yom Kippur and Beirut in 1982. The last 11 days of fighting in Jenin camp have been the worst I have ever seen," confessed Israel Caspi, a 48-year-old Israeli reservist from Hirtzilia.

Every soldier's nightmare is fighting in a built-up area. According to Caspi, the combat was often at very close quarters; on other occasions the men trying to kill him seemed invisible.

His assessment of how dire things are in the region is perhaps the only thing he would have in common with Khaled Amoudi, an 80-year-old Palestinian grandfather, some of whose family are missing in the carnage wreaked by the Israeli army in Jenin.

"This is the most terrible situation I can remember in my entire life. In 1967 we lost the West Bank, but now it's worse because we are losing so many of our people and everything we have," he said, barely able to hold back the tears.

What was home to Khaled Amoudi was, in the words of Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon, "a nest of cockroaches". That Jenin refugee camp and the town itself were home to some of the most militant Palestinian activists, and a breeding ground for suicide bombers, was well known. No-one doubts that in the camp's back streets the bomb factories of **Hamas**, Islamic Jihad and the al-Aqsa Brigade were well established, but those responsible were only a minority among the 15,000 or so Palestinian civilians who lived there. It was, it seems, a distinction the Israeli army was unwilling or unable to make.

## Vengeance Four page special report: The humiliation of a people

"The camp was one big trap to kill Israeli soldiers, it was completely blocked with barricades and bombs. We had information that for the last three or four weeks even the women and children were preparing mines. They were waiting for us everywhere," Israel Caspi told me. Around us the men of his unit, dirty and exhausted, but clearly glad to be alive, sprawled on the concrete and twisted metal that were once Palestinian homes.

These were not the swaggering Israeli soldiers I have so often encountered, but sombre men, clearly marked by their Jenin experience. The question now being asked is just what did that experience involve, and what is the truth of Palestinian allegations that the military operation in Jenin camp was nothing less than wholesale slaughter? It was, if some sources are to be believed, a massacre almost comparable in ferocity to the infamous Sabra/Shatila camps massacre in Beirut in 1982. Then, more than 1200 Palestinian civilians were butchered by Christian Phalangist militiamen, given a free hand by an Israeli army under orders from Ariel Sharon.

"You must be realistic and understand the dangers that existed in Jenin. These were people trying to kill us like they kill our wives and children in the centre of Israel," said Caspi. "On three occasions after killing Palestinians, men from my unit had to continue shooting at their bodies for 10 to 15 minutes to detonate the bombs they were carrying."

Like other soldiers I spoke with, Caspi finds it unbelievable that accusations of atrocities should be levelled against the Israeli soldiers who stormed Jenin.

"On Thursday I took part in the capture of 36 of the most militant and dangerous fighters among the Palestinians, including the leader of Hamas in this part of the Samaria area," said Caspi. For days before their capture the militants, he says, were afraid the Israelis were going to kill them, and had been in touch with political pressure groups and human rights organisations outside in an attempt to save their own lives.

"In the end the 36 surrendered and 36 are now safe. We made them take off their shirts and trousers when we were looking for bombs, and we tied their hands and blindfolded them. But that was it, no-one even hit them," Caspi insists.

Such kid-glove handling is unlikely. Only a few days ago, outside the West Bank town of Dura

near Hebron, I came across a group of Palestinian prisoners, bound and blindfolded, sitting in the baking sun. Guarded by the Israeli soldiers who had rounded them up, most were in a terrible condition. With their faces badly cut and bruised, they had clearly been beaten. Last week on a hillside farm overlooking Jenin, I watched all day as pairs of Israeli Apache helicopters flew endless strikes against the town and its refugee camp.

"Be careful," warned Moustafa Abdullah, as we hid beneath the cover of some olive trees on the slopes around his farm, watching the silhouettes of gunships bank over the beleaguered camp and return in our direction. "Yesterday when they passed over low they shot at us," Moustafa said. Beneath us explosion after explosion rumbled as rockets and tank shells sent clouds of dust into the clear blue sky. Fires raged across neighbourhoods. What, one wondered, must it be like for those trapped under such an onslaught? According to the UN's agency for Palestinian refugees, UNWRA, the fighting had driven 2000 to 3000 people from their homes.

Last Wednesday Khaled Amoudi, along with his wife Suda and some of their children and grandchildren, could take no more, and fled the camp. "Believe me when I say there was a massacre inside. There were many dead in the street, and after a few days the smell was choking. We could do nothing," said Suda.

Jessica Barry, a delegate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, was in touch at that stage with staff at Jenin's main hospital. They confirmed that the refrigeration unit in the hospital morgue was no longer working and that there had been no alternative but to bury bodies in the surrounding compound.

"The Israelis gave us no opportunity to come out before they started going from house to house - burning, arresting men and shooting those trying to escape. I saw one man almost coming apart after being shot, even though he had his hands in the air and was giving himself up," claimed Suda Amoudi.

## Vengeance Four page special report: The humiliation of a people

Palestinian officials say there were extra-judicial executions, and that the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) swept up many Palestinian bodies with bulldozers before dumping them in mass graves or taking them away in trucks. These are accusations which so far have not been independently corroborated, and which the IDF vehemently denies.

On Friday two IDF companies were scheduled to enter the camp to collect the dead. According to one Israeli source quoted by the Israeli newspaper Ha'aretz, the decision to bury the bodies was taken in order to stop the Palestinians using images of them as propaganda. The same reasoning, no doubt, was a factor in the army's almost obsessive attempts to prevent journalists gaining access. Among those of us who did, many were arrested, among them a CNN TV crew and a Time magazine photographer.

In Jenin town itself devastation is widespread, but not on the scale of the camp. The worst-hit buildings are little more than pancaked heaps. Others have gaping holes, with the tell-tale spatter marks of rockets scarring the smoke-blackened walls. Twisted pylons, rubble and spent bullet and shell cases litter the streets. The crushed carapaces of cars run over by tanks are now a trademark of Israeli incursions into the West Bank. Standing in the town centre, every so often the breeze brings the sweet, nauseating smell of the decomposing dead.

Jenin is now without water and electricity, and food supplies have all but run out. In 13 days the curfew has been lifted only twice, for a four-hour period.

Many Palestinians I spoke with who had fled the camp said that not a single house escaped the Israeli soldiers. Often they blew them apart with grenades or shells without checking whether people were inside. Other empty houses were simply bulldozed. "Who knows how many people were killed like this? For days now we have been worried about my daughter Lena and her family who are all missing. I can only pray they did not die this way," said Khaled Amoudi.

According to Amnesty International representatives in Jerusalem, who yesterday travelled north to Jenin in the hope of gaining access to the camp, 238 Palestinians are officially missing. But that number, they admit, will rise substantially when a proper assessment is carried out.

"Many of our friends are missing, no one knows what happened to our neighbours, the Tawalbhi family. You can smell the dead, the whole camp is destroyed," Amoudi went on. "We hear it is like Sabra and Shatila. Can you imagine what it was like for these people waiting nine days to die? At least in Sabra and Shatila the wounded were taken to hospital, but in Jenin they die because the Israelis deny them access to the hospital," he said angrily.

Almost precisely at the same time as the Israeli army imposed its grip on Jenin, a few miles away in the small village of Sila Harithia a Palestinian teenager called Shadi Tobaci was making his way to the town of Haifa. Strapped around his waist were explosives. Stepping aboard a bus last Wednesday afternoon he detonated the bomb, killing himself and eight Israelis and wounding 14 others.

On Thursday most of the village took to the streets to commemorate Tobaci's martyrdom. Chanting support for **Hamas** (who claimed responsibility for the Haifa bombing) and Islamic Jihad, the crowd gathered outside the dead boy's house. Volleys from a Kalashnikov were fired into the air as a photograph of the young "shahid" was held aloft. The image was of a bespectacled, intellectual-looking boy, the type more at home behind a computer monitor than sending himself to paradise as a martyr in the name of Allah and the holy war.

"We don't regard Shadi or those like him as suicide bombers, but as our defenders. Can you ever understand that?" said a man standing next to me in the crowd.

On Friday afternoon, timed to coincide with US Secretary of State Colin Powell's visit to Jerusalem, another suicide bomber struck in the city's central market district. In what is mainly an Orthodox Jewish community the furious crowd that gathered carried banners that read: "Let the IDF root out terrorists - Bush don't push." Powell postponed his meeting with Yasser Arafat until today, waiting for the Palestinian leader to condemn the suicide bombings.

At the scene of Friday's bombing, an angry Israeli spokesman was in no doubt who was guilty of ordering the terrorist outrages and those in the global community who were complicit in appeasing them. "As long as Arafat is

## Vengeance Four page special report: The humiliation of a people

here there will be no peace. That's why I was angry when journalists visited him in Ramallah, he used their mobile phones to get in touch with his cronies and give orders," claimed Daniel Seaman, director of the Israeli government press office "The Palestinians' problem is not what Israel does, their problem is that Israel exists," he accused. "As long as their position is accepted by Europe this is going to continue. Israel is not going to behave just to be liked by the Europeans or lay down and play dead. We are going to defend ourselves."

Within hours Israeli tanks were on the move again into West Bank towns and villages. Seaman also slammed UNWRA saying it was completely controlled by the Palestinians. Its warehouses, far from only storing food, he said, were also used as depositories for weapons.

"So I'm asking you, what are these organisations doing when they criticise Israel? All Israel is doing is defending itself. Eight years ago we set out on the Oslo process and we tried to sign a treaty with Arafat. Now we have the evidence that Arafat has used these eight years to create an abomination on our border.

"The Europeans haven't said a thing against terrorism for over a year and a half, but the moment the Jews stand up to defend themselves, they're the ones screaming bloody murder instead of telling Yasser Arafat this is unacceptable."

Less than two hours' drive from the scene of the latest suicide bombing and Daniel Seaman's angry denunciation, Palestinians in Jenin were trying to come to terms with what had stormed through their lives. Their leaders have called on the UN to investigate the military excesses they claim the Israeli army employed and its failure to recognise basic human rights.

"The crisis is an affront to mankind," said UN Secretary General Kofi Annan on Friday. "The situation is now so dangerous, and the humanitarian position so appalling that a force should be sent in to create a safe environment."

As Annan spoke, Khaled Amoudi spent another day making fruitless enquiries about the fate of his missing daughter and her family. "Why does the world not understand and Sharon gets away with anything he wants?" he asked me, packing up the few belongings his family had fled with from the camp in Jenin.

"At the end of the day, the world sees us as only as terrorists. There is no truth in this world. All we want is an identity and a Palestinian state, is that really so much to ask, when this is the alternative?" he asked, looking around him at the bombed-out buildings of the town of Jenin.

## Graphic

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Clockwise from left: The funeral of Avner Yaskov, who was among 13 Israeli soldiers killed in Jenin on April 9 when Palestinians, barricaded in a refugee camp, bombed advancing Israeli troops; six people were said to have been killed in an attack by a suicide bomber in the heart of Jerusalem on April 12; Palestinians sit, hands bound, in the al-Ain refugee camp in Nablus on April 10; Palestinian men surrender to Israeli forces in Nablus; Jenin residents tell of the horrors of the battle in the refugee camp; Israeli soldiers in the Casbah of Nablus. Below: US Vice-President Dick Cheney has voiced sympathy for Israel Photographs: David Guttenfelder/AP; Nir Elias/Reuters; Lefteris Pitarakis/AP; Lefteris Pitarakis/AP; Christopher Anderson/vii Agency; Christopher Anderson/vii Agency

**Load-Date:** April 15, 2002

## **Sabbath suicide attack kills 9: Powerful blast goes off as worshippers finish prayers**

Ottawa Citizen

March 3, 2002 Sunday Final Edition

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**Section:** News; Pg. A9; News

**Length:** 662 words

**Byline:** Daniel Williams

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM -- A Palestinian suicide bomber detonated a powerful blast in an ultra-Orthodox neighbourhood of Jerusalem as worshippers left synagogues at the end of the Jewish Sabbath last night, killing nine people, at least three of them children. The attack concluded the deadliest two weeks in 17 months of fighting.

Early today, Israeli helicopters fired five missiles at Palestinian Authority headquarters and a small factory in Bethlehem. The Israeli military said the strike was retaliation for the Jerusalem bombing.  
The Washington Post; with files from Reuters

A Palestinian militia affiliated with Yasser Arafat's Fatah party claimed responsibility for the suicide bombing. Fatah officials said it was in retaliation for the Israeli army's raids on two West Bank refugee camps this week, which have left at least 23 Palestinians dead since Thursday.

The Haaretz newspaper reported the bomber detonated his device while standing near a group of women waiting with baby carriages for their husbands to finish their prayers. The explosion in the Beit Israel neighbourhood set four cars on fire, creating an eerie bonfire as ambulances and police rushed to the scene. Police fanned out across Jerusalem to erect checkpoints at major thoroughfares, including central Jaffa Street, where previous attacks by Islamic militants have taken place.

"I saw a baby next to an empty baby carriage ... and all around, baby things, baby shoes, baby clothes," said Yosef Fuchs.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's government, which contends Mr. Arafat has resolutely refused to crack down on terrorists, retaliated today when Israeli helicopter gunships fired five missiles at a Palestinian police station in the West Bank town of Bethlehem.

Palestinian security sources said the al-Mukhtar police headquarters was badly damaged in the pre-dawn strike but there were no casualties.

Dore Gold, a spokesman for Mr. Sharon, said of the suicide attack: "This has nothing to do with warfare. This has nothing to do with national liberation. This has to do with the murder of innocent Jews coming back from evening prayers," said Dore Gold, a spokesman for Mr. Sharon. "Israel knows how to defend the people of Israel and will do so."

### Sabbath suicide attack kills 9: Powerful blast goes off as worshippers finish prayers

The Palestinian Authority issued a statement "fully" condemning the bombing, or any "that targets civilians from both sides." But it tossed blame back to Mr. Sharon, saying the Israeli government "carries full responsibility for this latest escalation."

Palestinians took to the streets of Ramallah, north of Jerusalem to celebrate the bombing. Mr. Arafat has been confined to the West Bank city since December because Israel refuses to allow him to leave through its military checkpoints. Young men in central Manara Square chanted, "Brigade, Brigade," referring to the al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade of Fatah fighters that claimed responsibility for the suicide attack. Al-Jazeera television, the Qatar-based Arabic news station, identified the bomber as Mohammed Ahmed Durarme, a resident of the Daheisha refugee camp near Bethlehem.

An official from the Islamic Resistance Movement, a militant group that has also dispatched suicide bombers to Israel, justified the attack. "What did the occupation expect of us?" asked Hassan Yusuf, a political leader of the group, which is known by its Arabic acronym **Hamas**. "What does the world want of the Palestinian people? The victim has the right to respond."

Militant Palestinian groups have carried out a number of attacks against Israelis on Saturday nights, when the streets of Jewish neighborhoods are generally thronged.

In last night's attack, 40 people were wounded, at least five of them seriously.

At least 1,200 people, three-quarters of them Palestinians, have been killed in 17 months of renewed fighting between Israelis and Palestinians.

At least 90 people have been killed in the last two weeks, including by suicide bombings and shootings by Palestinian militants, and air and ground attacks by Israeli forces.

## Graphic

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Colour Photo: Elizabeth Dalziel, The Associated Press; Ultra-Orthodox Jews watch the scene after a suicide bombing attack in Jerusalem last night. The bomber detonated a powerful explosive as residents were leaving synagogues and returning to the streets at the end of the Jewish sabbath, police said.

**Load-Date:** March 3, 2002



## *Canada wants probe of Jenin battle*

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

April 20, 2002 Saturday Final Edition

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**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. D03; News

**Length:** 675 words

**Byline:** Allan Thompson

**Dateline:** OTTAWA

### **Body**

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Canada believes there should be an international investigation into what happened in the Palestinian refugee camp in Jenin.

Hours after Israeli troops pulled out of the camp and the West Bank town yesterday, Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham said Canada favours having a United Nations investigation team visit the ravaged refugee camp, both to assess the humanitarian needs on the ground and to try and establish what happened there.

"We're totally in favour of finding the facts," Graham told reporters yesterday.

And he said that once the facts on the ground are established, Canada will not hesitate to speak out.  
Torstar News Service

"Facts will be found in the course of these investigations and Canada will make sure that we speak out forcefully about what the consequences are to draw from those facts," he said.

Palestinians claim 400 people were massacred in the camp and that Israel used helicopter gunships to launch missiles and knowingly bulldozed homes with people still inside them.

The Israeli military is equally adamant there was no such massacre, just a fierce battle between soldiers and Palestinian militants that unfortunately caught some civilians in the middle. Israel contends only dozens of people died and that it took pains to try and avoid civilian casualties, putting its own soldiers at greater risk in the process.

In the House of Commons yesterday, MPs from both the Canadian Alliance and New Democratic Party called on Graham to speak out and demand an investigation into what happened in Jenin.

"The world is awakening to the horror of what has happened in the Palestinian refugee camp of Jenin," NDP Leader Alexa McDonough said in the Commons, calling on Canada to push for an investigation.

"Canada has a moral obligation to find out the truth. What steps has the Canadian government taken to find out what happened in Jenin and how many Palestinian civilians were killed?" asked Canadian Alliance MP Rahim Jaffer.

In the Commons, Graham said his focus was on putting pressure on Israel to allow access for humanitarian aid.

## Canada wants probe of Jenin battle

But speaking with reporters later, Graham said Canada favours a full investigation under UN auspices.

Officials with the International Committee of the Red Cross visited the camp Monday and called the conditions appalling and on Thursday, the senior UN envoy to the region, Terje Roed-Larson, said the devastation he saw in the camp was "shocking and horrifying beyond belief."

Hospital officials believe the death toll could climb into the hundreds as corpses are recovered from the rubble.

Eight more Palestinians died yesterday. A rebel blew himself up at a Gaza Strip checkpoint and Israeli army fire killed seven.

Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the suicide bombing at an army checkpoint near the crossing between Israel and Gaza, the first such attack in the strip in months. The assailant was killed and two soldiers were wounded.

In the past 19 months of fighting, scores of suicide bombings have been launched from the West Bank, but none from the Gaza Strip. However, the command centre of Hamas is in Gaza, which has not been targeted in the Israeli offensive.

In Gaza Strip funerals, supporters of rebel groups and President Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement threatened new attacks in Israel to avenge the deaths of more than 200 Palestinians.

Leading a procession in Gaza City, a Fatah activist told mourners he had a message for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon: "You have opened the gates of hell. ... Murder for murder, and destruction for destruction."

In Ramallah, troops enforcing a curfew killed a 14-year-old Palestinian boy yesterday as he walked from his house to the bakery where he worked, Palestinian doctors said. In a neighbouring town, troops killed a nine-year-old boy as he played in his back yard, doctors said. The army was checking into it.

Israeli Defence Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said a gradual withdrawal from Palestinian cities would continue. But Israel said it will maintain its siege of Arafat's headquarters, where the leader is confined to several rooms.

## Graphic

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Photo: Elizabeth Dalziel, the Associated Press; Amid the ruins of the Jenin refugee camp two Palestinian women embrace. Of 43 bodies that have been found, six were women, children or elderly men.

**Load-Date:** April 20, 2002

## *Secret of Palestine's first female bomber*

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia)

January 31, 2002, Thursday

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 25

**Length:** 643 words

**Byline:** JAMES HILDER

### **Body**

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THIS is Palestine's first woman suicide bomber.

The identity of 28-year-old Wafa Idres had been a mystery since she died bombing Jerusalem's bustling Jaffa Rd on Sunday, killing an elderly Israeli and wounding 150 people.

Palestinian police last night said Idres, a divorcee from the Al-Amari refugee camp near Ramallah, in the West Bank, was a missing volunteer worker from the Red Crescent, the Islamic equivalent of the Red Cross.

Idres' family has so far denied that she was the bomber but said they had no news of her whereabouts.  
MATP

Her mother said she had also worked for a women's committee linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

An Israeli police spokesman last night could make no comment as investigations continued.

It remains unclear whether Idres detonated the bomb herself or was killed by a faulty fuse.

The resurgence of Palestinian bombing and shooting attacks has rocked Israel in the past two weeks.

Last night, a Palestinian suicide bomber from Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement injured two agents of the Israeli internal security service, Shin Beth. The bomber set off a powerful explosive charge next to a parked van, killing himself and wounding the two Israelis inside, police said.

Police spokesman Gil Kleiman said it appeared that the assailant blew himself up deliberately and had pressed himself against the van in a suicide attack on its occupants, who suffered light to moderate shrapnel wounds and burns.

Police bomb experts had not yet confirmed the man's body was free of booby traps so forensic examinations had yet to begin.

A Fatah official in Tulkarem said the bomber had been acting for Fatah but it is thought that the Palestinian may have been an informer for Shin Beth who had been "turned" by the Palestinians.

The blast went off near the Israeli Arab town of Taibe, about 100m from a checkpoint marking the line

## Secret of Palestine 's first female bomber

between Israel and the West Bank.

It came after Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon approved measures to fortify Jerusalem following a spate of deadly Palestinian attacks.

The plans call for added security and a buffer zone around Jerusalem with walls, barriers, ditches and roadblocks limiting access to the city.

The plan to "envelop" the battered city would include Jewish settlements outside the capital's jurisdiction as well as the Palestinian districts in areas under Israeli security control but whose civil administration is in the Palestinians' hands.

The city's eastern sector, including the Old City and its Jewish, Islamic and Christian holy sites, was seized by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war and subsequently annexed.

The Palestinians see it as the capital of their future independent state.

Jerusalem's Mayor Ehud Olmert yesterday denied any intention to monitor Arabs' travel within the city. The goal of the effort, he said, "is to make entry into Jerusalem for unwanted visitors very, very difficult."

Israel has put its security forces on maximum alert in the wake of the renewed suicide bombings in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, especially along the Green Line dividing Israel from the West Bank, which it largely occupies.

As it battered down the hatches around Jerusalem, defence chief Ben Eliezer flew off to Egypt to discuss the crisis with President Hosni Mubarak, whom Mr Arafat has frequently consulted on the situation.

Mr Arafat has been trapped in Ramallah since December 3, and Israel refuses to allow him to leave until he does more against armed extremist groups.

More than 30 suicide bombings have been carried out in 16 months of fighting but, until recently, all were claimed by two militant Islamic groups, **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad.

Just over 100 such attempts have been carried out since the tactic was first adopted by Palestinian militants eight years ago -- although about a quarter of them were intercepted by Israelis before the bomb was set off.

**Load-Date:** January 31, 2002

## **Israeli troops storm towns in West Bank: 'We are not re-occupying,' defence ministry insists**

The Ottawa Citizen

January 22, 2002 Tuesday

Final EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS,; News

**Length:** 656 words

**Byline:** Matthew Kalman

**Dateline:** TULKARM, West Bank

### **Body**

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Residents of the West Bank city of Tulkarm woke yesterday to discover that seven years of rule by the Palestinian Authority had been swept away and Israeli tanks and armoured cars were once more roaming the streets.

Stepping up its actions, Israel today sent tanks into a neighbourhood in the West Bank town of Nablus early today.

Tanks drove within half a kilometre of Nablus' city centre before dawn. Residents heard sporadic gunfire, but apparently there was no heavy Palestinian resistance.

The Ottawa Citizen; with files from Citizen News Services

A Palestinian security official said he was informed by Israeli counterparts that the Nablus raid was limited in scope.

Shortly before dawn yesterday, Israeli forces re-entered the Palestinian city of Tulkarm in the first such major operation since 1967. Eyewitnesses said barely a shot was fired. Two Palestinian gunmen were reported killed during brief exchanges of fire.

Israeli officials said the operation would be brief, and limited to rooting out the terrorist cells among the city's 50,000 residents, who live within striking distance of Israel's major population centres, just across the Green Line that divides Israel from the West Bank.

United Nations Middle East envoy Terje Ruud-Larssen said the situation had reached "a new low point. The situation here is very dangerous," he warned.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan slammed Israel both for blowing up a Palestinian radio station and taking over the town, saying violence would not resolve the Middle East conflict.

"We are not re-occupying," insisted Israeli Defence Ministry spokesman Yarden Vatikay. "We have no intention to stay there. We will go out very fast after we finish doing the task which the Palestinian Authority is not doing, which is arresting terrorists."

Suicide bombers and gunmen have set out from Tulkarm to attack Israelis in recent months.

Israeli troops storm towns in West Bank: 'We are not re-occupying,' defence ministry insists

Also yesterday, in Jerusalem, Mayor Ehud Olmert said Jews would soon be able to enter the Temple Mount for the first time since October 2000, bringing fear of a violent Palestinian response.

In an interview with Israel Army Radio, Mr. Olmert, a prominent right-winger, said: "Shin Bet (the Israeli security service) has prepared a well-organized plan to make it possible for orderly, low-key, non-provocative visits to take place on the Temple Mount."

The Temple Mount, holy to Jews and Arabs, has been closed to non-Muslims since the outbreak of the second Palestinian intifada at the end of September 2000.

Israeli government officials, justifying their return to Tulkarm, say the terrorist who last week attacked the bat mitzvah party in Hadera came from the town and was a member of Yasser Arafat's Fatah Tanzim, the terrorist wing of Mr. Arafat's political movement.

Yesterday, three tanks stood in Abdel Nasser Square at the centre of Tulkarm as special forces conducted house-to-house searches.

Before entering the city, Israeli soldiers were ordered to make every effort to avoid civilian casualties.

"You must use proper judgment before opening fire," Col. Chen Livni warned his troops. "There must be no shooting at anyone innocent -- women, children, old people, anyone unarmed. The purpose here is not kill as many people as possible, but to be surgical. To kill only those who endanger us or threaten us."

Palestinians said eight people were arrested and taken away. They said three were known members of Hamas, and the rest belonged to Fatah.

Ezzedin Al-Sharif, the local governor, was working from his house after Israeli F16 fighter jets destroyed the El Mukattah military compound that housed his offices. "The Israelis entered the city from three directions," said the governor. "This is a very serious and unjustified measure. The Palestinian Authority had taken all necessary measures to ensure the implementation of the ceasefire."

Israeli troops set up gun positions in several private houses, including the home of Mayor Mohammed El-Jallad.

**Load-Date:** January 22, 2002

**BB shoots her mouth off in new book: Disses gays, misses lovely old street-walkers and Bob Dylan thanks actress Gina Gershon for decking him in his own boxing ring**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

May 17, 2003 Saturday Final Edition

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**Section:** Entertainment; Doug Camilli; Pg. D5; Column

**Length:** 665 words

**Byline:** DOUG CAMILLI

## **Body**

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Poor Brigitte Bardot seems to be getting crankier and crankier in her old age. MSNBC gossip columnist Jeannette Walls has had a look at BB's new book, *A Cry of Silence*, and found these comments:

- Gay men in France today "jiggle their bottoms, put their little fingers in the air, and with their little castrato voices moan about what those ghastly heteros put them through."
- "Our lovely, kind street-walkers have been replaced by girls from the East, Nigerians, travellers, transsexuals, drag-queens, bearers of AIDS and other friendly gifts."

Why am I not surprised the lawsuit threats are already flying? Bardot is 68.

The Gazette

- - -

Actress Gina Gershon works out at a Hollywood gym owned by Bob Dylan. When somebody there suggested that the two try boxing together, they agreed, with the understanding that they would pull their punches. Sure, he's male and she's **female**, but he's a runt, she's a tough cookie, and Dylan is 21 years older. So they got in the ring.

"Right off," Gina told a reporter, "Bob popped me a hard right on my nose, in complete violation of our truce. I saw red and threw a real haymaker, square on the chin. Bob went right down on his back and I thought I had broken his jaw. All I could think was that I'd ended his singing career. Thank God, he smiled at me, and drawled, 'That's just what I need, a good woman to kick my butt every now and then'." She's 40, he's 61.

- - -

This summer the relentlessly tiresome Geraldo Rivera will marry one Erica Levy, a TV producer less than half his age. The ceremony Aug. 10 will be Rivera's fifth trip to the altar. The Fox News "personality" says he invited "hundreds of people," including Bill and Hillary Clinton. We'll see how many show up. He's 59, Erica is 28.

- - -

Paul Hogan, who made those *Crocodile Dundee* movies, will star in a new Australian film called *Strange Bedfellows*, about two straight guys who find a tax advantage in claiming to be a homosexual couple. Then the inspector arrives. Hogan told the show-biz paper *Variety* that the script is the funniest he has ever read.

BB shoots her mouth off in new book: Disses gays, misses lovely old street-walkers and Bob Dylan thanks actress Gina Gershon for decking him in his own boxing r....

- - -

Coming soon: A movie version of Atlas Shrugged, the 1957 novel by Ayn Rand.

Boy, do the liberal professors and politicians hate this woman, whose philosophy of "objectivism" says human ego and self-interest are ennobling and the welfare society is a moral swamp. Now a company called Crusader Entertainment - whose president, Howard Baldwin, was trying for a while to buy the Ottawa Senators and move them to Hartford, Conn. - has optioned the novel and hired a scriptwriter. The story, says Baldwin, "has equal parts mystery and romance and also celebrates the limitless potential of the human spirit."

Pretty much every college kid, in the States at least, reads this thing and/or Rand's other big novel, The Fountainhead. A survey for the Library of Congress found that Atlas Shrugged is the "second most influential book for Americans," after the Bible (which preaches pretty much the opposite viewpoint).

The Fountainhead was a successful 1949 movie, starring Gary Cooper.

- - -

That's easy for her to say: Italian babe Monica Bellucci, who's in the new Matrix movie, was at Cannes and somebody asked her about babelicious-osity. Her comment: "The important thing is not being beautiful but feeling beautiful." She's 34.

- - -

Higher education: If you go to An Najaf, a Palestinian Arab university in the West Bank, you can see "a model of the paradise Islamic militants say awaits those killed in fighting with Israel, including suicide bombers," according to this Associated Press report. The mock-up includes "plastic trees, goldfish swimming in a generator-powered fountain, posters of the dead on the wall."

But one category of eternal reward is missing: there's no sign of the 72 virgins, AP goes on, because "we don't know what (heavenly) virgins look like," according to a [Hamas](#) member and engineering student who would give only his first name, Ahmed.

[camilli@thegazette.canwest.com](mailto:camilli@thegazette.canwest.com)

**Load-Date:** May 18, 2003



**TEL AVIV ATROCITY: SECURITY SWOOP ON HOMES IN LONDON,  
DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE LAUNCH RAID ON HOME  
OF LIBYAN LEADER GADDAFI'S FRIEND; SIX BOMBING SUSPECTS HELD  
AS ISRAELIS HUNT FOR 'BRITISH TERRORISTS'**

Sunday Express

May 4, 2003

Copyright 2003 EXPRESS NEWSPAPERS

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 6 7

**Length:** 719 words

**Byline:** By Graeme Culliford and Gordon Thomas

## **Body**

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SIX Britons suspected of helping plan the Tel Aviv suicide bombing were arrested by antiterrorist police yesterday as Israeli security sources revealed they are hunting a further five Britons thought to be plotting another attack.

Those held included a woman living at the home of a friend of Libyan leader Colonel Gaddafi.

The moves appear to confirm that an English terrorist cell has been plotting to strike against Israel - and other Western targets including the UK. The arrests came as the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, announced he has ordered the freezing of the British bank accounts of Asif Mohammed Hanif and Omar Khan Sharif, the bombers responsible for the carnage outside Mike's Place beachfront night club on Wednesday. Hanif, 21, perished in the attack, which killed three Israelis and injured 55. Sharif, 27, is on the run after his bomb failed to detonate.

Israeli police are following up dozens of calls from people who reported seeing him in the hours after the attack.

They have handed out photos of Sharif, taken from his British passport, in the hope of capturing him.

Israeli security forces Mossad and Shin Bet are working with Special Branch and the Metropolitan Police's SO13 anti-terrorist unit to stamp out a suspected UK terrorist cell. Detectives fear the cell, which is believed to have helped plan the Tel Aviv bombing, may be plotting to attack Jewish targets in the UK, such as banks and synagogues.

The six arrested yesterday are being held in a central London police station under Section 41 of the Terrorism Act. Two **women** and two men were held in Derbyshire, one man in London and one woman at the Nottingham home of Altaf Abbasi, a close associate of President Gaddafi.

The arrested woman is believed to be either Abbasi's wife or one of his daughters.

Abbasi is well known to police and MI5.

During the 1984 miners' strike he was caught trying to bring down Mrs Thatcher by using Libyan money to support Arthur Scargill's cause.

TEL AVIV ATROCITY: SECURITY SWOOP ON HOMES IN LONDON, DERBYSHIRE AND  
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE LAUNCH RAID ON HOME OF LIBYAN LEADER GADDAFI'S FRIEND; SIX  
BOMBING S....

Meanwhile, sources in the Israeli security service have told the Sunday Express they fear another five Britons are in the Middle East preparing to carry out more suicide bomb attacks.

A senior intelligence officer said: "Finding them is our utmost priority. We want them - preferably alive. We need to know how many more British Muslims are out there ready to become suicide bombers. And above all we need to stop those five before they do strike."

Mossad believes the five are being hidden either on the West Bank or in Gaza by the extremist Islamic group, the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades.

The Brigades, an armed offshoot of Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for the Tel Aviv bomb.

MI5 is investigating links between the two bombers and the London-based radical Muslim group Al Muhajiroun, which is known to have recruited young people to travel to training camps in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan.

The group supports Osama Bin Laden and wants to turn the UK into an Islamic state. Before he travelled to Israel, Sharif was spotted outside mosques and shops in Derby handing out leaflets for Al Muhajiroun, his friends say.

MI5 has tape recordings of the group's leader, Sheikh Omar Bakri Muhammad. They reveal him giving radical lectures to young Muslims and praising those who have fought and died alongside Al Qaeda.

ONE MI5 source said: "Bakri Muhammad is clever. He knows how to stay on the right side of the law. We have little doubt the five Britons who the Israelis are hunting were fired up by him."

Gordon Brown said of his decision to freeze the two suicide bomber's bank accounts: "We must remain constantly vigilant in all areas in bearing down on terrorism and the sources that finance it.

"We have taken immediate action today to ensure that no UK funds belonging to those suspected of being responsible for this atrocity can be used to support terrorism."

Friends and relatives of public school educated Sharif and Londonborn Hanif have reacted with horror to the news that they were responsible for the carnage in Israel.

Suleman Chachia, the chair of the Jamia Mosque in Hounslow, west London, which Hanif attended for two years, said he was "devastated".

Israeli security sources have said the two Britons were believed to have undergone training in Syria, perhaps by Hamas instructors headquarters in Damascus.

**Load-Date:** May 5, 2003

**Paul Hogan gets some Strange Bedfellows: Actor says new movie script is best he has ever read**

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

May 17, 2003 Saturday

Final Edition

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**Section:** ENTERTAINMENT; Pg. 30; Celebrities

**Length:** 658 words

**Byline:** Doug Camilli, CanWest News Service

## **Body**

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Paul Hogan, who made those Crocodile Dundee movies, will star in a new Australian film called Strange Bedfellows, about two straight guys who find a tax advantage in claiming to be a homosexual couple. Then the inspector arrives.

Hogan told the show-biz paper Variety that the script is the funniest he has ever read.

- - -

Poor Brigitte Bardot seems to be getting crankier and crankier in her old age. MSNBC gossip columnist Jeannette Walls has had a look at BB's new book, A Cry of Silence, and found these comments:

- Gay men in France today "jiggle their bottoms, put their little fingers in the air, and with their little castrato voices moan about what those ghastly heteros put them through."

- "Our lovely, kind street-walkers have been replaced by girls from the East, Nigerians, travellers, trans-sexuals, drag-queens, bearers of AIDS and other friendly gifts."

Bardot is 68.

- - -

Actress Gina Gershon works out at a Hollywood gym owned by Bob Dylan. When somebody there suggested that the two try boxing together, they agreed, with the understanding that they would pull their punches. Sure, he's male and she's **female**, but he's a runt, she's a tough cookie, and Dylan is 21 years older. So they got in the ring.

"Right off," Gina told a reporter, "Bob popped me a hard right on my nose, in complete violation of our truce. I saw red and threw a real haymaker, square on the chin. Bob went right down on his back and I thought I had broken his jaw. All I could think was that I'd ended his singing career. Thank God, he smiled at me, and drawled, 'That's just what I need, a good woman to kick my butt every now and then.'" She's 40, he's 61.

- - -

Paul Hogan gets some Strange Bedfellows: Actor says new movie script is best he has ever read

This summer the relentlessly tiresome Geraldo Rivera will marry one Erica Levy, a TV producer less than half his age. The ceremony Aug. 10 will be Rivera's fifth trip to the altar. The Fox News "personality" claims to have invited "hundreds of people," including Bill and Hillary Clinton and Benjamin Netanyahu. We'll see how many show up. He's 59, Erica is 28.

- - -

Higher education: If you go to An Najaf, a Palestinian Arab university in the West Bank, you can see "a model of the paradise Islamic militants say awaits those killed in fighting with Israel, including suicide bombers," according to this Associated Press report. The mock-up includes "plastic trees, goldfish swimming in a generator-powered fountain, posters of the dead on the wall."

But one category of eternal reward is missing: there's no sign of the 72 virgins, AP goes on, because "we don't know what (heavenly) virgins look like," according to a **Hamas** member and engineering student who would give only his first name, Ahmed.

- - -

Coming soon: A movie version of Atlas Shrugged, the 1957 novel by Ayn Rand.

Boy, do the liberal professors and politicians hate this woman, whose philosophy of "objectivism" says human ego and self-interest are ennobling and the welfare society is a moral swamp. Now a company called Crusader Entertainment - whose president, Howard Baldwin, was trying for a while to buy the Ottawa Senators and move them to Hartford, Conn. - has optioned the novel and hired a scriptwriter. The story, says Baldwin, "has equal parts mystery and romance and also celebrates the limitless potential of the human spirit."

Pretty much every college kid, in the States at least, reads this thing and/or Rand's other big novel, The Fountainhead. A survey for the Library of Congress found that Atlas Shrugged is the "second most influential book for Americans," after the Bible (which preaches pretty much the opposite viewpoint).

The Fountainhead was a successful 1949 movie, starring Gary Cooper.

- - -

That's easy for her to say: Italian babe Monica Bellucci, who's in the new Matrix movie, was at Cannes and somebody asked her about babelicious-osity. Her comment: "The important thing is not being beautiful but feeling beautiful." She's 34.

Doug Camilli's e-mail address is [camilli@thegazette.canwest.com](mailto:camilli@thegazette.canwest.com).

## Graphic

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Photo: (Paul) Hogan ;

Photo: (Geraldo) Rivera ;

**Load-Date:** February 17, 2006

## **POINT OF REFERENCE: U.S.-SYRIA HISTORY**

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

April 15, 2003 Tuesday 0 South Pinellas Edition

Copyright 2003 Times Publishing Company

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. 4A; DIGEST

**Length:** 760 words

**Series:** WAR WITH IRAQ: THE DAILY BRIEFING; POINT OF REFERENCE

### **Body**

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Historically prickly, U.S.-Syrian relations had warmed in recent years as a result of the collapse of the Soviet Union (a Syrian benefactor), its participation in the 1991 Gulf War coalition and its agreement to negotiate with Israel. Long a pivotal player in the Middle East - balancing ties between powerful Iran and Saudi Arabia and maintaining pressure on Israel by stationing thousands of troops in neighboring Lebanon - Syria's usefulness to the United States would diminish if a pro-American government took power next door in Iraq.

Some highlights of the ups and downs of U.S.-Syrian relations:

+ Relations with Israel. Syria's overarching goal has been the return of the Golan Heights, a strategic plateau Israel captured in 1967 Mideast war. In 1991, President Hafez Assad agreed to participate in a U.S. sponsored Middle East peace conference and to engage in subsequent bilateral negotiations with Israel. However, the parties were unable to come to an agreement.

+ Relations with Lebanon. Since October 1976, when Syrian troops first entered neighboring Lebanon to intervene in that country's civil war, Syria has played a dominant role there. It killed the U.S.-sanctioned agreement between Israel and a rump Lebanese government after Israel's 1982 invasion. The United States and Syria consulted closely on the 1990 Taif Accord that ended the Lebanese civil war. A continuing point of dispute is Syria's failure to pull back its 30,000 troops.

+ Terrorism. Syria has been on the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism since the list's inception in 1979 both for its failure to curtail Hezbollah guerrilla activities and its hosting of extreme Palestinian groups such as Islamic Jihad and **Hamas** either in Damascus or in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in Lebanon. Syria argues that such groups should be considered part of legitimate resistance to Israeli occupation. However, Americans were kidnapped and killed by Lebanese radicals during the 1980s, and some analysts believe Syria was involved in the 1983 bombing of the Marine barracks by Shiite militants, although others blame Iran. Over the years Damascus has been a haven for various guerrilla groups, including the Kurdish PKK, who were fighting for autonomy in Turkey (they were expelled in 1998), and radical groups such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command and the Abu Nidal organization.

However, the U.S. State Department adds that Syria has maintained its long-standing ban on attacks launched from its territory or against Western targets. It condemned the Sept. 11 attacks and has cooperated in the war on

## POINT OF REFERENCE: U.S. - SYRIA HISTORY

terrorism by identifying elements of al-Qaida, including arresting several suspects and sharing intelligence on planned attacks.

+ Human rights. The United States says Syria continues to restrict fundamental rights - the right of citizens to change their government and organize political opposition; freedom of speech, religion, movement and press are restricted. There is prolonged detention without trial, fundamentally unfair trials in security courts, a corrupt judiciary, poor prison system and evidence of torture. Amnesty International estimates Syria holds hundreds of political prisoners.

However, President Bashar Assad ordered the release of 600 political prisoners in November 2000 and initiated some reforms. Overall, the secular Baath Party government supports freedom of religion and women's rights to a greater extent than many Mideast countries.

+ Arms proliferation. On June 25, 1998, the Clinton administration reportedly said Syria has an active chemical weapons program and armed missiles, combat aircraft and artillery projectiles with the nerve gas sarin. Israel believes Syria has developed a longer-range Scud missile, which Syria denies.

+ Relations with Iraq. In the 1990-91 Gulf War, Syria joined with the United States as a member of the coalition of forces opposing Iraq. Since 1997, Syrian-Iraqi relations improved. Iraq had become Syria's biggest trading partner. Iraq bought Syrian consumer goods and exported mostly oil, which it shipped illegally outside U.N. channels.

In November, Syria, the lone Arab member of the U.N. Security Council, backed U.N. Resolution 1441, which called on Iraq to account for or destroy its weapons of mass destruction. Since then, however, it has been adamantly opposed to any military action against Iraq.

Sources: "Syria: U.S. Relations and Bilateral Issues," by Alfred Prados, Congressional Research Service; Los Angeles Times; Associated Press; Times wires; Times files

**Load-Date:** April 15, 2003

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**Mideast peace road map in tatters; Weekend suicide bombings prompt Sharon to cancel trip to Washington**

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)

May 20, 2003 Tuesday Final Edition

Copyright 2003 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A12; NEWS

**Length:** 700 words

**Dateline:** AFULA, ISRAEL

## **Body**

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A Palestinian woman blew herself up during a security check outside a mall Monday, killing three Israelis in the fifth suicide bombing in 48 hours -- a violent challenge to a U.S.-backed Middle East peace initiative and the new Palestinian prime minister.

The bombings, as well as suicide attacks in Saudi Arabia and Morocco in the past week, also raised questions about U.S. President George W. Bush's ability to stem global terrorism.

Monday's blast in the northern working class town of Afula near the West Bank was claimed by a militia linked to the mainstream group Fatah, proving particularly embarrassing to the Palestinian prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, a Fatah leader, who has denounced violence and promised to rein in the militants.

Israel blamed Palestinian President Yasser Arafat for one of the steepest spikes in violence in nearly three years of fighting, saying he encourages terror, even if he is not directly involved in planning attacks. Arafat angrily denied the accusations, claiming Palestinian security agents have foiled several attacks.

Associated Press

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon resisted renewed pressure from his cabinet to expel Arafat, apparently because of U.S. opposition to a step that could derail the "road map" plan and send the situation spinning further out of control.

After the Iraq war, with Bush promising to turn his attention to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, there had been hope of a breakthrough in ending 32 months of fighting. However, Palestinian militants have often stepped up attacks at critical times in peacemaking, to prevent progress. Sharon, in turn, has given veto powers to the militants by insisting that violence must stop before negotiations can begin.

Bush said he was determined to push ahead with the peace plan, a prescription for ending violence and setting up a Palestinian state by 2005. "We're still on the road to peace," the president said. "It's just going to be a bumpy road. But I'm not going to get off the road until we achieve the vision."

The blast in Afula went off at 5:14 p.m. at a back entrance to the Shaarei Amakim mall, where shoppers were waiting in line for a security check.

Mideast peace road map in tatters; Weekend suicide bombings prompt Sharon to cancel trip to Washington

The attacker, identified as Hiba Daraghmeh, 19, from the West Bank village of Tubas, detonated the explosives as she stepped up to security guards, witnesses said.

"There was a big explosion and my friend and I were blown over backwards," said Etti Pitlon, 19, a border policewoman. "I saw bodies, but I don't want to think about it," she added, crying.

Two guards, a man and a woman, were among the three people killed. Forty-seven people were wounded, several of them seriously.

The Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade, a militia linked to Fatah, and the Islamic Jihad group both claimed responsibility for the bombing. The two militias have carried out joint attacks in the past.

The bomber was an English literature student, described as very devout by her father, Azem. She usually wore a veil over her entire face except her eyes, a particularly conservative covering rarely seen even among religious Palestinian women. She left home Monday afternoon, saying she was going to class, her father said.

The latest string of attacks began Saturday evening, just before a Sharon-Abbas meeting, the first Israeli-Palestinian summit since the outbreak of fighting.

Hamas bombers struck in the West Bank city of Hebron on Saturday, twice in Jerusalem on Sunday, and in the Gaza Strip on Monday morning, killing a total of nine Israelis and wounding 23. Three of the bombers were from Hebron.

The attacks come at a time when Abbas and Sharon are in a deadlock over who should make the first move on the new peace plan.

Abbas told Sharon during the summit that the Palestinian security forces could only move against the militias once Israel has accepted the new peace plan. Sharon said he first wants to discuss his objections with Bush. He was to have done so this week, but cancelled his Washington trip because of the bombings.

Trying to deepen Arafat's isolation, Israel decided Sunday to boycott foreign envoys who meet the Palestinian leader. Arafat has been confined to his compound in the West Bank town of Ramallah for more than a year by Israel.

## Graphic

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Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; Relatives of Palestinian suicide bomber Fuad Jawad al-Qawasmeh hold up a picture of him next to his destroyed family home Monday in the West Bank town of Hebron. The Israeli army destroyed the house Monday in retaliation.

**Load-Date:** May 20, 2003



## SIX ARRESTS IN SUICIDE BOMB LINK

Scotland on Sunday

May 4, 2003, Sunday

Copyright 2003 The Scotsman Publications Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 28

**Length:** 771 words

**Byline:** Ian Johnston

### **Body**

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DETECTIVES were last night continuing to question six people arrested in Britain in connection with a suicide bomb attack in Israel.

One man was arrested at an address in London yesterday and taken to a city centre police station. There he joined two men and three women arrested during raids in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire on Friday.

The arrests followed a joint British and Israeli security services operation to establish how a British Muslim became a suicide bomber.

Israeli police claim Asif Mohammed Hanif, 21, of Hounslow, west London, detonated a device in the doorway of Mike's Place, a bar in Tel Aviv, in the early hours of Wednesday, killing three other people.

Omar Khan Sharif, 27, from Derby, is alleged to have fled the scene of the bombing after his device failed to detonate. A major manhunt is being carried out in Israel in an attempt to find him.

The six people held in Britain have been detained under section 41 of the Terrorism Act 2000, which relates to those suspected of being involved in the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism.

Last night Scotland Yard refused to confirm whether any of the two men's relatives had been arrested.

A spokeswoman for the Metropolitan Police said: "Officers from the anti-terrorism branch, working with local officers, arrested five people in a series of operations in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire as part of ongoing inquiries being carried out following a terrorist incident in Tel Aviv on Wednesday." She later confirmed the sixth man had been arrested in London.

Officers were yesterday searching several addresses but no weapons or any explosive devices were believed to have been found.

Britain's Special Branch and the Metropolitan Police's SO13 anti-terrorist branch are currently working with Israeli security services to track down Sharif.

Anjem Choudary, of the radical London-based Islamic group al-Muhajiroun, who has urged British Muslims to carry out suicide bomb attacks in Israel, denied his group was directly involved.

## SIX ARRESTS IN SUICIDE BOMB LINK

He said he had been in touch with members of the group in the Midlands, but said none of them knew who had been arrested.

"These are probably not the people directly involved but the police probably think they may have some information," he added.

"There are so many different organisations named in the media in connection with the suicide bombing like Hamas, the Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades and obviously you've got ourselves.

"There's no end to the speculation, but as an ideological political movement we don't get involved in these kind of things." He said ordinary Israelis were considered legitimate targets because general conscription was used to maintain the Israeli army.

However, outspoken cleric Abu Hamza, who is also based in London, claimed Hanif and Sharif were victims of a Jewish plot to destabilise the peace process. "All of this is a fabrication, a plot against Muslims," he told more than 150 worshippers outside Finsbury Park Mosque in north London.

As part of the response by the British authorities to the suicide attack, Hanif and Sharif's UK bank accounts have been frozen on the instructions of Chancellor Gordon Brown.

He said in a statement: "We must remain constantly vigilant in all areas in bearing down on terrorism and the sources that finance it.

"We have taken immediate action to ensure that no UK funds belonging to those suspected of being responsible for this atrocity can be used to support terrorism."

A Treasury spokeswoman said the Chancellor could instruct the Bank of England to freeze assets "where there are reasonable grounds suspecting involvement in terrorism".

In Israel, pictures of Sharif's passport photo were handed out in streets and shopping centres. Israeli police were also following up dozens of calls from people who reported seeing him after he fled the scene.

Hanif and Sharif are believed to have entered the country separately before travelling to the Gaza Strip through the heavily-guarded Erez border crossing.

Meanwhile, British diplomats last night called for a full investigation into the fatal shooting of an award-winning journalist by Israeli troops.

Cameraman James Miller was in the volatile town of Rafah, near the Egyptian border, when he was shot in the neck last night by an Israeli army tank, according to reports.

Yesterday the Foreign Office in London confirmed that Miller had been shot in Gaza, adding that his next of kin had been informed.

A spokesman for the Foreign Office said: "We are in contact with the Israeli authorities and pushing for a full and transparent investigation. Our sympathy lies with the family."

**Load-Date:** May 5, 2003

## *The next tough nuts to crack - WAR ON IRAQ: DAY SIX*

The Australian

March 26, 2003 Wednesday TC Edition

Copyright 2003 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** LOCAL-TYPE- FEATURESUPPLEMENT; Pg. 7

**Length:** 705 words

**Byline:** Harlan Ullman

### **Body**

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#### ANALYSIS

IRAQ is the first member of George W. Bush's "axis of evil" to experience, sooner or later, a change in regime.

But some senior officials in the Bush administration suggest Iraq is not the only state upon which force might be used. Syria, with its links to Hamas and active terror against Israel, could be next. Then there is the really tough nut -- North Korea, and its extraordinary leader, Kim Jung-il.

MATP

There is a tendency in Washington to believe that evil states are also stupid. That may not be a good judgment. Consider my hypothetical fictional letter to North Korea's Dear Leader, Kim Jung-il, from Iran's Revolutionary Ruling Council.

"Dear Leader:

"This letter responds to your proposal of yesterday. We agree that the American war against Iraq requires us to consult and co-operate. That war will have the most destabilising consequences in the region and the world at large. Given an American victory over Saddam Hussein, there is little doubt the Bush administration's hubris and arrogance will next be directed at the other members of the highly offensive and ludicrous notion of an "axis of evil" -- Iran and North Korea. We cannot allow that to happen. We must collaborate.

"Have no doubt that we despise Saddam Hussein. He attacked Iran without cause in 1980. In eight years of needless war, hundreds of thousands of our men, women and children were killed, many gassed or poisoned by the most hideous chemical and biological weapons. But, as Churchill remarked after Hitler suddenly assaulted Soviet Russia in 1941, he would make a pact with the devil to save England and he did so with Stalin. It is too late to use Iraq as a buffer. But the lesson is clear for us.

"The Bush administration has no idea what it is doing or what lies ahead. It naively believes the establishment of a democratic regime in our region will bring peace. That is a dangerous myth.

'MEANWHILE, the Americans dismiss the powerful reasons for our antipathy towards them. Fifty years ago, they overthrew our legitimate government and installed the Shah. His regime was as repressive and cruel as Saddam's. A decade and a half ago, they shot down one of our civilian airliners, killing more than 300 civilians. They claimed that was an accident; about as accidental as their bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade during the 1999

## The next tough nuts to crack - WAR ON IRAQ : DAY SIX

war against Serbia. Yet they accuse us of terrorism as we support our Palestinian brothers and sisters, while they allow the Israelis to kill those people with impunity.

"We must band together to dissuade and deter the new 'evil empire' from destroying our countries and killing our people. We agree to your idea of a de facto alliance. We must continue to isolate the Americans and turn as much of the world as possible against them.

"But that is not enough. We need to take a page from your father's book. During the Cold War, North Korea downed several US spy planes. In 1968, your father captured the spy ship USS Pueblo and held the crew for a year. The Americans were embarrassed but did nothing.

"We propose that before war starts, you attack an American spy plane. It can be downed accidentally as the Chinese did to a US Navy reconnaissance plane two years ago. Or it can be a direct attack. This will put the Americans in an impossible position. They cannot respond and will be humiliated.

"But there is a bolder step. If you have nuclear weapons, we would like to borrow them. Obviously, they must remain under your control. Then we should include Syria as part of this nuclear deterrent blanket, warning the US that an attack against any of us will result in the use of nuclear weapons at a time and place of our choosing, with the veiled threat that America could be a direct target.

"If you do not possess nuclear arms yet, we are not convinced Russia has full control of its weapons. Surely several could be brought. The US must be stopped. While we have no brief for Saddam, he was our first line of defence. He is now gone. We know that you understand what lies ahead if we take no action. We await your response."

Harlan Ullman is a national security expert with the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington DC, who is writing regularly for The Australian

**Load-Date:** March 25, 2003

## *Israel advocates peace in face of violence*

University Wire

February 26, 2003, Wednesday

Copyright 2003 Daily Bruin via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 746 words

**Byline:** By Adir Levy, Daily Bruin

**Dateline:** Los Angeles

### **Body**

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I have a few pounds of dynamite strapped around my waist. My goal is to murder and maim as many innocent civilians as possible. Try to stop me.

The first problem you'll have is identifying me. One in five people living in Israel is Arab, and my body is my weapon. You cannot know by looking at me that I am about to commit one of the most heinous crimes ever.

U. California-Los Angeles

Let's say, by chance, you catch a glimpse of a wire coming out of my jacket. You can try to tackle me. In response, I'll blow myself up. You and others will die. You can call the police. By the time they arrive, I'll blow myself up. Many people will die. Others will sustain irreparable injuries that will leave them blind, deaf and handicapped for life.

How do you stop terrorists who are bent on destroying your life and the existence of your nation, which you treasure so dearly? How do you effectively stop suicide-bombers?

Israel is facing this exact problem, among many others. It is surrounded by 22 Arab nations, which combined contain 800 times the territory of Israel and 50 times the population. Most of these nations desire the destruction of Israel. Israelis know that the terror won't stop unless a solution is found.

Israel wants peace because of the effect the Palestinian intifada ("uprising") has had on its people. The citizens of Israel are scared to go to restaurants, shopping malls and other public places for fear of another bombing. Tourism, one of Israel's largest industries, has drastically declined for the same reason. These and other issues have had a detrimental effect on the Israeli economy. Israel has entered its worst recession ever, and the recession is deepening.

Israel wants peace because it is a peace-loving nation. Its track record is evidence of that. It has only fought wars in self-defense, and it has already signed peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan -- two neighboring countries that Israel has fought multiple wars against.

Israel wants peace and is willing to create a Palestinian nation to prove it. Both the current Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon, and his predecessor, Ehud Barak, have publicly stated their desires for the formation of an independent Palestinian state. The support for such a concept is monumental. Since the creation of Israel there has not been an independent Palestinian state. Israel is willing to make this concession to the Palestinians, while Egypt or Jordan have not, though both had the opportunity to do so.

## Israel advocates peace in face of violence

Israel wants peace, but cannot attain it until the murder and maiming of its citizens unconditionally stops. The United Nations Resolution 242 states every country has the "right to live in peace." A common lie about Resolution 242 is it states Israel must withdraw to pre-1967 borders and remove all Jews who have settled in the West Bank and Gaza strip. A reading of the resolution shows it says no such thing. In fact, Lord Caradon and Arthur J. Goldberg, two authors of Resolution 242, have stated that it by no means implies a complete withdrawal to any specific borders.

To support the murder of innocent civilians as a means to achieve a political goal is morally repugnant. Yet Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestinian people, has done just that. He has attempted to form alliances with Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, two major terrorist organizations, by offering members posts in his cabinet.

Arafat does not want the formation of a Palestinian state side-by-side with Israel; he wants to take Israel over in its entirety. He has even begun to convince his constituency that the goal of the current intifada is the elimination of Israel, as recent polls suggest.

So, how do you stop a suicide bomber? The only way is to stop him before he "suits up." The military operations Israel is conducting and the checkpoints Israel has set up are not only morally justified, they are morally required.

They are designed to minimize terrorist activity, and, in effect, drastically reduce the death toll of innocent civilians. Palestinian terrorists have even hidden in ambulances and disguised themselves as pregnant women, making the operations and checkpoints even more necessary. Once terrorist attacks against Israelis cease, and the Palestinian leadership goes through the reform it so ardently needs, the formation of a Palestinian state will ensue.

Israel wants peace. It is about time the Palestinian leadership led its people to want the same thing.

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**Load-Date:** February 26, 2003

## 2 'doves' quit Israel's Labor Party, join leftists

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

December 11, 2002, Wednesday

Copyright 2002 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

**Section:** WIRE;

**Length:** 728 words

**Byline:** By Mark Lavie Associated Press writer

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM -- Veteran peace campaigners Yossi Beilin and Yael Dayan quit the Labor Party on Wednesday after a primary vote assigned them and other doves to virtually unelectable places on the list of candidates in the Jan. 28 elections.

Beilin, the architect of interim peace accords with the Palestinians, and Dayan, a women's advocate, will run on a joint list with the leftist Meretz Party.

Labor's new list of candidates for Parliament is stacked with centrists and ex-generals -- a possible counterweight to the dovish image of its new chairman, Amram Mitzna. The slate is expected to be more appealing to voters from the middle ground, who in surveys repeatedly gave high approval ratings to the previous coalition of Labor with the hawkish Likud party of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

The Haaretz daily called the purged Labor ranks "a list even Sharon could lead." Haaretz quoted supporters of ex-Labor leader Binyamin Ben-Eliezer as saying the marginalization of Dayan and Beilin would improve chances of renewing the Likud-Labor alliance after the elections.

Dayan, daughter of the late Israeli icon Moshe Dayan, told The Associated Press that Labor "looks more and more like some poor version of what the Likud had been." She ascribed her poor showing in the primary to her support of concessions to the Palestinians.

Beilin was the leader of the dovish camp in Labor. Earlier this year, frustrated by Labor's presence in the hard-line Sharon government, he formed a new political movement, called "Shahar" or Hebrew for dawn.

Shahar will now join forces with Meretz, with the possibility of merging them into a new Social Democratic party after the elections, said Beilin spokesman Uri Zaki.

In a statement, Beilin said he hoped to strengthen the peace camp in Israel "in light of extremist trends that characterize elections in Likud and Labor."

In the Labor primary, one of the more hawkish newcomers, Danny Yatom, made the top 10 in polling, guaranteeing him a seat in parliament. Yatom resigned as head of the Mossad spy agency in 1997 under a cloud after the botched assassination attempt of Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal in Jordan.

Labor leader Amram Mitzna says it is Likud, not his own party which is hardening its positions. "Here in the Labor party it's not like the Likud. The Likud has turned right," he told supporters on Tuesday.

## 2 'doves' quit Israel 's Labor Party, join leftists

Labor won 26 seats in the 1999 election, but polls indicate it may win fewer than 20 this time. Likud, on the other hand, had 19 seats in the outgoing parliament, but polls predict it could take about 40 places in the Jan. 28 balloting.

For the last three elections, Israelis cast two ballots -- one for prime minister and the other for parliament. With the January election, the system reverts to the former one-ballot voting, in which citizens pick a party, and the 120 seats in the parliament are divided proportionally according to the vote counts.

The party leader who can form a majority coalition in the parliament becomes prime minister.

Sharon and Mitzna have staked out vastly different positions about how to deal with the Palestinians, but critics on both sides say the parliamentary lists run counter to the leaders' views.

Sharon, whose 21 months in power have been marked by ever-escalating military operations against the Palestinians in an attempt to stop attacks, says he would eventually accept a Palestinian state in about 40 percent of the West Bank and two-thirds of the Gaza Strip if all violence stops and calm is maintained through a long interim period.

But critics point to many at the top of the Likud Knesset list who oppose a Palestinian state in any form. Top vote-getter Tzachi Hanegbi told Israel TV on Tuesday that the Likud leadership has already rejected a Palestinian state once, and if Sharon brought such a proposal again, it would be defeated again.

Mitzna pledges a unilateral Israeli pullout from the Gaza Strip and negotiations with the Palestinians over a border with the West Bank. However, if the negotiations fail, Mitzna proposes drawing Israel's border unilaterally and separating Israel from the Palestinians.

However, Labor's Knesset list includes a number who back Ben-Eliezer, who as defense minister directed the military offensives against the Palestinians and is less enthusiastic about unilateral pullbacks. Mitzna unseated Ben-Eliezer in an election for party leader last month.

**Load-Date:** December 11, 2002



**Saturday Review: Virgins? What virgins?: It is widely believed that Muslim 'martyrs' enjoy rich sensual rewards on reaching paradise. A new study suggests they may be disappointed. Ibn Warraq reports**

The Guardian (London)

January 12, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Saturday Pages, Pg. 3

**Length:** 1489 words

**Byline:** Ibn Warraq

## **Body**

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In August, 2001, the American television channel CBS aired an interview with a **Hamas** activist Muhammad Abu Wardeh, who recruited terrorists for suicide bombings in Israel. Abu Wardeh was quoted as saying: "I described to him how God would compensate the martyr for sacrificing his life for his land. If you become a martyr, God will give you 70 virgins, 70 wives and everlasting happiness." Wardeh was in fact shortchanging his recruits since the rewards in Paradise for martyrs was 72 virgins. But I am running ahead of things .

Since September 11, news stories have repeated the story of suicide bombers and their heavenly rewards, and equally Muslim scholars and Western apologists of Islam have repeated that suicide is forbidden in Islam. Suicide ( qatlu nafsi -hi ) is not referred to in the Koran but is indeed forbidden in the Traditions ( Hadith in Arabic), which are the collected sayings and doings attributed to the Prophet and traced back to him through a series of putatively trustworthy witnesses. They include what was done in his presence that he did not forbid, and even the authoritative sayings and doings of his companions.

But the **Hamas** spokesman correctly uses the word martyr ( shahid ) and not suicide bomber, since those who blow themselves up almost daily in Israel and those who died on September 11 were dying in the noblest of all causes, Jihad, which is an incumbent religious duty, established in the Koran and in the Traditions as a divine institution, and enjoined for the purpose of advancing Islam. While suicide is forbidden, martyrdom is everywhere praised, welcomed, and urged: "By the Being in Whose Hand is my life, I love that I should be killed in the way of Allah; then I should be brought back to life and be killed again in His wayN"; "The Prophet said, 'Nobody who enters Paradise will ever like to return to this world even if he were offered everything, except the martyr who will desire to return to this world and be killed 10 times for the sake of the great honour that has been bestowed upon him'." (Sahih Muslim, chapters 781, 782, The Merit of Jihad and the Merit of Martyrdom.)

What of the rewards in paradise? The Islamic paradise is described in great sensual detail in the Koran and the Traditions; for instance, Koran sura 56 verses 12 -40 ; sura 55 verses 54-56 ; sura 76 verses 12-22. I shall quote the celebrated Penguin translation by NJ Dawood of sura 56 verses 12- 39: "They shall recline on jewelled couches face to face, and there shall wait on them immortal youths with bowls and ewers and a cup of purest wine (that will neither pain their heads nor take away their reason); with fruits of their own choice and flesh of fowls that they relish. And theirs shall be the dark-eyed houris, chaste as hidden pearls: a guerdon for their deeds . . . We created the houris and made them virgins, loving companions for those on the right hand . . ."

Saturday Review: Virgins? What virgins?: It is widely believed that Muslim 'martyrs' enjoy rich sensual rewards on reaching paradise. A new study suggests they ....

One should note that most translations, even those by Muslims themselves such as A Yusuf Ali, and the British Muslim Marmaduke Pickthall, translate the Arabic (plural) word *Abkarun* as virgins, as do well-known lexicons such as the one by John Penrice. I emphasise this fact since many pudic and embarrassed Muslims claim there has been a mistranslation, that "virgins" should be replaced by "angels". In sura 55 verses 72-74, Dawood translates the Arabic word "hur" as "virgins", and the context makes clear that virgin is the appropriate translation: "Dark-eyed virgins sheltered in their tents (which of your Lord's blessings would you deny?) whom neither man nor jinnee will have touched before." The word *hur* occurs four times in the Koran and is usually translated as a "maiden with dark eyes".

Two points need to be noted. First, there is no mention anywhere in the Koran of the actual number of virgins available in paradise, and second, the dark-eyed damsels are available for all Muslims, not just martyrs. It is in the Islamic Traditions that we find the 72 virgins in heaven specified: in a Hadith (Islamic Tradition) collected by Al-Tirmidhi (died 892 CE (common era\*)) in the Book of Sunan (volume IV, chapters on The Features of Paradise as described by the Messenger of Allah (Prophet Muhammad), chapter 21, About the Smallest Reward for the People of Paradise, (Hadith 2687). The same hadith is also quoted by Ibn Kathir (died 1373 CE) in his Koranic commentary (Tafsir) of Surah Al-Rahman (55), verse 72: "The Prophet Muhammad was heard saying: The smallest reward for the people of paradise is an abode where there are 80,000 servants and 72 wives, over which stands a dome decorated with pearls, aquamarine, and ruby, as wide as the distance from Al-Jabiyyah (a Damascus suburb) to Sanaa (Yemen)".

Modern apologists of Islam try to downplay the evident materialism and sexual implications of such descriptions, but, as the Encyclopaedia of Islam says, even orthodox Muslim theologians such as al Ghazali (died 1111 CE) and Al-Ash'ari (died 935 CE) have "admitted sensual pleasures into paradise". The sensual pleasures are graphically elaborated by Al-Suyuti (died 1505), Koranic commentator and polymath. He wrote: "Each time we sleep with a *houri* we find her virgin. Besides, the penis of the Elected never softens. The erection is eternal; the sensation that you feel each time you make love is utterly delicious and out of this world and were you to experience it in this world you would faint. Each chosen one (ie Muslim) will marry seventy (sic) *houris*, besides the women he married on earth, and all will have appetising vaginas."

One of the reasons Nietzsche hated Christianity was that it "made something unclean out of sexuality", whereas Islam, many would argue, was sex-positive. One cannot imagine any of the Church fathers writing ecstatically of heavenly sex as al-Suyuti did, with the possible exception of St Augustine before his conversion. But surely to call Islam sex-positive is to insult all Muslim women, for sex is seen entirely from the male point of view; women's sexuality is admitted but seen as something to be feared, repressed, and a work of the devil.

Scholars have long pointed out that these images are clearly drawn pictures and must have been inspired by the art of painting. Muhammad, or whoever is responsible for the descriptions, may well have seen Christian miniatures or mosaics representing the gardens of paradise and has interpreted the figures of angels rather literally as those of young men and young women. A further textual influence on the imagery found in the Koran is the work of Ephrem the Syrian (306-373 CE), Hymns on Paradise, written in Syriac, an Aramaic dialect and the language of Eastern Christianity, and a Semitic language closely related to Hebrew and Arabic.

This naturally leads to the most fascinating book ever written on the language of the Koran, and if proved to be correct in its main thesis, probably the most important book ever written on the Koran. Christoph Luxenberg's book, *Die Syro-Aramaische Lesart des Koran*, available only in German, came out just over a year ago, but has already had an enthusiastic reception, particularly among those scholars with a knowledge of several Semitic languages at Princeton, Yale, Berlin, Potsdam, Erlangen, Aix-en-Provence, and the Oriental Institute in Beirut.

Luxenberg tries to show that many obscurities of the Koran disappear if we read certain words as being Syriac and not Arabic. We cannot go into the technical details of his methodology but it allows Luxenberg, to the probable horror of all Muslim males dreaming of sexual bliss in the Muslim hereafter, to conjure away the wide-eyed *houris* promised to the faithful in suras XLIV.54; LII.20, LV.72, and LVI.22. Luxenberg's new analysis, leaning on the Hymns of Ephrem the Syrian, yields "white raisins" of "crystal clarity" rather than doe-eyed, and ever willing virgins -

Saturday Review: Virgins? What virgins?: It is widely believed that Muslim 'martyrs' enjoy rich sensual rewards on reaching paradise. A new study suggests they ....

the houris. Luxenberg claims that the context makes it clear that it is food and drink that is being offered, and not unsullied maidens or houris.

In Syriac, the word hur is a feminine plural adjective meaning white, with the word "raisin" understood implicitly. Similarly, the immortal, pearl-like ephebes or youths of suras such as LXXVI.19 are really a misreading of a Syriac expression meaning chilled raisins (or drinks) that the just will have the pleasure of tasting in contrast to the boiling drinks promised the unfaithful and damned.

As Luxenberg's work has only recently been published we must await its scholarly assessment before we can pass any judgements. But if his analysis is correct then suicide bombers, or rather prospective martyrs, would do well to abandon their culture of death, and instead concentrate on getting laid 72 times in this world, unless of course they would really prefer chilled or white raisins, according to their taste, in the next.

\*Common era is an alternative to Christian era as a method of historical dating

**Load-Date:** January 12, 2002

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End of Document

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR;**  
**Grace period's end has no local effect**

Dayton Daily News (Ohio)  
December 1, 2002 Sunday CITY EDITION

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**Section:** OPED; Pg. 7B

**Length:** 734 words

## **Body**

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Re the Nov. 21 article "cable rules could lower monthly costs," which was picked up from the Cox News Service and carried here: It is unfortunate that the article did not fully explain the FCC rule and is causing confusion for local Time Warner Cable customers. The article was not clear on a couple of critical points:

Only cable operators who were not technically capable of delivering the basic tier of service and a per-channel offering - HBO, Showtime, Cinemax, etc. - were given a 10-year grace period to become compliant with the law. The law actually went into effect with the 1992 Cable Act. Calling this a "new" federal regulation, as the article did, is inaccurate. Oct. 5 was the end of the grace period for noncompliant cable operators.

\* A per-channel offering does not mean a customer can subscribe to any channel on a per-channel basis. The channel "offering" means any channel that is offered on a per-channel basis, typically premium channels such as HBO, Showtime, Cinemax, STARZ or The Movie Channel.

Time Warner Cable in the Greater Dayton area has been compliant with the law since its inception in 1992, so it is has been our practice to not require the purchase of the CPST, or Standard, tier of service to receive per-channel offerings. More than 95 percent of our customers still choose to subscribe to CPST. The expiration of the 10-year grace period has no impact on Dayton-area Time Warner Cable customers.

Due to this article's lack of clarity, we have received numerous phone calls. Inaccuracies of this nature cause great inconvenience to our customers and Dayton Daily News readers. We always make ourselves available to speak with the media and are disappointed that we were not contacted before this article went to print.

Kelly E. Brown Beaver Creek

Ms. Brown is government affairs manager for Time Warner Cable, Greater Dayton.

Bush's Iraq policy stinks

No matter how earnest and in command President Bush appeared when he updated the American people on Iraq, his ideas here are just as misguided as on nearly every policy his administration is championing.

He is trying to sabotage the United Nations' efforts to exercise some limitation on the exploding world population. Rather than help with the work of providing clean water to the 2 billion people who do not have that luxury, the president backs measures that would have us doubling ourselves to 12 billion by the year 2050, with possibly more than half of us then having little, if any, clean water.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR; Grace period's end has no local effect

Meanwhile, this recently victorious politician, with the cooperation of Congress, has arranged to bankrupt the U.S. government by squeezing the tax base halfway out of existence while at the same time promoting an ever-larger income gap between the super wealthy and the one-time middle class/working class.

This is the figurehead we want to lead us into a misconceived abomination of a war? I'd laugh, but I find it difficult through my tears as our president pretends to want Iraq's disarmament through peaceful means. The innocent men, women and children he is threatening should remind us of the 10,000 Iraqi dead because of U.N. and U.S. policies since the first Gulf War ended.

Lee A. Risley Kettering

## Strike at terrorism's roots

Dr. Hans Josef Horchem, head of West Germany's anti-terrorist Office for the Defense of the Constitution, noted in 1979, "The KGB is engineering international terrorism. The facts can be proven, documented and are well known to the international Western intelligence community."

Russia, of the former Soviet Union, is the principal sponsor of world terrorism. It was Russia's President Vladimir Putin who recently concluded a \$40 billion agreement with Saddam Hussein. Russian military advisers and scientists have always been a critical segment of Iraq's weapons-of-mass-destruction program.

The U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism, in its 1985 "State-Sponsored Terrorism" report, noted that treating terrorist acts as individual incidents without political pattern or strategic dimension was naive.

The current actors, al-Qaida, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad, Hamas, etc., depend upon the same state sponsors, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Cuba, etc. - and, ultimately, Russia and China - as did terrorist organizations in the 1960s, '70s and '80s. Going after Osama bin Laden or Saddam Hussein is like attacking the tentacles while ignoring the terror octopus head.

Al Kuchinka Fairborn

## Graphic

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PHOTO, PAUL TONG/L.A. TIMES SYNDICATE

**Load-Date:** December 4, 2002

## *Israeli flag tops Arafat compound*

USA TODAY

September 23, 2002, Monday,

FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2002 Gannett Company, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS;

**Length:** 677 words

**Byline:** Inigo Gilmore; Special for USA TODAY

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM -- With an Israeli flag fluttering over Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's compound in the West Bank town of Ramallah on Sunday, thousands of Palestinians demonstrated against the renewed siege of his headquarters, which Israel says is aimed at forcing several wanted men inside to surrender.

The army stormed Arafat's headquarters Thursday night after two suicide bombings killed seven people in the first such attacks on Israeli soil in six weeks. Two militant Palestinian groups, Islamic Jihad and **Hamas**, claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Tanks and bulldozers have destroyed several buildings in Arafat's headquarters. The demolition of most of Arafat's compound has left him more isolated than at any point since he returned to the Palestinian territories in 1994 under interim peace deals.

Arafat, with aides and scores of others, were pinned down in a wing of the main building, separated from Israeli soldiers by a wooden door. Israeli soldiers using loudspeakers threatened Sunday to blow up the building unless Arafat handed over as many as 50 militants wanted by Israel.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon told ministers last week that he wants to expel Arafat. But senior Israeli officials warn this could further incite Arabs in several countries who are already concerned about a possible U.S.-led military attack on Iraq.

"We don't want to expel him, we don't want to kill him, we don't want to hurt him," Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday on CNN's *Late Edition*. "The majority of the government decided against expulsion."

European diplomats denounced the attack on Arafat's compound as an act of revenge and a distraction from efforts to reform the Palestinian Authority. White House spokeswoman Jeanne Mamo said Sunday that Israel's assault was "not helpful in reducing terrorist violence or promoting Palestinian reforms." The United Nations Security Council plans to convene today to discuss the siege.

Israeli military officials kept up the pressure on Arafat. The Israelis accuse the Palestinian leader of refusing to stop terrorist attacks or arrest terrorists despite thousands of police and soldiers at his disposal. Deputy Defense Minister Weizman Shiri said Sunday that the Palestinian leader is free to leave the country -- forever.

"We'll give him a one-way ticket in a dignified way," Shiri told Army Radio.

## Israeli flag tops Arafat compound

Israel said the new siege -- the third since December -- was aimed at isolating Arafat. But the action against may increase support for him, which had been faltering amid charges he has been ineffective and his government corrupt. Tens of thousands of Palestinians participated in protest marches led by Arafat's Fatah movement in West Bank and Gaza towns, despite Israeli curfews.

In Gaza, thousands marched in front of the Palestinian parliament building.

Abu Mohammed, a member of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade militia linked to Arafat's Fatah movement, said, "It is time for all Palestinians to teach the Israelis a lesson and defend Arafat."

In Ramallah, not far from Arafat's compound, Israeli troops fired tear gas and bullets to disperse hundreds of men, women and children chanting, "Long live Arafat, long live Palestine."

At least five Palestinians were killed during the protests in the West Bank and Gaza.

Palestinians have scoffed at Israel's designation of the men it insists should be handed over. The list includes Tawfiq Tirawi, the head of the General Intelligence Service in the West Bank. Three weeks ago, Tirawi was negotiating with Israeli officials on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Bethlehem.

Ghassan Khatib, the recently appointed Palestinian labor minister, said the outcome of the latest siege could be critical to Arafat's political fate. He said the demand to hand over men inside the compound was "a pretext to justify the isolation and humiliation of Arafat."

"But if Arafat now makes any serious mistakes, this will affect his leadership," Khatib said. Palestinians will be watching closely to see how he comes out of it. The Israelis want this to be his political endgame."

## Graphic

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PHOTO, Color, Nayef Hashiamoun, Reuters; PHOTO, B/W, Adel Hana, AP; PHOTO, B/W, Hussein Hussein, Reuters; To the streets: A Palestinian woman holds a placard with Yasser Arafat's photo and a weapon during a protest in Gaza on Sunday. At least five Palestinians were killed during protests there and in the West Bank. Isolated: Most of Yasser Arafat's headquarters has been destroyed.

**Load-Date:** September 23, 2002

## *Palestinian Council Debates Arafat's Cabinet, and Leadership*

The New York Times  
September 11, 2002 Wednesday  
Late Edition - Final

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**Section:** Section A; Column 3; Foreign Desk; Pg. 4

**Length:** 778 words

**Byline:** By SERGE SCHMEMANN

**Dateline:** RAMALLAH, West Bank, Sept. 10

### **Body**

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Reflecting a growing dissatisfaction among Palestinians with the leadership of Yasir Arafat, Palestinian legislators moved closer today to rejecting his cabinet.

"This is a huge debate," said Salah Taamari, a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council from Bethlehem, as it went into the second day of its first session since May.

"The tension within the council reflects the tension of the Palestinian people," Mr. Taamari said. "Now is our chance to tell the world we represent our people."

While the council met, Israeli news organizations gave prominent play to what was described as a declaration that Fatah, Mr. Arafat's movement, was about to make, rejecting attacks against Israeli civilians.

Fatah leaders said that the document was an early draft of a broad statement that they had been preparing with the help of European Union and American officials and that it was not clear when or whether it would be presented.

One hurdle, they said, was to persuade Tanzim, the Fatah militia, to endorse the document. Without the agreement of Tanzim, and its militant Al Aksa Martyrs Brigades, the rejection of suicide bombings and other attacks against Israeli civilians would carry no weight.

But the very fact that such a declaration was being drafted with Mr. Arafat's approval, the officials emphasized, reflected the changing mood in the West Bank and Gaza Strip after almost two years of unrelenting violence between Palestinians and Israelis, and the accompanying economic misery.

The draft, titled a "Declaration to the Peaceful and Progressive People of Israel and the World," referred at length to the grievances and "legitimate rights" of the Palestinians, including the right to resist occupation. But it also declared that, "We, the Fatah movement, reject and will prevent any attacks against Israeli civilians.

"We are aware that the continuation of the Israeli occupation and aggression and the targeting of women, children and homes will lead to individual responses," the draft said. "Nevertheless, we are committed to following this political line and we will work to prevent all attacks on civilians."



## Palestinian Council Debates Arafat's Cabinet, and Leadership

Fatah officials said the wording in the declaration applied to attacks within Israel, contending that soldiers and Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza were a separate category.

In recent weeks, the Palestinian interior minister, Abdel Razak Yehiyeh, has been meeting with all Palestinian factions, including militant Islamic movements, in an effort to achieve an agreement to stop attacks inside Israel.

So far the militant groups **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad and the Aksa Brigades have refused to comply.

But such a statement by Fatah, the dominant movement among Palestinians, would serve to isolate the Islamic militants.

These signs of change among Palestinians have stirred growing interest in Israel, especially after several weeks of relative calm. After Mr. Arafat's speech on Monday, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres noted that, "There is an internal debate among the Palestinians, and we should not try to run it."

Today, Mr. Peres and other government ministers met with Saeb Erekat, a senior Palestinian official. Mr. Peres said later that there would be another round of talks soon to consider more work permits for Palestinians and further withdrawals of Israeli troops from Palestinian areas.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has maintained a less conciliatory stance, but he, too, has said that he intends to meet with an unidentified Palestinian official in the coming days, at his request.

At the Palestinian Legislative Council meeting, the primary goal of reformers is to transfer the bulk of Mr. Arafat's executive powers to a prime minister -- a goal also advocated by the Bush administration.

But legislators said the goal would require a change in their basic law, which would take time. For now, their efforts appeared focused on sending Mr. Arafat and the Palestinians a signal that the council would no longer be a rubber stamp.

As one speaker after another rose in debate, legislators stressed that the issue was not the specific ministers selected by Mr. Arafat in June, but the need to declare that it was time for a substantive change of policy and style.

On Monday, Mr. Arafat delivered a wide-ranging speech in which he heaped blame on Israel but declared his continuing commitment to a negotiated peace.

Many legislators said the speech, and a report by a government minister today, were disappointing in their failure to recognize the popular demands for genuine change.

"They keep telling us what they want to do, what they plan to do," said one council member. "But we want them to understand what they did, or didn't do."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

**Load-Date:** September 11, 2002

## *Israeli Army begins retaliation attack*

The New Zealand Herald

November 13, 2002 Wednesday

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**Section:** NEWS; World

**Length:** 774 words

### **Body**

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TULKARM, WEST BANK - The Israeli Army swept into Tulkarm refugee camp in the West Bank yesterday following a Palestinian militant attack on a kibbutz that killed five Israelis, witnesses said.

Israeli security sources had said hours before that Israel had decided on military action in the Tulkarm and Nablus areas of the West Bank because they were suspected of links to Sunday night's assault on the collective farm community inside Israel.

Military retaliation for the attack by a lone gunman, who killed the collective farm community's administrator, two women and two small children before escaping, was likely to complicate a new United States peace mission.

Palestinian witnesses and security sources said about 30 tanks, armoured troop carriers and jeeps stormed into Tulkarm's camp and fanned through the streets.

They reported heavy gunfire from Israeli troops but no immediate resistance from Palestinian militants, who have been waging an uprising against Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since September 2000.

The Israeli Army had no immediate comment.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and new Defence Minister Shaul Mofaz, visited the kibbutz, close to the West Bank boundary with Israel and just north of Tulkarm, on Monday evening and had discussed a "measured" military response to the attack.

Israeli security sources said afterwards that Sharon and Mofaz had opted for military action "in the coming hours" in Nablus, from which the gunman was believed to have come, and Tulkarm, the Palestinian city closest to the attack site.

In the Gaza Strip's Rafah refugee camp on Monday night, a two-year-old Palestinian child was shot dead in the arms of his father by what witnesses called unprovoked gunfire into the neighbourhood from an Israeli Army watchtower, medics said. An Army spokesman said Israeli troops had responded to shots fired at them.

"This is a very hot area," he said, referring to past clashes with Palestinian militants in Rafah.

The gunman slipped overnight into Kibbutz Metzger and opened fire, killing a woman visitor and its administrator in what was a rare raid on an Israeli collective farm.

The militant burst into a house, gunning down a 34-year-old mother in the doorway of her children's room and killing her two sons aged four and five as they held bedding over their heads.

## Israeli Army begins retaliation attack

The al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, an armed offshoot of Fatah, claimed responsibility. It said it was avenging Israel's killing of an Islamic militant commander and vowed "more martyrdom attacks until occupation leaves our land".

Arafat's Palestinian Authority (PA) has sought, so far in vain, to persuade Islamic militants spearheading the uprising for independence not to attack civilians inside Israel, as opposed to Israeli troops and Jewish settlers on West Bank and Gaza territory that Palestinians seek for a state.

It expressed "strong condemnation of the killing of civilians" at the kibbutz but said it was carried out while a "brutal war machine" was killing Palestinian men, women and children in occupied territories.

Hopes for a halt to suicide bombings in the uprising were renewed after Palestinian officials said the Islamic militant group Hamas had discussed a possible one-year suspension of such attacks during talks with Fatah in Cairo on Monday.

The new violence clouded US envoy David Satterfield's arrival to push a new peace "roadmap" entailing reciprocal steps by the two sides - mainly Palestinian reforms and Israeli military withdrawals - leading to a Palestinian state in 2005.

The proposal, part of efforts by an international "Quartet" made up of US, European Union, United Nations and Russian mediators, has met scepticism from Palestinian officials and Israeli cabinet ministers.

At least 1655 Palestinians and 631 Israelis have been killed since the Palestinian revolt erupted in September 2000 after US-brokered talks on Palestinian statehood in the West Bank and Gaza stalled.

Meanwhile, Israeli Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called on Monday for the removal of Yasser Arafat's Administration after the kibbutz killing. The hawkish ex-Premier was appointed last week after the collapse of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's unity Government.

Israeli media have speculated Israel might expel Arafat in the heat of a US campaign to oust Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Sharon has promised US President George Bush - who wants to avoid inflaming the Arab world - not to harm or depose Arafat.

Further reading

<http://www.nzherald.co.nz/storydisplay.cfm?reportID=56522> Feature: Middle East

<http://www.nzherald.co.nz/storydisplay.cfm?storyID=1844330&thesection=Story&thesubsection=&reportid=56522>  
Related links

**Load-Date:** December 20, 2002

## **FOUR DIE AS ANGER OVER ATTACK ON ARAFAT BOILS OVER**

The Scotsman

September 23, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 The Scotsman Publications Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 12

**Length:** 706 words

**Byline:** Ben Lynfield In Ramallah

### **Body**

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THE West Bank and Gaza Strip erupted in protest yesterday over Israel's onslaught against the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat.

It has included firing tank shells at his building in Ramallah and threatening over loudspeakers to blow it up.

Four Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli forces in protests against Israel, two of them in Ramallah.

The army announced last night it had completed its razing of buildings, leaving Mr Arafat and dozens of aides and guards confined to four rooms in a structure that Palestinians and a leading Israeli analyst say is in danger of collapse.

"The only danger is that the building will collapse and that it will crash down on him," Danny Rubinstein said last night. He predicted the encirclement of Mr Arafat and demand for surrender of wanted Palestinians would evolve into a protracted siege similar to those at the same site and at the Church of the Nativity last spring.

A build-up of troops continued to back up the demand that nineteen officials Israel accuses of involvement in terrorism leave the building and surrender themselves.

Inside, Salam Fayyad, the Palestinian finance minister who has spearheaded fiscal reforms praised by the United States and Israel, said by phone: "I am left with only questions to ponder about what it is they are after. There are ways for things to be resolved and the best way is to talk about them. But it seems someone is determined not to give us a chance."

Mr Fayyad, who formerly served on the executive board of the World Bank, had gone for a meeting with Mr Arafat to discuss his reform programme when the Israeli troops began their onslaught on Thursday.

"People are sleeping on the floor. Conditions are bad. We haven't really looked outside in a while because we are staying away from the windows. We have some shortage of food and water supplies. The water was cut off. It's not sanitary. I am absolutely depressed by all that I am seeing.

"Sooner or later we will sit down and talk, so why not do it now? This is a major escalation that is uncalled for. It does not help the cause of resumption of contacts and negotiations. It is a very dangerous escalation."

Earlier, soldiers nearby used tear gas and live ammunition against hundreds of men, **women** and children chanting "Long live Arafat, long live Palestine."

## FOUR DIE AS ANGER OVER ATTACK ON ARAFAT BOILS OVER

Hospital officials said two protesters were killed by army gunfire. Army officials gunmen in the crowd were firing weapons.

Israel's deputy defence minister, Weizman Shiri, mused yesterday about giving Mr Arafat a "one-way ticket" into exile, but that was seen as something that would displease Israel's US ally at this juncture.

Other officials said the onslaught, launched after a suicide bombing on Thursday by Hamas in Tel Aviv that killed five people, would discredit Mr Arafat in the eyes of his own people.

A cabinet minister, Tzipi Livne, said ministers had been told that the action would help to shorten Mr Arafat's tenure. "The longer Arafat is in power and the longer the Palestinians fail to detach themselves from him, the worse it will be for the Palestinians and for us," Ms Livne said.

Ha'aretz newspaper reported yesterday that the assault thwarted moves among Palestinians to limit Mr Arafat's power and to force him to appoint a prime minister. Two weeks ago, Palestinian MPs won a showdown with Mr Arafat by forcing his cabinet to resign and they continued to press for the appointment of more reform minded ministers. But that process has been halted.

In Tulkarem, a Palestinian was killed after gunmen in a large crowd traded fire with troops, and another Palestinian was killed by the army in Nablus's Balata Refugee Camp. A 13-year-old Palestinian boy was shot dead while violating the 12-week curfew clamped on the city, Palestinians said.

Sharif Siyam, a Palestinian from nearby Mukhmas village, said: "People used to say Yasser Arafat is a traitor for calling for a halt to violence while the Israeli army is killing us. Now they find out he is not a traitor. If he is a traitor why are the Israelis doing these things to him? Believe me, over 95 per cent of the Palestinians are with Arafat today, even those who hated him.

"If he is martyred today, there will be thousands of Arafats in the country."

**Load-Date:** September 23, 2002

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## UN 'fact-finding' legitimizes lies

Ottawa Citizen

May 2, 2002 Thursday Final Edition

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**Section:** News; George Jonas; Pg. A18; Column

**Length:** 764 words

**Byline:** George Jonas

**Dateline:** TORONTO

### Body

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TORONTO - Last Sunday, Israel's cabinet refused to let a United Nations committee enter Jenin to investigate what transpired at the notorious refugee camp. This wasn't surprising. The committee, as set up by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, was "fact-finding" in name only. In reality, it was designed to put the UN's seal of good housekeeping on some blatant anti-Israeli propaganda.

For example, Annan named Dr. Cornelio Sommaruga, former president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), to the UN team. Sommaruga is a consummate international bureaucrat, who currently heads the Swiss-based Caux -- Initiatives of Change foundation. (This is the new name of the old Moral Rearmament Movement, founded during the Cold War to outflank communism on the soggy left.) Sommaruga normally mouths the same benign platitudes in several languages, but makes an exception in the case of Israel.

The Ottawa Citizen

As the Washington Post reported, when Sommaruga still headed the International Red Cross, he remonstrated with Dr. Bernadine Healy, then president of the American Red Cross, who suggested that the ICRC should finally admit Israel's Magen David Adom (MDA) to membership. The Muslim Red Crescent is a member, but the MDA has been excluded for 50 years. Israel's "Red Cross" would only be allowed to join if it dropped its symbol, the Star of David. Apparently Sommaruga found this a perfectly reasonable condition. "If we're going to have the shield of David," he reportedly said, "why would we not have to accept the swastika?"

This exchange took place in 1999. For Annan to name a person to a fact-finding commission charged with investigating an alleged Israeli massacre who equated the Star of David with the Nazi symbol shows either incompetence or malice. I don't think the secretary general is incompetent.

Sad to say, Sommaruga's equation is closer to reality the other way around. Israel can expect about as much open-mindedness from a UN fact-finding mission today as it might have from a committee set up by the Gestapo 60 years ago.

What happened in Jenin is no great mystery -- which is not to say that it isn't tragic. There was no massacre. When the Israeli army pushed its way into the booby-trapped streets of the camp to root out terrorists, in the ensuing battle a number of civilians got killed (seven, according to Israel) along with some terrorists (48) and Israeli soldiers (23).

Operatives associated with Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Tanzim, and similar groups use civilians as their hostages. They deliberately mix with them, sometimes pressuring, sometimes recruiting non-combatants, including women and

## UN 'fact-finding' legitimizes lies

children, to act as their shields or decoys. Terrorists store arms and explosives in refugee camps. This is forbidden by international conventions as well as specific UN resolutions.

By doing it, though, the terrorists accomplish two things.

One, they often prevent military action against them. Civilized nations, including Israel, are reluctant to conduct combat missions among non-combatants. But even if terrorists can't prevent such actions altogether, as in Jenin, they can make them more costly to the enemy. Israel lost 23 soldiers in Jenin because it used infantry rather than aerial bombardment to reduce civilian casualties.

Two, when civilian casualties occur -- as they almost invariably do under such circumstances -- when women, old men, or children get hurt or killed, the terrorists who led them to the slaughter can cry foul. They can cry havoc, they can cry massacre -- until some obliging "fact-finding" mission is dispatched by their UN friends to put the international community's blue ribbon on their lies.

The surprising thing isn't that the terrorists do this. The surprising thing is that so many skeptical, hard-bitten, level-headed western journalists, who normally have the keenest eye for deception, fail to see through such an obvious ruse de guerre.

Israel is standing firm this week, not letting Kofi Annan put the UN's imprimatur on Arab propaganda through a mockery of "fact-finding." The reservations Foreign Minister Shimon Peres presented to the UN include the condition that, as a sovereign nation, only Israel can decide who testifies before the committee.

The standoff may continue, though chances are a UN committee will eventually go to Jenin after some cosmetic changes. Appointees blatantly hostile to Israel will be, if not replaced, balanced by other appointees not blatantly hostile to it. In today's climate it's the best Israel can expect.

George Jonas is a Citizen columnist.

**Load-Date:** May 2, 2002

## **MIDEAST TURMOIL: BETHLEHEM; Vowing to Stay at a Holy Site As Troops and Impasse Linger**

The New York Times

April 7, 2002 Sunday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2002 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section 1; Column 5; Foreign Desk; Pg. 16

**Length:** 697 words

**Byline:** By JOEL BRINKLEY

**Dateline:** BETHLEHEM, West Bank, April 6

### **Body**

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The Palestinian governor of Bethlehem vowed today that neither he nor any of the other Palestinians holed up inside the Church of the Nativity would leave until Israeli troops ended their five-day siege.

"We have no choice whatsoever," said Muhammad Madani, the governor, in a telephone interview. "The main reason we came to the church is so we would not get shot. The Israelis must go."

Israeli tanks and other armored vehicles surround the ancient church, which marks what is said to be the birthplace of Jesus.

Inside were about 200 people -- roughly 150 Palestinians, including gunmen, and 40 priests and other church employees. Food was running low, said a Canadian Greek Orthodox priest among those inside.

Today, an archbishop left, saying he had run out of his heart medications. Two nuns and two ***female*** Palestinian church employees left with him. They were driven safely out of town by the Israelis, who said they had no intention of firing on the church or harming anyone inside -- as long as any wanted gunmen inside were turned over to them.

"In the church are wanted terrorists from ***Hamas***, Islamic Jihad," militant Islamic groups, said Olivier Rafowicz, an Israeli Army colonel involved in negotiations to end the standoff.

He said fugitives with Tanzim, the militia tied to Yasir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, were also inside.

"We want to arrest them," Colonel Rafowicz said. "Israel will not let them go."

He said, however, that the others could leave. Some of the priests, Palestinian officials and others inside the church said they did not believe him, however.

The Palestinians trapped inside, Governor Madani said, were "tourist police, other policemen, national security officers, business people, workers, college students and other people who came in here running from death when the Israelis came."



## MIDEAST TURMOIL: BETHLEHEM Vowing to Stay at a Holy Site As Troops and Impasse Linger

He indicated, however, that there were wanted men inside as well, adding, "Many of them have nothing to do with attacking Israelis."

The Rev. Anjad Sabara, a Franciscan priest, said: "At this time we are praying; we don't know what will happen. The Israelis are calling certain people on the phone and threatening to break in."

Colonel Rafowicz said he would not discuss specifics of the negotiations or what steps Israel might take.

The Rev. Ibrahim Faltas, an Egyptian Franciscan priest, said he opened his bedroom window "for the first time, at 10:30 this morning, and immediately, they opened fire, shattering my window. It's a miracle I was not killed."

Colonel Rafowicz denied that. "We do not fire on the church," he said

The standoff was part of a tense day. The Israelis lifted their curfew for a few hours on Friday, but it was in force all day today. Streets were deserted; tanks and other armored vehicles patrolled almost everywhere; and scattered, large-caliber gunfire could be heard coming from every direction all day.

The Palestinians in the church were in its sanctuary, while the priests were in their living quarters, which are separate but attached to the church. The priests said, however, that they entered the church to pray.

Anton Salman, a Palestinian resident of Bethlehem and chairman of a church support organization, entered the church with the governor on Tuesday. Today, he said by telephone, food had run so low that the priests could no longer feed the Palestinians in the sanctuary.

"The last meal we can offer them is today," he said. Mr. Salman added that "we have water to drink, but not to bathe," because the church's water had been cut off.

Twelve of the Palestinians were shot and wounded as they ran to the church, one seriously, with a gunshot wound to his thigh, the priests and others said.

Governor Madani said that, as the Israelis advanced into Bethlehem, "we were completely confused by the political aspect of this, and that is why we ran to the church. Once we were inside, the nuns were taking care of the wounded; the monks were feeding people. There was nothing negative to this."

Israel continued to insist that the gunmen were holding the priests hostage. "They are controlled by the gunmen," Colonel Rafowicz said.

But in interviews by telephone with several of the priests and others today, all of them denied that.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

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Photo: Father Mitri, a Palestinian, watched from a shattered window inside the Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church as Israeli soldiers enforced a curfew in Bethlehem, which they have occupied for a week. (Ruth Fremson/The New York Times)

**Load-Date:** April 7, 2002

## MIDEAST TURMOIL: BETHLEHEM Vowing to Stay at a Holy Site As Troops and Impasse Linger

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## **U.N. ENVOY SAYS ISRAEL 'LOST ALL MORAL GROUND' AFTER JENIN**

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

April 19, 2002, Friday

Copyright 2002 The Columbian Publishing Co.

**Section:** Front Page; Pg. a1

**Length:** 737 words

**Byline:** Los Angeles Times, The Associated Press

### **Body**

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JENIN, West Bank -- The highest-ranking U.N. official in the Middle East issued a harsh condemnation of the Israeli government Thursday, accusing it of failing to mount rescue efforts that might have saved Palestinian lives.

Terje Roed-Larsen, the United Nations' special envoy to the region, said the Israelis should have immediately sent search-and-rescue teams after their invasion of this West Bank town, which saw the fiercest fighting in decades.

President Bush, meanwhile, said he approved the slow pace of Israel's withdrawal from Palestinian cities and said he understood why Prime Minister Ariel Sharon had laid siege to Yasser Arafat's headquarters in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

Saving his most pointed remarks for the Palestinian leader, Bush said Arafat's condemnation of terrorism must be followed by concrete action. "We will hold him to account," the president said.

Bush summoned his foreign policy team to the White House for a report from Secretary of State Colin Powell, who had returned nine hours earlier from a Middle East mission without securing a cease-fire. Aides said there was no decision on what to do next, though CIA Director George Tenet is expected to return to the region soon.

Bush is facing criticism from some Republican lawmakers and others in the party who want Israel to be given unfettered authority to crack down on terrorism. White House officials said it was not politics that led to Bush's remarks but a growing realization that both sides have deeply held views that will not be easily swayed.

Two weeks after telling Israel to withdraw its troops and 12 days after saying the action should come "without delay," Bush said he understood why Israeli troops were still in Ramallah and Bethlehem.

"History will show that they've responded," Bush said of the Israelis.

Bush said Israel has laid siege to Arafat's headquarters in Ramallah because five suspects in last year's assassination of Israeli Tourism Minister Rehavam Zeevi are believed to be in a basement inside Arafat's compound.

"I can understand why the prime minister wants them brought to justice," Bush said. "They should be brought to justice if they killed a man in cold blood."

Israel completed its pullback from Jenin today, the military said, redeploying its forces on the outskirts of the West Bank town and allowing residents to search for relatives in a devastated refugee camp.

## U.N. ENVOY SAYS ISRAEL 'LOST ALL MORAL GROUND' AFTER JENIN

Brig. Gen. Eyal Schlein, the Israeli army's Jenin division commander, said his forces had destroyed the "infrastructure explosive labs, organization heads, and also terrorists." But he told Israel TV, "The attacks will continue we haven't achieved any cease-fire."

As U.N. envoy Larsen spoke to reporters in the ruins of Jenin's former refugee camp, he watched a man burrow through rubble with his hands to pull out the remains of his elderly father.

"What we are seeing here is horrifying, horrifying scenes of human suffering," Larsen said. "After the military offensive in Jenin, the government of Israel has lost all moral ground in this conflict."

Israeli military officials angrily denied the accusation, saying search-and-rescue teams had been sent in whenever the army received reports of trapped victims. They found one person dead and no survivors.

"These are lies. I am sorry that Mr. Larsen has let himself be misled by this kind of propaganda," said Capt. Kfir Luzzatto, an army spokesman.

Thursday was the first time since the Israeli operation in Jenin began 15 days ago that U.N. officials were allowed in to assess the damage to their camp, which was established in 1953.

They encountered a scene of frantic despair. Hundreds of Palestinian men, women and children, rushing to take advantage of a brief lifting of the military curfew, streamed into the camp to gather meager possessions, collect their dead and search for the living.

The number of dead and the circumstances of their death have become the central controversy in the battle of Jenin. The Israeli army lost 29 soldiers, including 13 in one explosion.

Palestinians have said that between 300 to 500 died during about a week of intense fighting. So far, only 37 Palestinian bodies have been pulled from the rubble.

Near Nablus, the Israeli military said it captured Husam Ataf Ali Badran, a leader of the Hamas militant organization who the army said was responsible for the deaths of more than 100 Israelis in some of the worst suicide bombings in the last year.

**Load-Date:** April 19, 2002

## *U.S. envoy heading to Persian Gulf in effort to encourage democracy*

The Philadelphia Inquirer

June 5, 2002 Wednesday CITY-D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** Pg. A07; news

**Length:** 735 words

**Byline:** Warren P. Strobel Inquirer Washington Bureau

**Dateline:** WASHINGTON

### **Body**

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The United States is gingerly beginning to nudge authoritarian Arab governments to undertake democratic reforms, a process fraught with risk for the Bush administration and for the governments themselves.

In a sign of Washington's new interest in encouraging Arab political reform, a U.S. human-rights envoy leaves today on a trip that includes stops in the Persian Gulf nations of Bahrain, Oman and Qatar, as well as the repressive Central Asian nation of Uzbekistan, a U.S. ally in the war on terrorism.

The mission by Lorne Craner, assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights and labor, is believed to be the first of its kind, and would have been virtually unthinkable before Sept. 11.

The attacks that day, carried out largely by Saudi nationals, convinced many U.S. officials that an old unwritten bargain - in which Washington stayed mum about Arab countries' internal politics in return for oil or peace treaties with Israel - was no longer viable.

In this view, popular dissatisfaction with unresponsive or corrupt Arab leaders has been deflected toward the United States, with powerless citizens lashing out at America for supporting the regimes, and for staunchly backing Israel.

"There really has never been, in my view, as much interest in this [democracy] issue, willingness to discuss it" directly with governments, said Amy Hawthorne of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. She calls Craner's trip "a small step, but I think a very positive one."

The consensus that Washington should bolster democratic forces in the Arab world cuts across the administration's ideological fault lines, say officials and observers, and includes pro-Israel Pentagon hawks, State Department Arab specialists and human-rights advocates.

The Middle East is regarded as one of the world's least democratic regions. Israel is a parliamentary democracy, and a handful of nations - Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Morocco - have experimented with limited liberalization. But most are either monarchies or repressive regimes.

## U.S. envoy heading to Persian Gulf in effort to encourage democracy

The Bush administration has not yet decided how far to press Arab leaders to broaden popular participation in government, administration officials said. Bush needs their cooperation in his war on terrorism and with the Mideast peace initiative that he is about to launch.

Craner is not stopping in Saudi Arabia, the largest, most influential Arab gulf state. Bahrain turned down a U.S. proposal for a May visit in which the human-rights envoy could have monitored local elections; Bahrain said it needed no such supervision. Yet the Bush administration sees cause for optimism in the polls in the small island nation.

Craner's message in Bahrain, Oman and Qatar "is to encourage them, and to encourage them to go talk to their neighbors," a senior State Department official said. "These countries aren't going to change overnight."

The United States is pursuing a "go-slow approach" in part because it is preoccupied with the Arab-Israeli conflict, said Thomas Carothers, vice president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Also, "they don't have a ready alternative to long-standing policies of friendly relations with authoritarian regimes in the region."

The exception to this gradual approach is with Yasir Arafat's Palestinian Authority. The United States is demanding rapid reforms to boost chances for peace and prepare Palestinian areas for nationhood.

But both the Palestinian Authority and Bahrain offer portents about the dangers for the United States of freer political systems in the Arab world.

Trying to broaden his government, Arafat offered cabinet posts to Hamas and three other militant groups opposed to peace with Israel. (All rejected the offer.) And in Bahrain last month, candidates backing a greater role for Islam in government prevailed, and not a single female candidate was elected.

John Shattuck, assistant secretary of state for democracy and human rights under President Bill Clinton, said the United States should focus not on confronting Middle East governments, but on encouraging moderate voices outside them.

While there is a risk of empowering opponents of U.S. policy, "there's a greater risk in keeping repression, or supporting repression," he said, adding that the Middle East was "an area where double standards rear their heads more than elsewhere in the world."

Contact Warren P. Strobel at 202-383-6033 or [wstrobel@krwashington.com](mailto:wstrobel@krwashington.com).

**Load-Date:** June 5, 2002

## *Aiding The Enemy*

The New York Times

April 12, 2002 Friday

Late Edition - Final

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**Section:** Section A; Column 6; Editorial Desk; Pg. 25

**Length:** 734 words

**Byline:** By NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF; E-mail: , [nicholas@nytimes.com](mailto:nicholas@nytimes.com)

### **Body**

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Who would have imagined that anyone could turn a vacillating dictator like Yasir Arafat into a hero, while also sowing discord between Israel and its greatest ally?

Ariel Sharon has managed to do both. And by defying President Bush's appeals and using helicopters paid for with United States tax dollars to destroy Palestinian homes and lives, he is also undermining American credibility in the region.

Now there is also a growing risk of a larger war. Israel is understandably outraged by Hezbollah rocket attacks from Lebanon and is contemplating striking back -- at Syria. An Israeli cabinet member said this week that Israel was seriously considering hitting Syrian targets, and acknowledged: "The magnitude of the conflict may be a huge one."

Mr. Sharon is, of course, brutally provoked by Mr. Arafat's duplicity and dalliance with terrorism, and one can't help sympathizing with his need to satisfy an Israeli electorate that understandably demands a response to bombings. Yet Mr. Arafat is such a catastrophe as a leader that it falls upon Mr. Sharon to display enough wisdom for both.

Unfortunately, Mr. Sharon has made a career of responding to Palestinian outrages by pursuing rash military solutions that ultimately harm Israel rather than bolster it.

In October 1953, for example, Palestinian infiltrators murdered a young Israeli woman, Susan Kanias, and her two small children. The young Mr. Sharon led a commando group on a retaliatory raid against the Palestinian village of Qibya.

Mr. Sharon's unit blew up buildings in Qibya and killed 69 Palestinians, many of them women and children who were apparently hiding inside. In his memoirs, Mr. Sharon describes the killings as mostly accidental and as a "tragedy."

That 1953 Qibya reprisal was emotionally satisfying to Israelis victimized by terror, as today's incursions are, but it did nothing to reduce terrorism. The number of Israelis killed in terrorist incidents increased in 1954 and nearly doubled again in 1955.

In fairness, criticizing Mr. Sharon's harsh tactics is easy. The harder question is what Israel should do to defeat terrorism. The answer, which Colin Powell is trying to deliver, is straightforward: The only way out will be a political deal creating a Palestinian state.

## Aiding The Enemy

It will be even harder now than a year ago, when Mr. Arafat's intransigence helped kill the deal. In Gaza last week, **Hamas** radicals told me that Mr. Arafat had mistakenly strayed into the peace camp but now realized that Israel understood only brute force. And a senior Israeli general said: "No one has thought there was a military answer until now, but we are beginning to think about it."

Moreover, while no one is focusing yet on the incursion's impact on the Palestinian economy, it is devastating. The middle class is evaporating into the kind of economic tumble that a World Bank study of civil conflict two years ago found has often helped ignite domestic rebellions.

"The closures on Gaza and the West Bank mean that today more than half the Palestinian population is living under the local poverty benchmark, which is \$2 a day," said Mark Malloch Brown, the head of the United Nations Development Program. "This was an economy that was growing at 10 percent a year, the tax collection system was working pretty well, and now it's been driven back to third-world poverty levels."

The intellectual underpinning of Mr. Sharon's argument is the notion that we must never negotiate with terrorists -- or, as President Bush put it, "There is no way to make peace with those whose only goal is death."

It's a lofty ideal, but in fact we negotiate with terrorists all the time. That's how a cease-fire was reached this year in Sri Lanka, and it's the basis for peace talks to end rebellions in Sudan, Congo and Angola.

The world simply isn't so tidy as to provide a blanket solution to terrorism. Sometimes, as in Afghanistan, there is a military answer. In other cases, such as Pakistan, there is a political answer. In some places, there is both: the Philippines has worked out peace deals with two rebel groups but is using military power to try to destroy a third.

Our principle should not be "Never negotiate with terrorists" but rather "Don't reward terrorism." Unfortunately, by turning a menace like Mr. Arafat into a hero all over the Arab world, Mr. Sharon is creating incentives for terrorism and undermining Israel's long-term security.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

**Load-Date:** April 12, 2002



## **GAZA SUICIDE BOMBING IS FIRST THERE IN FIVE MONTHS**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

April 20, 2002 Saturday Three Star Edition

Copyright 2002 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 5

**Length:** 696 words

**Byline:** The Associated Press

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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\* The attack slightly wounds two soldiers. Elsewhere, army fire kills seven Palestinians. A U.N. envoy says Israel's offensive has caused a "dire" humanitarian situation.

A man blew himself up at a Gaza Strip checkpoint, and Israeli army fire killed seven Palestinians on Friday.

In Jerusalem, the U.N. envoy to the Middle East, Terje Roed-Larsen, said Israel's 3-week-old military campaign in the West Bank created a "dire" humanitarian situation.

The militant group Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the suicide bombing at an army checkpoint near the Kissufim crossing between Israel and Gaza, the first such attack in the strip in five months. The assailant was killed and two soldiers were slightly wounded.

In the past 19 months of fighting, scores of suicide bombings have been launched from the West Bank, but none from the Gaza Strip, which is separated from Israel by a high fence. However, the command center of the largest Islamic group, **Hamas**, is in Gaza, which has not been targeted in the Israeli offensive.

The U.N. envoy noted that about 2 million people have been under tight closures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for months, and more than 600,000 have been under around-the-clock curfews for extended periods during the past three weeks.

"Israel's operation may have dismantled the physical infrastructure of terrorism, but that is possibly easy to be rebuilt," he said. "Meanwhile, the mental infrastructure of terrorism is building up, the mentality of hate and confrontation, and this is very difficult to undo."

He said food supplies were dwindling, the water supply was inadequate and suspended garbage collection posed risk of outbreak of disease. He estimated that 75 percent of the work force was idle.

A relief worker said Israeli soldiers refused to let aid organizations deliver food and medicines to the West Bank city of Nablus.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said a gradual withdrawal from Palestinian cities would continue. He said that by Sunday morning, troops will have pulled out of Nablus and of most of the town of Ramallah. Israel has

## GAZA SUICIDE BOMBING IS FIRST THERE IN FIVE MONTHS

said it will maintain its siege of Yasser Arafat's headquarters in Ramallah, where the Palestinian leader is confined to several rooms.

Early today, a Palestinian intelligence source said about 25 Israeli tanks were seen pulling out of Ramallah, heading north toward a military base. The Israeli army spokesman's office said there was only "regular military traffic."

In Ramallah, troops enforcing a curfew shot dead a 14-year-old Palestinian boy Friday morning as he walked from his house to the adjacent bakery where he worked, Palestinian doctors said. In neighboring Beitunia, troops shot and killed a 9-year-old boy as he played in his back yard Thursday evening, doctors said.

The army said it was checking the reports.

Early Friday, troops pulled out of the town of Jenin and the adjacent refugee camp.

So far, area hospitals have listed 43 bodies as having been retrieved from the camp, six of whom were women, children or elderly men.

Israel has denied Palestinian allegations that hundreds of civilians were buried under the rubble of homes. Israel says it believes several dozen people, most of them gunmen, were killed in fighting.

In New York, U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard said Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres called U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to tell him Israel would welcome a fact-finding mission to look into Israeli military action in Jenin and other Palestinian cities.

In the Gaza Strip, Israeli troops briefly raided the Rafah refugee camp and three civilians were killed in exchanges of fire, doctors said. Also Friday, soldiers killed two armed Palestinians who tried to enter the Jewish settlement of Netzarim in Gaza. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attempt.

In the West Bank, a newborn Palestinian baby, 4-day-old Dunya Ishtaya, died en route to a hospital in Nablus on Thursday night after the ambulance was stopped at Israeli army checkpoints, the family said Friday.

The baby's father, Nasser Ishtaya, is a photographer who covers the West Bank for The Associated Press. He said his baby daughter had been born five to six weeks prematurely.

## Notes

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TOP OF THE NEWS

## Graphic

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PHOTO; Photo by THE ASSOCIATED PRESS - Palestinian women embrace Friday in the center of the Jenin refugee camp. Residents continued to salvage belongings and bury the dead. The United Nations has declared the Jenin camp a disaster area.

**Load-Date:** April 20, 2002

## **WHAT W SHOULD say to Prince Abdullah**

Daily News (New York)

April 26, 2002, Friday

SPORTS FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2002 Daily News, L.P.

**Section:** NEWS;; COLUMN

**Length:** 729 words

**Byline:** BY MICHAEL KRAMER

### **Body**

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Watching the Saudi high command leak like sieves before Crown Prince Abdullah arrived for his Texas confab with President Bush yesterday, you can appreciate that Western-educated foreigners have learned a thing or two about spin.

From every quarter, the Saudis signaled that their de facto ruler would lecture Bush about being a lackey for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

Designed in part to demonstrate that the Saudis aren't America's puppets, the campaign began last weekend. "The main advice will be that America must restrain Sharon," said Adel al-Jubeir, Abdullah's smooth, English-speaking foreign policy adviser. "America's interests and credibility - and the credibility of America's friends and allies in the region - are suffering tremendously as a consequence" of Bush's support of Sharon.

As al-Jubeir spoke on "Meet the Press," more than 100 Saudi intellectuals declared that Israel's West Bank military operations are no different "in shape or form from what the Nazis did." Then, in a play on the President's own words, they said, "We consider the [Bush] administration the nurturer of international terrorism . . . and it, along with Israel, form the axis of terrorism and evil in the world."

Lest anyone think such a statement could be issued without an official okay, Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal said on Wednesday that the intellectuals' words represent the kingdom's prevailing view.

Then al-Faisal ridiculed Bush's description of Sharon as a man of peace. "Ariel Sharon a man of peace?" he asked rhetorically. "I don't even think Ariel Sharon believes that."

But that wasn't all. Speaking to an Arab newspaper, al-Faisal defended the Palestinian suicide bombers: "There is a difference between a terrorist attack like what took place on Sept. 11," he said, "and a suicide operation by a male or female youth [for whom] all means of [a] decent life have been blocked." Some strong words So we know what Abdullah planned to tell Bush and why he said it. What we don't know is what the President said back - beyond Bush's public characterization of the session as a "very cordial meeting that confirmed the strong relationship" between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.

Here's some of what I hope the President said privately when it was his turn to put the wood to Abdullah:

## WHAT W SHOULD say to Prince Abdullah

"I appreciate your recent efforts to create a two-state solution, and perhaps an international conference can advance that goal. But you control your media and your country's schools, and they've consistently generated some extremely vicious anti-Israel, anti-Jewish and now anti-American propaganda.

"I know you need to deflect internal dissent by slamming the Israelis - and us - but if you really want peace, those tactics must change.

"You think we can control Israel like you control Saudi Arabia. But Israel is the only democracy in your part of the world, and our influence is limited. We're trying - you know, for instance, that we oppose Israel's West Bank settlements - but you have to help by reining in Arafat.

"The fact is Arafat rejected the most far-reaching settlement ever offered by Israel, and you did nothing to encourage him to accept it. That rejection, and Arafat's subsequent embrace of violence, is what's caused the present crisis - not Sharon. No country in the world, including yours, would let homicide bombers kill innocent civilians, and your foreign minister's support for those murders is beyond reprehensible.

"You must speak out against those bombings. You must never again sanction a telethon that raises money for the families of those you call martyrs. You must stop funding the worst terrorist groups, like **Hamas**. You must tell Arafat - as I said to both sides recently - that enough is enough.

"I hope - as you've said publicly - that you won't use the oil weapon to pressure us, and I hope you don't really want our troops to leave your country. But we can live with either outcome. The Russians will pump more oil if we need it, and other nations in the area will gladly house our troops.

"Moderate Arabs are looking to you to champion peace. I urge you: Don't squander that opportunity. At the end of the day, Arafat will have to listen to you and the Egyptians and Jordanians, but only if you're serious. So you call Arafat and I'll call Sharon. Let the head-knocking begin.

"And now let's talk about Saddam . . ."

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**Load-Date:** April 26, 2002

## **BOMB KILLS 6 & INJURES 84 POWELL POSTPONES MEETING WITH ARAFAT**

Daily News (New York)

April 13, 2002, Saturday

SPORTS FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2002 Daily News, L.P.

**Section:** NEWS;; FRONT PAGE

**Length:** 728 words

**Byline:** By THOMAS M. DeFRANK and BRIAN KATES DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITERS

### **Body**

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A **female** suicide bomber killed six people and wounded at least 84 in a Jerusalem market yesterday, rocking Secretary of State Powell's Mideast mission and prompting him to postpone his meeting today with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

The White House quickly condemned the attack, branding it a "homicide bombing," and called on Arafat to denounce terrorism in Arabic so his people would hear the condemnation.

"This is terrorism; this is murder," said Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer. "Today would be a very good day for Yasser Arafat to publicly denounce terrorism and show some statesmanship."

Powell called off his meeting with Arafat, and senior officials said it might be rescheduled for tomorrow.

Powell's spokesman said the secretary "expects a clear denunciation of terrorism" and of yesterday's bombing.

Just hours before the bombing, Powell failed to get Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to agree on a timetable for withdrawing Israeli troops from Palestinian cities and towns. Call, then postponement The decision to postpone the Arafat meeting reportedly came as U.S. Mideast envoy Anthony Zinni met with two key aides, Gaza security chief Mohammed Dahlan and chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat.

During the meeting, Zinni left to take a telephone call from Powell and did not return, sources said. Afterward, Palestinians said they were informed of the postponement.

By nightfall in Jerusalem, when the Palestinian leader hadn't issued a denunciation, a Bush official noted that "the longer Arafat says nothing, the harder it becomes to justify seeing him."

The bomb erupted near the outdoor Mahane Yehuda market just before the start of the Sabbath, when the streets were packed with shoppers.

Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a faction of Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility, according to a caller to Hezbollah's Al Manar TV in Lebanon.

Sheik Ahmed Yassin, spiritual leader of the militant group **Hamas**, said the bombing was punishment for Israel's military offensive.

## BOMB KILLS 6 & INJURES 84 POWELL POSTPONES MEETING WITH ARAFAT

"If Israel thinks that after what they did in Jenin and Nablus they will not be punished, they are mistaken," Yassin said. "This is part of the punishment. They should wait and see. More is coming."

Twenty-five Israelis have been killed in five suicide bombings since Operation Defensive Shield began March 29.

Powell was en route to a helicopter pad about half a mile from yesterday's bomb site and heard the blast. His chopper circled the site several times, then continued to Safed, headquarters of Israel's northern command, to view evidence of Hezbollah attacks along Israel's border with Lebanon.

In his meeting with Sharon, Powell had tried to pry a timetable for an Israeli withdrawal, but with no luck.

"I welcome the efforts that you are making as part of the campaign against terrorism," Powell said in a news conference before the suicide bombing. "But at the same time, we recognize that eventually to reach the kind of solution that is needed, parties must talk, parties must begin negotiations."

Sharon didn't budge.

"Israel is conducting a war against the Palestinian infrastructure of terror and hopes to end it as soon as possible," he said.

In Washington, Bush political aides worried that White House vacillation - on one hand, demanding that Israel pull back; on the other, repeatedly giving Arafat one more chance - could produce a full-blown crisis for his presidency.

"The day-to-day perception is that we're fumbling this one," one aide told the Daily News. Embarrassment feared Powell's initial remarks that the meeting with Arafat would go on were superseded by what one Bush official called "some very deliberate vagueness" by U.S. spokesmen.

But officials increasingly were betting that Arafat has neither the moral backbone nor the political clout to speak out against the terrorism or stop it, raising the specter of yet another embarrassment for a President who a week ago staked his personal prestige on results and has nothing to show for his stern words.

Powell is expected to meet tomorrow in Jerusalem with Red Cross and UN officials on the deteriorating situation on the West Bank, spokesman Richard Boucher said.

Meanwhile in Geneva, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan called for a multinational force to stop the violence between Israelis and Palestinians, diplomats said.

Deployment "can no longer be deferred," Annan said. "It is urgent; it is imperative."

## Graphic

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REUTERS FULL SCHEDULE Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Secretary of State Powell pause before their talks yesterday. AP PENSIVE Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat listens during meeting at his office yesterday.

**Load-Date:** April 13, 2002

## UNDER SIEGE INSIDE BETHLEHEM CHURCH, PALESTINIANS VOW TO STAY

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

April 7, 2002 Sunday

TWO STAR EDITION

Copyright 2002 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 721 words

**Byline:** JOEL BRINKLEY, THE NEW YORK TIMES

**Dateline:** BETHLEHEM, West Bank

### **Body**

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The Palestinian governor of Bethlehem vowed yesterday that neither he nor any of the other Palestinians holed up inside the Church of the Nativity would leave until Israel troops ended their five-day siege.

"We have no choice whatsoever," said Muhammad Madani, the governor, in a telephone interview. "The main reason we came to the church is so we would not get shot. Israelis must go."

Israeli tanks and other armored vehicles surround the ancient church, marking what is said to be the birthplace of Jesus.

Inside are about 200 people -- roughly 150 Palestinians, including gunmen, and 40 priests and other church employees. Food was running low, said Father Parthenos, a Greek Orthodox priest who was inside.

Yesterday, an archbishop left, saying he had run out of his heart medications. Two nuns and two ***female*** Palestinian church employees left with him. They were driven safely out of town by the Israelis, who say they have no intention of attacking the church or harming anyone inside -- as long as any wanted gunmen inside are turned over to them.

"In the church are wanted terrorists from ***Hamas***, Islamic Jihad, militant Islamic groups," said Olivier Rafowicz, an Israeli army colonel who is involved in negotiations to end the standoff. "We want to arrest them; Israel will not let them go."

He said, however, that the others could leave.

But the priests, Palestinian officials and others inside the church said they did not believe this. The Palestinians trapped inside, Madani said, are "tourist police, other policemen, national security officers, business people, workers, college students and other people who came in here running from death when the Israelis came."

He also indicated, however, that there were wanted men inside when he said, "Many of them have nothing to do with attacking Israelis."

## UNDER SIEGE INSIDE BETHLEHEM CHURCH, PALESTINIANS VOW TO STAY

Father Anjad Sabara, a Franciscan priest, said: "At this time we are praying; we don't know what will happen. The Israelis are calling certain people on the phone and threatening to break in."

Rafowicz said he would not discuss the specifics of the negotiations.

Yesterday morning, Ibrahim Faltas, an Egyptian Franciscan priest, said he opened his bedroom window "for the first time, at 10:30 this morning, and immediately they opened fire, shattering my window. It's a miracle I was not killed."

Rafowicz denied that, saying, "We do not fire on the church."

The standoff was part of a tense day here. The Israelis lifted their curfew for a few hours on Friday, but it was in force all day yesterday.

Streets were deserted; tanks and other armored vehicles patrolled almost everywhere, and scattered, large-caliber gunfire could be heard coming from every direction all day.

The Vatican, Reuters reported from Rome, has been trying to broker a truce to prevent any further military activity in or near one of Christianity's holiest sites.

Under the Vatican plan, the gunmen inside would leave their weapons behind, and the Israelis would back away from the church to let everyone leave. But Israel insists it will not back away until it arrests the wanted gunmen.

The Palestinians who took refuge in the church are in the church sanctuary, while the priests are in their living quarters, which are separate but attached to the church. The priests say, however, that they enter the church to pray.

Anton Salman, a Palestinian resident of Bethlehem who is chairman of a church support organization, entered the church with the governor on Tuesday.

Yesterday, he said by telephone, the food had run so low that the priests could no longer offer meals to the Palestinians in the sanctuary. "The last meal we can offer them is today," he said.

Twelve of the Palestinians were shot and wounded as they ran to the church, one seriously, with a gunshot wound to his thigh, the priests and others said.

Madani said that as the Israelis advanced into Bethlehem "we were completely confused by the political aspect of this, and that is why we ran to the church. Once we were inside, the nuns were taking care of the wounded; the monks were feeding people. There was nothing negative to this."

Israel continues to insist that the gunmen are holding the priests hostage. "They are controlled by the gunmen," Rafowicz said.

But in interviews by telephone with several of the priests and others yesterday, all of them denied that.

**Load-Date:** April 9, 2002



**'This is a battle for the survival of the Jewish people, for survival of the state of Israel'**

THE JOURNAL (Newcastle, UK)

April 10, 2002, Wednesday

Edition 1

Copyright 2002 Newcastle Chronicle & Journal Ltd

**Section:** NEWS,

**Length:** 709 words

**Byline:** By The Journal

## **Body**

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Thirteen Israeli soldiers were killed yesterday in an ambush that destroyed hopes of reducing the white-hot temperature in the West Bank.

Just a day after foreign minister Shimon Peres held out the prospect of Israeli troops beginning to pull out from its incursion into Palestinian territory, the attack took the Middle East back to square one.

Israeli premier Ariel Sharon ignored pleas from President Bush and other world leaders to pull out of Palestinian towns and vowed the West Bank offensive would continue.

He said: "This is a battle for the survival of the Jewish people, for survival of the state of Israel."

The soldiers were killed in a carefully timed double ambush at the Jenin refugee camp.

One group of soldiers was walking in a narrow alley when linked charges went off, killing several of the soldiers and collapsing a house.

Just a few yards away, Israeli soldiers who had entered the courtyard of a house came under heavy fire from Palestinian gunmen on rooftops, and several more soldiers were killed.

Nine soldiers were also wounded in the incident, the deadliest involving Israeli forces in 18 months of fighting.

The heaviest fighting of the offensive raged yesterday in Jenin, a militant stronghold. Dozens of Palestinian gunmen remained holed up in a small area in the eastern part of the camp.

"We will continue to fight as long as necessary despite the loss. We will continue until we make this camp submit," said Major General Yitzhak Eitan, head of Israel's central command.

Camp resident Jamal Abdel Salam said he was told by the men that they would keep fighting. "They said they prefer death to surrender. They asked me to look after their families," said Salam, a member of the Islamic militant **Hamas** group.

'This is a battle for the survival of the Jewish people, for survival of the state of Israel'

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel said dozens of bodies of Palestinians were piled in the streets of the camp and residents were prevented from getting food and water.

The group said the military has committed serious human rights violations in the camp, including the demolition of homes with residents still inside.

Still, Sharon refused to back down despite growing US pressure to end the incursions, known as Operation Defensive Field.

"It was a tough campaign, a campaign that we are continuing ... until we will fulfil the decision of the Cabinet that calls for the destruction of the infrastructure of the terror groups," he said.

However, Israel said it would not try to stop a meeting between US Secretary of State Colin Powell and Yasser Arafat.

Arafat has been confined by Israel to a few rooms in his West Bank headquarters in Ramallah since the start of Israel's latest crackdown. Powell is due in Israel on Thursday.

Since March 29, at least 124 Palestinians and 24 Israeli soldiers have been killed, according to Palestinian medics and the Israeli army. Prior to the incursions 120 Israelis died in a sustained series of suicide bombings.

In Nablus yesterday, the West Bank's largest city, troops took control of the densely populated casbah, after several days of fierce resistance by Palestinian gunmen.

The military said it has found 16 bomb-making 'factories' in Nablus. Troops rounded up young Palestinian men at a school.

Israeli forces also raided the small town of Dura, south of Hebron. Palestinian security officials said Israeli forces levelled compounds of the Palestinian military intelligence and the Force 17 security service.

Meanwhile, the stand-off at Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity, built over the traditional birthplace of Jesus, entered its second week, straining delicate relations between Israel and the Vatican.

More than 200 armed Palestinians have been holed up in the shrine, ringed by Israeli troops.

Mr Powell, in Cairo where he held talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, said he will meet Arafat later this week.

He also said the United States is prepared to send observers to the region to help monitor enforcement of a Palestinian-Israeli truce.

"I come here at a difficult time, a time when we see violence, where young men, young women, children are dying on both sides," Powell said.

He called on leaders of the Palestinians and Arab nations to do more to end the escalating cycle of suicide bombings. "I would ask all parties now to speak out against this," he said.

**Load-Date:** April 24, 2002

## *Powell heads home with peace hopes collapsing*

The Times (London)

April 17, 2002, Wednesday

Copyright 2002 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news

**Length:** 769 words

**Byline:** Richard Beeston Diplomatic Editor

### **Body**

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Colin Powell's peace mission to the Middle East was in tatters last night as fighting raged in the West Bank and the US Secretary of State prepared to return home with the region still ablaze.

A day after Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Prime Minister, promised to begin pulling his forces out of Palestinian cities, there was little sign that the 19-day Israeli operation "Defensive Shield" was any nearer completion. General Powell now faces the prospect of returning to Washington with none of his main peacemaking objectives achieved and the real risk that the conflict could continue or even spread.

There was heavy fighting last night in Bethlehem around the Church of the Nativity, where 200 people, including Roman Catholic clerics and Palestinian gunmen, are approaching their third week under siege.

Muhammad al-Madani, the Governor of Bethlehem and one of those trapped inside, said that fierce shooting began when Israeli troops tried to storm the church. "They tried to get in, but they could not," he said. "There are no injuries, thank God."

Elsewhere Israeli troops showed no signs of ending their campaign to root out armed Palestinian groups, which has so far netted 4,250 suspects. The Israelis have so many prisoners that they have reopened Ketziot desert prison camp, which was last used in the first intifada a decade ago.

The numbers are likely to rise with further arrests reported yesterday during a raid by Israeli forces into Tulkarem, a town that they had vacated a few days ago. There were also reports of fresh Palestinian casualties at a refugee camp in Nablus and further fighting in Jenin.

Israeli forces also clamped down on areas of Arab east Jerusalem because of concerns of a possible attack today, which marks Israel's 54th anniversary since independence from Britain. The Israelis are concerned about reprisal attacks after the arrest on Monday of Marwan Barghouti, leader of the mainstream Fatah movement in the West Bank, who has been accused of organising the recent suicide bombings. "He will be brought before an Israeli court for the murder of hundreds of Israeli babies children, women," Mr Sharon said.

Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, said that Mr Sharon would pay a high price for the capture. In a statement released in Beirut, the group said: "You have made yourselves legitimate targets to be killed and assassinated."

The threats, killings and arrests seemed to ignore General Powell's efforts to halt the fighting and persuade the parties to return to the negotiating table.

## Powell heads home with peace hopes collapsing

Yesterday the American envoy said that he was making progress, but there was no evidence that any of the key players was any more willing to compromise today than ten days ago when General Powell arrived in the region.

Today he returns home after a final meeting with Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, and a stopover in Cairo to see President Mubarak.

The American envoy came to the region with three main aims. First, he wanted Israel to withdraw its forces from the West Bank. Secondly, he wanted the Palestinians to respect a ceasefire and halt suicide bomb attacks.

Finally, he wanted a commitment from Arab states, particularly Lebanon and Syria, that they would halt cross-border attacks into Israel and stop support for militant Islamic groups regarded by Washington as terrorist organisations. If all those were achieved, he even floated the idea of convening an international peace conference.

On all three counts, General Powell has failed. The Israelis still have large forces committed to the West Bank and reserve the right to go back in at any time. Major-General Aharon Zeevi, the head of military Intelligence, said yesterday that even if troops withdrew they could go back into Palestinian areas at any time.

Despite various plans being discussed, there is no hope of a real ceasefire while Israeli and Palestinian forces are still locked in battles across the West Bank.

The mood in the Arab world is probably as bad if not worse than when General Powell set foot in the region. Lebanon and Syria have vowed to continue support for Hezbollah, the militant Islamic group attacking Israeli military positions.

Even Saudi Arabia, once regarded as America's closest Arab ally, has said publicly that suicide attacks against Israel are a legitimate form of resistance.

The Bush Administration agreed last night to let the Palestine Liberation Organisation maintain offices in Washington, and authorised humanitarian and trade assistance for the Palestinian people for the next six months. But it said future US aid would depend on the PLO cracking down on terrorism.

**Load-Date:** April 17, 2002

***U.N. envoy criticizes Israeli action ; Military campaign: Suicide bomber wounds 2 soldiers***

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

April 20, 2002 Saturday

Copyright 2002 Woodward Communications, Inc.

**Section:** Pg. b6

**Length:** 709 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

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A militant blew himself up at a Gaza Strip checkpoint and Israeli army fire killed seven Palestinians on Friday, even as Israeli troops withdrew from one West Bank town.

In Jerusalem, the U.N. envoy to the Middle East, Terje Roed-Larsen, said Israel's 3-week-old military campaign in the West Bank created a "dire" humanitarian situation and was largely counterproductive.

The militant Islamic Jihad group claimed responsibility for the suicide bombing at an army checkpoint near the Kissufim crossing between Israel and Gaza, the first such attack in the strip in five months. The assailant was killed and two soldiers were lightly wounded.

In the past 19 months of fighting, scores of suicide bombings have been launched from the West Bank, but none from the Gaza Strip, which is separated from Israel by a high fence. However, the command center of the largest Islamic group - **Hamas** - is in Gaza, which has not been targeted in the Israeli offensive.

In funerals in the strip, supporters of Islamic militant groups and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement threatened to carry out new attacks in Israel to avenge more than 200 Palestinians killed.

Leading a procession in Gaza City, a masked Fatah activist told mourners he had a message for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon: "You have opened the gates of hell. ... Murder for murder, and destruction for destruction."

About 2 million people have been under tight closures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for months, and more than 600,000 have been under around-the-clock curfews for extended periods during the past three weeks, U.N. envoy Terje Roed-Larsen said.

"Israel's operation may have dismantled the physical infrastructure of terrorism, but that is possibly easy to be rebuilt," Roed-Larsen said. "Meanwhile, the mental infrastructure of terrorism is building up, the mentality of hate and confrontation, and this is very difficult to undo."

He said food supplies were dwindling, the water supply was inadequate and suspended garbage collection posed risk of outbreak of disease. He estimated that 75 percent of the work force was now idle.

## U.N. envoy criticizes Israeli action ; Military campaign: Suicide bomber wounds 2 soldiers

In the West Bank, soldiers refused to let aid organizations deliver food and medicines to the West Bank city of Nablus, a relief worker said.

In Ramallah, troops enforcing a curfew shot dead a 14-year-old Palestinian boy Friday morning as he walked from his house to the adjacent bakery where he worked, Palestinian doctors said. In neighboring Beitunia, troops shot and killed a 9-year-old boy as he played in his backyard on Thursday evening, doctors said.

Early Friday, troops pulled out of the town of Jenin and the adjacent refugee camp, scene of the heaviest fighting of the offensive.

Also on Friday, the Security Council unanimously approved a U.S. resolution supporting a U.N. fact-finding mission to look into Israeli military action in Jenin.

The resolution came after Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told Secretary-General Kofi Annan that it would welcome a U.N. representative "to clarify the facts" of what happened in the Jenin refugee camp.

The army said it was checking the reports.

Early Friday, troops pulled out of the town of Jenin and the adjacent refugee camp, scene of the heaviest fighting of the offensive.

On Friday, residents picked through heaps of debris, salvaging what possessions they could. Dozens of homes in the center of the camp were pounded into rubble by Israeli shelling and bulldozers during the weeklong battle between scores of Palestinian gunmen and advancing Israeli troops.

The United Nations has declared Jenin camp a disaster area.

So far, area hospitals have listed 43 bodies as having been retrieved from the camp, six of whom were women, children or elderly men.

Israel has denied Palestinian allegations that hundreds of civilians were buried under the rubble of homes demolished by army bulldozers. Israel says it believes several dozen people, most of them gunmen, were killed in the fighting.

In the Gaza Strip, Israeli troops briefly raided the Rafah refugee camp and three civilians were killed in exchanges of fire, doctors said. Also Friday, soldiers killed two armed Palestinians who tried to enter the Jewish settlement of Netzarim in Gaza. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attempt.

**Load-Date:** April 21, 2002

*Mideast can follow N. Ireland's example*

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

April 16, 2002 Tuesday,

Home Edition

Copyright 2002 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**The Atlanta  
Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** Editorial;

**Length:** 702 words

**Byline:** MELVIN KONNER

**Body**

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It was a blessing to join my daughter for St. Patrick's Day in Northern Ireland. One surprise was a TV news story about the festival in Savannah. What fascinated people in that strife-torn country was that Savannah's Catholics and Protestants celebrate together.

People in Northern Ireland would have to be fascinated, since for centuries they have not found the unity these upstart Americans take for granted.

For the Journal-Constitution

My previous visit to Northern Ireland, in 1998 for a conference in Derry on the social science of peace, took place during the week the Northern Ireland Assembly met for the first time. This put fierce enemies in the same room, and it was marred by a walkout. Worse, the next night, synchronized bombings damaged Catholic churches in eight locations around the country. No one was hurt, but clearly there were still forces against peace.

Tragically, there were more bombings, once as recently as September. But overall the peace held; the assembly has survived. We met with a senior republican, toured North Belfast and attended an inquiry into Bloody Sunday. Everyone we spoke to said the time for violence is over.

The Emerald Isle is prospering. Bill Clinton and George Mitchell, American peacemaker-heroes, are revered for their role in healing the old rift. But above all, people in Northern Ireland are tired of a life tinged with fear; they are bored with hatred. They care far more about having a civilized life than about their religious differences.

As an American Jew who loves Israel, I could only watch sadly from my safe Irish haven as the Middle East burst into flames; now the fire is blazing. Back in July when I visited there I saw signs of hope; today it is almost gone. To put things in perspective, half as many people have been killed in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict over the past 18 months as in the whole modern history of the Northern Irish Troubles. Twice as many Jews died in Israel's war for independence alone when it was nearly killed in its cradle by six invading Arab armies as the multigeneration Irish total of around 3,000.

## Mideast can follow N. Ireland 's example

There are parallels, to be sure, but the Middle East conflict is fiercer, the region far less civilized than Ireland. Too many on both sides are not yet ready for peace. Palestinian terrorists destroy pizza parlors and discotheques, supermarkets and seders, not military targets, in a terror campaign unprecedented in history.

But Jewish settlers continue to build illegal extensions of their settlements, adding to Palestinians' loss of hope. The fanatical acts on the two sides are hardly comparable, yet both help to sustain the endless war.

At Camp David in 2000, Yasser Arafat rejected an offer of more than 90 percent of the land he wants, yet he wouldn't even negotiate from that as a starting point, a place from which to work toward a free, coherent state. Israel's government can in time remove many settlements; it can control its few extremists. But Arafat can't or won't control his, and their actions echo Sept. 11 every day.

No one who knows Israel thinks it can stand by while hundreds of women and children are murdered. The Nazi shadow is too long there. And anyway, what nation would just stand by?

Fatah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad are Israel's al-Qaida, and they will be hunted down in much the same way. As for those who harbor terrorists, they must be viewed as enemies. Right now, peace seems a vain dream. But it was not so long ago that things looked very bleak in Northern Ireland. One month a bomb went off near where Catholic children walked to school, yet the next month the IRA laid down thousands of weapons. Men who had given their lives to violence now dedicate them to peace.

Yitzhak Rabin, murdered by a Jewish fanatic for seeking peace, said, "You don't make peace with your friends; you make peace with your enemies." Israel today calls Arafat its enemy, but ultimately it must make peace with him or someone like him. We may still cherish the hope that the Middle East will some day follow the Irish example. In the end, there is no other way.

Melvin Konner, who teaches at Emory University, is the author most recently of "The Tangled Wing: Biological Constraints on the Human Spirit."

## Graphic

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Photo:

Melvin Konner

**Load-Date:** April 23, 2002

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End of Document



## *Gunman kills 3 women settlers*

The Guardian (London)

February 7, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Home Pages, Pg. 2

**Length:** 744 words

**Byline:** Graham Usher in Jerusalem, Jon Henley in Paris and Matthew Engel in Washington

### **Body**

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Three Israeli *women*, including a mother and daughter, were killed last night when a lone Palestinian gunmen stormed a West Bank settlement. The gunman was killed in the attack, which left four others, including a child and two soldiers, injured.

A few hours earlier, an apparent suicide bombing was reportedly foiled just outside Jerusalem when police and bystanders overpowered a man on a bus wearing a belt of explosives.

The killings prompted immediate military air strikes against a Palestinian prison and government complex in Nablus, on the West Bank, injuring 11 people.

The events are sure to cast a pall over Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon's meeting today in Washington with President George Bush.

Police initially thought two gunmen were involved. Israeli television reported that guerrillas had infiltrated the greenhouses of Hamra, a tiny settlement of less than 150 people in the Jordan valley. It said they opened fire on a passing army patrol, spraying two guards with bullets at the settlement's entrance and injuring a soldier and a settler.

The gunmen then took over a house and tried to take the residents hostage, apparently killing the mother and daughter immediately. The third woman died on arrival at hospital.

Israeli police commandos later stormed the house, killing what turned out to be a lone gunman.

"There are a lot of shots, a huge number of gunshots in the background," Leah Shlomo - a settler from Hamra - told Israeli Radio, saying the army had told residents to lock themselves indoors.

A large army presence remained in and around Hamra, Israeli Television reported. No Palestinian group had claimed responsibility last night.

The killings will harm an attempt by the Palestinian Authority leader, Yasser Arafat, to restore his reputation in the US.

The day's events followed an outspoken attack by the French foreign minister, Hubert Vedrine, on Washington's world view, and especially its support for Israel.

## Gunman kills 3 women settlers

In the hardest-hitting European assault yet on US policies, Mr Vedrine said Washington's support for Mr Sharon, a hardliner, was "mistaken" and "dangerously simplistic".

Mr Vedrine said that Europeans were "unanimous in not supporting the Middle East policy of the White House" and thought it was a "mistake to blindly accept the policy of pure repression" conducted by Mr Sharon. Mr Bush has said it is up to Mr Arafat to do "a better job" to end what he calls the terror being inflicted on Israel.

The US will dispatch the vice-president, Dick Cheney, to Israel next week as part of a Middle Eastern tour, US officials said last night.

Mr Vedrine also said France was backing a proposal with its EU allies for a formal Israeli acknowledgment of the need for a Palestinian state and elections in the Palestinian territories that would give the winner a mandate to negotiate peace.

The minister's attack comes amid dismay in Europe at Mr Bush's state of the union speech last week in which he named Iran, Iraq and North Korea as sponsors of terrorism in an "axis of evil".

Mr Vedrine said Europeans "are friends of the US, and will remain so". But, he added: "We are threatened today by a new simplism which consists in reducing everything to the war on terrorism. We cannot accept that idea. You have got to tackle the root causes, the situations, poverty, injustice."

He said US rhetoric was confirmation that the Bush administration approached foreign policy "unilaterally, without consulting anyone, based on their interpretation and on their interests".

EU officials say they will resist any US attempt to make an enemy of Iran in the widening war on terrorism. Europe believes trade, cooperation and support for the reform process and opposition moderates is the best way forward.

Diplomats said that while the EU broadly shared US concerns about Iran acquiring nuclear weapons and about its support for anti-Israel groups including Hizbullah, **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad, it remained dubious about US claims that Iran exports global terror or has links with Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

Yesterday the US secretary of state, Colin Powell, accused Tehran of trying to destabilise the Afghan regime and of "unhelpful activities" in the area.

"We can demonstrate to them that it is not in their interest to destabilise the government that they helped to create," he said. But he was convinced talks with Iranian leaders were still possible.

Israel's peace army mobilises, page 19

Leader comment, page 23

**Load-Date:** February 8, 2002

**10 die in Jerusalem bombing;  
Some witnesses said the attacker was dressed as an Orthodox Jew. Most of  
the dead and hurt were celebrating bar mitzvahs.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

March 3, 2002 Sunday

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; news

**Length:** 706 words

**Byline:** Daniel Rubin and Michael Matza Inquirer Staff Writers

## **Body**

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JERUSALEM - A suicide bomber waded into a crowd leaving a synagogue in an ultra-Orthodox part of Jerusalem last night, killing 10 people and injuring 57, Israeli police said.

Among the dead were the bomber, who some witnesses say was dressed as an Orthodox Jew, and an 18-month-old Jewish girl hit in the head by shrapnel.

Most of the injured and killed were from two families celebrating bar mitzvahs - coming of age ceremonies - for two boys, both 13.

The explosion touched off an enormous fireball that rose three stories to the rooftops of Chaim Ozer Street. Two blocks away, Yehuda Brizel, 19, had finished his end-of-Sabbath meal when he heard and felt the blast. He raced out of the house.

"People were crying," he said. "I saw little kids. There were three or four kids on the street. The fire was on them. I started taking people out - a few that I could, then help came. I felt a piece of hand, a person's foot. I had to go."

Brizel said he saw a mother, off to the side of the street, wailing, "My child, my child." An empty blue stroller sat in the street. On recent Saturdays, suicide bombers have chosen sundown, when the Jewish Sabbath ends and the streets flood with people, as a time for attacks.

Television cameras in the Palestinian city of Ramallah captured people dancing in the streets as news of the bombing spread. Israel TV reported that the Palestinian Authority condemned the terrorist attack.

Al Aqsa Martyr's Brigade, the militia of Yasir Arafat's Fatah faction, claimed responsibility for the blast. Fatah sources identified the bomber as Mohammed Ahmed Draghmeh, 19, a resident of the Dehaishe refugee camp, near Bethlehem.

10 die in Jerusalem bombing; Some witnesses said the attacker was dressed as an Orthodox Jew. Most of the dead and hurt were celebrating bar mitzvahs.

Early today, in apparent retaliation for the attack, Israeli helicopters fired four missiles at Palestinian Authority headquarters in Bethlehem. That action was later followed by a Palestinian attack at an Israeli army roadblock in the West Bank. Seven Israelis were killed and four seriously wounded in the assault near Silwad village.

As rescuers cordoned off the narrow residential street in central Jerusalem, an angry crowd - women wearing long dresses, men in silken robes, with side-locks flowing from the broad brims of beaver hats - formed along the police tape.

"This is something you live with every day," said Shlomo Wollins, 41, a former Wall Street analyst who moved to Jerusalem two years ago. "We can't live like this."

Wollins, his voice nearly breaking, said the Israelis would lose no matter how they responded to the attack: "If we don't react, then they will be emboldened. If we do, then the world calls us murderers. If Arafat were here, I would kill him with my hands."

It was the second bombing in a year on that block. The neighborhood is home to several synagogues and Jewish schools, including Yeshiva Mir, whose 1,500 students include Americans, many of whom have dropped out as Israel has become more dangerous.

The blast came as Israeli forces were finishing their sweep through two West Bank refugee camps in search for weapons and fighters. Over three days, 23 Palestinians and two Israelis were killed.

Israeli officials showed off dozens of weapons recovered from the crowded camps, including a rocket factory discovered at the Balata Camp during the raids, which drew criticism at home and abroad. Israel defended the raids as striking at terrorists in their bases.

"Has the victim not the right to respond to those who are beating him?" Hassan Jousef, a leader of the radical Palestinian group Hamas in the West Bank, asked upon learning of the bomb attack.

As the blast occurred, hundreds of Israeli peace activists were marching toward a square near Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's residence to stage a rally.

Several witnesses said the bomber was dressed as an Orthodox Jew.

Shmuel Yitzhaki, 22, a Yeshiva student, said he and five friends called police minutes before the attack after a man wearing a yarmulke and ritual fringes asked them how to find a nearby street in the Beit Yisrael neighborhood.

He was smoking a cigarette, which is not allowed on the Sabbath, "so we called police and figured he would take care of it," Yitzhaki said.

Contact Michael Matza at 215-854-2405 or [foreign@phillynews.com](mailto:foreign@phillynews.com).

This article includes information from the Associated Press.

**Load-Date:** March 4, 2002

## *Intefadeh's female bomber; Why a Red Crescent worker blew herself up*

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

February 1, 2002 Friday Final Edition

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**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. B06; News

**Length:** 670 words

**Byline:** Phil Reeves

**Dateline:** RAMALLAH, WEST BANK

### **Body**

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Early on Sunday, Wafa Idris, a Palestinian divorcee known for her vivacious manner, gave some chocolate and a pair of toy earrings to her four-year-old niece Milana. Then she hurriedly left home, saying she was late for work.

As she set off, weaving through the narrow alleys of al-Amari, the West Bank refugee camp where she lived for all her 28 years, her relatives assumed she was planning to spend another day as a volunteer medic.

She worked on the Red Crescent ambulances three or four times a week, often at demonstrations, treating youths injured during confrontations with the Israeli army.

The Independent, London

The family had no inkling of what was about to occur. "I never thought she would do this," said her sister-in-law Wisam Idris, 25, as she mourned with a group of other women yesterday.

Wisam's sister, Maanal, 29, agreed: "She was a laughing, happy woman who was always telling jokes. She liked life."

At 12:20 p.m., a few hours after Idris had left her house, there was an unusually powerful explosion in West Jerusalem's Jaffa Street. The street, so repeatedly bombed that Israelis now call it Ground Zero, is about 10 kilometres from her house, although the main road is blocked by two military checkpoints. The blast killed an 81-year-old Israeli man called Pinhas Toktaly, injured scores of others, and wrecked surrounding shops. It also killed a young Palestinian woman. Her body was so badly mangled that Israeli police concluded that she was either delivering a bomb, or wearing a belt packed with explosives.

If the latter is true, then she was the first female suicide bomber of the 16-month Palestinian intefadeh. Either way, she represented an alarming measure of the depths to which the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians has sunk: there have been very few cases of Arab women discovered infiltrating Israel on a mission to murder civilians. After two days, her identity was a mystery. Then the Israeli authorities announced that she was Wafa Idris, and Palestinian officials in Ramallah -- her home town -- confirmed it.

Yesterday, posters were being pasted up near her home, declaring her to be a "heroine" of the al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a militia affiliated to Fatah, the mainstream nationalist movement headed by Yasser Arafat.

Masked Fatah gunmen were spray-painting graffiti on the walls, glorifying her memory.

## Intefadeh's female bomber; Why a Red Crescent worker blew herself up

Iraqi president Saddam Hussein moved to make her immortal, by announcing that a monument would be erected in her honour in Baghdad.

Yet the mystery lingered on. What led a young, outgoing, secular woman to become a bomber, willing randomly to kill? Wafa Idris bore few similarities to most other Palestinian suicide bombers. They tend to be intensely devout, educated in Islamic affairs and driven less by poverty than by nationalist and religious zeal. They belong to the military wings of **Hamas** or Islamic Jihad.

She was westernized -- she was photographed in sleeveless dresses and make-up -- poor, secular, and divorced. Several years ago she and her husband Ahmed, who works in a car wash, agreed to part after 10 years of marriage because she could not have children. One friend said that she left him reluctantly, under pressure from his family.

Only recently did her mother, Wafiyeh, 60, noticed that she had begun to change. She started to pray at home and cover her hair with a headscarf. "She always said to me that she wished to be a martyr. I used to argue with her. I said that this would mean I would die after her. She replied -- no, you will never die, mother."

But one common theme dominated stories of why she did it -- her mother said that she was driven "crazy" by what she saw as a Red Crescent ambulance volunteer treating youths hit by rubber-coated steel bullets and live ammunition.

One of her closest friends, Muna Abed Rabbo, 28, recalled that about four months ago she was dispatched to scrape up the remains of a man hit by a tank shell: "She ended up collecting the flesh in a sack. She told me then -- I want revenge, revenge, revenge."

## Graphic

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Photo: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; Wafa Idris, 28, right, a divorced ambulance volunteer, only recently told her mother Wafiyeh that she wanted to be a martyr. Her mother said she was driven "crazy" by what she saw as a Red Crescent volunteer treating shooting victims.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2002

**10 die in Jerusalem bombing;  
Some witnesses said the attacker was dressed as an Orthodox Jew. Most of  
the dead and hurt were celebrating bar mitzvahs.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

March 3, 2002 Sunday

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; news

**Length:** 706 words

**Byline:** Daniel Rubin and Michael Matza Inquirer Staff Writers

## **Body**

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JERUSALEM - A suicide bomber waded into a crowd leaving a synagogue in an ultra-Orthodox part of Jerusalem last night, killing 10 people and injuring 57, Israeli police said.

Among the dead were the bomber, who some witnesses say was dressed as an Orthodox Jew, and an 18-month-old Jewish girl hit in the head by shrapnel.

Most of the injured and killed were from two families celebrating bar mitzvahs - coming of age ceremonies - for two boys, both 13.

The explosion touched off an enormous fireball that rose three stories to the rooftops of Chaim Ozer Street. Two blocks away, Yehuda Brizel, 19, had finished his end-of-Sabbath meal when he heard and felt the blast. He raced out of the house.

"People were crying," he said. "I saw little kids. There were three or four kids on the street. The fire was on them. I started taking people out - a few that I could, then help came. I felt a piece of hand, a person's foot. I had to go."

Brizel said he saw a mother, off to the side of the street, wailing, "My child, my child." An empty blue stroller sat in the street. On recent Saturdays, suicide bombers have chosen sundown, when the Jewish Sabbath ends and the streets flood with people, as a time for attacks.

Television cameras in the Palestinian city of Ramallah captured people dancing in the streets as news of the bombing spread. Israel TV reported that the Palestinian Authority condemned the terrorist attack.

Al Aqsa Martyr's Brigade, the militia of Yasir Arafat's Fatah faction, claimed responsibility for the blast. Fatah sources identified the bomber as Mohammed Ahmed Draghmeh, 19, a resident of the Dehaishe refugee camp, near Bethlehem.

10 die in Jerusalem bombing; Some witnesses said the attacker was dressed as an Orthodox Jew. Most of the dead and hurt were celebrating bar mitzvahs.

Early today, in apparent retaliation for the attack, Israeli helicopters fired four missiles at Palestinian Authority headquarters in Bethlehem. That action was later followed by a Palestinian attack at an Israeli army roadblock in the West Bank. Seven Israelis were killed and four seriously wounded in the assault near Silwad village.

As rescuers cordoned off the narrow residential street in central Jerusalem, an angry crowd - women wearing long dresses, men in silken robes, with side-locks flowing from the broad brims of beaver hats - formed along the police tape.

"This is something you live with every day," said Shlomo Wollins, 41, a former Wall Street analyst who moved to Jerusalem two years ago. "We can't live like this."

Wollins, his voice nearly breaking, said the Israelis would lose no matter how they responded to the attack: "If we don't react, then they will be emboldened. If we do, then the world calls us murderers. If Arafat were here, I would kill him with my hands."

It was the second bombing in a year on that block. The neighborhood is home to several synagogues and Jewish schools, including Yeshiva Mir, whose 1,500 students include Americans, many of whom have dropped out as Israel has become more dangerous.

The blast came as Israeli forces were finishing their sweep through two West Bank refugee camps in search for weapons and fighters. Over three days, 23 Palestinians and two Israelis were killed.

Israeli officials showed off dozens of weapons recovered from the crowded camps, including a rocket factory discovered at the Balata Camp during the raids, which drew criticism at home and abroad. Israel defended the raids as striking at terrorists in their bases.

"Has the victim not the right to respond to those who are beating him?" Hassan Jousef, a leader of the radical Palestinian group Hamas in the West Bank, asked upon learning of the bomb attack.

As the blast occurred, hundreds of Israeli peace activists were marching toward a square near Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's residence to stage a rally.

Several witnesses said the bomber was dressed as an Orthodox Jew.

Shmuel Yitzhaki, 22, a Yeshiva student, said he and five friends called police minutes before the attack after a man wearing a yarmulke and ritual fringes asked them how to find a nearby street in the Beit Yisrael neighborhood.

He was smoking a cigarette, which is not allowed on the Sabbath, "so we called police and figured he would take care of it," Yitzhaki said.

Contact Michael Matza at 215-854-2405 or [foreign@phillynews.com](mailto:foreign@phillynews.com).

This article includes information from the Associated Press.

**Load-Date:** March 3, 2002



**AIDING THE ENEMY;  
ISRAEL UNDER SHARON, PURSUING RASH MILITARY SOLUTIONS, HAS  
GIVEN ARAFAT A HEROISM HE DOESN'T DESERVE**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

April 15, 2002 Monday

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2002 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** EDITORIAL,

**Length:** 725 words

**Dateline:** NEW YORK

## **Body**

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Who would have imagined that anyone could turn a vacillating dictator like Yasser Arafat into a hero, while also sowing discord between Israel and its greatest ally?

Ariel Sharon has managed to do both. And by defying President Bush's appeals and using helicopters paid for with U.S. tax dollars to destroy Palestinian homes and lives, he is also undermining U.S. credibility in the region.

Now there is also a growing risk of a larger war. Israel is understandably outraged by Hezbollah rocket attacks from Lebanon and is contemplating striking back -- at Syria. An Israeli Cabinet member said last week that Israel was seriously considering hitting Syrian targets, and acknowledged: "The magnitude of the conflict may be a huge one."

Sharon is, of course, brutally provoked by Arafat's duplicity and dalliance with terrorism, and one can't help sympathizing with his need to satisfy an Israeli electorate that understandably demands a response to bombings. Yet Arafat is such a catastrophe as a leader that it falls upon Sharon to display enough wisdom for both.

Unfortunately, Sharon has made a career of responding to Palestinian outrages by pursuing rash military solutions that ultimately harm Israel rather than bolster it.

In October 1953, for example, Palestinian infiltrators murdered a young Israeli woman, Susan Kanias, and her two small children. The young Sharon led a commando group on a retaliatory raid against the Palestinian village of Qibya.

Sharon's unit blew up buildings in Qibya and killed 69 Palestinians, many of them women and children who were apparently hiding inside. In his memoirs, Sharon describes the killings as mostly accidental and as a "tragedy."

That 1953 Qibya reprisal was emotionally satisfying to Israelis victimized by terror, as today's incursions are, but it did nothing to reduce terrorism. The number of Israelis killed in terrorist incidents increased in 1954 and nearly doubled again in 1955.

## AIDING THE ENEMY; ISRAEL UNDER SHARON, PURSUING RASH MILITARY SOLUTIONS, HAS GIVEN ARAFAT A HEROISM HE DOESN'T DESERVE

In fairness, criticizing Sharon's harsh tactics is easy. The harder question is what Israel should do to defeat terrorism. The answer, which Colin Powell is trying to deliver, is straightforward: The only way out will be a political deal creating a Palestinian state.

It will be even harder now than a year ago, when Arafat's intransigence helped kill the deal. In Gaza earlier this month, ***Hamas*** radicals told me that Arafat had mistakenly strayed into the peace camp but now realized that Israel understood only brute force. And a senior Israeli general said: "No one has thought there was a military answer until now, but we are beginning to think about it."

Moreover, while no one is focusing yet on the incursion's impact on the Palestinian economy, it is devastating.

The middle class is evaporating into the kind of economic tumble that a World Bank study of civil conflict two years ago found has often helped ignite domestic rebellions.

"The closures on Gaza and the West Bank mean that today more than half the [Palestinian] population is living under the local poverty benchmark, which is \$2 a day," said Mark Malloch Brown, the head of the United Nations Development Program. "This was an economy that was growing at 10 percent a year, the tax collection system was working pretty well, and now it's been driven back to third-world poverty levels."

The intellectual underpinning of Sharon's argument is the notion that we must never negotiate with terrorists -- or, as President Bush put it, "There is no way to make peace with those whose only goal is death."

It's a lofty ideal, but in fact we negotiate with terrorists all the time. That's how a cease-fire was reached this year in Sri Lanka, and it's the basis for peace talks to end rebellions in Sudan, Congo and Angola.

The world simply isn't so tidy as to provide a blanket solution to terrorism.

Sometimes, as in Afghanistan, there is a military answer. In other cases, such as Pakistan, there is a political answer. In some places, there is both: the Philippines has worked out peace deals with two rebel groups but is using military power to try to destroy a third.

Our principle should not be "Never negotiate with terrorists" but rather "Don't reward terrorism."

Unfortunately, by turning a menace like Arafat into a hero all over the Arab world, Sharon is creating incentives for terrorism and undermining Israel's long-term security.

## Notes

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Nicholas D. Kristof is a syndicated columnist for The New York Times. His e-mail address is [nicholas@nytimes.com](mailto:nicholas@nytimes.com). Thomas L. Friedman is on vacation.

**Load-Date:** April 17, 2002

## **MIDEAST VIOLENCE CLAIMS 27 VICTIMS**

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

February 20, 2002, Wednesday

Copyright 2002 The Columbian Publishing Co.

**Section:** Front Page; Pg. a1

**Length:** 744 words

**Byline:** STEVE WEIZMAN, Associated Press writer

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM -- Israel attacked Yasser Arafat's Gaza office by air and sea and fired on Palestinian police compounds, killing 12 security officials early today, a day after violence by both sides left 15 dead in one of the bloodiest periods of the Palestinian uprising.

As Israeli warships fired machine guns and a missile at Arafat's office, killing four guards, Israeli attack helicopters shot missiles at Gaza police compounds and an F-16 warplane dropped a bomb, sending huge plumes of smoke into the air.

The attacks in Gaza, which began at 3 a.m., were still in progress three hours later, witnesses said, adding that there were at least 40 explosions.

It was the first time Israel had targeted Arafat's Gaza headquarters. Arafat himself is confined to his West Bank compound in Ramallah, hemmed in by Israeli tanks. There, a Palestinian security officer was killed when Israeli helicopters fired eight missiles, hitting a police structure not far from Arafat's office and another several miles away, Palestinians said.

Near the scene north of Ramallah where the six soldiers were shot and killed, a Palestinian officer was killed overnight in an exchange of fire with Israeli troops, Palestinian security said.

In Nablus, Israeli tanks fired shells at two Palestinian police outposts, killing six policemen and wounding four, Palestinians said. Tanks fired shells from two directions, witnesses said. The Israeli military would say only that there was military activity in the area.

The Israeli military said the naval strike at Arafat's office was a response to repeated Palestinian attacks and the failure of Arafat and the Palestinian Authority to stop them. The statement did not mention the airstrikes.

Gaza security commander Maj. Gen. Abdel Razek Majaidie told The Associated Press, "Israel crossed all red lines by attacking Arafat's office."

Palestinians in nearby buildings fled in panic. "This is another night of terror," said Ilham Johfur, who was fleeing with her two small children in tow. They joined hundreds in the streets, fearing their buildings would be hit. About 65 people went to hospitals suffering from shock, doctors said.

The latest Israeli strikes capped one of the most violent days in the 17-month Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

## MIDEAST VIOLENCE CLAIMS 27 VICTIMS

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was convening his Security Cabinet later today to discuss the sudden upsurge in violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinian gunmen late Tuesday infiltrated an army post near Ein Arik on the West Bank, killing six Israeli soldiers, the Israeli army said. The Al Aqsa Brigades, linked to Arafat's Fatah, claimed responsibility.

Earlier Israeli airstrikes along with shelling and a raid by undercover forces left eight Palestinians dead, including a 14-year-old girl, in the West Bank and Gaza, according to Palestinian sources.

Tuesday began with a Palestinian suicide bomber blowing himself up seconds after he was pushed off an Israeli bus by its suspicious driver near the northern West Bank settlement of Mehola, police said.

The upsurge in violence increased the pressure on Sharon to take more decisive action.

Deputy Internal Security Minister Gideon Ezra said the Palestinians had taken over the element of surprise, once an Israeli prerogative.

"They attack, and we defend. In the past we attacked and they defended," Ezra said. "We need to return to that. ... We have to control the situation."

A group of 1,200 retired Israeli security officials proposed an immediate Israeli withdrawal from much of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and the dismantling of 40 to 50 isolated Jewish settlements.

In a position paper published this week, the Council for Peace and Security said troops being used to defend the settlements should be deployed along a line close to the frontier between Israel and the West Bank.

In recent weeks, more than 200 Israeli reserve soldiers have declared they will no longer serve in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Sharon decided after consultations with top security officials late Monday to intensify military strikes but stop short of a large-scale military operation. "There will be no strategic change, but there will be wider use of military means," said Sharon adviser Raanan Gissin.

With 15 Israelis killed over six days, Sharon came under growing criticism by hard-liners in his coalition.

"He doesn't have the right to be prime minister when a Jew is killed every hour," right-wing member of parliament Zvi Hendel told the Yediot Ahronot daily.

## Graphic

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The Associated Press \***Women** grieve Tuesday at the funeral of two **Hamas** activists killed by Israeli missiles fired in the Jebalya refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip.

**Load-Date:** February 20, 2002

## Political correctness and overcompensation

University Wire

April 9, 2002, Tuesday

Copyright 2002 Arizona Daily Wildcat via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 708 words

**Byline:** By Shane Dale, Arizona Daily Wildcat

**Dateline:** Tucson, Ariz.

### **Body**

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Politically correct speech probably began with the best of intentions. It was a goal, originating from guilt, designed to make people as verbally equal as possible. It was supposed to be a positive step in ending racial, ethnic and religious discrimination.

But what started as a well-meaning idea has deteriorated into a debacle of out-of-control overcompensation. Political correctness has extended from the altering of words to the hijacking of actions and ideas.

U. Arizona

You might remember a photo, taken shortly after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, of three New York City firefighters raising the American flag amidst the post-Sept. 11 rubble. The picture quickly became famous because it reminded many people of that legendary photo of the flag-raising by U.S. troops at Iwo Jima during World War II.

Several months later, a private organization decided to make a statue out of the picture. It was supposed to be a testament to the courage and resilience of the Fire Department of New York and the entire city of New York. Maybe it was. But it was also tainted with the stink of political correctness, which I had thought was gone after last September.

See, in the original photo, all three firefighters happened to be white men. As it turned out, that just wasn't appropriate for a statue. So they decided to alter the image into the likeness of one white, one black and one Hispanic man.

A couple questions come to mind: First, this was a rather lazy, futile attempt at being politically correct. What about women? There still isn't a female in the statue. And what about other races? If I were Asian or a member of another ethnic group that wasn't portrayed, I just might feel left out.

The organization also brought a proud, patriotic image that had nothing to do with race into a forum of absurd controversy. I don't know about any of you, but when I saw that photo for the first time, I didn't see three white men. I only saw three heroes. Had it been three black men, three Hispanic women, two white women and a Cuban man, whatever, I would have seen it exactly the same way, and I'd wager that 99 percent of America would have too.

## Political correctness and overcompensation

Here's another disgraceful PC tale: Last December, Seattle decided to ban the phrase "Merry Christmas" within the walls of its city offices, so as to not offend non-Christian city employees. Yeah, go try to impose the same rules in Israel, India or most any other country in the world. I'd be interested to hear the response.

Political correctness has also seeped into the decision-making process of a great deal of our elected leaders, to the point at which it poses a threat to national and global security. In today's PC world, few politicians would ever run the risk of being called a racist, even if the claim is ridiculous and the best interest of the country they serve is at stake.

PC is responsible for former Attorney General Janet Reno's decision to allow U.S. private funding to Middle Eastern terrorist groups, such as **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad, to continue, out of fear that stepping in might be construed as racial and religious discrimination to American Muslims.

PC is to blame for our government's lack of responsiveness to problems along the U.S.-Mexico border, where 3 million unauthorized Mexican immigrants are allowed to waltz into our country each year.

And it's PC that has led some Americans to call the war in Afghanistan racist, because they see it as nothing more than a bunch of elite, white men attacking poverty-stricken Muslims. Pardon me, but the war on terror has absolutely, 100 percent nothing to do with race.

All this stems back to political correctness's original purpose: verbal equality.

But as I see it, verbal equality is a black man calling a white man "white" and a white man calling a black man "black" with no guilt and no second thoughts. Until that day comes, no dose of PC can eradicate racism or any other kind of present-day discrimination.

Political correctness can alter our speech and even our actions, but it can't penetrate thought. There are no shortcuts to equality. Attempting to Scotchguard the English language will get us nowhere closer to that goal.

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**Load-Date:** April 9, 2002

**Islamic Jihad ends ceasefire after raids: Israeli military demolishes  
Palestinian homes in Gaza Strip**

The Ottawa Citizen

January 11, 2002 Friday

Final EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS,; News

**Length:** 675 words

**Byline:** Mohammed Assadi

**Dateline:** RAMALLAH, West Bank

## **Body**

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The Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad said yesterday it was scrapping a deal with Yasser Arafat not to mount attacks in Israel, opening the way to fresh violence and dealing a blow to U.S. peace efforts.

The group's military wing in the West Bank announced its decision after Israeli tanks and bulldozers demolished dozens of Palestinian homes in the Gaza Strip in retaliation for an attack by the militant group **Hamas** that killed four Israeli soldiers.

Pressure also mounted on Mr. Arafat because of Israel's seizure of a ship that it said carried 50 tonnes of arms to the Gaza Strip, an allegation denied by the Palestinian leadership.

U.S. officials in Washington said there was a compelling case that high-ranking Palestinian officials were involved in the shipment, and one senior U.S. official said there were strong suspicions Mr. Arafat knew about it.

Reuters; The Associated Press

Palestinian officials dismissed the charge against Mr. Arafat, but U.S. President George W. Bush said he was beginning to suspect the shipment was intended to "promote terror."

"And terror will never enable us to achieve peace in the Middle East," Mr. Bush told reporters. "Mr. Arafat must renounce terror, must reject those who would disrupt the peace process through terror, and must work hard to get to the peace table."

Later yesterday, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said the United States had evidence linking the shipment to the Palestinian Authority, but not to Mr. Arafat.

Palestinian cabinet minister Saeb Erekat told CNN the allegation against Mr. Arafat was "absolutely unacceptable."

The arms seizure last week, followed by the deadly Palestinian raid on an Israeli army post Wednesday, threatened to wreck a renewed U.S. peace mission led by Middle East envoy Anthony Zinni, who left the region late Sunday.

He had hoped to capitalize on a three-week lull in violence, the longest since the start of a Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation more than 15 months ago.

## Islamic Jihad ends ceasefire after raids: Israeli military demolishes Palestinian homes in Gaza Strip

But the mood has deteriorated since his departure.

In a statement yesterday, Islamic Jihad's military wing said: "We in the Jerusalem Brigades, the military wing of Islamic Jihad in Palestine, announce that starting from today we will not adhere to the understanding with ... the (Palestinian) Authority and its security services," the group said in a statement.

Islamic Jihad issued a statement in Lebanon dismissing the earlier announcement, but there have often been differences between the movement's operational arms based in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and officials living in exile.

A senior Islamic Jihad official in the West Bank said the group would "not necessarily" resume attacks, but said there was "no justification to keep our hands tied behind our backs."

Israel blames Mr. Arafat for the arms shipment and the Palestinian raid, and the Palestinians were angered by Israel's demolition of dozens of homes in the Rafah refugee camp in southern Gaza.

Weeping men, women and children searched for their belongings in piles of rubble, twisted metal, wood and broken furniture at Rafah after tanks and bulldozers raided the camp before dawn yesterday. Witnesses said 110 families were left homeless.

"I was sleeping ... and he (my son) told me to get up -- the bulldozers are coming," said one woman, Im Ahmed Gishta. "I didn't have time to do anything. I got my daughters and we ran out."

Israel said the houses had been used for arms smuggling or to fire at Israeli soldiers, but a U.S. State Department official said the demolitions would not "contribute to the restoration of calm and an end to violence."

Meanwhile, Palestinian security officers have arrested two members of Islamic Jihad, including one who is on Israel's most-wanted list and was seized from a relative's home in a nighttime raid, a Palestinian official said.

Mohammed Saleh Yassin, 27, is on a wanted list of 33 militants and is believed by Israeli officials to have helped suicide bombers and gunmen cross into Israel, said a security official in Jenin.

## Graphic

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Photo: Jockel Finck, the Associated Press ; Weeping women, sit among the piles of rubble, twisted metal, wood and broken, furniture -- all that is left of their homes at Rafah in the Gaza, Strip after Israeli tanks and bulldozers raided the camp.

**Load-Date:** January 11, 2002



**Sharon accused of 'blind cruelty'; House-razing act against Palestinians labelled 'war crime'**

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

January 14, 2002 Monday Final Edition

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**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. C01; Canada & World News

**Length:** 706 words

**Byline:** Phil Reeves

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

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Israel's prime minister Ariel Sharon yesterday blasted several members of his cabinet for adding their voices to a growing chorus of internal criticism over the Israeli army's most destructive house-razing mission since the start of the intefadeh.

Sharon began a cabinet meeting by accusing Labour ministers in his coalition government of fuelling anti-Israeli "propaganda" by questioning the operation, which came a day after the killing of four Israeli Bedouin soldiers by Hamas guerrillas.

Outrage over last week's demolition of around 60 homes in Rafah refugee camp, southern Gaza -- collective punishment against civilians which violates the Geneva Conventions -- has abruptly galvanized Israel's liberal minority, which has been subdued since the conflict with the Palestinians turned violent in September 2000.

The operation went ahead despite appeals from several of the relatives of the dead soldiers, as well as Bedouin community leaders, for the Israeli army to refrain from acts of vengeance.

The Independent, London

Sharon, who authorized the assault, yesterday awoke to newspaper headlines in the liberal domestic press that were among the most critical that he has faced since taking office last March. The English language edition of the Ha'aretz newspaper had no fewer than four articles on the subject.

Gideon Levy, a respected left-wing columnist, declared that the wrecking mission -- which collectively punished hundreds of impoverished Palestinian men, women and children by rendering them homeless in the height of winter -- was a war crime.

In a stinging editorial on the subject, the newspaper described the operation as an act of "blind cruelty", a case of "destruction on a systematic collective and indiscriminate level against Palestinians, whoever they may be. As far as is known, the only sin of most of them -- perhaps even all of them -- was the place where they lived."

Several Labour ministers, including Shimon Peres, yesterday raised questions about the demolitions. It was followed by the sinking of two Palestinian naval boats in a Gaza City port by Israeli navy commandos, and the blowing up of another part of the already damaged runway at the closed Palestinian airport in the south of the strip.

Sharon accused of 'blind cruelty'; House-razing act against Palestinians labelled 'war crime'

The row has exposed the tensions between Labour ministers and the predominant right wing within Sharon's government. These are complicated by the fact that Labour's leader, Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, is Defence Minister -- and authorized the Gaza demolitions.

The furor has also been confused by conflicting claims over the scale of the damage. Sharon last night told a gathering of foreign journalists that it was part of an attempt to crack down on a "major effort by the Palestinian Authority" to smuggle weapons to Rafah in Gaza from Egypt.

Most of the destroyed buildings were empty, he said, and were used by the Palestinians as cover for large tunnels through which the arms were transferred. The army said its forces only destroyed 21 abandoned homes.

But evidence gathered at the scene by correspondents, international human rights workers, and the testimony of the stricken Palestinians themselves wholly contradicted this, showing that the number of homes flattened was around 60.

The International Committee of the Red Cross said 93 families, or about 600 people, were left homeless. They are now living in tents supplied by the UN.

The issue comes at a time of agonized self-examination in Israel over its handling of "hasbara" -- the Hebrew term for the national endeavour to explain its case to the outside world through public relations and propaganda.

This has been brought to a head by the wariness with which the international community, and the foreign press, initially responded to the "Karine-A" guns smuggling affair -- the arrest by Israeli commandos of a vessel in the Red Sea which was carrying 45 tonnes of weaponry for delivery to the Palestinians.

There was widespread criticism in Israel over the military's handling of the matter. Israeli security officials claim the operation was personally approved by Yasser Arafat.

Arafat, still stranded in his West Bank headquarters in Ramallah, has denied that he or the Palestinian Authority were involved but has launched a commission of inquiry.

## Graphic

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Photo: Ahmed Jadallah, Reuters; A Palestinian refugee waits to receive aid from the International Committee of the Red Cross in Rafah, south of the Gaza Strip, after Israeli forces bulldozed homes in the area last week.

**Load-Date:** January 14, 2002

## **Female bomber kills self, Israeli man in Jerusalem**

USA TODAY

January 28, 2002, Monday,

FIRST EDITION

Copyright 2002 Gannett Company, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS;

**Length:** 612 words

**Byline:** Matthew Kalman

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM -- In what was believed to be the first suicide bombing by a woman, a Palestinian exploded a device in central Jerusalem on Sunday, killing herself and an 81-year-old Israeli man, authorities said.

At least 100 people were hurt, including an American family.

Palestinian sources said the bomber was Shahnaz Amouri, a student at Al-Najar University in Nablus, a **Hamas** hotbed that has produced five suicide bombers in recent months. The university, however, said it did not have a record of a student by that name.

The attack, just days after a gunman opened fire on the same street, comes as Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is facing increased criticism in diplomatic circles. Over the weekend, President Bush denounced Arafat's failure to halt a growing wave of terror attacks in Israeli cities while special U.S. peace envoy Anthony Zinni reportedly described the Palestinian leader as a liar and mafia boss, Israeli newspapers reported Sunday. U.S. officials reportedly are debating whether to cut diplomatic ties with Arafat.

"This attack this morning is just one more instance that proves that there is no effective control of the terrorist attacks that are being launched against Israel," Vice President Cheney said on *Fox News Sunday*.

David Ivry, Israel's ambassador to the United States, blamed Arafat's Palestinian Authority for the escalating violence. He said it was no longer a viable partner in the peace process. "Israel's patience with the Palestinian Authority has come to an end," Ivry said in Washington.

The bomber blew herself up on crowded Jaffa Road, the main street of Jerusalem, shortly after midday Sunday, a regular working day in Israel. The bomb was studded with nails and metal objects designed to maim and kill.

The blast, the second suicide attack in less than three days, was less than 10 yards from the spot where a Palestinian gunman shot dead two elderly **women** last Tuesday and wounded 20 others. Last Friday, a Palestinian suicide bomber killed himself and injured more than a dozen bystanders in Tel Aviv.

Israeli police chief Shlomo Aharonishky called on Israelis to stand firm. "I understand the fear and the stress that we are facing, but we have to understand the reality we live in," he said. "We have to be strong . . . and have to keep going about our daily routine because that's the best way to fight terrorism."

## Female bomber kills self, Israeli man in Jerusalem

The bomb was so powerful it destroyed shop fronts and property over a wide radius. Some of stores had just been repaired after a shooting attack last week.

Mickey Levy, Jerusalem's police chief, was himself rushed into intensive care after suffering a heart attack while touring the blast site.

Among the injured were Mark Sokolow, his wife, Rina, and daughters Jamie and Lauren. They were on vacation in Israel.

Sokolow, from Woodmere, N.Y., was in the south tower of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 when a hijacked jet hit the north tower. He left his office and had reached the lobby of his building when another jet hit the south tower.

He said the family was standing in front of a shoe store on Jaffa Road when the bomb exploded Sunday.

"We were waiting there a couple of seconds and I heard a loud whoosh noise, like a bang" said Sokolow, his face bandaged as he lay in the emergency room of the Bikur Holim hospital, less than a block from the attack. "I kind of saw things flying around a little bit. Then I realized I was able to get up and walk around."

Reflecting on his close calls, he said: "I'm sure there are many parallels, and later I'll be able to figure out what they are. But I was obviously a lot luckier last time. This one involved my whole family."

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Contributing: Donna Leinwand in Washington

## Graphic

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PHOTO, B/W, Nir Elias, Reuters; PHOTO, Color, Ahikam Seri, AP (page 1A); Dangerous area: An injured Israeli receives help after a suicide bombing in Jerusalem. At least 100 were injured Sunday on Jaffa Road, a commercial strip.<>Two deaths in Mideast bombing: In Jerusalem, injured people are treated Sunday, above, after what is considered the first suicide bombing by a woman takes 81-year old Israeli man's life. Pressure mounts on Palestinian leader Arafat. 9A.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2002

## *The short life of Imad Abu Zahrah*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

September 18, 2002, Wednesday

Copyright 2002 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 07

**Length:** 1658 words

**Byline:** By Cameron W. Barr Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** JENIN, WEST BANK

**Highlight:** A Monitor reporter recalls the life and death of a Palestinian colleague in the West Bank

### **Body**

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Imad Abu Zahrah lay on his back on the dusty asphalt of Jenin's main street, bleeding to death from a hole in his right thigh. Israeli bullets cracked into the stone columns lining the avenue.

News photographer Said Dahleh, lightly wounded by Israeli fire, looked on from a side street where he had taken cover. He wanted to pull Abu Zahrah to safety, but stayed back because of sustained shooting.

Moments earlier the two Palestinians had been standing in the street together, watching an Israeli armored personnel carrier that had struck an electricity pole. Mr. Dahleh, wearing a white bulletproof vest marked "PRESS," took a picture of the APC.

Then Israeli soldiers in a nearby tank opened fire from a machine gun fixed to its turret, shooting at the ground in front of the journalists and over their heads. Both men were probably hit by ricochets. Only Dahleh survived.

The killing of Imad Abu Zahrah is partly a testament to the dangers of covering the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. But it isn't clear that Abu Zahrah was working as a journalist the day he was shot.

His life resonates for different reasons - for what it says about the difficulty of living anything near a normal life in the Palestinian territories. The Palestinian Authority stifled him. The conflict idled him, and finally, it killed him. His death resonates personally, because I worked with him once.

Lying in the street, Abu Zahrah pressed his hand into the wound to try to slow the bleeding. Several minutes later, he dragged himself around the corner, into the side street. People helped him and Dahleh take shelter in a stairwell.

Dahleh says he used his cellphone to call for an ambulance. Someone else contacted a taxi driver, who reached them first. As the taxi pulled up, other journalists arrived; they recorded what happened next on videotape.

Abu Zahrah staggers out of the stairwell, the right leg of his faded jeans sopping with blood, his sunglasses dangling from a cord around his neck. He stumbles down the last steps, falls to the ground, and then Dahleh and others help him up.

Abu Zahrah is a stocky man with a square jaw and receding, slicked-back hair. His face is dark with fear. Wide-eyed, he gets into the taxi without a word.

## The short life of Imad Abu Zahrah

Dahleh says that from the moment Abu Zahrah was shot, as he lay on the street, huddled in the stairwell, and rode to the hospital, "he didn't say anything."

He soon lost consciousness. At the hospital, doctors worked to repair his leg and replenish his blood supply. At one point he followed his father's instructions to open and close his eyes, but he never spoke.

He was shot during the afternoon of July 11 and died early the next morning.

### A dangerous place to work

The West Bank is the worst place in the world to be a journalist, says the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), a New York-based nonprofit organization. For one thing, reporters and photographers must work around Israeli restrictions, imposed

in the name of journalists' safety and Israel's security, that limit press freedom. Then there is the danger.

Israeli forces shot dead an Italian photographer on March 13 in the West Bank hub city of Ramallah. A Palestinian reporter died on July 31, 2001, when Israeli missiles struck an office of the Islamic Resistance Movement, or **Hamas**, in the northern West Bank city of Nablus. The reporter planned to interview a **Hamas** leader, the target of the Israeli attack.

Although Palestinian militants have also shot at, harassed, and intimidated journalists, watchdog groups say Israeli forces have been responsible for most of the violence directed at the media.

Reporters Without Borders - a Paris-based advocacy group which investigated Abu Zahrah's death - says more than 40 journalists have been hit by Israeli fire during the Palestinian intifada, or uprising.

"Since the intifada began in September 2000, the vast majority of the [more than 30] cases we've documented of journalists being shot at or wounded have come from Israeli fire," says Joel Campagna, Middle East program coordinator for CPJ.

The Israel Defense Forces statement released on Aug. 19 says its armored vehicle was pelted with Molotov cocktails, stones, and other objects, and then came under fire.

"The IDF soldiers fired warning shots into the air and then returned the rioters' fire... The IDF does its utmost to avoid inflicting harm on media personnel to allow reliable and open media coverage."

### Ambition and intensity

In mid-April, I visited Jenin to report on Israel's occupation of the city and its refugee camp. While I was there, Abu Zahrah stopped me on the street, introduced himself, and offered his assistance. Two days later, three other reporters and I asked his help in getting into the refugee camp. The Israelis were still barring journalists from the area and we need a local guide.

My colleagues and I reached his home in the late afternoon of April 17. Abu Zahrah had planned to take us to an apartment where we could stay, but we were scared off by the sounds of gunfire in the city and ended up spending the night at his house.

Abu Zahrah's career seemed a series of dead ends. In 1997 the Palestinian Authority had detained him for a few days and closed a weekly newspaper he had started five weeks earlier. Apparently he had been too critical of the PA.

He spent some time working in a restaurant in Tel Aviv, perfecting his Hebrew. He told us about his ambition to attend an Arabic-Hebrew translation school in Israel, but that plan was on hold as long as the intifada lasted. It had already lasted a year and a half.

### The short life of Imad Abu Zahrah

His business card said, in Arabic and English, "Journalism \* Advertisement [sic] \* Media" and he was looking for work. He said he had sold some pictures to news organizations.

Garrulous, intense, sometimes on edge, he was cynical about the PA and suspicious of other Palestinian journalists in the city, who he said were cowed by the Authority. That night, we stayed up late, discussing his theory that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is a puppet of Israel and the US.

The next day, he succeeded in getting us into the camp, the scene of terrible fighting between Israeli troops and Palestinian militants. At one point, he broke down in tears when he realized that some charred human remains we encountered were those of a friend, a onetime journalist who had turned to arms to fight Israel.

After spending most of the day in the camp, we paid him for his work and left Jenin.

Israelis on the move

On July 11, Imad and Dahleh met in downtown Jenin. Jenin was one of six West Bank towns and cities then being occupied by Israeli forces, and that day the Israelis had lifted their curfew.

The two men heard the sound of Israeli armor moving through the city center. They no doubt remembered the events of June 21, when Israeli forces had fired on civilians in roughly the same area, killing three children and a middle-aged woman. The killings were a big story.

Dahleh carried a digital still camera and was on assignment for a Palestinian news agency.

It remains unclear whether Imad was equipped for work. Another Jenin photographer, Said Dahleh's brother, Saifuddin, says Imad wore a cloth vest marked with the words "TV" and "press," and Imad's family says he carried two cameras. But neither the vest nor the cameras have been recovered and none of the items appear in the video footage shot that day.

Said and Imad approached the area where the Israeli APC had hit the electricity pole. They stood some 50 yards away.

"The soldiers didn't say, 'Go away,' or 'Don't take pictures,'" says Said. Instead, they opened fire. "I escaped to another street. I looked back and saw Imad on the ground. I came back to take him, but they fired again."

Coincidentally, Said's father Shawki was also on the street. A trained nurse who runs a taxi stand, he says the gunfire prevented him from coming to Imad's aid: "I saw him dying and I couldn't help." He did manage to arrange for the taxi that evacuated the wounded men.

He and other Palestinians interviewed at the scene say the Israelis fired without warning.

They say a crowd did attack the Israeli vehicles - but with fruit and stones, not gunfire - and only after the shooting of Imad and Said.

A 'special son'

Three days after Imad's death, two colleagues and I went back to Jenin to pay our respects to Abu Zahrah's father, Subhi. A former English teacher, he had warmly welcomed us into his home in April.

A few mourners sat on plastic chairs outside the house, under a green plastic tarpaulin. Some trees in the garden bore posters with Imad's picture. Inside, male visitors arrived to kiss Subhi's unshaven cheeks, shake his hand, and sit for few minutes as they sipped bitter Arabic coffee.

In the main room of the house, the dead man's mother received **female** mourners. "I'm very sad to have lost my son," she says. "But for his work, for his telling the world the truth, I am very glad. I thank God." Her face turned down, her hair hidden by a white scarf, she says he was her "special son."

## The short life of Imad Abu Zahrah

In a disheveled, dusty bedroom, Imad's brother Mujib showed us coverage of Imad's death and funeral recorded from the Qatari satellite channel, Al Jazeera, and a local television station. Family members gathered as we watched. As the images of Imad getting into the taxi played across the screen of the small television, Imad's sister and other women began to weep.

The cadence of their grief rose during the scenes of Imad's body being brought home before the burial.

In a conflict where nearly every death is a symbol, the videotape shows that Imad's was no exception. Mourners carry the corpse on a stretcher, shrouded in a Palestinian flag, into the Abu Zahrah living room, where the women of the family crowd around it, crying and ululating.

His mother wraps Imad's head in a black-and-white keffiyeh, the emblem of Palestinian nationalism. Her face is rigid. She doesn't shed a tear.

His life has achieved new meaning: He is a martyr.

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**Load-Date:** September 17, 2002



## Letters

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

May 2, 2003 Friday

Late Edition

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**Section:** NEWS AND FEATURES; Letters; Pg. 16

**Length:** 756 words

### **Body**

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Peace 'road map' leaves UN out of the picture

The fraudulent "road map" to peace in the Middle East ("New drive for peace, but the carnage continues", Herald, May 1) fails to even suggest that Israel complies with one of the many outstanding UN Security Council resolutions. Rather it attempts to sweep aside UN resolutions and negate international law, legitimising, under duress, the further dispossession of the Palestinians.

Of course any Palestinian leader who fails to approve of what will be painted as a "generous offer" will be condemned as an extremist and therefore unworthy to lead his people.

Paul Unger,

Grenfell, May 1.

What chance is there for peace between Israel and the Palestinians when the official Palestinian Authority factions and forces take the lead in murdering Israeli civilians? Fatah's military wing Al-Aqsa (jointly responsible with **Hamas** for the latest attack) and its "security force", Tanzim, committed half of all the terrorist attacks in the past 2 1/2 years. Arafat is Fatah's leader, new PM Mahmoud Abbas its long-time treasurer; in fact all members of the Palestinian Legislative Council are Fatah members.

Judith Rona,

Bondi, May 1.

Inside running

Show me the stockbroker who can put his hand on his heart and swear he never, ever used inside information to tip off a friend or family member and I'll show you a man who's honest enough to be PM.

Norm Christenson,

Thornleigh, May 1.

In terms of journalese, if Mr Rivkin is convicted does he become not a "flamboyant investor" but a "colourful Sydney identity"?

## Letters

Ross Chambers,

Haberfield, May 1.

Drought dollars

Where were the millions of dollars raised by drought relief spent? What was it spent on? Who were the beneficiaries? How has it helped the farmers?

Alison Anderson,

Rozelle, May 1.

**Women** worries

I worry about the **women** of Iraq. Will they be represented in the next government of their country?

Angela James,

Dapto, May 1.

Branch scrutiny

Will the Australian Regulatory Authority examine the activities of the Australian branches of the American banks and brokers who were parties to the \$2.26 billion settlement with the American Securities and Exchange Commission?

A. W. Fuller,

Lindfield, May 1.

Our land under fire

They had to burn that tree, didn't they ("Fury as nation's biggest tree goes up in flames", Herald, May 1)? In doing so they've provided the metaphor for what's happening to our land. Look on the bright side. In another 350 years no one will remember this incident.

G. Copeland,

Annandale, May 1.

Next up, the PBS

The destruction of Medicare has always been Howard's ideology and symbolic of his support for American-style consumerism. His next attempt will be the elimination of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. If there is an election tomorrow, Australians will vote him in again. That's how stupid we are.

Gilbert E. Freitas, snr,

Dean Park, May 1.

Overdue surgery

Why is it that those who are prepared to contribute the least towards this country are the same people who expect so many "free" services from the government?

## Letters

The notion that you get what you pay for doesn't exclude medical services, and with their costs rising annually in double digits, it was only a matter of time before the Government stepped in and put a monetary value on the cost of a visit to the GP.

If people have to reach into their pockets for a nominal fee for medical services, it might discourage trivialities such as minor coughs and sniffles from tying up valuable resources.

Peter Maresch,

Lane Cove, May 1.

Rice role

It's nice of Condoleezza Rice to say it is "up to Canberra" to decide what role we play in post-invasion Iraq (Herald, May 1). But perhaps she can clarify what role she specifically wants us to play: firing on unarmed demonstrators? Looking for non-existent chemical weapons? Protecting US corporations run by Rice's and Mr Bush's friends that have "won" all the contracts for rebuilding Iraq?

John Sparkman,

Curtin (ACT), May 1.

Pet states

North Korea is an international pariah. While the US overgenerously supplies it with some aid, China supplies it with twice the volume of imports of its next-biggest trading partner, Japan. Without Chinese support, particularly in fuel, the North Korean regime would collapse.

Beijing claims it props up North Korea because it fears a refugee crisis if the Pyongyang regime is destabilised.

This is a bit like a man who owns a pit bull terrier saying he has to keep it well fed because, if he didn't, it might bite his children. What is he doing keeping such a dog in the first place?

Tom Minchin,

Bayswater (Vic), May 1.

**Load-Date:** July 17, 2007

## *Now Palestine is a casualty of Gulf conflict*

UK Newsquest Regional Press - This is York

March 27, 2003

Copyright 2003 NewsQuest Media Group Limited

**Length:** 750 words

**Byline:** Stephen Lewis ([stephen.lewis@ycp.co.uk](mailto:stephen.lewis@ycp.co.uk))

**Dateline:** York

### **Body**

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The war on Saddam has claimed another victim reports STEPHEN LEWIS...

IT may not have made the headlines like the victims of the bombing of Baghdad but there has already been another casualty of the second Gulf war.

Last week as war began York-based overseas development agency International Service made the reluctant decision to suspend its programme in Palestine.

The ten volunteers the charity had in the country were doing vital work - everything from helping run rehabilitation centres for children injured in the Palestinian 'troubles' to working for human rights and rural development.

Now for the time being at least that has been put on hold.

The returned volunteers are not pleased. And any suggestion that the war in Iraq is a moral one aimed at overthrowing a brutal dictator doesn't wash with Vicki Metcalfe.

For more than a year Vicki - in York this week for debriefing at International Service headquarters in Gillygate - has been working as a volunteer legal officer with the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights in Gaza.

In Palestine human rights don't count for much she says. It is not just the wilful and unlawful killing of civilians destruction of homes and property or unlawful detention and torture.

It is the curfews and travel restrictions too which make it impossible for many Palestinians to move around or find work.

The result is poverty and destitution.

It was Vicky who last autumn took York MP Hugh Bayley to visit the site of a house in Gaza City where the **Hamas** leader Salah Shehada was assassinated. He was killed the MP reported by a missile fired by an Israeli air force pilot in an American-built jet.

It wasn't just the terrorist who died according to Mr Bayley. His family and 12 other men **women** and children in neighbouring apartments were also killed.

Part of Vicki's job was seeking damages for the victims' families.

## Now Palestine is a casualty of Gulf conflict

The 27-year-old who has a Masters Degree in International Human Rights Law was also involved in collecting evidence of other human rights violations developing cases for prosecution both in Israeli courts and internationally and making representations to the UN.

Not all the human rights violations taking place in Palestine are committed by the Israelis she concedes.

The Palestinian authorities sometimes under pressure from the US and Israeli governments to crack down on terrorists has also been guilty of arbitrary and unlawful arrests and detentions.

But most of the violations are carried out by the Israelis - which makes her angry when President George W Bush talks about a moral justification for war.

"It seems strange that the US UK and Australia seem so concerned about human rights in Iraq but have completely failed to take any action against other countries including Israel which has maintained an illegal occupation of the West Bank and Gaza for 36 years " she says.

Fellow returned volunteer Ross Georgeson a 37-year-old arts educator from Edinburgh is equally unhappy at being forced to leave his Palestinian friends and colleagues behind.

For nearly four years Ross has been working with disabled children and adults in Palestine - many of them injured as a result of the violence - using art and therapy to help with their rehabilitation.

Leaving was a wrench. "All I can do is try to continue the projects I've got as best I can over the internet and by email and telephone - and then just hope we can go back as soon as possible " he says.

The decision to pull out of Palestine was not easy admits International Service's chief executive Jane Carter.

It was made following instructions from the Foreign Office and Clare Short's International Development Department which provide most of the charity's funding.

The official line is that unpredictability in the region and the "increased risk of terrorist activity" make Palestine a dangerous place for foreign development workers.

And the security and safety of its workers is paramount Jane says.

So following the FO instructions all ten International Service development workers in the country were told to leave. Seven did so: three disobeyed and elected to remain behind.

Their contracts with International Service were terminated.

"When the situation calms down we will discuss the possibility of rehiring them " says Jane .

The aim now is to monitor the situation and return to Palestine as soon as possible.

Until then the vital work Vicky Ross and others were doing will remain just another casualty of the war with Saddam.

*Updated: 10:31 Thursday March 27 2003*

## Graphic

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International Service chief executive Jane Carter left with volunteer development workers Ross Georgeson and Vicki Metcalfe;

Now Palestine is a casualty of Gulf conflict

**Load-Date:** March 27, 2003

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End of Document

## *Muslim extremists 'play into BNP hands'*

Yorkshire Post

May 4, 2003

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**Length:** 736 words

### **Body**

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THE far-Right British National Party could gain more power in Yorkshire unless the Muslim community points the finger and denounces its own extremists, senior politicians warned last night.

As anti-terrorist police in London interviewed six people believed to be relatives of two British Muslims who took part in a suicide attack in an Israeli bar, there were claims that up to 50 suicide bombers in Britain could be ready to act.

A self-styled recruiter of British volunteers for an Islamic holy war, Hassan Butt, claims he knew about the pair's plan and said 50 more were waiting for the chance to become suicide bombers.

Senior Bradford Tory Mohammed Riaz said he was alarmed by Mr Butt's claims and said the moderate Muslim majority must act.

Yorkshire Post

Mr Riaz, ethnic affairs adviser to Tory leader Iain Duncan Smith, said: We cannot go on continually dismissing the fact that there are people like the Israel bombers and people who fought in Afghanistan in the British community.

They may be a very tiny fraction of the vast majority of law-abiding citizens, but nevertheless they keep surfacing.

The community is very tight-knit and I don't believe that people did not know of (the suicide bombers') activities.

The time has come for the vast majority to stand up and be counted by pointing the finger towards those individuals who are known members of extremist organisations, or their silence will lead to the rise of the National Front in this country.

Mr Riaz said Labour's failure to deal with bogus asylum-seekers, together with and its extreme multi-culturalist policies of the past, had already led to a rise in support for the BNP.

Since last week's elections, the BNP has two members on Calderdale Council and eight on Burnley Council, where it is now the biggest opposition party. The party also came a close second in several seats in Yorkshire.

Mr Riaz said: People are turning to the BNP as a protest, but it could become permanent. In France 15 years ago, the rise of the National Front was dismissed as a flash in the pan, but now they have challenged for the presidency of the country.

If Muslims here don't give up their isolationist agenda of confining themselves to their own little patch, the BNP will become part of the political system. It is a serious threat.

## Muslim extremists 'play into BNP hands'

Mr Butt had warned there could be up to 50 would-be suicide bombers in Britain waiting for an opportunity and told the Sunday Times he knew of at least 20 who were absolutely serious.

He said: They are waiting for the right time. You don't just do it as individuals, you do it as an organisation. It's about screening them, testing them, making sure they are sincere. Then, when it's right, believe me, they'll all be used.

The Labour MP for Keighley, Ann Cryer, labelled Mr Butt's claims of legions of waiting terrorists deliberately confrontational and said she was not aware of any extremist groups in West Yorkshire.

Mrs Cryer said: It's extremely unhelpful to the law-abiding Muslims who live in this country. This man is seeking to tarnish all of them.

He is shooting his mouth off and immediately securing an own goal. He's giving ammunition to the BNP.

She added: I hope the Muslims in Bradford and Keighley don't feel more vulnerable since last week's elections, but this sort of comment does not help the situation. It just plays into the BNP's hands.

Two men and two women from Derbyshire, a Nottinghamshire woman and a London man have been arrested in connection with the bombing at Mike's Place bar, Tel Aviv, in Israel in which three people died and many were injured.

British Muslims Asif Mohamed Hanif and Omar Khan Sharif allegedly carried out the fatal bombing, in which Hanif, 21, of Hounslow, London, was killed. They are believed to be the first British suicide bombers.

The attack was claimed as a joint operation by the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, an armed offshoot of Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, and Hamas, the hard-line Islamic group.

Sharif, 27, from Derby, is thought to have fled after his bomb failed to explode. Security forces are hunting for him in south Tel Aviv.

Those arrested are understood to be Sharif's 26-year-old wife Tahira, his two sisters, one of his brothers, a family friend and his wife's brother. They are being held in a London police station under the Terrorism Act.

It is also thought officers are investigating an extremist Islamic group operating in Normanton, Derby.

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**Load-Date:** May 5, 2003



**Marching for the oppressors The left deserts liberalism to stand with Islamofascists**

Charleston Daily Mail (West Virginia)

January 25, 2003, Saturday

Copyright 2003 Charleston Newspapers

**Section:** Editorial; Pg. P4A

**Length:** 817 words

**Byline:** Michael Kelly

## **Body**

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THE left in America has for a long time now resembled not so much a political movement as a contest to see how many schismatics could dance on the head of a pin, a conversation that has gone from being national to factional to simply eccentric.

At some point, progressive politics reached a state where freeing Mumia was considered critical and electing a Democratic president was considered optional.

Then came Sept. 11, and the left found itself plunged into a fundamental debate on a subject of fundamental importance. And this was a debate in which to be of the left was to be, by definition, involved:

In al Qaeda and in the Taliban and in Saddam's Iraq, liberal civilization faced an enemy that represented nearly every evil that liberalism has ever stood against.

What was the left going to do? A pretty straightforward call, you might say.

America has its flaws. But war involves choosing sides, and the American side - which was, after all, the side of liberalism, of progressivism, of democracy, of freedom, of not chucking gays off rooftops and not stoning adulterers and not whipping women in the town square, and not gassing minority populations and not torturing advocates of free speech - was surely preferable to the side of the "Islamofascists," to borrow a word from the essayist and former man of the left, Christopher Hitchens.

Which is the point: Hitchens is a former man of the left. In the left's debate, Hitchens insisted that progressives must not in their disdain for America allow themselves to effectively support the perpetuation of despotism, must not betray the left's own values.

Others - notably the political philosopher Michael Walzer, the independent essayist Andrew Sullivan, New Republic writer Jonathan Chait and New York Observer columnist Ron Rosenbaum - also made this argument with great force and clarity.

The debate is over. The left has hardened itself around the core value of a furious, permanent, reactionary opposition to the devil-state America, which stands as the paramount evil of the world and the paramount threat to the world, and whose aims must be thwarted even at the cost of supporting fascists and tyrants.

## Marching for the oppressors The left deserts liberalism to stand with Islamofascists

Those who could not stomach this have left the left - a few publicly, as did Hitchens and Rosenbaum, and many more, I am sure, in the privacy of their consciences.

Last weekend, the left held large antiwar marches in Washington, San Francisco and elsewhere. Major media coverage of these marches was highly respectful. This was "A Stirring in the Nation," in the words of an approving New York Times editorial, "impressive for the obvious mainstream roots of the marchers."

There is, increasingly, much that happens in the world that the Times feels its readers should be sheltered from knowing. The marches in Washington and San Francisco were chiefly sponsored, as was last October's antiwar march in Washington, by a group the Times chose to call in its only passing reference "the activist group International Answer."

International A.N.S.W.E.R. (Act Now to Stop War and End Racism) is a front group for the communist Workers World Party.

The Workers World Party is, literally, a Stalinist organization. It rose out of a split within the old Socialist Workers Party over the Soviet Union's 1956 invasion of Hungary - the breakaway Workers World Party was all for the invasion.

A.N.S.W.E.R. today unquestioningly supports any despotic regime that lays any claim to socialism, or simply to anti-Americanism. It supported the butchers of Beijing after the slaughter of Tiananmen Square. It supports Saddam and his Baathist torture-state.

It supports the last official Stalinist state, North Korea, in the mass starvation of its citizens. It supported Slobodan Milosevic after the massacre at Srebrenica. It supports the mullahs of Iran, and the narco-gangsters of Colombia and the bus-bombers of **Hamas**.

This is whom the left now marches with.

The left marches with the Stalinists. The left marches with those who would maintain in power the leading oppressors of humanity in the world. It marches with, and stands with, and cheers on, people like the speaker at the Washington rally, Imam Musa of the mosque Masjid al-Islam, who declared "the real terrorists have always been the United Snakes of America," and then led the crowd in the Islamic bombers' chant "Allahu Akhbar!"

It marches with people like the former Black Panther Charles Baron, who said in Washington, "if you're looking for the axis of evil, look inside the belly of this beast."

The Times' "mainstream" Americans marched last weekend with people who held signs comparing the president and vice president of their country to Hitler, and declaring "The difference between Bush and Saddam is that Saddam was elected," and this one:

"I want you to die for Israel. Israel sings Onward Christian Soldiers."

March on.

Kelly is editor in chief of National Journal and editor of The AtlanticMonthly.

**Load-Date:** January 29, 2003

**ON THE BRINK OF WAR: KURDS FEAR THEIR HARD-WON FREEDOM WILL  
BE THE PRICE OF TURKISH AID TO US KURDS READY TO DEFEND THEIR  
HARD-WON FREEDOM AGAINST INVASION BY TURKEY**

The Independent (London)

March 8, 2003, Saturday

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 5

**Length:** 751 words

**Byline:** PATRICK COCKBURN IN DOHUK, NORTHERN IRAQ A militia of Iraqi Kurdish women training at the peshmerga forces centre in Sulaymaniyah AP

## **Body**

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A MACHINE-GUN chatters as Kurdish special forces, dodging between rocks, creep up the side of a steep hill topped by an enemy bunker.

The 25-man attacking unit falls back and regroupes. There are several loud explosions and they charge up the hill from a different direction. Minutes later, four enemy soldiers emerge with their hands raised and are taken prisoner as a yellow Kurdish flag is raised over the captured bunker.

"This is not an operation against the Turks," General Aziz Hamas, commander of the Kurdish special forces, says jovially as he watches the training exercise from a nearby hill at Atrush, high in the mountains of Iraqi Kurdistan. Other Kurdish officers watching the exercise laugh dutifully at their commander's little joke, but they all know that within weeks they may be fighting a Turkish invasion.

While the rest of the world waits to see when the US and Britain will declare war on Iraq to overthrow Saddam Hussein, the Kurds fear they are about to become the victims of a second Turkish war against them. Ankara has made it clear that its aim is to limit Kurdish influence in a post- Saddam Iraq.

"Whoever fights us will regret it, especially Turkey," said General Hawas as he reviewed some 400 Kurdish soldiers in green-and-brown camouflage uniforms being trained as special forces.

Back in Dohuk, Faisal Amin Rostinki, head of security at the military HQ, spoke more forcefully of a Turkish invasion. "It is a fascist army and has a great hatred against the Kurds," he said.

As armies muster in and around Iraq for the coming war, the Kurds are one of the smallest military players. But, with the experience of decades of savage warfare against President Saddam behind them, they want to show they will not see their interests sacrificed to Turkey or anybody else.

General Hawas, who became a peshmerga (guerrilla) in 1986, explained that Kurds were trying to create a modern professional army that also drew on their experience as guerrilla fighters. He said: "We have three kinds of officers: Kurdish officers from the Iraqi army who defected to us, peshmerga commanders, and officers newly trained by us."

ON THE BRINK OF WAR: KURDS FEAR THEIR HARD-WON FREEDOM WILL BE THE PRICE OF TURKISH  
AID TO US KURDS READY TO DEFEND THEIR HARD-WON FREEDOM AGAINST INVASION BY T....

He pointed to a burly officer standing near by holding a swagger stick and added: "He used to be a general in the Iraqi army and took part in the invasion of Kuwait."

Building a Kurdish army is not easy. After watching the storming of the hill at Atrush by his men, General Hawas said that in reality the enemy bunker should have been under fire the whole time, but "we can't afford to waste ammunition". Equipment is short and the Kurds have no tanks and little heavy artillery. On the other hand, they have an intimate knowledge of the mountains and ravines, which offer many opportunities for ambush, along Iraq's 218-mile border with Turkey.

Overall, the Kurdistan Democratic Party, to which General Hawas belongs, has 62,000 soldiers, of which some 50,000 are combat troops. The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, which controls eastern Kurdistan, has another 40,000 men. There are also irregular Kurdish forces with military experience. Few people have seen as much fighting as the Iraqi Kurds over the last half century. "All Kurdish life is a war," said General Hawas.

Bravado aside, the Kurds as a whole are determined to resist a Turkish invasion. There is a groundswell of rage that just as their arch-enemy, President Saddam, is about to be overthrown, the measure of freedom that they won after 1991 is about to be snatched away by a deal under which the United States allow Turkey to invade Kurdistan in return for American use of Turkish bases.

If the Turks do attack, then their tanks will roll across the bridge at Ibrahim Khalil, just north of the Kurdish city of Zakho. Turkey has closed the frontier, and there is a a forlorn, apprehensive air in the frontier town, which was bustling with traffic a fortnight ago. But there is a determination that the Kurds should resist Turkey in whatever way they can.

General Hawas and his men could not stop a Turkish attack using armour, artillery and air power. But they would make sure that a Turkish assault is not a walkover and Turkish occupation of Kurdistan would be costly.

It would also be extremely embarrassing for the US if all its rhetoric about rescuing the Iraqi people from Saddam Hussein should end with the Kurds, the one group of Iraqis free from his rule, being subjugated by their arch-enemies.

Patrick Cockburn is co-author, with Andrew Cockburn, of Saddam Hussein: An American Obsession'.

**Load-Date:** March 8, 2003

## *Selective Condemnation of Jewish State Is Antisemitic*

The Forward

January 10, 2003

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**Section:** Forward Forum; Pg. 9

**Length:** 853 words

**Byline:** Robert Horenstein

### **Body**

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"When people criticize Zionism, they mean Jews," Martin Luther King once said. "In short, it is antisemitism."

But what about criticizing Israel? More specifically, what about singling out the Jewish state as a perpetrator of war crimes or as an egregious violator of human rights? Is this also antisemitism? Or is the claim of antisemitism merely a knee-jerk reaction by supporters of Israel, an instinctive defense that seeks to dismiss even legitimate criticism of Israeli policy?

To be sure, Israel isn't immune from committing policy blunders and tactical errors. For example, when an Israeli warplane dropped a one-ton bomb on an apartment building in Gaza last July, killing 10 Palestinian children in addition to a Hamas terrorist leader, it was clearly a case of gross negligence. For this mishap, Israel was deservedly rebuked.

But on the other hand, name one country that has figured out a clean, surgical response to terrorism - not France in Algeria, not Russia in Chechnya, not even the United States in Afghanistan. And certainly not Jordan or Egypt, Israel's so-called moderate Arab neighbors.

and Israel alone - is held to a different standard. It matters little that former prime minister Ehud Barak agreed to a Palestinian state on the vast majority of the territory that Yasser Arafat claims or that the Palestinians responded to Barak's far-reaching concessions with a calculated campaign of violence. When it comes to Israel, those trying to thwart acts of terrorism are condemned in the same breath as those orchestrating acts of terrorism - if, indeed, the latter are condemned at all.

Let's consider some examples of the double standard. The campaign for divestment from Israel now being conducted at several universities, the University of California at Berkeley, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Columbia University among them, has as its main goal "to pressure Israel to respect the human rights of the Palestinians."

Not surprisingly, blowing up Israelis on buses and in pizzerias didn't make the organizers' list of human rights concerns - according to the organizers, "It's not our place to dictate the tactics adopted by the Palestinian people in their struggle for liberation." Nor is there a divestment campaign planned anytime soon against Saudi Arabia, which carries out public beheadings, bans Christianity and forbids women to drive and vote. Egypt, whose security forces regularly crack down on political dissenters and imprison "suspected" homosexuals, has also escaped the activists' attention.

## Selective Condemnation of Jewish State Is Antisemitic

A similar means of protest against the Jewish state is the boycott of Israeli academics by their European counterparts, a move that recently gathered momentum when the boards of several French universities joined their comrades up in arms across the English Channel. State-sponsored terrorism, state-sanctioned antisemitism, brutal totalitarianism - curiously, none of these scourges have galvanized European academics. But Israel's conduct in the war against terrorism? Well, defenders of human rights have to start somewhere, right?

When Oren Yiftachel, a left-wing Israeli academic at Ben Gurion University in the Negev, submitted a research paper last summer co-authored with a Palestinian to the respected British journal *Political Geography*, it was returned to him unopened with a note that the journal wouldn't accept a submission from Israel.

When Yiftachel persisted, the editors agreed to consider the paper, but only if he inserted a comparison between Israel and apartheid South Africa - incidentally, Yiftachel favors an Israeli withdrawal from all of the West Bank and Gaza. Did the editors also require the Palestinian co-author to insert a comparison, say, between the Palestinian Authority and the Taliban? Don't be silly.

Further evidence of a double standard can readily be found at the United Nations, which devotes an inordinate amount of time to judging and, inevitably, censuring Israel. Last April, a rogues' gallery of the world's most oppressive regimes - you may know it by its formal name, the U.N. Commission on Human Rights - passed a resolution condemning Israel for everything from "offenses against humanity" to travel restrictions imposed on "His Excellency President Arafat."

That the likes of Algeria, Libya, Sudan, Yemen and Syria would disregard any pretense of fairness or objectivity is hardly unexpected. But what about Belgium, Sweden and France, which shamefully voted for a resolution so blatantly one-sided that it fails to mention even once the word "terrorism?"

This double standard reveals a systematic campaign to condemn Israel not only for alleged transgressions that are far less egregious than those perpetrated routinely by non-democracies, but also for conduct that other democracies engage in but for which they aren't criticized, such as "assassinating" terrorist leaders. And when people consciously deploy a discriminatory standard exclusively against the Jewish state, make no mistake - they mean Jews.

That, by definition, is antisemitism.

Bob Horenstein is community relations director of the Jewish Federation of Portland, Ore.

**Load-Date:** June 14, 2006

## Foreign Briefs

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

November 7, 2002 Thursday

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**Section:** Pg. a10

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**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** NANCY, France

### **Body**

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Train fire in France kills 12; 5 from U.S.

A fire on an overnight train in eastern France filled a sleeping car with deadly smoke Wednesday, killing 12 people and driving panicked passengers to smash windows and jump to safety.

Among the dead were five Americans - two women, a man, an 8-year-old boy and a 12-year-old girl; three German men; a Russian man and woman; a Hungarian man and a Greek woman. Richard Lankford of the U.S. Embassy in Paris refused to release the American victims' names pending notification of their families.

Wednesday's blaze, which also injured nine people, was initially blamed on an electrical short-circuit. But the French rail authority SNCF said that was premature and the cause was under investigation.

Former U.S. ambassador: North Koreans fear attack

SEOUL, South Korea - North Korean officials say they fear a U.S. attack and that they support a 1994 nuclear pact with Washington that they described as "hanging by a thread," a former U.S. ambassador to South Korea said Wednesday after a visit to the North.

Donald Gregg, who arrived in Seoul on Tuesday from the North, held nearly 10 hours of talks with top officials in the communist country, whose recently disclosed nuclear weapons program has raised tension with the United States.

Gregg, who traveled as a private citizen to Pyongyang at the invitation of the North Koreans, said he detected a possible softening of the North Korean position on how to resolve the nuclear dispute.

17 die in plane crash in Luxembourg

LUXEMBOURG - A twin-engine plane crashed in fog as it approached Luxembourg's airport Wednesday, killing nearly 17 people and seriously injuring the five others aboard, police said.

The Luxair turboprop Fokker-50, on a flight from Berlin's Tempelhof airport, had 19 passengers and three crew members aboard when it crashed in a farmer's field near the village of Roodt-Syr - just six miles short of Findel airport.

## Foreign Briefs

The control tower had received no distress signals before it lost contact with the plane, said Luxembourg Transport Minister Henri Grethen.

## Sharon, Likud Party favored in Israeli elections

JERUSALEM - As Israel heads into a truncated election campaign, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's right-wing Likud Party is favored to emerge as the strongest faction, while Sharon holds a slim edge over his rival for party leader, ex-premier Benjamin Netanyahu, according to polls published Wednesday.

Israel's political turmoil has been the focus this week, but there's been no letup in Mideast violence. A Palestinian laborer shot and killed two Israelis, including his employer, in the Gaza Strip settlement of Slav on Wednesday before being gunned down by a security guard. The militant group Hamas claimed responsibility.

## 29 die in bus-truck accident in Egypt

CAIRO, Egypt - A bus carrying workers home for an Islamic holiday collided with a truck and overturned east of Cairo on Wednesday, killing 29 people and injuring more than two dozen others, police said.

The bus -coming from the Red Sea resort of Hurghada- collided with the truck about 35 miles east of the capital, a police official said on condition of anonymity.

The bus was carrying mostly Egyptian workers who were returning to Cairo to join their families for the first day of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

## Diana's butler warned of shadowy forces

LONDON - In his first extensive comments since Queen Elizabeth II brought a surprise end to his theft trial, Princess Diana's former butler said the monarch warned him to beware of shadowy forces that might resent his close ties to the royal family.

During a three-hour meeting soon after Diana's death, "The queen said, 'No one, Paul, has been as close to a member of my family as you have,'" Paul Burrell said in an interview published Wednesday in The Daily Mirror, which reportedly paid him \$620,000 for the interview.

"There are powers at work in this country which we have no knowledge about," Burrell quoted the queen as saying.

## Plane spotters cleared of spy-related convictions

KALAMATA, Greece - An appeals court overturned espionage-related convictions on Wednesday for British and Dutch plane spotters whose case pitted military security rules against the hobby of watching aircraft.

The three-judge panel ruled unanimously to clear the 14-member group just a few days shy of the anniversary of their arrest.

"They did not believe they were doing anything wrong and we accept their good faith," said the head judge, Giorgos Efsthathiou, after more than an hour of deliberations.

Members of the group listened intently to a translation of the ruling, then broke into cheers. Some relatives began to cry.

**Load-Date:** November 7, 2002



## **MIDEAST TURMOIL: THE VIOLENCE; Israelis Kill at Least 40 After Arab Kills 5 Teenagers**

The New York Times  
March 9, 2002 Saturday  
Late Edition - Final

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**Section:** Section A; Column 6; Foreign Desk; Pg. 1

**Length:** 1592 words

**Byline:** By JAMES BENNET

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, March 8

### **Body**

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On the deadliest day in 17 months of fighting, Israeli forces killed at least 40 Palestinians today with fire from land, sea and air after five Israeli teenagers died in a Palestinian's suicidal rampage through a settlement south of here.

The foreign ministers of 22 Arab nations called for international intervention "to stop Israeli aggression that has no excuse or justification," on a day that one of them, Prince Saud al-Faisal of Saudi Arabia, called Black Friday.

Funerals were held throughout the Gaza Strip, where 16 Palestinians, most of them armed, died in one savage firefight with Israeli forces. Young boys ran through the streets here behind a looted corpse, waving the green, black and yellow flags of the Palestinian factions and calling for revenge.

In Amman, Jordan, thousands of Palestinian refugees rallied, chanting, "Bin Laden, hit Tel Aviv!"

As the killing surged throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon made a tentative gesture toward diplomacy: He said on Israeli television this evening that he was dropping his demand for an absolute calm lasting seven days before undertaking an American-brokered cease-fire plan. His goal, he said, was to negotiate a cease-fire.

With his public resolve and his government sharply divided, Mr. Sharon appeared to be moving aggressively in two directions, making an overture for talks even as Israel intensified its military campaign throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Negotiations to stop the shooting will be held under fire," Mr. Sharon said.

Palestinian leaders tonight dismissed his announcement as a diversion from the day's violence.

"There was nothing new here," said Saeb Erekat, the Palestinians' chief negotiator. "He's trying to confuse people."

Raanan Gissin, Mr. Sharon's spokesman, emphasized that Israel would not unilaterally silence its guns during any talks, which Mr. Sharon himself would lead. "We will negotiate, and we will not cut off negotiations while there is fire," he said, "but we will respond to fire with fire."

## MIDEAST TURMOIL: THE VIOLENCE Israelis Kill at Least 40 After Arab Kills 5 Teenagers

The moves came a day after President Bush said his special envoy, Gen. Anthony C. Zinni, would return to the Middle East next week in a renewed bid to broker a cease-fire. Two previous visits by General Zinni, a retired Marine, failed to stanch the mayhem.

Palestinian officials said today they had detained Majdi Rimawi, a suspect whose arrest Israel had demanded last October after the assassination of Tourism Minister Rehavam Zeevi.

Israel has made the arrest of suspects in the case a condition for lifting its blockade on the Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat.

In the West Bank today, Israeli forces invaded Bethlehem and encircled Palestinian gunmen in Tulkarm. Twelve Palestinians, including at least one child, died in the fighting, and an Israeli soldier was shot dead in Tulkarm.

Dozens of men surrendered in Tulkarm this evening, walking with their hands up. The Israeli Army said it had arrested 60 Palestinian security officers and dozens of civilians whom it suspected of involvement in terrorism.

Tonight, Palestinian gunmen clashed again with Israeli forces near here. Tanks opened fire near the boundary with Israel, wounding at least one Palestinian, and the boom of exploding shells echoed over the darkened city.

Israeli warplanes thundered over Gaza again today as American-made Apache helicopters attacked Palestinian positions in the north and south.

Israeli forces killed 16 Palestinians south of here in Khouza. The dead there included the chief of Palestinian security forces in the southern Gaza Strip, Maj. Gen. Ahmed Mefraj. The Israeli Army said a gunman who killed an Israeli soldier earlier this week along Gaza's boundary with Israel came from that village.

Some Palestinians suggested today that Israel was out to provoke a wave of Palestinian violence just as General Zinni returns to Israel. They noted that his first visit here, at the end of November, coincided with several Palestinian attacks that they said were provoked by Israel's killing a week earlier of a top leader of Hamas, the Islamic organization.

Mr. Gissin, Mr. Sharon's spokesman, said Israel was fighting back today against a coordinated and relentless terrorist campaign.

"I apologize in advance, but it seems sometimes that you ignore that every day we have funerals of young women and innocent children that we have to bury," he said. "We don't even have time to go from one funeral to another. What do you want us to do? Sit back and play dead? We have a responsibility to defend our citizens, like any other country, including the United States."

In Jerusalem today, police shot dead a Palestinian man they said was carrying a bomb he was about to detonate.

The violence in Gaza followed an attack overnight against a Jewish settlement, Atzmona, south of here. A Palestinian militant from Hamas, armed with an assault rifle, at least nine clips of bullets and six grenades, raced though an school in the settlement.

He flung a grenade into a dormitory room, killing one student with a blast that scorched the room black. He then killed four teenagers while they were studying religious texts, before he was shot dead.

General Mefraj's superior officer, Brig. Gen. Abdel Razek Majaidie, narrowly escaped when he hastily left a building moments before Apaches rocketed it in what Palestinians called an assassination attempt.

Before dawn, as aircraft passed high overhead, Palestinian gunmen raced through the streets here, firing ineffectually into the air. Two sets of five powerful explosions sounded over the city.

## MIDEAST TURMOIL: THE VIOLENCE Israelis Kill at Least 40 After Arab Kills 5 Teenagers

The Israeli Army confirmed that at least one ship had opened fire on the northern Gaza Strip, in what it called an operation against "terrorist targets" linked to the Palestinian Authority. Five more Palestinians died in that attack, among them a medic, Said Youssef Shaliyehl.

"The Palestinian people think Sharon is planning a massacre," said Samir al-Halak, 38, who joined mourners for Mr. Shaliyehl under a tent in the Jabaliyah refugee camp north of here. He said Mr. Shaliyehl had just gotten engaged on Thursday.

Two other medics died violently today. The Palestine Red Crescent Society reported that a 40-year-old paramedic, Ibrahim Assad, was killed in his ambulance in Tulkarm as he was responding to an emergency call. Another paramedic, Kamal Hamdan, working for the United Nations agency that assists Palestinian refugees, was also killed.

The International Committee of the Red Cross issued a statement appealing for protection of its staff. "The I.C.R.C. condemns these attacks and calls on the Israeli authorities to take immediate steps to protect medical personnel and to conduct a full inquiry into the latest events," it said.

In Bethlehem, Hatem Mashal, a United Nations medic, waited outside the hospital this afternoon for permission from the Israelis to transport a Palestinian who had been shot in the head to better facilities in Jerusalem. "All the ambulance people and the medics feel targeted these days," said Mr. Mashal, whose blue vest, over his bullet-proof jacket, was stained with blood. "This makes us be more cautious. The one who pays the price is the injured person."

According to residents of Bethlehem, the attacks there began with F-16 and Apache raids in the middle of the night, including another bombardment of the old British police headquarters, which had been battered three times before.

Tanks rolled in from the east and west, and by afternoon they had taken up positions near two refugee camps. Outside the camps, soldiers began a house-to-house search in two neighborhoods, Aida and Al Doha.

Witnesses said the soldiers broke through interior walls to avoid being exposed to snipers, a tactic they used in Tulkarm and other West Bank refugee camps. In one house, witnesses said, a woman was killed by a falling wall. In all, six Palestinians were killed today in Bethlehem, Palestinian officials said.

The streets of Bethlehem were eerily empty, as most residents obeyed an Israeli curfew, announced over the loudspeaker of an armored car rolling through the quiet streets. The only sign of life was in Al Doha, where several children attempted to build a barricade from stones and a burning tire. An Israeli jeep burst easily through the rubble.

Outside the Intercontinental Hotel, occupied today by Israeli forces, a 12-year-old Palestinian boy was seen dragging an oil filter attached to a metal cable that ended in an electrical switch. "It's a fake just to scare soldiers and tanks," he said.

In a further sign of maneuvering ahead of General Zinni's visit, Mr. Sharon plans to submit to his cabinet on Sunday two linked American-brokered plans for restoring peace: a cease-fire plan drawn up by George J. Tenet, the director of central intelligence, and a broader framework to lead to substantive peace talks devised by a commission led by the former United States senator George Mitchell. For months Israeli spokesmen have repeatedly indicated that the government supported the plans but the government has never formally adopted them.

Mr. Sharon was elected more than a year ago on a promise of peace and security, but his support is dissipating as the violence grows. A poll published today in the newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth showed that 53 percent of Israelis no longer have confidence in him. More than 70 percent of Israelis said his government had not lived up to their expectations.

The newspaper devoted a full page to color pictures of 327 Israelis killed in the conflict. More than three times as many Palestinians have also been killed.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

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Photos: At the Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem, Palestinians fired at Israelis who were reoccupying the city yesterday. During a house-by-house sweep in Tulkarm, Israelis captured and blindfolded dozens of Palestinians. (Top, Elizabeth Dalziel/Associated Press; above, Sven Nackstrand/Agence France-Presse)(pg. A1); The funeral yesterday for Maj. Gen. Ahmed Mefraj, chief of security in southern Gaza and the highest-ranking officer killed by the Israelis. (Hatem Moussa/Associated Press); After Israeli troops in tanks moved back into Beit Jallah yesterday, they frisked Palestinian men during a house-by-house search. (Rina Castelnovo for The New York Times)(pg. A6)

Chart: "UPDATE -- Death Toll Mounts in Mideast" Monthly totals of Israeli and Palestinian deaths during the 17 months of violence that began Sept. 29, 2000. Graph tracks deaths of Israelis and Palestinians from September 2000 through midnight yesterday. September 2000 figures are for the 29th and 30th of that month. (Sources: Palestinian Red Crescent Society; Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs)(pg. A6)

Map of Gaza Strip highlighting sites of deaths over last two days. (pg. A6)

**Load-Date:** March 9, 2002

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## *Your say*

Herald Sun (Melbourne, Australia)

November 29, 2002, Friday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** OPINION; Pg. 19

**Length:** 812 words

### **Body**

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Fares shortfall still a mystery

I HAVE yet to hear the Liberals' proposed axing of Zone 3 fares satisfactorily explained.

Why would our privatised, not to mention foreign-owned, transport corporations be willing to wear the loss of profit if the Zone 3 fares were axed?

Yet, not a peep of protest to be heard from them. These corporations are in the business of making money, not giving it away.

Assuming a Liberal election victory, should one further assume that the difference will be paid to the transport companies from the public coffers?

A Sabados,

Cheltenham

Sick of union bashing

I AM sick of the Liberal Party talking about the Labor Party and its union mates. After all, Federal Education Minister Brendan Nelson was once president of the powerful doctors' union, the AMA. Anyway, I'd sooner have a union mate than a business mate any day.

Brad Martell,

Highett

End does not justify terror

**HAMAS** and Fatah reportedly held talks in Cairo to end suicide attacks on Israeli civilians.

A Fatah official said "great progress" had been made in the talks and it was hoped an "accord" would be reached.

Unfortunately, the accord was not an agreement to stop terrorist attacks but rather to co-operate in perpetrating more.

Palestinian terror groups continue to ignore warnings by both Amnesty and Human Rights Watch that their "systematic purposeful killing of civilians" constitutes "war-crimes and crimes against humanity".

# Your say

Terrorism is defined not by the legitimacy of its aims but by the illegitimacy of its methods. Whatever you think of Palestinian aims, there is no question that their methods are criminal.

Judith Rona,

Bondi, NSW

Habit a symbol of dedication

THE few nuns who wear full habits don't cover their faces and their arms are exposed.

They could not conceal weapons in the same way as one might under the billowing, head-to-toe Muslim chador.

Also, nuns are part of a religious order dedicated to prayer and serving others, whereas fundamentalists require every Muslim woman and girl to wear the chador.

Gwenda Evans,

Ballarat

Nation clothed in democratic ideals

MUSLIM women in Australia should have the same rights as everyone else and should be allowed to wear what they wish.

After all, Australia is a free country based on democratic principles and we respect the rights of the individual. What a pity that this is not the case in countries like Saudi Arabia where women of every nationality, race and religion are forced to wear Muslim dress.

This is enforced to the extent that women found outside the house in Western dress are whipped on the legs by religious police. None of us in this country should take our rights lightly. Let us all be profoundly thankful that we do not live under Islamic law.

Anita Allen,

Seaford

Appalled by all violence

RE "Silence on massacres" (November 27): I am a Muslim and I hate all violence. I was amazed when Ian Fraser said that we as Muslims do not denounce these criminal acts.

Where was Mr Fraser when a few hundred thousand Muslim men, women and children were massacred in Bosnia, Lebanon and Palestine?

I didn't hear any Christians denounce these acts.

B. Assafiri,

Fawkner

Constructive and strong alternative

THE Greens have given much needed sparkle and excitement to the election campaign.

They've certainly excited Andrew Bolt, whose diatribe did little to inform voters about the Greens' track record ("Wild policies to leave you green", November 28).

## Your say

What happens when the Greens get in?

In Tasmania we insisted Labor sign an accord, which opened up government to public scrutiny, brought in the nation's best freedom of information laws, abolished ministers' publicly-funded liquor cabinets, extended national parks, which are now the backbone of Tasmania's job-rich tourism industry and supported tough but fiscally-responsible budgets.

On a shoestring allocation, we created 1000 jobs in local employment initiatives and, much to Labor's horror, we moved a bill, backed by the Liberals, to stop the closure of 20 public schools.

Tomorrow, the Bracks Government will win as many as 60 of the 88 Lower House seats.

The Victorian Greens would provide a strong and constructive opposition on issues such as poker machine gambling and logging of Melbourne's water catchments, where the Liberals provide no good opposition at all.

Senator Bob Brown,

Australian Greens, Canberra

Enlightened by conspiracy theory

I'M glad to see that Andrew Bolt has finally talked some sense into people about the logging industry.

Maybe people will now realise no Jews were killed in World War II, there is not a hole in the ozone layer, Elvis is working in a 7-11 in Springvale, nobody went to the moon and the Titanic was actually sunk by Japanese submarines off the coast of Tahiti.

Stephen Winkler,

Melbourne

**Load-Date:** November 28, 2002

## **MIDEAST TURMOIL: THE OVERVIEW; In New Rebuff to U.S., Sharon Pushes Military Sweep**

The New York Times  
April 11, 2002 Thursday  
Late Edition - Final

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**Section:** Section A; Column 6; Foreign Desk; Pg. 1

**Length:** 1676 words

**Byline:** By JAMES BENNET

**Dateline:** GINAT CAMP, West Bank, April 10

### **Body**

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A day ahead of Secretary of State Colin L. Powell's arrival in Israel in hopes of securing a truce, a Palestinian suicide bomber attacked an Israeli bus today and Prime Minister Ariel Sharon vowed to continue Israel's military sweep through the West Bank.

Rebuffing American demands for a withdrawal, Mr. Sharon said the United States and other nations should not "put any pressures upon us."

Mr. Sharon addressed soldiers at this improvised hilltop base overlooking Jenin, a Palestinian city where Israel pressed its offensive today by sending armored bulldozers crashing through the densely populated refugee camp.

Late tonight, an Israeli official said as many as 200 Palestinians had been killed in Jenin. Most, he said, were armed men. Palestinian resistance in Jenin, the fiercest that Israeli forces have encountered, appeared to be ebbing.

Israeli forces withdrew from three West Bank villages today, Yatta, Qabatya and Samua, but continued hunting suspected militants in four major cities and towns and an undisclosed number of other villages. Late tonight, Israeli tanks moved into Ber Zeit, a village in the central West Bank, The Associated Press reported.

Earlier in the day, Israel's security cabinet formally decided to continue the military operation, now nearly two weeks old. It acted after the suicide bomber struck, killing eight passengers and tearing apart a bus near Haifa, on the coast. Four of the dead were soldiers.

It was the first suicide attack in 10 days. For some it underscored the crying need they saw for Israel's military mission, and for others the folly they saw at its core.

Along Israel's embattled northern border, more missiles and mortar bombs were fired from Lebanon, despite American efforts to persuade Syria to restrain the militant Lebanese group Hezbollah. The attacks injured no one but fed fears of a widening conflict, further complicating Secretary Powell's difficult mission.

The secretary is arriving late Thursday at a moment filled with hostility and mistrust, burdened by the numbers of casualties on both sides, the bitter enmity of the leaders and the spreading separation of the two peoples.



## MIDEAST TURMOIL: THE OVERVIEW In New Rebuff to U.S. , Sharon Pushes Military Sweep

Palestinian families have been hiding in their homes as Israeli patrols round up their men for questioning and Israeli machine-gun fire pounds through their streets. Israelis, despairing of Palestinian willingness to recognize a Jewish state, have been avoiding cafes, parks and malls for fear of suicide bombers.

After resisting becoming entangled here, President Bush reversed course and dispatched Secretary Powell as the body count grew and he came under pressure from Arab states, whose backing he is seeking for a possible attack on Iraq. The anxiety of Israeli officials over the Bush administration's evolving policy also increased today as the country's diplomatic predicament worsened.

The European Parliament urged the 15 members of the European Union, Israel's biggest trading partner, to impose sanctions against Israel because of the military operation.

Here at the military camp, Mr. Sharon warned about 50 soldiers sitting in the dirt beneath an awning here, their M-16 rifles in their laps: "We are in a diplomatic battle. Arab countries are pressuring the U.S. and European countries as much as they can in order to make Israel carry out a plan or plans that we can't."

He described Israelis as victims in a multifront war, a fight against terrorism, a "diplomatic struggle" and a "public opinion battle."

"We are the victims of terror," Mr. Sharon told the soldiers. It was a war Israel did not want or start, he said. "But we got to a situation where we couldn't deal with it anymore," he continued. "The terrible thing, and it is perhaps the cynicism of the world, is that the one being blamed, is particularly us."

The isolation of Yasir Arafat eased a bit today when Israel permitted other Palestinian officials to enter his besieged compound in Ramallah. The Palestinians then met in Jerusalem with Gen. Anthony C. Zinni, the Bush administration's special envoy here, to prepare for Secretary Powell's arrival. Israel had previously blocked General Zinni from meeting with the group.

Secretary Powell has said he wanted to meet with Mr. Arafat, a decision Mr. Sharon has called a "tragic mistake." Mr. Sharon considers Mr. Arafat an enemy of Israel, not a potential negotiating partner.

But Israel's defense minister, Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, said the government would not interfere with the secretary's plans. "As long as Powell wants to see Arafat, he can see him," Mr. Ben-Eliezer said after sitting at the prime minister's right hand during his remarks here. "We are not preventing him to see Arafat."

About 300 Palestinians surrendered in Jenin today, Israeli officials said. Witnesses described masses of women and children fleeing the refugee camp as bulldozers cut through the ramshackle warren of adjoining and stacked homes.

"Vietnam -- something like that," said Eitan Gafni, a reserve soldier serving here, describing the condition of the refugee camp to Israeli television. "There's nothing there now."

In an overwhelming display of force within easy sight of Jenin, dozens of Israeli armored vehicles and tanks waited in a camp gouged out of the hillside, below where Mr. Sharon spoke late this afternoon.

At a checkpoint a mile or so away, mobile antiaircraft guns were parked, and mechanics worked on one engine. The soldiers said that they had served in the Israeli campaign in three cities, from Ramallah to Nablus to Jenin, and that the fighting had grown fiercer as they moved to each new front.

The Israeli Army continued to block journalists from entering Jenin, saying it feared for their safety. But Israeli officials were also nervously looking ahead to the eventual withdrawal, fearful that Palestinians would try to present the many corpses as evidence of an Israeli massacre.

Palestinians accuse Israeli ground forces of firing randomly into their neighborhoods. But many soldiers and Israeli officials said the Israeli Army was acting morally, and was even endangering its own men by applying force cautiously in an effort not to harm civilians.

## MIDEAST TURMOIL: THE OVERVIEW In New Rebuff to U.S. , Sharon Pushes Military Sweep

Israelis are troubled by the world's perception of the military mission.

"I've seen pictures of us on the television, and we don't look very good," said Sgt. Dov Rifken, 20. But, he said, "we're supposed to protect our people, our country. We do what we need to do, and we make sure that's all we do."

The Palestinians have no military aircraft. They have been fighting mostly with semiautomatic rifles, homemade explosives and some mass-produced explosives like antitank weapons. Israel has been using the antiaircraft weapons, capable of shooting 3,000 20-millimeter rounds a minute, to pulverize houses containing gunmen.

"If we see some people shooting from a house, we take it down," Sergeant Rifken said.

In Jenin, said Cpl. Yaron Zeltzer, 20, "the Palestinians were really prepared, and there was a much more tough section of terrorists." The Palestinians had concealed booby traps in sewers and other unexpected places, he said.

On Tuesday 14 soldiers were killed in Jenin, 13 in an ambush. Another soldier died in Nablus on Tuesday, the victim of mistaken fire from Israeli forces.

Mr. Ben-Eliezer, the defense secretary, said he could not predict how much longer Israel would continue its military operation. But it was too early to stop, he said. "We can just evacuate today, and tomorrow the suicide bombers, the suicide shooters, will move again," he said.

Asked how Palestinians were able to carry out today's suicide bombing in Haifa, he said the Israeli operation could minimize terrorist capabilities and "destroy for a while the motivation" of attackers, but "there is no 100 percent answer to terror -- no."

Palestinian officials say that rather than suppressing the motivation for such attacks, the Israeli operation is likely to feed it.

The Islamic group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for the Haifa bombing and attributed it to a Palestinian from the Jenin refugee camp. **Hamas** is opposed to a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and it has engineered suicide attacks during previous diplomatic missions by General Zinni.

Those missions also coincided with halts in Israeli incursions into Palestinian-controlled territory that had resulted in many Palestinian deaths.

Some Israeli officials said the bomber had come from Tulkarm, where Israeli soldiers have withdrawn to form a cordon around the city. They dismissed any suggestion that the bombing undermined claims for the success of the mission, saying it actually demonstrated the dangers of withdrawing.

But in Washington, Ari Fleischer, the White House spokesman, suggested that the bombing showed the wisdom of President Bush's call for a withdrawal. Mr. Fleischer said the attack underscored "the need for all parties to step back, for Israel to withdraw, and for the Palestinians and the Arabs to stop the violence, stop the killing."

The comment stunned Israeli officials, who read it as suggesting that the Israeli action provoked rather than prevented terrorism. "It legitimizes terror," one Israeli official said.

This official, who insisted on anonymity, expressed consternation at what he viewed as a reversal of American policy, from apparent support of the Israeli operation to Mr. Bush's demand, first made last Thursday, for withdrawal. "Do they want to go into a collision course with Israel?" he asked.

Secretary Powell plans to meet with Mr. Sharon before seeing Mr. Arafat. Israel offered Mr. Arafat the chance to hold the meeting in Jericho, which has not been raided by the army during this operation, rather than in battered Ramallah, in an office that is said to have turned rancid.

## MIDEAST TURMOIL: THE OVERVIEW In New Rebuff to U.S. , Sharon Pushes Military Sweep

Such a move might also suit Israel purposes, one official acknowledged, since the pictures might be prettier in Jericho and Israel might even have the chance to raid Mr. Arafat offices, where military officers believe he is hiding wanted men.

Mr. Arafat declined the offer of a different venue, the Israeli official said.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

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Photos: Ariel Sharon, left, and his defense minister, Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, next to him, at a camp near Jenin yesterday. (Reuters); Israeli troops poured through the refugee camp in Jenin yesterday, arresting Palestinian men after ordering them to strip off their shirts. (Agence France-Presse)(pg. A14) Map of Israel highlighting Jenin. (pg. A14)

**Load-Date:** April 11, 2002

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End of Document

## *Homes destroyed in raids; Decision to fence holy site seen as annexation of land*

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

September 13, 2002 Friday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. B02; News

**Length:** 791 words

**Byline:** Colin Nickerson

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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In fast-moving raids on the Gaza Strip, Israeli forces yesterday clashed with Palestinian militants and blew up the family home of a radical killed during an attack on Jewish settlers last year. Palestinians said that the blast also levelled two adjoining homes and left 42 people homeless.

At least one other Palestinian home was destroyed by armoured bulldozers in the southern Gaza Strip during a search for weapons caches and tunnels allegedly used to smuggle arms from Egypt, the Israeli military said.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian Authority accused Israel of violating interim peace agreements with its decision to include the holy site known as Rachel's Tomb in a vast new security zone of high wire fences, coiled barbed wire, cement walls, and other barriers sealing off Israel from the West Bank.

The Boston Globe

The site is 500 metres inside Palestinian territory, in a section of Bethlehem on the edge of Jerusalem. The tomb is surrounded by Palestinian neighbourhoods and an old Muslim burial ground.

"There is no question about it, the tomb is a part of Israel," Prime Minister Ariel Sharon told the Israeli cabinet yesterday. "It is precious to the Jewish people and it is inconceivable that there will be a situation in which Israelis don't have free access to it."

The shrine is revered by Jews as the burial place of the Biblical matriarch Rachel and is a popular place for women to pray for fertility and healthy babies. It is also sacred to Christians, who share with Jews a common religious genealogy of Old Testament figures, and to Muslims, who say there was once an important mosque at the location.

The site has long been a flashpoint between Israeli forces and Palestinian gunmen. Israel maintained that the barricade is a simple security measure, not a land grab. But Palestinian officials said that Israel's decision to limit access to the site, so that it is reachable only from Jerusalem, is a deliberate annexation of territory on the Palestinian side of the "Green Line" that separates Israel and the West Bank.

"This represents a new crime against the Palestinian people and their Christian and Muslim holy places," the Palestinian Authority said in a statement.

## Homes destroyed in raids; Decision to fence holy site seen as annexation of land

In the Gaza Strip, Israeli soldiers and Palestinian fighters traded automatic weapons fire as armored bulldozers and tanks moved into the community of Shijaiya, on the outskirts of Gaza City. Army engineers rigged the home of a purported terrorist with explosives and leveled it.

The tactic of home demolitions has drawn international condemnation, but Israel says the policy is a harsh but effective way of combating terrorism by making clear to would-be suicide bombers and other potential terrorists that their families will pay for the violence.

"This operation was a counterterrorist measure," a military spokesman said.

The targeted home belonged to the family of Osama Hales, a fighter for the Islamic radical faction **Hamas**, who last November opened fire on a Jewish settlement, killing a woman and wounding three other civilians. Hales was shot dead during the assault.

The soldiers arrived just before dawn and gave the bleary inhabitants -- including Hales's parents -- a short time to assemble important papers and valuables. Engineers then blew up the home.

"All we were able to take out were a few family documents," Khawla Hales, mother of Osama, told Palestinian journalists as she and her husband sifted through the ruins for family photos. "A house where we lived for 30 years was turned to rubble ... I lost my son and now we have lost our house."

Palestinians said two other houses were destroyed in the action. The Israeli army said other houses may have suffered damage during the firefight between Israeli troops and militants, but were not intentionally harmed.

In the southernmost Gaza Strip, in the Rafah refugee camp, Israeli army bulldozers plowed up lots in a search for tunnels used to smuggle weapons from Egypt into the Palestinian enclave, according to the military.

Such crude underground routes are commonly used by gunrunners, although Egypt has recently sought to tighten scrutiny on its side of the border.

During the operation, heavy vehicles "inadvertently" damaged structures, according to the military. Palestinian security officials said three houses were flattened.

Also yesterday, Palestinians applauded their parliament for forcing the resignation Wednesday of Yasser Arafat's Cabinet, widely considered corrupt and inefficient. But many stopped short of criticizing the Palestinian leader himself.

Jibril Rajoub, recently fired by Arafat from his position as West Bank security chief, said he hoped "President Arafat ... will wake up and start to understand that the people around him are not satisfying the Palestinians' needs."

## Graphic

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Photo: Magnus Johansson, Reuters; Ultra-orthodox Jews pray at Rachel's Tomb. The site, inside Palestinian territory, has been included in a security zone sealing off Israel from the West Bank.

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2002

## *Freedom demonstration will be one-sided*

Windsor Star (Ontario)

September 27, 2002 Friday Final Edition

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**Section:** EDITORIAL; NORMAN SPECTOR; Pg. A8; Column

**Length:** 819 words

**Byline:** Norman Spector

### **Body**

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On Saturday, hundreds, perhaps thousands of Palestinian sympathizers will congregate on Parliament Hill.

Two days later, MPs will re-occupy the seat of our democracy, listening to the Governor-General's rendition of Jean Chretien's "legacy" throne speech.

The demonstrators' speeches -- together with their chants, signs and music -- will be indistinguishable from others who routinely try to capture the attention of politicians and media.

Yet there is one significant difference: among the protest organizers are the same people who, a few weeks ago, prevented former Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu from presenting the other side of the argument.  
Southam News

Much has been said about the semi-riot organized by Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights at Concordia University in Montreal. Some contend that Netanyahu's presence on a campus rent by the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was a provocation, while others note that scheduling it elsewhere would have given in to intimidation.

Most international observers have focussed on the irony of speech being curbed in an academic setting supposedly dedicated to the pursuit of truth.

For me, the most troubling aspect is that this pro-Palestinian group claims rights it is not willing to accord to its ideological opponents.

Struck by the paradox

I'm reminded of V.S. Naipaul's extraordinary analysis of Islamic fundamentalism, *Among The Believers*, written just after the 1979 revolution brought the Ayatollahs to power in Iran.

An immigrant from Trinidad, Naipaul was struck by the paradox of groups demanding freedoms in Britain that they demanded be done away with in their native lands.

Twenty years before he was to win the Nobel Prize for literature, he undertook an extraordinary journey from Iran to Pakistan, Indonesia and Malaysia, exposing the hypocrisy of advocating extending Iranian-like theocracy to those countries.

The attacks of Sept. 11 have shed additional light on their double standard. By blowing up women and children in pizzerias and skyscrapers, Hamas suicide bombers and Osama bin Laden's hijackers have broken an essential bond of western civilization.

## Freedom demonstration will be one-sided

Yet, when democratic states pursue any judicial or military response, they and their supporters are quick to complain about violations of human rights.

In addition to being hypocritical, the position is extremely short-sighted.

As the American political philosopher Michael Walzer, an intellectual of impeccable leftist credentials, argues, it's in the interest of the weaker party to affirm the illegitimacy of directly targeting innocent civilians -- since the stronger party could mete out far greater violence.

In similar fashion, it is in the interest of advocates for the underdog to keep open the channels of free expression -- assuming that their principal goal is discussion, not defining democratic states as "repressive."

The demonstrators who will congregate on Parliament Hill this weekend will focus their wrath on Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

In the propaganda war accompanying the Israeli-Palestinian war of bullets, their goal is to make him irrelevant -- as the Israelis have succeeded in blackening the reputation of Yasser Arafat.

Presumably, pro-Israeli groups will not employ violence to force the cancellation of the rally and much will be heard about the massacre of nearly 2,000 Palestinians at the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps in Lebanon, 20 years ago this month.

Pointing a finger

While Christian Phalange militias perpetrated the slaughter, the crowd will point its finger at Sharon, alleging that Israel is being governed by a war criminal.

The demonstrators will not, need it be said, utter a peep about a much greater enormity that year in Hama, where Syrian President Hafez al-Assad butchered nearly 20,000 opponents of his regime.

And you can be sure they won't mention Saddam Hussein's gassing of Kurds; if his name pops up, it will no doubt be in the context of denouncing U.S. President George W Bush.

Sharon was forced to resign as defence minister, after a judicial commission criticized him for not having foreseen -- and, thus, not having prevented -- the Lebanon massacre.

Yet, rather than giving Israel credit for establishing an independent inquiry, critics routinely distort its findings.

The Kahan Commission did not find Sharon to be "personally responsible" for the massacre; indeed that phrase never appears in the report.

Twenty years later, Sharon would not have been elected prime minister had Arafat not chosen the path of violence over negotiation.

Since then, I have been writing that peace will not come to the Mideast as long as these two leaders are in office.

I still believe "regime change" is essential; however, given how badly the situation has deteriorated -- in both the war of arms and the war of words -- I no longer think it would be sufficient for peace to prevail.

## Graphic

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NORMAN SPECTOR

Freedom demonstration will be one-sided

**Load-Date:** September 27, 2002

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## *Campuses struggle to separate Islam from terrorism*

University Wire

September 9, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 The Utah Statesman via U-Wire

**Length:** 838 words

**Byline:** By Marie Mackay, The Utah Statesman

**Dateline:** Logan, Utah

### **Body**

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The Koran and Allah are all familiar words learned, recognized and even hated since the events of Sept. 11.

Even though many Utah State University students, Cache Valley residents and Americans know about Islam and its followers, Muslims, some still link them with terrorism.

"It continues to amaze me that sometimes people don't use common sense and put themselves in other people's shoes," said Amal Kavar, USU political science professor. "There are already a lot of overgeneralizations because of an overbiased media, and I feel bad for the people who do that, because it makes themselves look ignorant." Utah State U.

Perspectives change, however, as people realize one terrorist action took a toll on the lives and beliefs of Muslims and members of other religions alike.

"A terrorist should be identified and condemned as a terrorist, but a terrorist should not be identified with his or her religious affiliation," said Syed Sohawardy, who is a Muslim.

Nazih Al-rashid, director of Student Support Services, said some people were quick to blame terrorist motives on religion.

"This event shouldn't be associated with any religion. It's a wrong way of informing people about Islam during the time of Sept. 11," he said.

The names of many terrorist groups may cause confusion because of their religious connections, including **HAMAS** (an Arabic acronym for Islamic Resistance Movement), Hezbollah (Party of God), and Palestine Islamic Jihad.

Young people were recruited into the Taliban (Afghan government) having almost no understanding of Islamic tradition or culture and given only minimal introduction to the Koran. The Taliban's militant fundamentalism created intense, political indoctrination.

The lives of Muslims unstained by military control take on a different view of life. They believe in God, angels, revealed books, prophets and messengers of God, the Day of Judgment, and divine predestination.

"[Islam] is like any other religion," Al-rashid said. "It carries the same values and messages that religions such as Judaism and Christianity do."

## Campuses struggle to separate Islam from terrorism

Many Muslims are devoted to their religion.

According to Islam-guide.com, "Inciting terror in the hearts of defenseless civilians; the wholesale destruction of buildings and properties; the bombing and maiming of innocent men, women and children are all forbidden and detestable acts."

The religious text in which Muslims believe, the Koran, is to them what the Bible is to Christians. It states the fundamental beliefs of Islam.

Muslims see the Koran as a message from Allah to humanity. They claim it was transmitted in a chain starting from the Almighty to the angel Gabriel to the prophet Muhammad. This message was given to the prophet in pieces over a period spanning approximately 23 years. The language of the original message was Arabic, but it has been translated into many other languages.

Aside from the Koran, the Five Pillars are the framework for a Muslim's life.

They are to bear witness in public, at least once in a lifetime, of God and his prophet Muhammad; pray five times a day; pay Zakat, which is two and one-half percent of one's capital every year, fast during the month of Ramadan from dawn until sunset, and perform the annual pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in a lifetime.

Islam is the fastest-growing religion in the world, practiced by one-fifth of the world's population.

It has spread to the United States in homes and in classrooms everywhere, including the University of North Carolina, where incoming freshmen were required to read passages from the Koran and write an essay.

Some disagreed with the requirement.

A lawsuit was filed by three anonymous students and two taxpayers represented by the Mississippi-based American Family Association Center for Law and Policy, claiming the book was "carefully selected to create a favorable opinion of the religion of Islam."

UNC Chancellor James Moeser defended his school.

"This was a book chosen in the wake of Sept. 11," he said. "A fifth of the world's population subscribes to the Islamic religion, and yet, it's not a well-understood religion. This is a great opportunity to have a conversation on the teachings of one of the world's great religions."

Many people feel it is an obligation to understand the Muslim perspective, because the memory of Sept. 11 will remain in people's minds for decades, and even centuries, to come.

Al-rashid said, "In order for humanity to live in peace, we need to trace all the causes to these problems. We need to know what caused these groups of people to do these kinds of things -- just like a sickness. We can't treat the sickness until we diagnose it."

The one-year anniversary of Sept. 11 may bring a new awakening for many students.

Celestial Bybee, president of the Associated Students of USU, said, "I hope the students can see that the strength of a nation comes from the individual. We should be proud of our nation and treat others with respect."

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**Load-Date:** September 9, 2002

## *Martyrs to the cause of propaganda*

Courier Mail (Queensland, Australia)

July 27, 2002, Saturday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 31

**Length:** 828 words

**Byline:** Philip Jacobson

### **Body**

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THE image burns itself into the mind's eye, as brutal and emotive as any to emerge from the seemingly endless cycle of death and destruction engulfing Israel and the Palestinians.

In the midst of a crowd of hysterical mourners, the tiny corpse of two-month-old Duani Matar, pictured, is borne aloft to the Gaza City graveyard reserved for "martyrs" of the Palestinian cause.

The baby was killed on Tuesday when a one-tonne bomb dropped by an Israeli F-16 warplane demolished a complex of apartment buildings in which one of the most senior members of the militant ***Hamas*** organisation, Salah Shehada, was visiting his wife and three daughters. The entire Shehada family died instantly, as did as many as 15 other Palestinians, several of them children.

Duani was the youngest victim.

The picture of Duani's funeral is shocking -- but not just because of his untimely death. His lifeless body is waved like a weapon; his innocence is ammunition in a war of propaganda.

Events after his death followed a grim and familiar pattern. From the Israelis, a clinical description of the "liquidation" of an activist suspected of involvement in numerous terrorist organisations, and the calculation of lives saved from suicide bombers. For the Palestinians, funeral processions punctuated by bursts of rifle fire into the air.

Yet, as Israel braces for the inevitable retaliation, there are legitimate questions to be posed about the eager exploitation of a child's violent death.

Is the young man in a flowered shirt who carries the body above his head a member of one of the various Islamic militant groups that thrive in Gaza, and seize every opportunity to wring propaganda value from tragedy?

Over the past few months there have been cases in which parents of youthful volunteers for martyrdom, sent out with belts of explosives to kill equally innocent Israeli citizens, were privately outraged by the Islamic fundamentalists' glorification of their child's death.

This is not to suggest that the grief and fury aroused by such ruthless Israeli operations as last Tuesday's attack is in any sense artificial. But the real issue here is the manipulation of this heartfelt mourning by unscrupulous militant leaders, to whom an innocent victim serves merely as a prop for use in the ceaseless battle of words and deeds being waged against Israel.

## Martyrs to the cause of propaganda

They have no shortage of material. The readiness with which Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's Government authorises attacks on densely populated Palestinian areas serves the Palestinian propaganda machine well. If it chose, Israel could have produced its equivalent of the picture of Duani -- many times. Yet, for a variety of reasons, Israel has generally refrained from exploiting the most horrific consequences of terrorist strikes.

The media are usually permitted to attend the funerals of victims only if the families agree. Many do, and the graveside scenes can be harrowing.

But in my experience, such grief does not inevitably give way to a thirst for revenge.

The widow of a young soldier who was burned alive in a bus bombing observed to me, when he was buried: "He loved life and I want him to be remembered for that, not just as another victim of terror."

When two reserve soldiers were lynched by a Palestinian mob after straying into the town of Ramallah, a Palestinian cameraman filmed their broken bodies being tossed from a window.

Directors of Israel's state-owned television channel had serious reservations about screening the images, but went ahead because they would undoubtedly be shown to subscribers to CNN and BBC World.

Many of my Israeli friends found this unforgivable: "It was as if these men were being murdered a second time for our personal viewing," one said.

Yet an ultra-hawkish Israeli politician told me not long ago that he would like to see more publicity given to the consequences of terror attacks.

He said: "It's a mistake to be too restrained when the subject is Israeli men, women and children getting blown to pieces.

"Pictures of Palestinian funerals go round the world in a flash -- and who will ever forget the TV coverage of that Palestinian boy being shot dead beside his father during fighting in Gaza?"

BEHIND the scenes, senior Israeli officials grudgingly concede that the propaganda battle of the Middle East still goes the Palestinians' way.

As we are often reminded, truth is the first casualty in war, but the truth is that innocent lives are being lost by both Israelis and Palestinians. However cynically his short life and terrible death might be exploited, we should grieve for little Duani Matar.

But it is also incumbent on us to do the same for all those innocents who have perished at the hands of Palestinian terrorists: the child in arms killed by a sniper's bullet; the shopkeeper who kissed his wife goodbye and did not come home;

and the bus passengers immolated in their seats.

Photographed or not, they too deserve remembrance.

Philip Jacobson is a veteran Middle East correspondent

**Load-Date:** July 26, 2002

**Israel starts fence with foes on both sides;  
Palestinians, right-wingers see drawbacks**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

July 3, 2002 Wednesday

Home Edition

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**The Atlanta  
Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** News;

**Length:** 752 words

**Byline:** MARGARET COKER

**Body**

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Salem, Israel --- It seems a straightforward idea: Build a fence to keep Palestinian suicide bombers from slipping into Israel's cities and adding to the carnage of 22 months of violence.

But with the first ditches dug in northern Israel to start the planned 315-mile barrier, the project has sparked fierce discord among Palestinians and Israelis.

Depending on who is talking, the fence represents the establishment of an apartheid-like system, a symbol of a possible and unwanted Palestinian state, or a barrier that will tear families apart.

The government argues that the fence is a matter of security. The barrier will keep Israelis safe by preventing terrorists from leaving the West Bank, where more than 2 million Palestinians live.

Cox Washington Bureau

"The wall will stop the massacres, the murders of innocent women and children," said Dori Gold, a spokesman for Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

The structure will be formidable: a 15-foot-high thick concrete wall in some places and chain-link fencing in others. The barrier will be beefed up by rolls of razor wire on both sides. On the West Bank side, trenches will be added to keep Palestinian vehicles from breaking through. Security cameras will keep human guards to a minimum.

Although the exact path of the fence has yet to be determined, it will stretch from northern Israel to the south around Jerusalem, roughly mirroring Israel's boundary before the 1967 war. The cost is expected to be \$1.6 million for each mile.

The first 72-mile section of the fence is to be completed by April or May 2003, with the rest of the 243 miles completed within three years.

## Israel starts fence with foes on both sides; Palestinians, right-wingers see drawbacks

The plan was originally proposed in the late 1980s during the first intifada, or Palestinian uprising, against the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. During the latest intifada, which started in September 2000, the violence caused by suicide bombers prompted Israeli officials to rethink the idea.

In the past year, some Israelis in border towns near the West Bank forced their municipal authorities to build fences around neighborhoods.

But debate has raged about the effectiveness and consequences of building barriers.

Many of the more than 2 million Palestinians who live in the West Bank say the fence will further tensions, not end them.

The Israeli defense forces have said that no one without an Israeli identification card will be allowed across the line, which will virtually stop all movement by West Bank Palestinian residents into Israel. With the full route of the barrier undecided, it is unknown where breaks and checkpoints will be.

Economists say the fence will cripple the Palestinian economy.

"It's the return of apartheid. You will see an increase of frustration, an increase of despair and an increase in the supporters of Hamas," said Abbas Zaqi, a Palestinian legislator from Hebron, referring to the militant group responsible for many of the suicide bomb attacks.

Right-wing Israeli politicians object to the fence for a different reason.

Israel's ultra-right National Religious Party, which believes that the West Bank and Gaza should be annexed to Israel, wants the project scrapped because it fears the fence will become the fixed border between Israel and a future Palestinian state.

Other right-wing parties worry about implications of the wall in relation to some 200,000 Jewish settlers who now live in the West Bank. They say a wall shouldn't isolate these Israelis from the rest of the citizenry. They call for a fence to be built solely around Palestinian towns.

But 70-year-old Israeli Arab Gurban Misket worries about the obstacles placed on relations between Israeli Arabs and people living on the Palestinian side of the wall.

"The fence will separate families and just bring us more sorrow," she said.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer concedes that no wall is perfect, but he defends the plan in the face of continuing threats from Palestinian militants.

"The system is not 100 percent impenetrable, but it is the best thing against suicide bombers," Ben-Eliezer said as he oversaw groundbreaking last weekend for the Jerusalem section of the fence.

For Israelis who feel besieged, the security measure is welcome. About 10 miles north of Salem, in the Jewish settlement of Meggido, the planned fence brings feelings of relief. In early June, a Palestinian suicide bomber detonated a belt of explosives at a bus stop here, killing 17.

"We'll be able to sleep" after the fence is built, Naomi Weinraub said. "Finally, the bombs will stop."

## Graphic

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Israel starts fence with foes on both sides; Palestinians, right-wingers see drawbacks

Photo: Part of the security wall that Israel is building is shown on the western edge of the West Bank town of Qalqilya on Tuesday. The wall is an attempt to keep Palestinian suicide bombers out, Israel said. / EITAN HESS-ASHKENAZI / Associated Press

**Load-Date:** July 3, 2002

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**Campus threat was cry for help; ex-officer felt "thrown away"**

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

July 2, 2002 Tuesday 2 Late Tampa Edition

Copyright 2002 Times Publishing Company

**Section:** TAMPA & STATE; Pg. 1B

**Length:** 747 words

**Byline:** JAY CRIDLIN

## **Body**

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Before Sept. 11, before Columbine, there was Damian Hospital.

In 1996, Hospital, then a 19-year-old freshman at the University of South Florida, mailed an anonymous letter to USF's student newspaper claiming he would blow up a building and publicly kill a **female** professor.

The letter, which claimed ties to militant groups **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad, vexed authorities and created a panic on campus. The school held exams a week early and kept almost everyone away on the day the bomb was to explode.

All the while, Hospital sat quietly as his classmates discussed the threats on campus.

"I was scared," he said. "I don't really think I thought rationally back then at all. I was like two different people."

Hospital was arrested later that year and pleaded guilty to mailing the letter. In 1997, he was placed on probation and ordered to pay the university more than \$41,000 and undergo psychiatric treatment.

Hospital was diagnosed with bipolar manic depression, and he said the letter was a "manic episode."

"It wasn't a prank, it wasn't lashing out, it was just some crazy incident that happened, unfortunately," he said.

Hospital views incidents like his letter or the 1999 shooting at Columbine High School as evidence that adults should reach out to teenagers troubled as he was.

"It's easy to feel like an outcast, away from society," he said. "I think people should reach out to those kids, even if they put up a fight."

As a result of the verdict, Hospital was unable to apply to other Florida universities, so he bounced around telemarketing jobs and battled his depression.

Hospital now works as a trainer and customer service representative for a computer graphics and imaging company, a job that allows him to make restitution payments to USF. He paid about half his fine, and pays about \$500 each month.

He and two friends also run a small Web site on which they post their creative writing - poetry, short stories, essays and other pieces.



Campus threat was cry for help; ex-officer felt "thrown away"

"Any time I get a chance to write - even technical manuals at work - I jump at the opportunity," he said.

Though his employment options are limited, Hospital says he'll keep striving to get his work published. He is taking medication to treat his depression.

"The future's not so bright, but I'm hanging in there," he said. "I accept the cards I was dealt with, and try my best to be a productive citizen."

Wendy Savage-Barrow can't watch cop shows on TV. She won't let her husband, a Tampa police officer, come home wearing his uniform. Before a recent get-together with a group of police friends, she suffered panic attacks in the shower.

"I would give anything to go back to police work again," she said. "It's something I absolutely loved, craved."

In 1993, Savage-Barrow lost her job as a Tampa police officer under a policy stating that officers injured on the job must be fired. Her dismissal was the first of its kind in the city.

Savage-Barrow's injury came in 1990, when a burglary suspect kicked her against a pole during a chase. Shortly thereafter, a doctor told her she had ruptured a disc in her back and torn her rotator cuff, and that her career as a police officer was over.

Savage-Barrow was crushed.

"I was a cop since I was 19 years old. That was basically all I ever knew."

When she was denied pension by the city, she and a few other officers who also felt they'd been wronged filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In 1993, Savage-Barrow was fired.

"I just felt like I was thrown away, with all my expertise and everything I had to offer," she said.

In 1996, Savage-Barrow and the other officers filed a lawsuit against the city, though in 1998 the suit was dismissed by a federal judge. The city wrote her a check for \$10,000, and she recouped her pension payments, but she estimates she was owed about \$55,000.

She still receives worker's compensation for her job injury - \$352 each week - but believes city politics cost her her job.

"Everybody knew it was wrong," she said, "but nobody really could come forward and say, 'This is wrong,' because the city will railroad you."

In the years since the suit, Savage-Barrow has been a self-described "soccer mom" to her four children at the family's home in Brooksville. She owns a fencing and land clearing business and a video store, and she is writing a memoir about her experiences as a police officer.

"I believe that you're put in certain places, and certain things happen for a reason," she said. "Maybe that was my time to stop being a cop."

## Graphic

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PHOTO, (2); Damian Hospital; Wendy Savage-Barrow

Campus threat was cry for help; ex-officer felt "thrown away"

**Load-Date:** July 2, 2002

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**COVER STORY: ONCE UPON A TIME IN JENIN;  
WHAT REALLY HAPPENED WHEN ISRAELI FORCES WENT INTO JENIN?  
JUST AS THE WORLD IS GIVING UP HOPE OF LEARNING THE TRUTH,  
JUSTIN HUGGLER AND PHIL REEVES HAVE UNEARTHED COMPELLING  
EVIDENCE OF AN ATROCITY**

The Independent (London)

April 25, 2002, Thursday

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**Section:** Review; Pg. 4,5,6,7

**Length:** 3495 words

**Byline:** Justin Huggler And Phil Reeves Clockwise from left: Ariel Sharon in Jerusalem during Operation; Defensive Shield; refugees from Jenin under arrest; and Palestinian bodies being prepared for a mass funeral; Above: a bulldozer removes rubble as; Palestinians search for bodies among the ruins of Jenin Clockwise from left: a Jenin woman is comforted before a mass burial; a wounded boy; and the remains of an ordinary home; Clockwise from top left: members of; Israel's 101 Paratroopers Battalion after the withdrawal from Jenin;; Palestinian flag on the rubble; and a Jenin resident in his living-room

## Body

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The thought was as unshakable as the stench wafting from the ruins. Was this really about counterterrorism? Was it revenge? Or was it an episode - the nastiest so far - in a long war by Ariel Sharon, the staunch opponent of the Oslo accords, to establish Israel's presence in the West Bank as permanent, and force the Palestinians into final submission?

A neighbourhood had been reduced to a moonscape, pulverised under the tracks of bulldozers and tanks. A maze of cinder-block houses, home to about 800 Palestinian families, had disappeared. What was left - the piles of broken concrete and scattered belongings - reeked.

The rubble in Jenin reeked, literally, of rotting human corpses, buried underneath. But it also gave off the whiff of wrongdoing, of an army and a government that had lost its bearings. "This is horrifying beyond belief," said the United Nations' Middle East envoy, Terje Roed-Larsen, as he gazed at the scene. He called it a "blot that will forever live on the history of the state of Israel" - a remark for which he was to be vilified by Israelis. Even the painstakingly careful United States envoy, William Burns, was unusually outspoken as he trudged across the ruins. "It's obvious that what happened in Jenin refugee camp has caused enormous suffering for thousands of innocent Palestinian civilians," he said.

The Israeli army insists that its devastating invasion of the refugee camp in Jenin earlier this month was intended to root out the infrastructure of the Palestinian militias, particularly the authors of an increasingly vicious series of suicide attacks on Israelis. It now says the dead were mostly fighters. And, as always - although its daily behaviour in the occupied territories contradicts this claim - it insists that it did everything possible to protect civilians.

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But The Independent has unearthed a different story. We have found that, while the Israeli operation clearly dealt a devastating blow to the militant organisations - in the short term, at least - nearly half of the Palestinian dead who have been identified so far were civilians, including women, children and the elderly. They died amid a ruthless and brutal Israeli operation, in which many individual atrocities occurred, and which Israel is seeking to hide by launching a massive propaganda drive.

The assault on Jenin refugee camp by Israel's armed forces began early on 3 April. One week earlier, 30 miles to the west in the Israeli coastal town of Netanya, a Hamas suicide bomber had walked into a hotel and blown up a roomful of people as they were sitting down to celebrate the Passover feast. This horrific slaughter on one of the holiest days in the Jewish calendar killed 28 people, young and old, making it the worst Palestinian attack of the intifada, a singularly evil moment even by the standards of the long conflict between the two peoples.

Ariel Sharon, Israel's premier, and his ministers responded by activating a plan that had long lain on his desk. Operation Defensive Shield was to become the largest military offensive by Israel since the 1967 war. Jenin refugee camp was high on the list of targets. Home to about 13,000 people, it was the heartland of violent resistance to Israel's 35-year occupation.

The graffiti-covered walls bellowed the slogans of Hamas, Fatah and Islamic Jihad; radical Islamists and secular nationalists worked side by side, burying differences in the name of the intifada. According to Israel, 23 suicide bombers had come out of the camp, which was a centre for bomb-making. Yet there were also many, many civilians. People such as Atiya Rumeleh, Afaf Desuqi and Ahmad Hamduni.

The army was expecting a swift victory. It had overwhelming superiority of arms - 1,000 infantrymen, mostly reservists, accompanied by Merkava tanks, armoured vehicles, bulldozers and Cobra helicopters, armed with missiles and heavy machine guns. Ranged against this force were about 200 Palestinians, with members of the militias - Hamas, al-Aqsa brigades and Islamic Jihad - fighting alongside Yasser Arafat's security forces, mostly armed with Kalashnikovs and explosives.

The fight put up by the Palestinians shocked the soldiers. Eight days after entering, the Israeli army finally prevailed, but at a heavy price. Twenty-three soldiers were killed, 13 of them wiped out by an ambush, and an unknown number of Palestinians died. And a large residential area - 400m by 500m - lay utterly devastated; scenes that the Israeli authorities knew at once would outrage the world as soon as they hit the TV screens. "We were not expecting them to fight so well," said one exhausted-looking Israeli reservist as he packed up to head home. Journalists and humanitarian workers were kept away for five more days while the Israeli army cleaned up the area, after the serious fighting ended on 10 April.

The Independent spent five days conducting long, detailed interviews of survivors among the ruins of the refugee camp, accompanied by Peter Bouckaert, a senior researcher for the Human Rights Watch organisation. Many of the interviews were conducted in buildings that were on the verge of collapse, in living rooms where one entire wall had been ripped off by the bulldozers and that were open to the street.

An alarming picture has emerged of what took place. So far, 50 of the dead have been identified. The Independent has a list of names. Palestinians were happy, even proud, to tell us which of the dead were fighters for Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the Al-Aqsa brigades; which belonged to their security forces; and which were civilians. They identified nearly half as civilians.

Not all the civilians were cut down in crossfire. Some, according to eyewitness accounts, were deliberately targeted by Israeli forces. Sami Abu Sba'a told us how his 65-year-old father, Mohammed Abu Sba'a, was shot dead by Israeli soldiers after he warned the driver of an approaching bulldozer that his house was packed with families sheltering from the fighting. The bulldozer turned back, said Mr Abu Sba'a - but his father was almost immediately shot in the chest where he stood.

Israeli troops also shot dead a Palestinian nurse as she tried to help a wounded man. Hani Rumeleh, a 19-year-old civilian, had been shot as he tried to look out of his front door. Fadwa Jamma, a nurse staying with her sister in a

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house nearby, heard Hani's screaming and came to help. Her sister, Rufaida Damaj, who also ran to help, was wounded but survived. From her bed in Jenin hospital, she told us what happened.

"We were woken at 3.30 in the morning by a big explosion," she said. "I heard that one guy was wounded outside our house. So my sister and I went to do our duty and to help the guy and give him first aid. There were some guys from the resistance outside and we had to ask them before we moved anywhere. I told them that my sister was a nurse, I asked them to let us go to the wounded.

"Before I had finished talking to the guys the Israelis started shooting. I got a bullet in my leg and I fell down and broke my knee. My sister tried to come and help me. I told her, 'I'm wounded.' She said, 'I'm wounded too.' She had been shot in the side of her abdomen. Then they shot her again in the heart. I asked where she was wounded but she didn't answer, she made a terrible sound and tried to breathe three times."

Ms Jamma was wearing a white nurse's uniform clearly marked with a red crescent, the emblem of Palestinian medical workers, when the soldiers shot her. Ms Damaj said the soldiers could clearly see the women because they were standing under a bright light, and could hear their cries for help because they were "very near". As Ms Damaj shouted to the Palestinian fighters to get help, the Israeli soldiers fired again: a second bullet went up through her leg into her chest.

Eventually an ambulance was allowed through to rescue Ms Damaj. Her sister was already dead. It was to be one of the last times an ambulance was allowed near the wounded in Jenin camp until after the battle ended. Hani Rumeleh was taken to hospital, but he was dead. For his stepmother, however, the tragedy had only just begun; the next day, her 44-year-old husband Atiya, also a civilian, was killed.

As she told his story, her orphaned children clung to her side. "There was shooting all around the house. At about 5pm I went to check the building. I told my husband two bombs had come into the house. He went to check. After two minutes he called me to come, but he was having difficulty calling. I went with the children. He was still standing. In my life I've never seen the way he looked at me. He said, 'I'm wounded', and started bleeding from his

mouth and nose. The children started crying, and he fell down. I asked him what happened but he couldn't talk.

"His eyes went to the children. He looked at them one by one. Then he looked at me. Then all his body was shaking. When I looked, there was a bullet in his head. I tried to call an ambulance, I was screaming for anybody to call an ambulance. One came but it was sent back by the Israelis."

It was Thursday 4 April, and the blockade against recovering the wounded had begun. With the fighting raging outside, Ms Rumeleh could not go out of the house to fetch help. Eventually she made a rope out of headscarves and lowered her seven-year-old son Mohammed out of the back window to go and seek help. The family, fearful of being shot if they ventured out, were trapped indoors with the body for a week.

A few doors away, we heard the story of Afaf Desuqi. Her sister, Aysha, told us how the 52-year-old woman was killed when the Israeli soldiers detonated a mine to blow the door of her house open. Ms Desuqi had heard the soldiers coming and gone to open the door. She showed us the remains of the mine, a large metal cylinder. The family screamed for an ambulance, but none was allowed through.

Ismehan Murad, another neighbour, told us the soldiers had been using her as a human shield when they blew the front door off the Desuqi house. They came to the young woman's house first, and ordered her to go ahead of them, so that they would not be fired on.

Jamal Feyed died after being buried alive in the rubble. His uncle, Saeb Feyed, told us that 37-year-old Jamal was mentally and physically disabled, and could not walk. The family had already moved him from house to house to avoid the fighting. When Mr Feyed saw an Israeli bulldozer approaching the house where his nephew was, he ran to warn the driver. But the bulldozer ploughed into the wall of the house, which collapsed on Jamal.

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Although they evacuated significant numbers of civilians, the Israelis made use of others as human shields. Rajeh Tawafshi, a 72-year-old man, told us that the soldiers tied his hands and made him walk in front of them as they searched house to house. Moments before, they had shot dead Ahmad Hamduni, a man in his eighties, before Mr Tawafshi's eyes. Mr Hamduni had sought shelter in Mr Tawafshi's house, but the Israeli soldiers had blown the door open. Part of the metal door landed next to the two men. Mr Hamduni was hunched with age, and Mr Tawafshi thinks the soldiers may have mistakenly thought he was wearing a suicide-bomb belt. They shot him on sight.

Even children were not immune from the Israeli onslaught. Faris Zebe, a 14 -year-old boy, was shot dead by Israeli soldiers in cold blood. There was not even any fighting at the time. The curfew on Jenin had been lifted for a few hours and the boy went to buy groceries. This was on Thursday 11 April. Faris's eight-year-old brother, Abdel Rahman, was with him when he died. Nervously picking at his cardigan, his eyes on the ground, the child told us what happened.

"It was me and Faris and one other boy, and some women I didn't know. Faris told me to go home but I refused. We were going in front of the tank. Then we saw the front of the tank move towards us and I was scared. Faris told me to go home but I refused. The tank started shooting and Faris and the other boy ran away. I fell down. I saw Faris fall down, I thought he just fell. Then I saw blood on the ground so I went to Faris. Then two of the women came and put Faris in a car."

Abdel Rahman showed us where it happened. We paced it out: the tank had been about 80m away. He said there was only one burst of machine-gun fire. He imitated the sound it made. The soldiers in the tank gave no warning, he said. And after they shot Faris they did nothing.

Fifteen-year-old Mohammed Hawashin was shot dead as he tried to walk through the camp. Aliya Zubeidi told us how she was on her way to the hospital to see the body of her son Ziad, a militant from the Al-Aqsa brigades, who had been killed in the fighting. Mohammed accompanied her. "I heard shooting," said Ms Zubeidi. "The boy was sitting in the door. I thought he was hiding from the bullets. Then he said, 'Help.' We couldn't do anything for him. He had been shot in the face."

In a deserted road by the periphery of the refugee camp, we found the flattened remains of a wheelchair. It had been utterly crushed, ironed flat as if in a cartoon. In the middle of the debris lay a broken white flag. Durar Hassan told us how his friend, Kemal Zughayer, was shot dead as he tried to wheel himself up the road. The Israeli tanks must have driven over the body, because when Mr Hassan found it, one leg and both arms were missing, and the face, he said, had been ripped in two.

Mr Zughayer, who was 58, had been shot and wounded in the first Palestinian intifada. He could not walk, and had no work. Mr Hassan showed us the pitiful single room where his friend lived, the only furnishing a filthy mattress on the floor. Mr Zughayer used to wheel himself to the petrol station where Mr Hassan worked every day, because he was lonely. Mr Hassan did his washing; it was he who put the white flag on Mr Zughayer's wheelchair.

"After 4pm I pushed him up to the street as usual," said Mr Hassan. "Then I heard the tanks coming, there were four or five. I heard shooting, and I thought they were just firing warning shots to tell him to move out of the middle of the road." It was not until the next morning that Mr Hassan went to check what had happened. He found the flattened wheelchair in the road, and Mr Zughayer's mangled body some distance away, in the grass.

The Independent has more such accounts. There simply is not enough space to print them all. Mr Bouckaert, the Human Rights Watch researcher, who is preparing a report, said the sheer number of these accounts was convincing.

"We've carried out extensive interviews in the camp, and the testimonies of dozens of witnesses are entirely consistent with each other about the extent and the types of abuses that were carried out in the camp," said Mr Bouckaert, who has investigated human-rights abuses in a dozen war zones, including Rwanda, Kosovo and Chechnya. "Over and over again witnesses have been giving similar accounts of atrocities that were committed. Many of the people who were killed were young children or elderly people. Even in the cases of young men; in

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Palestinian society, relatives are quite forthcoming when young men are fighters. They take pride that their young men are so-called 'martyrs'. When Palestinian families claim their killed relatives were civilians we give a high degree of credibility to that."

The events at Jenin - which have passed almost unquestioned inside Israel - have created a crisis in Israel's relations with the outside world. Questions are now being asked increasingly in Europe over whether Ariel Sharon is, ultimately, fighting a "war on terror", or whether he is trying to inflict a defeat that will end all chance of a Palestinian state. These suspicions grew still stronger this week as pictures emerged of the damage inflicted by the Israeli army elsewhere in the West Bank during the operation: the soldiers deliberately trashed institutions of Palestinian statehood, such as the ministries of health and education.

To counter the international backlash, the Israeli government has launched an enormous public-relations drive to justify the operation in Jenin. Their efforts have been greatly helped by the Palestinian leadership, who instantly, and without proof, declared that a massacre had occurred in which as many as 500 died. Palestinian human-rights groups made matters worse by churning out wild, and clearly untrue, stories.

No holds are barred in the Israeli PR counterattack. The army - realising that many journalists will not bother, or are unable, to go to Jenin - has even made an Orwellian attempt to alter the hard, physical facts on the ground. It has announced that the published reports of the devastated area are exaggerated, declaring it to be a mere 100m square - about one- twentieth of its true area.

One spokesman, Major Rafi Lederman, a brigade chief of staff, told a press conference on Saturday that the Israeli armed forces did not fire missiles from its Cobra helicopters - a claim dismissed by a Western military expert who has toured the wrecked camp with one word: "Bollocks." There were, said the major, "almost no innocent civilians" - also untrue.

The chief aim of the PR campaign has been to redirect the blame elsewhere. Israeli officials accuse UNWRA, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, for allowing a "terrorist infrastructure" to evolve in a camp under its administration without raising the alarm. UNWRA officials wearily point out that it does not administer the camp; it provides services, mainly schools and clinics.

The Israeli army has lashed out at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Palestinian Red Crescent, whose ambulances were barred from entering the camp for six days, from 9 to 15 April. It has accused them of refusing to allow the army to search their vehicles, and of smuggling out Palestinians posing as wounded. The ICRC has dismissed all these claims as nonsense, describing the ban - which violates the Geneva Convention - as "unacceptable".

The Israeli army says it bulldozed buildings after the battle ended, partly because they were heavily booby trapped but also because there was a danger of them collapsing on to its soldiers or Palestinian civilians. But after the army bulldozers withdrew, The Independent found many families, including children, living in badly damaged homes that were in severe danger of collapse.

The thrust of Israel's PR drive is to argue that the Palestinians blew up the neighbourhood, compelling the army to knock it down. It is true that there were a significant number of Palestinian booby traps around the camp, but how many is far from clear. Booby traps are a device typically used by a retreating force against an advancing one. Here, the Palestinian fighters had nowhere to go.

What is beyond dispute is that the misery of Jenin is not over. There are Palestinians still searching for missing people, although it is not clear whether they are in Israeli detention, buried deep under the rubble, or in graves elsewhere.

Suspensions abound among the Palestinians that bodies have been removed by the Israeli army. They cite the Israeli army's differing statements about the death toll during the Jenin operation - first it said it thought that there were around 100 Palestinian dead; then it said hundreds of dead and wounded; and, finally, only dozens. More

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disturbingly, Israeli military sources originally said there was a plan to move bodies out of the camp and bury them in a "special cemetery". They now say that the plan was shelved after human-rights activists challenged it successfully at the Israeli supreme court.

Each day, as we interviewed the survivors, there were several explosions as people trod on unexploded bombs and rockets that littered the ruined camp. One hour after Fadl Musharqa, 42, had spoken with us about the death of his brother, he was rushed to the hospital, his foot shattered after he stepped on an explosive.

A man came up to us in the hospital holding out something in the palm of his hand. They were little, brown, fleshy stumps: the freshly severed toes of his 10-year-old son, who had stepped on some explosives. The boy lost both legs and an arm. The explosives that were left behind were both the Palestinians' crude pipe bombs and the Israelis' state-of-the-art explosives: the bombs and mines with which they blew open doors, the helicopter rockets they fired into civilian homes.

These are the facts that the Israeli government does not want the world to know. To them should be added the preliminary conclusion of Amnesty International, which has found evidence of severe abuses of human rights - including extra-judicial executions - and has called for a war crimes inquiry.

At the time of writing, Israel has withdrawn its co-operation from a fact -finding mission dispatched by the UN Security Council to find out what happened in Jenin. This is, given what we now know about the crimes committed there, hardly surprising.

**Load-Date:** April 25, 2002

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*Parents deter some bombers;*  
*Growing numbers of Palestinians don't want their children in the blasts*  
*against Israel.*

The Philadelphia Inquirer

May 25, 2002 Saturday CITY-D EDITION

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**Byline:** Alfonso Chardy Knight Ridder News Service

## **Body**

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RAMALLAH, West Bank - Some Palestinian parents are doing what Israeli tanks and bullets have been unable to do - stopping suicide bombers.

Palestinian psychologists say a growing number of parents in the West Bank and Gaza have been seeking help to keep their children from becoming suicide bombers.

"This has been happening more and more often in the last few months as the Palestinian resistance has deepened," said Mahmud Sehwal, the general director of the Treatment and Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture in Ramallah. "The parents say they have detected a significant change in the behavior of their children, and they desperately want to know if their children are candidates to become human bombs."

This is the first sign since the second intifadah began in September 2000 that Palestinians' support for suicide bombings might be weakening. If it is, that could pit parents against militants in a battle over Palestinian children.

The parents of a 17-year-old Palestinian girl recently prevented what could have been a tragedy, Sehwal said. She ran away about two weeks ago, leaving a note saying she was going to blow herself up in Israel.

Her father refused to let it happen, Sehwal said.

"The father called the Palestinian security officials and the Israeli security officials, and just a few days ago the girl was found safe and sound and her suicide was averted," he said. Her parents went one step further. The girl is now under psychiatric care to deal with her depression and anger. She wanted to become a suicide bomber, Sehwal said, because "a cousin had recently been killed by Israel soldiers and she wanted revenge."

Some parents are quietly seeking help from private clinics to avoid angering militants who encourage suicide bombings. Many of these same parents still say they support suicide bombings as a weapon against Israel but do not want their children to be the weapon.

Parents deter some bombers; Growing numbers of Palestinians don't want their children in the blasts against Israel .

Most of the estimated 120 suicide bombers who have blown themselves up inside Israel in the last two years have been teenagers or men in their early 20s. Several have been young women. That many of their parents said they had no idea their children were preparing to become suicide bombers is prompting some parents to learn the warning signs.

Mental-health authorities said they believed many Palestinian parents were shocked when the first female suicide bomber, Ayat al Akhras, 18, blew herself up at a Jerusalem supermarket on March 29, killing a 17-year-old Israeli girl and a security guard.

Palestinian parents got another jolt in late April when three Gaza teenagers with knives and makeshift bombs set out on a suicide mission against an Israeli settlement. Soldiers guarding the settlement killed all three.

Psychologists said the large number of young people taking such drastic actions reflected the rage many Palestinians feel against Israel.

"It's horrible what has been happening, but a suicide bomber acts because of accumulated trauma going back generations, in some cases back to 1948," said Elia Awaad, director of mental health at the Palestine Red Crescent in Beit Sahur.

Most of the suicide bombers in the last two years have come from refugee camps crammed with thousands of people who fled their homes in 1948 when the state of Israel was created.

Israeli officials say militant Islamic groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad are exploiting the naivete of Palestinian children who cannot assess the risks.

Although mental-health professionals, religious leaders, and residents of the West Bank and Gaza said many Palestinians still supported suicide bombings, parental fears may account for a slight decline in such support.

The Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research in Ramallah released a poll this week showing that support for suicide bombings had dropped from 58 percent in December to 52 percent.

Sehwail said he treated potential suicide bombers by getting them to talk about their anger. He said that he and other mental-health professionals frequently appeared on radio and television urging young people not to undertake suicide missions.

Sehwail said he warned parents to look for behavioral changes in their children, such as expressions of sympathy for suicide bombers and participation in their funerals or in demonstrations hailing them as martyrs. He tells parents to take seriously any talk about becoming a suicide bomber.

Sehwail and others say many parents do everything in their power to prevent their children from becoming bombers. But if they fail, the parents are likely to join the militants in hailing their children as heroes.

Hussein Taweil, 59, a Ramallah journalist, is the father of a suicide bomber. His 20-year-old son blew himself up at a Jerusalem bus stop on March 27, 2001, injuring about 20 Israelis.

"Suicide bombings," Taweil said, "are a valid weapon of resistance against Israel."

Contact Alfonso Chardy at [achardy@krwashington.com](mailto:achardy@krwashington.com).

**Load-Date:** May 25, 2002

**400,000 under house arrest: Around-the-clock curfews are Israel's main tool in latest foray into West Bank**

Times Colonist (Victoria, British Columbia)

June 24, 2002 Monday Final Edition

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**Byline:** Greg Myre

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

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JERUSALEM -- Israeli troops are keeping at least 400,000 Palestinians under effective house arrest with round-the-clock curfews.

Israel also is barring the media, in most cases, from covering its escalating invasion of the West Bank.

The army began "Operation Determined Path" last week after two suicide bombings in Jerusalem killed 26 Israelis. An earlier wave of Palestinian attacks set off a similar six-week sweep through the West Bank in late March. Associated Press

Unlike the first extended foray, when Israeli troops encountered heavy fire in several towns and besieged the office of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, the new operation has been comparatively low-key. Troops have steadily moved into the Palestinian areas, but without firefights.

The exception was Qalqiliya, where two Israeli soldiers were killed in a gun battle as soldiers entered Wednesday. The troops pulled out, only to re-enter Sunday without resistance.

Today, Israeli forces entered Ramallah and began to surround Arafat's shell-shattered compound. And in the Gaza Strip, an Israeli helicopter gunship fired missiles at a car killing three people, Palestinian security officials said.

The lack of prolonged gun battles, extensive aerial bombardments or daily pictures of devastation has muted Arab and European criticism, in contrast to Israel's last occupation.

Arab leaders also have been working with Washington and likely will remain quiet until after they've heard President George W. Bush's widely anticipated policy proposal on the Mideast crisis.

Sunday, the Palestinian Authority moved against the Islamic militant group **Hamas**. Their spiritual leader was placed under house arrest and dozens of members were arrested in Gaza.

During the earlier incursion, Israeli forces went house-to-house searching for suspected militants and carried out mass arrests of Palestinian men.

In the latest drive, tanks and armoured personnel carriers have parked in the deserted streets and, for the most part, have just remained there. The significant exception was Jenin, where many hundreds were rounded up late last week.

400,000 under house arrest: Around-the-clock curfews are Israel 's main tool in latest foray into West Bank

"We have no choice but to take these measures to stop suicide bombers from killing our women, children, and sometimes babies," Israeli government spokesman Danny Naveh said Sunday.

"The Palestinian population is suffering. I can acknowledge that as well. We need to put an end to this suffering -- in both communities."

One reason for the relative absence of resistance this time is that more than 200 Palestinians, many of them militants, were killed and 1,000 arrested in the first round.

Israel says it must track down suicide bombers because Palestinian security forces are unable or unwilling to. However, the first sweep did not stop the bombings for long.

This time, Israeli troops are using curfews more -- in terms of both extent and duration. Israeli troops have imposed round-the-clock curfews on the five Palestinian cities and towns they control -- Bethlehem, Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarem and Qalqiliya and parts of Ramallah. About 400,000 Palestinians live in these cities and towns, and they cannot leave their houses to go to work, to school or to shop. The only exceptions are medical emergencies.

Typically, the curfew is lifted for three hours every third day, and residents rush out to stock up on food.

The military is close to occupying all of the West Bank, which has two million Palestinian inhabitants, and the logical next step would be to restore the military rule which existed for 27 years until the Palestinians were granted self-rule in 1994 under the Oslo Accords.

Palestinians say Israel's goal is clear -- to destroy the Palestinian Authority and replace it with Israeli rule.

The Israelis "are continuing the destruction of the Palestinian Authority and Palestinian institutions," said Saeb Erekat, the chief Palestinian negotiator.

"We will end up with Israel fully resuming the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, fully replacing the Palestinian Authority."

The Israeli army, while agreeing it is back for an extended period, said civil administration would remain with the Palestinian Authority.

For much of 21 months of Mideast fighting, journalists have had considerable freedom to cover the fighting. But in this operation, Israeli media restrictions are also being more rigidly enforced, and journalists have had little or no access to the areas where the army has invaded.

During the earlier sweep through the West Bank, Israel declared some areas closed military zones, thereby barring journalists. The measure was not strictly enforced.

This time, all of the reoccupied areas are closed military zones and journalists have been turned back at checkpoints.

Some Palestinian journalists working for news organizations and living in the cities under siege have been able to report.

With files from the Daily Telegraph

## Graphic

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400,000 under house arrest: Around-the-clock curfews are Israel 's main tool in latest foray into West Bank

Photo: Eitan Hess-Ashkenazi, Associated Press; Israeli tanks and troop carriers near the West Bank town of Qalqiliya on Sunday. The Israeli army began a new, extensive operation in the West Bank last week in reaction to suicide bombings in Jerusalem.

**Load-Date:** June 24, 2002

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**COVER STORY: ONCE UPON A TIME IN JENIN;  
WHAT REALLY HAPPENED WHEN ISRAELI FORCES WENT INTO JENIN?  
JUST AS THE WORLD IS GIVING UP HOPE OF LEARNING THE TRUTH,  
JUSTIN HUGGLER AND PHIL REEVES HAVE UNEARTHED COMPELLING  
EVIDENCE OF AN ATROCITY**

The Independent (London)

April 25, 2002, Thursday

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**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 4,5,6,7

**Length:** 3495 words

**Byline:** Justin Huggler And Phil Reeves Clockwise from left: Ariel Sharon in Jerusalem during Operation; Defensive Shield; refugees from Jenin under arrest; and Palestinian bodies being prepared for a mass funeral; Above: a bulldozer removes rubble as; Palestinians search for bodies among the ruins of Jenin Clockwise from left: a Jenin woman is comforted before a mass burial; a wounded boy; and the remains of an ordinary home; Clockwise from top left: members of; Israel's 101 Paratroopers Battalion after the withdrawal from Jenin;; Palestinian flag on the rubble; and a Jenin resident in his living-room

## Body

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The thought was as unshakable as the stench wafting from the ruins. Was this really about counterterrorism? Was it revenge? Or was it an episode - the nastiest so far - in a long war by Ariel Sharon, the staunch opponent of the Oslo accords, to establish Israel's presence in the West Bank as permanent, and force the Palestinians into final submission?

A neighbourhood had been reduced to a moonscape, pulverised under the tracks of bulldozers and tanks. A maze of cinder-block houses, home to about 800 Palestinian families, had disappeared. What was left - the piles of broken concrete and scattered belongings - reeked.

The rubble in Jenin reeked, literally, of rotting human corpses, buried underneath. But it also gave off the whiff of wrongdoing, of an army and a government that had lost its bearings. "This is horrifying beyond belief," said the United Nations' Middle East envoy, Terje Roed-Larsen, as he gazed at the scene. He called it a "blot that will forever live on the history of the state of Israel" - a remark for which he was to be vilified by Israelis. Even the painstakingly careful United States envoy, William Burns, was unusually outspoken as he trudged across the ruins. "It's obvious that what happened in Jenin refugee camp has caused enormous suffering for thousands of innocent Palestinian civilians," he said.

The Israeli army insists that its devastating invasion of the refugee camp in Jenin earlier this month was intended to root out the infrastructure of the Palestinian militias, particularly the authors of an increasingly vicious series of suicide attacks on Israelis. It now says the dead were mostly fighters. And, as always - although its daily behaviour in the occupied territories contradicts this claim - it insists that it did everything possible to protect civilians.

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But The Independent has unearthed a different story. We have found that, while the Israeli operation clearly dealt a devastating blow to the militant organisations - in the short term, at least - nearly half of the Palestinian dead who have been identified so far were civilians, including women, children and the elderly. They died amid a ruthless and brutal Israeli operation, in which many individual atrocities occurred, and which Israel is seeking to hide by launching a massive propaganda drive.

The assault on Jenin refugee camp by Israel's armed forces began early on 3 April. One week earlier, 30 miles to the west in the Israeli coastal town of Netanya, a Hamas suicide bomber had walked into a hotel and blown up a roomful of people as they were sitting down to celebrate the Passover feast. This horrific slaughter on one of the holiest days in the Jewish calendar killed 28 people, young and old, making it the worst Palestinian attack of the intifada, a singularly evil moment even by the standards of the long conflict between the two peoples.

Ariel Sharon, Israel's premier, and his ministers responded by activating a plan that had long lain on his desk. Operation Defensive Shield was to become the largest military offensive by Israel since the 1967 war. Jenin refugee camp was high on the list of targets. Home to about 13,000 people, it was the heartland of violent resistance to Israel's 35-year occupation.

The graffiti-covered walls bellowed the slogans of Hamas, Fatah and Islamic Jihad; radical Islamists and secular nationalists worked side by side, burying differences in the name of the intifada. According to Israel, 23 suicide bombers had come out of the camp, which was a centre for bomb-making. Yet there were also many, many civilians. People such as Atiya Rumeleh, Afaf Desuqi and Ahmad Hamduni.

The army was expecting a swift victory. It had overwhelming superiority of arms - 1,000 infantrymen, mostly reservists, accompanied by Merkava tanks, armoured vehicles, bulldozers and Cobra helicopters, armed with missiles and heavy machine guns. Ranged against this force were about 200 Palestinians, with members of the militias - Hamas, al-Aqsa brigades and Islamic Jihad - fighting alongside Yasser Arafat's security forces, mostly armed with Kalashnikovs and explosives.

The fight put up by the Palestinians shocked the soldiers. Eight days after entering, the Israeli army finally prevailed, but at a heavy price. Twenty-three soldiers were killed, 13 of them wiped out by an ambush, and an unknown number of Palestinians died. And a large residential area - 400m by 500m - lay utterly devastated; scenes that the Israeli authorities knew at once would outrage the world as soon as they hit the TV screens. "We were not expecting them to fight so well," said one exhausted-looking Israeli reservist as he packed up to head home. Journalists and humanitarian workers were kept away for five more days while the Israeli army cleaned up the area, after the serious fighting ended on 10 April.

The Independent spent five days conducting long, detailed interviews of survivors among the ruins of the refugee camp, accompanied by Peter Bouckaert, a senior researcher for the Human Rights Watch organisation. Many of the interviews were conducted in buildings that were on the verge of collapse, in living rooms where one entire wall had been ripped off by the bulldozers and that were open to the street.

An alarming picture has emerged of what took place. So far, 50 of the dead have been identified. The Independent has a list of names. Palestinians were happy, even proud, to tell us which of the dead were fighters for Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the Al-Aqsa brigades; which belonged to their security forces; and which were civilians. They identified nearly half as civilians.

Not all the civilians were cut down in crossfire. Some, according to eyewitness accounts, were deliberately targeted by Israeli forces. Sami Abu Sba'a told us how his 65-year-old father, Mohammed Abu Sba'a, was shot dead by Israeli soldiers after he warned the driver of an approaching bulldozer that his house was packed with families sheltering from the fighting. The bulldozer turned back, said Mr Abu Sba'a - but his father was almost immediately shot in the chest where he stood.

Israeli troops also shot dead a Palestinian nurse as she tried to help a wounded man. Hani Rumeleh, a 19-year-old civilian, had been shot as he tried to look out of his front door. Fadwa Jamma, a nurse staying with her sister in a

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house nearby, heard Hani's screaming and came to help. Her sister, Rufaida Damaj, who also ran to help, was wounded but survived. From her bed in Jenin hospital, she told us what happened.

"We were woken at 3.30 in the morning by a big explosion," she said. "I heard that one guy was wounded outside our house. So my sister and I went to do our duty and to help the guy and give him first aid. There were some guys from the resistance outside and we had to ask them before we moved anywhere. I told them that my sister was a nurse, I asked them to let us go to the wounded.

"Before I had finished talking to the guys the Israelis started shooting. I got a bullet in my leg and I fell down and broke my knee. My sister tried to come and help me. I told her, 'I'm wounded.' She said, 'I'm wounded too.' She had been shot in the side of her abdomen. Then they shot her again in the heart. I asked where she was wounded but she didn't answer, she made a terrible sound and tried to breathe three times."

Ms Jamma was wearing a white nurse's uniform clearly marked with a red crescent, the emblem of Palestinian medical workers, when the soldiers shot her. Ms Damaj said the soldiers could clearly see the women because they were standing under a bright light, and could hear their cries for help because they were "very near". As Ms Damaj shouted to the Palestinian fighters to get help, the Israeli soldiers fired again: a second bullet went up through her leg into her chest.

Eventually an ambulance was allowed through to rescue Ms Damaj. Her sister was already dead. It was to be one of the last times an ambulance was allowed near the wounded in Jenin camp until after the battle ended. Hani Rumeleh was taken to hospital, but he was dead. For his stepmother, however, the tragedy had only just begun; the next day, her 44-year-old husband Atiya, also a civilian, was killed.

As she told his story, her orphaned children clung to her side. "There was shooting all around the house. At about 5pm I went to check the building. I told my husband two bombs had come into the house. He went to check. After two minutes he called me to come, but he was having difficulty calling. I went with the children. He was still standing. In my life I've never seen the way he looked at me. He said, 'I'm wounded', and started bleeding from his

V  
mouth and nose. The children started crying, and he fell down. I asked him what happened but he couldn't talk.

"His eyes went to the children. He looked at them one by one. Then he looked at me. Then all his body was shaking. When I looked, there was a bullet in his head. I tried to call an ambulance, I was screaming for anybody to call an ambulance. One came but it was sent back by the Israelis."

It was Thursday 4 April, and the blockade against recovering the wounded had begun. With the fighting raging outside, Ms Rumeleh could not go out of the house to fetch help. Eventually she made a rope out of headscarves and lowered her seven-year-old son Mohammed out of the back window to go and seek help. The family, fearful of being shot if they ventured out, were trapped indoors with the body for a week.

A few doors away, we heard the story of Afaf Desuqi. Her sister, Aysha, told us how the 52-year-old woman was killed when the Israeli soldiers detonated a mine to blow the door of her house open. Ms Desuqi had heard the soldiers coming and gone to open the door. She showed us the remains of the mine, a large metal cylinder. The family screamed for an ambulance, but none was allowed through.

Ismehan Murad, another neighbour, told us the soldiers had been using her as a human shield when they blew the front door off the Desuqi house. They came to the young woman's house first, and ordered her to go ahead of them, so that they would not be fired on.

Jamal Feyed died after being buried alive in the rubble. His uncle, Saeb Feyed, told us that 37-year-old Jamal was mentally and physically disabled, and could not walk. The family had already moved him from house to house to avoid the fighting. When Mr Feyed saw an Israeli bulldozer approaching the house where his nephew was, he ran to warn the driver. But the bulldozer ploughed into the wall of the house, which collapsed on Jamal.



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Although they evacuated significant numbers of civilians, the Israelis made use of others as human shields. Rajeh Tawafshi, a 72-year-old man, told us that the soldiers tied his hands and made him walk in front of them as they searched house to house. Moments before, they had shot dead Ahmad Hamduni, a man in his eighties, before Mr Tawafshi's eyes. Mr Hamduni had sought shelter in Mr Tawafshi's house, but the Israeli soldiers had blown the door open. Part of the metal door landed next to the two men. Mr Hamduni was hunched with age, and Mr Tawafshi thinks the soldiers may have mistakenly thought he was wearing a suicide-bomb belt. They shot him on sight.

Even children were not immune from the Israeli onslaught. Faris Zebe, a 14 -year-old boy, was shot dead by Israeli soldiers in cold blood. There was not even any fighting at the time. The curfew on Jenin had been lifted for a few hours and the boy went to buy groceries. This was on Thursday 11 April. Faris's eight-year-old brother, Abdel Rahman, was with him when he died. Nervously picking at his cardigan, his eyes on the ground, the child told us what happened.

"It was me and Faris and one other boy, and some women I didn't know. Faris told me to go home but I refused. We were going in front of the tank. Then we saw the front of the tank move towards us and I was scared. Faris told me to go home but I refused. The tank started shooting and Faris and the other boy ran away. I fell down. I saw Faris fall down, I thought he just fell. Then I saw blood on the ground so I went to Faris. Then two of the women came and put Faris in a car."

Abdel Rahman showed us where it happened. We paced it out: the tank had been about 80m away. He said there was only one burst of machine-gun fire. He imitated the sound it made. The soldiers in the tank gave no warning, he said. And after they shot Faris they did nothing.

Fifteen-year-old Mohammed Hawashin was shot dead as he tried to walk through the camp. Aliya Zubeidi told us how she was on her way to the hospital to see the body of her son Ziad, a militant from the Al-Aqsa brigades, who had been killed in the fighting. Mohammed accompanied her. "I heard shooting," said Ms Zubeidi. "The boy was sitting in the door. I thought he was hiding from the bullets. Then he said, 'Help.' We couldn't do anything for him. He had been shot in the face."

In a deserted road by the periphery of the refugee camp, we found the flattened remains of a wheelchair. It had been utterly crushed, ironed flat as if in a cartoon. In the middle of the debris lay a broken white flag. Durar Hassan told us how his friend, Kemal Zughayer, was shot dead as he tried to wheel himself up the road. The Israeli tanks must have driven over the body, because when Mr Hassan found it, one leg and both arms were missing, and the face, he said, had been ripped in two.

Mr Zughayer, who was 58, had been shot and wounded in the first Palestinian intifada. He could not walk, and had no work. Mr Hassan showed us the pitiful single room where his friend lived, the only furnishing a filthy mattress on the floor. Mr Zughayer used to wheel himself to the petrol station where Mr Hassan worked every day, because he was lonely. Mr Hassan did his washing; it was he who put the white flag on Mr Zughayer's wheelchair.

"After 4pm I pushed him up to the street as usual," said Mr Hassan. "Then I heard the tanks coming, there were four or five. I heard shooting, and I thought they were just firing warning shots to tell him to move out of the middle of the road." It was not until the next morning that Mr Hassan went to check what had happened. He found the flattened wheelchair in the road, and Mr Zughayer's mangled body some distance away, in the grass.

The Independent has more such accounts. There simply is not enough space to print them all. Mr Bouckaert, the Human Rights Watch researcher, who is preparing a report, said the sheer number of these accounts was convincing.

"We've carried out extensive interviews in the camp, and the testimonies of dozens of witnesses are entirely consistent with each other about the extent and the types of abuses that were carried out in the camp," said Mr Bouckaert, who has investigated human-rights abuses in a dozen war zones, including Rwanda, Kosovo and Chechnya. "Over and over again witnesses have been giving similar accounts of atrocities that were committed. Many of the people who were killed were young children or elderly people. Even in the cases of young men; in

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Palestinian society, relatives are quite forthcoming when young men are fighters. They take pride that their young men are so-called 'martyrs'. When Palestinian families claim their killed relatives were civilians we give a high degree of credibility to that."

The events at Jenin - which have passed almost unquestioned inside Israel - have created a crisis in Israel's relations with the outside world. Questions are now being asked increasingly in Europe over whether Ariel Sharon is, ultimately, fighting a "war on terror", or whether he is trying to inflict a defeat that will end all chance of a Palestinian state. These suspicions grew still stronger this week as pictures emerged of the damage inflicted by the Israeli army elsewhere in the West Bank during the operation: the soldiers deliberately trashed institutions of Palestinian statehood, such as the ministries of health and education.

To counter the international backlash, the Israeli government has launched an enormous public-relations drive to justify the operation in Jenin. Their efforts have been greatly helped by the Palestinian leadership, who instantly, and without proof, declared that a massacre had occurred in which as many as 500 died. Palestinian human-rights groups made matters worse by churning out wild, and clearly untrue, stories.

No holds are barred in the Israeli PR counterattack. The army - realising that many journalists will not bother, or are unable, to go to Jenin - has even made an Orwellian attempt to alter the hard, physical facts on the ground. It has announced that the published reports of the devastated area are exaggerated, declaring it to be a mere 100m square - about one- twentieth of its true area.

One spokesman, Major Rafi Lederman, a brigade chief of staff, told a press conference on Saturday that the Israeli armed forces did not fire missiles from its Cobra helicopters - a claim dismissed by a Western military expert who has toured the wrecked camp with one word: "Bollocks." There were, said the major, "almost no innocent civilians" - also untrue.

The chief aim of the PR campaign has been to redirect the blame elsewhere. Israeli officials accuse UNWRA, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, for allowing a "terrorist infrastructure" to evolve in a camp under its administration without raising the alarm. UNWRA officials wearily point out that it does not administer the camp; it provides services, mainly schools and clinics.

The Israeli army has lashed out at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Palestinian Red Crescent, whose ambulances were barred from entering the camp for six days, from 9 to 15 April. It has accused them of refusing to allow the army to search their vehicles, and of smuggling out Palestinians posing as wounded. The ICRC has dismissed all these claims as nonsense, describing the ban - which violates the Geneva Convention - as "unacceptable".

The Israeli army says it bulldozed buildings after the battle ended, partly because they were heavily booby trapped but also because there was a danger of them collapsing on to its soldiers or Palestinian civilians. But after the army bulldozers withdrew, The Independent found many families, including children, living in badly damaged homes that were in severe danger of collapse.

The thrust of Israel's PR drive is to argue that the Palestinians blew up the neighbourhood, compelling the army to knock it down. It is true that there were a significant number of Palestinian booby traps around the camp, but how many is far from clear. Booby traps are a device typically used by a retreating force against an advancing one. Here, the Palestinian fighters had nowhere to go.

What is beyond dispute is that the misery of Jenin is not over. There are Palestinians still searching for missing people, although it is not clear whether they are in Israeli detention, buried deep under the rubble, or in graves elsewhere.

Suspicious abound among the Palestinians that bodies have been removed by the Israeli army. They cite the Israeli army's differing statements about the death toll during the Jenin operation - first it said it thought that there were around 100 Palestinian dead; then it said hundreds of dead and wounded; and, finally, only dozens. More

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disturbingly, Israeli military sources originally said there was a plan to move bodies out of the camp and bury them in a "special cemetery". They now say that the plan was shelved after human-rights activists challenged it successfully at the Israeli supreme court.

Each day, as we interviewed the survivors, there were several explosions as people trod on unexploded bombs and rockets that littered the ruined camp. One hour after Fadl Musharqa, 42, had spoken with us about the death of his brother, he was rushed to the hospital, his foot shattered after he stepped on an explosive.

A man came up to us in the hospital holding out something in the palm of his hand. They were little, brown, fleshy stumps: the freshly severed toes of his 10-year-old son, who had stepped on some explosives. The boy lost both legs and an arm. The explosives that were left behind were both the Palestinians' crude pipe bombs and the Israelis' state-of-the-art explosives: the bombs and mines with which they blew open doors, the helicopter rockets they fired into civilian homes.

These are the facts that the Israeli government does not want the world to know. To them should be added the preliminary conclusion of Amnesty International, which has found evidence of severe abuses of human rights - including extra-judicial executions - and has called for a war crimes inquiry.

At the time of writing, Israel has withdrawn its co-operation from a fact -finding mission dispatched by the UN Security Council to find out what happened in Jenin. This is, given what we now know about the crimes committed there, hardly surprising.

**Load-Date:** April 25, 2002

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## **SUICIDE BOMBER KILLS 3, INJURES 50 IN ISRAEL**

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

May 20, 2002, Monday

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**Section:** Front Page; Pg. a1

**Length:** 814 words

**Byline:** DAFNA LINZER, Associated Press writer

### **Body**

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NETANYA, Israel -- Shortly after a warning of a suicide attack, a Palestinian bomber disguised in an Israeli army uniform slipped into a produce market Sunday and blew himself up, killing three Israelis, wounding at least 50 and ending a brief period of relative calm inside Israel.

Hours later, Palestinians said several Israeli tanks rolled into part of the West Bank city of Ramallah, where Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's office is headquartered.

An army spokeswoman said a force including armored personnel carriers, but no tanks, entered the city after shots were fired at an Israeli motorist traveling to a nearby West Bank settlement. The driver was unhurt, she added.

The troops withdrew a short time later, without any contact with Palestinians, the spokeswoman said.

Early today, another suicide bomber detonated explosives, killing only himself, after he was approached by a paramilitary patrol in northern Israel, about 10 miles from the West Bank town of Jenin. Police said there were no other casualties.

The Sunday afternoon bombing overturned stalls of apples, tomatoes and cabbages in a narrow aisle at the open-air market in the coastal city of Netanya, and also overshadowed political initiatives under discussion in recent days.

In the hours before the blast, Israeli security forces had been on alert in the Netanya area, targeted 11 times in the past two years, after receiving information that a suicide bomber was preparing an attack.

However, such warnings are virtually everyday events in Israel, and unless the information is highly specific, it is not necessarily enough to prevent attacks by bombers who need only a moment to strike in busy public places.

"There was a warning," said police spokeswoman Shira Lieberman. "Authorities knew there would be an attack in the greater Netanya area."

But the bomber, who died in the explosion, was wearing an olive green Israeli army uniform a common sight on Israeli streets and that may have helped him avoid notice.

"It appears he arrived with someone else who dropped him off at the market," said Lieberman. "He moved through the stalls until he found some place to blow himself up."

Two Israelis were killed and six of the 50 wounded were in serious condition, Israeli police and rescue workers said.

## SUICIDE BOMBER KILLS 3, INJURES 50 IN ISRAEL

## Masked men

In the West Bank city of Nablus, armed and masked men paraded through the streets with loudspeakers claiming responsibility for the attack in the name of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The radical group was behind the assassination of Israel's tourism minister last year.

The Palestinian leadership issued a collective statement declaring its "full condemnation for the terror attack that targeted Israeli civilians."

In Washington, Vice President Dick Cheney said: "I think there clearly is a class of bombings" that Arafat can't rein in.

"On the other hand, there have in the past been bombings by elements of Palestinian organizations that come under his control and there he clearly has the capacity to act," Cheney told NBC's "Meet the Press."

Violence has been down in May compared to the blood-soaked months of March and April, a development that has given rise to a number of political proposals.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres outlined a peace plan that held out the possibility of the establishment of a state in areas already under Palestinian control. The plan is seen as a long shot and did not win immediate backing from senior leaders on either side.

## Arafat meeting set

Meanwhile, Arafat planned to meet senior Palestinian figures late Sunday to discuss the prospect of Palestinian elections in coming months.

Netanya is on the Mediterranean coast, just nine miles from the West Bank, and has been frequently targeted by Palestinian militants. On March 27, an attack in a Netanya hotel killed 29 people at the beginning of the Jewish Passover holiday, and Israel responded with a sweeping offensive in the West Bank aimed at dismantling the militant groups in the Palestinian autonomous zones.

"Anyone who thought that the Palestinian terror campaign against Israelis is over is completely mistaken," said David Baker, an official in Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office. "The Palestinian terror campaign continues unabated, as does Israel's battle against terror."

The last deadly bombing in Israel was May 7, when a suicide bomber from the militant group Hamas killed 15 Israelis at a pool hall just south of Tel Aviv.

Israel had threatened to retaliate with an offensive in the Gaza Strip. However, with the U. S. and other countries urging restraint, Israel decided not to unleash the offensive then, but warned it might do so later.

Sunday's bombing came hours after Peres outlined his peace plan, which calls for streamlining the Palestinian security forces, a development that would be followed by the establishment of a state in areas already under Palestinian control.

## Graphic

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Ariel Schalit/The Associated Press \* Women comfort each other after an explosion in Netanya, Israel, on Sunday.

**Load-Date:** May 20, 2002

## SUICIDE BOMBER KILLS 3, INJURES 50 IN ISRAEL

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## *Civilians as weapons*

Windsor Star (Ontario)

May 3, 2002 Friday Final Edition

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**Section:** EDITORIAL; GEORGE JONAS; Pg. A8; Column

**Length:** 795 words

**Byline:** George Jonas

### **Body**

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Last Sunday, Israel's cabinet refused to let a United Nations committee enter Jenin to investigate what transpired at the notorious refugee camp. This wasn't surprising.

The committee, as set up by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, was "fact-finding" in name only.

In reality, it was designed to put the UN's seal of good housekeeping on some blatant anti-Israeli propaganda. Southam News

For example, Annan named Dr. Cornelio Sommaruga, former president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), to the UN team. Sommaruga is a consummate international bureaucrat, who currently heads the Swiss-based Caux -- Initiatives of Change foundation. (This is the new name of the old Moral Rearmament Movement, founded during the Cold War to outflank communism on the soggy left.) Sommaruga normally mouths the same benign platitudes in several languages. He makes an exception in the case of Israel, though.

As the Washington Post reported, when Sommaruga still headed the International Red Cross, he remonstrated with Dr. Bernadine Healy, then president of the American Red Cross, who suggested that the ICRC should finally admit Israel's Magen David Adom (MDA) to membership. The Muslim Red Crescent is a member, but the MDA has been excluded for 50 years. Israel's "Red Cross" would only be allowed to join if it dropped its symbol, the Star of David.

Apparently Sommaruga found this a perfectly reasonable condition.

"If we're going to have the shield of David," he reportedly said to Healy, "why would we not have to accept the swastika?"

This exchange took place in 1999. For Annan to name a person to a fact-finding commission charged with investigating an alleged Israeli massacre who equated the Star of David with the Nazi symbol shows either incompetence or malice. I don't think the secretary general is incompetent.

Sad to say, Sommaruga's equation is closer to reality the other way around. Israel can expect about as much open-mindedness from a UN fact-finding mission today as it might have from a committee set up by the Gestapo 60 years ago.

### Civilians as hostages

What happened in Jenin is no great mystery -- which is not to say that it isn't tragic. There was no massacre. When the Israeli army pushed its way into the booby-trapped streets of the camp to root out terrorists, in the ensuing

## Civilians as weapons

battle a number of civilians got killed (seven, according to Israel) along with some terrorists (48) and Israeli soldiers (23).

Operatives associated with Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Tanzim and similar groups use civilians as their hostages. They deliberately mix with them, sometimes pressuring, sometimes recruiting non-combatants, including women and children, to act as their shields or decoys. Terrorists store arms and explosives in refugee camps. This, needless to say, is a war crime. It's expressly forbidden by international conventions as well as specific UN Assembly resolutions.

By doing it, though, the terrorists accomplish two things.

One, they often prevent military action against them. Civilized nations, including Israel, are reluctant to conduct combat missions among non-combatants. But even if terrorists can't prevent such actions altogether, as in Jenin, they can make them more costly to the enemy. Israel lost 23 soldiers in Jenin because it used infantry rather than aerial bombardment to reduce civilian casualties.

The second thing terrorists accomplish by hiding among civilians is even more beneficial to them. When civilian casualties occur -- as they almost invariably do under such circumstances -- when women, old men, or children get hurt or killed, the terrorists who led them to the slaughter can cry foul.

They can cry havoc, they can cry massacre, they can shed crocodile tears -- until some obliging "fact-finding" mission is dispatched by their UN friends to put the international community's blue ribbon on their lies.

The surprising thing isn't that the terrorists do this. The surprising thing is that so many skeptical, hard-bitten, level-headed western journalists, who normally have the keenest eye for deception, fail to see through such an obvious ruse de guerre.

Israel is standing firm this week, not letting Kofi Annan put the UN's imprimatur on Arab propaganda through a mockery of "fact finding." The reservations Foreign Minister Shimon Peres presented to the UN include the condition that, as a sovereign nation, only Israel can decide who testifies before the committee.

The standoff may continue, though chances are a UN committee will eventually go to Jenin after some cosmetic changes. Appointees blatantly hostile to Israel will be, if not replaced, balanced by other appointees not blatantly hostile to it.

In today's climate it's the best Israel can expect.

## Graphic

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GEORGE JONAS

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2002



## *Israel's snub of UN committee to be expected*

The Star Phoenix (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

May 2, 2002 Thursday Final Edition

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**Section:** Local; George Jonas; Pg. A15; Column

**Length:** 792 words

**Byline:** George Jonas

### **Body**

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Last Sunday, Israel's cabinet refused to let a United Nations committee enter Jenin to investigate what transpired at the notorious refugee camp.

This wasn't surprising. The committee, as set up by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, was "fact-finding" in name only. In reality, it was designed to put the UN's seal of good housekeeping on some blatant anti-Israeli propaganda. Special to The StarPhoenix

For example, Annan named Cornelio Sommaruga, former president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, to the UN team. Dr. Sommaruga is a consummate international bureaucrat, who currently heads the Swiss-based "Caux -- Initiatives et Changement" foundation. (This is the new name of the old Moral Rearmament Movement, founded during the Cold War to outflank communism on the soggy left.) Sommaruga normally mouths the same benign platitudes in several languages. He makes an exception in the case of Israel, though.

As the Washington Post reported, when Sommaruga still headed the International Red Cross, he remonstrated with Bernadine Healy, then president of the American Red Cross, who suggested that the ICRC should finally admit Israel's Magen David Adom (MDA) to membership. The Muslim Red Crescent is a member, but the MDA has been excluded for 50 years. Israel's "Red Cross" would be allowed to join only if it dropped its symbol, the Star of David.

Apparently, Sommaruga found this a perfectly reasonable condition. "If we're going to have the shield of David," he reportedly said to Dr. Healy, "why would we not have to accept the swastika?"

This exchange took place in 1999. For Annan to name a person to a fact-finding commission charged with investigating an alleged Israeli massacre who four years earlier equated the Star of David with the Nazi symbol, shows either incompetence or malice. I don't think the secretary-general is incompetent.

Sad to say, Sommaruga's equation is closer to reality the other way around. Israel can expect about as much open-mindedness from a UN fact-finding mission today as it might have from a committee set up by the Gestapo 60 years ago.

What happened in Jenin is no great mystery -- which is not to say that it isn't tragic. There was no massacre. When the Israeli army pushed its way into the booby-trapped streets of the camp to root out terrorists, in the ensuing battle a number of civilians got killed (seven, according to Israel) along with some terrorists (48) and Israeli soldiers (23).

Operatives associated with Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Tanzim and similar groups use civilians as their hostages. They deliberately mix with them, sometimes pressuring, sometimes recruiting non-combatants, including women and

## Israel 's snub of UN committee to be expected

children, to act as their shields or decoys. Terrorists store arms and explosives in refugee camps. This, needless to say, is a war crime. It's expressly forbidden by international conventions as well as specific UN Assembly resolutions.

By doing it, though, the terrorists accomplish two things. One, they often prevent military action against them. Civilized nations, including Israel, are reluctant to conduct combat missions among non-combatants. But even if terrorists can't prevent such actions altogether, as in Jenin, they can make them more costly to the enemy. Israel lost 23 soldiers in Jenin because it used infantry rather than aerial bombardment to reduce civilian casualties.

The second thing terrorists accomplish by hiding among civilians is even more beneficial to them. When civilian casualties occur -- as they almost invariably do, under such circumstances -- when women, old men, or children get hurt or killed, the terrorists who led them to the slaughter can cry foul. They can cry havoc, they can cry massacre, they can shed crocodile tears -- until some obliging "fact-finding" mission is dispatched by their UN friends to put the international community's blue ribbon on their lies.

The surprising thing isn't that the terrorists do this. The surprising thing is that so many skeptical, hard-bitten, level-headed western journalists, who normally have the keenest eye for deception, fail to see through such an obvious ruse de guerre.

Israel is standing firm this week, not letting Kofi Annan put the UN's imprimatur on Arab propaganda through a mockery of "fact-finding". The reservations Foreign Minister Shimon Peres presented to the UN include the condition that, as a sovereign nation, only Israel can decide who testifies before the committee.

The standoff may continue, though chances are a UN committee will eventually go to Jenin after some cosmetic changes. Appointees blatantly hostile to Israel will be, if not replaced, balanced by other appointees not blatantly hostile to it. In today's climate it's the best Israel can expect.

**Load-Date:** May 2, 2002

***In Gaza camp, Palestinians gird for battle;  
Citing the lessons of Jenin, they are stockpiling food and ammo - and urging  
everyone to stay.***

The Philadelphia Inquirer

May 12, 2002 Sunday CITY-D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** Pg. A15; news

**Length:** 771 words

**Byline:** Michael Matza and Sudarsan Raghavan Inquirer Staff Writers

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

## **Body**

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"Jabaliya jappareen" - Jabaliya is strong - young boys sang on their way to school yesterday. Then, in perfect English, one added: "Sharon is a cow."

There is defiance against Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his threatened military invasion of the Gaza Strip - from schoolboy chants to adults experienced with earlier invasions of this camp where 100,000 people live on one squalid square mile.

The status of the incursion remained in doubt yesterday as tanks massed along the border between Israel and Gaza and Israeli authorities said the operation was on hold.

Israel Radio reported that Sharon and Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer had decided to postpone, but not cancel, the army operation. Palestinians said the announcement could be a ruse.

Still, many people here were preparing for the worst.

Inside a plumbing-supply shop near an intersection where Israeli troops fought and killed Palestinians in a March incursion, men were determined to resist.

"It doesn't make any difference to us now, life or death. There is no force in the world that can defeat a person who wants to die for his homeland," said Salim Abu Moamar, 32, a plumber.

"Their weakness is that they love life. They are afraid of death. We are not," said Abu Mahmoud, 50, a border patrolman with the Palestinian National Security Service.

Having studied last month's Israeli incursion into the refugee camp at Jenin on the West Bank, where more than 50 Palestinians died and many more were arrested or made homeless, Jabaliya fighters say they have learned some lessons.

In Gaza camp, Palestinians gird for battle; Citing the lessons of Jenin, they are stockpiling food and ammo - and urging everyone to stay.

"We will improve the resistance," said Ahmed, a local official with Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat's Fatah movement, who gave only his first name.

In Jenin, the Palestinian fighters ran out of ammunition. Here, ammunition is being stockpiled, Ahmed said.

Rooftops have been staked out as sniper positions to deprive Israelis of those shooting and observation posts, he said. Sand barricades have been built around Jabaliya and throughout Gaza to slow Israeli tanks.

Some of the barricades are booby-trapped, officials said.

"We won't shoot at tanks with Kalashnikov rifles. We'll wait for the soldiers to come out on the ground," Abu Mahmoud said.

In Jenin, there were difficulties caring for the wounded. In Jabaliya, some houses have been earmarked as field clinics. Scores of camp doctors and nurses have been put on alert. Drivers have been recruited to ferry the wounded through the camp's mazelike streets to hospitals in Gaza City. The fastest routes have been mapped.

In Jenin, many civilians came out when Israel troops ordered them to leave their homes. In Jabaliya, officials say they have distributed leaflets advising people to stay in their homes at any cost.

When asked whether women and children would be evacuated, the Fatah officials said no.

"You will have everybody resisting - old men, young boys," said Ahmed.

He said that all the Palestinian factions, including the fundamentalist groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad, as well as the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, were working together against the Israelis.

"Our differences are put aside," he said. "We have one enemy."

On the streets, civilians prepared for a long siege, stockpiling staple foods. Because Israeli soldiers have been known to shoot holes in rooftop water tanks, many people have built large-capacity indoor tanks.

Yussra Abu Khreis and Jamila al-Najjar, two women in their 40s, said they did just that.

"Women before men should fight," Abu Khreis said. "... Would you accept someone taking your son?"

Despite the preparations, Fatah officials acknowledge that their capabilities are limited. They also say their biggest weapon is the determination to achieve a free Palestinian state.

Jabaliya is the largest Palestinian refugee camp, with a history of resistance against Israel, said Ahmed. The first Palestinian uprising in 1987 began here, he said, pointing to a commemorative poster of Hatem al-Sissie, 16, the first Palestinian shot and killed in that uprising.

Gaza, a narrow strip of land surrounded by a security fence, was captured by Israel from Egypt in the 1967 Six Day War. Israel returned most of Gaza, and parts of the West Bank, to Arafat's Palestinian Authority in 1994. It still controls key roads and several settlements where about 7,000 Jewish settlers live among about 1.2 million Palestinians.

"Everyone is ready," Ahmed said. "We have girls and women ready to fight, to explode themselves at the tanks.

"Gaza and Jabaliya will not be a picnic. We will lose maybe hundreds, thousands of martyrs, but we will not lose."

Contact Michael Matza at 215-854-2405 or [foreign@phillynews.com](mailto:foreign@phillynews.com).

In Gaza camp, Palestinians gird for battle; Citing the lessons of Jenin, they are stockpiling food and ammo - and urging everyone to stay.

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**SHARON WON'T BACK DOWN;  
DAY BEFORE POWELL'S ARRIVAL, ISRAELI VOWS TO CONTINUE WEST  
BANK ATTACKS**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

April 11, 2002 Thursday

SOONER EDITION

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**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 715 words

**Byline:** TRACY WILKINSON, LOS ANGELES TIMES

**Dateline:** HAIFA, Israel, April 11

## **Body**

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On the eve of a crucial U.S. diplomatic drive, Israel yesterday again refused to withdraw from the West Bank cities it invaded 13 days ago and said a deadly suicide bombing on a bus earlier in the day showed why the offensive must continue.

As the army reported that it had finally succeeded in conquering the beleaguered Jenin refugee camp, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and members of his government told the United States that although they appreciate America's friendship, Israel will wage its war on Palestinian militants as it sees fit.

"I hope our great friend the United States understands that this is a war of survival for us," Sharon told reporters during a visit to troops at an army base overlooking the Jenin camp. "It is our right to defend our citizens, and there should be no pressure put on us not to do that."

In Madrid, Spain, Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and ranking officials from three other world powers called for an immediate end to Israel's military operation in the West Bank and for both Israelis and Palestinians to end "this senseless confrontation."

Powell, who is expected to arrive in Israel late tonight, huddled in a crisis session with officials from the United Nations, the European Union and Russia in the city where the current peace process was born 11 years ago.

In the West Bank, the Israeli operation continued yesterday. In the Jenin camp, mass surrenders were reported -- along with large numbers of deaths. Scores of Palestinians and about 30 Israeli soldiers were killed in a week of fighting. Israel said Palestinian gunmen put up their stiffest resistance in Jenin; Palestinian officials accused Israel of "massacres."

In the West Bank city of Bethlehem, a monk was shot and wounded when he stuck his head out of the besieged Church of the Nativity. Israeli troops said it was unclear who shot him.

## SHARON WON'T BACK DOWN; DAY BEFORE POWELL'S ARRIVAL, ISRAELI VOWS TO CONTINUE WEST BANK ATTACKS

And in the northern Israeli port city of Haifa, the bodies of eight Israelis were removed from a bus twisted and charred by a suicide bomber. The radical Islamic group **Hamas** claimed responsibility for the Haifa blast, the first suicide bombing to target civilians in a week and clearly designed to undermine Powell's visit.

In the wake of the bombing, Sharon again rejected the U.S. and international pleas that Israeli forces pull out of the West Bank, digging in his heels hours before the arrival of Powell, who is making a long-shot attempt to broker a cease-fire.

Hundreds of right-wing Israelis rallied last night outside the U.S. Consulate in West Jerusalem to demand that the United States cease its pressure on the Sharon government. "Bush, Don't Push!" read one gigantic banner.

The army announced today that it had pulled out of 24 villages overnight, while continuing to operate in the cities of Ramallah, Jenin, Nablus, Bethlehem and two additional villages, Birzeit and Dahariya. Yesterday, the Defense Ministry announced a pullout from three villages: Yatta, Kabatiya and Samua.

The Jenin refugee camp succumbed after a week of shelling by Israeli tanks and helicopters. By midmorning yesterday, the resistance appeared to be all but over, although sporadic shooting was reported throughout the afternoon.

One group of about 50 holdouts was reported to have become trapped deep inside the camp without ammunition as Israel bulldozers were bearing down. Jamal Hweil, one of the men, telephoned the pan-Arab Al Jazeera television network to claim that the Israeli army was refusing their surrender. Hweil said the men fear that the bulldozers will demolish their hide-out, with them inside.

Omar abu Rashid, a Jenin businessman whose house overlooks the camp from half a mile away, said he saw five bulldozers demolish several hundred of the camp's 2,000 to 2,500 homes.

Refugee families, ordered into the streets by the army, were dispersed to various neighboring villages.

Men were separated from **women**. Residents complained of a large number of civilian casualties and the destruction of water, electrical and sewage infrastructure along with homes, stores and cars.

Journalists were barred from Jenin. Two convoys, from UNICEF and the International Committee for the Red Cross, were allowed into the city to drop off food, medicine, other relief supplies and a generator for the city's hospital but were barred from the camp.

## Notes

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THE MIDEAST CRISIS

## Graphic

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PHOTO: Lefteris Pitakis/Associated Press: Palestinians working for the United Nations wait to be checked by Israeli Soldiers before entering a yord with hundreds of Palestinian detainees who surrendered in Al Ain refugee camp in the northern West Bank town of Nablus yesterday. During the night Israeli forces using tanks and helicopter gunships shelled the camp, and after daybreak soldiers called on teen-age boys and men to come out of their homes and surrender.

SHARON WON'T BACK DOWN; DAY BEFORE POWELL'S ARRIVAL, ISRAELI VOWS TO CONTINUE WEST  
BANK ATTACKS

**Load-Date:** April 11, 2002

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***Nine days that shook the world of a Jenin teenager;  
The Israeli invasion has had a devastating effect, writes Sam Kiley***

The Evening Standard (London)

April 19, 2002

Copyright 2002 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 6

**Length:** 686 words

**Byline:** Sam Kiley

## **Body**

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JAMAL SALEH'S eyes fill with tears.

His wife, Aisha, smiles awkwardly.

She looks embarrassed at what her daughter has said at the end of reading out loud her diary kept during the nine days when Israeli troops used their flat as a sniper's nest.

Their ordeal began in Israel.

**Women**, children, old men and families were ripped apart in two suicide bombs in Haifa and Netanya. Forty Jews were killed in a couple of days.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, backed by the vast majority of Israelis, ordered his army into the West Bank. Its orders were to crush the terror groups, the al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade, Islamic Jihad, **Hamas**, and the loose alliance of street fighters known as the Tanzim.

Reem Saleh was 15 on 30 March. Her uncle, Jamal abu Sureya, is British and lives in Brixton. In a school exercise book she kept a diary of the days that began with the roar of tanks and calls from the mosques of Jenin's refugee camp not to prayer, but to arms. Jenin has been a hotbed of terrorist activists and its refugee camp "boasts" that it has produced a disproportionate number of suicide bombers and gunmen who have attacked Israeli civilians across the Green Line two miles away.

Living in a four-room flat in Jenin's refugee camp, Reem's experiences

3 April, 2am:

"Israeli tanks have arrived in Jenin. There are Apaches (gunships) too. The muezzin have been calling loudly for the resistance to come out and fight the Israeli army.

"There is heavy fighting.

The Israeli army has taken over many houses and snipers are everywhere.

I've heard six Palestinians, mostly civilians, have been killed, and two Israeli soldiers."

Nine days that shook the world of a Jenin teenager; The Israeli invasion has had a devastating effect, writes  
Sam Kiley

6 April:

"We hear voices outside the house speaking in Hebrew.

Dad (Jamal) calls out 'baby, baby' to tell them we have children in the house. Amer, my brother, is only three years old. They came into our flat.

"They were very aggressive and their faces were painted.

Some seemed nervous, the others had hatred in their eyes.

"They made Dad walk in front of them as they

searched every room and threw the furniture around.

"Then they made our family, my uncles, and some neighbours all live in one room, 24 of us together. I could not believe they were in the house. I didn't feel anything. Others were scared, but I could not feel a thing.

"Outside there was a lot of gunfire and explosions, Tanks were roaring about and our fighters were using their M16 and AK47s as well as homemade bombs.

The muezzin is still calling for fighters".

As the days wore on much of Reem's diary is taken up with news reports from the Israeli and Palestinian radio.

On 8 April she notes she's seen houses demolished and "no one knows how many people died".

An Israeli soldier tells Jamal and his family not to worry, they won't be rocketed because Israeli troops are

with them. Later, the family discover that two rooms have been used as snipers' nests, holes for high-powered rifles have been cut in the walls and marked with spray paint.

9 April:

"The Israelis in the house tell us that they won't leave until all the gunmen have surrendered. A cell phone ringing makes the Israeli angry. They take Dad out and demand to see where it is hidden.

"He doesn't know. They hit him. We're only allowed out of the room to go to the toilet and the kitchen, one by one."

At some stage during this time Reem lost track of the days, one of the Israeli snipers is shot inside the family's flat.

"He cried out. I saw a lot of blood, they put bandages on his face and arm.

We were

very afraid they would take revenge on us, they kept screaming at us, and one of them was banging his head over and over again on the wall," says Reem.

Twenty three Israelis died in fighting outside Reem's home, where hundreds of flats were demolished.

Today, the Israelis have gone - but they leave hatred in their wake. What does she want to do when she grows up? "I'll die for my country".

Her father is shocked and chokes back tears.

Palestinian teenagers often say this as they try to out do one another.

Nine days that shook the world of a Jenin teenager; The Israeli invasion has had a devastating effect, writes Sam Kiley

"She doesn't mean she wants to be a bomber - but she has no hope. The young people have no hope here," Aisha explains with that awkward smile.

## Graphic

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REEM SALEH,15, HAS NO POSTERS OF HER FAVOURITE POP STARS. "WE HAVE NO OTHER EXPERIENCE THAN AS AN OCCUPIED NATION," SHE SAYS

**Load-Date:** February 6, 2003

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**Trudy Rubin: Sharon sends Jenin message of destruction**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

April 21, 2002 Sunday

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** OPINION; news

**Length:** 771 words

**Byline:** Trudy Rubin

## **Body**

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JENIN, West Bank - Was there an Israeli massacre of Palestinian refugees at Jenin refugee camp?

The story of the Jenin "massacre" has already become legend. After spending a day in the camp, whose center resembles an earthquake site, I can report no evidence of a massacre.

But something terrible did indeed happen in Jenin.

Perhaps 20 percent of the refugee camp - an area the size of two football fields packed with two-story, concrete apartment buildings, - was flattened by Israeli military bulldozers. Sometimes people were still in the buildings. Mountains of pulverized concrete are dotted with TV aerials; dented water storage containers stick out at crazy angles.

The Israeli military says the camp center had to be cleared to let their soldiers reach Palestinian fighters. But why the systematic destruction of every building?

I believe the destruction was a message from Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to the 13,000 Palestinians in Jenin camp: You will give up your military struggle or we will crush you, both fighters and civilians. The message was brutally delivered with bulldozers as well as bullets.

Said Abu Anas, a 34-year-old worker for the Palestinian Ministry of Youth, was told by an Israeli soldier: "You are killing us in Mahane Yehuda [a Jerusalem market often hit by suicide bombers], but we are destroying your life here."

Abu Anas dug with bare hands atop a 10-foot pile of jagged concrete shards and twisted metal wires that had once been his home, and into which he had invested his life's savings.

So it is tit for tat. Palestinians bomb Israel, and Israelis make them suffer so much that their kids are bound to take up resistance and become suicide bombers. Where does the circle end?

## Trudy Rubin: Sharon sends Jenin message of destruction

So far, only 41 bodies have been discovered in the rubble, including four women and two children. This, according to Mohammed Abu Ghali, director of the Palestinian Authority's hospital in the camp, who says "a lot" were executed although no autopsies were done. No doubt many more bodies will be unearthed, though the stench of death was noticeably absent in the rubble. Palestinians believe Israeli troops took some bodies away for a mass burial.

The true numbers of dead will become known once the International Red Cross and United Nations agencies can tabulate and cross-check the names of the missing. The truth would have been known much sooner if Israel hadn't banned journalists. Even today, a week after the Jenin battle, journalists still have to hike across Arab villages and fields to sneak into the camp.

But Sabra and Shatila this was not. I refer to the famous refugee camp massacre of hundreds of Palestinians in 1982 in Beirut, carried out by Lebanese Christians allied with - yes - Ariel Sharon. I was in Sabra and Shatila right after the killings and saw men, women and children lying slaughtered and mutilated in their homes, beds, and at kitchen tables. All were unarmed civilians.

In Jenin, heavy fighting occurred between Israeli soldiers and armed militias. Twenty-three Israeli soldiers died there.

Yet, in Jenin, civilians were also made to suffer. Revenge was taken: Relief convoys were kept out for days. So were medical teams and search-and-rescue teams that might have pulled victims from the rubble.

One case of callousness among many I heard: Soldiers refused the plea of 70-year-old Mahmoud Fayed to let him carry his crippled son Jemal out of the house. The soldiers took the rest of the Fayed family away. By the time Mahmoud made it home, his house had been demolished. Today he stood on a rubble pile intently watching an aging municipal bulldozer dig unsuccessfully for his son's remains.

Does it help the fight against terrorism to crush a man paralyzed since childhood? No doubt Israeli soldiers were enraged by the casualties they took and the fact that the Jenin camp was a dispatch center for suicide bombers. Probably they were yearning to destroy the whole camp.

But U.N. officials say the camp will be rebuilt where it stands. The United Arab Emirates has already contributed \$20 million to do the job. Meantime, the destruction in the camp has fed Palestinian fears that Israel wants to crush them and drive them out of the West Bank.

And on the rubble piles flags fly, nine within my sight: three for Islamic Jihad, four for Hamas, and only two for the Palestinian state. Returning from a funeral for one of the dead, 16-year-old Abdul Azziz Khalil says, "It is a great thing that the suicide bombers are doing. The Israelis are killing us and we are killing them."

An eye for an eye, and soon they will all be blind.

Contact Trudy Rubin at 215-854-5823 or [trubin@phillynews.com](mailto:trubin@phillynews.com).

**Load-Date:** April 21, 2002

## ISRAEL RAIDS CENTRES OF WEST BANK MILITANCY

The Independent (London)

March 1, 2002, Friday

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**Section:** FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 18

**Length:** 763 words

**Byline:** Phil Reeves In Balata Refugee Camp, Nablus, West Bank Two Palestinian gunmen point M16s towards Israeli troops, near the; Balata refugee camp AP; Smoke rises around the Balata refugee camp, in the; West Bank town of Nablus, after the Israeli attack Pier Paolo Cito/AP

### **Body**

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ISRAELI ARMED forces attacked some of the West Bank's most militant refugee camps yesterday, taking the war with the Palestinians into the volcanic core of the resistance to their 35-year occupation of Arab land.

Ignoring a fresh bout of a Saudi-inspired diplomatic efforts to restore calm, Ariel Sharon, Israel's prime minister, stoked up the flames anew as the Israeli army raided camps at Jenin and Nablus. By nightfall, the death toll stood at nine Palestinians and one Israeli soldier.

The US Secretary of State, Colin Powell, telephoned Mr Sharon yesterday afternoon to call for restraint. But violence was flaring elsewhere in the West Bank, including at Gilo, a Jewish settlement south of Jerusalem where past attacks have led the Israeli army to invade nearby Palestinian areas, including Bethlehem.

The Israeli army said its operations were aimed at the heartland of Palestinian "terrorism" and were intended to show that "there is no refuge for terror". Similar language was used by Mr Sharon three decades ago when, as an army commander, he sought to subdue the refugee camps of Gaza by demolishing hundreds of homes to make way for wide, tank-friendly avenues; by exiling the parents of stone-throwers to Jordan, and by assassinating at least 104 suspects in seven months. By nightfall, the army had yet to resort to these desperate measures, although it was clear it had stirred up a hornet's nest.

In the past it has knocked down houses in the 27 highly-politicised refugee camps of the occupied territories, and blasted them with tank shells and machine guns, but it has largely avoided raiding them.

The leader of the opposition in the Israeli Knesset, Yossi Sarid, described the operations as "total madness" and a "new stage in the war for the well-being of (Israeli) settlements".

Undeterred by the knowledge that, 30 years on, the Palestinian militias are more radicalised and better armed than ever, Mr Sharon and his generals singled out several of the most volatile parts of the occupied territories. They went into a camp in Jenin, which has long been a hotspot, and into the Balata refugee camp in Nablus, where the first intifada began on the West Bank in 1987.

Balata residents said Israeli troops, backed by helicopters, tank shells and snipers firing from the hilltops, entered Balata in the early hours, setting off fierce fire-fights. They took control of a United Nations boys' school, a white four-storey building set among the rabbit-warren of refugee houses, home to 20,000 people. Exactly why was not

## ISRAEL RAIDS CENTRES OF WEST BANK MILITANCY

clear - although it may have had some connection with the attack by a female suicide bomber on an Israeli army checkpoint on Wednesday night.

The camp is uneasy at the best of times. This is the poor, down-at-heel heartland of the Hamas and Fatah radicals, where Yasser Arafat is seen at best as a distant figurehead and at worst as a corrupt, self-aggrandising incompetent. Practically every square inch of wall space carries a poster supporting the "martyrs" killed in the conflict, or a bellicose scrawl of anti-Israeli graffiti. But yesterday afternoon - with three dead in Balata - the tension was almost stifling.

At noon, the Israelis had broadcast a message in Arabic on the local radio station, saying the main exit road would be closed from 3pm, and the army would not be responsible for the residents' safety thereafter.

Some left; many stayed. Balata knew more trouble was coming - that much was clear from the Apache helicopters overhead, and the regular crack of snipers' rifles. Yet women, with tiny children tucked on their hips, peered out of the doorways, frightened but refusing to leave. Old men shuffled defiantly along the streets, oblivious to the smouldering tyres and the ineffectual barricades of overturned cars, and heavy rocks. By nightfall, there was more fighting.

Nor did the 3pm deadline deter the Palestinian gunmen moving quietly around the network of dark, narrow alleys between the refugee houses around the Israeli-occupied UN school. They ushered us through, happy to help but keen not to be photographed. Palestinians know the rhetoric of this conflict by heart, but it comes with genuine passion when their homes are under threat. "Why should I leave here?" asked Mustafa, a 19-year-old unemployed youth, when we asked him why he was not responding to the deadline. "My family was driven from their village in 1948. Why should we be driven out again?"

Sheikh Fathi Darwish, the local imam, was equally defiant: "I am not leaving - why should I? We aren't frightened. If we die here, we die here."

**Load-Date:** April 9, 2002

## HAVE YOUR SAY

The Sun Herald (Sydney, Australia)

April 21, 2002 Sunday

Late Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Letters; Pg. 20

**Length:** 730 words

**Byline:** Jenny Coopes is on holiday

### **Body**

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Wake up to yourselves

PROBLEMS in Sydney's schools are not restricted to the western suburbs. I went to high school at a prominent private school on the north shore. When I left school, I would say 50 per cent of the graduating class were experimenting with some form of drugs, some heavier than others.

When people say the only place with problems in schools is the western suburbs, it upsets me that they can be so naive.

The amount of substance abuse among teens in this area is astonishing, as is the amount of dealers who live here and go to these so-called better-off schools.

K PAINTER Seaforth

Not hip to be square

I DON'T understand what the furore was about the NSW politician Amanda Fazio who spoke for a few minutes in Parliament about the influence of the rock band The Ramones on her and the effect of the death of singer Joey (The Sun-Herald, April 14).

If anything, we should be applauding her for having some identification with many of today's young people. I find it ludicrous when politicians try to seem hip by telling us they listen to Neil Diamond and Johnny Farnham.

CON VAITSAS Ashbury

Some grave errors

A FEW facts about the funeral of Harold Coates would be helpful (The Sun-Herald, April 14). First, the parish council of St Paul's Anglican Church, Lithgow, does not authorise funeral arrangements. Second, the minister Bill Winthrop did not refuse to take the funeral service, as no-one from our church was contacted requesting that the funeral be held at St Paul's.

Third, Ian Coates has not been excluded from the church, as reported.



## HAVE YOUR SAY

PETER AVERY Parish council, St Paul's, Lithgow

Dark force gains power

WILL the NSW Government ever get the egg off its face over Peter Ryan's termination? Will the police minister be forever known as The Exterminator?

Will the 20pc of the force on stress leave now report for duty?

Mr Ryan's payout was peanuts in the overall picture. I don't think Mr Ryan had a chance from day one. We can't have a Pom in command, can we?

WILLIAM STACEY Port Macquarie

The drugs don't work

THREE years ago, at a national prisons workshop in Canberra, I suggested drug-free units in prisons. At last they have started.

In her article "Jail sentence like doing time in a drugs bazaar" (The Sun-Herald, April 14) Miranda Devine accurately commented: "The Department of Corrective Services practises harm minimisation and jails are drug bazaars". If the ship leaks, fix it - don't blame the crew. Drugs in prisons are not the department's fault - it is only carrying out the policy given to it.

COL PARRETT Kingston, ACT

It wasn't Whitlam

FOR too long we have witnessed the beatification of Gough Whitlam, based on supposed facts. I have read on numerous occasions how Mr Whitlam withdrew Australian troops from Vietnam and how he ended conscription.

The last combat troops were withdrawn from Vietnam by William McMahon well before the election of the Whitlam government. With the end of Australia's military involvement in Vietnam, conscription was a dead duck anyhow.

PHILIP NIDDRIE New Lambton

No support for high-rise

I REFER to the article "High-rise furore on NSW coast" by Frank Walker (The Sun-Herald, April 14).

The inference in Mr Walker's story was that the Government had some interest in seeing the Terrigal development approved. That is totally incorrect.

At no stage was the developer or his representative advised that the project had ministerial support.

ANDREW REFSHAUGE Deputy Premier, Minister for Planning

A time for brutal honesty

IN his account of the siege of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem (The Sun-Herald, April 14), your correspondent refers to the Palestinian "resistance fighters" holed up inside. From his report it would appear that the wicked Israelis have besieged innocent and heroic people who sought refuge in a holy Christian place.

How about telling it like it is? A gang of Hamas and Jihad terrorists, armed with automatic weapons, who glory in blowing up Israeli teenagers, women and children, were clever enough to hide in a place from which they knew it would be very difficult for the Israeli soldiers to remove them.

## HAVE YOUR SAY

They chose one of the holiest places in Christendom instead of a Muslim mosque, which would have been more logical though far less strategic. A few pages on, we read about a suicide bomber who killed six civilians and maimed 40 in Jerusalem. Another "resistance fighter"?

DIANE ARMSTRONG Dover Heights

## Graphic

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Illus: WHERE THERE'S SMOKE: Dark smoke billows in Bethlehem's Old City.

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2007

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End of Document

**Top World newsmaker: Israelis capture strategic base;  
Fighting comes a day after Saudi peace proposal goes to UN**

Windsor Star (Ontario)

March 1, 2002 Friday Final Edition

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

**Length:** 730 words

**Byline:** Star News Services

**Dateline:** Nablus

## **Body**

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Israeli troops shot their way into the narrow alleys of a Palestinian refugee camp for the first time Thursday after a woman suicide bomber from Nablus blew herself up at a police checkpoint.

After several hours of fighting against lightly armed Palestinian gunmen, the army was in control of a United Nations-run boys' school on the edge of the Balata refugee camp, the biggest on the West Bank and a symbol of Palestinian resistance.

One soldier died and 10 Palestinians were killed during the simultaneous assaults on Balata and another refugee camp at Jenin, in the north of the West Bank. At least 80 Palestinians were wounded in Nablus alone.

Windsor Star News Services

The fighting came a day after Saudi Arabia presented its new peace initiative at the United Nations.

Under the proposal, the Arab world would make peace with Israel in exchange for an Israeli withdrawal from the territories it occupied in the 1967 Mideast war.

But the daily bloodletting has undermined repeated international attempts to arrange a ceasefire and the scope of the Israeli action suggested Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's government was intent on delivering a major blow to Palestinian militants.

During the past 17 months of conflict the army has often made sorties into Palestinian towns and villages. But it has always stayed out of the camps, whose alleys -- no wider than a man's shoulders -- make them a death trap.

The army said it decided to take the risk of entering Balata to show the Palestinians that there were no "safe areas." It said it was hunting Palestinian militants and bomb factories to stop the flow of suicide bombers.

The army arrived around 2 a.m., expelling several families from their homes. Israel radio in Arabic encouraged the civilian population to leave.

Some women and children left, but most of the 20,000-strong population appeared determined to stay.

The alleys were teeming with Palestinian gunmen, some shooting at the UN school which the army chose as its forward base.

Top World newsmaker: Israelis capture strategic base; Fighting comes a day after Saudi peace proposal goes to UN

The army has been moving toward the camp for a week, ever since gunmen of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, an armed offshoot of the Fatah movement headed by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, shot dead six soldiers at a checkpoint.

Balata is a strongpoint of both Hamas, the main source of suicide bombers and the Al-Aqsa brigades.

The tanks rolled in after Dareen Abu-Eisheh, a 21-year-old student of English literature at Najah university in Nablus, blew herself up at a checkpoint, wounding three Israeli police.

Dareen is only the second woman suicide bomber to blow herself up during the Palestinian uprising.

Her family described her as an excellent student, with a love of Shakespeare. They had no warning she was about to kill herself, but the action was not totally unexpected.

"She would attend all the funerals of the martyrs and then she would pay her respects to the family," said her brother Fadi. "She used to say to the families of the martyrs, 'God willing I shall be a martyr one day.' But everyone says that these days and we didn't pay any attention."

"I think Dareen was driven to this by news of the two pregnant Palestinian women who were shot and wounded by the Israelis near Nablus," said her brother. "She was very affected by this. She said God will avenge them."

A bleak message: Israel's leading military historian has a bleak message for the country's generals: The army is winning the battle against Palestinian armed groups, but the final result can only be defeat -- and perhaps civil war at home.

Martin van Creveld, professor of history at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, believes that the might of the Israeli army is proving to be "99-per-cent irrelevant" in the battle.

More important, he believes, will be the morale of the Israeli army, which is showing signs of strain at the burden of keeping millions of Palestinians under control to prevent terrorists entering Israel.

Already, 280 Israeli reserve officers and NCOs have signed a petition refusing to serve in the occupied territories on grounds of conscience and the first two "refuseniks" were jailed for 28 days on Monday. They are sergeants in the paratroops and the armoured corps.

Two reserve officers have abandoned their posts in protest at the strains put on their soldiers through manning checkpoints for impossibly long hours amid a hostile population.

## Graphic

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Israeli army heavy machine gun tracer fire is seen striking a building in the West Bank town of Bethlehem Thursday. Associated Press photo: ZOOM 77

**Load-Date:** March 1, 2002

**Israel should show same restraint as U.S.: Tommy schnurmacher**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

March 10, 2002 Sunday Final Edition

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**Section:** Editorial / Op-ed; Tommy Schnurmacher; Pg. A17; Column

**Length:** 807 words

**Byline:** TOMMY SCHNURMACHER

## **Body**

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Israel always stands alone. While other countries are applauded for fighting terrorism, Israel is supposed to turn the other cheek as its citizens continue to be slaughtered on a daily basis by terrorists, including suicide bombers.

Even American Secretary of State Colin Powell lectured Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon for Israel's attacks on Palestinian areas.

The Taliban and Al-Qa'ida members are no longer killing innocent Americans, but that hasn't stopped the U.S. Its generals have just brought in 16 more AH-64 Apache and five AH-1 Super Cobra attack helicopters to pound away at the enemy.

The Gazette

The American officer commanding the current ground offensive, Maj.-Gen. Frank Hagenbeck of the 101st Airborne division, was quoted in the Thursday edition of the New York Times.

He said, "In the last 24 hours, we have killed lots, lots of Al-Qa'ida and Taliban. I won't give you precise numbers, but we've confirmed kills in the hundreds."

Kills in the hundreds?

I didn't see Colin Powell calling for restraint when he heard the news. Where was the restraint when Americans were bombing innocent Serbian women and children in Belgrade because the U.S. was angry with Slobodan Milosevic?

To bolster international support for its massive bombing of Afghanistan, the United States made a point of saying it was acting in self-defence. The American administration insisted it wished to target terrorists, and not civilians.

Israel is also targeting terrorists and not civilians.

Fatah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, on the other hand, have a different modus operandi. They specifically target civilians, hoping to kill and maim as many as possible.

FBI director Robert Mueller said Wednesday, "Al-Qa'ida followers in the United States and abroad remain committed to participating in terror attacks in the United States."

Sounds familiar.

Israel should show same restraint as U.S. : Tommy schnurmacher

Palestinian militants associated with Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction remain committed to participating in terror attacks in Israel.

Arafat's Fatah faction has proudly taken responsibility for the most deadly attacks. As a matter of fact, Marwan Barghouti, the West Bank leader of Arafat's Fatah faction, has urged attacks on Israelis in Palestinian areas must continue even if peace talks start.

Some peace talks.

Is Powell ready to exercise restraint with the Taliban and Al-Qa'ida? After all, in some cases, their innocent wives and children travel with them. Is Powell ready to sit down with the representatives of Osama bin Laden to discuss a possible compromise to avoid further bloodshed on either side? Is Powell ready to withdraw all American troops from Saudi Arabia?

Hardly.

Powell is not the only one telling Israel what to do and how to do it. Canada's new foreign minister, Bill Graham, was speaking to the Canada-Israel Committee last week. His audience seemed surprised he would equate Palestinian terrorist attacks with Israeli actions in self-defence.

Why the surprise?

For years, Canada has consistently voted alongside Arab dictatorships as the United Nations passes one anti-Israeli resolution after another.

When the Durban conference on racism degenerated into a hate-filled orgy of anti-Semitism, Canadian government officials stayed to the bitter end, offering the lame excuse we had managed to temper the final resolution.

We should have let it stand so it would be easier to see the UN for the anti-Semitic forum it has become.

When Graham says Israel must temper its response to violence, he follows in the Liberal tradition. Former foreign minister John Manley harrumphed at the very idea terrorism against Israel was as bad as terrorism against the United States.

Israel has been in a really tough spot for a year and a half.

Former Israeli prime minister Ehud Barak's far-reaching concessions didn't bring about peace. If Israel was ready to make so many concessions without being forced to do so, terrorists figured the "Zionist entity" might give up even more if it came under relentless and regular attack.

Frustrated with Barak, the Israeli population turned to Ariel Sharon, hoping he would deliver on his promise to provide security.

Sharon, too, has failed.

The Israeli population might now be frustrated enough to turn back to former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has suggested building a wall to separate the two populations and conducting a military sweep of Palestinian areas to seize as many weapons as possible.

There's no guarantee his plan will work, but it sure beats trusting Saudi Arabia.

As Israel continues to fight the enemies that seek its destruction, it should, indeed, exercise restraint: the same restraint exercised by the United States of America.

- Tommy Schnurmacher is heard weekdays 9 a.m. to noon on CJAD 800 radio. His E-mail address is [tommys@total.net](mailto:tommys@total.net).

Israel should show same restraint as U.S. : Tommy schnurmacher

**Load-Date:** March 10, 2002

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End of Document

**Female bomber had dual life: Worked as paramedic, but increasing bloodshed led her to Arafat militia**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

January 31, 2002 Thursday

Final EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS,

**Length:** 701 words

**Byline:** TIM JOHNSON

**Dateline:** RAMALLAH, West Bank

## **Body**

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A sweet-natured divorcee, Wafa Idris spent weekends as a first-aid volunteer tending to injured victims of Middle Eastern violence.

She had no history of religious fanaticism. But she had a secret life.

On Sunday morning Wafa Idris kissed her mother goodbye, smiled sweetly, and without telling any of her relatives, traveled to Jerusalem's bustling Jaffa Street and blew herself up, killing an 81-year-old Israeli man and injuring more than 100 others.

Knight Ridder Newspapers; The London Times and AP, contributed to this report

It is an attack that has filled the Israeli security forces with dread: if there were anyone less likely to fit the mould of a Palestinian suicide bomber, it was this 27-year-old woman.

"She left as usual, with a smile on her face, running as if she were flying," her elderly mother, Wasfia Idris, said yesterday.

Family members at a wake voiced only pride. "I hope every daughter will do what my daughter did," her 60-year-old mother said.

The tale of the first Palestinian **female** bomber shocked and dismayed the Palestine Red Crescent Society, where Idris was a volunteer, and spread a chill across Israel, a country that now must widen the profile of potential suicide bombers to include **women**.

Palestinian **women** have maintained a low profile in the 16 months of the current uprising. They occasionally throw rocks, but have not been seen firing guns or carrying bombs.

The news resonated across the Palestinian territories and around the Arab world. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein announced that his government would erect a memorial to Idris in a Baghdad square or along a thoroughfare.



Female bomber had dual life: Worked as paramedic, but increasing bloodshed led her to Arafat militia

Manal Shaheen, a relative, said: "She was not religious. She did not pray and she did not cover up. She was a merry person and had a strong character. She was very active, but one could never believe that she would actually carry out a bombing."

Idris was not an obvious candidate to become a suicide bomber. But it was her work as a volunteer paramedic for the Red Crescent emergency medical service in the refugee camps of the West Bank that is the key to this latest episode in bloodshed. She had seen many Palestinians wounded since the latest intifada began in September 2000. In that time something snapped.

According to one of her three brothers, Khalil, Idris had been hit three times by Israeli rubber-coated metal anti-riot bullets during her work rescuing the injured from the regular stone-throwing battles between Palestinian youths and armed Israeli soldiers.

"The last time was only two months ago, and it seemed to have a deep effect on her," he said. "She went into herself a little and seemed to get more affected than usual by the continual Israeli roadblocks which made life so difficult and where, she told me, she even saw pregnant women close to giving birth being refused access."

Like her brothers, Idris was a member of the Fatah movement, the political group of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. Fatah's armed militia, al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, took responsibility for the bombing in a flier passed around Ramallah during the wake.

"Congratulations to you - our martyr - and to all of our martyrs," the flier said. "The resistance will continue until liberation."

News of al-Aqsa's involvement in the bombing is sure to heighten criticism of Arafat for failing to halt terrorist acts against Israel. Al-Aqsa brigade, which is thought to be under Arafat's control, appears to be joining with the more radical Hamas and Islamic Jihad groups in carrying out bombings and shootings in recent weeks.

Suicide bombings among Palestinian men are far more common. One took place yesterday, the most recent of some 30 since September 2000.

Authorities said a Palestinian blew himself up after climbing into a van for a meeting with two agents for Shin Bet, the Israeli internal security service, near the Israeli-Arab town of Taibeh, northeast of Tel Aviv.

The Palestinian, Murad Abu al Asal, 22, apparently an informant for the Shin Bet, was killed in the blast, and the two Shin Bet agents were wounded slightly, the office of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said in a statement.

At least three times in the past four years, Palestinian informants have attacked Shin Bet agents or their bodyguards.

## Graphic

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Photo: FAMILY HANDOUT ; This is an undated family photo of, Wafa Idris, 27, with her mother, Wasfia at Amari refugee camp near, Ramallah. Idris, a divorced paramedic, was identified yesterday by, Palestinian officials as the woman who killed herself and an Israeli, man in Jerusalem Sunday.

**Load-Date:** January 31, 2002

## *America and Israel; on the same page*

University Wire

January 15, 2002

Copyright 2002 Arizona Daily Wildcat via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 733 words

**Byline:** By Shane Dale, Arizona Daily Wildcat

**Dateline:** Tucson, Ariz.

### **Body**

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In the days following the release of the now-infamous Osama bin Laden footage, in which he took joy in the destruction of Sept. 11, Palestinian newspapers across the Middle East, Pakistan and elsewhere made little reference to it. This disturbed me; I hoped that newspapers in every Islamic country in the world would have quickly condemned the remarks of bin Laden and his associates. The fact that they did not should be troublesome to all Americans, Muslims included.

Like the rest of Islamic people, the vast majority of Palestinian Muslims are interested in nothing but peace. Unfortunately, those people are not the ones in positions of power at the moment. Those in control will settle for nothing short of the destruction of the state of Israel.

U. Arizona

Additionally, it is important to keep in mind that if one-tenth of 1 percent of Muslims take part in terrorist activities, that still leaves more than a million people. This is no small threat, as America learned four short months ago.

But don't take my word for it. Just ask Israelis what they've had to put up with for more than 500 years.

Since their nation was created along the West Bank in 1948, Israelis have endured assault after violent assault by Palestinians who feel that, in accordance with their religious beliefs, the land Israel occupies rightfully belongs to them.

As a result, the Palestine Liberation Organization and its president, Yasser Arafat, do little if anything to destroy terrorist organizations living within their community. And the little they do is to appease the Western world. As former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said over and over, Arafat has two messages: one for his own people and one for the rest of the world.

Arafat faces a double-edged sword. He is in control of a 50,000-person strong police force, but if he uses his power to shut down terrorist organizations such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad, he will be overthrown. If he does not use his power to help take down these groups, he will be sharply criticized by the rest of the world, especially those who help fund his weapons arsenal. America included.

Essentially, his hands are tied. If he hadn't had decades to rectify the situation before now, I'd almost feel sorry for him.

## America and Israel ; on the same page

But Arafat has neither the ability nor the desire to end Palestinian terrorism. He will arrest members of terrorist groups to make us happy but set them free the next day with nothing more than a slap on the wrist in an effort not to draw too much heat from his own people. This is no longer tolerable, nor should it ever have been.

Israel has attempted to negotiate peace with Arafat's people in the past more than once. It has been willing to sacrifice more of itself than any of us might be able to imagine, and yet, it has never been good enough for the PLO.

A couple years ago, another former Israeli Prime Minister, Ehud Barak, was prepared to make a deal with Arafat that would have, at one point, trimmed Israel down to nine miles wide. Arafat flat out turned it down.

Granted, Israel is not 100 percent in the right, nor is the PLO completely in the wrong in this tired dispute. But Israel does not send suicide bombers to nations occupied by Palestinians to blow up buses and malls with innocent men, women and children inside. When Israel responds by force, it is in self-defense. Like it or not, Israel is a nation-state, and it has the right to defend its borders and its people.

America wouldn't put up with the likes of Mexico's, France's or England's demands for land reacquisition, and we sure as hell wouldn't be frightened into giving it up as a result of domestic terrorist activity. In this light, we shouldn't hold Israel to a double standard. Israelis have been victims of suicide bombings for decades. Americans would not stand for being violently pressured into giving up its land, and neither will they.

If someone instigates a fight and proceeds to start punching and kicking you, you can't just curl into a ball and cover your face; you have to fight back. You have a basic human right to defend yourself. America knows this and is currently practicing this most basic of philosophies in defense of its people.

America is finally beginning to discover the truth: We never had any business telling Israel that it did not have that same right.

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**Load-Date:** January 15, 2002

## *Israelis step up security, probe suicide-bombing by woman*

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

January 28, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

**Section:** WIRE;

**Length:** 833 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM -- Israeli security forces flooded downtown Jerusalem on Monday, taking up prominent positions on sidewalks and rooftops a day after the latest bomb attack. Israel's government weighed a response as it tried to determine the political affiliation of the female bomber.

A Palestinian man was shot and killed on the outskirts of Tel Aviv after driving his car through a roadblock, running down and injuring an Israeli soldier and policeman. It was unclear if the driver was carrying out a premeditated attack; Israeli police said he was unarmed.

In Jerusalem, soldiers were stationed every few yards along Jaffa Street, the busy thoroughfare where the bomber killed herself and an elderly Israeli man Sunday. Marksmen were stationed on rooftops Monday, and police from the anti-terrorism unit cruised up and down the street on motorcycles.

About a dozen people were hurt in Sunday's bombing, and more than 100 were treated for shock.

American Mark Sokolow, 43, who survived the World Trade Center attack on Sept. 11, was among those injured. His wife Rina and their daughters Jamie and Lauren were also hurt, though none of the injuries was life-threatening.

The family, from Woodmere, N.Y., was visiting a third daughter who is studying in Jerusalem.

"I heard a loud whoosh, like a bang, and I kind of saw things flying around a little bit, and then I realized I was able to get up and walk around," Sokolow told Israel television from his hospital bed.

On Sept. 11, Sokolow was working on the 38th floor of the World Trade Center's south tower when the first hijacked airliner slammed into the north tower. His office was evacuated and he escaped unharmed before the second plane hit the south tower.

On Monday, Palestinian security forces evacuated several buildings in West Bank towns, fearing Israeli retaliation for Sunday's bombing.

No group claimed responsibility for the bombing. However, Israel has often responded to such attacks by targeting Palestinian security buildings, saying the Palestinian leadership and the security forces are responsible for preventing such attacks.

Israeli Police Chief Shlomo Aharonishky said the massive deployment could deter or contain future attacks, but nothing could offer an absolute guarantee.

## Israelis step up security, probe suicide-bombing by woman

"Proper police operations and deployment in the field mean that even if an incident takes place it is ended as quickly as possible," he told Israeli radio.

Aharonishky said the already widespread ban on Palestinians crossing from the West Bank into Israel might need to be expanded and controls introduced on passage from Arab to Jewish areas of Jerusalem.

"Such barriers, if they are introduced, will not alone solve all the problems, and the reality is that we have no universal solution," he said.

Israel held Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat responsible for the Sunday bombing.

Raanan Gissin, a spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, said Arafat is "encouraging terrorism; he's sending (attackers) to Jerusalem."

Pledging retaliation, deputy Internal Security Minister Gideon Ezra said, "we have to fight back."

But Palestinian West Bank security chief Jibril Rajoub said Sunday's bombing was the result of an increasing sense of despair among Palestinians.

"People have lost hope in the future," he told Israel Radio. "The economic and psychological situations are tough, and I think it leads to unusual cases like this."

Radical Muslim groups such as Islamic Jihad or Hamas, who regularly train and equip suicide bombers, did not say whether they were involved in Sunday's attack.

Police said the body of the Palestinian woman student was so badly blown apart that the forensic evidence may not indicate whether she was carrying out a suicide attack, or if she intended to plant the bomb.

"We know that she was either holding (explosives) or had something on her," police spokesman Gil Kleiman said. "We still don't know for sure that she was a suicide bomber."

If it was a suicide attack, it would be the first one carried out by a woman in the current Mideast conflict. In 1985, when Israel had troops in south Lebanon, a 16-year-old Palestinian schoolgirl drove a car bomb into an Israeli army checkpoint, killing herself and two soldiers.

Two Arab television stations, the Qatar-based Al Jazeera and the Lebanon-based Al-Manar, reported that the bomber was Shinaz Amuri, a student at Al-Najah University in the West Bank town of Nablus.

However, neither Israeli nor Palestinian officials could confirm this, and the university said no such person was a student.

More than 30 Palestinian men have carried out suicide attacks during the current conflict, killing dozens of Israelis and wounding hundreds.

In addition, there have been instances where Palestinian gunmen have stormed Israeli military sites and opened fire in attacks that were effectively suicide missions.

Palestinian women have taken a larger part in public life in the West Bank and Gaza than in some other Muslim societies, but they have rarely played leading roles in the armed conflict.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2002

## *Miraculous devotion*

The Weekend Australian

March 2, 2002, Saturday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** REVIEW-TYPE- REVIEW; Pg. R12

**Length:** 781 words

**Byline:** Mary Rose Liverani

### **Body**

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The Killing of Sister McCormack

By Anne Henderson, HarperCollins,

308pp, \$29.95.

THERE are two stories here. One, freely available on the internet, tells how the daughter of a West Australian farming family and Josephite nun, Irene McCormack, for 30 years an inspiring teacher and latterly a school principal, became a missionary in a small town in Peru, where in May 1991 she was abducted from her convent residence by insurrectionary forces, taken to the town square and shot through the head. Pictures accompanying the internet reports show a very attractive and composed woman in middle age, with a crop of stunning white hair.

MATP

The other story concerns Anne Henderson, deputy director of the Sydney Institute, and her attempts to assemble what she calls the "fragments" of McCormack's life and work in Australia and Peru, with a view to producing a case for her martyrdom.

Fragments is no exaggeration. McCormack spent much of her childhood and adulthood in institutions, first at boarding school and then, from her mid-teens, with the Sisters of St Joseph. So her siblings knew a lot less about her than might be expected. Historically, nuns are discouraged from forming the intimate relationships women easily embrace with one another, and in the convent their regime leaves little time for idle chat. Not much information to come from that source, then -- and McCormack's written record did not extend beyond a few letters.

In Peru, where the diminutive nun arrived in her 40s, clueless about Spanish, language difficulties were significant, and although the missionary's role was simply to "be" with the community, her energies were largely directed towards helping the local children after school with their homework and teaching them how to play. So communication with the adults, mainly indigenous peasants, must have been pretty basic.

It seems, however, that spontaneity and lack of reserve were dominant traits of McCormack's personality. She loved to dance and danced often, and having grown up with a swag of brothers and male cousins, she had no difficulty relating to men or boys. Apparently she was known to have sat once on a man's knee at a social and "used inappropriate gestures" (the mind boggles). It was thought that at a crisis point of her life she might have regretted forgoing marriage and children; and it seems too that she had a brief relationship with a Peruvian, ended

## Miraculous devotion

it, and confessed to her priest. Altogether, a fairly straightforward history for a religious person, and one that the Catholic church must be well accustomed to.

Henderson, by her own admission, hadn't initially preoccupied herself with McCormack's death and was moved to reflect on it only after encountering a suggestion by a Sydney newspaper's religious columnist that the West Australian nun should be entered on the Pope's register of martyrs. In fact, McCormack hasn't been canonised but she was recorded among 13,000 witnesses of the faith shortly after Henderson began her mission.

It's enough to make a good feature in the weekend papers but extending the matter to a 300-page book aimed primarily, one imagines, at senior Catholic secondary schoolchildren, requires a lot of filler.

And there's no shortage of it. Henderson rounds up and trounces all the usual villains: totalitarian governments, terrorists (not just Peru's Shining Path, but the Irish Republican Army and Hamas -- how come no one ever mentions the Stern Gang or the Haganah?), and universities too, where "first-generation" students are easily seduced by pernicious Marxist doctrines and book-learning gives students twisted reasoning about revolutions and freedom. Shades of Savonarola! Toss in a few superficial comments about the drug trade in Peru and there you have it: a somewhat myopic version of the society that killed McCormack.

Speculations, imagined thoughts of McCormack and sideswipes at an odd priest or two also leaven the text. The approach is "new journalism", with some shifts in subject so erratic as to suggest the book was done in a hurry and inadequately edited.

Australian Protestants are pretty relaxed about Catholicism but I don't think there'll be many takers for the proposal that the first miracle McCormack worked (you need one miracle to be an accredited martyr) occurred on the night her sister received news of Irene's death. Their mother was staying with the sister that night. "Mum was never with me during the week. She was mostly with me at weekends -- but she was there that night." A miracle, eh?

Catholic writings are enjoyed by people of all denominations and beliefs. This particular book, I think, is only for the devout.

655191, Australian Books Direct, \$20.65

**Load-Date:** March 1, 2002

**Sorting out the grim totals in Mideast's war of numbers: Associated Press investigation. Israelis and Palestinians try to portray themselves to world as the greater victim**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

November 27, 2002 Wednesday

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**Section:** News; Pg. A4

**Length:** 1876 words

**Byline:** JASON KEYSER

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

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A Palestinian blows himself up, killing Israeli soldiers, along with women and children. An Israeli missile kills a militant leader Israel holds responsible for the attack, along with women and children who happened to be nearby. And out come the scorecards in a grisly battle of numbers.

Beyond the tragedy of shattered lives, the death toll is itself part of the Israeli-Palestinian struggle, with each side contesting the other's version to portray itself to world public opinion as the greater victim.

The meaning behind the figures depends in part on one's view of who's a combatant and who's a bystander.  
AP

With both sides raising questions, the Associated Press re-examined the death toll to better determine how many people have died in the more than two years of fighting that followed the collapse of U.S.-brokered peace talks, and to say with more certainty who the victims were.

After a recount of all the fatalities since Sept. 29, 2000, and in some cases renewed investigation of their circumstances, AP found that 1,934 people had died on the Palestinian side and 678 on the Israeli side as of Monday.

The numbers are based on more than two years of AP reporting, including interviews with doctors, relatives and witnesses, visits to hospitals and morgues, and statements by both sides' security forces.

Government and unofficial agencies on both sides also keep count, and their totals vary somewhat, reflecting some disagreements over what kinds of deaths to include.

But more profound are the disagreements over which types of casualties constitute "combatants" and which are "innocent civilians" - labels that enable each side to try to portray itself as the greater victim.

Israel's Foreign Ministry maintains no more than 45 per cent of the Palestinian casualties of the conflict were "noncombatants," people who were neither involved in hostilities against Israel nor members of Palestinian armed groups.



## Sorting out the grim totals in Mideast's war of numbers: Associated Press investigation. Israelis and Palestinians try to portray themselves to world as the gre....

But the Palestine Monitor, a think-tank that tracks the violence, says 85 per cent were "civilians" - and appears to include in that category all those who were not members of the Palestinian security forces, even if they belonged to various armed groups.

As for the Israeli casualties, there is little dispute that most were civilians although determining an exact number is difficult because the two sides disagree on who fits into that category.

A total of 309 Israeli dead, or about 45 per cent, were killed in suicide bombings and scores more were killed in shootings.

Jewish settlers, while only 3 per cent of Israel's population, constitute almost one-fifth of the casualties: 131 people.

In all, 71 Israelis and 265 Palestinians under age 18 have been victims of the violence. These figures don't include Palestinian teens who carried out suicide and shooting attacks or attempted to do so.

A total of 191 Israeli soldiers have been killed, 38 of them in Palestinian attacks inside Israel while off duty. Palestinians tend to count them as combatants anyway. Israelis - in a country where the overwhelming majority were at some point conscripted into military service - vigorously reject that classification.

Yet Israelis also tend to see the other side's security services as combatants, especially since Israel has insisted that the Palestinian Authority is involved in terror - in some cases directly and in others by its inaction. Palestinian officials say 258 police or other security personnel have been killed by Israeli fire.

To Palestinians, attacks on police and security buildings are Israeli aggression and more evidence that Israel is being disingenuous when it demands the Palestinian police crack down on militants.

For example, on Dec. 4, 2001, Israel responded to a series of suicide bombings by Islamic militants that killed 26 people by sending F-16 warplanes to drop bombs on a Palestinian security building in Gaza City.

The attack killed one undisputed noncombatant - 15-year-old Mohammed Abu Shokeh, who fled a nearby school with hundreds of other students - but what of security services member Mohammed Ahmed Siam, 25, who was also killed? He is not known to have had ties to militant groups or a history of attacking Israelis.

It can also be difficult to categorize those killed in what Israel has called "targeted attacks" on Palestinian terrorists - which Palestinian officials label assassinations.

Israeli forces have killed at least 82 Palestinian militants by methods such as rigging their phones to explode or rocketing their cars and homes. Such strikes from the air, sometimes in densely packed neighbourhoods, also killed 52 bystanders.

The radically opposing viewpoints can dictate the reaction to the detailed breakdown of the death toll AP periodically publishes, in which the various categories included on each side are spelled out.

One point of contention, for example, has been AP's decision to include in its Palestinian death toll the 89 suicide bombers who killed themselves - a count that includes several bombers who failed to kill anyone else.

Critics have charged that since the death toll is widely perceived by readers as a tallying of victims, these clear cases of attackers sacrificing their own lives should be left off to avoid giving a false impression.

However, it would be difficult to justify leaving suicide bombers off while including the roughly 100 Palestinians killed while staging other types of attacks - such as infiltrations of Jewish settlements - which in cases seemed no less suicidal.

And the inclusion of undisputed Palestinian attackers can be seen as balanced by the inclusion in the Israeli death toll of soldiers who died in combat - waging a battle the Palestinians see as an attack in its own right, such as door-to-door searches for militants in refugee camps in which civilians often have been killed.

## Sorting out the grim totals in Mideast's war of numbers: Associated Press investigation. Israelis and Palestinians try to portray themselves to world as the gre....

The Palestinian toll also includes at least 56 Palestinians who were killed by Palestinian mobs and firing squads on suspicion of collaborating with Israeli authorities - further underscoring that the count should not be viewed as a straightforward "victimization" of one side by the other.

The AP regularly reports the detailed breakdown of casualties, in which it includes collaborators and other exceptional categories. Sometimes it suffices with an over-all figure for each side, because the exceptions do not add up to sufficient numbers to significantly skew the totals.

### Israeli and Palestinian

human-rights groups and research institutions have published similar counts to AP's, but there are some differences.

Palestinians tend to count about 70 people they say died of illnesses because they could not get medical treatment because of curfews and long waits at checkpoints. AP does not include such cases.

The review of AP's death toll found that past miscounts had inflated AP's Palestinian count by 88 and the Israeli count by seven - mistakes that in most cases occurred during the tumultuous period last spring when Israel launched a major military offensive and conditions at Palestinian hospitals were chaotic.

Part of the death-toll revision came from a renewed look at the Palestinian casualties in Nablus during 18 days of heavy fighting in April. The earlier count was based on Palestinian figures that the AP has determined included 12 cases where people died of medical conditions or road accidents.

Palestinian Medical Relief, an umbrella group for health-care organizations in the West Bank, has counted 2,020 dead on the Palestinian side through last Thursday. The group does not keep an Israeli toll.

Israel's International Policy Institute for Counterterrorism, a think-tank with strong ties to Israel's security establishment, counted 1,780 Palestinian and 667 Israeli dead through Sunday. The institute says it hasn't been able to count all the Palestinians killed by Palestinians as alleged collaborators with Israel.

The institute says 80 per cent of Israel's dead are noncombatants - and includes in this category off-duty soldiers as well as settlers.

In June, the institute published a statistical analysis of the death toll under the title "An Engineered Tragedy," which alleged the Palestinians were encouraging youth to confront soldiers to increase the death toll among young people in a bid for sympathy.

Palestinian cabinet minister Saeb Erekat countered that the main issue is "trigger-happy soldiers and indiscriminate shelling" by Israel.

Occasionally, people will step back and see the other side.

"When we see a woman crying over her child on television, for a moment we forget to ask whether she is a Palestinian or an Israeli woman," said Riham Abdulatif, a 28-year-old teacher from Ramallah. "Because a mother is a mother."

### On the Web:

Israel's International Policy Institute for Counterterrorism, <http://www.ict.org.il/> Palestinian Medical Relief, <http://www.upmrc.org/>

how the toll breaks down

Here is a breakdown of 2,612 deaths in more than two years of

## Sorting out the grim totals in Mideast's war of numbers: Associated Press investigation. Israelis and Palestinians try to portray themselves to world as the gre....

Israeli-Palestinian violence. The Associated Press reviewed each incident and recalculated the toll as of Monday, based on information compiled in interviews with relatives, witnesses, doctors and visits to hospital morgues.

Total: 1,934 on the Palestinian side and 678 on the Israeli side. The Israeli figure includes a Greek Orthodox monk shot by a Palestinian gunman while driving to a desert monastery in the West Bank, three Romanian and five Chinese migrant workers killed in Palestinian attacks, a Turkish man and a Swiss woman killed by Palestinian gunmen while serving as European monitors in the West Bank city of Hebron, and a French tourist and Scottish student killed in a suicide attack.

The Palestinian figure includes a British UN official killed by Israeli fire during a gunbattle in the West Bank, a German chiropractor killed by Israeli fire as he tried to help Palestinian neighbours wounded when a rocket slammed into their home, at least two Egyptians killed in Gaza and Italian photojournalist Raffaele Ciriello, fatally wounded while following a group of Palestinian gunmen.

Palestinians killed preparing or carrying out attacks: 200. Includes suicide bombers, gunmen and Palestinians who died preparing explosives.

Palestinian militants targeted and killed by Israelis: 82.

Bystanders killed in targeted attacks on militants: 52.

Palestinian suicide bombers: 89.

Victims of suicide bombers: 309.

Deadliest suicide attack: A Palestinian from the West Bank town of Tulkarm killed 29 Israelis on March 27, 2002 during a Passover dinner at the Park Hotel in Netanya.

Deadliest toll for Palestinian civilians: An Israeli F-16 warplane bombing on July 23, 2002 hit a Gaza City apartment building and killed a **Hamas** military leader, Salah Shehadeh, his bodyguard and 13 bystanders, including his wife, daughter and eight other children.

Israeli soldiers killed: 191.

Palestinian police killed: Palestinian officials say 258 police or other security personnel have been killed by Israeli fire.

Jewish settlers killed in the West Bank and Gaza: 131.

Fatalities under age 18: Israelis: 71; Palestinians: 265 (excludes suicide bombers or others killed in attacks on Israeli soldiers or civilians).

Suspected Palestinian collaborators killed: 56.

## Graphic

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Photo: DAMIR SAGOLJ, REUTERS; Relatives mourn Ismail Bres at his funeral in Gaza Strip this month. Bres, a **Hamas** member, crept into a Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip and shot dead two settlers before a guard killed him.; Photo: EITAN HESS-ASHKENAZI, AP; Soldiers carry the coffin of Israeli soldier Shigdaf Garmai, slain by a Palestinian sniper in Gaza.

Sorting out the grim totals in Mideast's war of numbers: Associated Press investigation. Israelis and Palestinians try to portray themselves to world as the gre....

**Load-Date:** November 27, 2002

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End of Document

## *Lunch in the Limelight for the Producers; ON THE GO*

The Forward

May 9, 2003

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**Section:** Fast Forward; Pg. 14

**Length:** 870 words

**Byline:** Masha Leon

### **Body**

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"I'll do anything for Isabelle Stevenson [American Theatre Wing's chairman of the board]... even wear men's clothes," declared master of ceremonies Harvey Fierstein at the Wing's April 14 luncheon, which honored 12 Broadway producers - all women: Dasha Epstein, Carole Shorenstein Hays, Terry Allen Kramer, Margo Lion, Elizabeth Ireland McCann, Lynne Meadow, Chase Mishkin, Nelle Nugent, Daryl Roth, Anita Waxman, Fran Weissler and Elizabeth Williams.

"Were there no women producers, there would be no me," said Fierstein (star of the impossible-to-get-tickets-to "Hairspray").

"Between them, they gave us 126 shows, 101 Tony Awards and were responsible for jobs for 2,104 actors," said Fierstein, who'd earlier mugged for the cameras with actors André De Shields and Mary Bond Davis.

The 500 guests jammed into the Pierre Hotel's ballroom included Lauren Bacall, Walter Cronkite, Beth Rudin de Woody, Patti Kenner, Charles Grodin, Stewart Lane, Frank Langella, Marion Seldes, Betsy von Furstenberg, Wings' president Roy Somlyo and event chairs Clarissa and Edgar Bronfman Jr. An all-male cast of Broadway veterans - among them Hinton Battle, Joel Grey, Lonny Price and Arthur Rubin - reprised solo performances from Broadway shows.

"I have a story for you," my tablemate Richard Seader said when he heard I was with the Forward. "In the 1960s I was the company manager at 'A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum.'"

"When Zero [Mostel] was blacklisted," Seader continued, "he had a difficult time earning a living ... so he did weekends in the Borscht Belt. He'd drive up every Friday afternoon and stop at the [Catskills landmark] Red Apple Diner. Zero went into the men's room and, as a gentleman approached the next urinal, Zero said to him in Yiddish: 'You look like Marc Chagall.' The man replied in Yiddish: 'I am Chagall!'... That's how their friendship began.... Zero used to say 'Don't call me an actor, I just act to support my painting.'"

\* \* \*

Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Dan Gillerman; its consul for cultural affairs, Ofra Ben Yaacov, and its deputy consul general in New York, Simona Frankel, attended the April 22 New York debut of the Inbal Pinto Dance Company's production "Oyster" at Joyce Theater.

Disregard the treyf title; the work is kosher. There's neither sight nor hint of any shellfish in this puzzling fable that overflows with metaphors about manipulation, love lost and found, escape, aging - and ver veys (who knows) what

## Lunch in the Limelight for the Producers ON THE GO

else? The work is mind-bending, the dancers sublime, the costumes witty, the music - from Leoncavallo's "Pagliacci" to Harry James's rendition of "It's Been a Long, Long Time," to Yma Sumac's four-octave warbling of "Taki Rani" - is simply delicious. Entranced, I joined in the standing ovation.

\* \* \*

On a cultural roll, Ambassador Gillerman was in the audience for the April 27 benefit performance of "Golda's Balcony" (extended through June), starring Tovah Feldshuh as Golda Meir. The benefit raised \$50,000 for Operation Access, a project of Tel Aviv's New Cameri Theatre. Amina Harris, chairwoman of the International Society of the Cameri Theatre, touted Operation, which invites Israelis and Arabs for "an evening of sightseeing and a play" (with simultaneous Arabic translation) to help foster good will between the groups.

Aaron Ziegelman, chair emeritus of the American Friends of the Cameri Theatre, posited that the vision of the Jews as the "People of the Book" needs to encompass "culture," which he said is "as important as the necessities of life."

Ziegelman had another reason to kvell: The documentary "Luboml," which he funded, aired April 29 simultaneously in Israel and the United States. It depicts his Polish hometown's flourishing pre-war life.

Of "Golda's Balcony," Feldshuh later told me: "It's the greatest role of my career, and I am privileged to spend every evening with the prime minister.... To be her is to learn from her... a mother lioness screaming for peace in the belly of war."

\* \* \*

Terrorism expert Steven Emerson was the keynote speaker at the April 8 Jewish National Fund "Tree of Life Dinner" at the Waldorf-Astoria. The author of "American Jihad: The Terrorists Living Among Us," Emerson said, "I believe we are turning the corner on international terrorism, [but]... we must not let our guard down."

He warned that groups including Hamas and Hezbollah use "the United States as a sanctuary," filtering hundreds of millions of dollars through shell companies. Emerson applauded Fleet Bank - whose executive vice president, William McCahill, was the dinner's honoree - as "having come to my attention because, after 9/11, it was involved in tracking terrorists' funds."

Emerson recalled his testimony before Congress: "There is no such thing as terrorism.... There are terrorists. Each has a name, address, face." He lamented the absence of an Islamic Reformation... the separation of church and state."

He concluded: "I believe the terrorists will revisit New York and Washington as they did in 2001. [Osama] bin Ladin and [other fundamentalist] Islamic leaders are obsessed by the freedom symbolized by New York's downtown.... The bad guys have to succeed only once. The good guys have to succeed thousands of times."

**Load-Date:** June 14, 2006

## [Search for 20 more Britons on the suicide bomb trail](#)

DAILY MAIL (London)

May 3, 2003

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**Section:** Pg. 2

**Length:** 826 words

**Byline:** Michael Seamark;David Williams

### **Body**

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FURTHER suicide attacks by British fanatics were feared last night after it emerged that more than 20 young men followed the Tel Aviv bombers to Syria.

Londoner Asif Hanif and his Derby-born accomplice Omar Sharif travelled to the Middle East country, branded by the U.S. as a 'rogue state' that sponsors terrorism.

The pair then moved on to Israel where Damascus University student Hanif killed three people when he blew himself up outside a seaside bar.

Security sources say at least 26 British passport holders are 'studying' in the Syrian capital Damascus but several cannot be traced.

The huge manhunt for Sharif continued in Tel Aviv yesterday with his picture plastered to the dashboard of every police vehicle and copies of his passport photograph handed out in streets and shopping centres.

Sharif, 27, a married father of two, had told friends he was travelling to Syria to continue his religious studies.

British intelligence agents and antiterrorist officers have been 'knocked sideways' by the Tel Aviv attack, with much of Scotland Yard, MI5 and MI6's recent efforts centred on Al Qaeda and Iraq.

Now they are concentrating on the Syrian connection, looking at movements of diplomats and officials around Europe and urgently checking on British students who have visited Damascus.

At least 40 were there last year - most being students - but the attack at the bar Mike's Place has forced an urgent re-evaluation.

Not only was 21-year-old Hanif Britain's first known suicide bomber, but both he and Sharif were unknown to police - 'lilywhites' with no apparent terrorist links and the hardest killers to trap.

A senior Israeli army officer yesterday said the Tel Aviv bombing was not an operation run by local Palestinians, but probably planned abroad.

Both **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad terror groups have offices in Damascus. Syria sponsors Hezbollah, whose leader Sheikh Hasan Nasrallah six months ago called on Palestinians to 'take suicide bombings worldwide'.

## Search for 20 more Britons on the suicide bomb trail

A specialist team from Scotland Yard is flying to Israel to join the hunt for Sharif, with British officials there saying he will be caught 'within days'.

Police spent yesterday scouring the southern part of Tel Aviv, a rundown area popular with foreign workers.

The official said: 'Whatever you say about the Israelis, they generally get their man.' 'They generally get their man' Sharif's father-in-law urged him to surrender. Irshad Tabassum, father of the fugitive's wife Tahira, said: 'I don't know where Omar is but he must give himself up immediately.'

Shaking with emotion outside his GBP 350,000 family home in West Norwood, southeast London, he added: 'My main worry is for my daughter.'

'I don't know where she is and I've been trying to contact her. I thought she was at home in Derby but there is no reply and I don't know where she has gone.'

'I just want to know my daughter is safe.'

'With regards to Omar, I don't know what this is all about. I only know as much as you do from watching the news reports on TV.' Extremist Moslem cleric Sheikh Omar Bakri Mohammed, head of militant British group Al Muhajiroun, said he spoke to Sharif three weeks ago when he turned down his request to become a 'disciple'.

He described Hanif as funny and 'a real character' and Sharif as 'shy and polite'.

The Treasury last night asked the Bank of England to freeze all UK accounts belonging to Sharif and Hanif.

However, no banks will be able to act until Tuesday due to the holiday period.

Chancellor Gordon Brown said: 'We have taken immediate action to ensure that no UK funds belonging to those suspected of being responsible for this atrocity can be used to support terrorism.' Israeli soldiers last night shot dead a freelance British journalist who was filming a documentary in the southern city of Rafah close to the Egyptian border.

James Miller, an award-winning cameraman, was shot in the neck and died before a helicopter sent to evacuate him to a hospital arrived.

A fellow British journalist said Mr Miller and two colleagues were filming and waving a white flag as they walked towards the tank when it opened fire.

[m.seamark@dailymail.co.uk](mailto:m.seamark@dailymail.co.uk)

FIVE people were arrested by antiterrorist police last night in connection with Tuesday's suicide bombing in Tel Aviv.

Two men and two women were arrested in Derbyshire and a woman was held in Nottinghamshire.

A spokesman for Scotland Yard said officers from the Metropolitan Police antiterrorism branch carried out the arrests, working with local police. She said the arrests were made as part of 'ongoing inquiries'. All five were taken into custody at central London police stations.

Police were also searching addresses in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire last night.

However, no weapons or explosive devices are believed to have been found.

The arrests were made under section 41 of the Terrorism Act 2000, which relates to those suspected of being involved in the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism.



Search for 20 more Britons on the suicide bomb trail

## Graphic

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ON THE RUN: FAILED SUICIDE BOMBER OMAR SHARIF

**Load-Date:** May 5, 2003

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End of Document

## WORLD REPORT

Windsor Star (Ontario)

August 6, 2002 Tuesday Final Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. C2; News; Brief

**Length:** 1774 words

**Byline:** Compiled from Star News Services

**Dateline:** London; Berlin; Athens; Kyiv, Ukraine; Vatican City; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; Cape Town; Beijing; New York

### **Body**

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Internet sting snares 7,000

who paid to see child porn

London

More than 7,000 British pedophiles have been snared in a sting operation by U.S. authorities investigating two worldwide Internet child pornography rings.

Detectives in the U.K. have been given the names and addresses of 7,272 Britons who used their credit cards to access pictures of underage children, some as young as a few months old, engaged in sex acts -- many with adults.

The two sites the pedophiles were using had been seized last year by FBI agents. British police now plan a series of raids on the suspects in what will be the country's largest-ever pedophile investigation.

The National Criminal Intelligence Service, which co-ordinates use of intelligence against criminals in Britain, already used the FBI information to arrest 36 pedophiles in May.

Windsor Star News Services

Detectives now intend to swoop down on more offenders, all believed to be men, over the next few months.

Anyone who subscribed to the sites and viewed images faces a jail term of up to five years.

Free at last, as Willy

finds a family of orcas

London

Keiko the whale, the star of the Free Willy films, is on the point of returning to his native orca group in the wild after 24 years of captivity, according to conservationists.

The whale has spent the last three weeks with orca pods in the open ocean off Iceland.

Conservationists hope this could be the summer Keiko finally goes free after an eight-year campaign to wean him off his dependence on humans. He is already travelling up to 160 km a day with his wild relatives.

## WORLD REPORT

The conservationists use a VHF radio signal and a satellite "tag" to track Keiko's movements. During most of July they found that Keiko was following the same pattern as the wild whales which would feed in one area during the day and travel at night.

German interior minister

bans Arab charity group

Berlin

German authorities on Monday shut down an Arab charity accused of collecting money for the militant Palestinian organization **Hamas**, the interior ministry said.

Investigators seized the equivalent of \$296,000 from accounts of the Al-Aqsa organization in the cities of Aachen and Cologne, Interior Minister Otto Schily told reporters Monday.

No one was arrested but numerous documents were seized in searches of the organization's premises and members' apartments, he said.

Schily said Al-Aqsa raised money for families of suicide bombers who carried out deadly attacks against Israelis.

Mahmoud Amr, 45, chair of Al-Aqsa, denied the organization was funnelling money to **Hamas**.

Terrorists blamed for raid

on Greek island armoury

Athens

Members of the Greek November 17 terrorist group were alleged Sunday to have been behind a weekend raid on an armoury on the island of Kos.

The raiders escaped with 17 revolvers, three submachine-guns and three semi-automatic rifles late Friday night. November 17's stock of arms has been seriously depleted by recent police raids.

Over the past month Greek counter-terrorist officers have arrested, charged and jailed 15 prominent members of the group, including its 58-year-old founder and leader, Alexander Yotopoulos.

Ukraine air show crash

toll now 85 as man dies

Kyiv, Ukraine

A man who was critically injured when a fighter jet plowed into a crowd in the Ukrainian city of Lviv last month died Monday, bringing the death toll in the world's worst air show accident to 85, officials said.

Myron Tsyonovskiy, 53, died in Lviv's emergency hospital after several days on life support, hospital officials said.

More than 200 people were injured when the Sukhoi Su-27 fighter crashed at the show. Sixty-five remained hospitalized Monday. Three of the victims were in critical condition.

Doctors are still trying to identify 10 of the people who were killed in the crash, which plunged the country into mourning.

The plane's two pilots bailed out before the accident and survived.

Struggling Schroeder

## WORLD REPORT

reaches for old ideas

Berlin

A grim but determined Gerhard Schroeder gambled Monday on a return to old-fashioned socialist messages to revive his election campaign.

He accused leading German businessmen of greed and of betraying workers.

Lagging in the polls and with economic clouds darkening over Europe's biggest economy by the day, the chancellor appeared in a fighting mood as he attacked self-interested entrepreneurs at the launch of the "hot phase" of campaigning in his home town of Hanover.

"My appeal to German business is this: Do not play the fifth column of the opposition but take care of the vocational training opportunities in companies. That is your duty."

Two million migrants seen

for Britain in next decade

London

Britain can expect to receive more than two million immigrants every 10 years for the foreseeable future unless curbs are introduced, according to a report by the campaign group Migration Watch UK published Monday.

Estimates by Migration Watch suggest net non-EU immigration levels have doubled in less than a decade, swelled by record numbers of asylum seekers and illegal entrants.

In 2000, 183,000 more people arrived in Britain intending to settle than left the country as emigrants. In total, more than 400,000 arrived, but this figure included British citizens returning from overseas.

Similar numbers were recorded in the previous two years -- double the average for most of the 1990s. The net loss of British citizens is accelerating, with a net gain last year of 230,000 non-British citizens compared with 92,000 in the mid-1990s.

Church throws out women

claiming they're priests

Vatican City

The Vatican has excommunicated seven women who claim to be priests and refuse to repent, saying Monday that the group had "wounded" the Roman Catholic church.

The women -- from Austria, Germany and the United States -- participated in an ordination ceremony June 29 carried out by Romulo Braschi, an Argentine who calls himself an archbishop but whom the Vatican rejects.

The church's guardian of orthodoxy, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, set a July 22 deadline for the women to reverse their claims.

The Church expressed hope the women would eventually return to the fold.

Pope John Paul has made clear he sees no room for debate about the possibility of opening up the priesthood to women. The Church says Jesus chose men to be his apostles and that the practice of ordaining only men must stand.

Saudis ban 200 companies

## WORLD REPORT

for exporting Israeli goods

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia has blacklisted about 200 foreign companies during the past 10 months for exporting \$150 million US of Israeli products into the oil-rich kingdom, a Saudi trade official said Monday.

Ahmed al-Ouda, a counsellor in the kingdom's Commerce Chamber said the companies -- mostly Jordanian and Cypriot -- forged certificates of origin of Israeli products in order to export them into the Saudi market.

Al-Ouda said the companies -- including 72 from Jordan, 70 from Cyprus, 23 from Egypt and 11 from Turkey -- will not be able to trade in Saudi again. The other companies come from the U.S., Britain, Singapore, Thailand, Portugal and Poland.

Guard denies killing of

S. Africa's ex-first lady

Cape Town

A security guard accused of killing former South African first lady Marike de Klerk pleaded not guilty Monday to murder, rape and robbery charges.

The rape charge against Luyanda Mboniswa, 21, was added after an analysis of genital injuries de Klerk sustained during the attack last year.

De Klerk had been married to F.W. de Klerk, the former South African president who helped negotiate the country's transition from apartheid to all-race democracy.

The de Klerks divorced in 1998 after 39 years of marriage.

Marike de Klerk's body was discovered in her apartment in Cape Town Dec. 4. An autopsy revealed de Klerk, 64, was stabbed and strangled.

Mboniswa worked as a security guard at de Klerk's apartment complex. Media reports said cash and jewelry appeared to be missing, indicating robbery as the motive.

Chinese man sentenced

for Internet subversion

Beijing

A former policeman has been sentenced to 11 years in prison on charges of using the Internet to subvert the Chinese government.

Li Dawei was accused of downloading 500 counter-revolutionary essays from the Web, storing them on a computer and printing them out into 10 books, according to the Information Centre for Human Rights and Democracy.

He was also accused of using e-mail, letters and the telephone to reach his contacts overseas, the Hong Kong-based centre said.

Li, a former policeman in Tianshui city in China's northwestern province of Gansu, was arrested last April and brought to trial in May, the centre said.

Chinese miners trapped

after underground fire

## WORLD REPORT

## Beijing

Rescue teams were searching Monday for 19 coal miners trapped after an underground fire blamed on a faulty electrical cable, an official said.

The fire broke out about 7 a.m. Sunday at the Chiyu mine in Huozhou, in the northern province of Shanxi.

Police are looking for the manager of the state-owned coal mine and the city government has ordered all coal mines to stop production for safety checks.

The steadily climbing death toll has prompted authorities to close thousands of coal mines, the deadliest in the world.

More than 3,500 miners have been killed so far this year in accidents caused by lack of fire and ventilation equipment and lax enforcement of safety rules.

## New York firefighters

dashed to their deaths

## New York

The devastating death toll among New York firefighters in the Sept. 11 attack was much higher than it should have been because the men and their commanders rushed into harm's way without clear thought or instruction, according to a report due this week.

Some sacrifices would have been avoided with better information and communications, if commanders had curbed their own enthusiasm for gathering at the site and if some firemen had not disobeyed orders to dash to the disaster scene, it concluded.

The report from the management consultants McKinsey has been commissioned by the city's emergency response department to look into the question of the scale of fire and police casualties at the World Trade Center.

The New York Times reported "Even members of the department's 32-member executive staff exhibited too little restraint, the report concludes, with 26 of them showing up, a number of them without any defined role."

The report lays out a series of failures of discipline, management and accountability in the command structure of the New York Fire Department, which lost 343 men. There were also 23 fatalities among the police.

## Graphic

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Drought-stricken: An Indian farmer sits in his dried-up field in Hanumanganj, 45 km from Allahabad, India. Delayed monsoon rains and blazing heat have caused crop failures and postponed planting across most parts of India. Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee released more funds for drought-hit states Sunday, but opposition parties said it was too late. Associated Press photo: Rajesh Kumar Singh

**Load-Date:** August 6, 2002

**YES: ON MONDAY, THE INDEPENDENT' PUBLISHED A SAVAGE CARTOON OF ISRAEL'S PRIME MINISTER, ARIEL SHARON. IT PROMPTED COMPLAINTS FROM THE ISRAELI EMBASSY, JEWISH GROUPS, AND SOME OF OUR READERS, WHO WERE OFFENDED BY THE IMAGE. HERE, AND OVERLEAF, WE ASK THE QUESTION: WAS THIS CARTOON ANTI-SEMITIC?; YES BY NED TEMKO EDITOR OF THE JEWISH CHRONICLE'; IT IS NOT THE**

The Independent (London)

January 31, 2003, Friday

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**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 5

**Length:** 824 words

**Byline:** NED TEMKO

## **Body**

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I am not easily offended, much less shocked - at least not by media coverage of Israel and the Middle East. For though I have edited the oldest and most influential Jewish newspaper in the world for the past dozen years, for a dozen years before that I was a foreign correspondent, often a war correspondent - beginning in the late 1970s in the Middle East and based, as it happens, not in Israel but in Beirut. I am also an American, with a burning First Amendment belief in the right, and the value, of free expression. Freedom-of-expression guarantees would be meaningless - indeed, unnecessary - if they did not sometimes safeguard forms of expression that may offend.

But the editorial cartoon in this Monday's edition of The Independent I found not only offensive, not only shocking - but appalling. Intended, I assume, to offer pointed commentary on the following day's general election in Israel, it showed an unclothed, savage Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon biting off the bloodied head of a Palestinian child. The picture implicitly drawn of Israel's conflict with the Palestinians - as, literally, a matter of naked Israeli aggression - is, even given the conventions of editorial cartoons, so simplistic and one-sided as to be a perversion of the truth.

To the extent that Sharon's landslide election victory this week was indeed partly a product of the military muscle he has deployed over the past 18 months, it is worth remembering that the electoral appeal of that policy was ultimately powered by dozens of Palestinian terror- bomb attacks. Sharon's army has, in its West Bank and Gaza operations, inevitably, tragically, claimed the lives of innocent civilians, even children. The Palestinians have repeatedly and deliberately targeted civilians. **Hamas** and Islamic Jihad and the Al-Aqsa Brigades (part of Yasser Arafat's own Fatah movement) have routinely strapped explosives on to their own children and sent them off with the sole aim of killing as many non-combatant Israelis - men, **women**, children - as they can take with them.

But it is not the cartoon's skewed picture of the conflict that is at issue. It is its use of one of the oldest images of Euro- pean anti-Semitism, the fuel for pogroms and ultimately for the Holocaust - the classic "blood libel", of Jews murdering gentile children for their blood. The day on which the cartoon appeared was Holocaust Memorial Day, and I had been to visit London's Wiener Library, one of the world's most powerfully chilling archives of Nazi-era documents, photographs and other artefacts. It includes, among other things, an autographed edition of Hitler's

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Mein Kampf; Nazi pamphlets and picture books with dehumanising images of the Jewish people whom the Nazis were poised to exterminate. There is even a snakes-and-ladders- style board game in which players targeted Jewish businesses and got extra points for deporting their owners. And, yes, there are cartoons - in some cases, eerily similar to the one published in The Independent.

The classic defence for resuscitating such images nowadays is that one can criticise Israel, its policies and its leaders, without being anti- Semitic. That is true. No country and no leader - particularly a country in armed conflict with a neighbour, and a leader who was found by an independent Israeli inquiry two decades ago to share indirect responsibility for the Lebanese militia massacre of Palestinians in the Beirut camps of Sabra and Shatila - can or should expect to be immune from criticism.

But some criticism of Israel is anti-Semitism. Monday's Independent cartoon would have sat wonderfully well in any one of dozens of hate-journals churned out in Arab capitals; or in the pre-perestroika Soviet propaganda sheets I would come across when based in Moscow in the early 1980s; or on the shelves of the Wiener Library.

Holocaust Memorial Day, first observed in this country two years ago, has as its aim not only to remember the murder of millions by the Nazis, but to try to grasp how the killing was allowed to happen, and to ensure that it, or other genocides, cannot happen again. The main culprits in the mass murder of European Jewry, of course, were the Nazi leaders and their henchmen, who herded Jews and Roma and others into the camps and the ovens and the gas chambers. But it was made possible by the complicity of hundreds of thousands of bystanders, who either helped the murder machine to function or simply looked the other way. And that, in turn, was made possible by a steady process of dehumanisation of the intended victims (as was, in a different context, the humiliation and abuse of black people in the lynch-mob days of the American South; or in apartheid South Africa, which I covered during the state-of-emergency years in the 1980s.) The victims are not, after all, human beings. They are vermin.

They are the sort of creatures that kill babies, bite off their heads, and drink their blood.

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