

**Date and Time:** Saturday, May 4, 2024 2:15:00AM EEST

**Job Number:** 223498080

## Documents (100)

1. [ISRAELIS HALT BURIALS](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

2. [TRAVEL EDITED BY JANE MEMMLER; BUBBLY BYBLOS](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

3. [Nobody is safe: The terrorist bombings in Saudi Arabia and Morocco should alarm the Muslim world, showing that there is no good and bad terrorism](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

4. [Mideast peace 'truce' holds --- a lot of pain; At one-week mark, 6 more deaths](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

5. [Never mind Hillary - it's 'Laura for president' now](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

6. [Gunman kills 3 women settlers](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

7. [Muslim leader gives Cook a shaking](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

8. [FBI CHIEF HAILS HELP OF ARAB, MUSLIM NATIONS/ HE REPORTS COOPERATION AGAINST TERRORISM](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

9. [IRAN COUNTDOWN BEGINS](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

10. [Ten killed in bus bombing near Israeli leader's home, Prime minister was not present at time of attack](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

11. [Protesters keep pressure on Syria Lebanese opposition supporters pour into Beirut; Syrian agents evacuate more offices](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

12. [ISRAELIS HALT BURIALS](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

13. [Syria in their sights](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

14. [Suicide bomber kills child, mother](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

15. [Schrader decries charges in ad; Criticized in a GOP mailer for screening a movie, the Democrat left the 8th District debate after opening remarks.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

16. [Middle East on brink ; Bus carnage escalates 'tragic cycle of violence'](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

17. [A Turkish town where terror was sown; There's disbelief in Bingol , the home of 2 suicide bombers.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

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News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

18. [If I'm pessimistic, it's because I don't want another Lebanon ; The chest-thumpers see no cause for anxiety over our role in Iraq , but there is.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

19. [Israeli army attack leaves 5 Palestinian officers dead; Upsurge in Mideast violence brings more death and injury<](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

20. [A NATION CHALLENGED: ISLAM Moderate Muslims Fear Their Message Is Being Ignored](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

21. [\*Assassinate militant leaders, Israeli defence minister says\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

22. [\*HUMAN RIGHTS\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

23. [\*WAR ON IRAQ : UK SOLDIERS ORDER FLAGS FOR PROTECTION\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

24. [\*PALESTINIAN WOMAN'S BOMB KILLS HER, ISRAELI MAN\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

25. [\*Israeli bank raid breaks new turf\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

26. [US drawing a hard, fast line around Iran](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

27. [Middle East crisis: On both sides, the talk is only of war: Graham Usher reports from Netanya , devastated by a suicide bomber, and Tulkaram, the West Bank town from which the bomber came, which is bracing itself for an Israeli onslaught](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

28. [Suicide bomber kills senior](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

29. [Suicide bomb 'just the beginning': Iraq](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

30. [Who Messes With Egyptian Minds? Satirist Points at U.S.](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

31. [NEWS SUMMARY](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

32. [Collateral damage: There is a deep moral divide between those who deliberately target civilians and those who don't](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

33. [No room for PC in combat](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

34. [Huge Beirut demo tells Syria to quit; Damascus continues military withdrawal](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

35. [Anti- Syrian opposition dominates Lebanese assembly](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to

Dec 31, 2005

36. [\*Killings rock fragile peace\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

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News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

37. [\*Egypt 's top cleric slams terror tactics: Fierce sermon condemns attacks\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

38. [\*Weapons 'find' led to Gaza killings\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

39. [\*In volatile Iraq , US curbs press\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

40. [\*Three die in Israel suicide bombing\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005



41. [PLENTY OF PAYNE AT GEORGE'S BASH](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

42. [Comment & Analysis: There's more to Sadr than meets the eye: The Iraqi cleric has an illustrious family background of resistance](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

43. [Watching out for Islamic women; Democracy may set back Arab women](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

44. [Terror attack on Turkey planned in Internet cafe; Seized files may link suicide bombers to al-Qaeda](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

45. [List of 270 victims offers possible clues on why Flight 103 was targeted](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

46. [No smoking, says Muslim cleric; The ban may affect Shiites abroad more than those in mixed-religion Lebanon , where the ayatollah lives.<](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

47. [2 die in Jerusalem street blast; Woman apparently was suicide bomber](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

48. [World datelines](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

49. [Arafat scorns offer of exile](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

50. [Israelis shoot down plane: Mideast jittery on first anniversary of south Lebanon pullout](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

51. [Theft's not wrong if you're in the right This digital life](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

52. [Guess Whose Profile the D.C. Sniper Fit](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

53. [From Arafat's door, Israelis make demands; The troops want suspected militants. Israeli officials say their forces will not break into the Palestinian leader's office.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

54. [US steps up pressure on Arafat](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

55. [Sadr ready for martyrdom in 'cause of liberation and independence'](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

56. [Suicide bomber is Palestinian woman](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

57. [\*In volatile Iraq , US curbs press\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

58. [\*Southeast Asia has anti-terrorism role\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

59. [\*Middle East crisis: Diplomacy: Onslaught continues as Arafat meets US envoy: Al-Aqsa leader killed despite Zinni visit\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

60. [\*WORLD REPORT\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

61. [\*Rice insists Syria end support for terrorists; Terrorist group believed responsible for recent attacks in Israel thought to be based in Syria\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

62. [\*Arab masses generating own power\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

63. [\*Looking for Arab democracy and pluralism?\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
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64. [\*Herald Sun Editorial\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

65. [\*Four views of the opposition to U.S.\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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66. [\*16 hurt as Palestinian gunman opens fire\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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67. [\*Thomas Oliver's @ WITS' END\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

68. [\*Thousands protest at journalist's funeral\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

69. [\*PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL PROTESTS CABINET IMPASSE; CONTROL OF SECURITY FORCES REMAINS CONTENTIOUS POINT\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

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**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

70. [\*Iraq theocracy not democratic\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

71. [\*'Cedar' revolutionaries want more reform for Lebanon\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

72. [\*Afghans fire at airplane over Kabul\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

73. [\*Defense chief targets militant leaders\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

74. [\*A Revolutionary Channels His Inner Michael Moore\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

75. [\*SHARON REFUSES TO BEND\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

76. [\*Peace through paradox Lebanon an unlikely example of Arab pluralism, democracy\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

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News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

77. [THE UNUSUAL](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

78. ['How could he? He was not that kind of man': Denial and disbelief among family and townsfolk in the Galilee home of Sunday's suicide bomber as Israeli Arabs fear rightwing backlash](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

79. [Assumptions take their lumps as West meets Middle East](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

80. [Angry Palestinians bury slain leader; Militants threaten both Israel and the United States](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

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

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005



82. [ISRAEL SPY CHIEF'S WARNING Tells nation worst violence from Palestine ns is yet to come](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

83. [WOMAN SUICIDE BOMBER STRIKES; ISRAEL : PALESTINIAN STUDENT DETONATES BLAST KILLING HERSELF AND 81-YEAR-OLD MAN](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

84. [Dying for a promise of martyrdom](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

85. [Never have accountants been so sexy](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

86. [How the Mufti fooled us all](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

87. [Murderous kidnappings that 'defile Islam'](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

88. [Afghans fire at airplane over Kabul](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

89. [A French secret agent with a licence to kill](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

90. [Terror group threatens U.S. Palestinians promise to avenge assassination of Hamas leader](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

91. [Israel spy chief's warning Tells nation worst violence from Palestine ns is yet to come](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

92. [When terrorists become freedom fighters](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

93. [\*Palestinian 's low-tech attack fuelled by fury\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

94. [\*Jewish worshippers under fire\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

95. [\*Turn off the TV the truth must be told\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

96. [\*JENIN FERTILE SOURCE OF SUICIDE BOMBERS\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to  
Dec 31, 2005

97. [\*Killers revel in kudos of a US terrorism designation: Relentless atrocities attain dubious form of distinction for al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

98. [Student documentary shown at Tufts U. gauges Lebanese uncertainty](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

99. [Democracy's challenge](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

100. [Syrian shadow fades, but still darkens Lebanon : Influences politics; Christian-Druze alliance is untested](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 2001 to Dec 31, 2005

## ISRAELIS HALT BURIALS

Daily News (New York)

April 13, 2002, Saturday

FOUR STAR EDITION

Copyright 2002 Daily News, L.P.

**Section:** NEWS;

**Length:** 327 words

**Byline:** By LEO STANDORA DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

### **Body**

---

Israeli soldiers began gathering bodies of Palestinians killed in the Jenin refugee camp for burial in unmarked graves yesterday, but Israel's Supreme Court quickly halted the grim mission.

Acting on Palestinian allegations that an attempt was underway to cover up a massacre at the camp, the court ordered a hearing tomorrow.

The tug of war over those slain in fierce fighting with the Israelis at Jenin erupted after Israeli Army spokesman Brig. Gen. Ron Kitrey announced that the collection of bodies for the mass burial already had begun.

Witnesses said they saw dozens of corpses carried off in military trucks early in the morning, but the army wouldn't confirm whether any bodies had been removed or if any burials had taken place before the Supreme Court stepped in.

Palestinian Cabinet Minister Saeb Erekat repeated accusations the Israelis were trying to cover up the killing of civilians.

"They want to hide their crimes, the bodies of the little children and women," Erekat said.

'Enemy cemetery site'

Earlier, Kitrey said the bodies of gunmen and suicide bombers from the camp would be buried at a special cemetery in the Jordan Valley - a forlorn field where Lebanese fighters killed in cross-border clashes have been interred in graves marked only by numbers.

During the Lebanon conflict, some of those bodies were dug up and repatriated in body swaps with Lebanon's Hezbollah guerrillas.

"The terrorists we found with guns we are going to bury in what we call the enemy cemetery site," Kitrey said. "The civilians we will try to give back to the Palestinians."

The decision to remove some bodies prompted Palestinian allegations that Israel was trying to cover up the killing of as many as 500 Palestinians in Jenin and elsewhere on the West Bank.

The Israeli Army put the Palestinian death toll at Jenin at 100.

## ISRAELIS HALT BURIALS

Independent verification of the numbers has been impossible so far because the Red Cross, Red Crescent and journalists have been barred from Jenin.

**Load-Date:** April 13, 2002

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End of Document

## TRAVEL EDITED BY JANE MEMMLER; BUBBLY BYBLOS

Sunday Express

September 19, 2004

Copyright 2004 EXPRESS NEWSPAPERS

**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 80

**Length:** 878 words

**Byline:** GILLIAN RHYS

### **Body**

---

GILLIAN RHYS takes a trip to a chic-again Lebanese resort, once the playground of the rich and famous; meets the Pirate of Byblos; and goes to a Roman treasure trove

AN 80-YEAR-OLD playboy is entertaining us on the terrace of a chic harbourside restaurant. He cuts a jaunty dash in his sailor cap and cravat and countless framed pictures of himself posing with various stellar celebrities festoon the stone walls. They are all there - Brigitte Bardot, Sophia Loren, Shirley Bassey, David Niven, David Rockefeller. The playboy is Pepe Abad, owner of the Fishing Club, where we are having lunch, and he has met them all.

This could be the French Riviera circa the Sixties but it's Byblos, an hour's drive north of Beirut in Lebanon.

For, if Beirut is the erstwhile Paris of the Middle East, then Byblos is the St Tropez. Going to this ancient fishing village - recorded as being the world's oldest continually inhabited place - is like stepping into a more laid-back, altogether more stylish time. Inside the city walls are tiny, winding streets, honey-coloured buildings and vibrant hibiscus and palm trees escaping over high walls from hidden gardens.

The pomegranate, lime and date trees at every turn add to the overall feeling of Mediterranean lushness.

It is easy to imagine pre-civil war Byblos, when it was the playground of the young and hip. Over platters of fried fish and bread with limes and the most delicious chips I've ever tasted, Pepe (below) - aka the Pirate of Byblos - tells us his most interesting star guest was Marlon Brando and the most beautiful a tie between Bardot and Anita Ekberg.

"But, " he adds, "my wife is the best - I have to say that!" He married her last year after an engagement of. . . 30 years.

These days Byblos is a more sedate experience. But since peace returned to Lebanon 14 years ago it has been steadily regaining its status as a chi-chi resort. Locals spend leisurely Sundays there from spring right through to autumn, many stepping off smart boats and straight into smart restaurants that line the port. You could happily while away a few days here without noticing time passing.

Evenings are spent indulging in the favourite Lebanese pastime - eating. As well as the Fishing Club, the neighbouring L'Oursin and Bab El Mina, with its white awnings and canopied terrace, also attract an in-crowd.

EATING here, as in the rest of Lebanon, takes time. It's not unusual for 25 dishes to arrive before you even begin the main course.

## TRAVEL EDITED BY JANE MEMMLER; BUBBLY BYBLOS

The village itself is so well endowed with history that ancient archeological sites are fighting for attention. There is a Roman amphitheatre, a 12th-century Crusader castle and a Fifth-century Persian temple overlooking the small Phoenician port. If you can tear yourself away there is exploring to be done.

We left early one morning to drive east to the Bekaa Valley, which nestles between the Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon mountain ranges, on the Syrian border. It is so misty that we cannot see the valley, but already we feel we have reached a different, more sophisticated side of Lebanon.

Antonia, our guide, confirms: "The atmosphere is different here."

The continental climate means rich farming country. This is the heart of Lebanon's burgeoning wine business - all along the way women are tending crops in the fields while men stand at the side of the road, selling sacks of potatoes.

The valley is littered with ancient artefacts but we are concentrating on Baalbek, Lebanon's greatest Roman treasure. It is only in the past few years that tourists have been allowed to visit the area, lair of the Hezbollah, where hostages were once held.

The clutch of Roman temples presents an imposing sight: the vast columns make up the biggest and best preserved Roman ruins in the world.

To escape the fierce afternoon sun we adjourn to the colonial Palmyra hotel opposite. It boasts its own roll call of famous guests, from General Charles de Gaulle to Jean Cocteau.

It is a little slice of elegance from another era.

On the way we had passed checkpoints, antiaircraft guns and a truly bizarre banner proclaiming "Hezbollah welcomes you". Sitting in the shady courtyard, ordering coffee and cakes, we seemed a world away from the nightmare that was Lebanon.

GETTING THERE: Sunvil Holidays (020 8758 4722/ [www.sunvil.co.uk](http://www.sunvil.co.uk)) offers three- and seven-night packages to Hotel Byblos sur Mer from GBP 646 and GBP 887, including B&B, scheduled flights and transfers.

Lebanese tourist information: 020 7229 7265/ [www.destinationlebanon.com](http://www.destinationlebanon.com).

Vital statistics: LEBANON

Flight time: Five hours from London to Beirut.

Exchange rate: GBP 1 = 2,720 Lebanese pounds.

Visas: All nationalities need a visa. It costs about GBP 10 for British passport holders on arrival.

Vaccinations: No specific inoculations are required.

Language: Arabic, French, English.

Best time to go: Summer is hot, dry and sunny. Winters can be cold, especially in the mountains, where there are a number of ski resorts.

Food and drink: Lebanese food is well known worldwide for its variety and flavours, with both Middle Eastern and Mediterranean influences. Arak - an aniseed-based drink - is the alcoholic tippie of choice but there are also a number of well-respected Lebanese wines.

Guidebook: Lebanon (Lonely Planet, GBP 10.99).



TRAVEL EDITED BY JANE MEMMLER; BUBBLY BYBLOS

**Load-Date:** September 22, 2004

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## **Nobody is safe: The terrorist bombings in Saudi Arabia and Morocco should alarm the Muslim world, showing that there is no good and bad terrorism**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

May 21, 2003 Wednesday Final Edition

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**Section:** Editorial / Op-ed; Pg. A31

**Length:** 828 words

**Byline:** GIL TROY

### **Body**

---

The tragic triple suicide bombings in Saudi Arabia, followed by the weekend attacks in Morocco, should alarm the Muslim world. Just as the terrorists did not distinguish between Saudis and Americans, between Moroccans and Europeans, the world cannot distinguish between "good" and "bad" terror. Terrorism as a tactic must be denounced broadly, not selectively. It should not be relativized; it must be delegitimized.

Although it risks bad manners to mock people in mourning, anyone with a good memory had to be struck by Crown Prince Abdullah's denunciation of the "criminal butchers" who attacked the three compounds. "These tragic events should serve as a warning to the unwary and should restore sanity to the deluded," Abdullah said. "The perpetrators are but a small group of deviants whose objective is to do harm to our society by doing damage to its security." Freelance

Unfortunately, for years now, the crown prince's kingdom and too many Islamic leaders have been perpetuating the mass "delusion" that terrorism is not only legitimate but holy. Billions of Saudi petro-dollars have funded recruitment campaigns to ensure that such "butchers" are anything "but a small group of deviants." Saudis - and too many other Muslims - have financed, implemented, rationalized and consecrated terror. They have raised money for terror under the guise of widow-and-orphan funds from Riyadh to Rabat, from Marseilles to Montreal. They have encouraged many of their youth to attend training camps to learn how to build suicide bombs, how to fill these death packs with nails to maximize the maiming, how to lace the shrapnel with rat poison to intensify bleeding.

Perpetuating the lie that suicide bombers - when aimed at the "right" target - are "martyrs not murderers," these leaders' diplomats have praised suicide bombings on the front pages of London newspapers, their professors have honoured students who killed rather than learned, their populace has worshiped mass-murderers with the same adulation the decadent Westerners expend on rock stars. And their religious leaders have developed a cult of martyrdom, hijacking a religion in the service of an odious ideology of death, distorting key ideas to feed hate and foment violence.

Of course, terrorism was supposed to be aimed at "legitimate" targets - Israeli kids munching pizza, American secretaries booting word processors, Australian teenagers bogeying in a nightclub. By exporting terror, the Saudi kingdom was supposed to be buying a certain immunity from it. In the more moderate Kingdom of Morocco, until this weekend, terrorism was something that happened elsewhere. But is anyone surprised that such a tactic, once perfected and applauded, could not be controlled? A society that can so demonize the "other" as to celebrate enemy deaths, risks distorting its political culture. A political culture that celebrates wading into crowds or apartment compounds and blowing up civilians wherever they might be, whoever they are, risks teaching its members that when arguments fail, it is OK to resort to violence, even against your neighbours.

Nobody is safe: The terrorist bombings in Saudi Arabia and Morocco should alarm the Muslim world, showing that there is no good and bad terrorism

Terrorism is so morally problematic because it is deliberate yet indiscriminate. Whereas one mourns the deaths of soldiers and of civilians in war, terrorism seeks out civilians when they are doing what civilians do - working, playing, shopping, eating, sleeping - and often targets the weakest members of society, women in markets, children at play, old men on a bus.

Although it is easy to moralize about Saudi Arabian and Moroccan hypocrisies, we need to acknowledge our own inconsistencies. The Canadian government's softness for Hezbollah and Hamas, reflected most recently in immigration authorities' branding as a war criminal a refugee who helped fight against Hezbollah in southern Lebanon, implicates us all. The people purporting to be peace protesters who march with signs legitimizing suicide bombers by saying "martyrs not murderers," thus celebrating murder, shame us all. No civilized person can delight in the dozens killed in Riyadh or Casablanca. But as one awaits condemnation from the Arab world of the latest wave of Hamas suicide bombings aimed at aborting U.S. President George W. Bush's peace initiative, one can hope that some good will result. Perhaps now, the leaders of Islam are ready to lead the fight against terror. Perhaps they are ready to purge their ranks of those who encourage terrorism and those who soft-pedal it.

There is no longer a need for an appeal based on idealism. The sociopaths who slit a Casablanca doorman's throat, the cars that detonated throughout Riyadh and Casablanca, the bomb that exploded in a Yemeni court days after a judge sentenced an Al-Qa'ida terrorist to death, demonstrate that this is a matter of life and death. Supporting terrorism comes with no immunity clause - those who support terror today risk being terrorist targets tomorrow.

Gil Troy teaches history at McGill University.

## Graphic

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Photo: LAURENT REBOURS, AP; A Moroccan woman passes flowers placed in front of the Casa de Espana restaurant, where two suicide bombers killed more than 20 people in Casablanca on Friday.

**Load-Date:** May 21, 2003

**Mideast peace 'truce' holds --- a lot of pain;  
At one-week mark, 6 more deaths**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

October 4, 2001 Thursday,

Home Edition

Copyright 2001 The Atlanta Constitution

**Section:** News;

**Length:** 821 words

**Byline:** DAN CHAPMAN

## **Body**

---

Rafah, Gaza Strip --- Like a perfect Palestinian hostess, Salwa al-Qadi gave a home tour earlier this week.

"I found an arm here," she said, as she approached the gates of her family's sandstone and white-trimmed villa, within a stone's throw of the Egyptian border.

She pushed past the gates and hurried up the steps to the front door. She opened the heavy wood door and entered the bullet-pocked foyer.

AJC

"I found his body here, where I used to serve coffee," she said, pointing to the spot where a Palestinian gunman died last week in a firefight with Israelis that spilled into her house.

Wednesday marked the one-week anniversary of the supposed cease-fire between Israelis and Palestinians. Each day since, though, has been marked by increasingly nasty bouts of violence, in spite of the vow on both sides to continue the cease-fire.

The conflict spilled across the border Wednesday when Hezbollah guerrillas in south Lebanon fired rockets at Israeli positions, provoking an Israeli artillery bombardment. The Hezbollah attack was their first since June 29.

Nowhere has the terror been worse in recent weeks than in the notorious Gaza Strip.

Six Palestinians were killed Wednesday by Israeli tank and gunfire in the northern edge of the Gaza Strip, the largely destitute sliver of fenced-in land along the Mediterranean Sea.

The soldiers, who also bulldozed dozens of Palestinian homes and shelled Palestinian police posts, were responding to the previous night's killing of two Israelis in the nearby settlement of Elei Sinai.

Later Wednesday, Palestinians opened fire on a crowd of Israelis gathered outside a disputed shrine in the West Bank town of Hebron. Two women were wounded, one seriously.

Mideast peace 'truce' holds --- a lot of pain; At one-week mark, 6 more deaths

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon blamed Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, saying he "has established a coalition of terror." Sharon's Cabinet met later Wednesday and decided that, despite the violence, the professed cease-fire will continue.

The Palestinian Authority condemned the raid, adding it would bring those responsible to justice.

In all, two dozen Palestinians and the two Israelis have been killed during the cease-fire. It seems increasingly doubtful that peace will come anytime soon, especially to the Gaza Strip.

"Before, I had hope for peace," said al-Qadi, who didn't know the dead man in her home. "But after what I have been through, no, I have no hope."

More than 1 million people live in this 25-mile-long swath of sand and rock. Tens of thousands of Palestinians, whose families fled or were forced out of Israel when the Jewish state was created in 1948, remain in slumlike refugee camps, among trash-strewn alleyways where donkey carts serve as taxis.

About 6,000 Israelis live in a handful of Gaza Strip settlements on land Israel captured in 1967. These are highly protected communities surrounded by barbed and electrified fences and Israeli soldiers.

Palestinians control much of the Gaza Strip and are responsible for most schools, taxes, police and a variety of other municipal services. But it is the Israeli army that wields the real power.

"People are terrified here," said Kannan Hammdan, 30, of Rafah. The Israelis "just want us to surrender. But you must know that Gaza has been a graveyard for all occupiers throughout its history."

Hammdan, with a glass eye and no job, peeked out from the Bahloul gas station within sight of the Termit Israeli military outpost, where the latest wave of violence started last Wednesday.

He surveyed desolate Saladin Street, typically a busy market with dozens of shops and stalls leading to the Egyptian border. But customers disappeared once a Palestinian militant group tried to blow up Termit and the Israelis responded with bullets, bulldozers and tanks.

Four Palestinians were killed and 16 houses destroyed during the ensuing Israeli attack. A 14-year-old boy stopping for a drink of water was shot to death at the gas station, Hammdan said, pointing with sandaled foot to the exact spot where the boy fell.

"Since Thursday, it has been too dangerous to go into the street," he said, the shuttered shops and midday silence proof of his claim.

The gas station manager said business is off 90 percent this week. The Gaza Strip, already saddled with 40 percent unemployment and a degree of poverty rivaling Central Africa, continues to suffer economic trauma.

Israel's security measures closed Gaza International Airport last year; it opens only occasionally. Israelis prohibit most Palestinians from leaving the Gaza Strip to find work in Israel. Soldiers also restrict travel within Gaza, further stifling the sale of the region's bountiful strawberry, guava, date and tomato crops.

Israeli roadblocks partially determine the ebb and flow of Gazan prosperity --- and security.

By Wednesday, after a week of killings, a Palestinian car bombing in Jerusalem and the demolition of Gazan homes, the cease-fire lay tattered --- but, technically, still in force.

## Graphic

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Mideast peace 'truce' holds --- a lot of pain; At one-week mark, 6 more deaths

Photo:

Funerals were held Wednesday for the Israelis killed Tuesday at a Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip (above) and for their attackers, for whom the Hamas flag was carried./ YOSSI ALONI / Associated Press Photo:

The Hamas flag at the attackers' funeral./ HATEM MOUSSA / Associated Press

**Load-Date:** October 4, 2001

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## *Never mind Hillary - it's 'Laura for president' now*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

June 1, 2005, Wednesday

Copyright 2005 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** OPINION; Pg. 09

**Length:** 711 words

**Byline:** By John Hughes

**Dateline:** SALT LAKE CITY

### **Body**

---

I and my readers had such fun with my provocative column suggesting a Nobel peace prize for President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair that I'm ready to try another: Laura Bush for president in 2008.

The Bush and Blair column drew as much reader reaction as any I can remember in many years of column writing.

At one end of the spectrum, Bush supporters thought it was a nifty idea. I never heard the broadcast, but many readers told me that Sean Hannity commented on the "idea from this feller in Salt Lake City" and said "the country needs more thinking like this."

By contrast, Bush critics thought it was a terrible idea. One of my perennial correspondents, who has routinely suggested that Bush is motivated by Satanic influences, said he was "truly sickened by the proposal." Others suggested I resign from clubs I don't even belong to.

Now to Laura. Her public opinion ratings are currently higher than the president's. Her performance at the Gridiron dinner in Washington proved she has even more comedic flair than her husband. And on her trip to the Middle East last week, she showed she has a mind of her own and can sometimes, with civility, take positions different from Mr. Bush.

Still not persuaded? Think the wife of a former president shouldn't, or couldn't, take a crack at running for the White House? Well Hillary Clinton is the wife of a former president and a lot of people think she's a front-runner for the Democratic nomination in 2008. What a contest that would be: Laura and Hillary. Choose one for first woman president. What a campaign Karl Rove would make.

Of course, Laura would have to elbow out Bill Frist, John McCain, and maybe even brother-in-law Jeb Bush, as well as a string of other aspiring males to get the Republican nomination. But I suspect that beneath that poised and charming exterior are nerves of steel and a canny political sense on issues of great import.

She certainly displayed cool nerve in the midst of rambunctious demonstrating crowds during her five-day Middle East visit. She also shrewdly pitched the president's agenda of freedom and democracy to the audience that could perhaps do more than any other to further that agenda throughout the Arab lands.

Never mind Hillary - it's 'Laura for president' now

That audience, of course, is the women of the region. In male-dominated societies, they have been traditionally disenfranchised and relegated to inferior status, their educational potential and influence for constructive change untapped and dismissed. But if encouraged and unleashed, what a force they could be.

The winds of change are rippling across the Arab lands - evident in voter turnouts in liberated Iraq, pro-democracy demonstrations that have sent Syrian troops out of Lebanon, and the burgeoning of a substantial opposition movement in Egypt. Of necessity, and not always from conviction, political concessions are being made by kings, princes, and traditional rulers.

Islamist parties, which have long curried favor with the population by providing social services, are poised to become part of the opposition. Hamas and Hizbullah, for example, are debating whether to renounce violence and become mainstream political organizations.

Arab women, if empowered, could be a significant factor in shifting their menfolk away from terror and bloodshed and into orthodox politics. That's why it was cheering to see Mrs. Bush sit down with Hanan Ashrawi and other prominent Palestinian women last week to encourage the advancement of women's rights.

Peace and stability will be better served when there are more women legislators and judges and government officials in positions of responsibility in the Islamic world. Some progress is being made, as in Afghanistan.

But throughout Arab nations, 50 percent of women are still illiterate. A recent report prepared for the United Nations by Arab intellectuals found that "despite laudable efforts to promote the status of women, success remains limited." Greater progress, it concluded, is required in women's political participation, legal status, marital rights, and their integration into development.

Laura for president. Maybe that would help.

\* John Hughes, a former editor of the Monitor, is editor and chief operating officer of Deseret Morning News.

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**Load-Date:** May 31, 2005



## *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

## *Muslim leader gives Cook a shaking*

Herald Sun (Melbourne, Australia)

February 23, 2004 Monday

Copyright 2004 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 16

**Length:** 366 words

### **Body**

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I HAVE just read about Sheik al-Hilali's claim that Afghan Muslims discovered Australia before Captain Cook and supposedly converted the Aboriginal people to Islam.

The thought occurred to me that if Aborigines have been here for 40,000 years and Islam has been around for only 1500, maybe the Aborigines converted the Muslims.

Phill Cripps, Cranbourne

THE self-proclaimed grand Mufti of Australia's Muslims, Sheik Taj al-Hilali, embraces Islamic suicide bombers who kill women and children and praises Hezbollah and Hamas, the outlawed terrorist groups who organise these massacres.

Perhaps that's why attacks against Jews and Jewish property, particularly in NSW, the ACT and Victoria, have doubled since the Palestinian intifada started and since the Sheik has been inciting violence at his Lakemba mosque.

Why doesn't he come out and say in English what he says in the mosques and in Lebanon?

Better still, why doesn't he leave his Middle East hatreds out of Australia?

Michael Burd, Toorak

I WOULD like to remind all Australians that Sheik al-Hilali is not the leader of all Muslims in Australia, but was appointed by a minor group of Muslims.

He doesn't represent me or my views as an Australian-born Muslim of Turkish background.

I am totally against terrorism. The Koran, like all other religions, teaches peace, love and tolerance.

I am proud to be Australian, Turkish and a Muslim.

Adem, Broadmeadows

IT'S time our Government had a closer shufti at the Mufti. Just who does Sheik al-Hilali think he is?

He appears to have a hidden agenda and should be deported immediately.

Thelma Robinson, Glen Waverley

## Muslim leader gives Cook a shaking

SHEIK al-Hilali, thinks Islam has deep roots with the Aborigines because of their customs. I would have thought a people who practiced circumcision and went walkabout in the desert would have more in common with Jews than Muslims.

John Withers, Lara

ANDREW Bolt asks why Muslims call Hilali their Mufti when he is transparently anti-Israel and the Western world and an open admirer of Islamic terrorists?

The reason is obvious: they share Hilali's views but prefer to remain silent to project a moderate front.

Samantha Lee, Doncaster

**Load-Date:** February 22, 2004

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End of Document

## **FBI CHIEF HAILS HELP OF ARAB, MUSLIM NATIONS/ HE REPORTS COOPERATION AGAINST TERRORISM**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

February 18, 2004 Wednesday Five Star Edition

Copyright 2004 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A5

**Length:** 360 words

**Byline:** The Associated Press

**Dateline:** WASHINGTON

### **Body**

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Terrorist attacks in Arab and Muslim countries have led those governments to vastly improve their cooperation with U.S. authorities in the war on terrorism, particularly in cutting off financing, FBI Director Robert Mueller said Tuesday.

Bombings tied to al-Qaida or its sympathizers have proven to governments around the world that terrorism is not merely a U.S. problem, Mueller told foreign journalists.

"I think countries around the world recognize that numbers of women and children were killed in those senseless acts and don't want to see that happen anywhere in the world," Mueller said.

Although he declined to name specific countries, Mueller said Arab and Muslim countries had made significant strides in helping the United States identify and shut down sources of financing for al-Qaida, Hamas, Hezbollah and other groups.

"You take the money away from terrorists, they cannot operate," Mueller said during an appearance at the State Department's Foreign Press Center.

FBI officials have cited several examples of this cooperation in recent months, including:

- \* Setting up a joint U.S.-Saudi task force to investigate and eliminate sources of terrorism financing in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere.

- \* Joint investigations of terrorism financing networks with local officials in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Indonesia.

- \* Action taken by both the United States and Saudi Arabia to block accounts in Bosnia and Somalia of the Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation and Wa'el Hamza Julaidan, described by the FBI as an associate of Osama bin Laden who provided financial support to al-Qaida.

- \* Four occasions in which the FBI got information from unnamed foreign governments about financing of a pending terrorist attack and could provide that government with tracking information leading to the arrests of suspects.

## FBI CHIEF HAILS HELP OF ARAB, MUSLIM NATIONS/ HE REPORTS COOPERATION AGAINST TERRORISM

Mueller said that despite the international gains made against al-Qaida and removal of its base in Afghanistan, the group remains a dangerous network with affiliates or sympathizers in many parts of the world. "They are a fragmented operation around the world about which all of us must be concerned," he added.

### Graphic

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PHOTO; Photo headshot - (Robert) Mueller, Doesn't name specific countries

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

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End of Document

## IRAN COUNTDOWN BEGINS

Scotland on Sunday

June 1, 2003, Sunday

Copyright 2003 The Scotsman Publications Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 14

**Length:** 1461 words

**Byline:** Ian Mather

### **Body**

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'REGIME change', the Bush administration's euphemism for invasion, is once more back on the lips of senior figures in Washington. This time the country being singled out as ripe for special treatment is Iran.

So far, the use of the phrase has not found its way into public speeches. Officially, the US still holds to its policy of cool detachment from Iran. However, the signals emanating from high-level briefings make it clear that a head of steam is once more building in Washington towards more drastic action.

It is not yet a done deal in Washington. Behind the scenes a fierce battle is being waged between the Pentagon and the State Department over what to do about Iran's theocratic regime, described by President George W Bush last year as part of an "axis of evil", along with North Korea and Iraq.

The Pentagon wants to force regime change on Iran. The State Department wants dialogue.

If this sounds familiar, it is. It parallels the pre-invasion debate within Washington over Iraq, with most of the principal characters taking identical positions.

Heading the hawks are defence secretary Donald Rumsfeld and vice-president Dick Cheney. Heading the doves is Secretary of State Colin Powell, this time in the company of Condoleezza Rice, head of the National Security Council, who last time was a hawk.

But the hawk camp is once again the same posse of neo-conservatives in key posts who last time forced through the invasion policy on Iraq. The difference this time, however, is that the talk is not of open war but of destabilisation. Pentagon officials advocate fomenting a popular uprising to topple Iran's government.

Even so, Rumsfeld has not categorically ruled out an invasion. Asked in a radio interview last week if the US was going to go to war against Iran, he replied: "Not to my knowledge," before adding as a rider: "What might be decided depends, of course, on people's behaviour."

The accusations against Iran are that it is trying to develop nuclear weapons, that it is fomenting trouble in Iraq, that it supports terrorism, and that it is harbouring al-Qaeda leaders.

The US accuses Tehran of using the construction of power plants at Bushehr as a cover for a nuclear weapons programme. Evidence against Iran on the nuclear issue grew last week when an Iranian opposition group, the National Council of Resistance of Iran, reported the existence of two previously undisclosed uranium enrichment facilities, a move that, if proven, would suggest Iran is seeking to build nuclear weapons.

## IRAN COUNTDOWN BEGINS

Russia, which is supplying nuclear technology to Iran, says Tehran is solely interested in peaceful development. But analysts say that an accelerated nuclear programme might be an attempt by Iran's rulers to avoid Saddam Hussein's fate. They note that North Korea, which already has rudimentary nuclear weapons and is pursuing more, has had talks with Washington instead of being invaded.

Iran makes no attempt to deny its interest in neighbouring Iraq, the majority of whose population are fellow Shi'ites. However, last week it ridiculed Western allegations against it.

"These accusations make us laugh," said Iran's foreign minister Kamal Kharazi. "These countries have occupied Iraq and then they accuse us of interfering." Kharazi confirmed that the Iranian-backed Supreme Assembly for Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI), a hardline Shi'ite group with its own armed wing, had begun putting in place a network of social support mechanisms modelled along those managed by Lebanon's Hezbollah movement. "Perhaps they can take part in a future government," he added.

Neither does Iran deny its support for Hezbollah. Even the moderate Iranian President Mohammad Khatami insisted, when he visited Lebanon in mid-May and was mobbed by Lebanese Shi'ite Muslims, that Tehran's support for the Lebanese Hezbollah would remain firm and that Israel must leave the last square miles of Lebanese territory.

However, at the top of the current list of US concerns is intelligence that al-Qaeda is operating from Iran, and on this issue Tehran is busy back-tracking.

Last week the US said that it had intelligence suggesting that senior members of Osama bin Laden's group based in Iran may have been behind the May 12 suicide bombings in Riyadh, in which eight US nationals died. The Washington Post reported that even State Department moderates were ready to back a harder line unless the authorities cracked down on al-Qaeda operatives.

The result was that, for the first time, Iran publicly acknowledged it was holding a number of suspected members of bin Laden's network, and left open the possibility that it might have top al-Qaeda operatives in custody.

Foreign ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi said that Iran was unsure of the identities of the al-Qaeda members it had detained. "None of the al-Qaeda members in our detention have been identified yet. We do not know whether leaders of the terrorist group are in Iran or not," Asefi said.

Foreign minister Kamal Kharazi said that "those who should be sent back to their countries will be, and those who have committed acts against Iran will be tried in Iran itself".

Just what level of al-Qaeda operatives are in Iran, and how much control the Iranian regime has over them, remains unclear. Flynt Leverett, of the Saban Centre for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution in Washington, says that al-Qaeda members are in an inaccessible region of north-eastern Iran.

They might be operating with the knowledge and even the protection of the local contingent of Iran's revolutionary guards, but not with support from the government in Tehran.

The fate of Iran could hang on the outcome of a tug-of-war in Tehran which more than matches that in Washington in its intensity.

The existence of reformers in Iran struggling to put into effect president Khatami's progressive agenda, in the teeth of clerical opposition, is the main reason why European governments have re-established diplomatic relations with Iran under a policy called "critical dialogue", designed to persuade Tehran further along the path of reform.

The British government has no intention of abandoning its policy of diplomatic engagement with Iran, which means that if Bush were ever to go to war, he would almost certainly have to do so without the support of Tony Blair.

Things are not going well, though, for Iran's reformers, who came to power pledging a new era of improved democracy, justice and social freedoms.



## IRAN COUNTDOWN BEGINS

The reformers managed to push through parliament two bills that would strip the Council of Guardians, a bastion of clerical conservatism, of its right to vet candidates for public office, and would also enable the embattled president to challenge the judiciary.

But the Council has rejected both bills, leading to calls from the reformers for a referendum, and threats of a mass walk-out from the government.

The mounting threats from the US are making life even harder for Iran's reformers, exposing them to accusations from the hardliners that they are a fifth column serving American plots against the country.

"The enemy knows that weapons and tools will not be effective against the will and resistance of the Iranian people. So it is determined to confront the people of Iran from within," supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said last week.

In recent weeks, a number of liberal dissidents have been handed heavy prison terms and reformist MPs have been warned they could face trials if they follow through with a threat to resign. Liberal newspapers have been closed down.

Limited social freedoms, one of the few tangible improvements of Khatami's six years in power, have not escaped the apparent backlash. There are reports of hardline vigilantes tearing up short and body-hugging coats favoured by many young women at some boutiques in Tehran.

The reformers have tried to put pressure on the country's leaders through public letters warning that the leadership would suffer the same fate as Saddam Hussein in Iraq unless the Iranian people's aspirations for more openness and democracy were heeded.

But analysts argue that the reformers have lost credibility in Iran because they have repeatedly threatened to resign without actually doing so. Many Iranians have become disillusioned.

Who will win the battle within the Bush administration over Iran policy is not yet clear. Last week a high-level meeting to thrash out a new policy on Iran was supposed to take place but did not.

A US government official said the reason was time pressure ahead of Bush's departure for his trip to Europe and the Middle East.

"We don't know which way the Americans are going, and perhaps they don't know themselves," a European diplomat said in Washington. "But the Iranian leadership is certainly very worried."

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2003

**Ten killed in bus bombing near Israeli leader's home, Prime minister was not present at time of attack**

Charleston Daily Mail (West Virginia)

January 29, 2004, Thursday

Copyright 2004 Charleston Newspapers

**Section:** News; Pg. P3A

**Length:** 335 words

**Byline:** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## **Body**

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JERUSALEM - A Palestinian suicide bomber detonated a bag of explosives on a crowded Jerusalem bus outside Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's residence today, killing 10 passengers and wounding 50 bystanders in the deadliest attack in four months.

The blast sent body parts flying into nearby houses. Shaken survivors crawled out of broken bus windows. A chunk of the bus' roof landed on top of a two-story building, and witnesses said there was an overpowering smell of blood and smoke.

Sharon was not home at the time of the attack, claimed by the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a militant group close to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

The bomber, identified as Ali Jaara, 24, a Palestinian policeman from the West Bank town of Bethlehem, said in a note he left that he wanted to avenge eight Palestinians killed in fighting with Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip the day before.

The bombing marked another setback for stalled peace efforts. It came at a time when senior State Department officials were in the region to try to revive the U.S.-led "road map" plan. Washington has criticized the Palestinian Authority for not doing enough to stop militants, and the bomber's ties to the security forces was particularly embarrassing. Bethlehem is one of only a few Palestinian towns not under Israeli military control.

Secretary of State Colin Powell condemned the bombing.

The attack also coincided with a German-brokered prisoner swap between Israel and the Lebanese guerrilla group **Hezbollah**, which went ahead as planned. It was not clear whether the Al Aqsa militia had timed the bombing to go off during the exchange.

Police spokesman Gil Kleiman said the bomber had boarded the bus carrying about 15 pounds of explosives in a bag. The assailant detonated the explosives on bus No. 19 just before 9 a.m. in the Rehavia district in downtown Jerusalem, just 15 yards from Sharon's official residence.

Today's bombing was the deadliest since a **female** suicide bomber killed 21 people at a seaside restaurant in Haifa on Oct. 4.

Ten killed in bus bombing near Israeli leader's home, Prime minister was not present at time of attack

**Load-Date:** January 30, 2004

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End of Document

**Protesters keep pressure on Syria Lebanese opposition supporters pour into Beirut; Syrian agents evacuate more offices**

Charleston Daily Mail (West Virginia)

March 14, 2005, Monday

Copyright 2005 Charleston Newspapers

**Section:** News; Pg. P3A

**Length:** 376 words

**Byline:** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## **Body**

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BEIRUT, Lebanon - Hundreds of thousands of opposition demonstrators chanted "Freedom, sovereignty, independence" and unfurled a huge Lebanese flag in Beirut today, the biggest protest yet in the opposition's duel of street rallies with supporters of the Damascus-backed government.

Crowds of men, women and children flooded Martyrs Square, spilling over into nearby streets, while more from across the country packed the roads into Beirut - responding to an opposition call to demonstrate for the removal of Syrian troops from Lebanon.

The assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri exactly one month ago sparked the series of protests against Syria, the dominant power in Lebanon.

The throngs fell silent at 12:55 p.m. - the exact time Hariri was killed four weeks ago by a huge bomb in Beirut.

Today's protest easily topped a pro-government rally of hundreds of thousands of people last week by the Shiite Muslim militant group Hezbollah. That show of strength forced the opposition to try to regain its momentum.

Syria's military withdrawal continued today, with intelligence agents closing two offices in the northern towns of Amyoun and Deir Ammar, on the coastal road between the port of Tripoli and the Syrian border. Intelligence agents also dismantled two checkpoints in the Akkar area. About 50 intelligence agents in all departed for unknown destinations, although it was believed to be northern Syria.

Most intelligence offices, the widely resented arm through which Syria has controlled many aspects of Lebanese life, remained in northern and central Lebanon after Syrian troops moved east, closer to the Syrian border.

Last week, intelligence officers left the central towns of Aley and Bhamdoun and headed to Syrian-controlled areas of eastern Lebanon. The redeployment is the first stage of what Damascus says will be a full withdrawal, although it has not given a timetable.

The opposition is demanding a full Syrian withdrawal, the resignations of Lebanese security chiefs and an international investigation into Hariri's Feb. 14 assassination.

Protesters keep pressure on Syria Lebanese opposition supporters pour into Beirut; Syrian agents evacuate more offices

Many were also particularly offended by pro-Syrian President Emile Lahoud's reinstatement last week of Prime Minister Omar Karami, who was forced to resign on Feb. 28 by a giant opposition protest.

**Load-Date:** March 16, 2005

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End of Document

## ISRAELIS HALT BURIALS

Daily News (New York)

April 13, 2002, Saturday

SPORTS FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2002 Daily News, L.P.

**Section:** NEWS;

**Length:** 334 words

**Byline:** By LEO STANDORA DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

### **Body**

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Israeli soldiers began gathering bodies of Palestinians killed in the Jenin refugee camp for burial in unmarked graves yesterday, but Israel's Supreme Court quickly halted the grim mission.

Acting on a Palestinian petition charging that an attempt was underway to cover up a massacre at the camp, the court ordered the state prosecutor to respond to the accusation at a hearing tomorrow.

The tug of war over those slain in fierce fighting with the Israelis at Jenin erupted after Israeli Army spokesman Brig. Gen. Ron Kitrey announced that the collection of bodies for the mass burial already had begun.

Witnesses said they saw dozens of corpses carried off in military trucks early in the morning, but the army wouldn't confirm whether any bodies had been removed or whether any burials had taken place before the Supreme Court stepped in.

Palestinian Cabinet Minister Saeb Erekat repeated accusations the Israelis were trying to cover up the killing of civilians.

"They want to hide their crimes, the bodies of the little children and women," Erekat said.

'Enemy cemetery site'

Kitrey said the bodies of gunmen and suicide bombers from the camp would be buried at a cemetery in the Jordan Valley - a forlorn field where Lebanese fighters killed in border clashes have been interred in graves marked only by numbers.

During the Lebanon conflict, some of those bodies were dug up and repatriated in body swaps with Lebanon's Hezbollah guerrillas.

"The terrorists we found with guns we are going to bury in what we call the enemy cemetery site," Kitrey said. "The civilians we will try to give back to the Palestinians."

The transport of some bodies prompted Palestinian allegations that Israel was trying to cover up the killing of as many as 500 Palestinians in Jenin and elsewhere on the West Bank.

The Israeli Army put the Palestinian death toll at Jenin at 100. About 13,000 people live in the camp.

## ISRAELIS HALT BURIALS

Verification of the death toll has been impossible because aid groups and journalists have been barred from Jenin.

### Graphic

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REUTERS SORROW Palestinian woman sobs next to a destroyed car in West Bank town of Jenin yesterday. Scores of Palestinians have been killed in fierce fighting against Israeli troops in recent days, including in the refugee camp of Jenin.

**Load-Date:** April 13, 2002

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End of Document

## *Syria in their sights*

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia)

October 8, 2003 Wednesday

Copyright 2003 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** FEATURES-TYPE- FEATURE-COLUMN- OPINION / OP EDPHOTO; Pg. 33

**Length:** 885 words

**Byline:** PHILLIP COOREY

### **Body**

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These are the first pictures of the alleged terrorist training camp in Syria attacked this week in an Israeli air raid. PHILLIP COOREY explores the growing Middle East tensions and its implications for US foreign policy.

US PRESIDENT George W. Bush avoided criticising the Israeli airstrike in Syria on Sunday, saying the Israelis had the right to

defend themselves.

His only caution to Israel was that he did not want to see tensions in the region inflamed by such actions.  
MATP

The Israeli attack on Syrian territory is a major escalation on a new front in a region already beset by violence and sectarian hatred.

Does the attack signal an escalation of violence from guerilla warfare and terrorism?

What happened?

At 3am local time Sunday, Israeli F-16 jets crossed into neighbouring Syria and bombed the Ein Saheb camp, about 20km northwest of the capital Damascus.

What reason did Israel give for the attack?

Only hours before the air raid, a **female** suicide bomber belonging to Islamic Jihad walked into a restaurant in Haifa and killed 19 Jews and Arabs. Israel said Ein Saheb was a training camp for Islamic Jihad. Syria and Islamic Jihad deny this.

Violence in the Middle East is as common as the sun rising. Why the furore?

This was the first Israeli attack inside Syria in 30 years. The last time was during the 1973 Yom Kippur war when, on October 6, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, Egypt and Syria launched attacks on Israel in a bid to regain territory lost during the 1967 Six-Day War.

The Israelis were taken by surprise and suffered losses before fighting back. By the time the US intervened diplomatically, Israel had taken back the Golan Heights from Syria and Gaza and the Sinai.



## Syria in their sights

Israel and Syria have clashed since 1973, but that was in Lebanon when both countries became mired in that country's civil conflict.

The countries are still technically at war. Sunday's attack by Israel was on the eve of Yom Kippur.

Was the US, Israel's key ally, angry about the Israeli action?

No. Washington's own relationship with Syria is tense. For many years Washington has labelled Syria a country which supports and harbours terrorists.

It accuses Damascus of supporting Palestinian groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad. It also accuses Damascus of backing Hezbollah, which fought the 18-year Israeli occupation of Lebanon.

Hezbollah, responsible for the abduction of westerners in Beirut in the 1980s, was Iranian backed.

How are US-Syrian relations?

Not good. After Baghdad fell to in April, Washington turned its sights on Syria,

accusing it of having weapons of mass destruction and harbouring members of Saddam's regime who had fled Iraq.

Were relations always this bad?

No. During the 1991 Gulf War when the US needed Arab allies to help oust Iraq from Kuwait the then President George H. W. Bush offered Syria numerous financial and diplomatic incentives to join the coalition. Syria made a significant contribution.

What was President Bush's response to Israel's air strikes?

President Bush rang Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon after the strikes and said Israel had a right to defend herself but any action Israel took should avoid escalation.

Was President Bush having a bet both ways?

President Bush is treading a fine line. It was he who developed the post-September 11 doctrine of pre-emptive self-defence. Israel claimed that very rationale for the Syrian raid. At the same time, the US is sitting on a powderkeg in Iraq and is trying to revive its comatose road map for peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

President Bush really didn't mind the attack, did he?

No. As White House spokesman Scott McClellan said yesterday: "We have repeatedly told Syria they need to stop harbouring terrorist."

The State Department added that Damascus "must make a clean break from those responsible for planning and directing terrorist action from Syrian soil".

Syria has presented a resolution to the UN Security Council condemning the raid. Will it pass?

Not likely. The resolution needs nine out of 15 votes to pass. Although 14 of the 15 council members criticised the attack during Sunday's emergency session, the council will want a more balanced resolution which also condemns Palestinian terrorism.

The draft resolution only expresses grave concern at escalating tensions in the region and condemns Israel for violating international law and the UN Charter on self defence.

The US, a permanent member of the council, will veto any resolution critical of Israel.

## Syria in their sights

When did the US last use its veto to protect Israel?

About three weeks ago when it blocked a resolution demanding Israel stop threatening to expel Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Arab nations then put the resolution to the 191-member UN General Assembly and it passed easily. America was one of a handful of nations to vote against it.

Did Ariel Sharon ring President Bush to inform him the raid was about to take place?

Not according to White House spokesman Scott McClellan, who said: "We're not a traffic light. They don't ask for [permission] and we don't give it."

Why doesn't Syria hit back militarily?

Although Syria has a big army, Israel has superior troops and equipment, mainly provided by the US. Israel also has strategic nuclear weapons, including missiles pointed at Damascus. It also has the US on side.

**Load-Date:** October 7, 2003

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End of Document

## **Suicide bomber kills child, mother**

The Star Phoenix (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

May 28, 2002 Tuesday Final Edition

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**Section:** World; Pg. D4; Crime

**Length:** 395 words

**Dateline:** PETACH TIKVAH, Israel

### **Body**

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PETACH TIKVAH, Israel (AP) -- A suicide bomber blew himself up Monday at an outdoor mall in a city next to Tel Aviv, killing himself and two other people and wounding about 20, police and witnesses said.

The bomber struck the city of Petach Tikvah as Israeli forces were conducting a sweep through the West Bank town of Bethlehem, one of a series of quick raids aimed at stopping suicide bomb attacks.

Soldiers left the town of Tulkarem just before the suicide bombing in Petach Tikvah, east of Tel Aviv.  
Associated Press

Police and hospital officials said two people, a woman and a two-year-old girl, were killed. Among the wounded were several babies. Police commander Aharon Franco said a body at the scene was "apparently the suicide bomber."

A baby carriage, its blue fabric stained by blood lay on its side in the midst of the rubble. A witness who gave his name as Haim told Israel radio that the attacker struck "children and babies who were sitting with their parents at the cafe near the supermarket."

The Lebanese TV station Al-Manar, representing the **Hezbollah** guerrillas, broadcast a claim of responsibility from the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, affiliated with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

David Baker, an official in the Israeli prime minister's office, said: "Palestinian terror continues to strike out at Israeli **women** and children." He said Israel would use "all the resources at its disposal" to stop terror attacks.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said: "We have to do whatever possible to beat these things, by military means and also by political means."

Earlier, police in Jerusalem defused a bomb discovered by a gardener outside an apartment building. The explosives had been hidden in a plastic bag.

Defence Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said that despite continued warnings about plans by Palestinian militants to carry out suicide attacks, Israel was not on the verge of another large-scale military operation on par with the six-week Defensive Shield offensive which ended earlier this month.

Dozens of armoured vehicles and jeeps drove into Bethlehem and surrounding towns and refugee camps before dawn Monday and imposed a curfew on tens of thousands of Palestinians in the second incursion into the area in two days. The city had been under Israeli control for nearly six weeks during the previous offensive.

## Suicide bomber kills child, mother

**Load-Date:** May 28, 2002

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End of Document

**Schrader decries charges in ad;  
Criticized in a GOP mailer for screening a movie, the  
Democrat left the 8th District debate after opening remarks.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

OCTOBER 26, 2004 Tuesday BUCKS EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** LOCAL NEWS BUCKS COUNTY & THE REGION; Pg. B01

**Length:** 918 words

**Byline:** Leonard N. Fleming INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

## **Body**

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Democrat Virginia "Ginny" Schrader, infuriated over a national GOP mailer hammering her screening of a controversial film at a fund-raiser, stormed out of a debate yesterday against Republican Michael G. Fitzpatrick and two other candidates.

Schrader's fury was fueled by an attack ad sponsored by the National Republican Congressional Committee that went out Saturday. The ad lambasted her decision last July to screen Fahrenheit 9/11, a movie by government critic Michael Moore.

The two-sided mailing - splashed in deep red and black and with people holding a sign that reads, "We blame America" in red, dripping letters - is headlined, "Ginny Schrader: The Hate America crowd has found their candidate."

"Let me assure you, I don't hate America," Schrader told the audience of about 60 people during her opening remarks. "This mentions Hezbollah. Half my family is Jewish. This is totally unacceptable."

The ad claims that Hezbollah, a group of Lebanon-based guerrillas identified by Israel and the United States as terrorists, has offered to distribute Moore's film, which was sharply critical of Bush's march to war in Iraq.

She called on Fitzpatrick, who sat stoically next to the standing Schrader, to apologize to "me and to my family and call every single person who received this . . . hate mail."

Fitzpatrick did not respond.

Officials moderating the debate at a Doylestown restaurant repeatedly asked Schrader to stop her opening statement about the ad, and her microphone was eventually shut off. Schrader then walked away from the makeshift dais to some applause.

Schrader decries charges in ad; Criticized in a GOP mailer for screening a movie, the Democrat left the 8th District debate after opening remarks.

The Eighth Congressional District debate, sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Bucks County and the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce, went on with Fitzpatrick, Erich Lukas of the Constitution Party, and Arthur Farnsworth of the Libertarian Party.

The debate touched on issues ranging from how to help small businesses improve worker training to health care, tourism and job growth. Fitzpatrick championed the elimination of the death tax and medical-malpractice reform, while the other candidates said the Constitution did not allow federal involvement in those areas.

After the debate, Fitzpatrick said he was disappointed that Schrader had left.

Later, Fitzpatrick said he wrote a letter to the National Republican Congressional Committee and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, asking both organizations to "stay positive on the messages."

But he refused to apologize for an ad he did not sanction. Fitzpatrick said he did not blame Schrader for an erroneous recorded phone call to voters from an undetermined group saying that he "had a record of voting for tax credits that sends American jobs overseas" and opposed extending unemployment benefits.

As Bucks County commissioner, he couldn't have voted on those issues.

"I'm disappointed at all the campaigns in the region that have turned decidedly negative," said Fitzpatrick, referring to races such as the Sixth District battle between Democrat Lois Murphy and Republican Jim Gerlach.

Bo Harmon, spokesman for the National Republican Congressional Committee, said the Schrader mailer was legitimate.

"We're simply trying to demonstrate that Ginny Schrader is aligning herself with groups that are very outside of the mainstream," said Harmon, who noted that Schrader received donations from MoveOn.org, a group that Republicans say opposed the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Stacey Kerr, spokeswoman for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, yesterday called the mailing "the most hateful piece of mail we have seen in this election cycle."

Schrader, who said she didn't regret leaving the debate, felt that she had to confront Fitzpatrick. "I could not sit through a debate and talk about health-care issues and small-business issues and not bring this up," she said later.

Referring to the National Republican Congressional Committee as the "mothership," she said, "they put it out, he knew about it, he didn't disavow it, he didn't say this was going too far."

Schrader's decision to abandon the second-to-last debate before Election Day shocked observers. But the race to succeed Republican U.S. Rep. James C. Greenwood has intensified as both national parties spend thousands of dollars through negative TV ads and mailings.

The recent mailing calls Schrader "a radical candidate on the fringe of public debate. Her agenda for our country will do more damage than Michael Moore's hateful propaganda." It says she would "lift the travel ban on communist Cuba" and impose "higher taxes on working families" - all accusations that she denies.

Carlo Borgia, director of the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce, said the audience deserved to hear Schrader's opinions.

"It was pretty visceral of what she felt, but it was unfortunate that she got up and walked out," Borgia said.

Louise Levy, a small-business owner from New Hope, said she was appalled by the mailing and was disappointed that Fitzpatrick didn't denounce it.

"This has the name of the National Republican Congressional Committee on it, and he just ignored it," Levy said. "He pretended it didn't happen."

Schrader decries charges in ad; Criticized in a GOP mailer for screening a movie, the Democrat left the 8th District debate after opening remarks.

Connie Borichevsky, voter-service director for the League of Women Voters, said that Schrader knew the rules of the debate and didn't follow them.

"And so when a candidate refuses to do that, then we have to step in and stop them from speaking," she said. "Ms. Schrader made her choice. It was unfortunate, I think."

Contact staff writer Leonard N. Fleming at 215-702-7813 or [lfleming@phillynews.com](mailto:lfleming@phillynews.com).

## Notes

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Campaign 2004

## Graphic

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PHOTO;

Virginia "Ginny" Schrader called for an apology for the mailer.

Michael G. Fitzpatrick, a Republican, did not apologize.

**Load-Date:** September 1, 2005

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End of Document

*Middle East on brink ;  
Bus carnage escalates 'tragic cycle of violence'*

The Gold Coast Bulletin (Australia)

February 16, 2001, Friday

Copyright 2001 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Length:** 365 words

## **Body**

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THE killing of eight Israelis by a Palestinian in the worst attack on Israelis in years has intensified fears that the escalating violence in the Middle East could spin out

of control.

Four ***female*** soldiers, three male soldiers and a civilian were killed and 17 other people injured when 35-year-old Palestinian driver, Khalil Abu Elba of Gaza, slammed a bus into a crowded bus stop south of Tel Aviv on Wednesday.

The attack was the worst since two terrorist bombings in a Jerusalem market in 1997.

It prompted Israel to tighten a blockade of Palestinian areas and US President George Bush to appeal for an end to the 'tragic cycle of violent action'.

The driver fled but was shot in the legs and captured after a 30km chase. He had been employed driving Palestinian workers to Israel for five years.

Grieving families began burying their dead late on Wednesday and funerals for

six other victims were planned for yesterday.

Violence has worsened since Ariel Sharon defeated Prime Minister Ehud Barak in a February 6 election.

The head of Israel's armed forces, Shaul Mofaz, said security agencies were bracing for an escalation in conflict.

He called on the Palestinian Authority to arrest dozens of militants released after a Palestinian uprising erupted in September.

Palestinian officials said 'Israeli aggressions' were to blame for the bus attack, which came a day after an Israeli helicopter missile strike killed

a top Palestinian security officer in his car. Israel said he was

a terrorist agent for Iran-

backed ***Hezbollah***.



Middle East on brink ; Bus carnage escalates 'tragic cycle of violence'

Mr Bush called on Israel and the Palestinians to stop tit-for-tat attacks that have become the norm since the start of the clashes nearly five months ago. More than 300 Palestinians, 61 Israelis and 13 Israeli Arabs have been killed in the violence.

"The tragic cycle of violent action and reaction between Israel and the Palestinians, particularly the escalation this week, needs to stop," said Mr Bush in his first formal state-

ment on the Middle East since he

took office.

Yasser Arafat, on a visit to Turkey, angered Israel by stopping short of condemning the bus-stop carnage.

Officials said they were not sure whether the bus driver acted alone or on behalf of extremists.

**Load-Date:** November 12, 2001

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End of Document

**A Turkish town where terror was sown;  
There's disbelief in Bingol, the home of 2 suicide bombers.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

NOVEMBER 22, 2003 Saturday CITY-D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**  
Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A01

**Length:** 921 words

**Byline:** Soraya Sarhaddi Nelson INQUIRER FOREIGN STAFF

**Dateline:** BINGOL, Turkey

## **Body**

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Turkey's latest outbreak of violence was hatched in an Internet cafe in this mountain-ringed southeastern Kurdish town, investigators say.

A sign on the wall of the Bingol Internet Merkezi Cafe warns users that it is "definitely banned to enter sites . . . targeting the state, country and its inseparable integrity and constitutional order." Most of the users, teenage boys engrossed in noisy games of computer soccer, seem happy to comply.

But two other young men - the son of one cafe owner and the brother of the other - who came here regularly, blew themselves up in the suicide bombings last weekend that set Turkey reeling. Police raided the cafe this week and confiscated files, apparently on suspicion that the cafe may have linked the bombers to the larger world of Islamic terrorism, including al-Qaeda.

Accessible only by a winding two-lane road, the town first hit the front pages when an earthquake registering 6.4 on the Richter scale killed more than 170 in the area in early May. Shock waves struck again this week when Turkish leaders named it as the hometown of two suicide bombers who killed themselves and 23 others and injured 300 more when they detonated explosives-laden Isuzu pickups in front of two synagogues in Istanbul last Saturday.

Turkish Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul has said the two had visited Afghanistan. Turkish media reported that one trained in Iran in 2001. U.S. intelligence officials said both trained in al-Qaeda camps in Afghanistan, and returned to Turkey in 2001.

Police now are investigating two accomplices, at least one of them from Bingol, who left Turkey on Oct. 28 for Dubai. The pair slipped back into Turkey to carry out Thursday's suicide bombings at the British Consulate and London-based HSBC bank headquarters in Istanbul, the Turkish daily Hurriyet reported yesterday.

These three are accused of planning the attacks under the noses of Turkish troops who rule Bingol with an iron grip. How they got away with it shows how hard it is to prevent terrorism.

A Turkish town where terror was sown; There's disbelief in Bingol , the home of 2 suicide bombers.

One possible explanation for the bombings lies in the sharp religious and political divisions among Kurds who have clashed among themselves for decades in their struggles for local autonomy. These divisions persist even if local extremist groups are no longer viable, said Nihat Ali Ozcan, a terrorism expert based in Ankara. With al-Qaeda, "they learn about different groups coming up with more global solutions to what they are opposed to and latch on."

Residents in this city of 250,000 said they could not believe one of their own would accept al-Qaeda or its methods. No one likes Osama bin Laden and they abhor the recent attacks, they said. But most refused to talk to outsiders about them.

The uncle of suicide bomber Gokhan Elaltuntas, 24, who Turkish officials said carried out the attack against the Neve Shalom synagogue in Istanbul last Saturday, made an exception. "This has put a total shame on the whole family," Sevfet Elaltuntas, 52, explained. "This does not really suit at all our family morals and virtues.

"The whole Elaltuntas family has good relations with the [Turkish] security and military," he added. "We are tradespeople and do business with them."

His uncle last talked to Elaltuntas two nights before the blast. The young man, who ran a cell-phone shop in Istanbul, said he was coming home this weekend to celebrate the breaking of the Ramadan fast, after which he was scheduled to marry his fiancée from Turkey's capital, Ankara.

His nephew was so averse to bloodshed that he didn't have the stomach to skin the fowl and rabbits he and his friends hunted, Elaltuntas said. "He must have been brainwashed in Istanbul. He wasn't extremist, definitely not. He never expressed a political thought."

Residents of Bingol take pride in their conservatism, and virtually all women here wear Islamic head scarfs. There are no graffiti, pro-militant or otherwise, on buildings or walls. Sermons delivered in its mosques are written by Turkey's state-run religious authority. Most men on the streets smoke cigarettes during the holy fasting month of Ramadan, when believers are supposed to abstain.

But Turkish authorities say Bingol town and province are rife with Islamic extremists. Twelve people identified as terrorists were killed in the province Wednesday night alone, Turkish Justice Minister Cemil Cicek told parliament Thursday.

Authorities said most were part of a Kurdish faction called Turkish Hezbollah, a Sunni Islamic group with at most a few thousand followers not linked to the Lebanese Shiite Muslim group of the same name.

The handful of Bingol residents who agreed to be interviewed contend that the group was formed in the early 1980s and was allowed to operate because its members fought against other autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels.

"The state has built it, established it, and then couldn't handle it," said one 33-year-old businessman, who declined to give his name.

Disillusionment spread among these extremists, experts said, after last year's election of an Islamic party that has tried to strengthen Turkey's ties to the United States and sought Turkey's admission into the European Union.

"When you look at it from the perspective of al-Qaeda or Hezbollah, this government itself, although Islamic, represents the antithesis of [the extremists'] global agenda," Turkish columnist Semih Idiz told Israel Radio on Thursday. "It's a government that is showing that Islam and modernity are not mutually exclusive."

Contact reporter Soraya Sarhaddi Nelson at [snelson@krwashington.com](mailto:snelson@krwashington.com).

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

***If I'm pessimistic, it's because I don't want another Lebanon;  
The chest-thumpers see no cause for anxiety over our role in Iraq, but there  
is.***

The Philadelphia Inquirer

APRIL 30, 2003 Wednesday CITY-D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** EDITORIAL; Pg. A19

**Length:** 900 words

**Byline:** Trudy Rubin

## **Body**

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I recently wrote a column titled, "Did we win in Iraq, and if so, what?" and received a sheaf of e-mail responses, about half of them hostile.

My column touched on the difficulties of building democracy in Iraq and the iffy welcome we've received from Iraq's majority of Shiite Muslims. Legitimate subjects, I thought, since America has taken on an unprecedented nation-building task in an Arab country riven with religious and ethnic divisions.

But my critics wrote as if I was in league with Attila the Hun.

The kindest accused me of being a Chicken Little who only saw the Iraq glass as half empty. A more typical e-mail demanded to know how "liberals could look the other way when it comes to human lives" and asked, "How do you feel about all those death camps ... and factories filled with body bags?" Another stated: "Your children should live in Iraq or Iran." A third: "Was it worth it? Yes, I can sleep better knowing that Iraqis ... are not afraid for their lives."

I found all of this a bit dizzying since I have been writing about Saddam's human rights violations for years. This subject never used to elicit much e-mail. But I finally began to understand these passionate denunciations of my column.

I was interfering with the new emotion-of-the-month stirred up by presidential speeches on the liberation of the Iraqis. Many Americans are feeling a burst of self-satisfaction at the end of Saddam's depredations against his people. One reader who attacked the callousness of Iraq war critics bragged about his "strong set of high, unwavering moral standards."

I find this self-congratulatory chest-thumping exceedingly shallow.

Where were the chest-thumpers when Saddam was gassing the Kurds, when Donald Rumsfeld was visiting Saddam in 1983, and the Reagan government was selling Saddam chemical precursors? Where were they when

If I'm pessimistic, it's because I don't want another Lebanon ; The chest-thumpers see no cause for anxiety over our role in Iraq , but there is.

Saddam was murdering the Shiites because George Bush the elder had betrayed them after calling on them to rise in 1991?

Where were they during the partial genocide of Bosnians and Kosovars in the 1990s? Back then - and in the Bush 2000 campaign - Republicans denounced humanitarian intervention in such situations as unwarranted. "Foreign policy as social work" was the label, and nation-building was taboo. I got very little response to endless columns about Bosnian suffering then.

There is a deep inconsistency in the message of those who now trumpet the cause of Iraqi human rights. Many of my e-mail critics believe we went to war in Iraq for humanitarian reasons. I don't. This was a war about weapons of mass destruction and geopolitics.

But if these readers believe in humanitarian intervention, they should be consistent. They should campaign for the United States to invade China (to save Tibetans) and Russia (to save Chechens) and a long list of other dictatorships, some of which are our close allies. Then I could respect their position.

What worries me is that all this self-congratulation is more about American ego than about Iraqi human rights. But how long will Americans pay attention? Who still cares about rights for Afghan women, that one-time hot human-rights issue? And who's complaining that our aid budget for Afghans is so puny?

And when the going gets tougher in Iraq, will the sanctimonious turn away?

If I am a Chicken Little, it is because I have spent 30 years covering the Middle East. Of course I'm glad Saddam is gone, but I have seen other U.S. ventures go sour.

I watched the Reagan administration send troops into Lebanon in 1982 with very little understanding of the internal Lebanese political configuration. I spent many hours talking to U.S. Marines based in downtown Beirut who knew that they were sitting ducks in Lebanese gun sights. Then ill-informed U.S. officials intervened in a civil war and turned Lebanese Shiites into enemies.

I will never forget the day in October 1983 when a Shiite truck bomber killed 242 Marines.

I was also in Lebanon when Israel invaded in 1982. Lebanese Shiites at first welcomed the Israelis because Israeli troops drove out the Palestine Liberation Organization, whom the Shiites detested.

But the Israelis knew very

little about the Lebanese Shiites. I still remember two frantic Israeli reservists, respected scholars on Shiism, who tried unsuccessfully to tell Israeli government officials what they needed to know.

Under Israeli occupation, the moderate Shiite political movement Amal was eclipsed by the new and growing radical movement of Hezbollah. I watched as Shiite receptivity turned into hostility. After hundreds of casualties from Hezbollah, Israeli troops were ultimately driven out.

I sense among some citizens a resistance to such unpleasant facts. Ignorance may be bliss, but failure to understand Iraqi realities could produce another Lebanon.

So those who sleep better because Iraqis are free should take a little time to inform themselves about Iraq. They should understand that trying to build a democracy in that tragic country may cost us a high price in blood and treasure, which won't be offset by Iraqi oil money. They should also understand that Iraqis may turn against Americans if they stay too long.

I don't write this because I want to see Bush fail, as some of the chest-thumpers claim. Just the opposite - I want to avoid another Lebanon disaster. I never want to see another Marine barracks blow.

If I'm pessimistic, it's because I don't want another Lebanon ; The chest-thumpers see no cause for anxiety over our role in Iraq , but there is.

Contact columnist Trudy Rubin at 215-854-5823 or [trubin@phillynews.com](mailto:trubin@phillynews.com).

## Notes

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Worldview

## Graphic

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CARTOON;  
(BARRIE MAGUIRE)

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

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End of Document

**Israeli army attack leaves 5 Palestinian officers dead;  
Upsurge in Mideast violence brings more death and injury**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

MAY 15, 2001 Tuesday CITY-D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

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**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A01

**Length:** 919 words

**Byline:** Barbara Demick INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

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The Israeli army shot and killed five Palestinian police officers at a West Bank checkpoint early yesterday morning in a mysterious incident that raised tempers to the boiling point.

The shooting in Beituna, a village near Jerusalem, was only the first incident in a day of spiraling violence on all fronts.

There was a shoot-out across a ravine at the southern edge of Jerusalem that left four Jewish women injured, while the Islamic guerrilla movement Hezbollah attacked Israelis patrolling near the Lebanese border. In Gaza, Israeli helicopters and navy ships rocketed buildings and armored cars belonging to Yasir Arafat's Palestinian Authority. Two more Palestinians were killed in Gaza later in the day.

"It's very disturbing that the cycle of violence continues to go upward," U.S. Secretary of State Colin L. Powell said in an interview with CNN.

Ominously, the upsurge in fighting took place on the eve of the annual Palestinian day of mourning, known as Nakba, or Catastrophe Day, which commemorates the 1948 founding of the state of Israel and the flight of Palestinians into exile.

Demonstrations are planned throughout the West Bank and Gaza for today and if the past is any guide, it will be an even deadlier day than yesterday.

Thousands of enraged Palestinians marched through the West Bank city of Ramallah yesterday, vowing revenge as the bodies of the police officers were carried on wooden biers draped with Palestinian flags. The five men ranged in age from 18 to 32; all were from Gaza.

Arafat said the Israelis attacked a Palestinian checkpoint in the middle of the night without any provocation.

## Israeli army attack leaves 5 Palestinian officers dead; Upsurge in Mideast violence brings more death and injury<

"It was a dirty, immoral operation," Arafat said. "Israel must know that it will be harshly judged over this crime."

The Israeli army initially said that Israeli soldiers opened fire when they saw "suspicious figures who were where they were not supposed to be." But it backtracked from that statement after the Palestinians, supported by many witnesses, said the police post had been set up in coordination with the Israeli army more than a year ago, when the two sides were cooperating in security matters. The army later refused comment.

"They just started shooting," said Fakher Zaid, 30, a Palestinian who lives next to the checkpoint of the Israelis. He said the soldiers opened fire from the roof of a house under construction and from a military base nearby.

Other Palestinian witnesses said that the Palestinian police were inside a small shack, two of them asleep, when the Israelis started shooting. The police, witnesses said, did not have time to fire back.

Raanan Gissin, an adviser and spokesman to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, said, "The Israeli Defense Forces has decided, with the approval of the government, to take initiated action ... against those targets from where such attacks are being conducted."

He said there had been shooting from the Beituna police post in the past and that as a result the Israeli soldiers had been jittery.

"The real problem is that the Palestinian Authority turned those police posts into war zones. . . . It was the dead of night. You don't know who is friend or foe, so you don't take chances," Gissin said. He insisted, however, that the Palestinians were not targeted for killing. "They weren't going after those particular policemen."

Israel has assassinated several dozen Palestinian militiamen and activists since the onset of the revolt that engulfed the region in late September. On Saturday, a militia leader in the West Bank city of Jenin was shot dead with a helicopter-launched missile.

Since Sharon took over Israel's leadership in March, the Israeli army has resorted to increasingly tough tactics to try to quell the uprising.

Nighttime helicopter gunship attacks on Palestinian facilities have become so commonplace that they are barely covered in the evening news. Yesterday, the killings in Beituna were overshadowed in Israeli media by Israel's victory in the European basketball championship in Paris.

A sign of rising alarm among the Israeli populace, however, was the appearance of surprisingly strong editorials yesterday in the nation's largest newspapers, harshly criticizing Sharon's tactics.

"Only a revenge-seeking fool could believe that eliminations and missile fire, the demolition of neighborhoods, the killing of soldiers and civilians and the destruction of homes can restore personal calm and security," said Israel's largest paper, Yedioth Ahronot.

Maariv, a tabloid, questioned the effectiveness of killings such as yesterday's: "At the moment of each elimination, dozens of potential terrorists - consumed by rage, hopelessness and feelings of revenge - rise up."

In another incident yesterday, two Palestinians were killed in an exchange of fire with Israeli soldiers near Karara in the southern Gaza Strip, according to a Palestinian official. The Israeli military said that the Palestinians threw grenades and fired at an outpost, and that one had a bomb strapped to his body. Also, Palestinian gunmen from the West Bank town of Beit Jala fired into Gilo, a Jerusalem neighborhood built on land annexed from the West Bank, and injured four women, one seriously.

In Lebanon, Hezbollah guerrillas shot antitank missiles across the border into northern Israel, aiming at an Israeli army post near the disputed Chebaa Farms. The Israeli army retaliated with artillery fire. No injuries were reported.

Barbara Demick's e-mail address is [foreign@phillynews.com](mailto:foreign@phillynews.com).



Israeli army attack leaves 5 Palestinian officers dead; Upsurge in Mideast violence brings more death and injury<

Inquirer researcher Ahmed Mashal contributed to this article.

**Load-Date:** October 31, 2001

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**A NATION CHALLENGED: ISLAM; Moderate Muslims Fear Their Message Is Being Ignored**

The New York Times  
October 21, 2001 Sunday  
Late Edition - Final

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**Section:** Section 1B; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 1

**Length:** 2041 words

**Byline:** By DOUGLAS JEHL

**Dateline:** CAIRO, Oct. 20

## **Body**

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Since the September attacks, Al Azhar the revered mosque, the distinguished university, the leading voice of the Sunni Muslim establishment -- has renewed with accustomed grace the roles it has played in the world of Islam for more than 1,000 years.

It has sought to advise Muslims around the world that those who kill in the name of Islam are nothing more than heretics. It has sought to guide, to reassure Westerners against any clash of civilizations.

But throughout an Islamic world full of anger and despair, political rulers and those like Al Azhar who support them have perhaps never been so unpopular. So despite the mosque's best efforts, the banners raised last week at the mosque to protest the American airstrikes expressed a very different voice: "Jihad is the solution!"

This is Islam as the language of dissent, and over the past quarter century, its words have become increasingly loud. In places like Egypt, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, frustrated people -- choked by booms in population, disoriented by the uneasy mix of imported American culture and old traditions, blocked by failing economies and squelched by curbs on political expression -- have found a single vehicle to express their rage: political Islam.

Until 30 years ago, in the Middle East, South Asia and Africa, the language of politics was cast in terms of nationalism or the demands of the cold war. Now it is tinged almost everywhere with slogans like "Islam is the answer."

If there is one constant amid the many faces of this religion, experts say, it is that Islam is growing as a force. Sometimes financed by Saudi oil, Islam is the dominant vehicle for the hospitals and charitable foundations that increasingly fill voids left by secular governments.

In recent decades new Islamic republics have emerged in Sudan, Iran and Afghanistan. Islamists have been elected to parliament, served in cabinets or held high office in countries from Algeria to Jordan to Pakistan to Malaysia and Indonesia.

## A NATION CHALLENGED: ISLAM Moderate Muslims Fear Their Message Is Being Ignored

None of these countries is a true democracy, and while Islamists cast themselves as pluralizers in authoritarian states, few go so far as to advocate a Western-style democracy. The traditions of Islam emphasize submission to religious law, leading many scholars to question whether Islam is even compatible with democracy.

The United States has allied itself with many Arab governments that have no interest in democracy, among them Saudi Arabia. At the same time, the United States is widely seen in the globalized, post-cold-war world as the voice and exporter of the message that democracy, free markets and technology are the answer for everybody.

Both these facets of American policy -- what is perceived as hypocrisy in backing autocratic Arab states, and the democracy-fits-all message -- have caused unease or anger among Muslims.

So, too, have American support for Israel and for sanctions on Iraq, and the presence of American troops in Saudi Arabia, home to Islam's two holiest sites, Mecca and Medina. As a result, the message of the accused terrorist Osama bin Laden has gained a broad resonance.

The attempt to control and if possible reverse this growing antagonism is clearly one of the major diplomatic challenges facing the Bush administration. The elimination of Mr. bin Laden's network has given America an immediate military focus, but the sentiments among Muslims who have helped that network grow present a far deeper problem.

Islam is a faith of many faces: from its stern Wahhabi visage in Saudi Arabia to the more flexible versions that prevail in Egypt or Indonesia, where clerics have long scoffed at rigid rules like the Saudis' ban on women's driving, and have argued that Islam is eternally adaptable to modern life.

Islam's 1.3 billion followers include Shiites, the minority sect that is dominant in Iran, and Sunnis, the majority in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and most other Islamic countries. There are also the mostly secular, as in Syria, whose government has crushed a religious challenge to its authority, and the militant, exhorted by extremist clerics in places like Lebanon, Gaza and now Afghanistan. Some extremists have condoned the Sept. 11 attacks and routinely use religion to justify violence in the name of a holy struggle, or jihad.

The category of militants is growing. It is a development that saddens men like Sheik Fawzi al-Zafzaf, an Islamic scholar who has spent 40 years at Al Azhar. He acknowledges that its authority has been cast in doubt in some quarters by Al Azhar's very ties to an Egyptian government that also needs the center's support.

"They call us the clerics of the authorities," Sheik Zafzaf said with clear regret, speaking of Muslims who have taken more militant voices as their religious guides.

It is a conundrum not only for Egypt, but perhaps for all of the Islamic world.

Since the time of Muhammad (A.D. 570-632), the teachings of Islam have always linked political rules with spiritual rules, so governments like Egypt's need the mantle of institutions like Al Azhar as a seal of legitimacy.

But the more that governments like Egypt's harness themselves to mainstream clerics, the more those unhappy with their leaders have disdained the clerics as well.

"Our role is to correct the misperceptions," Sheik Zafzaf said of Al Azhar, whose leader, or grand imam, is appointed to a lifetime term by Egypt's president, a partnership that is spelled out in the Constitution. But, he said, "if people do not listen to our views, that is not our fault."

Outside the mosque, beneath its soaring minarets, a young graduate student at Al Azhar was among those quick to identify himself as one who no longer pays much heed to the official message or its messenger.

"I accept that it is un-Islamic to kill civilians," said the student, Muhammad al-Kordy, 25, echoing the message that the grand imam, Sheik Muhammad Sayed al-Tantawi, has articulated in nearly every speech since Sept. 11. "But Sheik Tantawi is a puppet."

## A NATION CHALLENGED: ISLAM Moderate Muslims Fear Their Message Is Being Ignored

Anger at the perceived "puppets" -- Arab governments unready to stand up to Israel, pliant to American demands, unable to give their young populations a sense of opportunity -- grows continually.

Opposition movements and radical extremist organizations have sought to destabilize Muslim countries and attacked government officials and institutions in the West. Chief among them has been Al Qaeda, the network led by Mr. bin Laden.

In the years after the Iranian revolution in 1979, it was Shiite Islam that was widely regarded in the West as a particularly dangerous force. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini derided what he called "American Islam," and efforts were made to export violence and establish Islamic states.

But as John L. Esposito, a scholar at Georgetown University, wrote earlier this year, the Iranian revolution is showing signs of exhaustion.

Today the louder voices of religious-inspired opposition to the status quo are those of Sunni Muslims like those of the anti-Israeli group Hamas and the violence embraced by Sunnis like Mr. bin Laden. "The fruits of decades of investment in Sunni militancy now stand ready to take over where Iran is leaving off," Dr. Esposito wrote.

The investment seems to have come largely from Saudi Arabia, which financed the American-backed mujahedeen, or holy warriors, in their fight against Soviet forces in Afghanistan in the 1980's and later -- until Sept. 11 -- embraced the Taliban.

That flow of funds from Saudi Arabia and other Persian Gulf states has come not only from public coffers, but in millions of dollars of private money as well, which was contributed to charities and other groups that serve as another way to promote a specific vision of Islam.

In Pakistan in particular, they helped to establish the madrassas, schools that inculcated vast numbers of young people in the stern, unforgiving Wahhabi strain of Islam, which has taken root in its harshest form among the Taliban. This strain is also found Central Asia, where Russia and some new nations confront radicals inspired by Islam.

All over the Islamic world, charities have helped to win both admiration and obligation for particular Islamic views.

From its base in Beirut's southern suburbs, the Iranian-backed Lebanese resistance group Hezbollah, which is Shiite Muslim in orientation, is also the country's largest nongovernmental organization. It schools young men like Ali Isa, 19, cares for them in its clinics and -- not least -- preaches to them in its mosques.

"My loyalty is to Hezbollah and Sheik Fadlallah," Mr. Isa, an auto mechanic with a closely trimmed black beard, said recently. "Lebanon does nothing for me."

He was referring to Muhammad Hussein Fadlallah, Hezbollah's spiritual adviser, a gentle-looking and extraordinarily popular 62-year-old cleric who remains on American lists of suspected terrorists for his links to Hezbollah's more radical past.

Mr. Isa said he agreed with Sheik Fadlallah that the attacks on the United States were wrong. But he also said he agreed that if Mr. bin Laden is caught, he should be tried in a Muslim court rather than by "a court of infidels," and he took exception when asked if he recognized that not all Muslims shared that view.

"Who else besides Fadlallah has any business telling us what Muslims should believe?" he asked.

In its most extreme forms, of course, militant Islam has thrived most where state power is least, in places like Afghanistan, Lebanon and Sudan, and so it is not surprising that stronger states like Egypt would use what power they can to promote religious moderation.

Across the Islamic world, this is most often done in the form of partnership between religious and secular authorities, like the one between Al Azhar and the government of President Hosni Mubarak.

## A NATION CHALLENGED: ISLAM Moderate Muslims Fear Their Message Is Being Ignored

With financing from the government, Al Azhar, for example, not only educates Muslims from more than 50 countries, giving it a global reach, but is the dominant voice in shaping the sermons delivered in Egypt's mosques, most of which are controlled by the government as a barrier to dissent.

In conversations at the graceful Al Azhar structure known as the House of the Sheik, clerics sitting behind Arabic-style windows and elegant carvings have cast themselves again and again as the guides to a gentle Islam.

Wearing clerical robes and a red fez-like hat wrapped in a white turban, and bearing a callus on his forehead that marks a man of prayerful piety, Sheik Zafzaf recalled how quickly Al Azhar sprang to action on the Friday after Sept. 11.

"We circulated the guidance to clerics around the world, in Egypt and abroad, in relaying the message of condemnation for these terrorist attacks, because God prohibited the killing of civilians," he said. "We are holding daily contacts with our clerics via the embassies abroad and our offices in Egypt, spreading the word to all the imams to denounce the terrorist attacks."

But other recent rulings by Al Azhar's grand imam had a more mixed tone. He has ruled that organ transplants are permitted in Islam, to the satisfaction of Egyptian modernizers, but he has also insisted that Al Azhar be given the last word on what books are published in Egypt, to guard against those that are un-Islamic.

During Egypt's own internal war in the mid-1990's on the Islamic militants who were trying to overthrow the government, Al Azhar was uniformly critical of the bombings, assassinations and other attacks against the government. Among Egyptian militants, within the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood (the main arm of political dissent) and even among young Al Azhar scholars like Mr. Kordy, the rulings now bring little respect.

"I don't believe anything he says," Mr. Kordy said of Al Azhar's grand imam, whose pronouncements are supposed to articulate religious law.

It is a conflict of which clerics like Sheik Zafzaf, who is 52 years old and began his studies at Al Azhar when he was just 12, have become painfully aware.

"Al Azhar is the only institution in the world that has learned the moderate Islam and taught it in a moderate way without fanaticism, and without abiding by the teachings of a school that promotes rigidity or violence," he said.

Referring to Sept. 11, he added: "It breaks my heart that a Muslim in the name of Islam would commit such crimes, when Islam has nothing to do with it."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

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Photos: Anti-American demonstrators outside Al Azhar mosque in Cairo protesting the retaliatory attacks on Afghanistan. (Associated Press); The mosque at Al Azhar, Cairo. Scholars there condemn terrorists who kill in the name of Islam as heretics, but despair threatens that message. (Mohamed el-Dakhkhny for The New York Times)(pg. B4)

**Load-Date:** October 21, 2001

## ***Assassinate militant leaders, Israeli defence minister says***

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

February 2, 2004 Monday Final Edition

Copyright 2004 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** FRONT; Pg. A4; NEWS

**Length:** 393 words

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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The leaders of violent Islamic groups are targets for assassination, Israel's defence minister said yesterday, raising the possibility of a further escalation in violence in the three years of Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed.

Shaul Mofaz issued the threat in response to a declaration by the spiritual leader of Hamas, Sheik Ahmed Yassin, that the group plans an all-out effort to kidnap Israeli soldiers.

"The statements of Yassin just emphasize the need to strike the heads of Hamas and the Islamic Jihad," Mofaz told the weekly meeting of the Israeli cabinet, according to an Israeli official who attended the meeting.

Associated Press

The statements by Mofaz and Yassin threaten to inflame an already violent confrontation that has led to the deaths of more than 3,500 people on both sides during three years of fighting.

Last week, Israel killed eight Palestinians in a shootout in Gaza City, while a Palestinian suicide bomber killed 11 people in Jerusalem. Hamas took responsibility for the bombing, a day after a claim from the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, loosely linked to Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

Yesterday marked the beginning of the four-day Eid al-Adha holiday, and Hamas officials were not available to react to Mofaz's comments.

#### **MANY PINPOINT ATTACKS**

During more than three years of violence, Israel has carried out many pinpoint attacks aimed at leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad -- often prompting a violent response. In September, Yassin narrowly escaped an Israeli air strike in the Gaza Strip.

But Israel has greatly reduced the number of targeted killings in recent months. Last month, Mofaz's deputy, Zeev Boim, retracted comments calling for Yassin's assassination, saying later that no decision had been made.

Hamas, responsible for dozens of suicide bombings over the last three years, also appeared to have scaled back its activities until a Hamas **female** suicide bomber killed four Israelis at a Gaza-Israel checkpoint Jan. 14.

Yassin encouraged kidnapping Israeli soldiers a day after Israel released 400 Palestinian prisoners as part of an exchange with the Lebanese militant group **Hezbollah** for a businessman and the bodies of three soldiers.

## Assassinate militant leaders, Israeli defence minister says

Yassin said it has become extremely difficult to capture soldiers, apparently trying to explain why Hamas has failed to free the 7,000 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.

## Graphic

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Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; Palestinians sit atop the rubble of their houses, demolished by the Israeli forces during an operation to arrest militants, in the West Bank town of Jericho.

**Load-Date:** February 2, 2004

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End of Document

## HUMAN RIGHTS

Richmond Times Dispatch (Virginia)

May 13, 2002 Monday City Edition

Copyright 2002 Richmond Newspapers, Inc.

**Section:** EDITORIAL; Pg. A-8

**Length:** 410 words

### **Body**

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After a one-year absence, the United States has been granted the right to return to the UN's Commission on Human Rights. The U.S. once again will be able to introduce resolutions and such.

A year ago the UN gave numerous reasons for booting its most generous backer from the commission. The usual suspects in the U.S. argued that U.S. opposition to Kyoto, its lack of a permanent UN ambassador, and its support for a national missile defense doomed its chances. What these issues had to do with human rights and the enforcement of them remains unclear.

Still, the membership of the Commission on Human Rights includes such harborers of terrorists as Algeria and Libya, such permitters of the slave trade as Sudan, such supposed proponents of female circumcision as Kenya, Nigeria, and (again) Sudan. Somehow, Comrade Fidel's island paradise, where detractors of his administration rot in jail or in re-education camps, took a seat. Syria, which provides rockets to Hezbollah to fire upon Israeli civilians, is a member, too. And so is Saudi Arabia, where the press serves as the loyal mouthpiece to the Al Saud regime and where that regime turned a blind eye to an article accusing Jews of making holiday pastries from the blood of Christian and Muslim youths.

What has happened since the U.S. lost its place at the human rights table? Columnist Paul Greenberg notes that the commission held the Durban Conference - "the greatest outpouring of anti-Semitic propaganda since the Third Reich." He adds that the UN commission has played favorites in the unpleasantness in the Mideast:

The UN was quick to criticize the Israelis for invading the [refugee] camps - where they found not just wanted terrorists but mines, mortars, missiles, and rockets, all supposedly outlawed under the Oslo Accords. But the UN has never complained about the transformation of its refugee camps into armed camps.

Of course not. Quite the contrary. The UN's Human Rights Commission has just endorsed "all available means, including armed struggle," to establish a Palestinian state.

As a reinstated member of the Commission on Human Rights, the U.S. might not make an iota of a difference. But it can help stop the UN from suffocating Israel, which has been prohibited from weighing in on human rights issues since the commission dumped it in 1970.

Meanwhile, commission veterans Libya, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain have a vote, and their worthies continue to call for the death of Jews.

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



## HUMAN RIGHTS

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## **WAR ON IRAQ: UK SOLDIERS ORDER FLAGS FOR PROTECTION**

Western Mail

April 5, 2003, Saturday

Copyright 2003 Western Mail and Echo Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4; Newspaper

**Length:** 358 words

### **Body**

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A SWANSEA flagmaking firm has been inundated with orders from soldiers fighting in the Gulf wanting Union Flags to help prevent "friendly fire" from Americans.

The flags have been requested by troops in the Gulf and their families back home, worried that American aircraft might be unable to distinguish them on the ground from Iraqis.

Many of the orders are being made over the internet to United Flag Traders based at Swansea's Enterprise Zone.

Managing director Charles Ashburner said, "The troops want British flags for identity purpose.

"They are strapping the flags to the top of their tanks and armoured personnel carriers.

"We had a lot in before the war and they seemed more scared of the Americans than the Iraqis.

"They did not always want them for show. They wanted them for protection, too. We are still selling them, even though the war has started."

United Flag Traders has supplied flags to servicemen and women in the Gulf and is now seeing a massive rise in sales due to the war.

The company has even sold Iraqi flags over the internet to customers in Baghdad and other parts of Iraq.

The British-requested flags are sent to a British Posted Overseas address and then forwarded by the Army directly to the soldiers who made the order, wherever they are.

The Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes have been selling out as fast as United Flag Traders can make them at its Swansea factory.

Mr Ashburner said, "We are getting a lot of internet orders from the US at this patriotic time because the shops are simply running out there."

Mr Ashburner, 33, added, "As well as orders from the British and Americans we are getting some pretty unusual ones.

"We've been asked for nine Kurdistan Regional Government flags.

## WAR ON IRAQ : UK SOLDIERS ORDER FLAGS FOR PROTECTION

"Before the war we'd never been asked for one of those in our history. We even supplied a Hezbollah flag last week which we'd never done before. But it was to a collector not a terrorist.

"And we've also sold peace flags at the same time as selling flags to troops.

"Never has an increase in business been so reluctantly accepted by us . . . it's very hard to take in the horror which is going on in Iraq at the moment."

## Graphic

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SALES SOAR: A Union Flag made at United Flag Traders

**Load-Date:** April 7, 2003

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## PALESTINIAN WOMAN'S BOMB KILLS HER, ISRAELI MAN

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

January 28, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 The Columbian Publishing Co.

**Section:** World/Nation; Pg. a3

**Length:** 366 words

**Byline:** GREG MYRE, Associated Press writer

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM -- A Palestinian woman on Sunday became the first **female** to launch a bomb attack against Israel, killing herself and an 81-year-old Israeli man and wounding at least a dozen people on a busy Jerusalem street.

Israeli police said they were not sure if the woman intended to kill herself or if the bomb exploded prematurely as she walked along Jaffa Street, the main commercial strip in west Jerusalem.

In Lebanon, the Al-Manar TV station run by the militant **Hezbollah** movement said the bomber was Shinaz Amuri, a **female** student at Al-Najah University in the West Bank town of Nablus.

Israel accused Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat of "encouraging terrorism" and said it was prepared to respond to the bombing the third major attack in an Israeli city in a week.

The blast next to a shoe shop blew out shop windows, set a store on fire and left victims sprawled on the pavement amid shards of glass, pieces of fruit, shoes and storefront mannequins.

"It sounded like half the street exploded," said Hama Gidon, a clothing store worker who was slightly injured. "All the mannequins went flying and I did, too. People were falling, glass was flying everywhere."

More than 100 people were treated on the spot or taken to hospitals, though most suffered only from shock. Three people were seriously hurt and nine had moderate injuries, officials said.

No group immediately took responsibility for Sunday's attack, but Israel said it held Arafat ultimately responsible.

Arafat is "encouraging terrorism, he's sending (attackers) to Jerusalem," said Raanan Gissin, a spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. "We will continue to systematically dismantle the terrorist infrastructure."

The Palestinian leadership, meanwhile, "strongly condemned the suicide attack" and called on President Bush to send Mideast envoy Anthony Zinni back to the region.

Just south of Jerusalem on Sunday, a Palestinian crowd stormed a prison in Bethlehem and freed seven prisoners belonging to Hamas and Islamic Jihad, the two groups that have carried out past suicide bombings, Palestinian security officials said. Palestinian security officers did not want to use force with the crowd and did not try to stop them.

## PALESTINIAN WOMAN'S BOMB KILLS HER, ISRAELI MAN

## Graphic

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Ahikam Seri/The Associated Press \*Israeli medics and police officers evacuate a wounded woman Sunday from the site of a bombing on a busy Jerusalem street. The blast killed a Palestinian woman carrying the explosives and an 81-year-old Israeli man. At least a dozen were injured.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2002

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End of Document

## **Israeli bank raid breaks new turf**

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

February 27, 2004, Friday

Copyright 2004 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 06

**Length:** 744 words

**Byline:** By Ilene R. Prusher and Ben Lynfield

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM AND RAMALLAH

**Highlight:** Israel raided three banks in the West Bank city of Ramallah this week and seized at least \$6.7 million.

### **Body**

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Israel sees it as an audacious and definitive blow to the financial base of terrorism. But Palestinians view the army's unprecedented raid on Ramallah banks as a targeting of their economy as a whole.

The fallout from the raids, which ended at 2 a.m. Thursday, was being gauged by the Palestinian financial sector. Bankers were hoping the army's seizure of 30 million shekels (\$ 6.7 million) in assets would not touch off a run of withdrawals from customers fearing for the safety of their money.

"Now no institution is safe," said Omar Abdel-Razeq, senior research fellow at the Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute. Its offices near the raided Cairo Amman Bank were converted into a military post during the raids. Israeli troops also raided the Palestine International Bank and the Arab Bank, forcing employees to operate computer systems and hand over money from the vaults, employees said.

The soldiers seized assets Israel said were being used to sponsor attacks by Hamas, the Islamic Jihad, the Lebanese **Hizbullah** organization, and other groups. "The benefits of this will hopefully be understood over the long term. This is a blow to them because the terrorists who use these banks accounts will be more careful. You create obstacles for these terrorists," said army spokesman Capt. Jacob Dallal. "It took a lot of intelligence to identify the accounts of people who are terrorists" or who support terrorism, he said.

But the US State Department criticized the raids, saying Israeli actions "risk destabilizing the Palestinian banking system."

"We would prefer to see Israeli coordination with the Palestinian financial authorities to stem the flow of funds to terrorist groups," department spokesman Richard Boucher said. Israel says the seized money is to be spent on charity for the well-being of the Palestinian population.

Palestinian Authority leaders dispute that the funds seized were used for terrorism. "Israel will use any excuse to destroy the Palestinian economy," says Local Government Minister Jamal Shobaki. "The economy is the pillar of stability and this harms the very stability of Palestinian society." He termed the raids "armed robbery."

Mr. Abdel-Razeq predicts that the effects of the seizures "could be drastic. It all comes down to public confidence now. The stability of the banking system is very important to Palestinian investors both outside the country and locally. This will certainly add to the difficulties of the investment environment," he said.

## Israeli bank raid breaks new turf

Eighteen Palestinians were injured by gunfire in clashes that erupted as troops entered Ramallah Wednesday morning. But the operation actually began before dawn, when the Arab Bank's director of information technology, Ahmed Abu Ghosh, was arrested at his home, according to Ahmed-Samah Abu Rajai Aweidah, a vice president. Soldiers later forced him to come to the bank and give them access to the computer system, Aweidah said.

Twenty-five soldiers with guns took over the Arab Bank's al-Bireh branch, an employee recalled. Its regional headquarters was also taken over by troops. At 10:20 a.m., Mr. Aweidah said, "I was sitting with a customer. I saw an Israeli soldier pointing an M-16 in my face and asking me to put my hands up. We and the customers were held up at gunpoint. Some of the soldiers spoke fluent Arabic, and they ordered us to go into the corridor. Once they made sure all of the offices were empty, they split us into two groups, males on one side and females on the other."

"At 12:30, they let the women go out. They checked the IDs of all the men and let all the male employees leave by 2:30. As senior management, we agreed with the soldiers that we would stay. By threat of force their hackers went through the system. They forced us to print out the balances for the accounts. They forced us to open the safe. They had dynamite ready to blow it open if we didn't. Our teller went in and counted the money and gave it to the soldiers. The soldiers gave us a receipt and took the money out of the bank."

Captain Dallal responded: "Obviously we needed the assistance of some bank employees to locate the whereabouts of the accounts. That's true. There was no abuse of the people."

Zeev Schiff, military-affairs analyst for Ha'aretz newspaper, said: "Maybe people will be hurt by this and we have to compensate them. But we have to be tougher on the families of suicide bombers and take money from them as well."

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

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## *US drawing a hard, fast line around Iran*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

February 8, 2002, Friday

Copyright 2002 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** USA; Pg. 02

**Length:** 773 words

**Byline:** Ann Scott Tyson Special correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** WASHINGTON

**Highlight:** 'War on terror' gives blunt force to the way Washington sorts out friends and foes.

### **Body**

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In a significant policy shift propelled by the war on terrorism, the Bush administration has effectively ruled out a rapprochement with the government of Iran - while voicing support for popular opposition to the Tehran regime.

Iran's pursuit of weapons of mass destruction, its power-grabbing in post-Taliban Afghanistan, and its ongoing support for Islamic terrorist organizations have dashed any possibility now of closer ties, senior administration officials say.

"The president settled the whole debate by saying 'Iran, this is not the moment. This is not a regime we can have a warm and fuzzy relationship with,' " says a senior Pentagon official, referring to President Bush's inclusion of Iran as part of an "axis of evil."

Iran has responded with angry indignation to the Bush charges, with Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi this week criticizing the administration's approach to counterterrorism as "self-centered, unilateral, and naive."

THE Iran case illustrates how the US "war on terror" brings a stark, new definition to foreign relations as Washington swiftly sorts out friend and foe. It also indicates the limits of the US-led campaign to rally foreign countries around a fight against terror as defined by Washington. Instead, it reveals how strong undercurrents of opportunism and sheer, guns-and-money politics often dictate the willingness of nations such as Iran to cooperate.

The State Department, for years has designated Iran as a leading state sponsor of terrorism. And the Iranian regime has condemned America as "the Great Satan" since it came to power in the Islamic revolution of 1979. But, the US had quietly encouraged the reform movement that brought President Mohammad Khatami to power in 1997.

And in the immediate aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, encouraging signs emerged in US relations with Iran. Mr. Khatami sent condolences to the people of the US, while Iranian civilians gathered to light candles in sympathy for the victims.



## US drawing a hard, fast line around Iran

Meanwhile, as the US airstrikes on Afghanistan began, Iran indicated it would carry out search-and-rescue efforts for downed US planes. When the Taliban collapsed, Tehran - which long had hostile relations with the Afghan regime - cooperated with Washington in creating a post-Taliban government.

Yet since then, Iran has moved aggressively to assert its influence in Afghanistan by channeling money, weapons, and supplies to warlords in western provinces, challenging the grip of the country's fledgling interim authority, US officials say. More worrisome, Washington accuses Iran of letting through its borders fleeing members of the Al Qaeda terrorist network of Osama bin Laden, a charge Tehran denies.

Indeed, US officials now conclude that the cooperation with Iran in Afghanistan was a reflection of a fleeting common interest, rather than a sign that Tehran backed US anti-terrorist goals.

AS soon as the Taliban were gone, it became a very brutally competitive game in Afghanistan," said the senior Pentagon official, who requested not to be named. "The Iranians are playing hardball."

On Jan. 3, Israel raided the ship Karine A in the Red Sea and found 50 tons of weapons that Israeli and the US concluded were being smuggled from Iran to the Palestinian Authority. That highlighted Iran's persistent backing of Hizbullah, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad and others on the US list of terrorist organizations.

"Iran has not let up at any time in its very direct involvement in all kinds of terrorism," says Matthew Levitt, a counterterrorism expert at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

These concerns - along with Iran's ongoing efforts to produce missiles and develop a nuclear threat - sealed the president's verdict on Iran, US officials say.

Despite the president's harsh "axis of evil" rhetoric, Pentagon officials don't suggest military action against Iran is imminent. "It's not a declaration of war," said one official. "It's a statement of solidarity with ordinary Iranians who oppose the regime."

Bush's State of the Union speech, hit Iran's conservative religious leaders as the "unelected few" who "repress the Iranian people's hope for freedom."

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld echoed the theme: "I think a lot of the people of Iran would like to throw off that regime. I think that there's a lot of young people and women in that country that feel repressed."

Richard Perle, chairman of the Defense Policy Board, a Pentagon advisory body, puts it more strongly. "The broad public is openly fed up with the government. I think it is the beginning of the end for the Iranian regime."

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**Load-Date:** February 7, 2002

US drawing a hard, fast line around Iran

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**Middle East crisis: On both sides, the talk is only of war: Graham Usher reports from Netanya, devastated by a suicide bomber, and Tulkaram, the West Bank town from which the bomber came, which is bracing itself for an Israeli onslaught**

The Guardian (London)

March 29, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Home Pages, Pg. 4

**Length:** 690 words

## **Body**

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Thousands of people came yesterday to pay a morbid homage at the ground floor of the Park Hotel, site of the bombing. It is a chilling shrine of twisted metal awnings, tiles seared black and molten by the massive explosive charge, and a dance floor soaked in blood.

Maxim Elkrief is the manager of the hotel restaurant where the bomber, Abdel Basset Odeh, 24, blew himself up. Before the blast, Maxim remembers helping pensioners to their chairs ready for the Passover meal. After it, he remembers limbs on upturned tables, his shirt covered in blood and a woman's wig lying next to the bomber's head.

He has no time for the Arab summit in Beirut.

"Arafat talks peace to the Arabs. **Hizbullah** talks against it. And Hamas bombs us in Netanya," he says. "So who do we believe? Look, I've seen war in the Sinai and terror in my restaurant. I prefer war. It has rules and is fought between soldiers. You can't fight terror. So let's fight a war."

Miriam Friberg, the mayor of Netanya, spent a night and a day shuttling between the bomb site and the town's hospital, where 30 of the victims are still critically injured. One died yesterday.

"Netanya has the most beautiful gardens in Israel and the worst carnage," she says. "We have had 11 terror attacks in this city in the last three years. We can't continue like this."

"I think our government should do what the US government did after September 11. It should take all means necessary to protect its citizens and return us to a normal life."

"As long as you don't drain the swamp you end up swatting mosquitoes," says Rami Gobermik, a Netanya town hall officer. "We have tried to drain the swamp politically, through the ceasefire talks. Maybe now we have to drain it ourselves, militarily."

The "swamp" lies a mere six miles east of Netanya, on the other side of Israel's West Bank border, in Tulkaram. This was where Odeh lived and from where he set out to reach Netanya.

The Palestinian town is as deserted as Netanya is crowded. A few stores on its winding, sloping roads do a brisk trade as people stock up on food and emergency supplies.

Middle East crisis: On both sides, the talk is only of war: Graham Usher reports from Netanya , devastated by a suicide bomber, and Tulkaram, the West Bank town....

A lone taxi ferries a couple with two children to an army checkpoint at Tulkaram's entrance. The soldiers turn them back.

"So you can kill us when you invade?" shouts the woman.

"Maybe," answers a soldier. "We've tried talking to you. Maybe we should try something else."

"Let them come," says Mohammed, a leader of Arafat's Fatah movement in Tulkaram. "We will absorb this invasion like we did the last one, when 17 of our people were killed. The army will destroy houses and kill innocents. But it won't reach the fighters. They've escaped already."

By way of evidence, he shows Palestinian Authority police stations empty of officers and a refugee camp empty of young men.

He takes us to the one place in Tulkaram not bereft of people: Odeh's home, where dozens of women and children have come to pay respect to the mother of the "martyr", Nawal.

"I'm proud of my son for what he did and grieving because I lost him," she says. "I also have sympathy for every mother who lost a son in Netanya. But the Israelis have to understand they drove us to this point."

She says Abdel Basset was an "ordinary Palestinian". He spent six months at the age of 10 in an Israeli prison during the first intifada for "throwing stones at soldiers". He tried to get married two years ago but was barred by Israel from meeting his fiancée in Iraq. In recent years he had become "more religious".

He had also become more active in Hamas's military wing, a PA source in Tulkaram said. Eight months ago he went underground after being placed on Israel's "most wanted" list, a euphemism for arrest by the PA or assassination by the army.

"Maybe the Israelis were planning to kill him," says his mother. "It would explain why he chose to be a martyr. After all," she adds, with a look like steel, "he was going to die anyway." Should the army invade Tulkaram, her other four sons may die. At the very least, the soldiers will destroy her house.

"Let them," she says. "We believe we are in God's hands. I am not afraid."

"She is," says Mohammed when we leave. "We all are".

**Load-Date:** March 29, 2002

## ***Suicide bomber kills senior***

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)  
January 28, 2002 Monday Final Edition

Copyright 2002 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A10; NEWS

**Length:** 362 words

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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A Palestinian woman on Sunday became the first ***female*** to launch a bomb attack against Israel, killing herself and an 81-year-old Israeli man and wounding at least a dozen people on a busy Jerusalem street.

Israeli police said they were not sure if the woman intended to kill herself or if the bomb exploded prematurely as she walked along Jaffa Street, the main commercial strip in west Jerusalem.

In Lebanon, the Al-Manar television station run by the rebel ***Hezbollah*** movement said the bomber was Shinaz Amuri, a ***female*** student at Al-Najah University in the West Bank town of Nablus.  
Associated Press

Israel accused Palestinian President Yasser Arafat of "encouraging terrorism" and said it was prepared to respond to the bombing the third major attack in an Israeli city in a week.

U.S. Vice-President Dick Cheney said Arafat must "make a 100 per cent good-faith effort to put an end to terrorism."

The blast next to a shoe shop blew out shop windows, set a store on fire and left victims sprawled on the pavement amid shards of glass, pieces of fruit, shoes and storefront mannequins.

"It sounded like half the street exploded," said Hama Gidon, a clothing store worker who was slightly injured. "All the mannequins went flying and I did too. People were falling, glass was flying everywhere."

More than 100 people were treated on the spot or taken to hospitals, though most suffered only from shock. Three people were seriously hurt and nine had moderate injuries, officials said.

Mark Sokolov, a U.S. citizen from Woodmere, N.Y., who survived the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, was slightly hurt in Sunday's explosion along with his wife and two daughters.

"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," Sokolov told Israeli television.

Sokolov said he was on the 38th floor of the World Trade Center's south tower on Sept. 11 when a hijacked airliner hit the north tower. His office was evacuated and he escaped before the south tower was hit.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for Sunday's attack, but Israel said it held Arafat ultimately responsible.

## Graphic

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Photo: AP Photo; An Israeli man reacts as he speaks on a mobile phone across the street from the site of a suicide bombing in downtown Jerusalem Sunday. The bomber detonated her explosives downtown just after midday.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2002

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End of Document

## *Suicide bomb 'just the beginning': Iraq*

Ottawa Citizen

March 31, 2003 Monday Final Edition

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**Section:** News; Pg. A1; News

**Length:** 993 words

**Byline:** Peter Goodspeed

**Dateline:** KUWAIT CITY

### **Body**

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KUWAIT CITY -- The suicide bombing attack at a U.S. army checkpoint has injected an ominous new element into the Iraq war.

Following Saturday's bombing, which killed four U.S. soldiers, Taha Yassin Ramadan, Iraq's vice-president, told foreign reporters in Baghdad "battalions" of Arab militants are flocking to Iraq ready to die as martyrs in attacks against U.S. and British troops. Iraq says it has the support of 4,000 Arabs from other nations who have volunteered to fight.

Mr. Ramadan promised the foreign volunteers would "turn every country in the Arab world into a battlefield, not only against those who wear the military uniforms of the United States and the United Kingdom, but against all who support them.

CanWest News Service; with files from The Associated Press

"We will use any means to kill our enemy in our land, and we will follow the enemy into its land," Mr. Ramadan told a news conference in Baghdad. "This is just the beginning."

Four U.S. soldiers were killed instantly near the central Iraqi city of Najaf on Saturday when a junior Iraqi officer disguised as a civilian taxi driver drove up to a U.S. military checkpoint and told soldiers he needed help. As the soldiers approached, he set off a bomb.

Iraq's state television reported that the Najaf bomber -- identified as Ali Jaafar al-Noamani, a non-commissioned officer with several children -- was posthumously promoted to colonel and awarded two medals by Saddam Hussein.

His family was thought to have been awarded the equivalent of \$50,000, a fortune in Iraq.

It praised the bombing, saying: "This is the blessed beginning on the road of sacrifice and martyrdom to inflict on them what they did not expect."

Although perhaps unexpected by coalition forces, suicide attacks are a tactic well known to the Iraqi leader.

Last year, as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict staggered under the weight of a bloody second intifada, Mr. Saddam began paying \$25,000 to the family of each Palestinian suicide bomber.

Now he is endorsing the same tactic in a bid to preserve his own regime.

## Suicide bomb 'just the beginning': Iraq

Yesterday's suicide bombing in Israel that wounded 30 in a crowded cafe was called "Palestine's gift to the heroic people of Iraq," by Hamas, the bomber's sponsor.

Iraq's threat to carry out attacks against the United States and its supporters came as U.S. and British intelligence officials announced the discovery of several plots by Iraqi nationals to launch a wave of terrorist attacks against Western targets in Yemen and Jordan and 10 other countries worldwide.

Police in Yemen raided a house in the capital city, San'a, on Wednesday and arrested a group of Iraqis along with a cache of explosives which they believe were to be used against the U.S. and British embassies.

In Jordan's capital, Amman, a group of Iraqis were arrested with explosives they planned to use to bomb a hotel frequented by foreigners.

Around the same time last week, border police in Kuwait are said to have intercepted 11 Iraqis who were trying to infiltrate the northern border with Iraq with explosives.

And in an apparently unrelated incident yesterday afternoon, an unidentified civilian drove a pickup truck into a group of U.S. soldiers as they stood outside a store at a military camp in northern Kuwait.

Up to 15 soldiers were said to have been injured in the incident, which is still under investigation.

Since the war in Iraq started, coalition forces have had to defend against a variety of guerrilla-style attacks as they march on Baghdad. Members of Saddam's Fedayeen militia -- the name translates as "Saddam's Martyrs" -- have been posing as civilians in a variety of situations to attack coalition troops while using women and children as human shields or to pretend to surrender and then open fire on U.S. and British troops.

Yesterday, British newspapers reported that suicide squads are targeting Royal Marine units near the besieged city of Basra in southern Iraq. Intelligence reports gleaned from Iraqi prisoners are said to show that four teams of suicide bombers are using ambulances to move around Basra with the aim of attacking a military patrol or a British base.

Suicide attacks will make it difficult for U.S. and British troops to distinguish between combatants and civilians and could undermine coalition attempts to win over Iraq's civilian population.

By embracing a tactic pioneered

by Muslim radicals, Iraqi suicide bombers may also create the impression that Saddam is allied with Osama bin Laden and other similar radicals in waging a Muslim holy war.

Mr. Bin Laden used a tape-recorded message last February to urge Muslims to strike at U.S. targets in Iraq and elsewhere.

Since the war began, extremist Islamic clerics in Iraq and throughout the Middle East have issued "fatwas" or decrees calling for a holy war on U.S. interests around the world.

The fact Saturday's suicide attack took place outside Najaf, one of the Shiite Muslim faith's most sacred cities, also raises the possibility it had a religious element to it. The Iranian-backed Shiite terrorist group Hezbollah is said to have sent operatives into Iraq.

Hezbollah has used suicide and truck bombs as standard tactics in the past, killing 241 U.S. marines in Beirut in 1983 and in trying to drive the Israeli army out of southern Lebanon for 18 years after that.

U.S. officials have attempted to downplay the significance of Saturday's suicide attack. Maj.-Gen. Victor Renuart, the coalition director of operations in Qatar, described the bombing as a "terrorist attack," saying: "These kind of actions are symbolic of an organization that is getting a little bit desperate."

Still, U.S. and British troops have been issued with new orders on what to do when manning roadblocks.



## Suicide bomb 'just the beginning': Iraq

They have been told not to approach civilian cars, but to order the occupants to stop and leave their vehicles. If they don't comply, the soldiers will fire a single warning shot. If that doesn't work, they are authorized to shoot to kill.

**Load-Date:** March 31, 2003

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## *Who Messes With Egyptian Minds? Satirist Points at U.S.*

The New York Times

March 18, 2004 Thursday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2004 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 3; Foreign Desk; Pg. 4; Cairo Journal

**Length:** 908 words

**Byline:** By NEIL MacFARQUHAR

**Dateline:** CAIRO

### **Body**

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It is startling, to say the least, to be quietly sitting in a Cairo cafe when the door flies open and a troop of armed American soldiers barges in shouting, "Turn off your goddamn mobiles!"

They are actors, though, and their abrupt entrance into the lobby coffee shop of the Hanagir Theater is intended to mimic the jolt felt across the Arab world when the United States Army stormed into Iraq.

The scene kicks off a harshly anti-American show called "Messing With the Mind" now playing what passes for Off Broadway in Cairo. The play has been sold out nightly since it opened in late January for what was originally to be a two-week run.

The low-budget production meanders through a thicket of regional issues including the Arab-Israeli dispute, the inability of young people to afford marriage, the dubious appeal of American goods and the mushrooming of satellite television news networks. But it focuses on the American occupation of Iraq and possibly beyond with biting sarcasm.

"The question is whether total surrender is the only option we face or whether we can resist," said Khaled al-Sawy, the writer, director and star of the play. "Most plays just weep about our general situation; they show us as dying. But I felt people wanted a play that talks about resisting."

The overall conceit of the play is that Gen. Tommy Fox (Mr. Sawy), the top American military commander for the region, appears as the main guest on the country's most popular television talk show, "Homesick for Egypt."

"As you all know, we are now breathing the aroma of freedom," Madame Nadia, the show's hostess, says with cloying pertness before introducing her guest and asking him if he has any message for Arab youth.

"I want to tell Arab youth that the only reason we came to this region was to liberate it from old regimes," the general responds, going on at times to describe Arabs in unprintable English.

The play uses various aspects of American culture to deride United States policy, including rap songs and booming show tunes. "That's why we don't like it Hezbollah! That's why we say No Intifada!" General Fox sings in English at one point.

## Who Messes With Egyptian Minds? Satirist Points at U.S.

American political figures put in appearances, either in person or name. The show is interrupted by advertisements for products like Condoleezza Margarine -- "It's a real problem solver" -- and a steroid drink called Colin Power. Just one sip allows you to "trounce four men and conquer four women."

President Bush, too, shows up, justifying the American-led invasion of Iraq through a live speech on "Democracy Television," a joke about Al Hurra, or The Free One, the Arabic satellite news channel that his administration finances.

"We just want to clean you up, make you human beings," Mr. Bush says. "Arab petroleum is for the Arabs and democracy is for the Arabs. We are going to make you cool, open your minds. We will never forget your favors -- we love you, believe me we love you."

Naturally the piece also mocks Washington's unwavering support for Israel.

Audiences unfailingly emerge from the theater buzzing with excitement and admiration, because the show amplifies the current mood across the Arab world. But the play has its detractors, generally for being rather thin burlesque.

"It allows people to exercise a kind of hour of hate, or whatever George Orwell called it," said Nehad Selaiha, a drama critic for Egypt's main newspaper, Al Ahram. "It's just a piece of political cabaret which is shallow and one-sided; it sort of panders to the feeling of political frustration."

Some critics were especially disparaging of what appears to be a salute to suicide bombers in the middle of the play. While General Fox is giving a news conference, parrying questions about American casualties in Iraq by pretending that he cannot hear, a fanatic tries to kill him.

The huge television screen used as the backdrop then lights up with a videotaped suicide note from the would-be assassin preaching jihad. The scene never fails to draw big applause.

Mr. Sawy defends the scene, noting that the attack occurs when there are only American military men on stage, not civilians, and that he is trying to make a larger point when a picture of Cairo's streets jammed with people fills the backdrop.

"The solution is to get people out onto the streets, not through these kinds of operations," he said.

Perhaps the most popular moment in the play comes at the end, at a kind of beauty pageant in which 10 correspondents from various satellite television networks file competing reports about United States forces seizing the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr, one of the opening battles of the war.

Libyan TV has Col. Muammar el-Qaddafi declaring Umm Qasr part of his territory with soaring oratory, while Al Jazeera reports having received an exclusive tape from the Qasr family denying any link to Al Qaeda.

Manar, the Hezbollah station, wonders why the Arab nation is not rising up as one to resist the occupation. But one of the biggest laughs comes after the CNN report, which offers a parody of the growing habit among United States networks to present happy news about American soldiers.

"Our boys have entered Umm Qasr, and everybody was hugging them and ululating," the CNN reporter says. "American troops started distributing Big Macs and milkshakes with straws, and they taught those miserable Iraqi children how to play with the straws. They also started distributing ice cream."

## Graphic

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Photos: Khaled al-Sawy, the show's star, at right in both photos, plays an American general. Other characters are a British soldier and "Madame Nadia."

Members of the audience mingling with the actors before a performance of "Messing With the Mind." (Photographs by Mohamed El-Dakhakhny for The New York Times)

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

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## NEWS SUMMARY

The New York Times  
September 24, 2003 Wednesday  
Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2003 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 3; Metropolitan Desk; Pg. 2

**Length:** 983 words

### **Body**

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INTERNATIONAL A3-17

Bush, in Address at U.N., Defends the War in Iraq

President Bush stood before the allies who had opposed the invasion of Iraq and rebuffed calls from some of them to transfer sovereignty rapidly to Iraqis as a means to calm the anti-American violence there. On a tense opening day of the annual meeting of the General Assembly, the president was vigorous in his defense of the war even as he sought the financial assistance of a still cautious world in rebuilding Iraq. A1

A Skeptical Response

President Bush's speech met with a largely skeptical response, laced with some general expressions of approval, in both the General Assembly and in capitals around the world. Kofi Annan, the secretary general, roundly criticized "pre-emption," a core of Mr. Bush's national security strategy. A16

U.S. Attack Kills 3 Iraqis

An American air and ground attack in Sichir, a farming community 40 miles west of Baghdad, killed three people and wounded three others, including two children, family members said. The American military said soldiers had fired only after they had been fired upon. A17

Israel and Hezbollah in Talks

Israel and the Lebanon-based Hezbollah guerrilla movement appear to be making headway in talks toward a possible exchange of high-profile prisoners. The Israeli defense minister cautioned that previous attempts have failed. A6

China Censors Clinton Book

Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton's autobiography, "Living History," has become a major bestseller in China, but nearly everything Mrs. Clinton had to say about China has been censored to remove commentary deemed offensive by Beijing. A1

U.N. Official in Plea to Congress

## NEWS SUMMARY

The director of the Food and Agriculture Organization is trying to convince Congress to reconsider the annual \$22 billion in farm subsidies, which make it hard for farmers in poor countries to compete. A5

## NATIONAL A18-25

## California Appeals Court Clears Way for Recall

With just two weeks to go before the recall election for Gov. Gray Davis, a federal appeals court removed the final legal obstacle to the vote, ruling that it would be held as scheduled on Oct. 7. A1

## Espionage Charge for Airman

An Air Force translator at the United States prison camp for captured militants and suspected terrorists at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, has been charged with espionage and passing military secrets to Syria, according to Pentagon officials and military court papers. A1

## Nevada Lowers Alcohol Limit

A state law lowering the blood alcohol limit for drivers went into effect in Las Vegas, the archetypal good-time town, but most revelers seemed too busy drinking to notice. A18

## Club Owners Face Charges

The owners and two others associated with a Chicago nightclub where 21 people died in a February stampede have been charged with involuntary manslaughter. A18

## Dean Attacks Clark on Iraq

Howard Dean, whose campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination has been built on an antiwar message, questioned his newest opponent's antiwar credentials, saying he was shocked by Gen. Wesley K. Clark's statements last week that he probably would have voted for the Congressional resolution authorizing war in Iraq. A25

## U.S. Intelligence Under Scrutiny

The commission investigating the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks said it was weighing proposals for an overhaul of American intelligence and law enforcement agencies. A22

## Risks Cited in Bush Missile Plan

Congressional investigators said the Bush administration's push to deploy a \$22 billion missile defense system could lead to unforeseen cost increases and technical failures that will have to be fixed before it can hope to stop enemy warheads. A25

## NEW YORK/REGION B1-8

## Pepsi Plant Site To Become Apartments

The Rockrose Development Corporation has acquired the land along the East River in Hunters Point, Queens, where Pepsi-Cola was once bottled, and plans to begin construction next year on 3,200 apartments in seven crisply colorful towers on the 21-acre property. B1

## Trying Times for Hotels

While issues of international import are discussed during the United Nations General Assembly, the foreign leaders' presence in New York reverberates in surprising ways for the equally international array of hotel workers who serve them. A1

## High-Rise Safety Improvements

Mayor Bloomberg announced legislation that would enact most of the fire safety improvements for tall buildings recommended by a task force that studied the World Trade Center collapse. B7

## NEWS SUMMARY

## Fierce Storms Hit New Jersey

A tornado and fierce rainstorms blitzed western New Jersey, knocking down hundreds of trees, damaging businesses and houses and cutting power for thousands of customers in areas already battered by last week's storm. B1

## EDUCATION B9

## ARTS E1-8

## OBITUARIES C17

## SPORTS D1-8

## Clarett Sues the N.F.L.

Suspended Ohio State running back Maurice Clarett sued the National Football League, seeking to overturn a league rule that prohibits players from entering the draft until they have been out of high school for at least three years. D1

## BUSINESS DAY C1-16

## Lawyer Wears Many Hats

The lawyer who advised Richard A. Grasso is also working on a report on how the New York Stock Exchange needs to revamp its corporate governance practices. A1

## California Law to Ban Spam

Governor Gray Davis of California said that he would sign a bill to outlaw the sending of most commercial e-mail messages to anyone who does not request it. C1

## Rush to Sue Fund Managers

Nearly a dozen law firms have filed suits since the attorney general of New York accused some fund companies of allowing privileged trading by favored investors. C1

## Business Digest C1

## World Business W1

## DINING D1-12

## EDITORIAL A26-27

Editorials: President Bush at the U.N.; Afghan women's rights; the Senate tries an odd experiment; goodbye to gallant Galileo.

Columns: Nicholas D. Kristof, William Safire.

## Crossword E6

## TV Listings E7

## Public Lives B2

## Weather B10

NEWS SUMMARY

<http://www.nytimes.com>

**Load-Date:** September 24, 2003

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***Collateral damage: There is a deep moral divide between those who deliberately target civilians and those who don't***

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

August 10, 2002 Saturday Final Edition

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**Section:** Editorial / Op-ed; Pg. B5

**Length:** 1035 words

**Byline:** GIL TROY

## **Body**

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"War is hell," muttered William T. Sherman, the Civil War general who torched Atlanta and imposed much misery on Southerners rebelling against the United States of America more than a century ago. Sherman's delicate sensibility - and martial brutality - capture the absurd anomaly of a democracy at war. The only way to win on the battlefield is to crush your enemy, but "good guys" don't relish the resulting carnage.

For that reason, "collateral damage" is a most unfortunate contribution of Pentagon spinmeisters to the lexicon of war. This awful, dehumanizing phrase obscures thoughtlessly, distances implicitly, excuses categorically. It is, alas, an effective phrase as well, for it describes a widespread reality during wartime. Disasters occur, and democracies at war, "good guys" engaged in brutal activities, genuinely do regret the innocent civilians caught in a crossfire, lives foolishly destroyed by a supposedly smart bomb.

Freelance

Expressed regret

In this epoch of murder and mayhem, during these days when intelligence analysts casually debate whether World War III has begun, defensive and justified wars have been launched against terrorists in various parts of the world, particularly in Israel and Afghanistan. Unfortunately, and inevitably, "collateral damage" has resulted - allied soldiers and innocent civilians have mistakenly died. In the spring in Afghanistan, a U.S. air force bombing resulted in the deaths of four allies - four Canadian soldiers. Last month, another air force bomb killed 50 Afghan revellers at a wedding. And two weeks ago, while "successfully" targeting a master Hamas terrorist, Salah Shehadeh, an Israeli air raid in Gaza City killed 14 civilians, including nine children.

In all three cases, the responsible military and political leaders expressed regret for the unintended loss of life. Moreover, both the Americans and Israelis began formal investigations to explain just what occurred and how, if possible, to avoid future tragedies. The Israeli bombing was, of course, the most problematic. Military spokesmen explain that the army did not intend to kill civilians, but they admit that the bomb hit the "right" apartment, that they got the "right" man, a man who was responsible for the deaths of hundreds and was planning the deaths of many more. And, when a tragedy occurs, while it is easy for Americans to express condolences to their Canadian neighbours or to their Afghan allies, it is much harder for expressions of condolences to traverse the Israeli-Palestinian divide.

Nevertheless, immediately after the Gaza City bombing, the Israeli press was filled with expressions of remorse from across the political spectrum. There were many sincere conversations, publicly and privately, about the great psychic, moral, spiritual and physical cost of defending the Jewish state during this tragic period. There was much

Collateral damage: There is a deep moral divide between those who deliberately target civilians and those who don't

Monday-morning quarterbacking about the Israeli army's choice of timing and weaponry, debating how far the army should go in the future to kill a mass murderer who was planning to kill again.

This collective soul-searching is neither tactical nor superficial. It is not done to win some PR points in a media war. It is characteristic of how Israel has operated throughout five decades of painful moral dilemmas and brutal lose-lose choices. It is essential to the functioning of any democracy at war.

#### Massive celebrations

By contrast, in their 23-month-long jihad against Israel and the Oslo peace process, Palestinian terrorists have repeatedly targeted Israeli civilians. Even more disturbing, some of the most brutal terrorist attacks have triggered massive celebrations. Shortly after a suicide bomber killed men, women and children at the downtown Jerusalem Sbarro pizzeria last summer, a Palestinian university - Najah National University - mounted a celebratory exhibition, replete with representations of severed body parts suspended in midair. Last week, after the senseless bombing of Hebrew University killed seven, including five Americans, and injured dozens of others, including South Koreans, Arabs, Americans and Israelis, thousands of Palestinians rejoiced in Gaza City and the Balata refugee camp near Nablus.

These and countless other incidents, including the Palestinian celebrations after the Sept. 11 bombings, illuminate a dramatic moral divide. Targeting pizza eaters, commuters, and students is no mistake; the "damage" is not collateral but intentional. Rejoicing in the deaths and mutilations of men, women and children proves that a strategy is being followed - and ratified. In that strategy we see a cruelty that is deliberate, intense and should be unfathomable.

In our relativistic world, sophisticates snicker when President George W. Bush speaks of "good" and "evil." They are quick to point out all of America's imperfections, all of Israel's mistakes, and all of the "root causes" motivating the 9/11 murderers, the Daniel Pearl kidnappers, the Palestinian mass murderers. But even academics and intellectuals, Canadian labour organizers and European diplomats, should be able to recognize - and condemn - cruelty without relativizing it.

#### Embrace cruelty

And the fact that Hezbollah and Hamas, Al-Qa'ida and Islamic Jihad, have embraced cruelty as a strategy is all the more contemptible. The deliberate infliction of physical pain and emotional distress on innocent individuals has become the calling card of the Palestinian suicide bombers, the Hezbollah kidnappers who know the fates of missing Israeli soldiers but withhold the information from suffering families, the Osama bin Laden terrorists, in fact, the broader Islamic movement. The entire world needs to denounce this descent into a particularly sadistic form of politics, instead of rationalizing it and thus legitimizing it.

Whatever the delusions from which it might suffer, a culture that regrets war can easily make the transition back to peace. A culture that celebrates cruelty becomes addicted to violence. Palestinians need to purge this poison from their body politic not only for the sake of their future victims but for their own sakes as well.

- Gil Troy is a professor of history at McGill University.

## Graphic

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Photo: NIR ELIAS, REUTERS; Passers-by attend to victim of the Hebrew university bomb blast.

**Load-Date:** August 10, 2002

Collateral damage: There is a deep moral divide between those who deliberately target civilians and those who don't

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## **No room for PC in combat**

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

November 14, 2005 Monday

National Edition

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**Section:** EDITORIALS; Pg. A14

**Length:** 377 words

**Byline:** Michael Burrows, National Post

### **Body**

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Re: Fighting Is For Men, Barbara Kay, Nov. 9. Competent, Lethal **women**, Alan Okros, letter to the editor, Nov. 12

Having served in combat units in both the Canadian Forces (CF) and the Israel Defence Forces (IDF), I strongly disagree with the contention by Captain (ret'd) Alan Okros that **women** can share an equal place with their male counterparts on the modern battlefield. Any serious military entity interested in its continued survival would be well advised to resist the urge to accommodate any such integration of **women** into combat roles. Sadly, too many soldier-bureaucrats at NDHQ in Ottawa have become victims of their own motivational rhetoric and are more at home carrying briefcases and pens than rucksacks and weapons. The statistics and state of our forces here in Canada are clear evidence of a military on a downward decent into non-relevance. This is not the fault of the people in the field doing the real work of soldiering.

While serving in the IDF, I had the opportunity to witness first-hand the roles that **women** in the military were suited for and clearly not suited for -- in a military that is at the cutting edge of advanced modern battlefield methods and doctrine. I had **female** weapons instructors and **female** physical trainers, but when it came to carrying 50- to 60-kg. loads over the rough terrain of South Lebanon (for more kilometres than my joints would like to remember) fighting **Hezbollah** guerillas, it was universally acknowledged from the outset that anyone not up to the physical weight-bearing ordeal of modern soldiering is not up to being in a combat role.

Ms. Kay was not asserting that there is no place for **women** in the military (there clearly are a wide variety of support roles **women** can perform -- including piloting aircraft), but making a very salient statement about the creeping culture of PC attitudes that are furthering the decline of the CF's already dilapidated condition and battle-readiness.

Captain Okros (ret'd) and like-minded thinkers at NDHQ would do well to remember that while **women** may engage in bar fights as well as their male counterparts, this has little to do with the harsh realities of performing the dangerous and arduous job of combat soldiering in the real world.

Michael Burrows, Victoria, B.C.

### **Graphic**

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No room for PC in combat

Black & White

Photo: Idf, Agence France-Presse, Getty Images / An Israeli **female** soldier armed with an M-16 rifle during training in southern Israel near the Egyptian border.

**Load-Date:** November 14, 2005

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**Huge Beirut demo tells Syria to quit;  
Damascus continues military withdrawal**

Morning Star

March 15, 2005

Copyright 2005 People's Press Printing Society Ltd

**Section:** Pg. 2

**Length:** 409 words

**Byline:** by Our Foreign Desk

## **Body**

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HUNDREDS of thousands of Lebanese opposition supporters demonstrated in central Beirut yesterday, marking a month since the assassination of former prime minister Rafik Hariri.

It was the biggest protest yet in the opposition's duel of street rallies with supporters of Syria and the Lebanese government.

Chanting "Freedom, sovereignty, independence, " crowds of men, women and children flooded Martyrs Square, spilling over into nearby streets, while more packed the roads into Beirut.

Mr Hariri's killing sparked a series of protests against Syria, which is the dominant power in Lebanon.

The turnout easily exceeded the 500,000-strong pro-government rally last week which was called by Shi'ite Muslim militant group Hezbollah.

Syria's military withdrawal continued yesterday, with intelligence agents closing offices in the northern towns of Amyoun and Deir Ammar.

Intelligence agents also dismantled two checkpoints in the Akkar area. In all, more than 70 intelligence agents left.

Last week, intelligence officers left two central towns, Aley and Bhamdoun, and headed to the Syrian-controlled areas of eastern Lebanon.

The redeployment is the first stage of what Damascus says will be a full withdrawal.

The opposition is demanding a full Syrian pullout, the resignations of top Lebanese security officials and an international investigation into Mr Hariri's February 14 assassination.

In Martyrs Square, a long line of people carried a 100yard white-and-red Lebanese flag, shaking it up and down and shouting, "Syria out."

Others climbed on top of a construction crane to wave flags.

Protesters sang the national anthem. Others chanted "Truth, Freedom, National Unity, " or "We want only the Lebanese army in Lebanon."

## Huge Beirut demo tells Syria to quit; Damascus continues military withdrawal

There were no official estimates of the crowd size, but an Associated Press estimate put it at around 800,000 before the protest formally started, making it the biggest demonstration ever seen in the country of 3.5 million.

Many carried pictures of Mr Hariri and cars on street corners blared his speeches. "We miss you, " read one large banner.

The crowds observed a silence at 12.55 pm, which was the exact time of Mr Hariri's assassination.

As part of the tit-for-tat rallies, at least 100,000 pro-Syrian protesters turned out on Sunday in the town of Nabatiyeh.

Syria has been Lebanon's main power broker for nearly three decades, since it sent in troops in 1976 to help quell a civil war which had broken out the year before.

## Graphic

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**BIGGEST EVER:** Opposition supporters rallying yesterday to demand a full Syrian pullout and a probe into former prime minister Rafik Hariri's killing.

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

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End of Document

## *Anti-Syrian opposition dominates Lebanese assembly*

The Star Phoenix (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan)

June 21, 2005 Tuesday

Final Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. C8

**Length:** 465 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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BEIRUT (AP) -- The anti-Syrian opposition captured control of Lebanon's parliament Monday, breaking Syria's long domination of the country, said official results.

Interior Minister Hassan Sabei declared opposition candidates had won all 28 seats in north Lebanon in Sunday's polling, the fourth and final round of the country's elections. He read out the results seat by seat, confirming earlier predictions from the opposition alliance.

"The north has decided the character of the new parliament and given the absolute majority to the opposition," opposition leader Saad Hariri told a news conference Monday evening.

Anticipating victory, men, women and children waved flags and danced in the streets of Tripoli, the provincial capital of the north, earlier Monday. In Beirut, the national capital, opposition supporters drove through the city, cheering and honking in celebration.

Asked whether he would seek the prime ministership, 35-year-old Hariri said he would consult his allies.

The election was marred by vote-buying and other shortcomings. The head of the European Union observers, Jose Ignacio Salafranca, said his team of about 100 personnel had "directly witnessed a few attempts at vote-buying" in the three previous rounds of voting. He also said the electoral system needs "a very serious reform to be closer to the democratic standards."

The buying of votes was a "very serious concern" for the EU team, Salafranca said.

However, Sabei told reporters: "The Ministry of Interior has accomplished free, honest and neutral elections."

In Washington, State Department spokesperson Adam Ereli said the elections were an important step toward Lebanese freedom and democracy. While the polls were free of foreign interference for the first time in 30 years, there remained misgivings about a "lingering Syrian intelligence presence" in Lebanon.

Ereli said the United States and the United Nations Security Council would continue to press for full implementation of Resolution 1559, which effectively demanded the withdrawal of Syrian troops and intelligence, and the disarming of the Hezbollah militia.



## Anti- Syrian opposition dominates Lebanese assembly

President Emile Lahoud called on the new parliament Monday to reform the electoral law to "put an end to vote-buying and give an equal opportunity to all candidates."

The opposition's victory capped four months of political upheaval since the Feb. 14 assassination of former prime minister Rafik Hariri.

The killing provoked mass demonstrations against Syria which, backed by UN and U.S. pressure, led to Damascus's withdrawing all its troops from Lebanon by late April, ending 29 years of military and political dominance. The opposition blamed Syria and pro-Syrian elements in the Lebanese security services for blowing up Hariri's motorcade, killing him and 20 others on a Beirut street.

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

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End of Document

## *Killings rock fragile peace*

Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia) (Sydney, Australia)

July 14, 2005 Thursday

Copyright 2005 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 26

**Length:** 421 words

**Byline:** MU'IN SHADID

### **Body**

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RAMALLAH: Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian policeman yesterday during a raid that army officials called a retaliation for a suicide bombing.

The incidents have dealt a blow to the Middle East's fragile five-month-old ceasefire.

The dawn operation in Tulkarm came hours after an Islamic Jihad militant from the area blew himself up in the Israeli city of Netanya, killing three Israeli women.

MATP

Witnesses said 20 military vehicles swept into Tulkarm, which had been formally under Palestinian Authority security control as part of a ceasefire declared by President Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in February.

Troops opened fire on a Palestinian security post, killing a policeman in an apparently unprovoked attack.

Military sources said the army shot back after two soldiers were wounded by Palestinian gunmen.

"This operation was mounted in order to carry out pinpoint arrests of the Islamic Jihad terrorists behind the Netanya suicide bombing that killed three Israeli civilians," a military source said.

Violence has decreased since the truce was called, despite sporadic Israeli raids in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as shootings and mortar attacks by Islamist militants.

New bloodshed could complicate Israel's plan to withdraw from Gaza next month, seen as a possible spur to peacemaking.

Mr Abbas condemned the Netanya bombing as "idiotic", especially given the Gaza withdrawal plan, and vowed to punish the planners.

Israel -- and the White House -- repeated its demand for him to dismantle the armed factions.

In a farewell video, black-clad bomber Ahmed Abu Khalil, an 18-year-old student said: "We reiterate our commitment to calm, but we have to retaliate for Israeli violations." The same Jihad cell killed five Israelis in a February 25 bombing in Tel Aviv.

## Killings rock fragile peace

But that was before it and other factions agreed to follow a "period of calm" to the end of the year.

The Netanya blast came less than an hour after a Palestinian tried to set off a car bomb in Shavei Shomron, a Jewish settlement in the West Bank.

It misfired and only the driver was hurt. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

US Secretary of Defence Donald Rumsfeld hinted Iran may have been behind the suicide bombing.

"I wouldn't want to suggest that I know about the attack today, but clearly that's been one of the stated and continuous purposes of Iran, to harm Israel," he said.

"We know Iran has been helping Hezbollah and other organisations, moving equipment and people down through Damascus into Beirut."

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

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End of Document

## *Egypt's top cleric slams terror tactics: Fierce sermon condemns attacks*

The Gazette (Montreal)

July 30, 2005 Saturday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A25

**Length:** 437 words

**Byline:** AP

**Dateline:** CAIRO, Egypt

### **Body**

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Egypt's top Islamic cleric delivered a fierce sermon against terrorism yesterday at the main mosque in Sharm el-Sheik, the Red Sea resort struck in deadly bombings a week ago.

Even the Lebanese guerrilla group **Hezbollah**, branded as terrorist by the White House, says Muslim clerics have to act to curb extremism.

After the unflagging bloodshed in Iraq and this month's London bombings, the Sharm attack has deepened what has been a growing debate in the Muslim world over how Islam should deal with terrorists who act in its name.

Mohammed Sayyed Tantawi, grand imam of Al-Azhar, one of the Sunni world's most prestigious institutions, delivered the sermon at yesterday's prayers in Sharm el-Sheik's Peace Mosque, packed with hundreds of worshippers still reeling from the July 23 bombings that killed scores of Egyptians and foreign tourists.

Tantawi told worshippers "even polytheists who come to Egypt to see its civilization, who didn't come to harm you, you have to protect them and treat them in a good way."

The cleric used the Arabic word "mushrikin" - "polytheists" - a term heavy with negative connotations in Islam. The Quran, Islam's holy book, repeatedly denounces "mushrikin," while accepting Jews and Christians as fellow monotheists. Islamic radicals often rail against polytheism and its followers.

Those who killed dozens of innocents, "have no justification," and if they claim they are obeying orders of Islam, "then they are liars, liars and charlatans, and Islam disavows them," he said.

"The aggressors who blow up themselves, their cars and bombs against innocent men, **women** and children will not be given any mercy by God ... they will be cursed by God and his angels," Tantawi said.

Tantawi has emerged as a strong voice against terrorism in recent months. In early July, he harshly condemned Islamic insurgents in Iraq, who even some moderate Muslims feel are fighting for a just cause against U.S. occupation, saying all Iraqis and Arabs should unite to purge Iraq of "their filth and viciousness."

Egyptian investigators have been focusing on the likelihood that homegrown Islamic militant cells in Sinai, possibly with international links, carried out the Sharm bombings, in which two car bombs and a knapsack bomb ripped

## Egypt 's top cleric slams terror tactics: Fierce sermon condemns attacks

through a luxury hotel, a neighbourhood full of Egyptians and the entrance to a beach promenade. The official death toll is 64, but hospitals say bodies still uncounted could bring it to 88.

With every terror attack, Muslims have been struggling to strike a balance between condemning bloodshed and pointing to U.S. policies in Iraq and Israel they say fuel Islamic militant violence.

**Load-Date:** July 30, 2005

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End of Document

## *Weapons 'find' led to Gaza killings*

The Australian

May 20, 2004 Thursday All-round Metro Edition

Copyright 2004 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 8

**Length:** 432 words

**Byline:** Abraham Rabinovich

### **Body**

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\* Jerusalem

AT LEAST 10 Palestinians were killed and about 50 others wounded last night when an Israeli helicopter opened fire on a demonstration against a massive Israeli army operation in the southern Gaza refugee camp of Rafah, medical sources and witnesses said.

About 20 of the injured were said to be in a critical condition. Most of the casualties were under the age of 18, medics said, although not all the victims had been identified.

MATP

The raid took place on the outskirts of the Tal al-Sultan neighbourhood of Rafah that has been the scene of the bloodiest clashes since Tuesday's start of Israel's "Operation Rainbow" which has now left 34 Palestinians dead.

Around 1000 people were taking part in the demonstration, including many women and children, witnesses said.

Israel's heavy raids on the Gaza Strip were prompted by the discovery of a large number of weapons about to be smuggled across the border from Egypt, Israeli military officials said earlier in a briefing to reporters.

The officials said the weapons included Katyusha rockets capable of hitting Israeli cities, such as Ashkelon and Ashdod, and possibly shoulder-launched anti-aircraft missiles that would pose a threat to Israeli aircraft.

"We are forced to act in Rafah since it has become the gateway of terrorism through which weapons are smuggled in," Israeli army chief of staff General Moshe Yaalon said.

Denying any intention of undertaking further large-scale demolition of houses as part of the current Israeli raids, he said three houses had been destroyed in the attack, one because it contained booby traps and two because they were used by militants as firing positions against the attacking troops.

Israel has already demolished a number of Palestinian homes and is considering the demolition of hundreds more in the Rafah refugee camp in a push to widen the border buffer at the southern end of the Gaza Strip, and to prevent the construction of weapons-smuggling tunnels.

Israeli officials say the current massive military operation is aimed at uncovering tunnels and weapons caches, and to capture or kill wanted Palestinians who have been involved in digging the almost 100 tunnels that have been uncovered since the Palestinian uprising began more than three years ago.

## Weapons 'find' led to Gaza killings

Israeli officials said the recent weapons shipments had come from Iran, assisted by operatives of **Hezbollah** from southern Lebanon.

The officials said last week's destruction by Palestinian fighters of two Israeli personnel carriers, killing 11 Israeli soldiers, was a secondary consideration in the army's decision to raid Rafah.

**Load-Date:** May 20, 2004

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End of Document

## *In volatile Iraq, US curbs press*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

June 19, 2003, Thursday

Copyright 2003 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 01

**Length:** 860 words

**Byline:** By Ilene R. Prusher Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** BAGHDAD

**Highlight:** US issues an order against inciting attacks on minorities or US troops.

### **Body**

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The once occasional attacks on US soldiers here are growing deadlier, and more frequent: Wednesday, a US soldier was killed and another wounded in a drive-by shooting. And outside the former Republican Palace, now the headquarters of the US administration, US troops killed two Iraqis during a protest by former Iraqi soldiers that spiraled out of control.

At least some of the fuel for the anti-American fire, US officials here charge, is being pumped out by new Iraqi media outlets.

L. Paul Bremer, the top US official here, says a new edict prohibiting the local media from inciting attacks on other Iraqis - and on the coalition forces - is not meant to put a stopper on the recently uncorked freedom of speech.

"It is intended to stop ... people who are trying to incite political violence, and people who are succeeding in inciting political violence here, particularly against women," Bremer said at a press conference Tuesday.

Iraqi journalists are not taking kindly to the restrictions. Among the scores of new publications that have flooded Iraq's newsstands since the US-led overthrow of Saddam Hussein's regime, the broadsheet As-Saah is one of the most widely read. In a front-page editorial Wednesday, the paper's senior editor let readers know what he thought of the country's liberators: "Bremer is a Baathist," the headline reads.

In an interview, editor Ni'ma Abdulrazzaq says the press edict decreed by Bremer lays out restrictions similar to those under Mr. Hussein. Not long ago, an uppity writer could easily be accused of being an agent for America or Israel. "Now they put plastic bags on our heads, throw us to the ground, and accuse us of being agents of Saddam Hussein," the editorial reads. "In other words, if you're not with America, you're with Saddam."

"Mr. Bremer, you remind us of Saddam," the column continues. "We've waited a long time to be free. Now you want us to be slaves."

It is not clear whether or not such incendiary language would be considered a violation of the new media policy that Bremer, as head of the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), recently introduced. According to CPA Order Number 14, media are prohibited from broadcasting or publishing material that incites violence against any individual or group "including racial, ethnic, religious groups, and women"; encourages civil disorder; or "incites violence against coalition forces." Violators, if convicted, will be fined up to \$ 1,000 or sentenced to up to one year in prison.



## In volatile Iraq , US curbs press

To be sure, many papers are full of scathing rebuke for the US forces, and sometimes peppered with far-fetched and incendiary reports. The average Iraqi reader might be led to believe that American soldiers are raping Iraqi girls, and undressing Iraqi women with night-vision goggles. Other reports allege that soldiers steal money during house searches.

For decades, Iraqis have lived in a state in which all news outlets were controlled by Mr. Hussein, and by his son Uday in particular. Testing the waters, the first papers to start publishing after the regime's fall tended to be affiliated with formerly exiled political parties. But now the market is awash in newspapers, some of them put out by journalistic novices. "Candy merchants in the markets have become publishers, and junior writers have become senior editors," says Mr. Abdulrazzaq, sitting in his newspaper office, his television tuned to al-Manar, a satellite channel run by Lebanon's Hizbullah movement.

Not unlike al-Manar, which reports with a fundamentalist Islamic slant, As-Saah was founded in late April under the aegis of a Muslim religious movement. But the paper recently decided to break away from the Unified National Movement, a Sunni Muslim group, says Abdulrazzaq, so it could be totally independent of pressures to conform to its outlook.

For Abdulrazzaq, working as a journalist under Hussein's regime was like writing in a self-imposed straight jacket. Abdulrazzaq says he was arrested "only" twice. Reporters knew where the red lines were and wouldn't dare cross them, he says, but even reporters who praised Hussein would sometimes wind up in jail - or dead. Now, he fears, journalists who should be learning how to break out of the boundaries of the past are learning to keep practicing self-censorship.

For example, he says, he had already pulled two articles which he feared would result in action against his newspaper. A story he postponed but plans to run this Saturday, he says, centers on "American soldiers saying bad things about the Koran and insulting it."

Criticism of the new guidelines has grown, although some of the frustration may be based more on rumor about what the policy entails, rather than on reality. The edict on "Prohibited Media Activity" was released last week in English - but only Wednesday in Arabic.

Bremer has reiterated that the point of the new press policy is not to hamper free speech or stifle criticism of the US-led administration here. "We very much believe that the freedom of expression should apply to Iraq," Bremer said. "But we need to balance that with a need to protect minorities from violence."

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

## *Three die in Israel suicide bombing*

Times Colonist (Victoria, British Columbia)

May 28, 2002 Tuesday Final Edition

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**Section:** World; Pg. A8; News

**Length:** 449 words

**Dateline:** PETACH TIKVAH, Israel

### **Body**

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PETACH TIKVAH, Israel (AP) -- A suicide bomber blew himself up Monday at an outdoor mall in a city next to Tel Aviv, killing himself and two other people and wounding about 20, police and witnesses said.

The bomber struck the city of Petach Tikvah as Israeli forces were conducting a sweep through the West Bank town of Bethlehem, one of a series of quick raids aimed at stopping suicide bombers. Soldiers left the town of Tulkarem just before the suicide bombing in Petach Tikvah, east of Tel Aviv.

Associated Press

Police and hospital officials said two people, a woman and a two-year-old girl, were killed. Among the wounded were several babies. Police commander Aharon Franco said a body at the scene was "apparently the suicide bomber."

A baby carriage, its blue fabric stained by blood, lay on its side in the midst of the rubble. A witness who gave his name as Haim told Israel radio that the attacker struck "children and babies who were sitting with their parents at the cafe near the supermarket."

The Lebanese TV station Al-Manar, representing the *Hezbollah* guerrillas, broadcast a claim of responsibility from the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, affiliated with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

David Baker, an official in the Israeli prime minister's office, said: "Palestinian terror continues to strike out at Israeli *women* and children." He said Israel would use "all the resources at its disposal" to stop terror attacks.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said: "We have to do whatever possible to beat these things, by military means and also by political means."

Earlier, police in Jerusalem defused a bomb discovered by a gardener outside an apartment building. The explosives had been hidden in a plastic bag.

Defence Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer said despite continued warnings about plans by Palestinian militants to carry out suicide attacks, Israel was not on the verge of another large-scale military operation on par with the six-week Defensive Shield offensive that ended earlier this month.

Dozens of armoured vehicles and jeeps drove into Bethlehem and surrounding towns and refugee camps before dawn Monday and imposed a curfew on tens of thousands of Palestinians in the second incursion into the area in two days. The city had been under Israeli control for nearly six weeks during the previous offensive.

### Three die in Israel suicide bombing

Israeli troops blocked access to Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity, built over the grotto where Christian tradition holds that Jesus was born, to prevent another standoff at the shrine with Palestinian gunmen. During Defensive Shield, armed Palestinians fleeing advancing Israeli troops were holed up inside the shrine for 39 days.

**Load-Date:** May 28, 2002

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End of Document

## PLENTY OF PAYNE AT GEORGE'S BASH

The Sun

August 7, 2004

Copyright 2004 NEWS GROUP NEWSPAPERS LTD

**Section:** OPINION; SCOTCHA

**Length:** 399 words

**Byline:** Sergei Platt

### **Body**

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GREAT to see GEORGE GALLOWAY and society madam CYNTHIA PAYNE are new next-door neighbours. The housewarming would have been a must for any Hezbollah suicide bombers in the vicinity who like to be tied up and whipped.

IT'S not every day you get a mutiny at sea story, but what goon would go off in a yacht called Argo with a dodgy Highland bloke called SPIKE SELLERS? And where is HARRY SECOMBE in this story?

I FEAR TV's Celebrity Home Search could one day cause rioting in the streets. The latest had ANTHEA TURNER and GRANT BOVEY being ferried by helicopter to view five properties in Dubai "within their budget of Pounds 750,000". For a HOLIDAY home? As we like to say here, there were people like this in Russia before the Revolution.

PORRIDGE on the menu at McDonald's? Surely first stop for anyone leaving prison.

SEE Shadow Culture Secretary JULIE KIRKBRIDE believes Mastermind is pandering to "the lowest common denominator" by allowing specialist subjects like Only Fools And Horses, Star Trek and Dr Who. Maybe a sly dig at Home Secretary DAVID BLUNKETT, who went on earlier this year to answer questions on Harry Potter.

WASTE-OF-TIME Survey Of The Week reveals that only 56 per cent of Scots sing in the shower. And they probably do it just to drown out that tell-tale trickling noise of something else they do in the shower.

FUNNY business about the theatre company whose Fringe act's full urine container got spilled when their van driver braked to avoid a fox. So they had to appeal to the public for replacement pee. As in "friends, Romans, countrymen, lend us your..."

INTERESTING that BOB MORTIMER confesses to peeing in hotel room kettles - a lovely treat for the next occupant. I mention this only because the definition of a saddy is someone who times those underpowered kettles. I have a best of nine minutes.

IT'S been revealed that Big Brother 5's NADIA is looking forward to meeting up with her long-lost dad, JACK NICHOLSON.

Man I feel like a woman. IT'S the BB fans who left last night's parties dreading an empty 10 months I feel sorry for. Anyway, NADIA should be careful if she ever meets SVEN GORAN ERIKSSON - NANCY DELL'OLIO and FARIA ALAM could give her a run for her money in any men-dressed-up-as-women steeplechase.

PLENTY OF PAYNE AT GEORGE'S BASH

HAVING missed only a handful of days since 2001, I'm going off on a fortnight's Olympic leave. Don't go away.

SERGEI PLATT

s.platt the-sun.co.uk

**Load-Date:** August 27, 2004

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End of Document

***Comment & Analysis: There's more to Sadr than meets the eye: The Iraqi cleric has an illustrious family background of resistance***

The Guardian (London) - Final Edition

August 24, 2004

Copyright 2004 Guardian Newspapers Limited

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

**Length:** 830 words

**Byline:** Sami Ramadani

## **Body**

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Secular as well as Islamic anti-occupation forces in Iraq are now beginning to drop their caution about Moqtada al-Sadr and are openly siding with his resistance forces in Najaf. The National Foundation Congress, the influential umbrella organisation that represents most religious, nationalist and other secular forces opposed to the US-led occupation, on Saturday issued an eight-point proposal, already approved by Sadr, to peacefully end the crisis in Najaf. This proposal strengthens Sadr's hand and is in essence a call to end the US-led forces' carnage in Najaf and Baghdad and all other areas of Iraq.

But as intense fighting continues around the Imam Ali shrine, where Sadr's fighters have resisted more than two weeks of US bombardment, it's worth taking a closer look at the man himself. There is much more to Sadr than meets the eye.

His full title is Hujjat il-Islam al-Sayyid Moqtada Muhammad Sadeq al-Sadr, and he is 31 years old. Al-Sayyid literally translates to mister, but when conferred by clerics, as in this case, it is public recognition that the man concerned can authentically trace his lineage to the Prophet Muhammad.

Muhammad Sadeq is his father's name. Grand Ayatollah Muhammad Sadeq al-Sadr was murdered in 1999 by Saddam, because he was building bridges with Sunni clerics and becoming influential among the poor, particularly in the 2-million strong poorest district of Baghdad now known as Sadr City. His uncle Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir al-Sadr was an even more politically significant figure: he and his sister Bint-ul-Huda were tortured to death by Saddam's thugs in 1980. The pair had founded a powerful militant movement that was at the forefront of the Islamic wing of the opposition to Saddam's regime. It is reported that Saddam himself shot both of them after their torture.

Sadr often reminds his listeners of this illustrious heritage, including active involvement in the 1920 revolution against British occupation. Like his father, he often wears a white robe on top of his religious garb to indicate that he too is ready to be "a martyr in the cause of liberation and independence". When the US-led occupation forces sought to capture him "dead or alive" in April, he chose to resist rather than surrender.

No matter how young and politically inexperienced they were told that he was, the militant patriots of Sadr City, Najaf, Basra and beyond began to trust him and saw in him the rightful custodian of the traditions handed down by the rebellious Islamic leaders who chose martyrdom rather than obeying tyranny. Indeed, Saddam's regime finally began to totter, despite the murderous US-led 13 years of sanctions that strengthened him and hurt the people, precisely because this uncompromising will to be free and resist subjugation runs very deep in Iraq.

Comment & Analysis: There's more to Sadr than meets the eye: The Iraqi cleric has an illustrious family background of resistance

It is said that Iraq's Shia strictly follow their most senior religious leaders. This might be true of practising Shia in calmer times. But in times of crises this readiness to listen to "wiser" councils evaporates. Grand Ayatollah Sistani was being listened to attentively after the invasion. The number of his portraits on display was rising with every defiant statement. During the past few weeks, however, those portraits were fast disappearing to be replaced by Sadr's, and those of his father, his uncle, Ayatollah Khomeini, and those of another very potent and very popular junior, Nasrallah, leader of Hizbullah in Lebanon.

There are now signs that, like Nasrallah in Lebanon, Sadr is learning that he needs to build bridges and links with Iraq's varied sects, religions, nationalities and secular political trends. After Iraq's proconsul Paul Bremer appointed the now defunct Iraqi Governing Council last year, Sadr uni laterally declared the appointment of an alternative government composed solely of his supporters. It went down like a lead balloon. However, when asked last week about the political and social programme of al-Tayyar al-Sadri's (the Sadri current), one of Sadr's main spokesmen said that Sadr opposed the publication of such a detailed programme because it had to evolve from and be agreed at a conference of all Iraq's political forces. Indeed, if the Sadri current is to last the distance, he has to also take on board that the Kurds in Iraqi Kurdistan and Iraqi women, particularly in the cities, will want a major input.

Most of the parents and grandparents of the young Sadri patriots were probably supporters of the once powerful Iraqi Communist party, now in Ayad Allawi's interim government which is being widely compared in Iraq's streets to Saddam's regime. Bush and Blair are only now beginning to approach the Iraqi volcano. Nothing short of a full, speedy and planned withdrawal of the US-led occupation would stop the Iraqi, and wider Middle Eastern, volcano from erupting.

Sami Ramadani was a political refugee from Saddam's regime and is a senior lecturer in sociology at London Metropolitan University

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**Load-Date:** August 24, 2004

**Watching out for Islamic women;  
Democracy may set back Arab women**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

MARCH 27, 2005 Sunday CITY-D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** CURRENTS; Pg. C01

**Length:** 1053 words

**Byline:** Trudy Rubin

## **Body**

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As the democracy debate intensifies in the Middle East, many Arab women are asking this question: Will democratic elections mean that our freedom will be curtailed?

If this concern seems strange, consider the story of Salama al-Khafaji, a courageous dental surgeon who risked her life to run in Iraqi elections. Her 17-year-old son was shot dead in 2003 during an attempt by insurgents to kill her, but she continued her work as a member of Iraq's first interim governing council. A motorcyclist toting a machine gun nearly assassinated her during the election run-up in January.

Khafaji is a symbol of Iraqi bravery, but she also is a symbol of Shiite piety, who wears an enveloping black abaya that resembles a Catholic nun's habit, circa 1950. She ran on the victorious Shiite list endorsed by Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani.

And she wants to replace civil laws on "family status" that affect women - laws on marriage, divorce, custody and inheritance - with Islamic laws that would roll back many rights of women.

Welcome to the new Iraq, where free and fair elections may have a negative impact on women. U.S. pressure ensured that every third seat in the Iraqi assembly was set aside for a woman. But the bulk of female candidates were selected by Shiite religious parties that believe women should be subject to religious law.

If other Arab countries follow Iraq and open up their political systems, this will bring more gains for religious parties in the region. This is because secular Arab parties have largely been discredited by association with dictators or corruption. In Lebanon's "democratic spring" of street demonstrations, one of the strongest parties has been Hezbollah, a Shiite Islamic movement. In Egypt, which is witnessing a small political opening, a bigger opening would result in Islamic parties' gaining substantial power.

When Islamic parties enter parliament, women's rights become a bone of contention. "Women are the bargaining chip," says Assa Karam, an Egyptian expert on Arab women's rights who works for the United Nations



## Watching out for Islamic women; Democracy may set back Arab women

Development Program. Karam says that when Islamic parties are jockeying for power with secular parties or governments, "compromises on women's rights take place."

Thus, for example, contentious Islamist deputies in Kuwait focused on blocking women's suffrage. Thus, in Iran in years past, when hard-line Islamists were frustrated with political gains by Islamic moderates, the hard-liners demanded more restrictions on women's dress code. When male politicians quarrel, women became the sacrificial lambs.

And thus, in Iraq, where the victorious Shiite list knows it can't impose religious law on all issues, it will likely focus on putting "family status" law under the control of clerics. Secular Iraqi politicians are likely to compromise first on issues relating to women as they horse-trade with religious parties on writing the constitution. This kind of compromise has happened before.

In Iraq, in late 2003, the interim Iraqi Governing Council (including some secular members) passed Resolution 137, which aimed to overturn Iraq's 1959 civil law on family status. This resolution opened the door to religious laws permitting polygamy, child marriage, and divorced mothers' losing custody of a male child at age 2 and a female child at age 7. Resolution 137 was overturned only after strong opposition by Iraqi women's groups and a threatened veto by U.S. occupation czar Paul Bremer.

But the United States cannot veto laws passed by an elected legislature. Every major official on the Shiite list supports the ideas of Resolution 137. When I interviewed Khafaji in her Baghdad office, she scoffed at the secular Iraqi women who opposed the resolution, whom she labeled "exile women with extreme liberal thoughts." She said Iraq's constitution must be "suitable for our society and customs."

So where does that leave Iraqi women's rights?

Fortunately, Iraq has a long history of activist women, among the most highly educated in the Arab world. They will fight to have a say on the drafting committee for the new Iraqi constitution. U.S. officials can help from the background, but that help shouldn't be too overt.

"The U.S. can press on the constitution," says Iraqi American Zainab Salbi, head of Women for Women International, a Washington-based organization with operations in Iraq and other strife-torn countries. "But if it is too loud, it will trigger a conservative reaction."

Yet at a time when religious parties are ascendant, pressure by secular women may not be sufficient to prevent women from being pushed back.

Salbi worries that secular and religious women aren't talking to each other. She says secular women must learn to couch their arguments in language understandable to religious ears.

A similar argument was made to me by Ferial Masry, a gutsy Saudi American woman who got 40 percent of the vote as a Democratic candidate for state Assembly in California in November.

Masry says Arab women who confront religious opposition must "reframe the discourse in terms [the religious] understand. It is important in conservative societies to have examples." When she explains to Saudi men why women should vote and run for office, she uses examples of powerful women in Arab history. And then she talks of her own experience as a Saudi woman running for office in the United States. Masry was lionized by Saudi women - and men, too - when she talked about her campaign experience during a recent visit to her native country, where women don't yet have the vote.

That effort to reframe the discourse might bear fruit in Iraq, where someone such as Khafaji insists that she wants to fight for more rights for women, but through expanding the definition of Islamic law. If Khafaji and her secular opponents could share their mutual concerns over the rights of women, perhaps they could find a way to join their efforts.

## Watching out for Islamic women; Democracy may set back Arab women

That may be a long shot. But unless secular Iraqi women (and the Western women's groups and U.S. officials who want to help them) can find a language the Muslim public can understand, Iraqi women may soon find their rights curtailed by Islamic parties - parties brought to power through the democratic vote.

Contact columnist Trudy Rubin at 215-854-5823 or [trubin@phillynews.com](mailto:trubin@phillynews.com). Read her recent work at <http://go.philly.com/trudyrubin>.

## Notes

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Worldview

## Graphic

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PHOTO;

PETROS KARADJIAS, Associated Press

Young Hezbollah supporters participate in a parade recently near the grave of slain former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri in central Beirut, Lebanon.

Supporters of the slain former prime minister staging a protest on Monday in Beirut. The U.S. and other countries are following the actions of Islamic women, but who is to seek their rights?

**Load-Date:** September 8, 2005

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**Terror attack on Turkey planned in Internet cafe; Seized files may link suicide bombers to al-Qaeda**

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

November 22, 2003 Saturday Final Edition

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**Section:** CANADA/WORLD; Pg. A18; News

**Length:** 984 words

**Byline:** SORAYA SARHADDI NELSON

**Dateline:** BINGOL, TURKEY

## **Body**

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Turkey's latest outbreak of terrorism was hatched in an Internet cafe in this mountain-ringed southeastern Kurdish town, investigators say.

A sign on the wall of the Bingol Internet Merkezi Cafe warns users that it is "definitely banned to enter sites ... targeting the state, country and its inseparable integrity and constitutional order." Most of the users, teenage boys engrossed in noisy games of computer soccer, seem happy to comply.

But two other young men -- the son of one cafe owner and the brother of the other -- who came here regularly, blew themselves up in the suicide bombings last weekend that set Turkey reeling.

Knight Ridder Newspapers

Police raided the cafe this week and confiscated files, apparently on suspicion that the cafe may have linked the bombers to the larger world of Islamic terrorism, including al-Qaeda.

Accessible only by a winding two-lane road, the town first hit the front pages when an earthquake registering 6.4 on the Richter scale killed more than 170 in the area in early May. Shock waves struck again last week when Turkish leaders named it as the hometown of two suicide bombers who killed themselves and 23 others and injured 300 more when they detonated explosives-laden Isuzu pick-ups in front of two synagogues in Istanbul last Saturday.

Turkish Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul has said the two had visited Afghanistan. Turkish media reported that one trained in Iran in 2001. U.S. intelligence officials said both trained in al Qaeda camps in Afghanistan, and returned to Turkey in 2001.

Police now are investigating two accomplices, at least one of them from Bingol, who left Turkey on Oct. 28 for Dubai. The pair slipped back into Turkey to carry out Thursday's suicide bombings at the British consulate and London-based HSBC bank headquarters in Istanbul, the Turkish daily Hurriyet reported yesterday.

The trio are accused of planning the attacks under the noses of Turkish troops who rule Bingol with an iron grip. How they got away with it shows how hard it is to prevent terrorism.

One possible explanation for the bombings lies in the sharp religious and political divisions among Kurds who've clashed among themselves for decades in their struggles for local autonomy. These divisions persist even if local

Terror attack on Turkey planned in Internet cafe; Seized files may link suicide bombers to al-Qaeda

extremist groups are no longer viable, said Nihat Ali Ozcan, a terrorism expert based in Ankara. With al-Qaeda, "they learn about different groups coming up with more global solutions to what they are opposed to and latch on."

Residents in this town of 250,000 said they can't believe one of their own would accept al-Qaeda or its methods. No one likes Osama bin Laden and they abhor the recent attacks, they said. But most refused to talk to outsiders about them.

The uncle of suicide bomber Gokhan Elaltuntas, 24, who Turkish officials said carried out the attack against the Neve Shalom synagogue in Istanbul last Saturday made an exception.

"This has put a total shame on the whole family," Sevfet Elaltuntas, 52, said.

His uncle last talked to Elaltuntas two nights before the blast. The young man, who ran a cellphone shop in Istanbul, said he was coming home this weekend to celebrate the breaking of the Ramadan fast, after which he was scheduled to marry his fiancée from Turkey's capital, Ankara.

His nephew was so averse to bloodshed that he didn't have the stomach to skin the fowl and rabbits he and his friends hunted, Elaltuntas said.

"He must have been brainwashed in Istanbul. He wasn't extremist, definitely not."

Residents of Bingol take pride in their conservatism, and virtually all women here wear Islamic head scarves. There is no graffiti, pro-militant or otherwise, on buildings or walls. Sermons delivered in its mosques are written by Turkey's state-run religious authority. Most men on the streets smoke cigarettes during the holy fasting month of Ramadan, when believers are supposed to abstain.

But Turkish authorities say Bingol town and province are rife with Islamic extremists. Twelve "terrorists" were killed in the province on Wednesday night alone, Turkish justice minister Cemil Cicek told parliament Thursday.

Authorities said most of them were part of a Kurdish faction called Turkish Hezbollah, a Sunni Islamic group with, at most, a few thousand followers not linked to the Lebanese Shiite Muslim group of the same name.

The handful of Bingol residents who agreed to be interviewed claim the group formed in the early 1980s.

"The state has built it, established it and then couldn't handle it," said one 33-year-old businessman, who refused to give his name.

Disillusionment spread among these extremists, experts said, after last year's election of an Islamic party that has tried to strengthen Turkey's ties to the United States and sought Turkey's admission into the European Union.

"When you look at it from the perspective of al-Qaeda or Hezbollah, this government itself, although Islamic, represents the antithesis of (the extremists') global agenda," Turkish columnist Semih Idiz told Israel Radio Thursday.

Suicide bombers such as Elaltuntas don't, on the surface, fit the profile of disillusioned extremists however.

His uncle, Hassan Aktash, described him as very private and quiet. The second of six children, he barely left Bingol before his move to Istanbul. If he was passionate, it was about Turkish soccer, Aktash said.

The other synagogue bomber, Mesut Cabuk, was an acquaintance, the uncle said. His nephew was a lifelong friend of Azad Ekinici, he added, the missing accomplice whose brother opened the Internet cafe with Elaltuntas' father two years ago.

"Gokhan was a normal Muslim," said Aktash, 31, who has managed the Internet cafe since Elaltuntas moved to Istanbul on May 10. "He never expressed views about Osama bin Laden."

Ekinici encountered al-Qaeda during his travels, Sevfet Elaltuntas surmised.

Terror attack on Turkey planned in Internet cafe; Seized files may link suicide bombers to al-Qaeda

"The police told us that in twelve months, he was in Turkey two and outside the other ten," he said.

## Graphic

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Photo: Ibrahim Usta;Cihan, the Associated Press; Family members mourn over the Turkish flag-draped coffin of Ahmet Dama, a 22-year-old Turkish man who was killed in the suicide bomb attack at the British consulate building.

**Load-Date:** November 22, 2003

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End of Document

## *List of 270 victims offers possible clues on why Flight 103 was targeted*

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

February 1, 2001 Thursday Final Edition

Copyright 2001 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. C05; News

**Length:** 417 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Dateline:** CAMP ZEIST, NETHERLANDS

### **Body**

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The Semtex explosive that destroyed Flight 103 did not discriminate the victims' race, age, nationality or gender.

Of 270 people killed in the tragedy, 243 were passengers, 16 were air crew and 11 were Lockerbie residents. When the roll call of the dead was read by the prosecution at the trial, it took just 13 seconds shy of an hour.

The Independent, London

Most of the victims were Americans; 35 were students from Syracuse University in New York, including twin brothers Eric and Jason Coker, 20. The dead came from 21 countries including Canada, Sweden, South Africa and France.

One of the most shocking aspects of the Lockerbie tragedy is the average age of the dead: 27.

Among the passengers were 14 babies and children.

The youngest victims were two two-month-old babies, Jonathan Thomas and Brittany Williams, from the U.S. The eldest was retired doctor Ibolya Drucker, 79, from Hungary.

The dead included members of the U.S. armed forces, hairdressers, lawyers, teachers, engineers, two ***female*** playwrights, a pro golfer, four CIA agents, a diplomat, Nazi-hunter Michael Bernstein and Bernt Wilmar Carlsson who worked at the UN.

Some names, such as Flora Swire, the daughter of a British doctor, have become better known because of high-profile campaigning by parents.

It has been claimed that seats became available because some people with links to the U.S. embassies in Europe had cancelled their trip after a tip-off of a possible attack.

Hidden in the list of 270 lie possible clues to the plane's fate.

Among them is that of Khaled Jaafar, 20, a Lebanese-American and allegedly a member of a drug-producing family who had been ordered by ***Hezbollah*** to take heroin to America.

One theory says that, unknown to him, the package was swapped for a bomb at Frankfurt by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command. But judges yesterday rejected Palestinian involvement.

List of 270 victims offers possible clues on why Flight 103 was targeted

Another clue is Major Charles McKee of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, returning from Beirut. It has been claimed that McKee was working to free the Lebanon hostages and was murdered to stop him getting back to America with information.

In addition to those who were killed are those who missed the flight.

New York car mechanic Jaswant Basuta, 55, was drinking in the airport bar at Heathrow. He checked in for Flight 103 but was not in his seat when the plane was ready to depart. He had too much to drink and missed the flight.

Basuta, a Sikh, has told how he regards 21 December 1988 as the day he was "reborn."

**Load-Date:** November 5, 2001

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End of Document

*No smoking, says Muslim cleric;  
The ban may affect Shiites abroad more than those  
in mixed-religion Lebanon, where the ayatollah lives.<*

The Philadelphia Inquirer

JUNE 7, 2001 Thursday CITY-D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A14

**Length:** 423 words

**Byline:** Hussein Dakroub ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** BEIRUT, Lebanon

## Body

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Attributing his motivation to love and concern for the health of his followers, a senior Shiite Muslim cleric has issued a religious edict ordering them to stop smoking.

The ruling, or fatwa, of Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah has ventured into territory that many in the Arab world consider taboo - the freedom to puff away, anytime, anywhere.

"Smoking represents an affliction which is responsible for the death of millions of children, women and men," Ayatollah Fadlallah said in an interview yesterday.

"A smoker is committing two crimes, one against himself and the other against the one inhaling next to him," he said.

Ayatollah Fadlallah, 66, is a senior Shiite religious authority worldwide. Although he denies it, the militant cleric is widely believed to be the spiritual guide of Hezbollah, the Iranian-backed Lebanese guerrilla group that fought Israeli occupation forces in southern Lebanon until Israel withdrew last year.

The white-bearded ayatollah said he was once a heavy smoker but kicked the habit 50 years ago.

The edict is binding for thousands of Lebanese and Arab Shiite Muslims. Ayatollah Fadlallah said he issued a similar ruling several years ago and reaffirmed it this week on the occasion of the international day against smoking.

He publicized the ban in an interview Tuesday with Lebanon's Future Television station.

When told his edict could anger Arab smokers, he said: "I issued this fatwa out of my love for them and their safety."



No smoking, says Muslim cleric; The ban may affect Shiites abroad more than those in mixed-religion Lebanon , where the ayatollah lives.<

Ayatollah Fadlallah noted that the Koran, the Muslim holy book, advises Muslims to avoid anything that harms the body, such as alcohol and gambling.

In an open, mixed Christian-Muslim society such as Lebanon's, Ayatollah Fadlallah's edict is not expected to cause any significant change in smokers' habits. It is, however, expected to be accepted by followers among the 1.2 million Shiites here and by Shiites abroad who recognize him as their marjaa, or religious authority.

The edict has put one of the ayatollah's Lebanese followers, Abed Khalife, in a bind.

Khalife, 33, a cashier in the southern city of Sidon, will have to give up his beloved water pipe if he wants to remain faithful to his cleric. "I have not decided yet," Khalife said. Then he paused: "But of course I will follow what he says."

At the Kawkab el-Sharq (Star of the Orient) water-pipe cafe in Sidon, shouts of disapproval erupted among some of the dozen customers told of the edict.

Hussein Hamdan, 40, a Shiite, said:

"I'm not addicted to smoking, but still I am not going to deprive myself of it."

**Load-Date:** October 31, 2001

**2 die in Jerusalem street blast;  
Woman apparently was suicide bomber**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

January 28, 2002 Monday,

Home Edition

Copyright 2002 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**The Atlanta  
Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** News;

**Length:** 450 words

**Byline:** LARRY KAPLOW

**Body**

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Jerusalem --- A bomb apparently carried by a Palestinian woman exploded on a busy Jerusalem street Sunday, killing the woman and an Israeli man and injuring more than a hundred others, including four seriously. Police were not sure whether the woman had intentionally blown herself up, but if so she would be the first **female** suicide bomber among the more than 100 bombings in Israel since the mid-1990s.

In Lebanon, the Al-Manar television station run by the militant **Hezbollah** movement said the bomber was Shinaz Amuri, a **female** student at Al-Najah University in the West Bank town of Nablus.

Cox Washington Bureau

The midday blast ripped through downtown storefronts and came amid increasing international isolation of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

The Israeli killed was Pinchas Toktaly, 81, a father of three and grandfather of 13. He was walking home from an art class when the explosion occurred.

The bombing occurred on crowded Jaffa Street, the main shopping corridor in Jewish western Jerusalem. Just 80 yards from the site of the bombing, a gunman killed two Israelis in a flurry of bullets on Tuesday. On Friday, another bomber attacked Tel Aviv's downtown on Friday, killing himself and injuring at least 25 Israelis.

Sunday's bombing came amid tight security and warnings that such attacks were possible, highlighting the militants' ability to strike Israeli streets almost at will. Body parts and glass from dozens of gutted stores littered the street. Jerusalem police Chief Mickey Levy had a heart attack touring the site.

Israeli officials vowed to retaliate for the attack. In recent days and weeks, the army has killed suspected militants and launched airstrikes on Palestinian government buildings.

## 2 die in Jerusalem street blast; Woman apparently was suicide bomber

Amid the violence, Arafat has come under intense international pressure. The Bush administration has considered cutting diplomatic ties to the Palestinian leader. Arafat must "do everything he could, make a 100 percent good-faith effort to put an end to terrorism," Vice President Dick Cheney told Fox News on Sunday. "So far he hasn't done that."

Cheney said Anthony Zinni, the U.S. envoy to the Middle East, would not return to the region until Arafat does more to halt the mounting violence there.

Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) said "Arafat is not living up to his agreements" to promote peace. Lott said on the CBS program "Face the Nation" that the White House may soon sever all ties with Arafat. "He has become irrelevant, not to mention irresponsible, in his conduct," Lott said. Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) appeared to agree. "I don't think that anybody has any patience left for the way the [Palestinian Authority] has conducted itself," he said.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2002

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End of Document

### *World datelines*

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

February 4, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

**Section:** WIRE;

**Length:** 469 words

**Byline:** Compiled from Deseret News wire services

## **Body**

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### Cambodia

PHNOM PENH -- Prime Minister Hun Sen's party won most seats in the capital, preliminary results showed, and was expected to do well in the countryside in Cambodia's first-ever local election Sunday.

### China

HONG KONG -- Health workers completed the slaughter of more than 100,000 chickens Sunday at a Hong Kong farm where the deaths of thousands of birds had raised fears of a second outbreak of avian flu in less than a year.

### Costa Rica

SAN JOSE -- Voters began casting their ballots Sunday in Costa Rica's presidential election, a tight three-way race focused on economic woes that is likely to force the Central American nation's first runoff vote in modern history.

### France

BORDEAUX -- Forest fires driven by strong winds burned out hundreds of hectares of scrubland and trees in the Basque region of southwest France on Sunday.

### India

PATNA -- India said Sunday the future of Pakistan-administered Kashmir would top its agenda in any dialogue with Islamabad but denied it had insisted on the return of the disputed territory as a pre-condition for talks.

### Indonesia

GENEVA, Switzerland -- Indonesian government negotiators and Aceh separatist rebels ended two-day peace talks Sunday without a breakthrough in the decades-old conflict but agreed to pursue their dialogue at a date to be fixed.

### Kuwait

A police officer was convicted Sunday of killing a magazine editor who had insulted his tribe in an article she had written. He was sentenced to die by hanging.

### Lebanon

## World datelines

BEIRUT -- A senior Hezbollah leader lashed out against President Bush on Sunday, labeling him the "Great Satan" and dismissing U.S. accusations that the Lebanese guerrilla group is "terrorist" organization.

## Nigeria

LAGOS -- Clashes between rival ethnic groups killed at least 17 people and sent thousands fleeing for their lives Sunday in Nigeria's largest city, where residents were still mourning the victims of deadly explosions at an army base a week ago.

## South Africa

JOHANNESBURG -- An adult female hippopotamus attacked and fatally wounded a woman who was photographing her calf in South Africa's famed Kruger National Park, police said Sunday.

## Venezuela

CARACAS -- Leading a "patriotic caravan" of hundreds of vehicles across Venezuela, President Hugo Chavez Sunday declared the 10th anniversary of his botched 1992 coup attempt a day of national celebration, despite an outcry from opponents.

## Yemen

SANAA -- Yemen has begun deporting more than 100 foreign Muslims, including British and French nationals, arrested in a crackdown on foreign students attending religious schools in Yemen, a security official said Sunday.

## Zimbabwe

MUTARE -- The main opposition candidate in Zimbabwe's presidential race kicked off his campaign Sunday, promising a return to the rule of law and an economic reconstruction program if he defeats longtime ruler Robert Mugabe.

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

## *Arafat scorns offer of exile*

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

April 3, 2002 Wednesday,

Home Edition

Copyright 2002 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

### **The Atlanta Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** News;

**Length:** 1070 words

**Byline:** LARRY KAPLOW

### **Body**

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Ramallah, West Bank --- Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon suggested Tuesday that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat could take a "one-way ticket" to exile.

On a day of expanding Israeli military raids on Palestinian cities, Sharon said world leaders concerned about Arafat could airlift him out of confinement, but only if they take him away for good. Arafat, who was surrounded by Israeli troops occupying his Ramallah compound for a fifth day, quickly rejected the offer and said he would rather be a "martyr" than leave the West Bank.

Sharon's offer was greeted coldly abroad. European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana suggested the Middle East would be best served if both Sharon and Arafat stepped aside.

Cox Washington Bureau

"Neither is a saint, and sometimes I'm inclined to think that perhaps a new generation of persons in Israel and Palestine could, in the 21st century, come up with a solution," Solana said. "They have faced many battlefields, and it hasn't escaped me that there is something personal between Arafat and Sharon."

The verbal exchange came as massive Israeli assaults drove hundreds of Palestinians to surrender at a modern security headquarters in Ramallah. In Bethlehem, scene of the day's fiercest fighting, gunmen were sent scurrying into hiding in the ancient Church of the Nativity, built atop the traditional birthplace of Jesus.

Israeli commentators said the offensive was expanding quickly, in part to fulfill the mission before global objections grew too loud. At least 13 Palestinians were killed Tuesday.

Early today, Israeli tanks swept into Salfeet and Jenin, a northern town that has been home to some of the suicide bombers who have been terrorizing Israelis.

At least 30 tanks rumbled into Jenin from all sides during the pre-dawn incursion. They exchanged heavy machine-gun fire with Palestinians in the city and at the entrance of a refugee camp, witnesses said. Israeli forces took over several buildings that provided views into the refugee camp, witnesses said.

## Arafat scorns offer of exile

In Philadelphia, President Bush said he hoped Palestinians could have "their own peaceful state" and emphasized that Israel "must be allowed to exist." He promised that America would work to stop "terrorist activities" aimed at derailing Mideast peace efforts.

In a morale-boosting visit with troops, Sharon said he had gotten many calls from world leaders worried about the danger posed to Arafat by Israeli soldiers outside his door.

Sharon said he told the leaders they could "fly in a helicopter and take him from here." But he said that Arafat's departure would require Cabinet approval and that Arafat would have to fly out alone to ensure no Palestinians wanted for attacks on Israelis went with him. As a last condition, Sharon added, "It would have to be a one-way ticket."

Israeli officials also produced a document found in Arafat's headquarters that they characterized as a request from militants to one of Arafat's top aides to reimburse them for expenses of past suicide bombings. The document said each bomb costs about \$170.

Mohammed Dahlan, a high-ranking Palestinian security official, responded on the Al Jazeera television network that Arafat "will not be deported."

"He came back here to bring the Palestinians to their homeland," Dahlan said.

## U.S. says Arafat still vital to peace

European leaders continued to push for better conditions for Arafat. Secretary of State Colin Powell said Arafat was still important in the region's peace process.

"It seems to me we need to work with him where he is," Powell said on ABC's "Good Morning America."

The State Department, meanwhile, urged Americans living there to leave Jerusalem and coaxed U.S. diplomats' dependents to return home, citing a "deteriorating security situation." Americans again were told to defer travel to Israel, the West Bank and Gaza.

Raising the specter of spiraling violence throughout the region, Israel and Lebanese Hezbollah rebels traded fire across the border. One Hezbollah fighter was reported killed.

Israel's West Bank offensive expanded as tanks and troops moved into several villages in the northern West Bank and solidified their hold on cities and towns, including Beth-lehem, Qalqilya, Tulkarem and Jenin. Officials expect the reoccupation to last for weeks.

As Israeli tanks rumbled into Bethlehem, Palestinian gunmen forced their way into one of the area's most famous Christian holy sites, Bethlehem's cavernous Church of the Nativity. The thick-walled stone church was built about 1,700 years ago over a series of caves believed to have served as livestock dwellings --- or stables --- in Jesus' time.

Israeli troops moved into Bethlehem early in the day and headed quickly for Manger Square, the large plaza in front of the church, which gunmen seek as a safe haven. An Italian journalist reported late Tuesday that he was trapped in the church with several other civilians and dozens of gunmen.

Some of the gunmen reportedly were wounded and being treated by nuns. Officials said Israeli troops were ordered not to fire at the city's many holy sites unless they faced a direct threat.

In Ramallah, the modern Preventive Security Services headquarters came under a heavy Israeli bombardment by tanks, helicopters and warplanes.

## Arafat scorns offer of exile

The agency once was the most powerful and well-equipped of the many Palestinian security services. It was established after the 1993 Oslo peace accords to help Arafat control his disparate population --- especially fundamentalist militants --- as the Palestinians built the foundations of statehood.

Israel claims militants being hidden

The security service director, Jibril Rajoub, has worked closely with the United States, which provided technical assistance in establishing the police forces. The compound includes a large administrative building, barracks, a jail and other facilities and was widely believed to be paid for in part with U.S. aid.

But Israel accused Rajoub this week of hiding wanted militants in the headquarters. Two of the largest buildings were ablaze Tuesday, and there were many holes in the roofs and walls. Israeli tanks were parked at the gates.

By evening, European and U.S. intermediaries struck a deal allowing those inside to leave and be detained by Israel. Rajoub told reporters the group released to Israeli custody included women and children who had sought shelter in the headquarters.

ON THE WEB: Updated photos from the Mideast crisis: [www.ajc.com](http://www.ajc.com)

## Graphic

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Photo:

Israeli troops check a Palestinian for weapons before letting him pass a checkpoint near the West Bank town of Ramallah. / PETER DeJONG / Associated Press

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

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End of Document



**Israelis shoot down plane: Mideast jittery on first anniversary of south Lebanon pullout**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

May 25, 2001 Friday

FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS,

**Length:** 423 words

**Byline:** DEBORAH SONTAG

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

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The Israeli air force shot down a small civilian airplane off the coast of Israel yesterday, killing a 43-year-old Lebanese student pilot on what was the first anniversary of the Israeli troop pullout from southern Lebanon.

The unusual incident, in which the student took an unauthorized trip into Israeli airspace and disregarded Israeli warnings to turn back, raised regional tensions on an already jittery day.

Israeli troops along the northern border were on high alert because of threats of an attack to mark the date by Islamic militants who say the troop withdrawal was incomplete. Lebanese civilians were panicky because of Israeli warplanes that flew in and out of Lebanon's airspace, causing sonic booms.

New York Times

And anxieties were running high as everyone waited to see whether Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's order two days ago for greater restraint by the Israeli military was going to make a discernible difference on the ground.

Both Israelis and Palestinians were skeptical as violence continued on the outskirts of Jerusalem and in the Gaza Strip.

Palestinian officials said two Palestinian youths, one of them a deaf bystander who could not hear that fighting had flared, were killed by Israeli troops during gun battles in Gaza. The battles followed an unsuccessful Palestinian mortar attack on a Jewish settlement and a roadside bombing that injured a soldier.

Lebanese officials said the pilot was a civil-aviation student named Stephan Nicolian who took a Cessna 152 airplane from his school and headed toward southern Lebanon without permission. Israeli authorities said they were alerted by aviation officials in Cyprus that the plane was on an unauthorized flight.

The pilot flew down Israel's coastline for 25 minutes, accompanied by Israeli jets and helicopters that did not succeed in diverting him to Lebanon. The authorities said they feared that he was on a suicide mission.

"He flew along the coastline, and by using international codes and signals we tried to get his attention," said Maj.-Gen. Dan Halutz, an air-force commander. "We knew for sure he spotted these attempts and did not respond to

Israelis shoot down plane: Mideast jittery on first anniversary of south Lebanon pullout

them. We shot warning shots at him. Once he flew south of Hadera toward densely populated areas, the decision to shoot him down was made and carried out."

The Lebanese interior minister, Elias Murr, said the pilot was an unstable man who may have been used by Israeli security agencies to fabricate an operation that "served their interests." Israeli officials dismissed the allegation.

## Graphic

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Photo: MOHAMAD ZATARI, AP ; Lebanese women injured in, fighting during Israel's occupation of south Lebanon take part in a, Hezbollah-organized demonstration at the border yesterday.

**Load-Date:** May 25, 2001

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End of Document

**Theft's not wrong if you're in the right; This digital life**

Australian Financial Review

July 6, 2004 Tuesday

First Edition

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**Section:** INFORMATION; Pg. 30

**Length:** 978 words

**Byline:** John Davidson jdavidson@afr.com.au

## **Body**

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Here's how to undermine the film you're afraid could cost your team the presidential election if too many people see it: encourage the public to download a pirated version over the internet so they can watch it without paying for it. And, while you're at it, encourage them to download it using peer-to-peer technology which ensures that the more the film gets downloaded the easier it becomes for people to download and watch it, so that in no time at all everyone will have seen the film, no-one will have paid for it, and . . . and . . .

OK, so the plan has a "tiny flaw", to quote Colonel Blackadder. It's bollocks.

But that's exactly what certain members of the US right are doing with the Michael Moore film Fahrenheit 9/11, a film about the Bush administration's (mis)handling of the war on terrorism.

An anti-Moore website unashamedly linked to the Republican re-election drive now features a page called "Steal This Movie" and encourages internet users to download Fahrenheit 9/11 illegally using the Bit Torrent peer-to-peer system. They're even given instructions on how to do so.

We know that the site, Moorewatch.com, is linked to the Republican re-election drive because on the home page it prominently advertises Bush/Cheney bumper stickers, which are magnetic so they can be "easily . . . removed", we presume in case the other team wins.

OK, so we sort of made that up. The ad actually says the magnetic stickers can be "easily attached and removed", but selective misquoting seems to be one of the favoured tools of the US right so we thought we'd give it a try. It's quite effective, no?

Moorewatch.com also advertises Bush/Cheney T-shirts and George Bush playing cards. If it's not actually linked to the Bush campaign, then at the very least it's linked to the Bush campaign in the very same way that Michael Moore (according to the site) is linked to "hesbala".

Yes, it seems that organisations related to the Hezbollah in Lebanon contacted the United Arab Emirates distributors of Fahrenheit 9/11 offering to help with distribution. According to a blog entry on Moorewatch, that makes Michael Moore a "hesbala" supporter who deserves no less than "jailtime".

But of course Hezbollah needn't have bothered offering help with distribution because Moorewatch seems to be doing a fine job of that all by itself.

## Theft's not wrong if you're in the right This digital life

Moorewatch justifies the downloading campaign by citing Moore's own contempt for copyright laws and quoting Moore in a recent press conference saying: "I don't agree with the copyright laws and I don't have a problem with people downloading the movie and sharing it with people. As long as they're not doing it to make a profit, you know, as long as they're not trying to make a profit off my labour."

So, if Moore doesn't mind, and if it's encouraging more people to download and watch the film, and if the film is indeed encouraging some voters to turn against Bush, as has been widely reported, then it seems a little odd that Moorewatch would be mounting the campaign, doesn't it?

But we've known for quite a while that this film was going to elicit odd reactions from the US right. We've known ever since White House spokesman Dan Bartlett said both he and the President would rather see Shrek than Fahrenheit, even though Fahrenheit was predictably going to be a film questioning the invasion of Iraq a central issue in the US presidential campaign and Shrek, predictably, was going to be a film questioning whether Pinocchio wears women's underpants.

Bartlett also had this to say about the film he hadn't seen, according to CNN: "This is a film that doesn't require us to actually view it to know it's filled with factual inaccuracies".

Staff at This digital life haven't seen Fahrenheit 9/11, either, and for that reason we can't say whether or not it is filled with factual inaccuracies. We weren't big fans of Moore's last film, Bowling for Columbine, or of his recent book, Dude, Where's My Country.

We like his old stuff better than his new stuff but who knows? It's breaking all sorts of box-office records in the US, which is usually a bad sign.

But, in the interests of journalistic accuracy, we are working on illegally downloading the new film as we write. Following the advice from the Moorewatch website, we've downloaded some Bit Torrent software and loaded the link to the pirated copies of the movie, and it's slowly chugging away, stealing the movie.

We'll endeavour to let you know what we think of the film by the end of the column.

You know, it was only a few months ago that we never would have tried downloading a whole film as large as this one. It's bigger than a gigabyte, which means that the one film on its own would have used up the entire 1 gigabyte monthly cap limit that we had on our BigPond account.

But ever since Telstra slashed the cost of broadband internet and removed the cap, we're pleased to say that downloading films illegally is now a real option for many Australian consumers.

You're probably thinking "Oh, but the typical DVD movie takes up between 4 gigabytes and 8 gigabytes of disk space, depending on how long it is and how much action and/or botox there is", and that is undoubtedly true.

But by using heavy DivX compression, those 5 to 8 gigabytes can be compressed down to an easily downloadable 720 megabytes while still making for a perfectly watchable movie.

Watchable, that is, provided you don't mind your movie stars looking like they're constructed out of Lego bricks, and watchable provided you don't mind watching your movies on a window the size of a playing card.

Oh yes, downloading movies is going to be so popular that it won't be long before ordinary Australians spend all their time doing it.

We've been downloading Fahrenheit 9/11 for four hours now, and we've downloaded a whopping 16 megabytes. At this rate it will take us a just 250 hours to steal the movie. Take that! Mr Moore.

## Graphic

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Theft's not wrong if you're in the right This digital life

PHOTO: Moorewatch justifies encouraging downloading of Fahrenheit 9/11 by citing Michael Moore's views on copyright laws.

**Load-Date:** April 5, 2012

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End of Document

## *Guess Whose Profile the D.C. Sniper Fit*

New York Sun (Archive)

October 28, 2002 Monday

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**Section:** EDITORIAL & OPINION; Pg. 6

**Length:** 1110 words

**Byline:** Mark Steyn

### **Body**

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As I wrote in this space last week, "I bet my assistant a hundred bucks that the sniper would turn out to be a Middle Eastern terrorist." I had a similar bet with my wife. I've no desire to profit from the murder of innocents, so I'll be donating my winnings to a worthy cause, like the Pentagon R & D budget. But so far my assistant's taking it better than my spouse. "Technically, our bet was that he'd be an Islamic terrorist," she said. "He's Islamic, and he's terrorizing people. That's good enough for me." My wife, on the other hand, insists it doesn't count unless he's got an official membership card in Al Qaeda.

That's not the way these fellows work, which, to give them the barest fig leaf of an excuse, may be why all those legions of television experts clung to the approved "angry white male loner" cliché right up to the moment of arrest. But there's a difference between a reluctance to leap to conclusions and a bizarre determination to leap away from the facts. There's been something very weird about the networks' insistence on busing in armies of "psychological profilers" whose areas of alleged expertise might as well have been on Planet Zongo for all they had to do with what was going on in Maryland and Virginia. Regardless of whodunit, it was very obvious what he'd dun: The killer didn't kill blondes, he didn't kill fetching young men he picked up in bars, he didn't kill lonely spinsters from the personal ads. He killed Americans - male and female, young and old, black and white.

Now whose profile does that fit?

But the penny drops exceedingly slow. It turned out police were looking for a Muslim convert. A Muslim convert who last year had discarded the name "Williams" and adopted a new identity as "Muhammad." A Muslim convert called Muhammad who in the wake of September 11 had expressed anti-American sentiments. Could even the most expert psychological profiler make sense of such confusing, contradictory clues? Apparently not. Even though the crime and the accused are a pretty good match, the network criminologists profess themselves perplexed by the apparent lack of motive, as if we'll shortly discover that Mr. Muhammad had been denied a promotion at Home Depot or he'd been abused as a child.

Radical Islamism is a highly decentralized operation. There's a fair degree of organized cooperation: for example, National Review's Michael Ledeen reports that the Indonesian group that killed hundreds in Bali used bombs delivered by Hezbollah operatives, who'd been trained by Iran's Revolutionary Guards. But there's also a lot of rinky-dink freelance terrorism by people who hold no rank or serial number - fellows like the Egyptian immigrant who chose to celebrate the Fourth of July by going to LAX and opening fire. After four months of insisting they've no idea why a radical Muslim male would observe America's national holiday by going Jew-killing, the FBI has cautiously decided to characterize the incident as "possible terrorism."

## Guess Whose Profile the D.C. Sniper Fit

When two Muslim males embark on a clinical, unprovoked campaign of infidel-killing, "possible terrorism" also seems a reasonable conclusion. It doesn't matter whether they were acting on orders or simply improvising. The Al Qaeda honchos in the Middle East are happy with either. If anything, the freelance approach suits them better: You don't need complicated and traceable communications and wire transfers; the punks on the ground will act independently just to impress you.

In a way, we're in that opening scene of "Godzilla" where the baffled authorities are trying to figure out where the mysterious crater came from: It's only when the camera pulls back and you see the aerial wide shot that you realize they're standing in the little toe of the world's biggest footprint. This monster has a lot of toes: The big ones blew up the World Trade Center and Indian trains and the Bali nightclubs; the medium ones took the Moscow theater audience hostage en masse and bombed the French oil tanker in Yemen; and then come all the little ones - Jose Padilla, the shoe-bomber Richard Reid, the LAX shooter.

Not all Muslims are snipers, hostage-takers, nightclub bombers, suicide bombers, shoe bombers, and folks who like their Fourth of July to go with more of a bang than you get from firecrackers. But a huge percentage of snipers, nightclub bombers, etc., turn out to be Muslim - and, if they're all acting independently, that's even more worrying. I made that bet with my poor underpaid assistant because, as a sophisticated intelligent woman, she thought I was too hung up on 9/11: "Oh, come on," she scoffed. "The Muslims can't be behind everything. When something sounds too good to be true, that's because it is." But when, late on Wednesday, Chief Moose announced he was looking for a guy called Muhammad, how many of us honestly went, "Muhammad? There's a surprise!" Apart from all the television psychologists, that is.

Speaking as an "angry white male" myself, I almost wish the sniper had turned out to be the stereotypical "troubled loner" with NRA stickers and a lousy sex life. But even Timothy McVeigh, President Clinton's poster boy for homegrown right-wing gun nuts, was pretty atypical: It was the Gulf War that transformed him; he'd seen what he called "Iraqi suffering" and concluded the country for which he soldiered was a global bully. Far from the archetypal white supremacist, McVeigh seems to have been the biggest Arabist in the American militia movement. And, with each passing month, the vague blurry links between Oklahoma City and the Iraqis swim into sharper focus.

This week, following the Bali bombing, Indonesia's two largest Muslim organizations urged their government to crack down hard on Islamic extremists and issued a condemnation of terrorism far stronger than anything the slippery-tongued Council on American-Islamic Relations and Co. managed here after September 11. Traditionally, South Asian Muslims have been perhaps the most moderate in the world, and they have no difficulty reconciling their faith and their national allegiance. Loyal law-abiding western Muslims would benefit from a similar forthrightness by their own lobby groups. But it's far harder to say what North American, Australian, and European Muslim leaders really feel about September 11, Bali, LAX, and the shoe bomber.

As for "the snipers," regardless of the chain of command, their apparently motiveless murder spree is fully consistent with Islamist goals. As Hussein Massawi, former leader of Hezbollah, put it: "We are not fighting so that you will offer us something. We are fighting to eliminate you." Or as James bin Carville might say: It's the jihad, stupid.

**Load-Date:** March 25, 2004

**From Arafat's door, Israelis make demands;  
The troops want suspected militants. Israeli officials say their forces will not  
break into the Palestinian leader's office.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

March 31, 2002 Sunday

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** FRONT-PAGE; news

**Length:** 1039 words

**Byline:** Warren P. Strobel Knight Ridder News Service

## **Body**

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JERUSALEM - Israeli troops were right outside the door of Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat's private office yesterday, demanding that he surrender several attack suspects believed to have taken shelter with him.

Palestinian officials said the Israelis were threatening to storm the remaining few rooms in Arafat's Ramallah compound still under his control. Israeli officials denied any plans to break down the door, which could start a gun battle that would threaten Arafat's life.

Those wanted by Israel include the suspected killers of its tourism minister and a man connected to a Palestinian plot to smuggle arms from Iran.

Ignoring international calls for a pullback, Israeli forces launched sweeps for weapons and suspected militants, even as another suicide bomber struck last night, this one in a restaurant in downtown Tel Aviv. The explosion killed the bomber and left at least 30 Israelis wounded, one critically.

The al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a group affiliated with Arafat's Fatah organization, said in a statement that it had carried out the bombing in reprisal for Israel's invasion of Ramallah and vowed further attacks.

The blast, about 9:30 p.m., devastated the restaurant on Allenby Street in the center of the coastal city.

Fighting also spread to Israel's northern border with Lebanon, where the Iranian-backed **Hezbollah** organization fired antitank rockets and mortar rounds at Israeli military outposts, the military said. **Hezbollah's** radio station said the shelling was in response to Israel's attack on Arafat's compound.

In Crawford, Texas, President Bush backed Israel's right to defend itself. While declining to criticize Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, Bush said Israel must leave the way open to a negotiated end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



From Arafat's door, Israelis make demands; The troops want suspected militants. Israeli officials say their forces will not break into the Palestinian leader's ....

"There's got to be a peaceful solution to it at some point," he said.

Using words similar to those he has repeated dozens of times, Bush called on Arafat to do everything in his power to halt attacks on Israel. "He's got a security force - admittedly somewhat on the defensive right now," Bush said.

Reaction elsewhere was harsher. European governments urged Sharon to pull his troops out of Ramallah and other Palestinian areas, in line with a U.N. Security Council resolution passed early yesterday with backing from the Bush administration.

"It would be a grave mistake to imagine the elimination of Yasir Arafat . . . could lead to anything positive," French President Jacques Chirac told RTL Radio.

Reacting to the U.N. resolution, Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Noam Katz said: "It would have been preferable if the resolution had stressed the responsibility of the Palestinians for the terrorist attacks, which are the sole reason for the Israeli army's current operation."

Even before last night's bombing, Palestinians threatened more violent revenge for Israel's actions against Arafat.

"Every day there will be 100 martyrs going out. We're going to be coming at them [Israelis] from everywhere," said Samir Akhras, whose sister, Ayat, 18, blew herself up in a south Jerusalem supermarket Friday. Two Israeli civilians were killed.

"We'll be coming from the sky. We'll be coming from under the earth," Samir Akhrassaid in an interview at Dheisheh refugee camp near the biblical West Bank city of Bethlehem.

But the central drama was being played out in Ramallah, where Arafat and his retinue were without electricity and running water, their sole contact with the outside world coming via cellular phones whose batteries were running low, said Palestinians in touch with the compound.

With Arafat, the Palestinians said, were four men Israel accuses of murdering Tourism Minister Rehavam Ze'evi last October, as well as Fouad Shobaki, who Israel says masterminded a shipment of Iranian arms aboard the freighter Karine A. The ship was seized by Israeli commandos on the Red Sea in January.

Bush and Secretary of State Colin L. Powell have said Sharon has promised them that he will not physically harm Arafat.

In Ramallah, five Palestinian policemen were discovered dead in an apartment, apparently having been killed in a shoot-out with Israeli forces.

Israeli forces detained about 150 Palestinian men, including, Palestinians said, Abdel-Karim Osowais, the No. 2 man in the al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades. The group is an offshoot of Arafat's Fatah political movement and has claimed responsibility for a series of attacks on Israeli civilians, including the blast in Tel Aviv.

Israel says the military strikes are designed to root out the Palestinian militant infrastructure, not reoccupy areas it ceded in the 1993 Oslo accords, and says it had no choice because Arafat refused to act.

In new actions yesterday, as many as 20 Israeli tanks moved into the town of Baytuniya, near Ramallah, and surrounded the compound of Arafat's security chief, Jabril Rajoub.

In the warren-like Dheisheh refugee camp, residents said they were expecting an Israeli attack in response to the Jerusalem supermarket bombing. Israeli forces invaded the camp two weeks ago and, residents allege, killed civilians, including a man who was playing with his daughter at the time.

"We are used to it. They're going to come, of course. I have no doubt about it," said Mohammed Kassas, 31.

He was one of a dozen men gathered to pay respects to Ayat Akhras, the **female** suicide bomber.

From Arafat's door, Israelis make demands; The troops want suspected militants. Israeli officials say their forces will not break into the Palestinian leader's ....

Black-and-white pamphlets bearing her picture were distributed by a young boy and plastered over the Akhras' home, where women met separately to pay their respects.

At the scene of last night's Tel Aviv suicide attack, a small group of right-wing Israelis held up placards reading "Prosecute the Oslo criminals" and chanting "Peres is guilty, Peres is guilty" - a reference to Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, one of the architects of the 1993 Oslo interim peace accords with the Palestinians.

The attack came during the Jewish Passover holiday and at the end of the Sabbath when Israelis often go out to restaurants and entertainment spots after their day of rest.

"Once again innocent Israelis have become victims to the murderous deeds of the Palestinian Authority, which will stop at nothing for the purpose of inflicting as many casualties as it can," said David Baker, an official at Sharon's office.

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

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## **US steps up pressure on Arafat**

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

January 28, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 06

**Length:** 1008 words

**Byline:** Ben Lynfield Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

**Highlight:** Yesterday's suicide bombing in Jerusalem was the third attack in the city in less than a week.

### **Body**

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Jaffa Road is now the most dangerous stretch of pavement in the state of Israel.

For the second time in a week, and the third time since August, this shopping district of West Jerusalem has been the locus of a Palestinian attack.

Yesterday it was struck by a suicide bomber, who killed one pedestrian and wounded dozens of others.

"Police are checking seriously into the possibility that the suicide bomber was a woman," says Gil Kleiman, spokesman for the Israeli police. If so, it would be the first ***female*** suicide bomber in the last 16 months, perhaps longer.

During the past year and a half, 821 Palestinians and 248 Israelis have been killed, according to Reuters. A suicide bombing in Tel Aviv on Friday wounded 25 people and Israeli F-16s bombed an already damaged Palestinian police facility in Tulkarem, with no additional casualties.

This fresh cycle of attacks and counter-attacks comes at a time when US support for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is reaching a new nadir.

Israeli leaders charge that Mr. Arafat is responsible for yesterday's bombing and other recent attacks. The Palestinian Authority (PA) condemned the attack, but Jerusalem mayor Ehud Olmert said: "As long as Arafat wants terror to continue, it will. Arafat is personally in charge and responsible for how to stop it."

Vice President Dick Cheney said yesterday it was "hard to believe" Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was not involved in a recent arms smuggling incident and questioned his commitment to the Middle East peace process. Speaking on Fox News Sunday, Mr. Cheney said the 50 tons of arms Israel seized from a freighter in international waters of the Red Sea on January 3 was "provided by Iran apparently through the ***Hezbollah*** to Palestine."

## US steps up pressure on Arafat

A senior US official last week said Bush had sent letters to the leaders of Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia that presented evidence of Palestinian Authority involvement in the smuggling attempt, and urged them to press Arafat to take action against those implicated.

"The really disturbing part of this, of course, is that there are a lot of places he [Arafat] could go in the Arab world if he were looking for support and sustenance or for help in moving the peace process forward," Cheney said. "What he's done is gone to a terrorist organization, Hezbollah, and a state that supports and promotes terrorism, that's dedicated to ending the peace process, Iran, and done business with them."

Palestinian Minister Saeb Erekat said, however, that statements by President George Bush that he is "disappointed" with Arafat, and talk of US punitive sanctions against the PA are only making matters worse. "These statements will be used as a green light by [Israeli Prime Minister Ariel] Sharon to escalate the aggression," he said.

In Israel, there is a palpable feel of a nation at war. The heightened violence is a source of both weariness and wariness, prompting changes in people's lifestyles and making them think twice about going to areas that are viewed as primary targets.

The precise political fallout here, however, is harder to discern. Some analysts say the Palestinian attacks are simply driving people into further hawkishness and support for Prime Minister Sharon. But others discern the beginnings of growing opposition to the hard-hitting practices of the Israeli army in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Liza Mizrahi, a municipality worker, was catching her breath yesterday at a bus stop on Jaffa Road, her phone ringing constantly as friends check on her safety, as is customary in Israel after such attacks. "They say we should go back to a normal routine, but it is hard. I personally don't know if I will come to this area anymore," she says.

In addition to last Tuesday's attack, in which a gunman from Yasser Arafat's Fatah faction killed two people, the same area was devastated by an explosion in the Sbarro restaurant in August that wounded 15 people.

Ms. Mizrahi and others who work and shop on Jaffa Road find themselves on the front line of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict because the stores here are situated in the heart of Jerusalem and on a street that is easily accessible for Palestinians coming in from the West Bank.

Moshe Chasid, who runs the Koresh Clothing store on Jaffa Road, had just finished repairing his windows from last Tuesday's attack and showed a visitor the dresses that were riddled with bullet holes. Mr. Chasid, who moved to Israel from Iran 38 years ago, says he has had enough and wants to "run away to America."

A.B. Yehoshua, a renowned novelist, says that Israelis have been through difficult moments in their history before and that he doubts there will be a large scale exodus. But Mr. Yehoshua says that the frequency of the attacks means "they are becoming routine. People hear it on the news for five minutes and then turn the station. People are becoming used to it, they are apathetic, everyone establishes their own little corner and worries about their family. People avoid going here and there, but they get used to it. I don't say there aren't people who are desperate and think of leaving, but the majority says we have to be patient."

## US steps up pressure on Arafat

There were immediate calls for revenge yesterday and beatings of Arab bystanders by Israeli security forces after last week's attack. But ultimately, says Israeli sociologist Sammy Smooha, the surge in attacks will not translate into indefinite consensus support for the hard-hitting approach of Mr. Sharon, which includes almost routine incursions into Palestinian areas and F-16 attacks.

Mr. Smooha argues that an announcement on Friday by 50 Israeli reserve officers and soldiers that they will henceforth refuse to serve in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is a harbinger of resurgent differences between the right and left. "The more time passes, the more there is a sense that Sharon has no answer to terrorism. People are having second thoughts, and they are waiting for something to develop."

\* Material from the wire services was used in this report.

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

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## *Sadr ready for martyrdom in 'cause of liberation and independence'*

The Irish Times

August 27, 2004

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**Section:** Opinion; Opinion; Pg. 18

**Length:** 850 words

### **Body**

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There's more to Sadr than meets the eye - the Iraqi cleric has an illustrious family background of resistance to subjugation, writes Sami Ramadani.

Secular as well as Islamic anti-occupation forces in Iraq are now beginning to drop their caution about Moqtada al-Sadr and are openly siding with his resistance forces in Najaf.

The National Foundation Congress, the influential umbrella organisation that represents most religious, nationalist and other secular forces opposed to the US-led occupation, on Saturday issued an eight-point proposal, already approved by Sadr, to peacefully end the crisis in Najaf. This proposal strengthens Sadr's hand and is in essence a call to end the US-led forces' carnage in Najaf and Baghdad and all other areas of Iraq.

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But as intense fighting continues around the Imam Ali shrine, where Sadr's fighters have resisted more than two weeks of US bombardment, it's worth taking a closer look at the man himself. There is much more to Sadr than meets the eye.

His full title is Hujjat il-Islam al-Sayyid Moqtada Muhammad Sadeq al-Sadr, and he is aged 31. Al-Sayyid literally translates to mister, but when conferred by clerics, as in this case, it is public recognition that the man concerned can authentically trace his lineage to the Prophet Muhammad.

Muhammad Sadeq is his father's name. Grand Ayatollah Muhammad Sadeq al-Sadr was murdered in 1999 by Saddam Hussein, because he was building bridges with Sunni clerics and becoming influential among the poor, particularly in the two-million strong poorest district of Baghdad now known as Sadr City.

His uncle, Ayatollah Muhammad Baqir al-Sadr, was an even more politically significant figure: he and his sister Bint-ul-Huda were tortured to death by Saddam's thugs in 1980. The pair had founded a powerful militant movement that was at the forefront of the Islamic wing of the opposition to Saddam's regime. It is reported that Saddam himself shot both of them after their torture.

Sadr often reminds his listeners of this illustrious heritage, including active involvement in the 1920 revolution against British occupation. Like his father, he often wears a white robe on top of his religious garb to indicate that he too is ready to be "a martyr in the cause of liberation and independence".

When the US-led occupation forces sought to capture him "dead or alive" in April, he chose to resist rather than surrender.

## Sadr ready for martyrdom in 'cause of liberation and independence'

No matter how young and politically inexperienced they were told that he was, the militant patriots of Sadr City, Najaf, Basra and beyond began to trust him and saw in him the rightful custodian of the traditions handed down by the rebellious Islamic leaders who chose martyrdom rather than obey tyranny.

Indeed, Saddam's regime finally began to totter, despite the murderous US-led 13 years of sanctions that strengthened him and hurt the people, precisely because this uncompromising will to be free and resist subjugation runs very deep in Iraq.

It is said that Iraq's Shia strictly follow their most senior religious leaders. This might be true of practising Shia in calmer times. But in times of crises this readiness to listen to "wiser" councils evaporates. Grand Ayatollah Sistani was being listened to attentively after the invasion. The number of his portraits on display was rising with every defiant statement.

During the past few weeks, however, those portraits were fast disappearing to be replaced by Sadr's; and those of his father; his uncle; Ayatollah Khomeini; and those of another potent and popular junior, Nasrallah, leader of Hizbullah in Lebanon.

There are now signs that, like Nasrallah in Lebanon, Sadr is learning that he needs to build bridges with Iraq's varied sects, religions, nationalities and secular political trends. After US proconsul Paul Bremer appointed the now defunct Iraqi Governing Council last year, Sadr unilaterally declared the appointment of an alternative government composed solely of his supporters. It went down like a lead balloon.

However, when asked last week about the political and social programme of al-Tayyar al-Sadri's (the Sadri current), one of Sadr's main spokesmen said Sadr opposed the publication of such a detailed programme because it had to evolve from and be agreed at a conference of all Iraq's political forces. Indeed, if the Sadri current is to last the distance, he has to also take on board that the Kurds in Iraqi Kurdistan and Iraqi women, particularly in the cities, will want a major input.

Most of the parents and grandparents of the young Sadri patriots were probably supporters of the once powerful Iraqi Communist party, which now forms part of Ayad Allawi's interim government that is being widely compared in Iraq's streets to Saddam's regime.

Bush and Blair are only now beginning to approach the Iraqi volcano. Nothing short of a full, speedy and planned withdrawal of the US-led occupation will stop the Iraqi, and wider Middle Eastern, volcano from erupting.

Sami Ramadani was a political refugee from Saddam's regime and is a senior lecturer in sociology at London Metropolitan University

**Load-Date:** October 27, 2004

## *Suicide bomber is Palestinian woman*

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

January 28, 2002 Monday

Final Edition

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**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 14

**Length:** 1130 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM (AP) -- A Palestinian woman on Sunday became the first **female** to launch a bomb attack against Israel, killing herself and an 81-year-old Israeli man and wounding at least a dozen people on a busy Jerusalem street.

Israeli police said they were not sure if the woman intended to kill herself or if the bomb exploded prematurely as she walked along the main commercial strip in west Jerusalem.

In Lebanon, the Al-Manar television station run by the rebel **Hezbollah** movement said the bomber was Shinaz Amuri, a **female** student at Al-Najah University in the West Bank town of Nablus.

Israel accused Palestinian President Yasser Arafat of "encouraging terrorism" and said it was prepared to respond to the bombing -- the third major attack in an Israeli city in a week.

The blast next to a shoe shop blew out shop windows, set a store on fire and left victims sprawled on the pavement amid shards of glass, pieces of fruit, and storefront mannequins.

"It sounded like half the street exploded," said Hama Gidon, a clothing store worker who was slightly injured. "All the mannequins went flying and I did too. People were falling, glass was flying everywhere."

More than 100 people were treated on the spot or taken to hospitals, though most suffered only from shock. Three people were seriously hurt and nine had moderate injuries, officials said.

Mark Sokolov, a U.S. citizen from Woodmere, N.Y., who survived the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, was slightly hurt in Sunday's explosion along with his wife and two daughters.

"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," Sokolov told Israeli television.

Sokolov said he was on the 38th floor of the World Trade Center's south tower on Sept. 11 when a hijacked airliner hit the north tower. His office was evacuated and he escaped before the south tower was hit.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for Sunday's attack, but Israel said it held Arafat ultimately responsible.



## Suicide bomber is Palestinian woman

Arafat is "encouraging terrorism, he's sending (attackers) to Jerusalem," said Raanan Gissin, a spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. "We will continue to systematically dismantle the terrorist infrastructure."

The Palestinian leadership, meanwhile, "strongly condemned the suicide attack" and called on U.S. President George W. Bush to send Mideast envoy Anthony Zinni back to the region. However, Bush has been sharply critical of Arafat, and Cheney suggested on Fox News Sunday that Zinni will not return soon.

"At this stage, we need to see some positive signs that his return would do some good. And that means we've got to see some positive results out of Arafat," Cheney said.

Arafat must "make a 100 per cent good-faith effort to put an end to terrorism," he said. "So far he hasn't done that."

The Palestinian leadership on Saturday called for a halt to all attacks against Israel. However, several Palestinian groups have said recently that they would no longer observe a ceasefire declared by Arafat in December.

Israel has dismissed the Palestinian ceasefire calls as meaningless and says Arafat has simultaneously been encouraging rebels. 1649ES 27-01-02

BC-Israel-Palestinians, 3rd Writethru Bgt

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EDS:RECASTS and UPDATES throughout.

See AP Photos

INDEX: International, Politics, Defence, Justice, Religion

HL:Woman detonates explosives in downtown Jerusalem; kills herself, Israeli man

JERUSALEM (AP) -- A Palestinian woman on Sunday became the first **female** to launch a bomb attack against Israel, killing herself and an 81-year-old Israeli man and wounding at least a dozen people on a busy Jerusalem street.

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

## *In volatile Iraq, US curbs press*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

June 19, 2003, Thursday

Copyright 2003 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 01

**Length:** 860 words

**Byline:** By Ilene R. Prusher Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** BAGHDAD

**Highlight:** US issues an order against inciting attacks on minorities or US troops.

### **Body**

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The once occasional attacks on US soldiers here are growing deadlier, and more frequent: Wednesday, a US soldier was killed and another wounded in a drive-by shooting. And outside the former Republican Palace, now the headquarters of the US administration, US troops killed two Iraqis during a protest by former Iraqi soldiers that spiraled out of control.

At least some of the fuel for the anti-American fire, US officials here charge, is being pumped out by new Iraqi media outlets.

L. Paul Bremer, the top US official here, says a new edict prohibiting the local media from inciting attacks on other Iraqis - and on the coalition forces - is not meant to put a stopper on the recently uncorked freedom of speech.

"It is intended to stop ... people who are trying to incite political violence, and people who are succeeding in inciting political violence here, particularly against women," Bremer said at a press conference Tuesday.

Iraqi journalists are not taking kindly to the restrictions. Among the scores of new publications that have flooded Iraq's newsstands since the US-led overthrow of Saddam Hussein's regime, the broadsheet As-Saah is one of the most widely read. In a front-page editorial Wednesday, the paper's senior editor let readers know what he thought of the country's liberators: "Bremer is a Baathist," the headline reads.

In an interview, editor Ni'ma Abdulrazzaq says the press edict decreed by Bremer lays out restrictions similar to those under Mr. Hussein. Not long ago, an uppity writer could easily be accused of being an agent for America or Israel. "Now they put plastic bags on our heads, throw us to the ground, and accuse us of being agents of Saddam Hussein," the editorial reads. "In other words, if you're not with America, you're with Saddam."

"Mr. Bremer, you remind us of Saddam," the column continues. "We've waited a long time to be free. Now you want us to be slaves."

It is not clear whether or not such incendiary language would be considered a violation of the new media policy that Bremer, as head of the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), recently introduced. According to CPA Order Number 14, media are prohibited from broadcasting or publishing material that incites violence against any individual or group "including racial, ethnic, religious groups, and women"; encourages civil disorder; or "incites violence against coalition forces." Violators, if convicted, will be fined up to \$ 1,000 or sentenced to up to one year in prison.

## In volatile Iraq , US curbs press

To be sure, many papers are full of scathing rebuke for the US forces, and sometimes peppered with far-fetched and incendiary reports. The average Iraqi reader might be led to believe that American soldiers are raping Iraqi girls, and undressing Iraqi women with night-vision goggles. Other reports allege that soldiers steal money during house searches.

For decades, Iraqis have lived in a state in which all news outlets were controlled by Mr. Hussein, and by his son Uday in particular. Testing the waters, the first papers to start publishing after the regime's fall tended to be affiliated with formerly exiled political parties. But now the market is awash in newspapers, some of them put out by journalistic novices. "Candy merchants in the markets have become publishers, and junior writers have become senior editors," says Mr. Abdulrazzaq, sitting in his newspaper office, his television tuned to al-Manar, a satellite channel run by Lebanon's Hizbullah movement.

Not unlike al-Manar, which reports with a fundamentalist Islamic slant, As-Saah was founded in late April under the aegis of a Muslim religious movement. But the paper recently decided to break away from the Unified National Movement, a Sunni Muslim group, says Abdulrazzaq, so it could be totally independent of pressures to conform to its outlook.

For Abdulrazzaq, working as a journalist under Hussein's regime was like writing in a self-imposed straight jacket. Abdulrazzaq says he was arrested "only" twice. Reporters knew where the red lines were and wouldn't dare cross them, he says, but even reporters who praised Hussein would sometimes wind up in jail - or dead. Now, he fears, journalists who should be learning how to break out of the boundaries of the past are learning to keep practicing self-censorship.

For example, he says, he had already pulled two articles which he feared would result in action against his newspaper. A story he postponed but plans to run this Saturday, he says, centers on "American soldiers saying bad things about the Koran and insulting it."

Criticism of the new guidelines has grown, although some of the frustration may be based more on rumor about what the policy entails, rather than on reality. The edict on "Prohibited Media Activity" was released last week in English - but only Wednesday in Arabic.

Bremer has reiterated that the point of the new press policy is not to hamper free speech or stifle criticism of the US-led administration here. "We very much believe that the freedom of expression should apply to Iraq," Bremer said. "But we need to balance that with a need to protect minorities from violence."

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

## **Southeast Asia has anti-terrorism role**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

September 18, 2001 Tuesday

Final EDITION

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**Section:** THE AFTERMATH,,; Crime

**Length:** 872 words

**Byline:** ROBERT FRANK, JAMES HOOKWAY, LESLIE LOPEZ and TIMOTHY, MAPES

**Dateline:** SINGAPORE

### **Body**

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Southeast Asia, though far from the suicide attacks in the United States, is emerging as an important front in the global war on terrorism.

As home to one of the world's largest Muslim populations, numbering more than 210 million, southeast Asia always represented the moderate side of Islam. Drinking is accepted, women are free to work and governments allow multiple religions.

Yet in recent years, radicalism has been on the rise, with religious killings in Indonesia, kidnappings and bombings in the Philippines and growing fundamentalism in Malaysia. Unstable governments, crumbling economies and vast populations of unemployed youths have made southeast Asia the biggest growth area in the world for a radical and sometimes violent brand of political Islam.

Asian Wall St. Journal

Now, with the United States threatening to hunt down terrorists around the world, southeast Asia is emerging as a key battlefield. The Philippine army on Saturday caught three members of the country's most-active terrorist group, the Abu Sayyaf, and the government pledged to do all it can to help in searching for more leaders.

Yet the fight against terrorism could also incite further violence, pushing the region into a security crisis and damaging a vital bridge between the West and the Islamic world. What follows is a look at radical Islamist movements in the region, and why the region will be critical in any global effort to crack down on terrorists.

#### Philippines

This overwhelmingly Catholic country, with a history of ties with the United States, has been stepping up its war against Muslim separatists who are trying to establish an Islamic state. There are two rebel groups based among the Muslim minority in the deep south of the country - the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the smaller but more extreme Abu Sayyaf.

The Abu Sayyaf has kidnapped scores of hostages over the past 18 months, and is holding at least two U.S. citizens and several Philippine nationals on the rugged southern island of Basilan.

## Southeast Asia has anti-terrorism role

In December, 20 people were killed in a series of co-ordinated explosions in the capital. No one claimed responsibility for the bombings and the police haven't found the people responsible. Yesterday, Philippine police discovered six homemade bombs near Manila.

Aside from its domestic troubles, the Philippines also has a history of harbouring foreign terrorists. Two of the three men convicted for the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Centre - Pakistani nationals Ramzi Yousef and Abdul Hakim Murad - were living in Manila before they were arrested.

## Indonesia

More than 85 per cent of Indonesia's population of 210 million are Muslim, making it the largest Islamic country in the world. Yet with its economy increasingly dependent on Western loans, Megawati Sukarnoputri, the new president, is caught in a delicate balancing act.

After the fall of the powerful Suharto government in 1998, Indonesia's move toward a more open, democratic society has given militant groups more freedom to recruit members, reversing years of suppression. The police and court system also remain weak, offering opportunities for militia-like Islamic groups to take on roles as local vigilantes.

Laskar **Hizbullah**, a small, militant group based in the central Java city of Solo, is one of the most active groups. It raises funds to send Islamic fighters to battle Christians in Indonesia's Spice Islands, where thousands of people have died over the past two years in a civil war between the religious communities. It has praised the attacks in the United States as just punishment for what it views as discrimination against Islamic interests in the Middle East.

Last month, Megawati met with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to discuss the need to cooperate more closely to combat terrorist groups. Information provided by a detained Malaysian led this week to the arrest 13 Indonesians suspected of involvement in a spate of bombings on Christmas Eve that killed at least 19 people in several Indonesian cities. Police in Indonesia and the Philippines have said some Philippine suspects might also have been involved.

## Malaysia

The government has historically been a force for moderation on Islam. A country of 23 million people, about 60 per cent of whom are ethnic Malay Muslims, Malaysia hasn't had significant problems with militant Islam domestically. Yet after the 1998 jailing of Anwar Ibrahim, a popular deputy premier and central figure of the Islamic movement, Islam has taken a more radical tone.

Since then, the opposition Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party, known as PAS, and Parti Keadilan, a party led by Datuk Seri, Anwar's wife, have together made significant inroads against Mahathir's United Malays National Organization, the core of the coalition government. The government now claims to be facing a militant threat from Malaysians who assisted the mujaheddin in the Afghanistan war against the Soviets and says some of them have infiltrated PAS.

The government says one Malaysian who claims he fought in Afghanistan, Nik Adli Nik Aziz, 34, who is detained with nine others under the Internal Security Act, is the leader of the Malaysian Mujaheddin Group that is trying to overthrow the government.

**Load-Date:** September 18, 2001

**Middle East crisis: Diplomacy: Onslaught continues as Arafat meets US envoy: Al-Aqsa leader killed despite Zinni visit**

The Guardian (London)

April 6, 2002

Copyright 2002 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Guardian Home Pages, Pg. 4

**Length:** 889 words

**Byline:** Suzanne Goldenberg in Ramallah and Graham Usher in Jerusalem

## **Body**

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Yasser Arafat's isolation amid the ruin of his headquarters ended yesterday a week after it began with a visit from America's envoy. But the minor diplomatic coup was offset by Israel's relentless assault on the Palestinian towns of the West Bank.

A day after President George Bush called on the forces to withdraw, at least 24 Palestinians were killed as the Israeli army increased its hold on the city of Nablus and moved into the nearby town of Tubas.

Yesterday also delivered the greatest success to date of the army's eight-day offensive: the killing of the West Bank commander of the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a military offshoot of Mr Arafat's Fatah movement which in recent months has taken the lead in attacks on Israel.

The bodies of another seven Palestinians - suspected collaborators killed by their own - were discovered in Bethlehem.

Mr Arafat could find small consolation in the visit of the US envoy, General Anthony Zinni, to his compound, now reduced to barbed wire-ringed mounds of rubble.

However, the visit amounted to a defeat for Israel's prime minister, Ariel Sharon, who barred a European Union delegation from meeting Mr Arafat on Thursday, and has been vocal at his displeasure with America's diplomatic re-engagement in the Middle East.

Israel did not receive Gen Zinni's visit in good humour. Troops threw stun grenades, fired rubber bullets and rammed the vehicles of journalists trying to cover the envoy's arrival, and Ranaan Gissin, Mr Sharon's spokesman said Israel wanted little attention drawn to the event.

"Zinni is not going there for a photo opportunity for hugging and kissing like the European Union, and that is precisely the point," Mr Gissin added. "He is going to lay down a message about a ceasefire, and that is, take it or leave it." Gen Zinni emerged smiling from the 90-minute meeting. Officials said it would be followed by talks between US and Palestinian officials on America's ceasefire proposals.

But Mr Sharon threw up an obstacle here too, barring Palestinian officials from meeting Mr Arafat ahead of the talks. In a meeting with Gen Zinni on Thursday, the prime minister was outspoken about his unhappiness with Washington's diplomatic efforts, saying the Israeli army must continue its occupation of Palestinian towns.

Middle East crisis: Diplomacy: Onslaught continues as Arafat meets US envoy: Al-Aqsa leader killed despite Zinni visit

Though international public opinion is against the sweeping military onslaught, Mr Sharon is on firm ground domestically. Yesterday, opinion polls showed 72% of Israelis supported a "wide-scale war" in the West Bank. About a quarter wanted Mr Arafat killed.

Until last night Israel was claiming it would have a free hand to pursue the offensive until the arrival of the US secretary of state, Colin Powell, but Mr Powell yesterday demanded a withdrawal "without delay", saying Israel should not use the days before his visit to continue incursions.

Until then, the international community remains concerned about the dangers of a widening conflagration. Yesterday, Israeli soldiers exchanged fire with Hizbullah guerrillas in Lebanon for the fourth successive day.

Meanwhile, Israel advanced into the northern town of Tubas, killing six suspected members of the Islamist organisation, Hamas, and a 13- year-old girl. The Israeli army identified one of the Hamas men as a leading bombmaker, Qais Adwan. They said he was the mastermind of the Passover bombing in the coastal city of Netanya, which killed 26 Israelis - the deadliest attack in the 18-month uprising.

However, the army's greatest success and fiercest battles came in Nablus. Last night, Palestinians gathered in mourning at the home of Nasser Awais, a founder of the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, which has launched waves of suicide and shooting attacks against Israel since the start of the year.

Despite the killing of Awais, the Israeli forces encountered fierce resistance in the city, slowing down the army's advance into three refugee camps. The army also failed to breach the old city, or casbah, whose narrow lanes are difficult terrain for Israeli tanks.

Palestinian police said 15 people were killed as Israeli armour and Apache helicopters shelled and rocketed the refugee camps and the casbah, where most of the Palestinian fighters are concentrated. Three women and a teenage boy were among the dead, and 24 were injured but unable to reach hospitals because of a strict Israeli army curfew barring the movement of ambulances. Three Israeli soldiers were wounded in the gun battles.

Inside the town, Israeli soldiers began rounding up Palestinian men, taking 80 away to a camp on the edge of town, and razing the homes of four wanted militants. According to Samar Halloush, whose husband was detained, the men were stripped naked and cursed at, but some were released after five hours.

In northern Jenin, Israeli troops faced a second day of hand to hand combat, with a Palestinian policeman shot dead, and a soldier seriously wounded.

\*Tens of thousands of protesters took to the streets of Arab countries yesterday, defying rubber bullets and tear gas, to vent their anger against Israel's military offensive. Protests turned violent in Bahrain where demonstrators attacked the US embassy, in Jordan where riot police used water cannon and in Tunisia where police beat demonstrators with truncheons and clubs. Rallies in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon passed off more peacefully.

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



## WORLD REPORT

Windsor Star (Ontario)

February 16, 2004 Monday Final Edition

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

**Length:** 1789 words

**Dateline:** Oslo, Norway; Paris; Moscow; Beijing; Washington; Harare, Zimbabwe; Beirut; Baghdad; Port-Au-Prince, Haiti; Ciudad Juarez, Mexico; Bristol, R.I.; Sacramento; San Francisco

### **Body**

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Bush, Blair, Pope among Nobel Prize nominees

Oslo, Norway

The Nobel Peace Prize awards committee reported a record 173 nominations for 2004, with known candidates including U.S. President George Bush, jailed Israeli nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu and the Pope.

Committee secretary Geir Lundestad said the preliminary list includes 129 individuals and 44 organizations and is likely to be expanded when awards committee members forward their own nominations at their first meeting of the year on March 2.

Last year, there were 165 nominations and the award went to lawyer and human-rights activist Shirin Ebadi, the first Iranian and the first Muslim woman to win.

Thousands march against Islamic headscarf ban

Paris

Thousands of marchers, many of them women wearing head scarves, protested Saturday in France against a law to ban Islamic head coverings and other religious symbols in public schools.

Police estimated that 2,600 people marched in the southern city of Lyon. Organizers put the figure at 8,000.  
Compiled from Star News Services

In Paris, protesters marched through the east of the city. Police said the crowd numbered 1,300. Reporters estimated about 3,000.

France's government aims to have the law -- needed, it says, to keep religion out of secular schools -- in place for the 2004-2005 academic year that starts in September.

France took a decisive step last Tuesday toward legislating, with parliament's lower house overwhelmingly approving the ban on all religious symbols, including apparel, by a massive 494-36 margin, despite protests and criticism that the measure infringes on religious freedom.

However, the separation of church and state is key to secularism in France.

## WORLD REPORT

Saturday's protests were the latest in a series in France against the measure, which would also ban Jewish skullcaps and large Christian crosses from public schools.

## Moscow launches probe into water park tragedy

## Moscow

Russian rescue workers pumped warm air Sunday into the ruins of an indoor water park, hoping the heat would help victims survive a day after the roof collapsed, killing at least 25 people and injuring more than 100.

As many as 17 people are missing, presumably buried under the debris of the Transvaal Park on Moscow's southwestern outskirts, officials said. The government, meanwhile, announced a criminal investigation into possible negligence.

The search for survivors continued even though Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov said late Sunday there was virtually no chance of finding anyone alive.

Rescuers shovelled snow from the tangled mass of steel and concrete.

The collapse left a hole the size of a football field in the glass-and-concrete roof.

## At least 92 dead in fires at shopping mall and temple

## Beijing

A fire at a crowded shopping mall killed at least 53 people Sunday in China's northeast, while 39 died in a blaze in a temple in the southeast, state media said.

The fires added to a string of deadly accidents despite repeated official promises to improve public safety.

Fires, coal mine accidents and other disasters blamed on shoddy construction, indifference to safety rules and other negligence occur frequently in China, killing scores of people at a time.

President Hu Jintao and other officials have vowed to make safety for ordinary Chinese a priority. But repeated crackdowns and threats to punish negligent officials appear to be having little effect.

The government says the number of people killed in industrial accidents last year jumped by nine per cent from the previous year.

The shopping centre fire broke out at about 11:20 a.m. on the second floor of the five-storey Zhongbai Building in Jilin, a city about 950 km northeast of Beijing.

The temple fire broke out at about 2:15 p.m. in Wufeng, a village in Zhejiang province, Xinhua said. It said firefighters put out the blaze about 30 minutes later. The cause was under investigation.

The village is about 100 km southwest of Shanghai.

## China original source of nuclear weapons designs

## Washington

China has been identified as the original source of nuclear weapons designs found in Libya in the latest disclosure about the global spread of nuclear technology.

American and European experts said documents handed over by Libya yielded "dramatic evidence" of Beijing's role in transferring nuclear technology and designs to Pakistan in the 1980s.

## WORLD REPORT

The Chinese designs were later sold to Libya by the Pakistan-based network that is now at the centre of an international investigation of nuclear proliferation.

Government outlaws women's peace marches

Harare, Zimbabwe

Police banned peace marches planned by women activists to celebrate Valentine's Day, saying they would "shoot to kill" if the bans were defied, organizers said.

Women of Zimbabwe Arise, a women's movement, had planned peace processions by women carrying red roses in the capital Harare, the second city of Bulawayo and provincial centres.

Zimbabwe's public order and security laws require police clearance for protests or political gatherings.

Police were deployed around the city council offices in Harare where one march was scheduled to begin.

Storm triggers explosions at Hezbollah ammo dump

Beirut

A series of explosions Sunday destroyed a two-storey ammunition dump in south Lebanon that belonged to Hezbollah guerrillas, according to Lebanese security officials.

The explosions were set off by a short circuit caused by lightning during a strong storm shortly before dawn Sunday, the officials said on customary condition of anonymity.

There were no reports of casualties in the explosions, which startled people in neighbouring buildings out of their beds, the officials said.

The ammunition dump was located in a basement of a building on a main road between the villages of Majadel and Shehabiyeh, 100 km south of Beirut and 16 km north of the border with Israel.

It was controlled by Hezbollah, the Iranian and Syrian-backed group that recently concluded a prisoner swap with Israel.

Senior Baath party leader captured by Iraqi police

Baghdad

A special Iraqi police unit arrested a senior Baath party leader on the U.S. military's most wanted list during a raid Sunday on his home in a Baghdad suburb.

The capture of Mohammed Zimam Abdul Razaq leaves only 10 top figures still at large from the list of 55 issued after the Saddam Hussein government fell. Abdul Razaq was No. 41 and the four of spades in the military's deck of cards of top fugitives.

Deputy Interior Minister Ahmed Kadhum Ibrahim touted the arrest as evidence that the still-rebuilding Iraqi police force "can be depended upon in the fight against terrorism" -- looking to give his troops a boost a day after police in the turbulent city of Fallujah were overwhelmed by dozens of gunmen in one of the best organized guerrilla attacks yet.

Exiled paramilitary forces join bloody insurrection

Port-Au-Prince, Haiti

Defying government loyalists, hundreds of activists demonstrated against President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on Sunday as exiled paramilitary forces joined rebels in a bloody uprising that has killed some 50 people.

## WORLD REPORT

Shouting "Down with Aristide!" members of a broad opposition alliance known as the Democratic Platform massed for the demonstration in Port-au-Prince, saying they didn't support violence but shared the same goal as the rebels -- ousting the embattled president.

Militants loyal to Aristide crushed a similar anti-government demonstration on Thursday, stoning opponents and blocking the protest route. There has been a steady string of protests since mid-September.

"We're still dealing with pacific, nonviolent means, but let me tell you we have one goal," said Gilbert Leger, a lawyer and opposition member. "We do support (rebel) efforts."

The rebels launched a rebellion nine days ago from Gonaives, 115 km northwest of Port-au-Prince and Haiti's fourth-largest city, seeking to oust Aristide.

Fonda, Field join march against border slayings

Ciudad Juarez, Mexico

Actresses Jane Fonda and Sally Field marched through a gritty Mexican border city Saturday urging authorities to investigate the slayings of hundreds of young women and girls.

Mexican authorities said 258 women have been killed over the last decade in Ciudad Juarez, a city of some 1.3 million people. Many of the victims were sexually assaulted, strangled and dumped in the desert across the Rio Grande river from El Paso, Texas.

"I'm here because 300 young, vibrant women are not," Field said. "Now is the time on this planet when we have to stand up and shine light on injustice."

The demonstration was sponsored by Amnesty International and the non-profit V-Day Foundation, led by Vagina Monologues playwright Eve Ensler.

University group offers scholarship to whites only

Bristol, R.I.

A student group at Roger Williams University is offering a new scholarship for which only white students are eligible, a move they say is designed to protest affirmative action.

The application for the \$250 US award requires an essay on "why you are proud of your white heritage" and a recent picture to "confirm whiteness."

Jason Mattera, 20, who is president of the College Republicans, said the group is parodying minority scholarships.

The stunt has angered some at the university, but the administration is staying out of the fray.

Anti-tobacco lobby angry over 'smoking plaza' plan

Sacramento

Anti-tobacco groups are protesting Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's plans convert the Capitol's interior courtyard into an all-weather "smoking plaza" where he can entertain legislators and other power brokers.

"It's a more positive environment where they can all be on an equal footing, as opposed to everyone going into the governor's office where he's behind his desk," Schwarzenegger spokeswoman Terri Carbaugh said.

Protesters say the cigar-loving Schwarzenegger is undermining California's efforts to cut tobacco use and its staggering health and financial costs.

Same-sex couples line up for marriage licences

## WORLD REPORT

## San Francisco

Demand for same-sex marriage licences has been so great that officials turned away hundreds of gay and lesbian couples lined up outside City Hall Sunday, saying they simply didn't have the time or resources to meet all the requests.

San Francisco authorities calculated they could process 400 licences during special weekend hours -- but Saturday they granted 600 licences and performed 270 weddings by late afternoon.

San Francisco officials began issuing same-sex licences and officiating at City Hall marriages last week.

The decision prompted two conservative groups to press for court intervention. But on Friday a judge allowed the weddings to continue through the weekend.

The issue returns to court Tuesday.

## Graphic

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Clones on parade: A float, named "The Hunters," parades during the 120th edition of the Nice Carnival in France Sunday. The theme of this year's carnival is "the cloning." The carnival will be held through Feb. 25th. AP photo: Lionel Cironneauxt

**Load-Date:** February 16, 2004

**Rice insists Syria end support for terrorists; Terrorist group believed responsible for recent attacks in Israel thought to be based in Syria**

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

July 14, 2005 Thursday

Copyright 2005 Woodward Communications, Inc.

**Section:** Features; Pg. a9

**Length:** 458 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** WASHINGTON

## **Body**

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Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is insisting that Syria end its support for Islamic Jihad, the Palestinian group believed to be responsible for killing four Israelis Tuesday in a suicide bombing.

While Israeli troops arrested five activists of the group the State Department says is a terrorist organization, Rice lent U.S. diplomatic support to the campaign, singling out Syria for special criticism.

"It is essential that the Syrian government end its support for terrorist organizations, particularly those who are headquartered and harbored in Damascus," Rice said in a statement issued as she flew home after a trip to Asia.

"Syria should immediately stop letting its territory be used for insurgent activities and for activities which frustrate the aspirations of the Lebanese, Iraqi and Palestinian people," Rice said.

Syria has long denied involvement in terror attacks on Israel.

Rice called the attack in Netanya Tuesday an attack against Palestinian hopes as well as against Israel.

The statement was part of a Bush administration effort to keep early peace moves from being thrown off track by attacks on Israel. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon remains committed to withdrawing all settlers and Israeli troops from Gaza and part of the West Bank this summer.

He also has made clear that Israel cannot keep making territorial and other concessions under the threat of terror.

In the meantime, Palestinian leaders have not dismantled terror groups, as the first phase of the U.S.-backed road map for peacemaking requires.

The White House on Tuesday reiterated that demand.

Islamic Jihad has carried out attacks on Israel despite agreeing to a truce in February.

On Tuesday, a suicide bomber blew himself up outside a shopping mall in the Israeli seaside city of Netanya, killing four women and wounding at least 30 other people.

Rice insists Syria end support for terrorists; Terrorist group believed responsible for recent attacks in Israel thought to be based in Syria

There was no immediate claim of responsibility by Islamic Jihad, but Palestinian police said the bomber, 18-year-old Ahmed Abu Khalil, was sent by the same Islamic Jihad cell that was behind a Tel Aviv nightclub bombing that killed five Israelis a couple of weeks into the truce.

In both cases, Iranian-backed Lebanese **Hezbollah** guerrillas prodded the cell into action and apparently provided funding, Palestinian police said.

Asked Tuesday if the State Department had any information that Syria had a hand in the bombing, spokesman Tom Casey replied: "I don't have anything that specific that I can share with you."

He said, "what we know for certain is that Palestinian Islamic Jihad has operations and has offices in Damascus. We believe that this is one of the issues that represents Syria's support for terrorism and Syria's support for those who oppose the aspirations of the Palestinian people to have a peace process."

## Graphic

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Mug - Condoleezza Rice

**Load-Date:** July 14, 2005

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## *Arab masses generating own power*

Lincoln Journal Star (Nebraska)

March 15, 2005 Tuesday

City Edition

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**Section:** B; Pg. 5

**Length:** 465 words

### **Body**

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More evidence of the changes stirring in the Middle East came Monday when demonstrators massed in Beirut in the biggest protest yet on the issue of Syria's presence in Lebanon.

The anti-Syria protest "easily topped" a pro-Syria rally last week organized by the Shiite Muslim group Hezbollah, according to The Associated Press.

Triggering the dueling demonstrations was the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri a month ago in a car bombing. Syria is widely suspected as the culprit.

On Monday, the hundreds of thousands of protesters fell silent at 12:55 p.m., the moment at which the massive car bomb detonated, killing Hariri and 16 others and leaving a 30-foot crater in the street.

In addition to the street rallies in Beirut, there were concurrent developments in the Arab world that have made observers all over the globe sit upright in wonderment.

The most dramatic, of course, was the Iraqi election in late January. But there have been so many other events in the same vein that they have encouraged new optimism that democracy is finally taking root in the Middle East.

Palestinians elected Mahmoud Abbas to replace Yasser Arafat in an election that international observers pronounced legitimate. Municipal elections were held for the first time in more than 40 years in Saudi Arabia. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak announced that other candidates would be allowed to run for the presidency. Kuwaiti women demonstrated for the right to vote. Saudis said women would be allowed to vote in the next election.

The change in political climate is so striking that President Bush's foreign policy is undergoing reassessment by critics. Even the reliably anti-Bush New York Times editorial page conceded, "The Bush administration is entitled to claim a healthy share of the credit for many of these advances."

Major credit also should go to other influences, not the least of which is the development of the independent Arab television network Al-Jazeera.

The network covers events such as the rallies in Beirut and airs criticism of current Arab regimes.

The founder of Al-Jazeera argued at an appearance at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2003 that the power of terrorism could be weakened if networks like his practiced objective, uncensored journalism.



## Arab masses generating own power

As Marc Lynch, an Arab media specialist wrote in a column published in the Journal Star, "The cumulative impact has been to create a vast public sense of frustration with the politically stagnant status quo and an urgency for change."

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of the burgeoning movement toward democratic rule is that it seems to be generating its own power. The energy displayed in the streets of Beirut by thousands chanting "Truth, freedom, national unity" is welling up from within.

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

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End of Document

## *Looking for Arab democracy and pluralism?*

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

August 28, 2004 Saturday

Final Edition

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**Section:** RELIGION; Pg. 32

**Length:** 451 words

**Byline:** Donna Abu-Nasr, Associated Press

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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BEIRUT (AP) -- The man drops to his knees and wraps his arms around his dancing partner's skirt. Next to them, two women dance on the gigantic loudspeaker. Couples sway, smooch and sip cocktails.

The scene at the nightclub is one face of Lebanon on a hot summer night. A few kilometres away, in the Shiite southern suburbs of Beirut, the women are swaddled in black, stores sell rugs with portraits of Iranian leaders, and there isn't a nightclub in sight.

Somehow, through foreign rulers, civil war, and meddlesome, heavily armed neighbours, Lebanon has managed to survive as the most pluralist, tolerant society in the Middle East. Its democracy, however imperfect, could set an example for the rest of the Arab world. For hard-line traditionalists, its freewheeling ways set it apart as a sewer of western decadence.

The contrasts are everywhere in this mountainous Mediterranean country with its 3.5 million people and 17 religious denominations. Just turn on a TV set and channel-surf from beauty pageants to know-your-Qur'an contests.

"In Lebanon, you move between different worlds. It's the charm of the Lebanese way of life," says Joseph Samaha, editor-in-chief of As-Safir newspaper.

Lebanon's civil war began between Christians and Muslims and drew in Palestinians, Syrians, Israelis and Iranians. It raged for 15 years, until 1990. The country is squeezed between the Iraq war and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Syria controls it with thousands of troops. Its economy is shackled with a \$32-billion US debt.

The conflict between Israel and Hezbollah's fighters sputters a hundred kilometres to the south, out of sight and largely out of mind in Beirut, except when Israeli jets fly over the capital, making window-shattering sonic booms that send people running for temporary cover.

Today, even as Islamic conservatism strengthens its hold on other Arab countries, Lebanon somehow manages to keep its secular poise.

One reason is that it's the only Arab country with a large non-Muslim community. Under rules dating back to independence in 1943, the president has to be a Christian from the Maronite Catholic denomination, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the parliamentary speaker a Shiite Muslim. It may result in frequent deadlock, but it's

## Looking for Arab democracy and pluralism?

also an effective system of checks and balances, says Chibli Mallat, a law professor. "This is the paradox of Lebanese democracy."

That democracy is the most advanced in the Arab world, and Lebanese media are the freest. The parliament, which chooses the president, is elected by universal suffrage and half the seats are allocated to Muslims, half to Christians. In Saudi Arabia women can't even drive. In Lebanon they've had the vote since the 1950s.

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

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End of Document

### *Herald Sun Editorial*

Herald Sun (Melbourne, Australia)

May 28, 2003 Wednesday

Copyright 2003 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** OPINION; Pg. 18

**Length:** 522 words

## **Body**

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Enforced harmony

POLITICAL correctness is now synonymous with discrimination.

Whereas minority groups were once seen as the victims of discrimination, today the majority is often the target.

Hume Council's ban on ham sandwiches, designed to avoid offence to Muslims, is one absurd example.

Another is the ban on men from Brunswick City Baths on Sunday nights -- to enable women, particularly Muslims, to bathe without feeling threatened and to build strong friendships.

Now we learn that the confused creed, multiculturalism, is to be enshrined in legislation by the Bracks Government.

But don't worry. The Premier knows he can go only so far in using the heavy hand of the law to enforce cultural harmony.

Mr Bracks assures us that, contrary to rumour, the law won't compel schools to ban Christmas or Easter celebrations. Nor will they have to change Christmas parties to include other religions.

Many members of minority cultures have made it clear they are embarrassed by the official stupidities perpetrated on their behalf. They fear they could trigger majority resentment.

Australians have shown a remarkable capacity for tolerance. They do not need the multicultural police to enforce it.

Child protection

THE furore culminating in the resignation of the Governor-General, Dr Peter Hollingworth, has subsided.

But there is still unfinished business -- protecting children from predators.

The Government has rejected Labor's call for an inquiry into child sexual abuse.

Prime Minister John Howard argued that it would be better to put the money into prevention programs.

No one could reasonably quarrel with that. But the Opposition Family and Community Services spokesman, Wayne Swan, reflected public cynicism.

He challenged the Government to make "a substantial national commitment for programs for early assistance for families and for programs to identify and prevent child abuse".

A Federal Labor MP is sponsoring a private member's Bill requiring vetting of workers and volunteers who have unsupervised access to children.

If the Government wants to reinforce its commitment to protecting children it should not be too ready to dismiss this sensible starting point.

Naming terrorists

THE Federal Government wants sweeping power to ban any groups it believes pose a terror threat.

At present only groups listed by the United Nations can be banned.

Labor argues that to grant the Government's wish to empower Attorney-General Daryl Williams to proscribe any organisation he chooses would go too far.

Labor foreshadows a Bill to ban specifically Hezbollah's terrorist wing, which both the Government and Labor agree has the potential to strike on the Australian mainland.

But in this changed world we can no longer afford the luxury of putting civil liberties ahead of public safety.

Provided checks and balances are in place, we cannot afford to await the UN before acting in self-defence.

STOP THE CARNAGE

ROAD TOLL 152

HEROIN TOLL 29

Victorian deaths in 2003. Heroin toll includes suspected victims. Source: Coroner's Court and Institute of Forensic Medicine

**Load-Date:** May 27, 2003

## *Four views of the opposition to U.S.*

Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)

April 11, 2004, Sunday, Metro Edition

Copyright 2004 Star Tribune

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 15A

**Length:** 470 words

**Byline:** Eric Black; Staff Writer

### **Body**

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Michael Rubin of the American Enterprise Institute just returned from Iraq, where he worked for the U.S. Defense Department and advised the Coalition Provisional Authority.

"The Sky Is Not Falling," was the headline on the analysis he wrote in National Review Online, after the fighting began between U.S. troops and Al-Sadr's militia.

The outbreak of open combat with Al-Sadr will lead to a spike in violence but will ultimately make the U.S. mission more successful by removing an anti-democracy outlaw and demonstrating to Iraqis that the United States stands for the rule of law, Rubin said in an interview.

Rubin sees Al-Sadr as a hireling of the Iranians, a mullah of little religious legitimacy, and a leader with few followers.

During his time in Iraq, Rubin saw evidence that Al-Sadr was steadily losing influence because he was unable to provide jobs or other makings of a better life for his followers, because his goal of establishing a theocracy is out of sync with the wishes of most Shiites, and because Al-Sadr, who tried to declare himself president in January, is too greedy for power himself.

Al-Sadr's thugs have threatened women for violating strict Islamic dress codes, broken into homes and smashed television sets, Taliban-style, to shelter Iraqis from un-Islamic messages.

Many Iraqis with whom Rubin spoke were angry that the Sadrists could get away with such conduct and demanded that the Americans do something about it.

"A lot of our adversaries have lost their fear of us and believe that they can get away with what they're doing. By taking on Al-Sadr, we prove that that is not the case and we demonstrate that we're serious about defending the interim constitution," Rubin said.

In the Sunni region, Rubin believes, Baathists are less of a problem than last year because the United States had much unheralded success at rolling up the Baathist cells. On the other hand, it leaves Sunnis, for the first time in Iraqi history, without a clear leadership structure. Much of the current trouble around Baghdad is the result of would-be leaders trying to establish their credentials by demonstrating their opposition to the occupation, Rubin said.

## Four views of the opposition to U.S.

He also believes that followers of Wahhabism - an extreme Saudi-based fundamentalist form of Islam - have taken over some Baghdad mosques and are converting some angry young Iraqis to the message that killing foreigners will be rewarded by God.

Like Schanzer, Rubin believes foreign terrorists are operating in Iraq. And Al-Sadr, who has embraced **Hezbollah** and Hamas - both considered terrorists by the U.S. government - could be called a terrorist. But the real reason fighting Al-Sadr is part of the war against terrorism is that "establishing the rule of law is the antidote to future terrorism," he said.

## Graphic

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PHOTO

**Load-Date:** April 13, 2004

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End of Document

## **16 hurt as Palestinian gunman opens fire**

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia)

January 24, 2002, Thursday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 31

**Length:** 472 words

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM: A Palestinian with an assault rifle sprayed bullets at a bus and crowds on a busy Jerusalem street yesterday, wounding at least 16 people, six seriously, police said.

In minutes, a plain-clothes police officer shot and killed the gunman.

Shortly after the attack, a news bulletin on the al Manar television station, run by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah organisation in Lebanon, said the gunman was a member of the al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades.

MATP

The brigades are an armed militia closely linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

An al Aqsa leader died in a bomb explosion last week in the West Bank city of Tulkaram, and Palestinians blame Israel for assassinating him.

The latest bloodletting in the escalating tit-for-tat violence in the Middle East came several hours after Israeli soldiers and tanks thrust deeply into the West Bank to destroy what they claimed was a bomb laboratory in Nablus. They killed four members of the radical Islamic group Hamas, sparking a demonstration in the city.

Hamas, an acronym for the Islamic Resistance Movement, vowed "all-out war" against Israel.

And in a worrying sign of growing unity among secular and Islamic militants, the al Aqsa group also cited the deaths of the Hamas members in claiming responsibility for the latest Jerusalem attack.

"We are at war," said Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert. "Not in some far-off battlefield, but at home."

As the region girded for more bloodshed, an Israeli legislator told Prime Minister Ariel Sharon it was "high time" to re-occupy briefly all of the Palestinian-held territories in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and wipe out Israel's opponents. The army intelligence chief told the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament, that he expected Palestinians to launch bigger attacks on Israeli cities.

The violence has overwhelmed US efforts to revive negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, and is complicating efforts to combat Islamic terrorists in Afghanistan and elsewhere in the Muslim world.

The attack came about 1.10pm yesterday Sydney time (4.10pm Tuesday local time) as pedestrians clustered under store awnings to stay out of the rain or waited at a bus stop.



## 16 hurt as Palestinian gunman opens fire

A Palestinian in a jacket and a knitted cap pulled out an automatic rifle in Jaffa Rd in downtown Jerusalem and loosed bursts of gunfire, witnesses and police said.

The gunman "shot at the bus stop. There were 30 or 40 people there at least," said Yossi Cohen, a passerby. "People were gathered together at the stop. So [he] had an easy target."

"He shot at two or three women, who were sitting there," said Avi Malkhan, another witness. "Then he turned round and started shooting again."

The gunman, who was later identified as Said Ibrahim Ramadan, 24, a Palestinian from a village near Nablus, turned his weapon on a nearby bus filled with passengers.

**Load-Date:** January 23, 2002

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End of Document

**Thomas Oliver's @ WITS' END**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

December 6, 2002 Friday

Home Edition

Copyright 2002 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**The Atlanta  
Journal-Constitution**

**Section:** Editorial;; Column

**Length:** 459 words

**Byline:** THOMAS OLIVER

**Body**

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Look who's talking:

Drivers chatting on their cellphones contribute 2,600 deaths a year to highway carnage.

After running out of technological things to invent, Al Gore turns to inventing reality:

Gore: Media have conservative bias.

Saudis deny funding terrorists:

Of course they don't fund terrorists, al-Qaida, Palestinian suicide bombers, Hamas, **Hezbollah** or Islamic Jihad. And their clerics, mullahs and editors of state-owned media actually denounced the Sept. 11 attacks in what to everyone else seemed like applause.

AJC

@ Wits' End Memo

To: Kathleen Toomey, state public health director

Re: Your paranoia about smallpox vaccinations

If you are worried that one or two deaths will occur for every million vaccinations, you should pay real attention to the following accidental deaths that are even riskier:

\* Skiers die at the rate of 67 per million participant days;

\* Bicyclists, 7 per million;

\* Anesthesia kills 5 per million who go under;

\* 7.5 males and 1.3 females die while participating in athletics each year.

In other words, more people die getting out of bed or opening childproof medicine bottles than might die from smallpox vaccination.

Question on Foreign Policy 101 final:

When a so-called nonpartisan organization releases a report that says the United States is seen as a bully by foreign countries, especially Muslim nations, which of the following should be the U.S. response?

1) So?

2) They ain't seen nothing yet.

3) Make motion with index finger and thumb, and explain about the world's tiniest violin.

If it didn't work the first time, what makes anyone think more of the same is better?

New teachers come with two-year warranty from University System's 15 teacher education programs. Schools can return faulty product for free repair.

@ Wits' End Riddle, solved:

Why we're so far apart:

Conservatives define intolerance as being unwilling to grasp another's point of view. Liberals define intolerance as being against whatever they are for.

Raise time: If the boss doesn't get you, your Uncle Sam will:

The average American family's 44 percent tax rate means they'll keep just 56 cents of whatever raise they get next year.

Question on Journalism 101 headline writing final:

When Saddam admits to biological, chemical, missile and nuclear technologies, but denies they are intended for military use, which headline would be better?

1) Oceanfront property for sale in Baghdad;

2) Yes, we have no bananas.

@ Wits' End Maxims:

\* Holidays always come at the busiest times.

\* Gifts are nice. Gift certificates are better.

\* Weather forecasters are fortune tellers without a crystal ball.

Quote:

"The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard."

Thomas Oliver's @ WITS' END

--- Steven Wright

Thomas Oliver's column appears on Fridays. Except when it doesn't.

[toliver@ajc.com](mailto:toliver@ajc.com)

**Load-Date:** December 6, 2002

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End of Document

## *Thousands protest at journalist's funeral*

Guardian.com

December 14, 2005

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theguardian

**Length:** 499 words

**Highlight:** Thousands of Lebanese Christians and Muslims today joined the funeral cortege of the murdered journalist Gibran Tueni to protest against the Syrian leaders blamed for the bombing that killed him.

### **Body**

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Thousands of Lebanese Christians and Muslims today joined the funeral cortege of the murdered journalist Gibran Tueni to protest against the Syrian leaders blamed for the bombing that killed him.

A general strike called in mourning for Mr Tueni - a politician who published the liberal newspaper An Nahar - was widely respected, with banks, businesses and schools closing their doors for the day.

Hundreds of Lebanese troops and police took up position in a central square where, earlier this year, around 1 million people heard Mr Tueni call for the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon.

"Everyone who takes to the street is saying 'enough killing'," Ghenwa Jalloul, a Lebanese politician, said.

Mr Tueni, an outspoken critic of Syria, was killed by a car bomb as he was being driven to work through an industrial suburb of Beirut on Monday.

He was the fourth anti-Syrian figure to be killed since a series of bombings began with the assassination of the former prime minister, Rafik Hariri, in February.

A previously unknown group has claimed responsibility for the blast that killed Mr Tueni and two bodyguards and wounded 30 other people. However, the journalist's colleagues and political allies have blamed Syria, which has denied involvement.

In the Beirut district of Ashrafieh, which Mr Tueni represented in parliament, several thousand people marched behind his coffin and those of his bodyguards.

Others waited outside the offices of An Nahar, in the city centre, where a giant portrait of him hung from the side of the building. Men, women and children waved Lebanese flags and held pictures of Mr Tueni. Many shouted slogans against Syria and its president, Bashar Assad.

In a special session of parliament, tributes came from allies and opponents alike. "The glory is yours," the speaker, Nabih Berri, said as he recalled a person "fond of arguing".

## Thousands protest at journalist's funeral

The leader of the Hezbollah bloc, Mohammed Raad, said Mr Tueni was a man of "courageous word and uncompromising position".

The strike called by anti-Syrian groups in mourning for Mr Tueni was observed not only in Beirut, but also in the southern provincial capital, Sidon, and the mountains of central Lebanon.

However, in eastern Lebanon, where pro-Syrian groups are dominant, the strike call was ignored.

Yesterday, a leading anti-Syrian politician, Walid Jumblatt, demanded regime change in Syria - the first time such a prominent figure has made such comments.

"This time this regime should change .and. should be tried," Mr Jumblatt told CNN. "This guy in Damascus .Assad. is sick. If he stays, we won't have stability in the Middle East."

He later toned down his remarks, telling Lebanon's LBC television: "I do not interfere in the affairs of that regime."

Today's strike came a day after the UN security council heard the chief UN investigator into the Hariri assassination say the latest evidence had strengthened his conviction that Syrian and Lebanese intelligence officials were implicated. Syria has denied involvement in the killing.

**Load-Date:** December 14, 2005

**PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL PROTESTS CABINET IMPASSE;  
CONTROL OF SECURITY FORCES REMAINS CONTENTIOUS POINT**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

November 7, 2003 Friday Five Star Late Lift Edition

Copyright 2003 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A2

**Length:** 492 words

**Byline:** Mohammed Daraghmeh The Associated Press

**Dateline:** RAMALLAH, WEST BANK

## **Body**

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The Palestinian leadership crisis intensified Thursday, with the internationally respected finance minister staying away from his office in protest over political maneuvering that has delayed formation of a new Cabinet.

The deadlock between Yasser Arafat and Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia also is holding up renewal of high-level contacts with Israel. And it might derail a conference of international donors who have been supporting the cash-strapped Palestinian Authority.

At issue in the Palestinian Cabinet dispute is the appointment of an interior minister who would consolidate the security forces - some of which are under the command of Arafat - and play a key role in potential action against violent groups.

Arafat has blocked Qureia's choice, Gen. Nasser Yousef, in part because he does not want to relinquish control over the security services. Qureia's predecessor, Mahmoud Abbas, was pushed out by Arafat over the same issue.

Arafat and Qureia met Thursday along with leaders of the ruling Fatah movement but failed to resolve the dispute.

The United States has been urging consolidation of security forces under control of the prime minister as a precursor for action against militants. Qureia has said he prefers a negotiated end to violence, not a crackdown.

Officials close to Finance Minister Salam Fayad said his boycott was meant to pressure Arafat to stop holding up the formation of the new Cabinet.

Fayad also told associates that he would serve in a Cabinet only if headed by Qureia. Foreign Minister Nabil Shaath is seen as a potential candidate for prime minister if Qureia steps aside because of his troubles with Arafat.

Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon lobbied for Cabinet support for a planned prisoner swap with the Lebanese guerrilla group Hezbollah.

Under the emerging plan, Israel would release about 400 Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners - including two guerrilla leaders - in exchange for the bodies of three soldiers and an Israeli businessman, Elhanan Tannenbaum. Sharon's office said he would present the deal to his divided Cabinet on Sunday. Many Israelis oppose the swap.

## PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL PROTESTS CABINET IMPASSE; CONTROL OF SECURITY FORCES REMAINS CONTENTIOUS POINT

3 Palestinians are killed

Israeli forces killed three Palestinians in operations in the Gaza Strip today, witnesses said.

People in the village of Almusader, in central Gaza, said Israeli special forces entered a house there early today and exchanged fire with gunmen, killing one before withdrawing two hours later.

Israeli military officials, however, denied entering a village. The officials said soldiers deployed outside Khan Younis to prevent attacks by militants on Kfar Darom, an isolated Jewish settlement in Gaza. The officials said the troops shot at two armed Palestinians and hit them.

A few hours earlier, not far away, two Palestinians were killed and nine wounded, including two women, in an exchange of fire between armed Palestinians and Israeli soldiers on the outskirts of the city of Khan Younis, Palestinians said.

### Notes

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PAGE 2

### Graphic

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PHOTO; Photo Headshot - (Prime Minister Ahmed) Qureia, In dispute with Arafat

**Load-Date:** November 7, 2003

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## *Iraq theocracy not democratic*

University Wire

March 7, 2005 Monday

Copyright 2005 The News Record via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 487 words

**Byline:** By Ryan Donohue, The News Record; **SOURCE:** U. Cincinnati

**Dateline:** CINCINNATI

### **Body**

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The Jan. 30 elections in Iraq marked a historic step toward securing a free and democratic Iraq, but Iraqis went to the polls and elected an assembly with strong religious ties.

With the representatives being appointed and the future of Iraq being decided, one must consider the possibility that all our efforts to create a democracy in Iraq may have been in vain.

Approximately 70 percent of the seats went to the two major groups, the United Iraqi Alliance and a powerful Kurdish alliance, both of which have a strong religious foundation to their politics.

Many people from these groups believe that there is no other alternative to having the Koran as the law of the land in Iraq. And many Iraqis and Americans find this possible encroaching Islamic theocracy in Iraq to be very troubling.

Can a theocracy in Iraq still be democratic?

No.

Iranian-born Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani, the most powerful Shiite cleric in Iraq, has said he supports candidates that want to create a new constitution that is based on the Koran.

Other prominent clerics in Iraq have called for candidates to make Islam the source of all legislation. With Shiites holding the most seats in the new 275-member national assembly, minority Sunnis, Iraq's previously privileged religious group under Saddam Hussein, and other minority groups fear that they will be targets for repression.

Is a democratic-theocracy a contradiction in terms?

Yes.

Every theocracy that has ever existed has led to the oppression or outright persecution of minority religious groups. When one dominant group sets the law for all others to follow it inevitably leads to the infringement of the basic human rights of the rest of the citizens. It overpowers or excludes them in the decision-making processes of the country.

For an example of how terrible a theocracy in Iraq might be we need to look to Iraq's neighbor, Iran.

## Iraq theocracy not democratic

Iran has the one of the worst human rights abuse records in the region and the world. Iran is known for its brutal repression of dissent, women's rights and Kurds, as well as supporting terrorist groups like Hezbollah.

We can't let Iraq become another brutally oppressive theocracy like Iran.

What can we do to prevent Iraq from becoming an oppressive theocracy like Iran?

Well, the struggle for a free and democratic Iraq isn't over yet.

We have to wait and see which direction this new government will take before anything can be known for sure.

The best thing we can do now is hope for the best and let the Iraqis make their own decisions.

But if the overwhelming dominance of representatives from religion-based political parties in the new national assembly takes Iraq toward theocracy, then we should step in, as delicately as possible, and help guide the country in a better, more democratic direction.

Even if stepping in may spur more criticism of our efforts, we still can't let all our efforts to improve Iraq be in vain.

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**Load-Date:** March 7, 2005

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End of Document

## 'Cedar' revolutionaries want more reform for Lebanon

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

May 31, 2005, Tuesday

Copyright 2005 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 07

**Length:** 909 words

**Byline:** By Annia Ciezadlo Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

**Highlight:** In the first round of Lebanese elections, voters backed the son of slain former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

### **Body**

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Stopping cars hurtling through Beirut's downtown, young protesters do something they could never do before: pass out flyers that urge Lebanese to cast a protest vote against the country's entrenched political class - including the leaders of this spring's Cedar Revolution.

A sedan with government plates squeals up. It's plastered with posters of Saad Hariri, son and political heir of slain former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri. Serge Toursarkissian, a parliamentarian seeking reelection on the younger Hariri's slate, which swept all of Beirut's 19 parliamentary seats Sunday, barrels out.

"How can you tell people not to vote for Hariri?" he bellows. "Hariri's killing was a big crime, and the Syrians have left this country, and we should all go out and vote!"

But months after the Cedar Revolution, the movement ignited by Rafik Hariri's death that helped end Syrian domination over this country, Lebanon's government is showing few other signs of change. Dissatisfied with the elections, some are now questioning politics as usual - and, in some cases, the very opposition leaders who led their revolution.

The elections, which will continue for the next three Sundays, will usher in many of the same politicians who have dominated the country's political scene for decades. Though pro-Syrian politicians won't be as powerful as before, their continued political influence discourages many Lebanese who had hoped for more substantial change. Voter turnout in Beirut Sunday, the first in the four-stage elections, was only 28 percent.

But the popular protests had a ripple effect, and among the reverberations was an increasing willingness to challenge corruption, stagnation, and hereditary rule in Lebanon's government. Outside government circles, a growing civil society movement is now pushing for democratic reforms.

"Lebanon has changed in an interesting way since three months ago," says Rasha Jomaa, one of the young women debating Mr. Toursarkissian. "We would never have had the right to go down to the street and declare our opinions like this. And the topic of our group was a little bit taboo before."

Ms. Jomaa, a graduate student in sociology, joined the Cedar Revolution with fervor in March. When the Iranian-backed Shiite party Hizbullah held a pro-Syrian rally, Jomaa and other young people joined a massive

## 'Cedar' revolutionaries want more reform for Lebanon

counterdemonstration. After the rally, she went to a tent city where protesters were gathered and she stayed all night.

But as days in the tent city wore on, Jomaa saw "people-power" slowly giving way to party politics. Party officials would send out mass text messages instructing the revolutionaries when to gather, what to wear, and who to support. "They were dominated," she says. "They could not be frank and open for Lebanon."

As opposition leaders like Walid Jumblatt began negotiating with pro-Syrian politicians, some revolutionaries became disgusted.

Jomaa and other disillusioned activists formed a group called Hayyabina, or Let's Go, which calls for the abolition of Lebanon's confessional system. Based on religious affiliation, Lebanese law sets up a balance of religious sects in parliament. Although Muslims are more than half the population, the 128-member parliament must be split evenly between Muslims and Christians. Seats are set aside for specific religious sects, and politicians can only run for seats that correspond to their religion.

In theory, this confessional system keeps the country's Muslim majority from dominating smaller religious groups. But in practice, it is more complicated: The current electoral law, for example, forces many Christians to vote in Muslim areas.

Hayyabina's platform is simple: Instead of voting according to religion, the Lebanese should be allowed to vote according to traditional political platforms. "We want to find our rights as citizens, not as members of religious groups," says Lokman Slim, one of the group's founders. "We cannot find our rights through membership in confessional groups - we want them to be guaranteed in the Constitution."

Hayyabina is not the only group seeking to change Lebanon's political landscape. After the revolution, more than 13,000 Lebanese citizens signed a petition to add a clause to Lebanon's electoral law, allowing Lebanese expatriates to vote overseas. Nobody knows exactly how many Lebanese live abroad, but some estimates range as high as three times the country's internal population of 4 million.

In Lebanon, expatriate voting has always been politically charged, with critics claiming that it would tip the country's sectarian balance one way or another. But others say that as Lebanese citizens, they have a right to vote, regardless of who they might vote for. "The simple argument that is the basis of this campaign is that it is simply a constitutional right to vote if you are Lebanese, and the holder of a Lebanese passport," says Chibli Mallat, a law professor at Beirut's St. Joseph University. "So you cannot be deprived of this right."

Mr. Mallat and several others presented their petition to the Lebanese government a month before Sunday's poll, pointing out several ways in which voting could be conducted at Lebanese embassies abroad. But the government, absorbed in minute negotiations over the electoral law, did nothing. "The present government doesn't have the imagination or the guts to get it through," says Mallat. "I think we are still in the ancient world."

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**Load-Date:** May 30, 2005

## *Afghans fire at airplane over Kabul*

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)

October 7, 2001 Sunday Final Edition

Copyright 2001 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A01; News

**Length:** 907 words

**Dateline:** ISLAMABAD

### **Body**

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Taliban gunners in Afghanistan's capital Kabul unleashed a thunderous barrage at a plane cruising high over the city Saturday, as President George W. Bush delivered a stern warning that "time is running out" for the Afghan regime to hand over suspected terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden.

The Taliban, meanwhile, defiantly repeated their threat to wage holy war against the United States and threatened to invade neighbouring Uzbekistan if that country participates in any U.S.-led attack.

However, the Taliban also offered to release eight aid workers, including two from the United States, if Washington stops its threats and begins negotiations.

The White House rejected the offer and spokeswoman Claire Buchan called on the Taliban to release the aid workers immediately.

AP

Afghan authorities also announced they would unconditionally release British journalist Yvonne Ridley, 43, who was arrested last month inside Afghanistan with two Afghan guides.

British officials expect her release within days.

Early Saturday afternoon, residents of the Afghan capital rushed into the streets when Taliban gunners fired anti-aircraft guns and two missiles at a lone, silver-coloured aircraft whose jet trail was visible in the bright-blue sky.

The gunners missed their mark and Taliban authorities admitted the plane's altitude was beyond the range of their air defences. Afghanistan's airspace is closed to all traffic and the Taliban said the aircraft was a spy plane.

Kabul residents, inured to the sounds of war after more than 20 years of conflict, showed no sign of panic once they realized the city was not under attack.

"Who cares about the attack," mechanic Najibullah said while staring toward the sky along with his three children.

"We have seen so much fighting, now no one is afraid of death."

Last month, the Taliban said it shot down a spy plane over northern Afghanistan. U.S. Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld acknowledged the United States had lost contact with an unmanned reconnaissance plane but had no reason to believe it was shot down.

## Afghans fire at airplane over Kabul

The United States is massing formidable military forces outside Afghanistan to press its demand that the Islamic militia hand over bin Laden, the chief suspect in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington.

Taliban authorities have refused to give him up but have offered to negotiate with the United States. After repeated U.S. refusals to bargain, the Taliban offered Saturday to free the Christian aid workers -- two from the United States, two Australians and four Germans -- if Washington stops threatening war.

"Because of American threats, people are being forced to flee their homes, along with their children and women and old people," the Taliban said.

"Are their lives not important?"

The eight were arrested in August on charges of preaching Christianity -- a serious charge in strictly Muslim Afghanistan. Sixteen Afghan employees of the German-based Shelter Now International organization were also arrested.

The U.S. administration is in no mood for compromise.

"The Taliban has been given the opportunity to surrender all the terrorists in Afghanistan and to close down their camps and operations," Bush said Saturday in a radio address.

"Full warning has been given and time is running out."

The Taliban have appealed to Muslims worldwide to join a jihad, or holy war, if the United States launches attacks. In the Pakistani border city Peshawar, several thousand people shouted anti-U.S. and anti-British slogans Saturday during a noisy four-hour rally in support of the Taliban and bin Laden.

"Whatever we do, we will never hand over Osama," said Hizbullah, a 16-year-old religious student in Peshawar.

"If Americans attack Afghanistan, nothing would make me happier than to kill them. If I saw one after that had happened, I wouldn't hesitate for a moment."

On Saturday night, Taliban radio broadcast poems whose lyrics condemned the United States. There was no accompanying music, which the Taliban have banned. Neighbouring governments have all denounced the Sept. 11 terror attacks. Pakistan, once the Taliban's ally, has pledged full support for the U.S. anti-terrorism campaign. Uzbekistan has agreed to let the United States station troops on its soil but not to launch offensive operations.

On Saturday, a U.S.-marked aircraft arrived in Uzbekistan one day after President Islam Karimov granted permission for the United States to use an Uzbek air base. A local police officer, who refused to be quoted by name, said three or four planes had already landed.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Jim Turner refused to comment on the report, in keeping with U.S. policy of not discussing troop movements.

A senior Taliban figure, Amir Khan Muttaqi, said 10,000 soldiers had been rushed to the Afghan border with Uzbekistan and Taliban forces would cross into Uzbekistan if that Muslim country co-operates in any U.S.-led attack.

The Taliban is already fighting a coalition of opposition forces in northern Afghanistan. Its foes had been making little headway against the larger and better-armed Taliban but their fortunes have been bolstered since the Sept. 11 attacks with a decision by Russia to step up weapons shipments.

Opposition spokesman Mohammad Ashraf Nadim said the alliance gained ground Saturday in fighting in the northern provinces Balkh and Samaghan, which border Uzbekistan. The claims could not be independently verified.

## Graphic

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Photo: AP; Waiting Patiently -- An Afghan family waits at the Shahid Arbabi refugee camp in Zahedan, in the Iranian part of Baluchistan province, Saturday. Hundreds of Afghan refugees have crossed the Iran-Afghanistan border and entered Iran during the past two weeks.

**Load-Date:** December 2, 2002

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End of Document

## **Defense chief targets militant leaders**

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

February 2, 2004, Monday

Copyright 2004 The Columbian Publishing Co.

**Section:** World/Nation; Pg. a3

**Length:** 502 words

**Byline:** JOSEF FEDERMAN, Associated Press writer

### **Body**

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JERUSALEM -- The leaders of violent Islamic groups are targets for assassination, Israel's defense minister said Sunday, raising the possibility of a further escalation in the three years of Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed.

Shaul Mofaz issued the threat in response to a declaration by the spiritual leader of Hamas, Sheik Ahmed Yassin, that the group plans an all-out effort to kidnap Israeli soldiers.

"The statements of Yassin just emphasize the need to strike the heads of Hamas and the Islamic Jihad," Mofaz told the weekly meeting of the Israeli Cabinet, according to an Israeli official who attended the meeting.

The statements by Mofaz and Yassin threaten to inflame an already violent confrontation that has led to the deaths of more than 3,500 people on both sides during three years of fighting.

Last week, Israel killed eight Palestinians in a shootout in Gaza City, while a Palestinian suicide bomber killed 11 people in Jerusalem. Hamas took responsibility for the bombing, a day after a claim from the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, loosely linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

Sunday was a Muslim holiday, and Hamas officials were not available to react to Mofaz's comments.

During more than three years of violence, Israel has carried out many pinpoint attacks aimed at leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad often prompting a violent response. In September, Yassin narrowly escaped an Israeli airstrike in the Gaza Strip.

But Israel has greatly reduced the number of targeted killings in recent months. Last month, Mofaz's deputy, Zeev Boim, retracted comments calling for Yassin's assassination, saying later that no decision had been made.

Hamas, responsible for dozens of suicide bombings over the last three years, also appeared to have scaled back its activities until a Hamas female suicide bomber killed four Israelis at a Gaza-Israel checkpoint Jan. 14.

Yassin encouraged kidnapping Israeli soldiers a day after Israel released 400 Palestinian prisoners as part of an exchange with the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah for a businessman and the bodies of three soldiers.

Yassin said it has become extremely difficult to capture soldiers, apparently trying to explain why Hamas has failed to free the 7,000 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.



### Defense chief targets militant leaders

Also Sunday, Israeli troops riding jeeps and a tank raided the town of Jericho for the first time in months, killing a Palestinian militant. The fighting forced many residents to stay inside at the start of the four-day Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha.

The military said troops entered the town to arrest fugitives planning an attack. In the ensuing shootout, one fugitive was killed and another wounded.

There were no Israeli casualties, and the army withdrew in the afternoon. Three houses were destroyed, Palestinians said.

Jericho, isolated in the Jordan River valley, has been relatively untouched by the fighting.

The dead militant was Shadi Jaradat, an Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades member from Jenin who apparently sought refuge in Jericho.

**Load-Date:** February 2, 2004

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End of Document

## *A Revolutionary Channels His Inner Michael Moore*

The New York Times  
November 26, 2005 Saturday  
Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2005 The New York Times Company

**Section:** Section A; Column 3; Foreign Desk; Pg. 4; THE SATURDAY PROFILE

**Length:** 1166 words

**Byline:** By NAZILA FATHI

**Dateline:** TEHRAN

### **Body**

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FOR years, Massoud Dehnamaki was known widely as the feared enforcer of conservative rules that restricted freedom for women and society.

In recent years, however, he has emerged as Iran's Michael Moore, having directed a documentary on the taboo issue of prostitution and another forthcoming film on soccer as a metaphor of political struggle.

Reformists and conservatives alike harshly criticized Mr. Dehnamaki for making the first movie, "Poverty and Prostitution." Conservatives were furious that one of their own had not only highlighted an un-Islamic social pathology but seemed to sympathize with the prostitutes. Reformists believed he deliberately exaggerated the problem to make a case against easing Islamic law.

In an interview in his basement office in downtown Tehran, Mr. Dehnamaki said both camps had gotten it wrong, and denied that his views had undergone a radical transformation.

"I was always concerned about justice in society," he said. "There was a time that I believed that the people were the problem. But that was a mistake. The real problems are our rulers, who have become used to corruption and cannot fulfill the promises of the early days of the revolution about social justice and equality."

Film critics have pointed to the countless professional shortcomings of the movie, Mr. Dehnamaki's first. Not surprisingly, it was never granted a license to be distributed. Instead, bootleg copies have circulated widely and parts of the film were broadcast by opposition television on satellite channels.

In the movie, Mr. Dehnamaki interviews more than a dozen prostitutes and many of their customers. All the women tell the same story of poverty and the need to provide for their families.

"We are two sisters working, and we can hardly earn enough to buy food and pay our rent," says a sobbing woman, whose face was covered to hide her identity.

"I sometimes dream of having chicken, or good food, at least once a week," she goes on, wiping away tears. "I have worked at homes where they had so much money that they threw food in the garbage. I always envy people who can eat well."

## A Revolutionary Channels His Inner Michael Moore

A woman clad in the traditional head-to-toe chador, who introduces herself as the mother of the two sisters, says she has thought of killing herself and her daughters several times because of the hardship of their lives but she could not find the courage.

Another young woman tells of her sick father who needed surgery. His four daughters had decided to choose lots to see which would go to Dubai, where prostitution pays far better, to earn the money to pay for the operation.

The job fell to the youngest sister, who returned from Dubai shattered. A woman who loses her virginity before marriage in a traditional family in Iran loses her honor and with it her chances of a good marriage. In the car with Mr. Dehnamaki, who is driving her home from the airport, she bursts into tears, saying that she feels betrayed by her sisters.

TO convince the women he was not a threat, Mr. Dehnamaki changed his conservative appearance, shaving his beard and replacing his baggy, long sleeved shirts with T-shirts. He also began driving a taxi as a way to find his subjects.

"Once one woman said she wanted 200,000 rials [\$22] for her services," he said. "I said, what if I give you one million rials and you tell me your story instead." She agreed, and introduced him to a few of her friends, too.

Mr. Dehnamaki, 36, believes Iran needs to modernize, within the confines of a strict Islam, but not Taliban-style.

"If we are against the Islam that the Taliban introduced, we must be able to offer a good model of the Islam that we believe is the source of compassion and kindness," he said. "But it has to be according to the needs of today so that it would be acceptable to our youth."

Like many in his generation, Mr. Dehnamaki fought for three years in the 1980-88 war with Iraq and was scarred by the experience. He was wounded three times and saw many of his comrades die. Trying to do justice to their sacrifice remains his driving force.

Mementoes of those days are still the only decorations in his simple office. The crutches he once used hang from a bookcase, alongside framed photos of him with comrades who were killed in the war and posters of bodies on the battlefield.

AFTER the war ended in 1988, Mr. Dehnamaki helped found the extremist Islamic militia force Ansar Hezbollah, which is best known for its attacks on pro-democracy demonstrators. But he grew increasingly disenchanted with the course the revolution had taken, and quit the group after eight years.

Many formerly stalwart supporters of the 1979 revolution have moderated their views over the years. Most became reformists and joined the movement of President Mohammad Khatami, who favored increasing political and social freedoms.

But not Mr. Dehnamaki, who remained critical of both the conservative and reformist camps. Two weekly journals he had founded remained outlets for conservatives to rail against political and social reforms, women who were not covered from head to toe and the pernicious effects of Western cultural influences. Both journals were shut down last year as part of a crackdown aimed primarily at reformist publications.

"I spoke in those two newspapers of a generation who had been betrayed," he said, referring to his fallen comrades from the war with Iraq. "They gave their lives for ideals that never materialized."

Still, doubts lingered about the sincerity of the transformation of Mr. Dehnamaki's beliefs, particularly after Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, a religious conservative, was elected president last June. But those doubts were eased when Mr. Dehnamaki wrote an open letter to the president warning him against his "fundamentalist and backward supporters," those people "who reduced promotion of virtue and prevention of vice to fighting against women's dress, and ignored justice in society."

## A Revolutionary Channels His Inner Michael Moore

There is little question that Mr. Dehnamaki has come a very long way from his days as an enforcer. One university professor, Sadigh Sarvestani, called him "a man whose name was once affiliated with the ugliest violence and has now become an artist dealing with the most delicate aspects of art."

It bears mentioning that Mr. Sarvestani was speaking at a conference at Tehran University about Mr. Dehnamaki's movie and was quoted in Mr. Dehnamaki's new magazine. The magazine has published just three issues but already has some high-profile advertisements -- a sign, many here say, that he remains well connected.

Mr. Dehnamaki said at the same conference that he had made the film because he was tired of hearing "how officials generalized the country's problems."

"I did not have the wisdom I have today 10 years ago," he said, explaining his past association with Ansar Hezbollah. "I am becoming a middle-aged man now, and whatever I did in the past was because I did not want to betray my killed comrades."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

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Photo: MASSOUD DEHNAMAKI (Photo by Kaveh Kazemi for The New York Times)

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2005

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## **SHARON REFUSES TO BEND**

Richmond Times Dispatch (Virginia)

October 27, 2002 Sunday City Edition

Copyright 2002 Richmond Newspapers, Inc.

**Section:** COMMENTARY; Pg. F-4; BOOK REVIEW

**Length:** 490 words

**Byline:** Reviewed Robert A. Lincoln, \* Robert Lincoln, a retired officer of the U.S. Foreign Service, lives in Northern Virginia.,

### **Body**

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SHARON: Israel's Warrior-Politician, by Anita Miller, Jordan Miller, and Sigalit Zetouni: Academy Chicago Publishers & Olive Publishing, \$32.50.

Ariel Sharon personifies much that is right about Israel and much that is wrong, in the eyes of Europe, the United States, and often Israel itself. Sharon: Israel's Warrior-Politician is the first biography of this tantalizing figure written initially in English. Unfortunately, the book does not entirely live up to its subject.

Sharon begins with promise. It tells of the early influences on a man born in a nation before the United Nations granted it nationhood. His grandfather was an independent philosopher in early Zionist thought. Dedicated to Zionism, he taught in Brest-Litovsk, Russia. Sharon's father fled to Palestine in 1922, and Sharon credits his parents' "strength, determination, and stubbornness" for their success as pioneers.

VERY EARLY, then, Ariel Sharon saw the value of factors so evident in his own career, or really, two careers - military and political. In each, his toughness stands out, and with it, possibly, disregard of others. The book relates one event after another in his careers, but too seldom studies his character and how it developed. Sharon has always been decisive and willing to take frightening risks when convinced of his course.

It was he as a military careerist - but obviously swerving into politics - who persuaded Israel that its troops should help oust Syrian forces in northern Lebanon and, later, to stay in southern Lebanon to aid the South Lebanon Army.

The Israeli Defense Force began to pull out of southern Lebanon in 2000. According to the biographers, Sharon feared that the Hezbollah, unofficial organized Arab militants, would slaughter the befriended Lebanese military the IDF had left behind.

THE AUTHORS only infrequently examine the origins of Sharon's opposition to some of the decisions of the Israeli governments in power. The reader leans on his conviction of the necessity for retaliation to any Arab-inspired action.

Sharon today is at the peak of his political career. As prime minister, he bears the ultimate responsibility for Israeli action. Therefore politicians, students, voters - the public - everywhere have a right to expect that the biography may offer character guidelines to the future. Roughly half of Sharon devotes itself to the current post-election period. To ask the typical European or U.S. citizen to follow the course of events minutely is unfair.

## SHARON REFUSES TO BEND

Again, the key factors to a serious observer are, for example: What are the prime minister's reactions and thinking? What are the reactions in the U.S. and Europe?

In an incident some five decades ago, Sharon made it clear where he stood. After a military raid he directed on the village of Kibeyeh, Jordanian radio reported the deaths of 69 civilians, mostly women and children. Sharon showed no concern about the effect on world opinion, the biographers write.

## Graphic

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PHOTO

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

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End of Document

*Peace through paradox Lebanon an unlikely example of Arab pluralism,  
democracy*

Charleston Gazette (West Virginia)

August 22, 2004, Sunday

Copyright 2004 Charleston Newspapers

**Section:** News; Pg. P12A

**Length:** 1224 words

**Byline:** Donna Abu-Nasr

## **Body**

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The Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon - The man dropped to his knees and wrapped his arms around his dancing partner's skirt. Next to them, two women gyrated wildly to the beat, dancing on the gigantic loudspeaker. Couples swayed, smooched and sipped cocktails.

The scene at the nightclub was one face of Lebanon on a recent hot summer night. The flip side lay a few miles away, in the Shiite southern suburbs of Beirut, where the women went swaddled in black, stores sold rugs with portraits of Iranian leaders, and there wasn't a nightclub in sight.

Somehow, against the odds, through foreign rulers, civil war, and meddlesome, heavily armed neighbors, Lebanon has managed to survive as the most pluralist, tolerant society in the Middle East. Its democracy, however imperfect, could be a beacon for those dreaming of spreading it to the rest of the Arab world. Its freewheeling ways, however, also serve hard-line traditionalists who point to Lebanon as a sewer of Western decadence.

The contrasts are everywhere in this mountainous Mediterranean country half the size of New Jersey with its 3.5 million people and 17 religious denominations. Just turn on a TV set and channel-surf from beauty pageants to know-your-Quran contests, from MTV-style pop to the Hezbollah channel, preaching jihad.

"In Lebanon, you move between different worlds," says Joseph Samaha, editor-in-chief of As-Safir newspaper. "It's the charm of the Lebanese way of life."

Many think it's a miracle to find the country throbbing with life instead of shaking under cannon fire. It experienced a civil war that began between Christians and Muslims and drew in Palestinians, Syrians, Israelis and Iranians, raging for 15 years until 1990. It's squeezed between the Iraq war and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Syria controls it with thousands of troops. Its economy is shackled with a \$ 32 billion debt.

The conflict between Israel and Hezbollah fighters sputters 65 miles south and largely out of mind in Beirut, except when Israeli jets fly over the capital, making window-shattering sonic booms that send people running for cover. A couple of hours later, the restaurants, bars and malls are full again.

Today, even as Islamic conservatism tries to strengthen its hold on other Arab countries, Lebanon somehow manages to keep its poise.

## Peace through paradox Lebanon an unlikely example of Arab pluralism, democracy

One reason is that it's the only Arab country with a large non-Muslim community, so that every Lebanese knows - or certainly learned in the civil war - the price of head-on confrontation.

Under rules dating back to independence in 1943, the president has to be a Christian from the Maronite Catholic denomination, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the parliament speaker a Shiite Muslim. It may result in frequent deadlock, but it's also an effective system of checks and balances, says Chibli Mallat, a law professor. "This is the paradox of Lebanese democracy."

That democracy is the most advanced in the Arab world, and Lebanese media are the most free. The parliament, which chooses the president, is elected by universal suffrage and half the seats are allocated to Muslims, half to Christians. In Saudi Arabia women can't even drive. In Lebanon they've had the vote since the 1950s.

However, freedoms remain relative. Legislators' voting is influenced by Syria. Clashes between police and students opposed to Syria's presence have resulted in casualties and detentions without trial. Everyone complains about corruption, yet, little is done to stamp it out.

Before the civil war, when it was bursting with foreign banks and traders, Lebanon was known as the Switzerland of the Middle East. Those days are gone, but tourism has picked up some of the slack. It's up 30 percent this year. Lebanese emigres on home visits are one market. Another is Gulf Arabs who come for the night life, the cool mountain air and the freewheeling, cosmopolitan atmosphere of liquor flowing, sexes mingling freely, and bookstores selling almost everything, even illustrated sex manuals.

The coastal towns between Beirut and the southern city of Sidon, frequently bombed by Israel during and after the civil war, are now dotted with fancy beach resorts fringed with banana and orange groves.

"I'm here to check out the girls first, and then for the beach," said Maher Jiha, a 28-year-old audio engineer who lives in Orange County, Calif., and was back for the first time in 15 years.

His friend, Elia, a mechanical engineer from Montreal, said he came to the Oceana resort to get a tan.

"People make fun of me because I'm so white," he said.

Blithely disregarding government health warnings, Lebanese take tanning seriously and are apt to ask virtual strangers why they haven't reached the right level of bronze.

On a recent Sunday afternoon at the O Cap resort, four young women were dancing on the bar counter. They were college students making pocket money by dancing to promote the alcoholic drink advertised on their skimpy tops.

Beaches and nightclubs, said bar owner Fady Saba, "is the national sport. People work on it a lot."

"Our national sport is part of our basics. It's not a luxury or an extra," he said. "If you don't go out, you feel you're not living, not eating. That's part of the national identity."

Not all Lebanese are happy about women in miniskirts dancing on tables.

"This is unbelievably indecent behavior," said Mohammed Birro, a 52-year-old shoe shop owner in the Shiite suburbs. "The whole country has become a big cabaret."

"Can't we import better things into the country?" he asked.

Gulf Arabs usually prefer tamer hangouts. Mountain resort towns, especially Bhamdoun and Aley, are jammed with family restaurants and late-night cabaret with Arabic music. But even there, the distractions can be mind-boggling for a Saudi teenager on his first visit.

Mohammed Abdul-Rahman, 17, and three relatives couldn't keep their eyes off a car driving up and down the road in Aley that was packed with teenage Lebanese girls hanging out of the windows, dyed-blond hair flying in the wind, screaming to attract attention. Back in Saudi Arabia, women have to be totally covered in black cloaks.



## Peace through paradox Lebanon an unlikely example of Arab pluralism, democracy

And many Gulf women shed their black robes for tight jeans and thick makeup to stroll in shopping areas and mingle freely with men, and even date them.

Sometimes, Lebanon's ways get so freewheeling that they unite Christian and Muslim clerics in protest. That has happened lately over roadside billboards featuring women in G-strings or racy underwear. Yacoub Sarraf, the governor of Beirut, had to intercede. He told ad agencies to consider "public and national decency" and "exercise discretion and not inflame sensitivities," or they would face unspecified consequences.

Noman, a 27-year-old grocer with a beard, would never marry a woman who hasn't had a proper Islamic upbringing and doesn't robe herself. He doesn't even listen to music, although he loves it.

"I feel upset when I hear of Lebanese leading the nightclub and beach life," said Noman. "Perhaps if we had a Muslim president things would be different."

Ibrahim, a tall, strikingly handsome 20-year-old, smiled. He enjoys what his uncle shuns - the beach, nightclubs and alcohol, which is banned by Islam.

Ibrahim does odd jobs to support himself, and idolizes Amr Diab, an Egyptian singing heartthrob. "And like him," he said, "I want to do video clips and be surrounded by many, many women."

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

## THE UNUSUAL

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

April 20, 2004 Tuesday 0 South Pinellas Edition

Copyright 2004 Times Publishing Company

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. 6A; DIGEST

**Length:** 504 words

**Series:** TIMES 2

### **Body**

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Holes in their pockets?

A trail of pennies led police in Verona, Pa., right to two suspects accused of robbing a private club. Police arrested a man and a teenage girl found at a home in Verona, after they followed pennies leading away from a Moose Club early Wednesday morning, police Chief Guy Truby said. Outside the home, police found a claw hammer and a 3-pound sledgehammer they believe was used to smash open cash registers and a vending machine at the club. Police also said they found computer equipment stolen from another business, and cash, liquor and candy stolen from the club.

UPDATE:

Israel prisoner release: Vanunu

Eighteen years after he was kidnapped by Mossad agents for exposing Israel's secret nuclear program, Mordechai Vanunu will go free Wednesday. In remarks broadcast Monday, Vanunu, 50, said he has no more secrets to reveal, but he would like to see Israel's nu

clear reactor destroyed. Trying to quash any celebrations, the security services have barred Vanunu from speaking to foreigners, traveling abroad or even approaching foreign embassies for fear he might seek political asylum.

Prisoner release: Tannenbaum

An Israeli businessman who was held for three years by the Lebanese guerrilla group Hezbollah before being released in a prisoner swap and immediately arrested by Israel is being freed, authorities said Monday. Elhanan Tannenbaum, a colonel in the army reserves, will be able to return home when he leaves a Tel Aviv hospital this week after minor sur

## THE UNUSUAL

gery, police spokesman Gil Kleiman said. Lie detector tests and extensive interrogation appear to have convinced investigators he did not betray his country, and criminal charges are not being pressed.

## Kosovo shootings

Four U.N. police officers from Jordan were stripped of their diplomatic immunity Monday to be questioned in a fellow Jordanian's killing of two American guards in Kosovo. It wasn't clear why Sgt. Maj. Ahmed Mustafa Ibrahim Ali opened fire on a convoy of corrections officers on Saturday. He and the two **female** American guards were killed in the

shootout that followed, and 11 people were wounded.

## Satellite launch is delayed

NASA scrubbed the launch Monday of a satellite designed to test two of Albert Einstein's fundamental predictions about the universe. NASA called off the launch of Gravity Probe B just minutes before it was to leave Vandenberg Air Force Base atop a Delta II rocket. The mission was postponed for nearly 24 hours because officials were unable to verify whether some last-minute data had been loaded aboard the rocket, launch director Chuck Dovale said. The satellite - 45 years and \$750-million in the making - was built to test two of Einstein's predictions about space and time, and how the rotating Earth warps and twists the fabric that combines the two.

## FAST FACT

Christian teens steal religious music through Internet downloads and CD burnings at nearly the same rate as secular music is being pirated by non-Christians, according to a new study done for the Gospel Music Association.

**Load-Date:** April 20, 2004

**'How could he? He was not that kind of man': Denial and disbelief among family and townsfolk in the Galilee home of Sunday's suicide bomber as Israeli Arabs fear rightwing backlash**

The Guardian (London)

September 11, 2001

Copyright 2001 Guardian Newspapers Limited

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

**Length:** 886 words

**Byline:** Suzanne Goldenberg in Abu Sinan, Israel

## **Body**

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The first time people took any notice of Mohammed Shakir Habeishi was last autumn when he campaigned in flowing Muslim robes and turban for mayor of this small town in the Galilee.

Yesterday, his notoriety spread much further when Israel named him as the first Arab citizen of the Jewish state to blow himself up for the Palestinian cause.

The revelation that Habeishi, 48, a father of eight, had carried out Sunday's attack on a railway station in the northern coastal town of Nahariya, killing three Israelis, has caused consternation to Arab and Jew.

For rightwing Jews, the suicide attack is proof of a potential fifth column among the 1m Arab residents inside Israel's borders. For Arabs, it is a calamity, forcing them to demonstrate their loyalty once more to the Jewish state.

Both peoples should have read Habeishi's campaign literature more closely.

In fiery language, he accuses Israel of "desecrating our holy sites" and of "massacring our people, men, women and children" in the West Bank and Gaza.

"We are passing through terrible days. Our unarmed people are being killed and injured. Houses are being burnt and destroyed by oppressors using sophisticated weapons under the cover of democracy and while waving the flag of peace," his leaflet says.

Sunday's bombing was immediately claimed by the radical Palestinian group, Hamas. However, a spokesman yesterday refused to confirm if Habeishi was a follower.

In Abu Sinan, a mixed town of 11,000 Muslims, Christians and Druze in northern Israel, people were stunned that Habeishi had carried out the attack, and frightened by the implications. The town routinely sends its sons to serve in the Israeli army, and people succumbed to a collective state of denial.

None of their own was capable of killing, they said, maintaining that Habeishi never expressed a political opinion.

'How could he? He was not that kind of man': Denial and disbelief among family and townsfolk in the Galilee home of Sunday's suicide bomber as Israeli Arabs fear....

Most say that until Habeishi ran - and was soundly defeated - in last year's municipal elections, they knew him only by sight. He was considered a loner, who moved to the town several years ago, and raised two families from two wives on the proceeds of a hardware shop next to the town mosque.

His family says that he had a history of drug problems, and that he embraced religion wholeheartedly after emerging from a rehab programme.

"You have to understand, this is the first time anything like this has happened here," said Habeishi's second wife, Wafa, cradling their 16-month-old daughter. "I just can't believe it. He was not that kind of man."

Habeishi's son by his first wife was equally disbelieving. "My father has been missing for the past 10 days," said Abdur Rahman Habeishi, 20. "Where is the proof that he is even dead?"

Israeli security officials were suspicious of Habeishi, and his extended family, for some time. They raided both his homes nearly two weeks ago, and arrested two of his sons. Yesterday, one of his sons was held for further questioning.

Seven Abu Sinan residents - including Habeishi's brother - were charged with spying for Lebanon's Hizbullah guerrillas in November, and last week four Israeli Arab teenagers were arrested for allegedly plotting to plant bombs in Israel.

For both peoples, the arrests are a measure of the growing alienation of a community torn between its sympathies for the Palestinian revolt waged by its ethnic kin in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, and Israel's demands that it remains loyal to the Jewish state.

Those competing demands collided when Israeli riot police shot dead 13 unarmed Israeli-Arab protesters in the towns and villages of the Galilee last October.

Nearly a year later, that rupture to the delicate co-existence within Israel remains unhealed, and Arab and Jewish political leaders yesterday expressed fears for the future.

"Hatred is accumulating," said Fawzi Mishleb, the mayor of Abu Sinan. "Imagine if this man had exploded himself on behalf of a group from this town. He would have jeopardised the whole town."

"A suicide bomber might kill Israeli Jews, but the Arabs will suffer greatly economically. It is very hard for people today to go to a town like Nahariya and do their work the way Jewish people look at them."

Despite the efforts of Habeishi's family to paint him as a man with no political inclinations, he was well known as a religious activist, and used to wander the towns of the Galilee preaching Islam.

He also appears to have been a follower of the Islamic Movement, a lawful political group that is gaining strength in the Arab towns of the Galilee.

Yesterday, several rightwing Israeli politicians demanded a ban on Islamic activists - although the movement's leader, and other Arab leaders - condemned Habeishi's attack.

"Any movement whose goal is to gnaw away at the foundations of the state of Israel should be outlawed, and if the Islamic Movement falls within this category then it too," the public security minister, Uzi Landau, said yesterday.

As suspicions deepen, Mayor Mishleb is anxious that Abu Sinan should not suffer collective punishment for Habeishi's actions.

"He represented himself, and himself alone," he said. "He is the only one responsible for his actions, and you can not blame us for what he did. The Israeli government must know that this is the action of just one man."

Special report on Israel and the Middle East at [www.guardian.co.uk/israel](http://www.guardian.co.uk/israel)

'How could he? He was not that kind of man': Denial and disbelief among family and townsfolk in the Galilee home of Sunday's suicide bomber as Israeli Arabs fea....

**Load-Date:** September 11, 2001

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End of Document

## *Assumptions take their lumps as West meets Middle East*

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

December 11, 2005 Sunday

FOURTH EDITION

Copyright 2005 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWSWATCH; Pg. B4

**Length:** 1112 words

**Byline:** By Jon Sawyer POST-DISPATCH WASHINGTON BUREAU CHIEF

**Dateline:** BEIRUT, LEBANON

### **Body**

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Take a dozen journalists, half from the United States and half from countries throughout the Middle East.

Put them together for a week of workshops and reporting in war-scarred, volatile Lebanon.

Then watch the sparks fly --- and assumptions die.

For Omayma Abdel-Latif, a senior reporter with Cairo's Al Ahram newspaper, the most revelatory moment came at the end of a group interview with the Lebanese director of Hamas, when a couple of the American journalists balked at adding their e-mails to a list for follow-up material.

"They were fearful when the Hamas guy took their e-mails that if they were found to have e-mails from Hamas, they could be questioned or go to jail," Abdel-Latif said. "That I could not grasp."

Fran Quigley, a civil-liberties attorney and free-lance reporter from Indianapolis, was startled that Israel loomed so large in how the Middle Eastern journalists saw U.S. policies in the region.

"Our colleagues viewed all U.S. actions in the region through the prism of U.S. allegiance to Israel," Quigley said -- more important than talk of spreading democracy or even access to oil.

For Khosrow Soltani Kasseb, editor of the Tehran-based Iran News, the most surprising moment came during a group interview with the commander of forces in southern Lebanon for Hezbollah, the Iranian-backed Shiite resistance movement that led the two-decade struggle against Israeli occupation forces that ended with Israel's withdrawal in 2000.

Given Hezbollah's reputation for strict piety and rigid rules, the women in the U.S. journalist group arrived with their heads dutifully covered. Also on hand: a local woman reporter from Beirut, wearing a hot pink elastic top, tight pants -- and nothing at all on her head.

"I never imagined that they would let women appear without observing full Islamic hijab" covering, said Soltani. "It sounds as though I, too, had been influenced by the extensive negative propaganda by the Western media."

Assaulting stereotypes

## Assumptions take their lumps as West meets Middle East

The journalists meeting in Beirut were part of a workshop on international reporting in which participants might learn as much from one another as from the instructors. The workshop was sponsored by the Iowa-based Stanley Foundation and by the Reuters Foundation.

The result was spirited exchanges in Beirut, in the classroom and interviews and over dinner, and in e-mails since.

"The one thing I walked away from Beirut with was this overwhelming sense that Americans and Middle Easterners need to talk to each other," said Sean Harder, military affairs reporter for the Savannah (Ga.) Morning News. "Not on a diplomatic or political level," he adds, "but person to person."

Raed el-Rafei, 28, of Beirut's Daily Star, said: "I think the way the media makes news just makes us miss the point most of the time. When the media is always reporting on suicide bombers and politics, we miss the human touch."

For the American journalists, the diverse backgrounds of their Middle Eastern counterparts was itself an assault on stereotypes.

Abdel-Latif is the hijab-wearing daughter of a devout and conservative Sunni family, for example, while el-Rafei grew up in a secular Sunni family reading Sartre and Camus and "feeling very much distant from everything related to religion."

Soltani, the Iranian journalist, was born in the Kurdish city of Mahabad, the son of a Sunni father and Shia mother. His wife is Shia, too. "According to the law, since my father was a Sunni, I am also supposed to be a Sunni," he writes. "But since I am not a practicing Muslim, it really does not matter to me -- Shia or Sunni!"

Santa Essa, 31, is a Baghdad University-trained chemist who became a journalist only after the 2003 war and isn't a Muslim at all. An Assyrian Christian, she works for the Aswat al Iraq news agency. In jeans and T-shirt, a baseball cap backward on her head, she views issues of sectarian strife with the jaundiced eye of someone who has seen too much violence, too close.

"Am sorry to be late," she wrote in an e-mail last month. "I had funeral (my cousin was killed by roadside bomb)."

### Beneath the surface

Essa said her main complaint about Western journalists was naiveté, that they took too much at face value. "If you talk with a mixture of Muslims, they will try to appear as very lovely people and say they love each other," she said. "But if you live in Iraq, you'll see that it's lies. Not all of them, but most of them -- they don't love each other."

Essa works with one of the many independent media outlets that have sprung up in Iraq, most with U.S. government help. But her complaints about superficial Western coverage are echoed by colleagues at more-established regional newspapers.

Abdel-Latif, the Cairo journalist, answers with a stinging critique when asked what bothers her most about Western media coverage of terrorism and the Middle East.

"Ignorance, ignorance, ignorance," Abdel-Latif says. "There is no effort I feel on the part of the American journalists to understand the societies they are covering. They come with their preconceptions and stay as long as they want but leave with the same preconceptions. No lessons learned."

For the journalists at the Beirut workshop, there was a lesson a few days after they headed home in how words can inflame -- and confuse.

The occasion was an appearance by Iran's new hard-line president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, at a Ramadan conference in Tehran on the subject of "The World Without Zionism." At the conference, Ahmadinejad, speaking to 4,000 students, called for Israel to be "wiped off the map."



## Assumptions take their lumps as West meets Middle East

The firestorm that followed was predictable: denunciation by U.S. and other Western leaders, editorial condemnation in major Western media, the cancellation of a Tehran visit by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

The only thing missing, said Iranian journalist Soltani, was any acknowledgment that Ahmadinejad's remarks were neither new nor, in the Iranian context, incendiary -- not in a country where "Death to Israel" chants have been a staple of Friday prayers since the era of Ayatollah Khomeini two decades ago.

"These slogans remain slogans and nothing more," Soltani told fellow journalists in an e-mail. "Let's not forget the occasion in which Ahmadinejad said those things," he added -- "a conference dubbed 'The World Without Zionism.' What else did you expect him to say? Viva Israel?"

"What is certain is that no one here (I mean the officials) has any intention of wiping out a state by killing its people!" Soltani said. "They just wish Israel did not exist or would somehow perish for the cause of Palestine."

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STLtoday.com/muslim Go online to read earlier stories in this series, plus the transcript of the interview with Karent Hughes.

## Notes

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MUSLIMS AND AMERICA Journalists: Comparing notes

## Graphic

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### PHOTO

Journalists attending a workshop in Lebanon included (from left) Haitham Tamimi of Hebron, West Bank; Khosrow Soltani Kasseb of Tehran, Iran; and Omayma Abdel-Latif of Cairo, Egypt. Jon Sawyer | Post-Dispatch

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

## ***Angry Palestinians bury slain leader; Militants threaten both Israel and the United States***

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

March 23, 2004 Tuesday

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**Section:** Front; Pg. a1

**Length:** 1277 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip

### **Body**

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Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians chanting "Revenge! Revenge!" flooded Gaza's streets Monday to bury Hamas founder Sheik Ahmed Yassin, who was assassinated by an Israeli missile. As ordinary Palestinians seethed with anger, militants pledged unprecedented retaliation - including threats against the United States.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and many world leaders condemned Monday's killing of Yassin, the most prominent Palestinian targeted by Israel in 31/2 years of fighting. The Bush administration said it was "deeply troubled" by the attack and that it had no advance warning.

"We will get revenge for every drop of blood that spilled," said Salman Bdeiri, a Hamas supporter crying near the mosque where Yassin prayed shortly before being killed by an Israeli airstrike.

Israel sealed off the West Bank and Gaza, banning Palestinians from Israel, and placed its security forces on high alert.

Later Monday, Palestinian militants fired several homemade rockets and mortar shells at Israeli targets in and near Gaza. To the north, **Hezbollah** guerrillas fired an anti-tank missile at Israeli troops along Israel's border with Lebanon.

Israel quickly responded to both attacks. It struck at **Hezbollah** with planes and artillery fire. No casualties were reported. Israel sent tanks into northern Gaza near the town of Beit Hanoun. Israeli security officials said the purpose of the operation was to prevent further rocket fire.

The Yassin assassination was part of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's effort to crush Hamas ahead of a possible Israeli withdrawal from Gaza. However, the killing was seen as a major gamble that could galvanize the Palestinians behind Hamas. Rival Palestinian militant groups immediately pledged solidarity with Hamas.

The missile strike dealt what could be the final blow to the stalled U.S.-led "road map" peace plan. It also angered Egypt and Jordan, moderate Arab states whose tacit support Sharon needs for any unilateral withdrawal from Gaza.

Since Yassin founded Hamas in 1987, the group has killed hundreds of Israelis in scores of attacks. Hamas wants to destroy the Jewish state and replace it with an Islamic one.

## Angry Palestinians bury slain leader; Militants threaten both Israel and the United States

For the first time Monday, Hamas threatened the United States and suggested it might seek outside help in carrying out revenge attacks.

"The Zionists didn't carry out their operation without getting the consent of the terrorist American administration and it (the United States) must take responsibility for this crime," Hamas said in a statement. "All the Muslims of the world will be honored to join in on the retaliation for this crime."

In the past, Hamas has refrained from targeting U.S. citizens or interests, instead focusing on fund-raising and recruitment within the United States, according to senior U.S. law enforcement officials.

Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge was heeding the Hamas terror warning.

"If they are threatening the United States, we have to take it quite seriously," he told reporters in Washington.

While not condemning the assassination, the State Department said it increases tensions and would make it harder to pursue peace in the Middle East. "We are troubled," spokesman Richard Boucher said.

President Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, told NBC that "it is very important that everyone step back and try now to be calm in the region."

But Israel said it will press ahead with more targeted attacks and raids.

"The war against terror has not ended and will continue day after day, everywhere," Sharon said. He called Yassin the "mastermind of Palestinian terror" and a "mass murderer who is among Israel's greatest enemies."

More than 200,000 Palestinians, some carrying billowing green Hamas flags, poured into the streets of Gaza City for Yassin's funeral procession, the largest gathering here in recent memory. Tens of thousands of furious Palestinians rallied across the West Bank.

Mourners in Gaza jostled to touch Yassin's flag-draped coffin, and women ululated and threw flowers and candy. Two Israeli helicopters flew above, and the sky was blackened from the smoke of burning tires.

At the cemetery, Yassin's body was paraded through an honor guard of 400 militants armed with anti-tank missiles and machine guns.

"Our leader has left us, but we say to him, 'Your lessons will stay within our hearts and minds and our generations,'" Abdel Aziz Rantisi, a Hamas leader, said in a eulogy.

In addition to Yassin, who was in his 60s, 12 Palestinians were killed Monday, seven in the airstrike, four in clashes with Israeli troops and one while handling explosives.

The attack came before daybreak, when Israeli helicopters swooped toward a Gaza street and fired three missiles as Yassin, his bodyguards and dozens of others left the mosque.

Blood and flesh splattered on the walls. Nearby windows shattered. Only a charred metal seat and two twisted wheels were left of Yassin's wheelchair, and a blood-soaked brown shoe lay in the street. Lying in tatters nearby was the brown blanket in which Yassin - a quadriplegic - was nearly always wrapped.

"Two or three people were lying next to him on the ground. One was legless," said taxi driver Yousef Haddad.

Among those killed were several of Yassin's bodyguards and his son-in-law. Seventeen people were wounded, including two of Yassin's sons.

After the attack, residents rubbed their hands in pieces of gravel mixed with Yassin's blood, a traditional sign of anger and a preparation for revenge.

## Angry Palestinians bury slain leader; Militants threaten both Israel and the United States

The Palestinian Authority declared three days of mourning and closed schools. Flags at Yasser Arafat's headquarters in the West Bank town of Ramallah headquarters were lowered to half-staff.

Palestinian ministers stood as Arafat recited a Muslim prayer for Yassin and then added: "May you join the martyrs and the prophets. To heaven, you martyr."

The missile strike shook Arafat in more ways than one. The massive outpouring of support for Hamas showed how formidable a rival the Islamic group has become to Arafat's weakened Palestinian Authority.

Arafat also fears he may be next on Israel's hit list, said a confidant, Communications Minister Azzam Ahmed.

However, an Israeli security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Israel's campaign focuses on Hamas, at least for now.

Boucher, the State Department spokesman, urged Israel to keep its promise to not harm Arafat. "We think that's an important pledge and we would expect them to stand by that."

Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz said Yassin's killing will eventually weaken Hamas.

"If we have to balance how many more terrorists Yassin would have sent, how many terror attacks he would have approved, if we weigh this on the scales, we acted rightly," Mofaz was quoted as telling a parliamentary committee.

But Sharon's critics in Israel warned that the Yassin killing could be viewed as an attack on Islam.

"This had nothing to do with security, nothing to do with protecting Israeli citizens. It's all about politics and public opinion," said lawmaker Yossi Sarid of the dovish Yahad Party.

Yassin's killing virtually buried hopes of reviving the road map, which envisioned an end to violence and the creation of a Palestinian state by next year.

"Such actions are not only contrary to international law, but they do not do anything to help the search for a peaceful solution," Annan said of the assassination.

European and Arab leaders condemned the killing. Egypt canceled a trip by legislators and other dignitaries to Israel to mark the 25th anniversary of the peace treaty between the two countries.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said the assassination "is unacceptable, it is unjustified and it is very unlikely to achieve its objectives."

## Graphic

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photo

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

## *Harvard student recounts experience in Arab environment*

University Wire

September 29, 2004 Wednesday

Copyright 2004 The Justice via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 1208 words

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

**Dateline:** WALTHAM, Mass.

### **Body**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Harvard student recounts experience in Arab environment

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Harvard student recounts experience in Arab environment

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

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## **ISRAEL SPY CHIEF'S WARNING Tells nation worst violence from Palestinian ns is yet to come**

Daily News (New York)

January 24, 2002, Thursday

SPORTS FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2002 Daily News, L.P.

**Section:** NEWS;

**Length:** 479 words

**Byline:** By DEBORAH BLACHOR in Jerusalem and CORKY SIEMASZKO in New York DAILY NEWS WRITERS

### **Body**

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Israel's new military spymaster is warning his countrymen to brace for a new, more vicious, wave of terror attacks as Palestinian militants threatened "all-out war" yesterday to avenge the killing of Hamas terrorists.

Secretary of State Powell telephoned Yasser Arafat to urge him to curb attacks on Israel, but many of the Palestinian leader's followers marched arm-in-arm with militants yesterday at the funeral of slain Hamas terror commander Yousef Soragji.

The military intelligence chief warned Israelis to prepare for attacks "worse than what we have experienced so far in Israeli cities" in an interview that appeared a day after a terrorist killed two women and turned downtown Jerusalem into a shooting gallery.

Arafat cannot - and will not - rein in the radicals who have been waging war on Jewish civilians, Maj. Gen. Aharon Zeevi-Farkash told the Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronot.

"Arafat will not begin a civil war against Palestinian organizations," he said. "It seems that the U.S., too, has given up on the man and sees him as a lost cause."

Arafat said to OK attacks

An Israeli intelligence source told the Daily News that Arafat had given the Tanzim, the military branch of his Fatah party, a green light to carry out attacks.

"The amount of alerts is piling on the desks of intelligence agents all over the country," the source said. "The methods are wide range, including shooting, car bombs, suicide missions, and they include all the Palestinian organizations."

Arafat, who remains trapped by Israeli tanks in the West Bank city of Ramallah, said nothing yesterday.

The escalation in the tit-for-tat violence that has racked Israel anew in recent days began last week after the Israelis assassinated Raed Karmi in the Palestinian city of Tulkarm.

Karmi was a senior Tanzim official and was believed to be planning to rub out a high-ranking Israeli security figure.



## ISRAEL SPY CHIEF'S WARNING Tells nation worst violence from Palestinian is yet to come

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon authorized the hit on Karmi even though the assassination might bring on a new series of attacks in Israel, the source said.

### More terror

Indeed, Karmi's death sparked a new wave of terror, beginning with a bloody attack on a bat mitzvah in the town of Hadera last Thursday, and the shooting spree in Jerusalem on Tuesday.

Soragji, 42, the alleged mastermind behind several suicide attacks against Jewish civilians, was killed with three other Hamas members in a predawn raid Tuesday by Israeli commandos on their West Bank hideout and bomb factory.

More than 15,000 people attended the funerals of Soragji and two of his henchmen yesterday. "We will not close our eyes until we see your reprisal," the crowd chanted.

On another front, Israeli war planes attacked suspected Hezbollah terror camp positions in southern Lebanon for the first time since Oct. 22 after the guerrillas fired rockets and mortar shells at Israeli outposts in the disputed Chebaa Farms area.

**Load-Date:** January 24, 2002

**WOMAN SUICIDE BOMBER STRIKES;**  
**ISRAEL: PALESTINIAN STUDENT DETONATES BLAST KILLING HERSELF**  
**AND 81-YEAR-OLD MAN**

Western Mail

January 28, 2002, Monday

Copyright 2002 Western Mail and Echo Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 466 words

**Byline:** Hugh Dougherty

## **Body**

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A STUDENT yesterday became the first Palestinian woman to carry out a suicide bombing as she detonated explosives in downtown Jerusalem, killing herself and an elderly Israeli man and wounding at least a dozen people.

No Palestinian woman has ever carried out a suicide attack before, and Israeli police said last night they were still trying to determine whether she intended to kill herself, or if the bomb exploded prematurely as she walked along Jaffa Street, the main commercial strip in west Jerusalem.

In Lebanon, the Al-Manar television station, run by the militant **Hezbollah** movement, said the bomber was Shinaz Amuri, a **female** student at Al-Najah University in the West Bank town of Nablus.

Israel said Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was ultimately responsible for the bombing, adding that it was prepared to respond to the third major attack in an Israeli city in the past week.

The powerful blast went off just after midday in front of a shoe store, killing an 81-year-old Israeli man.

Victims were sprawled in the street, shop windows were blown out and one store caught fire. Shards of glass, fruit, shoes and store-front mannequins all littered the street as rescue workers rushed to the scene.

In addition to the two people killed, more than 100 were treated on the spot or taken to hospitals, though most suffered only from shock. Three people were seriously hurt and nine had moderate injuries, officials said.

Mark Sokolov, of Long Island, New York - a survivor of the World Trade Centre bombing - was one of the victims slightly hurt in yesterday's explosion along with his wife and two daughters.

Sokolov, a US citizen visiting relatives in Jerusalem, was standing on the street when the blast occurred.

Unbridled terrorism

NO group immediately claimed responsibility for yesterday's bombing.

But Raanan Gissin, a spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, said Arafat is "encouraging terrorism, he's sending (attackers) to Jerusalem.

## WOMAN SUICIDE BOMBER STRIKES; ISRAEL : PALESTINIAN STUDENT DETONATES BLAST KILLING HERSELF AND 81-YEAR-OLD MAN

"We will continue to systematically dismantle the terrorist infrastructure, " Gissin said.

The Palestinian leadership, meanwhile, "strongly condemned the suicide attack" and called on US President George W Bush to send Mideast envoy Anthony Zinni back to the region.

However, Bush has been sharply critical of Arafat, and Zinni's mediation efforts appear to be on hold for the time being.

US Vice President Dick Cheney said Arafat had not done enough to halt violence.

"Arafat must make a 100pc goodfaith effort to put an end to terrorism, " Cheney told Fox News Sunday.

"So far he hasn't done that."

Jaffa Street is a Jerusalem landmark lined with shops and the narrow sidewalks are clogged with pedestrians, particularly during the middle of the day. The streets were full yesterday, the first day of the working week in Israel.

### Graphic

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AFTERMATH: Israeli police and forensic experts investigate the scene of a suicide bombing attack in downtown Jerusalem yesterday in which two people died and at least a dozen injured

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2002

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## *Dying for a promise of martyrdom*

South China Morning Post (Hong Kong)

May 18, 2003

Copyright 2003 South China Morning Post Ltd.

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 9

**Length:** 1276 words

**Byline:** The recent wave of suicide bombings shows there is no shortage of people willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for their cause. The chosen few tend to be quiet individuals rather than swaggering types, writes Peter Kammerer

### **Body**

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Explosives are strapped to the waist, security guards dodged and the crowd is suddenly all around. The bomb is detonated and at least one life, and maybe dozens, is extinguished.

Such is the dream of the suicide bomber, chosen by terrorists to make the ultimate statement - that even living is worth giving up for the cause. An increasing number of people are living that dream.

In the past week, at least 135 people - 30 of them suicide bombers - have been killed in attacks in Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the separatist Russian republic of Chechnya.

Co-ordinated, synchronised suicide operations have become the terrorists' preferred weapon. The method was dramatically - and chillingly - used in the World Trade Centre and Pentagon hijackings on September 11, 2001.

Then, last October, a man with explosives strapped to his body ran into a Bali nightclub, sending panicked tourists fleeing into the blast of a nearby truck bomb.

Muslim extremists carried out all the attacks and, except for those in Chechnya, they have been connected by officials to al-Qaeda, the international terrorist network established by Saudi-born millionaire Osama bin Laden in the early 1990s.

The suicide-bombing method is most associated with Islamic militants, although it has been used to express opposition to officialdom from Colombia to Sri Lanka. First used by the anti-Israel **Hezbollah** in 1983 and later adopted by Hamas, barely a week goes by in the conflict between Palestinians and Israelis without another young Arab taking his or her life and those of Israelis in the name of an independent Palestine.

But suicide bombings are a political, rather than religious, weapon. The beliefs of Islamic militants are not held by the majority of Muslims, who say suicide bombings are sully their religion. Islam is being used to justify terrorism, they argue.

Saudi Arabia's leading Islamic scholar, Abdulaziz bin Abdallah al-Sheikh, said in April 2001: "What you call suicide bombings in my view are illegitimate and have nothing to do with jihad in the cause of God."

## Dying for a promise of martyrdom

Bin Laden and his supporters believe jihad, or holy war, is justified because of perceived Israeli oppression of Arabs, American support of the Jewish state. The US-led conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq are seen as being against Muslims rather than terrorists.

The roots of suicide attacks lie in the biblical Samson, who used his strength to bring down a building on his enemies. In the 19th century, Russian revolutionaries carried sticks of dynamite into war, having put their affairs in order in the belief they would not be returning.

Middle East terrorism expert Magnus Ranstorp, of the Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence at St Andrew's University in Scotland, said last week the method had since been adopted out of strategic choice by many terrorist groups around the world. Explosives were inexpensive and easy to come by. The most costly part of an operation was the logistics - providing safe houses and making preparations for the attack.

Recruitment was a secretive process. Potential suicide bombers had to have an ability to be indoctrinated and stay calm under pressure.

"It's a process that takes time to cultivate and generate the right momentum," Dr Ranstorp said. "Counter-terrorism has pushed it underground in Europe, but elsewhere - especially in the Middle East - there are plenty of volunteers."

The methods used made preventing the attacks difficult, as Israel has found, despite having an almost hermitically sealed security environment.

"They have security guards outside restaurants or in crowded places, checking people wearing bulky clothing, and vigilant law enforcement," he said. "Suicide bombers follow the path of least resistance - they do surveillance, check security and go for the target that is surmountable."

Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers had probably the most sophisticated approach, creating special vests, intricately planning attacks and making use of female bombers to attract the minimum attention.

From the first Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam suicide attack on July 5, 1987, until a ceasefire with the government last year, hundreds of civilians were killed, including Indian prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, Sri Lankan president Ranasinghe Premadasa and opposition leader Gamini Dissanayake.

The Sri Lankan Central Bank, World Trade Centre and Colombo's international airport were devastated by separate bombings.

An expert on terrorism and the psychology of terrorist behaviour, John Horgan, said terrorist groups preferred suicide bombings because they were effective.

"Terrorist tactics are all about causing disarray and exploiting confusion and anxiety," he said. "The idea that someone could be capable of committing such an act sickens and appalls us. We only see the end result and not the time and effort taken to recruit someone and to plan such an operation."

Dr Horgan, a lecturer at Cork University in Ireland, said finding recruits was not as simple as anti-Israeli groups like Islamic Jihad and Hezbollah made out. Their propaganda made it appear most Arabs were willing to become bombers.

In an attempt to make the role attractive, the groups had glorified the role to one of martyrdom and in the Palestinian territories, successful attackers were treated as heroes.

"It's in the vested interests of terrorist groups to have a very strong and high psychological premium on becoming a suicide bomber," Dr Horgan said. "It's seen as a position for the chosen few ... a sought-after position."

Hamas, the military wing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, did not take volunteers as this could leave them open to spies for Israel. Instead, Hamas recruiters identified specific qualities in potential bombers, such as a non-

### Dying for a promise of martyrdom

obtrusive character. Extremists who marched with knives and guns in support of bin Laden were not the sort of people who would become suicide bombers.

**Women** were often trained as suicide bombers to avoid suspicion in male -dominated societies. People with secretive, introverted lifestyles were preferred to those with outgoing characters.

Dr Horgan said that as a result, it was difficult for security officers to identify attackers.

"Psychologists used to think that there was a profile of a suicide bomber," he explained. "Generally speaking, this was someone without a job or any prospects of attaining meaningful significance in his or her life. But that's changed, and suicidal terrorists tend to be quite heterogeneous and come from varying backgrounds."

Some had a direct experience of family victimisation. They were not loners in the sense they were isolated from society, but for various community, social and psychological reasons, terrorist organisations were careful about who they took on. Those with a family to support or single children were not recruited.

Group attacks, as on September 11 or in Saudi Arabia and Chechnya, had become increasingly common because of the peer pressure placed on participants. If one terrorist went ahead with plans, the bonding created by the shared goal made it more likely the others in the group would follow. Those who backed out or were arrested were shamed within their communities.

Suicide bombings frequently achieve their aims by killing the intended target. In the process, they focus the world media on the social, political or religious cause. At the same time, though, they are counter-productive.

In many cases, suicide bombings result in massive public outrage that governments interpret as a mandate to crack down harder.

## Graphic

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(Photo: Reuters); Palestinian suicide bomber Abdel-Basset Odeh, who killed at least 20 people last year in a hotel attack in the Israeli town of Netanya.

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

## *Never have accountants been so sexy*

The Australian

July 31, 2002, Wednesday

Copyright 2002 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 13

**Length:** 502 words

**Byline:** P.J. O'Rourke

### **Body**

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Corporate corruption has its upside in the US marketplace, suggests P.J. O'Rourke

CORPORATE corruption endangers everything in which we have, over the past many years, invested our time, effort, and money -- particularly Republican control of the House of Representatives. And Americans' superannuation plans aren't doing so well either. In this period of gloom -- with the Left seeking to make hay from capitalist foibles and our own capitalist foibles reduced in value to bales of ditto -- it behoves us to look for a moment at the bright side of corporate corruption.

MATP

That is, assuming there's any corruption. It may be semantics. When senators and representatives get together in Congress to fix prices on prescription drugs, they're national heroes. When pharmaceutical company chief executives get together on the golf course to fix prices on prescription drugs, they're indicted.

But if corporate corruption does exist, it has benefits as well as liabilities. Auditing scandals will no doubt improve the sex lives of accountants. Bean counters were previously thought to be drab and unattractive creatures. Now accountants are considered cute -- by their fellow prison inmates.

Potentially, our own sex lives also are improved. Numerous senior executives' trophy wives will soon be running around unattached. We wouldn't have stood a chance with these women before the legal bills arrived and the skinny blondes got poor.

Corporate corruption has ecological merits. It's helping to preserve that species known as Democrats -- thought to be endangered as recently as the year 2000. Democrats are an important part of the Washington ecosystem. Extinction of Democrats would lead to serious disruption in the food chain. We of the bloodthirsty right-wing press would be forced to rely for our prey solely on rogue Republican John McCain.

And there's more. Suddenly our children think we're hip. Gangsta rap is popular with today's teens, as is dressing in prison garb and acting and speaking as if one belonged to the Crips, the Bloods or some other criminal organisation. The subculture of felons is in great vogue among adolescents. Enron, WorldCom, Tyco and so forth allow us Republicans to say to America's young people: "We be thugs." The Republicans may capture the youth vote at last.

Finally, corporate corruption has brought me hope about my career. Capitalism is about adding value. I am a capitalist. But I don't have any value to add. This is my one objection to capitalism. However, I'm also a journalist,

Never have accountants been so sexy

so I do know how to lie. Thanks to the speculations of the past few months, I've realised that, in the capitalist system, I can add value, too.

One last cheering thought: Corporate corruption gives al-Qa'ida, **Hezbollah** and other Muslim radicals second thoughts about messing with the US. If we'll screw our own grandmothers in the stock market, God knows what we'll do to them.

P.J. O'Rourke is a contributor editor of The Weekly Standard in Washington, from which this article is reprinted.

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

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## *How the Mufti fooled us all*

Sunday Mail (Queensland, Australia)

March 7, 2004 Sunday

Copyright 2004 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 91

**Length:** 1096 words

**Byline:** Andrew Bolt

### **Body**

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Australia's top Islamic cleric says he is a man of peace and truth, but preaches of a war that requires men to prove their manhood to God, says ANDREW BOLT

THE transcript of what our Grand Mufti really said in a mosque last month doesn't just prove he's an extremist who urges even children to die in a jihad.

It also proves that he and his chief spokesman cannot be trusted to tell us the truth about what he's up to.

It proves how wrong Victoria's Labor Premier Steve Bracks was to pass laws against free speech, which are being used now against two Christian pastors who tried to warn us that Islam permits people like the Mufti, Sheik Taj El-Din El-Hilali, to lie for his cause.

Last month I reported how Hilali, our most senior Islamic cleric, had been heard on a visit to Lebanon again calling for jihad, again endorsing suicide bombers and again praising the Hezbollah terrorist group.

But Hilali and his spokesman, Keysar Trad of the Lebanese Muslim Association, claimed he'd been the victim of yet another misunderstanding.

Trad said the Sheik's remarks had been "taken out of context", and his sermon in a Lebanese mosque did not endorse jihad, killings or suicide bombings at all.

"It was not a call to arms," Trad said. "He's not saying 'Go ahead and do this'."

Trad also sent me e-mails claiming he had proof that the "Mufti (sic) did not say the comments attributed to him", and that I should "brave a correction".

Meanwhile, the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils, which in 1988 made Hilali the Mufti to help him avoid being expelled for his extremism, said he "did not hold such radical views", being "a very moderate Islamic leader".

And Hilali himself told SBS radio he hadn't supported jihad, or tried to incite hatred of the West.

So people who'd prefer to think our Mufti is a man of peace and truth will be shocked to read the transcript of his sermon at the Sidon Mosque on February 13, in an official translation arranged by our Embassy in Lebanon.

## How the Mufti fooled us all

Hilali began by telling "this blessed gathering at this mosque, the mosque of jihad and manhood" that his topic was the "true meaning of manhood".

"Brothers of Islam, there is a war of infidels taking place that requires real men and strong positions that prove our manhood towards God," he thundered.

"How many Palestinian women are being imprisoned by Zionists in Israel? How many women were raped in Bosnia, Herzegovina and Chechnya? Where are the real men?"

Where? The real men were in Hezbollah, he said, and real men were now needed to "answer the call of Jerusalem" -- and "those who care for their living more than they do for he who gives life are not real men".

"Children and mothers are crying: Sons of Islam, there is a war of infidels taking place everywhere.

"The true man is the boy who opposes Israeli tanks with strength and faith. The boy who, despite his mother's objections, goes out to war to become a martyr like his elder brother. The boy who tells his mother . . . 'Oh, mother, jihad has been imposed on me and I want to become a martyr'."

What's more, Hilali said: "Perhaps we will find one day an Islamic revolution, and Islamic ideology in Western countries. Don't be surprised if one day you hear the muezzin calling for prayer and saying, 'Allah is great' from the top of the White House."

Referring to the al-Qaida attack on the United States that killed some 3000 civilians, Hilali declared: "September 11 is God's work against oppressors. Some of the things that happen in the world cannot be explained. A civilian airplane whose secrets cannot be explained -- if we ask its pilot who reached his objective without error, who led your steps? If we ask the giant that fell, who humiliated you? Or if we ask the president, who made you cry? God is the answer."

Islam was advancing everywhere, Hilali said.

"I'm telling you that there are no English Korans left in Australia or America or Europe.

"Everyone is converting to Islam -- soldiers, pilots, engineers . . .

"Those who are spending money to stop the ways of God will spend their money but will be defeated eventually."

This is what the Mufti preaches in Arabic, just as he was once filmed in his Sydney mosque calling suicide bombers "heroes".

And this is the man and there is his spokesman who told us, in English, that, no, the Mufti hadn't praised jihad, hadn't endorsed suicide bombers, hadn't called for blood and martyrs.

Hilali's tirade demands answers to questions I've repeatedly asked here, despite threats and abuse.

Why do no moderate Islamic leaders openly reject Hilali and his preaching?

Why did our Federation of Islamic Communities make this man our Mufti, so betraying moderate Muslims?

Why did the Hawke and Keating governments not only fail to deport Hilali, despite his extremism, but make him a citizen?

Can we hope to assimilate his fellow worshippers, if he is their leader and this their ideology? And how worried should we be that Hilali is being challenged for the leadership of his mosque by two preachers even more extreme than he?

## How the Mufti fooled us all

But Hilali's record of denying to us what he's just said in Arabic now raises a further question about the Bracks Government, which passed a notorious vilification law under which we can be jailed for saying something hurtful about someone's race or religion.

Right now, two pastors are defending themselves in the Victorian Civil and Administrative Appeals Tribunal against just such a complaint from the Islamic Council of Victoria -- the council which voted to make Hilali the Mufti.

The allegation is that the preachers, Pastor Danny Nalliah and Pastor Daniel Scot of the Catch the Fire ministry, mocked and vilified Islam during a church seminar on jihad.

I again mention this trial -- which has run for months -- because one of the many complaints is that the pastors warned that Islam not only preached jihad, but permitted believers to lie about what they were doing.

The sacred sayings of the Prophet can be interpreted as condoning just that. The Sahih Muslim collection of sayings, for instance, says the ban on lying can be relaxed when a believer is "in battle".

In another collection, Mohammed famously tells a follower who offers to kill a Jewish enemy that he may say "a false thing" to get the job done.

Some Muslims, I'm sure, would not interpret their holy texts in this way.

But others have and do.

What a lethal swamp we've been led into by our multicultural zealots. Islamic clerics preach hate and death, while some of their followers struggle to assimilate. And in Victoria there are laws which threaten jail for pastors who sound a warning.

Is this just or sane?

**Load-Date:** March 6, 2004

## *Murderous kidnappings that 'defile Islam'*

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

November 6, 2004 Saturday Final Edition

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**Section:** FOCUS; Pg. F04; News

**Length:** 1135 words

**Byline:** Dan Murphy and Nicholas Blanford

**Dateline:** CAIRO AND BEIRUT

### **Body**

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More than a year and a half after the U.S. invasion of Iraq, popular support in the Arab world for the insurgents is softening -- somewhat.

With images of civilian casualties from U.S. airstrikes set against insurgent slayings of unarmed Iraqi police and civilians, Arabs and the Arab media are increasingly struggling with the question of how far to support an insurgency that sometimes uses tactics they feel are immoral.

Conversations with ordinary people, intellectuals, and politicians illustrate that clearer lines are being drawn in people's minds between what is seen as "legitimate" and "illegitimate" resistance.

"People are coming ... to grips with complicated realities," says Abdel Moneim Said, director of Egypt's Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies. "We can't deal with the emergence of groups like the ones who bombed Taba here in Egypt until we understand that some of these so-called resistance groups are intrinsically evil." The Christian Science Monitor

Egyptian militants killed 34 people in attacks on Taba, popular with Israeli tourists, and a nearby campsite on Oct. 7.

Said says that while most still see the U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq in stark terms, there is a growing number of regional thinkers who are also looking at the chaos of post-invasion Iraq as a partial consequence of Saddam Hussein's divide-and-rule policies and seeing some of the problems of pre-invasion Iraq reflected in their own societies.

"After three, four decades of independence we're coming to see that not all of our problems are generated from the outside," says Said. "Gradually Arab countries see it's not only independence versus occupation, it's also freedom, development, and progress or the lack of progress. We can see our societies are not what we'd like them to be."

When the U.S. invasion began, a fairly one-dimensional view of the war's actors was held by most in the region, with its history of interventions by Western powers. Like an American western with a Mesopotamian twist, the Arab media scripted the war as the checkered headscarves of the insurgents (the white hats) against the Kevlar helmets of U.S. airborne, infantry, and Marines (the black).

## Murderous kidnappings that 'defile Islam'

But among the events that have created doubts in some Arab minds have been the videotaped beheadings of a number of foreign contractors, the executions of 49 unarmed Iraqi military trainees last week, and the kidnapping of aid-worker Margaret Hassan, an Iraqi citizen and critic of the U.S. invasion.

The United States remains the principal "bad guy," but the realities of an ugly war are leading to a more ambivalent attitudes towards the insurgency.

Even Lebanon's Hezbollah, a Shiite Islamist group that Washington says is a terrorist organization, has criticized the extremists. Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, Hezbollah's secretary-general, said recently: "Indiscriminate and arbitrary acts are not resistance. The true resistance should protect its people and not kill them."

"In general the Arab people are with the Iraqi resistance," says Ahmed Sheikh, editor in chief of Al Jazeera, the Arab satellite channel that has often been criticized by U.S. officials. "But the feedback we get is that people are very opposed to attacks like the killing of the 49 Iraqis. People know they're trying to feed their families and say it's haram (forbidden). Attacks on U.S. forces, though, are seen differently."

In Lebanon and Syria, among the most vocal opponents of the invasion, anger at the United States remains high but is tempered by a growing sense of disgust at the brutal tactics of some insurgent groups.

"Arabs are differentiating between the legitimate resistance against foreign military occupation troops and unacceptable terrorism that is killing Iraqis or innocent foreigners," says Rami Khouri, executive editor of Beirut's English-language Daily Star newspaper. "The differentiation is very clear and very vocal."

"We abhor taking hostages, particularly women and children, and we abhor killing hostages. It's against our values, whether we are Muslims or Christians," says Mohammed Aziz Shucri, professor of international law at Damascus University. Professor Shucri says resistance attacks should be confined only to foreign troops. "Attacking civilians is not resistance against occupation."

Chibli Mallat, professor of international law at Beirut's St. Joseph University, says that public perception of the resistance in Iraq "has always been nuanced between supporting genuine acts of resistance as opposed to the killing of civilians."

But recently, and somewhat surprisingly, Mallat says this distinction has come to be made by stridently anti-American groups. "Some of them have been on record recently saying this is totally unacceptable," he says.

One of them is Salim Hoss, a former Lebanese prime minister, who is a staunch critic of U.S. Mideast policy.

On Tuesday he wrote in Lebanon's leading daily An-Nahar that some militants in Iraq are defiling the name of Islam. "Islam is a religion of forgiveness," Hoss wrote. "People should not kill others in the name of Islam because they don't know how much it hurts all Muslims."

"America is an illegal occupier, but I abhor the inhuman tactics some of these groups use," he said in a phone interview.

To be sure, there are still almost daily pictures of injured Iraqi women and children hurt in U.S. bombings, and for many, those images trump any excesses by groups like Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's Tawhid and Jihad.

And while big regional newspapers like Al-Sharq Al-Awsat and Al-Hayat were careful to point out that the 49 young Iraqi soldiers were unarmed and executed, much of the daily press in Egypt, for instance, created the impression that they were killed in a shootout.

"Many Saudis pretend that Zarqawi is an imaginary figure because they don't like a lot of what's attributed to him," says Mshari al-Thaidi, who writes for Al-Sharq Al-Awsat, which is published in London.

"They don't want to pollute the image of the resistance, so they pretend he doesn't exist. They claim he's a figure created by the CIA."

## Murderous kidnappings that 'defile Islam'

"It's painful for people," says Al-Ahram's Said. "Even in the Ramadan evening talks among my family, there's a kind of annoyance and denunciation of the brutality, but they want to go over it quickly and get to talking about Palestine and America's failings in Iraq."

And though public opinion is drifting in a more critical direction, few expect it to have any impact on car bombings and kidnappings inside Iraq any time soon.

Radical Islamists in Iraq "are not in the game of winning popular approval for their actions," says the Daily Star's Khouri. "These are not people after audience share. They don't expect to get elected to office. The reality is that they don't care and they are operating on a different plane from the rest of the society."

## Graphic

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Photo: Samir Mizban, the Associated Press; Kidnappings and slayings have served to erode support for insurgents in the Arab world. Above, demonstrators protest the kidnapping of CARE International's Margaret Hassan.

**Load-Date:** November 6, 2004

## *Afghans fire at airplane over Kabul*

Guelph Mercury (Ontario, Canada)

October 7, 2001 Sunday Final Edition

Copyright 2001 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A01; NEWS

**Length:** 907 words

**Dateline:** ISLAMABAD

### **Body**

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Taliban gunners in Afghanistan's capital Kabul unleashed a thunderous barrage at a plane cruising high over the city Saturday, as President George W. Bush delivered a stern warning that "time is running out" for the Afghan regime to hand over suspected terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden.

The Taliban, meanwhile, defiantly repeated their threat to wage holy war against the United States and threatened to invade neighbouring Uzbekistan if that country participates in any U.S.-led attack.

However, the Taliban also offered to release eight aid workers, including two from the United States, if Washington stops its threats and begins negotiations.

The White House rejected the offer and spokeswoman Claire Buchan called on the Taliban to release the aid workers immediately.

AP

Afghan authorities also announced they would unconditionally release British journalist Yvonne Ridley, 43, who was arrested last month inside Afghanistan with two Afghan guides.

British officials expect her release within days.

Early Saturday afternoon, residents of the Afghan capital rushed into the streets when Taliban gunners fired anti-aircraft guns and two missiles at a lone, silver-coloured aircraft whose jet trail was visible in the bright-blue sky.

The gunners missed their mark and Taliban authorities admitted the plane's altitude was beyond the range of their air defences. Afghanistan's airspace is closed to all traffic and the Taliban said the aircraft was a spy plane.

Kabul residents, inured to the sounds of war after more than 20 years of conflict, showed no sign of panic once they realized the city was not under attack.

"Who cares about the attack," mechanic Najibullah said while staring toward the sky along with his three children.

"We have seen so much fighting, now no one is afraid of death."

Last month, the Taliban said it shot down a spy plane over northern Afghanistan. U.S. Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld acknowledged the United States had lost contact with an unmanned reconnaissance plane but had no reason to believe it was shot down.

## Afghans fire at airplane over Kabul

The United States is massing formidable military forces outside Afghanistan to press its demand that the Islamic militia hand over bin Laden, the chief suspect in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington.

Taliban authorities have refused to give him up but have offered to negotiate with the United States. After repeated U.S. refusals to bargain, the Taliban offered Saturday to free the Christian aid workers -- two from the United States, two Australians and four Germans -- if Washington stops threatening war.

"Because of American threats, people are being forced to flee their homes, along with their children and women and old people," the Taliban said.

"Are their lives not important?"

The eight were arrested in August on charges of preaching Christianity -- a serious charge in strictly Muslim Afghanistan. Sixteen Afghan employees of the German-based Shelter Now International organization were also arrested.

The U.S. administration is in no mood for compromise.

"The Taliban has been given the opportunity to surrender all the terrorists in Afghanistan and to close down their camps and operations," Bush said Saturday in a radio address.

"Full warning has been given and time is running out."

The Taliban have appealed to Muslims worldwide to join a jihad, or holy war, if the United States launches attacks. In the Pakistani border city Peshawar, several thousand people shouted anti-U.S. and anti-British slogans Saturday during a noisy four-hour rally in support of the Taliban and bin Laden.

"Whatever we do, we will never hand over Osama," said Hizbullah, a 16-year-old religious student in Peshawar.

"If Americans attack Afghanistan, nothing would make me happier than to kill them. If I saw one after that had happened, I wouldn't hesitate for a moment."

On Saturday night, Taliban radio broadcast poems whose lyrics condemned the United States. There was no accompanying music, which the Taliban have banned. Neighbouring governments have all denounced the Sept. 11 terror attacks. Pakistan, once the Taliban's ally, has pledged full support for the U.S. anti-terrorism campaign. Uzbekistan has agreed to let the United States station troops on its soil but not to launch offensive operations.

On Saturday, a U.S.-marked aircraft arrived in Uzbekistan one day after President Islam Karimov granted permission for the United States to use an Uzbek air base. A local police officer, who refused to be quoted by name, said three or four planes had already landed.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Jim Turner refused to comment on the report, in keeping with U.S. policy of not discussing troop movements.

A senior Taliban figure, Amir Khan Muttaqi, said 10,000 soldiers had been rushed to the Afghan border with Uzbekistan and Taliban forces would cross into Uzbekistan if that Muslim country co-operates in any U.S.-led attack.

The Taliban is already fighting a coalition of opposition forces in northern Afghanistan. Its foes had been making little headway against the larger and better-armed Taliban but their fortunes have been bolstered since the Sept. 11 attacks with a decision by Russia to step up weapons shipments.

Opposition spokesman Mohammad Ashraf Nadim said the alliance gained ground Saturday in fighting in the northern provinces Balkh and Samaghan, which border Uzbekistan. The claims could not be independently verified.



## Graphic

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Photo: AP; Waiting Patiently -- An Afghan family waits at the Shahid Arbabi refugee camp in Zahedan, in the Iranian part of Baluchistan province, Saturday. Hundreds of Afghan refugees have crossed the Iran-Afghanistan border and entered Iran during the past two weeks.

**Load-Date:** October 30, 2001

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## *A French secret agent with a licence to kill*

The Times (London)

September 13, 2003, Saturday

Copyright 2003 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news; 25

**Length:** 1105 words

**Byline:** Charles Bremner from Paris

### **Body**

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Nima Zamar claims that she strangled, stabbed and shot for Mossad, reports Charles Bremner from Paris. A powerful handshake is probably standard for professional killers who dispatch victims with their bare hands.

Yet the vigorous grip is a surprise when you meet Nima Zamar, a 33-year-old Frenchwoman, who has just gone public with an account of life as an agent with a licence to kill for Mossad, the Israeli secret service.

Though tall and muscular, Zamar has soft eyes, a quiet voice and trim black hair.

She laughs easily, but has a fragile air about her. She could almost be any fit young Frenchwoman as she chats in a Left Bank room with her 18-month-old daughter playing near by.

However, average Parisiennes do not usually tell you about strangling, stabbing and shooting people, or how they cope with torture. "Even when you have no barrier of conscience because you are defending yourself or killing real filth," she says, "you notice that the moment that every human being dies, they have an instant of realisation, a sort of childlike flash.

"At that moment you understand that life is beautiful. Something very precious.

But that doesn't stop you trying to save your own life."

The tale of Zamar -which is not her real name -is the stuff of nightmares or the darkest of thrillers. To exorcise demons, she has just recounted her life in a book -*Je Devais Aussi Tuer* (I Also Had to Kill). The work is making a splash in Paris, but it is so grim that some media are calling it fiction.

Others are taking her at her word, as well as that of Albin Michel, her highly respectable publishers. Thierry Pfister, her editor and a prominent figure on the literary scene, is vouching for the truth of her account. He has known Zamar, whose family were Romanian-Jewish immigrants, since she was a young child.

Zamar claims that after emigrating to Israel at 22 with a computing degree, she volunteered for military service. She was coerced by a branch of Mossad into two years of training, which included learning Arabic, killing techniques and conditioning for life undercover and torture. Then she spent six years in the guise of a Swiss-reared Palestinian deep in the dirty war in the ranks of Hezbollah, the Islamic militant organisation.

## A French secret agent with a licence to kill

On undercover missions to bug Syrian military computers in Lebanon, she was often called upon to kill, in self-defence and sometimes in cold blood. She committed her first murder at a Hezbollah camp in Libya. She was ordered by the officers to kill Yasmina, a fellow trainee with whom she had sympathised.

This was a standard test to forge obedience and dehumanise recruits. She kills Yasmina without compunction, telling herself that every dead terrorist meant Israeli lives saved. "Slowly, I move behind her, hit her in the throat with a violent blow of the forearm and then strangle her. She lies dead in my arms. I put her on the ground," she writes.

What does it take for a woman to put another so calmly to death? "They had prepared me intensely and warned me that there would be this kind of test," she says quietly.

"I did what I had to do. It was always a case of life and death and saving my skin. It's like war must have been 1,000 years ago. There's someone opposite you and there will only be one winner, the one who kills."

In the book, she describes her many other victims in similar terms, noting details such as cleaning the flesh off a "useful" foldable knife after the murder of a terrorist official. Women, she says, are perhaps better killers than men because they are less dominated by ego and more willing to serve humbly in the shadows without glory or recognition. They may also withstand pain better. She gives blood-curdling accounts of torture during several spells of captivity at the hands of the Syrians and of a Russian officer who uses agonising chemical methods.

Her daredevil escapes are the most unlikely episodes. "In absolute extremity, you find the energy," she says when challenged. "For me it was a sort of chutzpah. I survived. And the Arabs are not very efficient."

Disillusioned by the rigid and over-demanding methods of Mossad, Zamar says that she left for France in early 2001, escaping a murder attempt with a syringe by a fellow agent at Istanbul airport. He does not survive. Her book, she says, is a way to bear witness and leave an account for her daughter, whose father was a comrade killed on a mission in Iran.

She renounces none of her acts, nor her love of Israel. "What I wanted to show is the workings of a creaking, archaic system and how someone with determination could extract themselves from it, both mentally and physically without giving up their ideals or their values," she says.

Zamar, who masks her face for photographs and television, says that her former masters have let her go. Initially they had approved the idea of her book, but sent back a censored version of the manuscript, reduced to a bare outline. "They were fine as long as I didn't talk about training or missions and that I was a bit more positive about Israel," she said.

She published anyway, but with many details "sterilised". Now Israel is trying to discredit her by depicting her as a fantasyland Mata Hari.

How could she emerge so apparently unscathed from such brutality? "Who says unscathed?" she says, talking of her continuing headaches, damaged body and the post-traumatic stress syndrome that was not averted, despite the post-mission work with psychiatrists. The violence has not dehumanised her, as it does for terrorists, she says, because she was helped by the psychiatrists and the knowledge that her cause was just.

"I did correctly what I did like a trusty soldier. It's their (terrorist) code of barbarity that I had to follow. It's taken 2 years. You sometimes think you'll never get out of it. But I had a little girl and that helps. Sometimes your head is too full of painful memories."

Zamar says that she is lonely in Paris, with no family or boyfriends. She is unable to adapt to an office job and her main outlet is working to become a teacher of Krav Maga, the Israeli self-defence art that has been her salvation.

Men are frightened of her, she laughs. "Having lived like that makes it difficult to have a normal relationship with a man. It's a great solitude."

A French secret agent with a licence to kill

An afternoon with Zamar leaves one wanting to believe that this woman who exudes both girlish vulnerability and a military bearing. There are also the scars that are visible on her left arm, below the short-sleeved sports shirt that she is wearing.

But such an extraordinary, and unprovable, story leaves many with a strong suspicion that it may all be fiction.

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2003

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## **Terror group threatens U.S. Palestinians promise to avenge assassination of Hamas leader**

Charleston Gazette (West Virginia)

March 23, 2004, Tuesday

Copyright 2004 Charleston Newspapers

**Section:** News; Pg. P1A

**Length:** 1262 words

**Byline:** Lara Sukhtian The Associated Press

### **Body**

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GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip - Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians chanting "Revenge! Revenge!" flooded Gaza's streets Monday to bury Hamas founder Sheik Ahmed Yassin, who was assassinated by an Israeli missile. As ordinary Palestinians seethed with anger, militants pledged unprecedented retaliation - including threats against the United States.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and many world leaders condemned Monday's killing of Yassin, the most prominent Palestinian targeted by Israel in 3 1/2 years of fighting. The Bush administration said it was "deeply troubled" by the attack and that it had no advance warning.

"We will get revenge for every drop of blood that spilled," said Salman Bdeiri, a Hamas supporter crying near the mosque where Yassin prayed shortly before being killed by an Israeli airstrike.

Israel sealed off the West Bank and Gaza, banning Palestinians from Israel, and placed its security forces on high alert.

Later Monday, Palestinian militants fired several homemade rockets and mortar shells at Israeli targets in and near Gaza. To the north, **Hezbollah** guerrillas fired an anti-tank missile at Israeli troops along Israel's border with Lebanon.

Israel quickly responded to both attacks. It struck at **Hezbollah** with planes and artillery fire. No casualties were reported. Israel sent tanks into northern Gaza near the town of Beit Hanoun. Israeli security officials said the purpose of the operation was to prevent further rocket fire.

The Yassin assassination was part of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's effort to crush Hamas ahead of a possible Israeli withdrawal from Gaza. However, the killing was seen as a major gamble that could galvanize the Palestinians behind Hamas. Rival Palestinian militant groups immediately pledged solidarity with Hamas.

The missile strike dealt what could be the final blow to the stalled U.S.-led "road map" peace plan. It also angered Egypt and Jordan, moderate Arab states whose tacit support Sharon needs for any unilateral withdrawal from Gaza.

Since Yassin founded Hamas in 1987, the group has killed hundreds of Israelis in scores of attacks. Hamas wants to destroy the Jewish state and replace it with an Islamic one.

## Terror group threatens U.S. Palestinians promise to avenge assassination of Hamas leader

For the first time Monday, Hamas threatened the United States and suggested it might seek outside help in carrying out revenge attacks.

"The Zionists didn't carry out their operation without getting the consent of the terrorist American administration, and it [the United States] must take responsibility for this crime," Hamas said in a statement. "All the Muslims of the world will be honored to join in on the retaliation for this crime."

In the past, Hamas has refrained from targeting U.S. citizens or interests, instead focusing on fund raising and recruitment within the United States, according to senior U.S. law enforcement officials.

Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge was heeding the Hamas terror warning.

"If they are threatening the United States, we have to take it quite seriously," he told reporters in Washington.

While not condemning the assassination, the State Department said it increases tensions and would make it harder to pursue peace in the Middle East. "We are troubled," spokesman Richard Boucher said.

President Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, told NBC that "it is very important that everyone step back and try now to be calm in the region."

But Israel said it will press ahead with more targeted attacks and raids.

"The war against terror has not ended and will continue day after day, everywhere," Sharon said. He called Yassin the "mastermind of Palestinian terror" and a "mass murderer who is among Israel's greatest enemies."

More than 200,000 Palestinians, some carrying billowing green Hamas flags, poured into the streets of Gaza City for Yassin's funeral procession.

Mourners in Gaza jostled to touch Yassin's flag-draped coffin, and women ululated and threw flowers and candy. Two Israeli helicopters flew above, and the sky was blackened from the smoke of burning tires.

At the cemetery, Yassin's body was paraded through an honor guard of 400 militants armed with anti-tank missiles and machine guns.

"Our leader has left us, but we say to him, 'Your lessons will stay within our hearts and minds and our generations,'" Abdel Aziz Rantisi, a Hamas leader, said in a eulogy.

In addition to Yassin, who was in his 60s, 12 Palestinians were killed Monday, seven in the airstrike, four in clashes with Israeli troops and one while handling explosives.

The attack came before daybreak, when Israeli helicopters swooped toward a Gaza street and fired three missiles as Yassin, his bodyguards and dozens of others left the mosque.

Blood and flesh splattered on the walls. Nearby windows shattered. Only a charred metal seat and two twisted wheels were left of Yassin's wheelchair, and a blood-soaked brown shoe lay in the street. Lying in tatters nearby was the brown blanket in which Yassin - a quadriplegic - was nearly always wrapped.

"Two or three people were lying next to him on the ground. One was legless," said taxi driver Yousef Haddad.

Among those killed were several of Yassin's bodyguards and his son-in-law. Seventeen people were wounded, including two of Yassin's sons.

After the attack, residents rubbed their hands in pieces of gravel mixed with Yassin's blood, a traditional sign of anger and a preparation for revenge.

The Palestinian Authority declared three days of mourning and closed schools. Flags at Yasser Arafat's headquarters in the West Bank town of Ramallah headquarters were lowered to half-staff.

## Terror group threatens U.S. Palestinians promise to avenge assassination of Hamas leader

Palestinian ministers stood as Arafat recited a Muslim prayer for Yassin and then added: "May you join the martyrs and the prophets. To heaven, you martyr."

The missile strike shook Arafat in more ways than one. The massive outpouring of support for Hamas showed how formidable a rival the Islamic group has become to Arafat's weakened Palestinian Authority.

Arafat also fears he may be next on Israel's hit list, said a confidant, Communications Minister Azzam Ahmed.

However, an Israeli security official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Israel's campaign focuses on Hamas, at least for now.

Boucher, the State Department spokesman, urged Israel to keep its promise to not harm Arafat. "We think that's an important pledge, and we would expect them to stand by that."

Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz said Yassin's killing will eventually weaken Hamas.

"If we have to balance how many more terrorists Yassin would have sent, how many terror attacks he would have approved, if we weigh this on the scales, we acted rightly," Mofaz was quoted as telling a parliamentary committee.

But Sharon's critics in Israel warned that the Yassin killing could be viewed as an attack on Islam.

"This had nothing to do with security, nothing to do with protecting Israeli citizens. It's all about politics and public opinion," said lawmaker Yossi Sarid of the dovish Yahad Party.

Yassin's killing virtually buried hopes of reviving the road map, which envisioned an end to violence and the creation of a Palestinian state by next year.

"Such actions are not only contrary to international law, but they do not do anything to help the search for a peaceful solution," Annan said of the assassination.

European and Arab leaders condemned the killing. Egypt canceled a trip by legislators and other dignitaries to Israel to mark the 25th anniversary of the peace treaty between the two countries.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said the assassination "is unacceptable, it is unjustified and it is very unlikely to achieve its objectives."

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

**Israel spy chief's warning Tells nation worst violence from Palestine ns is  
yet to come**

Daily News (New York)

January 24, 2002, Thursday

NATIONAL EDITION

Copyright 2002 Daily News, L.P.

**Section:** NEWS;

**Length:** 479 words

**Byline:** By DEBORAH BLACHOR in Jerusalem and CORKY SIEMASZKO in New York DAILY NEWS WRITERS

## **Body**

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Israel's new military spymaster is warning his countrymen to brace for a new, more vicious, wave of terror attacks as Palestinian militants threatened "all-out war" yesterday to avenge the killing of Hamas terrorists.

Secretary of State Powell telephoned Yasser Arafat to urge him to curb attacks on Israel, but many of the Palestinian leader's followers marched arm-in-arm with militants yesterday at the funeral of slain Hamas terror commander Yousef Soragji.

The military intelligence chief warned Israelis to prepare for attacks "worse than what we have experienced so far in Israeli cities" in an interview that appeared a day after a terrorist killed two women and turned downtown Jerusalem into a shooting gallery.

Arafat cannot - and will not - rein in the radicals who have been waging war on Jewish civilians, Maj. Gen. Aharon Zeevi-Farkash told the Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronot.

"Arafat will not begin a civil war against Palestinian organizations," he said. "It seems that the U.S., too, has given up on the man and sees him as a lost cause."

Arafat said to OK attacks

An Israeli intelligence source told the Daily News that Arafat had given the Tanzim, the military branch of his Fatah party, a green light to carry out attacks.

"The amount of alerts is piling on the desks of intelligence agents all over the country," the source said. "The methods are wide range, including shooting, car bombs, suicide missions, and they include all the Palestinian organizations."

Arafat, who remains trapped by Israeli tanks in the West Bank city of Ramallah, said nothing yesterday.

The escalation in the tit-for-tat violence that has racked Israel anew in recent days began last week after the Israelis assassinated Raed Karmi in the Palestinian city of Tulkarm.

Karmi was a senior Tanzim official and was believed to be planning to rub out a high-ranking Israeli security figure.



Israel spy chief's warning Tells nation worst violence from Palestinians is yet to come

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon authorized the hit on Karmi even though the assassination might bring on a new series of attacks in Israel, the source said.

More terror

Indeed, Karmi's death sparked a new wave of terror, beginning with a bloody attack on a bat mitzvah in the town of Hadera last Thursday, and the shooting spree in Jerusalem on Tuesday.

Soragji, 42, the alleged mastermind behind several suicide attacks against Jewish civilians, was killed with three other Hamas members in a predawn raid Tuesday by Israeli commandos on their West Bank hideout and bomb factory.

More than 15,000 people attended the funerals of Soragji and two of his henchmen yesterday. "We will not close our eyes until we see your reprisal," the crowd chanted.

On another front, Israeli war planes attacked suspected Hezbollah terror camp positions in southern Lebanon for the first time since Oct. 22 after the guerrillas fired rockets and mortar shells at Israeli outposts in the disputed Chebaa Farms area.

**Load-Date:** January 24, 2002

## *When terrorists become freedom fighters*

University Wire

November 19, 2001

Copyright 2001 The Tartan via U-Wire

**Section:** COLUMN

**Length:** 961 words

**Byline:** By Yaron Rachlin, The Tartan

**Dateline:** Pittsburgh

### **Body**

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In a recent column in The Washington Post, Richard Cohen cites an Indian reporter who asked a question that I would like to ask the President myself. "Sir," he cried out to George Bush last week at the White House, "Why are there two laws in this world, one for America and one for the rest of us? When terrorism hits America, you go halfway around the world and make war in Afghanistan. But when we suffer terrorism, you ask us to be restrained. Is an Indian life less precious than an American life?"

While Muslim leaders around the world desperately seek to draw a distinction between terrorists (Osama and friends) and "freedom fighters" (whoever they are funding at the moment), Indian and Israeli citizens continue to be gunned down indiscriminately. The argument put forth is that violent action is a legitimate response to the Israeli "occupation" of Palestinian territories, and the Indian "occupation" of Kashmir. Carnegie Mellon U.

The question of the legitimacy of Indian and Israeli claims presents one core issue, but I think that a more pressing question ought to be answered first. Is violent action against innocent civilians ever a legitimate response to "occupation," regardless of the validity of such "occupation?" If you are willing to concede that the murder of innocent civilians is a reasonable response in support of your political cause, then you enter a morally relativistic realm. This is a magical place where Osama bin Ladin has his own narrative, in which he is a brave fighter against the infidel Christians and Jews, and therefore any murderous action -- including plowing planes loaded with people into office buildings -- is merely the latest chapter in a heroic saga.

Alternatively, if you subscribe to the old-fashioned notion that regardless of the nobility of your political cause, the ends do not justify the means, then you should conclude that turning away from a political solution and toward the path of violence against civilians makes you an inhuman murderer, not a freedom fighter.

On Nov. 11, Pakistani President (and dictator) Pervez Musharraf was a guest on NBC's "Meet the Press." Tim Russert stated, "The Indian government has said if you're against terrorism, you have to be against all terrorism. And many of the organizations that are creating terrorism in Kashmir have roots in Pakistan." To this President Musharraf responded, "They have moral support in Pakistan. Everything about the freedom struggle that is going on, I would like to differentiate. There is no terrorism going on in Kashmir."

Well that clarifies everything. So on Oct. 1 when a suicide squad of Jaish-e-Muhammad attacked the legislative council building of Jammu and Kashmir, they were simply engaged in a "freedom struggle." In this particular attack,

## When terrorists become freedom fighters

38 people died and an additional 52 were wounded. The victims include 27 civilians, three elected officials, and a college female. Why is Pakistan so eager to label the perpetrators of such bloody acts as freedom fighters? The answer is provided in this statement made by Mr. Jack Cunningham, a member of the Labour Party (UK) and member of Parliament, in 1994. In a press briefing he stated, "There is a lot of evidence to suggest the insurgency is organized, assisted, and triggered by forces outside India. I mention here Pakistan, which is conducting training camps... I also met four captured militants: one Afghan, one Palestinian, and two Pakistanis. They admitted that they fought in Afghanistan and Kashmir at the behest of Pakistan."

Now let us turn to President Musharraf's philosophical brothers in the "freedom struggle," the Arab leaders. The United States and Britain have for many years been concerned about Syria's support for armed militant groups including Hizbullah and Hamas (freshly added to the list of terror organizations by the United States), and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (who recently assassinated Israel's tourism minister).

Bashar Assad, dictator of Syria, defined these groups as freedom fighters, "we, and I personally, differentiate between resistance and terrorism." Again let us consider specific instances. On August 9, 2001, a Palestinian "freedom fighter" entered a Sbarro pizzeria in downtown Jerusalem and detonated a bomb that was packed with nails, screws, and bolts. The bomb completely gutted the restaurant, which was full of lunchtime customers. Fifteen people were killed, including seven children, and about 130 were injured. To make matters worse, many Palestinians celebrated this blow for the "freedom struggle" by dancing in the streets and handing out sweets, an image that should be familiar to most Americans. Palestinian students at al-Najah University in the city of Nablus marked the anniversary of the outbreak of Palestinian violence with an exhibition entitled The Sbarro Cafe Exhibition, celebrating this suicide bombing. According to Associated Press reports, the exhibition was replete with body parts and pizza slices strewn across the room. The walls were painted red to represent spattered blood.

Terrorist organizations that deliberately target civilians with the intent to maximize pain and suffering should never be called "freedom fighters." Our administration seems contradictory on the question of terrorism that does not explicitly target the United States. While Condoleezza Rice states, "you can't say there are good terrorists and there are bad terrorists," Colin Powell suggests that he made a mistake by agreeing to Israel's demand that a week of Palestinian nonviolence precede the implementation of the Mitchell Committee recommendations. I suppose that a week of nonviolence is too much to ask from the "freedom fighters" of this world.

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**Load-Date:** November 19, 2001

## *Palestinian's low-tech attack fuelled by fury*

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

February 16, 2001 Friday

Late Edition

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**Section:** NEWS AND FEATURES; International News; Pg. 9

**Length:** 460 words

**Byline:** Ross Dunn

### **Body**

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The Israelis have a mighty war machine at their disposal, but they remain vulnerable to guerilla tactics, writes Ross Dunn in Jerusalem.

The fact that a lone man was able to carry out the deadliest Palestinian attack in four years has shown Israelis that even a sophisticated army cannot protect them from unpredictable acts of violence.

The driver of the bus who killed eight Israelis, Khalil Abu Elba, 35, a father of five, is in custody and being interrogated. The Israeli security forces had regarded him as a model Palestinian, who had special clearance to transport Palestinian workers from the Gaza Strip.

Even though various militant Islamic groups, including Hamas and **Hezbollah**, have taken credit for his attack, it has not been established that Elba was a member of any such organisation. His family have reportedly expressed shock at his actions, and have denied that he has ties to any militant group.

If this is so, his attack may merely symbolise the deep anger that many Palestinians feel towards Israel and their strong desire to express it.

Palestinian President Yasser Arafat on Wednesday blamed the attack on increased Israeli military activity.

"What is happening is an Israeli military escalation which is having direct repercussions on the feelings of the Palestinian people," he said.

The bus attack came a day after Israel assassinated a member of Mr Arafat's elite security unit, Force 17, in the Gaza Strip. Helicopter gunships blasted Colonel Massoud Ayyad as he was driving down a road in Gaza.

Palestinians have no such weapons at their disposal but Elba showed that his low-tech methods were equally effective.

He drove the bus at high speed towards a crowd at a bus stop, killing four **female** soldiers, three male soldiers and a civilian.

The head of the Israeli Army, Lieutenant-General Shaul Mofaz, said he expected such violence to continue if the Palestinian Authority did not take steps to halt it.

## Palestinian 's low-tech attack fuelled by fury

The Israelis have not retaliated militarily immediately, perhaps because they have not ruled out the possibility that Elba was acting independently. However, they tightened their blockade of Palestinian areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. All Palestinians are banned from entering Israel, border crossings between the West Bank and Jordan and between Gaza and Egypt have been closed, Palestinian travel within the territories is restricted, a sea blockade has been imposed and the Palestinian airport in Gaza has been shut down.

Some senior Israeli officials have argued against hermetic border closures, saying they suffocate the Palestinian economy and fuel desperation and violence.

The border closures prevent about 150,000 Palestinian workers from reaching their jobs in Israel one of the main sources of income for the territories.

## Graphic

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ILLUS: The wife and children of Khalil Abu Elba, who drove a bus into a crowd of Israelis at a bus stop, killing eight, hold up his picture. Photo: Reuters/Suhaib Salem

**Load-Date:** July 24, 2007

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## *Jewish worshippers under fire*

The Australian

October 5, 2001, Friday

Copyright 2001 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 7

**Length:** 521 words

**Byline:** \* A correspondent in Jerusalem

### **Body**

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PALESTINIAN gunmen yesterday fired on Jewish pilgrims in the West Bank, wounding two women, as tensions flared on a day of funerals after a raid on a Jewish settlement and an Israeli army backlash.

A spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said the ongoing violence proved Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was not serious about the truce pushed through by the US.

"Unfortunately, Yasser Arafat has made a complete mockery of the ceasefire that we have attempted to implement," spokesman Dore Gold said.

AFP

"Today we had an attack in Hebron against Jewish worshippers, yesterday we had an armed assault against an Israeli civilian settlement with gunmen trying to kill as many civilians as they could," he said.

Two Israeli women were wounded, one seriously, when Palestinian militants fired into a crowd of hundreds of worshippers gathered for a Jewish festival in the flashpoint West Bank town of Hebron, witnesses said.

The shots came from the Palestinian district of Abu Sneina on a hill overlooking the centre of the town where 400 Jewish settlers live surrounded by heavy army protection.

The Popular Army Front Return Battalions, a Palestinian group which has claimed several bloody anti-Israeli attacks in past months, said it carried out the Hebron shootings.

The attack was revenge for the Israeli army's onslaught earlier the same day against self-rule Gaza City, the group said.

Thousands of Israelis had flocked to the Tomb of the Patriarchs in the centre of Hebron for the holiday of Sukkot. The disputed site is holy to Jews and Muslims.

The attack came as tensions flared across the region following the raid by two Palestinian Islamic militants on a Jewish settlement in the northern Gaza Strip late on Tuesday.

The Hamas militants killed two young settlers and injured 15 more before Israeli troops shot them dead.

Israel launched an incursion with tanks into Palestinian-held Gaza early on Wednesday, killing six more Palestinians.

## Jewish worshippers under fire

While Israel and the Palestinians buried their slain against a backdrop of day-long fighting in the northern Gaza Strip, Lebanese guerillas fired on Israeli army positions on the Jewish state's northern border.

The Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim group **Hezbollah**, which is backed by Syria and Iran, said it aimed to add the movement's weight to efforts to "liberate the occupied territories".

There were no reports of casualties from either side in the first such cross-border clash since July.

The return to violence after a week-long effort to patch together a truce deal severely undermined Washington's diplomatic offensive to form its global coalition against terror suspects.

The truce was already creaking after a weekend of conflict surrounding the first anniversary of the Palestinian uprising which has now left 850 dead, most of them Palestinians.

Mr Arafat condemned the settlement raid as an "aggression against the ceasefire".

Meanwhile, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, one of three Palestine Liberation Organisation factions, on Wednesday elected Ahmad Sadat, a radical, as its leader, replacing the former chief assassinated by Israel in August.

**Load-Date:** October 4, 2001

## *Turn off the TV the truth must be told*

MAIL ON SUNDAY

April 14, 2002

Copyright 2002 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 57

**Length:** 1244 words

**Byline:** Stewart Steven

### **Body**

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' We are all liberals, in the very best meaning of that word. We are quick to anger when we think the strong bully the weak. The sight of heavy tanks moving against what appear to be civilian populations disgusts us.

Our deepest instincts lead us all to side with the oppressed against the oppressor. What has been happening in the Middle East in recent days has done terrible damage to the image and reputation of Israel. I fear there will be worse to come.

But that's one of the problems of news as transmitted by TV. We see the images grim and stark but are given no context with which to explain them. We side with the man in the street against the men in the tank without anyone reminding us why he's there or what his purpose might be.

Let me tell you a little story which might help you understand why, to use the leader writers' favourite word these days, Israel is being so 'intransigent' refusing to jump to attention and obey when the world, sickened by the violence it sees on its TV screens, cries 'Halt!' In May 2000, after considerable international pressure, Israel withdrew from northern Lebanon. It had gone there in the first place to protect its borders against Palestinian guerrilla organisations which had previously occupied the frontier zones and almost daily attacked Israeli communities in range of their big guns and mortars.

Before leaving, Israel asked the United Nations to define the exact border between Lebanon and Israel now called the Blue Line so there could be no future misunderstanding.

It sought and received assurances that it would not be attacked.

Some hope. Though repeatedly told that all the Lebanese Shiite Party of God (**Hezbollah**) wanted was to regain Lebanese territory, on the day (not the following day or the following week) that the Israelis moved out **Hezbollah** fighters moved in.

Immediately, with arms imported from Iran, they once again launched attacks on Israel, killing residents and kidnapping Israeli soldiers. They have placed 8,000 Katyusha rockets on the border. Last week alone they launched 400 mortar bombs on Israeli targets. And the Blue Line? The much-vaunted Saudi Arabian peace initiative demands, among other things, that Israel leaves 'remaining occupied Lebanese territory'.

If one accepts the internationally agreed, UN-sponsored Blue Line, there is no 'remaining occupied Lebanese territory'. If one doesn't, what should Israeli negotiators make of those international agreements they are constantly being urged to sign up for?



Turn off the TV the truth must be told

This is not a small point. It goes to the very core of this terrible and bitter dispute. Israel wants peace needs peace. As every Israeli knows to the core of their being, the Arabs can lose war after war after war and live to fight another day. By contrast, the first war Israel loses will be the last it will fight because Israel, the world's first Jewish state for 2,000 years, will simply cease to exist.

It cannot, therefore, afford to do what the world urges it to do sign up for peace, accept Arab good faith and hope that all will work out in the end.

True, a lot of combat-weary Israelis would like that to happen. A lot of Jews in this country agree. It is hard to go on fighting. It is easier to follow the line of least resistance and pray that somehow things will be all right in the end. But governments can't operate on a wing and a prayer.

One does not need to love Ariel Sharon, and I most certainly do not, to understand what Israel is doing.

Look at the 'Declarations of Principle' which Yasser Arafat and the assassinated Israeli leader Yitzhak Rabin agreed in Oslo and shook hands over on the White House lawn on September 13, 1993.

Central to that agreement was that Arafat's Palestinian Authority would confiscate unauthorised weapons and outlaw terrorist organisations. It would cease incitement against Israel in the Palestinian media and at public meetings. There was nothing very novel in that. The British Government insisted absolutely that before any talks could start with the IRA there had to be a sustained ceasefire. It may be unfashionable to say so but democratic governments cannot negotiate at the point of a gun.

Arafat hardly tried. His bad faith was evident from the start.

Occasionally, under pressure, he has denounced the obscenity of the suicide bombing campaign but never in terms which even begin to do justice to the abhorrence which all decent people must surely feel for a campaign specifically designed to kill ordinary people women, children, anyone in range. There is evidence that some of the bombers have been supported by his organisation. I had planned to list those suicide attacks in this article. I don't know how many you remember, but I take a close interest in the subject and I thought there may have been about 20 at the outside.

The actual number is 67, of which no fewer than 29 have taken place since that most terrible of suicide missions, September 11, 2001. I'd need about three pages to list them all.

No wonder Israeli public opinion accuses the world of double standards. The difference between flying an aeroplane into a New York skyscraper and getting on a crowded bus in Tel Aviv with a bomb strapped to one's body is only one of degree. The carnage has been truly awful. Since September 2000, 470 Israelis have been killed in terrorist outrages. That would be the equivalent here of more than 4,000 people.

Hardly any Israeli families are not directly affected.

Unable any more to rely on Arafat, who they believe is actually actively encouraging terrorism, the Israelis have moved into the West Bank to sort things out for themselves root out the terrorists, destroy their infrastructure, take their weapons and either capture or kill their leaders.

It's not pretty. Our soft old world recoils from such a show of military power but the Israelis think there is no alternative.

The Palestinians are adept at manipulating Western journalists who eagerly swallow their stories of massacres by Israeli soldiers, of ordinary civilians murdered by brutal invaders. All I ask you to do is suspend judgment consider who the real killers are likely to be. Would these be soldiers from a democratic country whose standards of discipline though of course not perfect stand comparison with the very best of what we'd expect from our military or would they be people who have a record of total disregard for the values which we hold dear?

Turn off the TV the truth must be told

Western journalists have not been allowed to go into places like Jenin with the Israeli Army and are outraged claiming that this evidence means it has something to hide. Can anyone point to me a single instance in the past 30 years of an Army patrol going out in Northern Ireland accompanied by newspapermen or the TV cameras? Are the Press with the Royal Marines in the mountains of Afghanistan?

There was no massacre. Artillery and aircraft were deliberately not used even though this put Israeli lives at risk. A huge number of stories which have appeared in Western newspapers picked up from Palestinian ones are demonstrably false.

The truth is that building after building in Jenin were booby trapped, sometimes with people inside. Some local Palestinians, were used by their own side as hostages held in these places. Even though old people and children were being used as human shields, the Israeli troops took the greatest care not to harm noncombatants. Incidentally once areas were declared safe from booby traps ambulances were allowed through.

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

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End of Document

## **JENIN FERTILE SOURCE OF SUICIDE BOMBERS**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

August 19, 2001 Sunday

FIVE STAR EDITION

Copyright 2001 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 1214 words

**Byline:** DANIEL WILLIAMS, THE WASHINGTON POST

**Dateline:** JENIN, West Bank

### **Body**

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Two young men described as volunteer suicide bombers stood silently as their Islamic mentor bid them a tranquil good evening. "And don't forget to say your prayers," he reminded them as they left his home.

The two were among a group of men in a modest Jenin living room who were serving coffee to a foreign visitor and venting their hostility toward Israel. Israelis consider them the most dangerous of Palestinian adversaries; they belong to Islamic Jihad, an organization devoted to attacks on Israeli civilians in pursuit of a Palestinian state. The two potential bombers said Islamic Jihad had recruited them to attach explosives to themselves, infiltrate crowds of Israelis and set off deadly blasts.

In Jenin, a northern West Bank town considered the current capital of Palestinian terror bombings, it's not hard to find such young men. Nor is it hard to find Palestinians who justify the assaults. They argue that Palestinians, overwhelmed by Israel's military power and hemmed in by its continued hold on most of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, regard suicide bombs as a weapon of last resort.

"People feel that to do nothing is a kind of suicide," said Abu Samer, a political activist who, in the days when peace talks were on track, organized reconciliation meetings with Israeli citizens in his home. "They believe they are up against an immovable force, and that at least this is one thing Israel can't stop."

Israeli security officials identify Jenin as a seedbed of terrorists for Islamic Jihad and the Islamic Resistance Movement, another military Muslim organization known by its initials as Hamas. There have been about two dozen suicide bombings in the past 10 months of Israeli-Palestinian clashes, all but a handful of them this year. Fifty-one Israelis have been killed by the blasts. Israel security forces also have headed off at least three other attempts, Israeli officials said.

Of the assaults in the past two months, at least nine have originated from Jenin and villages around it. Jenin-based terrorists carried out the two most recent suicide bombings: the Aug. 9 attack on a Jerusalem pizzeria that killed 14 Israelis and last Sunday's bombing of a cafe in Haifa that injured 20 customers.

"Jenin has become a city of bombs," said Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz, the Israeli army's chief of staff.

## JENIN FERTILE SOURCE OF SUICIDE BOMBERS

That was the rationale behind Israel's attack on central Jenin early Tuesday morning, in which tanks and armored bulldozers leveled the main Palestinian Authority police station. But the attack did not seem to dim Jenin's enthusiasm for combating Israel by any means possible.

"We got their attention. They came they shot, they left. We are happy," Abu Samer said.

The police station was targeted because Israel's Prime Minister Ariel Sharon blames Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority, which controls Jenin and its surroundings under peace agreements reached in 1993, for not cracking down on Hamas or Islamic Jihad. Sharon spokesman Dore Gold explained the tank operation as "an act of accountability."

Palestinians do not dispute Jenin's reputation as a source of suicide bombers. This low-rise town of blocky buildings and potholes overflows with bitterness about Palestinian fatalities in the last 10 months, which have risen to more than 500. Anger and nationalism blend with a mystical belief in a divine sanction for martyrdom under Muslim tradition.

"It is something people have begun to take pride in. We are not second to Nablus or Gaza in struggle," said Ramadan Bitta, the Jenin district governor.

Bitta said Arafat's recent call for an end to attacks on civilians influences almost no one. "People here understand it only in one context: that both sides must stop," he said. "If the Israelis don't end killing, the Palestinian people don't see why they should either."

PLO's methods inadequate

Jenin sits at the northwest corner of the West Bank, its back up against high hills, its agricultural skirts spread westward toward the Mediterranean Sea. The flatlands are fertile, and Palestinians prize Jenin wheat. Fig and olive groves dot the hills that separate the city from the Jordan valley in the east and Nablus to the south.

During the first "intifada," or uprising, against Israel in the 1980s, Fatah, the Palestine Liberation Organization's largest faction, dominated Jenin. After peace talks dragged through most of the 1990s, as residents became disillusioned with the pace of Israeli withdrawals from the West Bank and Gaza, Islamic organizations gained a following. At the beginning of the current conflict, which began last September, the revolt in Jenin was limited to stone-throwing assaults on the main Israeli checkpoints west of the city. The protesters paid a heavy price: 30 people were shot dead from September to December.

Fatah gunmen soon appeared on the streets and surrounding villages, but Israeli targets were few and out of reach. Settlements and roads designated for their use are few in the region.

"This is an isolated spot, the end of the Palestinian earth. Most people have no way to confront the Israelis, and the Islamic parties offered a way," said Bitta, the governor.

"The competition is clear, and the people are the judge," said the Islamic Jihad leader, who was with the two candidate suicide bombers in his living room. "If the PLO's way worked, they would stay with them. But they are coming to us. Our way is effective."

He spoke on condition of anonymity because, he said, he feared assassination. Israel has killed a number of Islamic Jihad, Hamas and Fatah leaders and others whom Israeli intelligence suspects of terrorism with rocket and helicopter attacks and sometimes bombs hidden in telephones.

Suicide bombers, including the two youths, are strictly volunteers, said the Jihad leader. "They come once, and we send them home. If they come again, we send them home, but begin to check them out. Are they clean? Nationalist? Do they follow Muslim tradition? Do they pray at the mosque?"

"Muslim belief is the most important thing. It just can't be an impulse. For us, it is important to know that this life is short, but the next life is for eternity."

## JENIN FERTILE SOURCE OF SUICIDE BOMBERS

If the candidate seems suitable -- people merely looking to avenge the death of a relative need not apply -- Jihad activists tap him to become a suicide bomber. Women are not excluded, but "it hasn't come to that," the activist said.

Some Palestinians criticize Jihad and Hamas for sending young men out to die. Why not give them a weapon and at least a fighting chance, they ask. The Jihad leader said: "When a martyr dies, we don't lose a follower. We gain dozens of them."

Israeli intelligence officials say Iran helps fund Islamic Jihad, along with Hezbollah, the Lebanese Shiite Muslim movement. Hezbollah inspired many Palestinians to embrace armed warfare because its relentless attacks helped drive Israeli troops to leave South Lebanon last year after more than two decades of occupation.

"There are no other options for us," the Jihad leader said.

He acknowledged that the pace of killings is rapidly closing the window on compromise with Israel, and he viewed that as a plus. "Who really thinks that as this goes on, Palestinians can really accept that the Jews stay in this land?" he said. "Every Israeli everywhere is a thief of our land."

**Load-Date:** August 21, 2001

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End of Document

**Killers revel in kudos of a US terrorism designation: Relentless atrocities attain dubious form of distinction for al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades**

The Guardian (London)

March 23, 2002

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

**Length:** 891 words

**Byline:** Suzanne Goldenberg in Balata

## **Body**

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Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades members at the funeral of a gunman in Nablus on Monday Photograph: Jaafar Ashtiyeh, EPA

For three months the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades pursued a relentless and efficient campaign of violence, shooting down soldiers at Israeli army roadblocks and dispatching suicide bombers to the Jewish heartland. At long last, they gloated yesterday, they were recognised: the US state department branded the Palestinian militant group a terrorist organisation.

"We are really grateful and thankful. It is a great honour for us to be called a terrorist organisation by the greatest sponsor of terrorism in the world," its joint-founder Nasser Badawi said.

"Our reaction will be more action - the work of al-Aqsa Brigades will be accelerated."

His words were punctuated by the second al-Aqsa suicide bombing in two days, an attack on an Israeli army checkpoint which injured one soldier.

Mr Badawi, 36, a former sociology student, is one of the original seven founders of the militia, an offshoot of Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

Al-Aqsa demonstrated its power on Thursday with a suicide attack in Jerusalem: a brazen challenge to the American ceasefire mission, Israel, and even Mr Arafat, to whom the group is supposedly loyal.

Its doggedness serves as a harsh counterpoint to Mr Arafat's efforts to gain America's approval by vowing to punish those responsible for Thursday's bombing and continuing discussions on a ceasefire.

He met the US envoy, General Anthony Zinni, in Ramallah yesterday and sent his security officials to talks with their Israeli counterparts.

An Israeli security source told Reuters: "The meeting ended with no concrete accomplishments as far as we were concerned.

"We agreed to hold another meeting early next week, possibly on Sunday."

## Killers revel in kudos of a US terrorism designation: Relentless atrocities attain dubious form of distinction for al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades

The Jerusalem bombing encapsulated the limits of Mr Arafat's influence over his own people, let alone his radical Islamist opponents such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

Al-Aqsa's proficiency has convinced many Palestinians that they can drive Israel out of the occupied West Bank and Gaza, just as the Hizbullah guerrillas forced Israeli forces to withdraw from Lebanon.

The brigades were born in the narrow alleys of Balata, a refugee camp in the West Bank city of Nablus, after a dispiriting day of clashes with the Israeli army in the early months of the uprising.

The seven, in their late 20s and early 30s, came of age during the first uprising against occupation in the late 1980s, did stints in Israeli jails, and received training in Palestinian camps in Lebanon and Iraq. Most important, they were trusted friends.

More than a year later, al-Aqsa - which takes its name from the mosque on hallowed ground in Jerusalem - has advanced from sporadic drive-by shootings at Jewish settlers to meticulously planned ambushes of Israeli army posts.

Nobody knows how many fighters it has. It was purposely built as a loose network of regional cells.

Its commanders, who grew up together in the Fatah youth movement, answer to no higher authority - and certainly not to Mr Arafat, who has made fitful attempts to disband the group.

"It was formed by itself and it acts on its own, and we do not receive decisions from officials," Mr Badawi said.

15That autonomy has produced a curious hybrid. While the fighters of al-Aqsa remain part of the mainstream secular Fatah movement, they have adopted the strategies of the Islamist radicals.

Their suicide bombings this year have broken two taboos: a Fatah ban on such tactics, and the use of women bombers. They have also sanctioned attacks in Israel, in defiance of Fatah's policy of confining the uprising to the West Bank and Gaza.

1515After Israel threw its airforce, navy, tanks and ground forces against Palestinian refugee camps in its biggest military offensive in a generation, al-Aqsa decided to concentrate its attacks in Israel.

"So long as Israel comes into our homes in the refugee camps, we are going to come into theirs, and take action inside Israel," its leader Mohammed Atitti said.

In Balata, Palestinians are highly suspicious of the US ceasefire mission.

They say it is a ruse, born of America's desire for war on Iraq.

"I don't think there is a ceasefire in the atmosphere, even after these negotiations, and I don't think there is a ceasefire on the ground," Mr Badawi said.

"We are not going to stop because there is no deep desire to stop anything on the ground - neither Israeli or American."

### TRAIL OF BLOOD

Jan 14 Al-Aqsa says it shot dead an Israeli near Nablus

Jan 17 Member of al-Aqsa kills six at a batmitzvah in Hadera, northern Israel

Jan 22 Al-Aqsa gunman opens fire on a bus queue in Jerusalem, injuring 16 people

Jan 27 A female volunteer for Palestinian Red Crescent in Ramallah becomes first woman suicide bomber

Killers revel in kudos of a US terrorism designation: Relentless atrocities attain dubious form of distinction for al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades

Feb 19 Al-Aqsa claims joint responsibility for a raid on a West Bank checkpoint, killing six Israeli soldiers

Feb 25 Al-Aqsa gunman injures eight Israelis at a bus stop in Jerusalem

March 3 Ten Israelis shot dead by al-Aqsa sniper at a West Bank checkpoint

March 2 Al-Aqsa suicide bomber blows himself up in a crowd of mothers and babies in Jerusalem, killing nine

March 14 Al-Aqsa gunmen kill two suspected informers in Bethlehem, dragging their bodies through the streets

March 21 Al-Aqsa suicide bomber kills three Israelis and wounds dozens more in Jewish west Jerusalem

**Load-Date:** March 23, 2002

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End of Document



## *Student documentary shown at Tufts U. gauges Lebanese uncertainty*

University Wire

September 16, 2005 Friday

Copyright 2005 Tufts Daily via U-Wire

**Length:** 532 words

**Byline:** By Brain McPartland, Tufts Daily; **SOURCE:** Tufts U.

**Dateline:** MEDFORD, Mass.

### **Body**

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Two Lebanese women came to campus Wednesday evening to present a documentary on the confusion in their country since the February murder of former prime minister Rafiq Hariri.

Marwa Abou-Daya and Remi Raidan, both students at the American University in Beirut, interviewed people on the street in Lebanon to get their reactions to the murder.

The resulting documentary "Shock, Pain and Hope: Valentine's Day in Lebanon," shows the complex opinion people hold as the country enters an uncertain era.

Although it was the women's first visit to the university, Abou-Daya and Raidan previously participated in Soliya Connect, a videoconferencing program that allows students from the U.S. and the Middle East to speak to each other.

Soliya is the main component Ex College course co-taught by senior Negar Razavi and first year Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy student Matan Chorev.

Hariri, who served as prime minister from 1992-1998 and then again from 2000-2004, was killed on Feb. 14 when a roadside bomb detonated as his car drove by. Hariri helped create last September's United Nations Resolution 1559, which called for the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon. His death was widely blamed on Syria. The resolution also called for the disarmament of militias, including Hezbollah.

Syrian troops had been in Lebanon since 1976, one year into what became a 14-year civil war. They completed their withdrawal at the end of last April.

"Different people will say different things about the Syrian impact inside Lebanon," Abou-Daya said. She said some people experienced hardships from the Syrian occupation on a daily basis, whereas the lives of others were virtually free of Syrian intervention. Abou-Daya also said the Syrians played a prominent role in influencing Lebanese politics.

The women interviewed a man who had camped out for weeks in protest against Syria after Hariri's death.

"There are many theories all around the country," Raidan said after the film ended. "But there is little hard evidence of any link."

German magistrate Detlev Mehlis is currently leading a United Nations inquiry into Hariri's murder.

## Student documentary shown at Tufts U. gauges Lebanese uncertainty

The students asked people to compare their perceptions of the Syrian occupation of Lebanon and the U.S. occupation of Iraq. When asked by an audience member why the documentary made the comparison, the students said it was a popular sentiment in the Lebanese press.

One man interviewed in the documentary said Lebanese were not interested in any foreign support, Syrian or American. "Lebanon must be for Lebanon," he said.

The girls were hesitant to predict how the period of uncertainty following Hariri's death would affect the long-term dynamics inside Lebanon. "Right now, it is too early to see the future of Lebanon," Abou-Daya said. "However, many people in the country are ready to take charge."

The Lebanese students are now taking their documentary on a tour of colleges on the East Coast, including a stop at Harvard University on Thursday.

The Soliya Connect Ex College class came out of the New Initiative for Middle East Peace, a student group at the Institute of Global Leadership. The course was taught by the same students last year.

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**Load-Date:** September 16, 2005

## Democracy's challenge

Ottawa Citizen

June 9, 2005 Thursday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A14

**Length:** 528 words

**Byline:** The Ottawa Citizen

### **Body**

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It's a sign of how much still needs to be done to bring democracy to the Arab world that a report on freedom and governance in Arab states was delayed for six months as its authors dealt with the controversy it caused.

The basic message of the Arab Human Development Report is that freedom and good governance are lacking in Arab states. That shouldn't be controversial. But Rima Khalaf Hunaidi, a director in the UN Development Program and chairwoman of the group that produced the report, says officials in "donor countries" were upset about criticism of the West's double standard in tolerating despotism in its allies, but not in its enemies.

The report is highly critical of Arab states, refusing to accept any excuse for delaying democratic change. It eventually saw the light of day this spring, word for word as it was written. But despite the controversy, the UNDP should not have delayed the report. The stubborn reluctance of governments inside and outside the region to face and debate these issues can only hold progress back.

There have been scattered signs of reform in recent years. But Ms. Hunaidi says small forward steps do not necessarily mean the region is inexorably moving toward democracy. "It's not a turning point, but it's a start."

Observers are often tempted to see each step as a turning point. The excitement over recent demonstrations in Lebanon that led to the withdrawal of Syrian forces from that country has been tempered by results of the parliamentary election, where voters in southern Lebanon voted for candidates from Syrian-backed Hezbollah. The spirit of self-determination is moving in Lebanon, but a desire to move Lebanon into an era of sovereignty and stability may be lacking.

Sometimes, Ms. Hunaidi says, states will make a positive change in one area, but that might not mean the state is moving toward freedom and democracy. Some states have a relative wealth of political opportunities for women, but do not respect other human and civil rights. Then there is Kuwait, where the parliament had, until this year, refused to recognize the right of women to vote -- despite the ruler's decree granting suffrage.

The danger of half-steps, such as Saudi Arabia's male-only elections, is that they can relieve international pressure, without leading to real change. What is needed is to move forward on all fronts: human and civil rights, democratic institutions, free economic systems. It's possible that the turning point for the Arab world could come in the next few years, but only if citizens there show their leaders that they demand reform. Western governments must keep steady pressure on authoritarian states and not allow it to ease out of expedience.

## Democracy's challenge

States can reform one step at a time, but as the UN report says, those first steps must be the right ones. The fundamental and linked freedoms of opinion, expression and organization will open the way for real reform.

Canada can use its aid wisely, to support democratic institutions and to form partnerships with reformers within Arab states. There is a long way to go and no doubt there will be setbacks. But Canada must do all that it can to keep the process on track.

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

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**Syrian shadow fades, but still darkens Lebanon: Influences politics;  
Christian-Druze alliance is untested**

The Gazette (Montreal)

June 21, 2005 Tuesday

Final Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A16

**Length:** 465 words

**Byline:** SAM F. GHATTAS, AP

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

## **Body**

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The anti-Syrian opposition's election victory is certain to reshape Lebanon's politics, but that doesn't mean this small country is finally out of Syria's shadow - at least not yet.

Despite international pressure and the withdrawal of its army, Syria continues to wield some influence, albeit a waning one, through its friends and supporters.

The assassination of former prime minister Rafik Hariri four months ago galvanized the Lebanese people to take to the streets in mass anti-Syrian protests, leading to the troop withdrawal.

Now, the opposition has swept into control of the legislature. Headed by Hariri's son, Saad, and Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, the opposition has a majority of 72 seats out of 128 in parliament after the four-stage election that ended Sunday.

**Women** and children waved flags and danced in the streets of the northern port city of Tripoli as news spread yesterday that Hariri's bloc swept the 28 seats up for grabs in Sunday's round. Motorcades of honking supporters drove through Beirut, the capital, in celebration.

Claiming victory, Hariri extended a hand to his defeated opponents, saying, "We will not close the door on anyone."

The new majority - made up of diverse Muslim and Christian groups unified mainly by their desire to win and end Syrian interference - has not been tested as a coherent force.

Pro-Syrian factions such as the Shiite Muslim Amal and **Hezbollah** - together with a bloc of 21 led by their critic, Michel Aoun, who broke from the current opposition and has both anti- and pro-Syrian allies - have the remaining 56 seats.

Aoun already has said he will sit in the opposition benches in the new parliament. "There's a dispute over values," he said.

In the past, Syria took a hands-on role in directing Lebanon's politics, deciding who ran for office and who was appointed, from president and prime minister to the state university deans.

Syrian shadow fades, but still darkens Lebanon : Influences politics; Christian-Druze alliance is untested

With its army out, Damascus has lost its prime leverage in Lebanon and will have to rely on friends and supporters, a much-reduced clout.

One major backer still in place is President Emile Lahoud, accused of being the enforcer of Syria's policy and of giving security agencies allied with Damascus free rein. His term in office - extended last year on orders from Damascus - expires in 2007, and parliament cannot force him out.

The new political landscape has produced surprising alliances that saw pro- and anti-Syrian joining hands.

Aoun, the anti-Syrian former army commander who lost a 1989 war with Syrian forces, now says his problems with Damascus are over.

He allied himself with pro-Syrian groups during the election and declared that the Syrians respect him because "I am an honest adversary," unlike opposition groups that were once Syria's friends and turned on Damascus with the changing public mood.

## Graphic

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Colour Photo: HUSSEIN MALLA, AP; Anti-Syrian opposition leader Saad Hariri, son of Lebanon's slain former prime minister Rafik Hariri, seen in posters, is destined to control parliament, breaking Syria's domination of the country.

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

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