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ABOUT THE COVER
Our cover for this special issue of Israel My Glory embodies the prevailing situation in Israel and the Middle East. The flames over the region tell the story all too well. Israelis bear up under daily terror assaults while their leaders ponder how to deal with the terrorists without alienating the West. America and its allies are in the process of trying to eliminate the Iraqi threat to the region and the world. Al-Qaida operatives are deployed throughout the Arab states and areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority. How long before the flames will abate? Only God has the answer.

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Israel My Glory, P.O. Box 908, Bellmawr, NJ 08099, is published bimonthly for $15.95 per year by The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc., 1179 Almonesson Road, Deptford Township, Westville, New Jersey 08093. Periodicals postage paid at Westville, NJ, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Israel My Glory, P.O. Box 908, Bellmawr, NJ 08099-9900.

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Few of us could restrain our tears as a restaurant in Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee honored us with a stirring rendition of “The Star Spangled Banner.” Scores of Israeli young people who were gathered nearby erupted in applause, joining others who were dining. Next came “Hatikva,” the Israeli national anthem, to which we stood and joined in the cheering at the end. What other country in this decaying world loves America as much as Israel does? And now more than ever, Israelis keenly sense that the United States, especially its committed Christians, are the most loyal friends Israel has.

We visited the Jerusalem neighborhood of Gilo and saw firsthand the damage to Israeli homes that have been shelled from nearby Palestinian-controlled territory. A resident told us of his people’s determination not to be driven from their homes by terror, and he explained why they are making a stand. If they cannot be safe in Israel, he asked, where else will they ever be safe from those bent on destroying them?

The Bible came alive as we visited scores of biblical sites throughout this land God promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. We walked where Jesus walked and rejoiced together in our personal faith in our Savior.

During an inspiring ceremony at Modi’in, where the Jewish uprising against the notorious Antiochus Epiphanies began, officials of the Jewish National Fund honored The Friends of Israel and Elwood McQuaid for planting thousands of trees in recent years as part of Israel’s reforestation effort. Afterward our people put their hands to the soil and planted trees. Each tree serves as a personal legacy and continuing testimony to the founding and development of the State of Israel.

The significance of our visit did not escape ABC’s Nightline, as its camera crew spent a full day filming us; and an ABC reporter interviewed our tour participants—Christians who have a deep and abiding love for Israel and its people. Jerusalem Post Radio also told the country of our presence and broadcast interviews with our people. We were, they said, “Friends of Israel, through thick and thin.”

It was an unforgettable journey and one we want you to experience with us. Never has there been a more exciting or important time for us to visit Israel. The dates of our next “Up to Jerusalem/Standing With Israel” tour are March 19–29, 2003. For further information, or to receive a tour brochure, call The Friends of Israel at 800-257-7843 and ask for Lisa Nickerson. Together, we can stand with Israel and the Jewish people.

William E. Sutter is the executive director of The Friends of Israel.
God never makes promises He doesn’t keep. And He will keep these.

**To Abraham:** And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a sojourner, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God (Gen. 17:8).

**To Jacob:** Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession (Gen. 48:4).

**To the children of Jacob:** He hath remembered his covenant forever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations, . . . Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance (Ps. 105:8; 11).

Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken, neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate; but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah; for the LORD delighteth in thee (Isa. 62:4).

Then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, forever and ever (Jer. 7:7).

And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob, my servant, in which your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell in it, even they, and their children, and their children's children forever; and my servant, David, shall be their prince forever (Ezek. 37:25).

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the word of our God shall stand forever (Isa. 40:8).
The one-year commemoration of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon spawned a huge irony. While Americans and masses of people the world over held solemn gatherings to mourn the loss of more than three thousand innocent lives and renounce international terrorism, Islam was enjoying a coup of sorts in the United States.

For days surrounding the commemoration, the airwaves and print media bombarded us with programs and articles promoting the virtues of Islam, and the networks featured Muslims and their apologists in a favorable light. Although the interviewers obviously didn’t know enough about the subject to ask the right questions, they were well prepared not to ask the wrong ones. They carefully avoided queries that would expose the dark side of the religion. Much of what was said was either misleading, false, or slanted so heavily it seemed like Muslim propaganda.

When asked about the true meaning of *jihad*, the answers were pat responses. We were told that *jihad* does not mean conquest by the sword or spilling the blood of one’s infidel enemies; nor does the Qur’an sanction or imply such a concept. To devout Muslims, so the line went, *jihad* represents “the inner struggle of the heart to achieve inward peace and personal purity,” nothing more; and the Muslim holy book is essentially a volume promoting love, peace, and brotherhood.

Then there was the matter of Islam touted as a pluralist religion. This malarkey is an easy sell in the West because religious pluralism is basic to democracies like the United States. By and large, Americans, including Christians, are naive and uninformed about where much of the rest of the world draws the line on religious tolerance. This fact is particularly true when it comes to Islamic states.

Another prominent ingredient in these benign conversations was the idea that the Saddam Husseins and Osama bin Ladens of the world are hijacking Islam. The vast majority of Muslims were purported to be negatively typecast by the actions of a few bad apples and were portrayed as collectively wringing their hands in anguish over these miscreant troublemakers.

In the mix was the subtle implication that those who happened to see things otherwise and dare express themselves are intolerable bigots who practice the kind of prejudice and hate-mongering that are totally out of step with 21st-century, politically correct behavior.

The Questions No One Asked

No one is saying that all Muslims are terrorists or bent on world conquest. No doubt many Muslims do, indeed, want to live in peace with their neighbors. And people who know the world of Islam well understand that many innocent Muslims are persecuted, victimized, and even killed by other Islamists.

However, if the Qur’an is all about love and *jihad* is simply a matter of an inner personal struggle for peace and purity, why are hundreds of thousands of Christians being slain by Muslims waging *jihad* (holy war) and professing to be motivated by the Qur’an, which they say encourages their actions? Contemporary examples run in the millions. Here’s just a sample:

In Indonesia, some 200,000 deaths resulted in jihad violence in East Timor. Christians have been pursued, and massacred, and their churches burned down by jihadists. . . . The death toll in these violent attacks is over 10,000, while an additional 8,000 Christians have been forcibly converted to Islam.¹

These slaughtered or mutilated Christians had no one to speak or ask questions on their behalf in the media commotion surrounding September 11.

If Islam is pluralistic (it is, in truth, absolutist), why do most Muslim countries have zero tolerance for Christians and Jews? Saudi Arabia is a prime illustration. There, all citizens must be Muslim. No churches are allowed; publicly displaying Christian symbols can get you
arrested; and Muslims converting to Christianity can be executed.

Furthermore, why would an Islamic scholar argue for the incompatibility of Islam with non-Muslim systems? He said, “There can be neither peace nor coexistence between the Islamic religion and non-Islamic social and political institutions. . . . When the Islamic movement is strong enough it must take power and create an Islamic republic.” Islam has accomplished this very feat in other places—in the Sudan, for example.

And if Islam has been “hijacked” by maverick bands of off-brand radicals, why hasn’t there been an outcry from the abused Muslim-American community? It is well known that terror cells operate in or near some of the mosques in this country. It is also a fact that diatribes against Israeli and American authorities, much like those churned out by Muslim mullahs in the Middle East, spew with regularity from lecterns in the mosques of America. It would appear logical that if radicals have hijacked Islam, mainstream Muslims would be leading the posse to track down, expose, and excommunicate the misfits from among their peace-seeking Muslim brothers and sisters. Doing so would be in their best interest.

Christians, in fact, have done so with the likes of the Ku Klux Klan, Racist Christian Identity movement, and violent Aryan Nations that corrupted everything Christian and American. The issue is not complex. If Muslims want to live here (they are doing so in the millions) and be peace-loving American citizens, they should be held to the same standards of conduct as the rest of us. And why should they, or we, expect anything different?

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ENDNOTES

1 “Culture of Hate,” Bat Ye’or, National Review Online, August 2, 2002, [www.nationalreview.com/comment/comment-yeor080202.asp].

ISRAEL: Still a Miracle

When the United Nations took the historic vote on November 29, 1947, sanctioning the rebirth of the State of Israel, millions of devout Jewish people and Christians saw it as a bona fide, divinely induced miracle. A nation, long thought to be dead and gone, was back. It was a new beginning that took the world by surprise.

In truth, however, it wasn’t a new beginning at all. It was a fulfillment of the dreams of Jewish people the world over from the time they were dispersed after the Romans burned Jerusalem in A.D. 70. With each new year, at Passover seder tables scattered throughout Gentile domains, Jewish voices were raised to intone the sacred words, next year in Jerusalem. The dream was not an empty fantasy but a hope rooted firmly in the Scriptures.

Jewish people are the People of the Book. Israel is their Promised Land; and Jerusalem, the City of the King. And one day, the prophets said, there would be a great ingathering of Jewish exiles from across the face of the earth. Israel would return to its place of places—and it has.

When Jewish paratroopers with begrimed, tear-stained faces gazed up at the Western (Wailing) Wall in Old Jerusalem on Wednesday, June 7, 1967, they realized the full import of what this homecoming was about. Israeli General Moshe Dayan framed the profound emotion in words when, standing before the wall, he said, “We have returned to our holiest of holy places, never to be parted from it again... We earnestly stretch our hands toward our Arab brethren in peace, but we have returned to Jerusalem, never to part from her again.”

And when army Chief Chaplain Rabbi Shlomo Goren blew the ram’s horn he had brought with him to the wall, it signified two monumental facts: (1) Jerusalem was once again unified. It was, after some 2,000 years, one with its people. (2) The trumpet, as in ancient times, was calling world Jewry to come home.

All of these events were, indeed, the stuff of miracles.

The Long, Lonely Road

To say that the return was longed-for must rank among the great understatements of human history. The sons and daughters of Abraham had been a people marked for annihilation for centuries. They suffered at the hands of Crusaders, inquisitors, pogromists, and proponents of expulsion. They were forced to wear degrading emblems identifying them as Jews, and they experienced the affliction of being crammed into crumbling ghettos where they were denied even the simplest rights other people enjoyed.

Living in such hostile, Gentile environments, assimilation would seem to have been the sane choice. Without a country, capital, Temple, or any apparent prospect of a
national future, they hung on. The dream stayed alive—a dream based on the hope for a better day for this beleaguered people.

Then, in the 19th century, the impossible began to happen. Although Jewish people had been a presence in Jerusalem since the dispersion, an imperceptible something was taking place. Small bands of Jewish pioneers began to make their way to the Middle East. Philanthropists, such as Baron Edmond James de Rothschild, began to buy up malaria-infested tracts of swampland the Muslim Ottoman Turks thought worthless.

And after the infamous Dreyfus trial in Paris in 1894 (Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish-French military officer, was falsely accused, convicted, and packed off to Devil’s Island), the movement began to take on form and substance. Theodor Herzl, an assimilated Jewish journalist, saw the handwriting on the wall for Europe’s Jews. The welcome mat was being withdrawn, and there were troubled days ahead.

Herzl, therefore, sponsored the First Zionist Congress in Basle, Switzerland, in 1897. He said of that initial Jewish Congress, “At Basle I founded the Jewish state.” Political Zionism declared the intent to establish a Jewish state in Palestine that would be fully sanctioned by international law.

Although there were those who shared Herzl’s passion to return to the Middle East, most, like the Jews of ancient Babylon, chose to stay put, declaring themselves quite happy with their lifestyles and status as European Jews. Then came Adolph Hitler and his goose-stepping hordes of brown shirts. Six million Jewish people paid the ultimate price for their innocent miscalculation. Among the victims was Herzl’s daughter, Trude Margarethe, who died in 1943 in the Nazi concentration camp of Theresienstadt.

As Europe’s post-war Jews scraped up the pieces of their shattered lives to face a future bereft of loved ones and friends, they began to turn homeward—to Israel.

At 4:30 P.M. on May 14, 1948, David Ben-Gurion, who was destined to become Israel’s first prime minister, rose to his feet in the Tel Aviv Museum Hall and declared, “The State of Israel has arisen.” The dreamed-of miracle became a national reality.

A Matter of Survival

A full half-century has passed since those heady days of dreaming, hoping, and struggling to build a country. Jewish immigrants from more than one hundred countries have flooded the land with more Jewish people than were there in the days of Jesus.

But over those fifty and more years, a very different world began to surround little Israel. Gone are the great colonial empires that formed the mandates for a Jewish homeland. Arab independence has birthed tyrannical regimes ruled by men who share Hitler’s demented obsession to see the Jewish state and its people obliterated. Even in the “civilized” West, these people are fomenting a frightening episode of international hatred, chaos, and radicalism.

Who are these belligerent people? What motivates them, and why are they driven to such brutality in their determination to afflict innocent individuals? The search for answers has left many people frustrated, misinformed, and utterly confused.

For these reasons, we have put together this special issue of Israel My Glory. In the pages that follow, we will attempt to answer some of these perplexing questions.

When all is said and done, we pray you will get a fresh glimpse of the wonder of the miracle of Israel that many seem to have forgotten. There is, indeed, a design in all that has happened, is happening, and will yet come to pass. A sovereign God is moving us toward an inevitable consummation.

A friend of mine, scanning events plaguing the world today, said, “I wish it would just all be over. I wish the Lord would come today!” Well, we’re constrained to believe it will be over, perhaps much sooner than we think. What is sure is that the last chapter has been written; and we, together with little Israel, are on the winning side. It’s in the Bible.
When the British received their League of Nations mandate over the Holy Land at the San Remo Conference in 1920, they were told to implement the Balfour Declaration that called for “the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people” on an area that encompassed all of Jordan, including Judea and Samaria (West Bank); the Gaza Strip; and the Golan Heights.

A year later, the British gave 77 percent of that territory to the Arabs, establishing Transjordan (now Jordan) and installing Saudi Arabian Emir Abdullah as its head. Jews were expelled and no Jewish immigration was permitted there. In 1923 Britain gave the Golan Heights to the French, who ruled Syria.

Despite the creation of Jordan, extremely bloody Arab riots broke out in Palestine between 1920 and 1929. Between 1936 and 1939, Arab uprisings known as the Arab Revolt occurred. From the 1920s through the 1940s, the Arabs rioted, attacked Jewish settlements, and randomly murdered scores of Palestinian Jews.

On November 29, 1947, the UN passed Resolution 181, partitioning the remaining 23 percent of the land into two states—another one for the Arabs and one for the Jews. Despite the fact that the Jewish allocation (1) now represented only 13 percent of the territory designated in the Balfour Declaration; (2) did not
new nation of Israel was born, five Arab nations attacked. Their objective: to destroy Israel and drive the Jewish people into the sea. The nations—Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Egypt (Egyptian planes bombed Tel Aviv), and Lebanon—outnumbered Israel by 40 to 1 in population, 100 to 1 in soldiers, and 1,000 to 1 in equipment.

The war ended in the spring of 1949 with four UN-arranged cease-fire agreements between Israel and (1) Egypt, (2) Lebanon, (3) Jordan, and (4) Syria. However, the Arabs refused to make peace.

The Outcome. Israel gained 2,500 more square miles than allotted in the UN partition but lost the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. Egypt took control of the Gaza Strip, and Jordan annexed the West Bank (Judea and Samaria).

Six thousand Israelis were killed (nearly one percent of the Jewish population of 650,000); and Israel’s military cost reached nearly $500 million.

The Arabs refused to sign a peace agreement with Israel. Azzam Pasha, first secretary general of the Arab League, stated why: We have a secret weapon which we can use better than guns and machine guns, and this is time. As long as we do not make peace with the Zionists, the war is not over; and as long as the war is not over there is neither victor nor vanquished. As soon as we recognize the existence of the
Who Are the ‘Refugees’?

The original Palestinian refugees were about 650,000 (a UN mediator at the time placed the figure at 472,000) Arabs who voluntarily abandoned their homes before the 1948 War of Independence. Arab leaders encouraged them to do so, boasting they would return victoriously to claim all of Israel.

Few in this group are still alive. Today’s “refugees” are their children and grandchildren, who have been forced by all their Arab brethren, except the Jordanians, to languish in refugee camps. Yasser Arafat claims there are 5 million “refugees.” More reliable sources place the figure at just over half that number. By the end of 2001, these camps cost the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) close to $1.8 billion to support, with the United States footing 60 percent of the bill.

Arafat says nothing about repatriating or compensating the 820,000 Jewish people who fled Arab countries at that time with only the clothes on their backs because their property and possessions were confiscated. Of these, 586,000 were resettled in Israel at great expense to Israel and with no Arab compensation.

What happened to the 170,000 Arabs who remained in Israel during the War of Independence?

Shaftesbury was an ardent English social reformer who sought to abolish slavery. He helped found the Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA) and was a prominent evangelical Christian who used his influence to encourage the concept of a Jewish homeland. His conviction was based on his daily reading of the Bible. His constant prayer and hope reportedly were reflected in the words he had had engraved on a ring he wore: “Oh, pray for the peace of Jerusalem.”

Ben-Gurion arrived in the land in 1906. He became involved in the creation of the first agricultural workers’ commune, later called a kibbutz, and helped establish a Jewish self-defense group. He was a key Jewish leader during the British Mandate period through the War of Independence and served as the reborn nation’s first prime minister. Ben-Gurion retired from political life in 1970.

There is only one important book on the subject [Zionism], the Bible, and I have read it thoroughly.

Born to a religious Christian family, Wingate firmly believed in the Bible and passionately embraced the prophetic vision of a Jewish homeland. A talented British officer, he was stationed in Palestine (1936–39) when small bands of Arab rioters regularly attacked both the British and the Jews. To counter this offensive, Wingate organized and trained special night squads comprised primarily of Jewish Haganah fighters. Wingate was killed in an airplane crash in Burma in 1944 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Because of his efforts and support, Israel refers to him as Ha-Yedid (“the Friend”).

Allon was born in Kefar Tavor in Lower Galilee in 1918. He was an outstanding military commander and in 1941 founded the Palmach, the special commando unit of the Haganah. During the War of Independence he was appointed lieutenant general and saw many decisive battles. In 1955 he was elected to the Knesset. He held many posts, including minister of labor, deputy prime minister, minister of immigrant absorption, minister of education and culture, minister of foreign affairs, chairman of the World Labor Zionist Movement, and member of the ministerial committee on security and economy.
Although the British were instructed in 1920 to help the Jewish people resettle into land that had been designated for a Jewish national home, they did just the opposite. Instead of facilitating Jewish immigration and helping the Jews already there, they restricted immigration, prevented Jewish people from purchasing land, and beckoned Arabs from outlying areas to flood into Palestine to take land cleared and cultivated by Jewish people for Jewish people.

The result is that most of the so-called Palestinians who today claim they have lived in the land “from time immemorial” and that Zionists stole their land are not even from Palestine.


Peters, a former White House consultant on the Middle East, painstakingly researched the history of the Holy Land’s population and found that most of the so-called Palestinians arrived from many other countries within the last 80 years, whereas the Jewish people have lived there for more than 3,000 years—since the days of Joshua.

“History did not begin with the Arab conquest in the seventh century,” wrote Ms. Peters. “The people whose nation was destroyed by the Romans were the Jews. There were no Arab Palestinians then—not until seven hundred years later would an Arab rule prevail, and then briefly [22 years, A.D. 639–661]. And not by people known as ‘Palestinians’” (p. 155). Nor did today’s so-called Palestinians descend, as they claim, from the small number of Arabs whom the Arabian conquerors imported, because almost all those died from disease (p. 151).

So where did these “Palestinians” come from—these people who have been in the land “from time immemorial”? Among the peoples who have been counted as “indigenous Palestinian Arabs” are Balkans, Greeks, Syrians, Latins, Egyptians, Turks, Armenians, Italians, Persians, Kurds, Germans, Afghans, Circassians, Bosnians, Sudanese, Samaritans, Algerians, Motawila, and Tartars (pp. 155-56).

Continued on page 41
Although four of the five Arab nations that attacked Israel signed armistice agreements at the end of Israel’s War of Independence, they nevertheless refused to make peace. Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser repeatedly called for Israel’s extermination: “Our basic objective,” he said, “will be the destruction of Israel. . . . The issue is not the establishment of peace. . . . The war with Israel is in effect since 1948.”

On May 19, 1967, the United Nations Emergency Force in the Sinai and Gaza Strip pulled out, ending a 10-year commitment for peacekeeping in the areas. The next day Nasser moved 100,000 troops, including more than 1,000 tanks, to Israel’s border. Meanwhile, Syrian troops amassed along the Golan Heights, from where they had been shelling Israeli settlements on the Sea of Galilee for the past 19 years.

On May 23, Nasser blockaded the Straits of Tiran to all Israeli shipping and all ships bound for Eilat in Israel and placed soldiers on the banks of the Suez Canal. Jordan, Syria, and Iraq helped Egypt. Israel became surrounded by 250,000 enemy soldiers, 2,000 tanks, and 700 jetfighters.

The United States and France, Israel’s main arms suppliers, refused to supply Israel, while the Soviet Union continued to supply massive amounts of weaponry to the Arabs.

On June 5, Israel launched a dawn preemptive strike against the Arab confederacy and, in barely three hours, destroyed 391 planes on the ground and 60 airborne fighters. Israel’s air force gained complete control of the air space over the Middle East.

Prime Minister Levi Eshkol told Jordan’s King Hussein that Israel would not attack Jordan unless Jordan struck first. (Jordan controlled Judea and Samaria [the West Bank], which it annexed in 1950. Previously, the British ruled the area.) King Hussein ignored the message and on June 5 shelled Israel.

Israeli forces advanced into Samaria and defeated Jordan around Jenin before turning eastward toward the Jordan River and then south into Nablus. In the south, General Uzi Narkiss secured the Jerusalem Corridor and pushed north.

On June 7, Israel recaptured the Old City of Jerusalem, containing Judaism’s most sacred sites—the Temple Mount and Wailing (Western) Wall, which Jews had been barred from visiting since 1948. King Hussein accepted a cease-fire and handed over the entire West Bank to Israel.

On June 8, Israeli tanks went to El Arish, down the Gulf of Suez to Sharm El Sheikh, and surrounded the Egyptian army, taking the whole Sinai.

In another miraculous victory, Israel captured the Golan Heights in the north—an uncultivated, barren area that the Syrians used solely for fighting Israel. Syria had studded it everywhere with in-depth defenses, minefields, barbed wire, dug-in artillery, tanks, and soldiers in concrete bunkers that stretched across the plateau almost to Damascus. Upon scaling their way to the top under heavy fire, the Israelis fought in hand-to-hand combat.

**The Outcome.** At the end of the six days, Israel controlled all of the West Bank, Jerusalem, the Sinai
Peninsula, the Gaza Strip, and the Golan Heights. It later returned the Sinai. Israel refused to withdraw to the 1949 armistice boundaries. Nasser said he would continue to deny Israeli ships access through the Suez Canal and demanded Israel withdraw from all captured territory.

International involvement in the Middle East increased. Area Arabs began to call themselves Palestinians and eventually called for recognition of a Palestinian state. Israel, however, insisted on negotiating for peace in exchange for guaranteed borders and a nonbelligerent Palestinian position.

On November 22, 1967, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 242, which, among other things, called for (1) an end to the belligerency; (2) acknowledgement of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of every state in the area; and (3) the rights of each state to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries.

David M. Levy is the director of Foreign Ministries for The Friends of Israel.

Gamal Abdel Nasser (1918–70)

Our basic objective will be the destruction of Israel” (Nasser, May 27, 1967).

Nasser pushed the concept of “Pan-Arabism” (secular Arab nationalism), the idea of establishing the whole Mideast as one massive Arab nation with himself as the head. Israel stood between him and his goal. He goaded other Arab nations by his belligerent statements and hostile actions and provoked the Suez War (1956), the Six-Day War (1967), and the 16-month-long War of Attrition (1969–1970). Arab romantics today remember him as El Rayess—“the Leader.”

Ariel Sharon (1928–)

Sharon was born in Kefar Malal in British Mandate Palestine. He joined the Haganah at age 14. In 1948 he commanded an infantry. To combat Egypt’s fedayeen terrorists, Sharon founded and led the secret Unit 101 against them. Sharon was defense minister during the War in Lebanon. He served in the Israel Defense Forces for more than 25 years and retired as a major general. He holds a law degree from Hebrew University; has served in numerous posts; and, in February 2001, became Israel’s eleventh prime minister.
Israel acquired the “occupied,” or, more accurately, disputed territories during the 1967 Six-Day War. They are Judea/Samaria (West Bank) and the Gaza Strip. In 1981 Israel annexed the Golan Heights, also acquired in 1967. According to the Oslo Peace Accords, the disputed territories’ final status is yet to be negotiated.

**Judea/Samaria (West Bank)**

Never have Judea and Samaria been considered separate from the historic land of Israel. However, the 1947 UN Partition Plan designated them to be part of a second Palestinian-Arab state (Jordan being the first). Because the Arabs rejected the Partition and attacked Israel in 1948, temporary armistice lines were drawn in 1949 pending a permanent peace between Israel and Jordan. In 1950 Jordan annexed Judea/Samaria. Jordan coined the phrase West Bank. When Jordan attacked Israel in 1967, the 1949 armistice lines became null and void.

Jewish people have always lived in Judea/Samaria, except between 1948 and 1967 when Jordan ruled and expelled all Jews. The area includes East Jerusalem, where the Wailing Wall is located.

**Gaza Strip**

The Gaza Strip, like Judea/Samaria, was originally designated for a Jewish homeland but was partitioned to the Arabs by the UN. In the War of Independence in 1948, Egypt got control of the Strip. It came under Jewish authority following the 1967 Six-Day War.

**The Golan Heights**

The 459 square miles of the Golan Heights comprise one of the most strategically important areas to Israel. Rising up from 400 to 1,700 feet, the Heights overlook the Huleh Valley, Israel’s richest agricultural land. In the northern part of the Golan is Mount Hermon, where Israel has an early-warning radar system. The region also provides some of the headwaters for Lake Kinneret (Sea of Galilee), one of Israel’s main water sources.

From 1948 to 1967, Syria used the Golan almost exclusively as a military outpost from which it bombarded northern Israel nearly constantly for 19 years. Syria also permitted terrorists to infiltrate Israel from there, resulting in 140 Israeli deaths and scores of injuries. Israeli families commonly lived in underground bunkers, huddling for protection. Israel repeatedly tried diplomacy to stop the aggression, but to no avail.

At the outset of the 1967 Six-Day War, Syria used the Golan to shell the Galilee below. Israel suffered extensive casualties in storming the Golan, but the sacrifices helped to provide an important security buffer for the rest of the country. In fact, when Syria again attacked Israel in 1973, the Golan Heights significantly prevented Syria’s advancement.

After the Six-Day War, Israelis began to resettle the Golan. Prior to the war, few Arabs lived there. Those who did fled during the conflict. Four Druze villages remained and today have a population of about 17,000.

Under Syrian rule, the area was neglected and barren. The Israelis have farmed the land and made it productive. Today it has 5,000 acres of field crops and 4,000 acres of orchards. Thirty-five thousand tons of flowers are produced there each year. It has livestock, pasturelands, and even tourist areas. There are 33 Israeli settlements there, with a combined population of 18,000.

What Are the ‘Occupied Territories’?

After that war, Jewish people voluntarily began to move back to their ancient homeland in Judea/Samaria. They also moved to the Gaza Strip, much of which was empty because, of about 2,400 square miles, only 26 percent is arable. Yet they worked the land and made it prosper.

Many of the Jewish communities in the disputed territories existed for years prior to 1948 and were reestablished after 1967. Others were new. None of the settlements displaced Arabs. In fact, they all were built on land that was (1) a previous Jewish site, (2) not owned by a private party, or (3) purchased from established owners. When public land was involved, it was investigated to make sure there were no private owners.

Most strategists consider the settlements a necessary buffer in time of war. Nevertheless, to aid the “peace process,” the government has put a freeze on establishing new settlements. There are 144 settlements in Judea/Samaria and Gaza, with a Jewish population of about 130,000.

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Anwar Sadat replaced Nasser as Egypt’s president after Nasser’s death in 1970. Sadat believed he had to regain the Sinai taken by Israel in 1967. Israeli intelligence warned the government that war could be imminent because of Egyptian and Syrian military buildups on the borders; but the warning went unheeded.

Sadat removed the Soviet advisers and joined President Hafez al-Assad of Syria to wage war against Israel. Although Jordan prepared a military buildup on the Jordanian-Israeli border, the country stayed out of the war.

On October 6, 1973, Yom Kippur (the holiest day on Israel’s calendar), Egypt and Syria attacked an ill-prepared Israel on two fronts. On the Golan Heights, a skeleton Israeli force with 180 Israeli tanks faced 1,400 Syrian tanks; in the Sinai, 600,000 Egyptians using 2,000 tanks and 500 aircraft attacked 500 Israelis trying to defend their positions along the Bar Lev Line by the Suez Canal. The attacks stunned Israel. Egypt and Syria were backed financially and militarily by at least nine Arab nations.

Intense fighting produced heavy losses on both sides. By October 7, the Syrians were within 800 meters of the Israeli settlement of El Al near the Sea of Galilee. The battle raged. By October 10 Israeli forces were reinforced, drove the Syrians from the Golan Heights, and forced them back to the cease-fire line. On October 11 Israeli forces counterattacked into Syria; and on October 12, they came within 18 miles of Damascus, the Syrian capital.

U.S. President Richard M. Nixon received Congressional approval for $2.2 billion in emergency aid for Israel and ordered an airlift to resupply Israel with military equipment to counterbalance the Soviet Union’s massive airlift to Egypt.

Following an intense three-day tank battle in the Sinai, Israel defeated the Egyptians. Israeli paratroopers crossed the canal and by October 18 had almost reached Cairo. Saudi Arabia and Libya cut off oil to the United States, and the Soviets threatened to enter the fighting. U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger went to Russia to talk about restoring peace.

On October 21 the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 338, calling for, among other things, a cease-fire and implementation of Resolution 242. The UN also voted to place UN observers along the cease-fire lines. Syria would accept the resolution only if Israel withdrew from the land it won during the Six-Day War. Egypt and Israel accused each other of cease-fire violations, and heavy fighting resumed on the Suez Canal front. Israeli forces pushed south and cut off the city of Suez and the Egyptian Third Army of 20,000 men. Israel was forced to accept a cease-fire just when it was capable of destroying the Egyptian army. On November 11 Israel and Egypt signed a cease-fire accord drawn up by Kissinger and Sadat.

The Outcome. Kissinger negotiated two Sinai accords. They (1) freed Egypt’s Third Army, trapped by Israel in the Sinai; (2) gave Egypt control of the Suez Canal; (3) forced Israel to withdraw from several strategic places in Sinai; (4) placed UN-policed buffer zones between the two forces; (5) placed a UN buffer zone between Israel and Syria; (6) and gave Syria back the border town of Kuneitra, which it promptly stocked with military installations, artillery, and ammunition.

Inset: A truck full of captured Egyptian soldiers meets a convoy of Israeli troops near El Arish, Egypt, June 8, 1967. Background: Acrid fumes and smoke fill the air at the Syrian border as Israeli artillerymen hold their ears while laying down a barrage on Syrian positions, October 12, 1973.
Israel and Egypt Make Peace

The Egyptian press is virulently anti-Semitic, and the Egyptian government does little to stop illegal arms-smuggling to the Palestinians. Nevertheless, the March 26, 1979, peace treaty between Israel and Egypt has created a modicum of stability along Israel’s southern border.

**Israeli Compliance**

Israel established peace with Egypt, withdrew from all of the Sinai Peninsula by 1982 (within the three-year requirement), and has sought to establish and maintain “normal and friendly relations” (Article 1, para. 3).

**Egyptian Compliance**

Although it is called a “cold peace,” Egypt established peace with Israel. Egypt also resumed sovereignty over the Sinai Peninsula.

Article 3, paragraph 2 states that each party is to ensure that acts or threats of hostility or violence against the other party do not originate within its territory. Israel has repeatedly urged Egypt to do more to stop the frequent, illegal arms-smuggling to the Palestinian Authority (PA) through underground tunnels along the Egyptian-Gaza border. In January 2002, Israel intercepted the Karine-A ship and confiscated its cargo of 50 tons of illegal armaments bound for the PA. The captain confessed the ship intended to unload its cargo onto smaller boats at a port in Egypt, for smuggling into Gaza.

In October 1999 Egyptian Defense Minister Muhammad Tantawi sent a message to his general staff: “We must be prepared for war with Israel.” Since becoming Egypt’s president in 1981, Hosni Mubarak has never officially visited Israel. He attended Yitzhak Rabin’s funeral, but

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**Menachem Begin**

(1913–92)

Born in what is now Belarus, Begin became a passionate Zionist. Imprisoned by Josef Stalin, he was freed after the Nazis invaded the Soviet Union. After joining the Free Polish Army, he was sent to British-controlled Palestine for training in 1943. There he joined the Irgun, an underground movement to oust the British.

In 1977 Begin became prime minister and gave back to Egypt much of the Sinai captured in the Yom Kippur War, bringing about the 1979 Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty. That year he and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat received the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1981 Begin ordered Iraq’s nuclear reactor bombed, and in 1982 he ordered the invasion of Lebanon. He retired from public life in 1983. He is buried in Jerusalem.

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**Golda Meir**

(1898–1978)

I believe that we will have peace with our neighbors, but I am sure that no one will make peace with a weak Israel. If Israel is not strong, there will be no peace.

I am also grateful that I live in a country whose people learned how to go on living in a sea of hatred without hating those who want to destroy them (from her autobiography, *My Life*). Born in Russia, Golda Meir immigrated to Palestine from the United States in 1921 with her husband. In 1948, David Ben-Gurion appointed her a member of the Provisional Government. She became prime minister in early 1969 but also served in many other important posts. The major event of her administration was the Yom Kippur War in 1973. Among the Israelis, she is affectionately remembered as “Our Golda.”

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When it comes to terrorists, it is sometimes difficult to tell the players without a program. Although the secular press of late has taken to calling them militiamen, freedom fighters, militants, and other such misleading nomenclature, the fact is that they are all terrorists. And they all speak of “liberating Palestine,” which means destroying Israel. Many now speak of taking on the United States also. And they all are extremely violent.

**Muslim Brotherhood**

The Muslim Brotherhood began in 1928 in Egypt as an Islamic organization hoping to revive the Islamic way of life. Later it grew more political, joining other Arabs in combating Israel.

After Israel’s War of Independence, the Brotherhood continued to oppose Israel but also focused on overthrowing Egypt’s secular government and establishing an Islamic state in its place—a goal that continues to this day. As a result, the Egyptian government has banned the organization, arrested some of its members, and executed some of its leaders. Many of the Brothers have scattered to such areas as Saudi Arabia, Jordan, the disputed territories in Israel, and Syria. In response, the Brotherhood assassinated some of Egypt’s political figures, including President Anwar Sadat in 1981.

Syrian Brothers attempted to overthrow the Syrian government, but failed. The late Syrian President Hafez al-Assad essentially eliminated the Brothers in Syria by executing upwards of 25,000 of them in 1982.

The Muslim Brotherhood has more than 70 branches worldwide and claims to have tens of thousands of members. It strongly opposes peace with Israel.

**Palestine Islamic Jihad**

The Palestine Islamic Jihad (often shortened to Islamic Jihad, not to be confused with Hezbollah, which sometimes calls itself Islamic Jihad) is on the U.S. State Department’s list of foreign terrorist organizations. It was founded in 1979 in Egypt, splintering off from the Gaza Strip branch of the Muslim Brotherhood. Egypt expelled the organization back to the Gaza Strip after...
Sadat’s assassination. In 1988 Israel expelled the leaders of Islamic Jihad to Lebanon, where they reorganized and cooperated with Hezbollah. Today Islamic Jihad is based in Damascus, Syria. It receives most of its support from Syria and Iran.

Islamic Jihad’s goals are to create an Islamic Palestinian state and eliminate the nation of Israel through jihad (“struggle,” or “holy war”). Islamic Jihad is not as popular with Arabs in the disputed territories as Hamas is. It has laid claim to murdering scores of innocent Israeli civilians and wounding hundreds more since the Oslo agreement was signed in 1993. These attacks include the 1996 suicide bombing in Tel Aviv outside a shopping mall, killing 20 people, two of them U.S. citizens. They also include the 2001 brutal murders of American-Israeli teenager Kobi Mandell and his friend, who were found stoned to death in a cave.

Islamic Jihad also declares as its enemies the United States and moderate Arab states.

**Hamas**

_Hamas_ is an Arabic acronym for Islamic Resistance Movement. It, too, is on the State Department’s list of foreign terrorist organizations. Based predominantly in the disputed territories, Hamas was founded in December 1987 at the start of the first _intifada_ and is an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood and is thus highly Islamic in purpose and focus.

To a large degree, Hamas was formed out of frustration that the PLO then seemed to be weakening. Hamas determined to stay true to the Palestinian cause and strategy: to completely eradicate Israel through violence and establish an Islamic Palestinian state that encompasses all the territory between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea.

To Hamas, the conflict with Israel is a matter of survival and will not end until Israel is completely removed. It considers Palestine forever Islamic land and jihad the duty of every Muslim as the means of expelling the “Zionist” usurpers.

Article 13 of its charter states, _There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through jihad. Initiatives, proposals and international conferences are all a waste of time and vain endeavors._

Thus Hamas vehemently opposes all land compromises, recognition of the State of Israel, and all peace negotiations. Hamas members are prepared “to fight the Zionists until they leave Palestine the way they migrated to it” (Hamas Web site).

Since the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1993, Hamas has killed hundreds of innocent Israeli civilians and injured thousands more, despite its claim to pursue only military targets.

Hamas is growing in popularity among Palestinians, especially as the corruption within the Palestinian Authority is exposed and Yasser Arafat’s leadership weakens.

In July 2002, Israel killed Salah Shihada, a top Hamas leader responsible for murdering hundreds of Israelis. He was in the process of planning a major attack inside Israel involving a truck bomb loaded with explosives. Here is Hamas’s response to Israel’s action:

_We call on the Qassam Brigades and other military wings to strike the Zionists at any time and at any place with all means . . . there is no prohibited method in our war with this dirty enemy. We vow before our Sheikh Salah (Abu Mustafa) [Shihada] to turn each and every Zionist house and street into a funeral. We vow before you our Sheikh commander to launch a reprisal act that satisfies Allah . . . for we have learned from you how to satisfy Allah. We pledge to you Abu Mustafa that we will not enjoy sleep until we see Zionists turning into scattered remains in all of their restaurants, buses and pavements (Hamas Statement and Military Communiqué, July 23, 2002)._  

**Hezbollah**

Hezbollah (“Party of God”), sometimes called Islamic Resistance or Islamic Jihad, is a Lebanese terrorist group based primarily in southern Beirut and the Beqaa Valley, with a membership of around 5,000. It, too, is on the U.S. State Department’s list of foreign terrorist organizations.

Hezbollah was formed in response to Israel’s “Operation Peace for Galilee” in Lebanon in 1982. It is ideologically tied with Iran and gets much of its financial and strategical support from Iran. Although not formally united with the secular Syrian government, Hezbollah works in tandem with it to achieve the objectives of both groups.

Hezbollah’s two chief goals are to establish an Islamic government (patterned after Iran’s) and to destroy Israel. Hezbollah alleges it wants to accomplish the former in a peaceful, democratic manner, without using violence or coercion. How that harmonizes with its goal of destroying Israel is unexplainable.

Hezbollah is unabashed in its claim to murder and mayhem. Its Web site includes video clips of its terrorist operations. It also boasts of using suicide attacks as one of its “special types of resistance against the Zionist enemy.” Hezbollah is responsible for hundreds of attacks against Israeli positions in northern Israel. The organization has also kidnapped Israeli soldiers and civilians, holding them hostage and
incommunicado. Hezbollah has also established working relations with Yasser Arafat to coordinate terrorist activities in the disputed territories. Hezbollah is also an enemy of the United States, claiming responsibility for the 1983 bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut and numerous kidnappings of Westerners. Five days after September 11, 2001, Hezbollah warned the United States against more “unjust” policies, “which have led to this level of hate against the US by many peoples and governments in the world.” There are reports that al-Qaida, Osama bin Laden’s organization, is regrouping in Lebanon and forming alliances with Hezbollah.

**PFLP**

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) was established in 1967 to eliminate Israel and create a socialist, democratic, Palestinian state. The PFLP is on the U.S. State Department’s list of foreign terrorist organizations.

The PFLP gunned down an Israeli woman and her 12-year-old son in December 1996 and murdered Israeli Minister of Tourism Rehavam Ze’evi in October 2001.

**Fatah**

*Al-Fatah* (Arabic, “The Conquest”), or the Movement for the National Liberation of Palestine, is a terrorist organization founded by Yasser Arafat and seven of his friends in 1959 while he lived in Kuwait. Fatah’s first publication called for the destruction of Israel. Fatah later became the largest and most influential member of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and is responsible for countless terrorist attacks against Israel.

Fatah has also assisted in attacks against Americans. According to *Newsweek* (Nov. 15, 1999), Fatah supplied the weapons used to kill 241 U.S. Marines in Beirut in 1983.

Fatah’s leadership and support come directly from Yasser Arafat. Its resources, in the millions of dollars, come from the Palestinian Authority budget.

Fatah and Arafat’s personal security force, Force 17, are not currently on the U.S. State Department’s list of foreign terrorist organizations; but they once were. However, Israel’s government has proven that Fatah is still engaged in terror, only incognito as Al-Aksa Martyrs Brigade, which is on the U.S. State Department’s list of foreign terrorist organizations.

**Peace Treaty Between Israel and Jordan**

Israel and Jordan have had good relations. Their treaty provided for an end to war and normalized relations. Israel and Jordan have had mutually successful joint ventures in commerce, trade, resources, communication, tourism, and many other areas. However, King Abdullah has not clearly and definitively condemned suicide bombings.

**Date: October 26, 1994 Mutual Compliance**

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With Britain’s aid, Abdullah of Saudi Arabia led the Arabs against the Ottoman Turks in World War I. In 1921 Winston Churchill carved out a portion of the Promised Land designated for the Jewish people and created Transjordan. Abdullah was made its ruler. Later Abdullah renamed the region after his family, and the area became known as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, which was ruled for 47 years by Abdullah’s grandson, King Hussein.

Abdullah viewed Palestinian Arabs and Jordanians as one people. The term *Palestine* was prohibited in official documents. While Jerusalem was under his control, Jewish people were not allowed access to their holy places. In 1951 a Palestinian Arab assassinated him at the Al-Aqsa Mosque that occupies the southern end of the Temple Mount.

**Rehavam Ze’evi (1926–2001)**

Ze’evi was born in Jerusalem in 1926. He was a career army officer, retiring with the rank of major general. He edited 65 books and served in the Knesset. In March 2001, Ze’evi became minister of tourism. On October 17, 2001, Palestinian terrorists shot him between the eyes at point blank range in the Hyatt Hotel in Jerusalem. He is survived by his wife and five children.
The latest chapter in the long and bitter Arab-Israeli conflict was less than two months old when the first major terror attack took place in Jerusalem. It would turn out to be the beginning of a torrent of suicide/homicide bomb blasts in the capital as the war of attrition rages on, with assaults in most other Israeli cities and towns. The bombings claimed more than four hundred lives during the first two years of the violent uprising and have left thousands wounded, many for life.

The two Israeli civilians savagely blown to bits in that initial Jerusalem attack in November 2000 were the daughter of National Religious Party leader Yitzhak Levy and a young Jerusalem attorney. The latter was a good friend of my friend Ron.

I was in my apartment when Ron stopped by to ask if I would help him translate a letter into English that he had written to a hotel manager—pleading with him not to close his health club because of the dearth of hotel guests. After we worked on the project awhile, I switched on the evening news. The lead story revealed that his friend was one of the terrorist victims earlier that day. I will never forget the look of intense sorrow mixed with anger that swept over Ron’s face as tears rolled down his cheeks.

Some of the dead in the ongoing terrorist war have not been Israelis at all. Chinese, Romanian, and Filipino workers are among the casualties, along with five American students and teachers who were murdered when a bomb ripped apart a cafeteria at the main Hebrew University campus in Jerusalem in July 2002.

I often hear inside details of how bomb blasts affect some of the surviving victims from my friend Diane, a Christian living in Jerusalem. The native Nebraskan with a servant’s heart has labored for many years in the Intensive Care unit of the city’s Hadassah Hospital, located in the Ein Kerem suburb,
where Mary stayed with the pregnant Elizabeth in biblical times.

Among the many stirring stories Diane has shared with me is one connected to the horrendous Hebrew University attack. Sarah, a 24-year-old Israeli student, was eating lunch close to the powerful bomb that was detonated by a rigged cell phone in the center of the popular Frank Sinatra cafeteria.

As usual, the Palestinians had packed the bomb to the gills with nails and other metal objects to magnify their victims’ wounds. Sarah was inflicted with shrapnel all over her body, leaving her scarred for life. Even worse, the blast severed her spinal cord and imploded her lungs.

Doctors at Hadassah thought Sarah would not survive. Indeed, some said with deep sorrow that death might be best. But as Diane was quietly cleaning blood from one of Sarah’s wounds in the middle of the night, the young woman suddenly opened her eyes. Astonished, the American nurse asked Sarah some questions to see if she was able to hear and understand her. Even though Sarah was on a breathing machine and could not talk, she nodded her head to tell Diane she understood.

Sarah closed her eyes in relief when Diane answered the question she knew would be burning in Sarah’s mind—the condition of her mother, who was eating lunch with her when the massive explosion destroyed the cafeteria. Diane was happy to be able to tell her that her mother was in another hospital with relatively minor wounds and would be okay. What she did not tell her was that she herself would never walk again.

The Hebrew University attack gave the IC unit three other patients. One of them, a 28-year-old Israeli woman, lost an eye from a nail that spewed from the Hamas-made bomb. The nail pierced her eye and lodged in her brain. Hadassah’s skilled surgeons quickly removed the nail, and the young woman will survive with her mental abilities intact. But her missing eye will serve as a lifelong reminder of the sudden terror that interrupted her peaceful lunch at Israel’s largest center of learning.

Lee, a 34-year-old Korean student, will also never be the same again. He suffered severe burns on his face, arms, and legs. His scars, too, will serve as permanent reminders of his unexpected encounter with fanatical, Palestinian Islamic terror.

Diane recalled with tears one of her most difficult moments at Hadassah Hospital. It came while treating Alex, 53, who was shot several times at close range when a terrorist burst into his home. Soon after doctors removed bullets from his head, arms, and legs, the breathing tube was removed from Alex’s throat, enabling him to talk. But the only word he uttered was his late wife’s name, repeating it over and over again. After being shot himself, he was forced to watch in horror as the hate-filled Palestinian gunned her down, along with his five-year-old daughter. Although doctors say Alex’s physical wounds will heal, his emotional scars will remain until he goes to his grave.

Diane also has shared with me some profiles in courage. Joseph, barely 19, received his critical wounds when he intercepted a suicide terrorist running toward a crowded Jerusalem city bus. Had the Arab reached his destination, he would have killed and wounded many people. Instead, Joseph tackled the terrorist after he saw him leap out of a car and head toward the bus. Joseph’s lungs and eyes were severely damaged when the Palestinian prematurely detonated the explosives wrapped around his waist.

Even as Joseph’s selfless act fades in public memory, the Israelis on the bus will never forget what Joseph did for them. And the Keeper of Israel will surely remember as well. The Lord’s justice will prevail in the end. This is the hope and expectation that many victims and their loved ones cling to as they carry on as best they can in the wake of the ongoing Pales-

David Dolan is a Christian journalist who has lived in Israel since 1982.
In January 1964, 13 Arab nations met in Cairo for an Arab League summit and created the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), a political body designed to give a voice to the Palestinian Arabs. At the time, there were no disputed Israeli settlements. Jordan held the West Bank and East Jerusalem; Egypt held the Gaza Strip.

The first PLO congress met in May 1964 in East Jerusalem and drew up the Palestinian National Charter. This Charter was revised in July 1968 and adopted along with a new PLO constitution. The Charter contains 33 articles in which it defines who is a Palestinian, asserts Palestinian-Arab ownership of the entire Holy Land (the PLO insignia is a map of Palestine without Israel), and declares the PLO’s goal: to “liquidate the Zionist presence in Palestine” (Article 15).

It states, “Armed struggle [mentioned nine times] is the only way of liberating Palestine” (Article 9). The methodology is “commando action” (meaning terrorist attacks, Article 10) carried out by its own Palestinian Liberation Army. Thus the PLO has killed thousands of Israelis, primarily civilians, and injured thousands more.

The 1968 Charter contains at least two notable changes. The 1964 version defined Jewish people as Palestinians—those who lived in Palestine until 1947—as long as they were willing to live peacefully and loyally under Arab rule (Article 7). The 1968 version said Jews were Palestinians if they lived in Palestine, not until 1947, but rather “up to the beginning of the Zionist invasion” (Article 6). Some interpret this change to mean that only Jewish people who lived in the region before 1917 (the date Arab literature often uses for the “Zionist invasion”) could claim Palestinian identity. It was 1917 when the British defeated the Muslim Ottoman Turks and gained control of the area.

Also, the first charter claimed no Arab sovereignty over the West Bank or the Gaza Strip (Article 24). The 1968 charter excluded this original article after Israel gained the two territories in the 1967 Six-Day War. The PLO now claims the land.

The PLO serves as an umbrella organization for a number of terrorist factions. By 1968, Yasser Arafat’s Fatah party constituted the majority of the PLO. Arafat was elected PLO chairman the same year and has remained in that position ever since.

In 1988, Arafat announced the PLO’s recognition of Israel and the renunciation of terrorism. In the Oslo Peace process that followed, the PLO committed itself to
expunging the charter sections that call for Israel’s destruction. Some assert this action took place at a Palestinian meeting in Gaza on December 14, 1998, with President Bill Clinton in attendance.

However, a multitude of irregularities surrounded the vote, and it is questionable it was legitimate: (1) lack of two-thirds majority vote (not even two-thirds attended); (2) lack of formal vote, only a show of hands; (3) no official count taken; (4) no substitute reading of the charter put forth; (5) meeting was not called specifically for the purpose of amending the charter, as required by Article 33; and (6) the vote merely approved the intention of amending the charter, but no amendments were made. It was sent to committee in 1996 and has been buried there ever since.

**New Tactics**

Following the Yom Kippur War of 1973, the PLO changed its tactics somewhat. Realizing the implausibility of defeating Israel in a full-scale war, in June 1974 it approved a Phased Plan designed to destroy the State of Israel through incremental advances. Articles 2 and 8 state the PLO’s objective: to “liberate” portions of Palestinian territory, establish a Palestinian National Authority on those portions, then coalesce an alliance with other Arab countries “with the aim of completing the liberation of all Palestinian territory” (i.e., destroying the State of Israel).

Through the Oslo Peace Process, begun in 1993, the PLO has acquired land that it could not acquire through combat. Once acquired, the PLO’s representative role was given to the Palestinian Authority (PA). Arafat and other Palestinian leaders prefer to call the PA the Palestinian National Authority because it implies nation status. It also corresponds with the objective of the 1974 Phased Plan of creating a Palestinian National Authority on a portion of the territory.

Throughout its history, wherever the PLO has gone, it has created national destabilization. This action is intentional. The PLO has sought to undermine whatever national government hosts it, seeking to be a state-within-a-state, if not overthrowing the government outright despite the PLO Charter’s promise, “The Organization shall not interfere in the internal affairs of any Arab country” (Article 27).

In the late 1960s, King Hussein’s Jordanian government was in serious jeopardy of being overrun by the PLO. Hussein attacked the PLO in September 1970, killing thousands. Over the next few months he drove Arafat and the PLO from Jordan.

The PLO next went to Lebanon. It established headquarters in Beirut, dominated the population, and usurped the Lebanese government. Civil war broke out in the mid-70s. Due to the PLO’s continual terrorist attacks and bombardment of northern Galilee, Israel entered Lebanon in 1982, forcing out the majority of PLO members. Arafat then fled to Tunis, Tunisia, where he established the PLO’s base of operations. He remained in Tunis until Israel allowed him into the Gaza Strip in 1994 as a result of the Oslo Accords.

When the PLO moves into an area, it also creates an organized crime system that includes embezzlement, extortion, bribery, monopolies, and murder. This fact has not changed even under the Palestinian Authority. Even with a PA budget of over $1 billion annually (almost $780 million from foreign-donated funds) and another $1 billion in annual, nonbudgeted income from monopolies, there is little evidence of infrastructure improvements. Two-thirds of the PA budget, over $700 million, goes to PA salaries, including the salaries of known terrorists. Arafat personally controls the PA’s checkbook. While most Palestinians live in poverty, PA officials enjoy lavish lifestyles and own villas and luxury cars. Although some within the PA have decried the corruption, their voices are quickly silenced.

PA members also extort “protection” money from Palestinian businesses or “request” donations to the Palestinian cause from Christian residents. Since the PA began to administer heavily Christian areas, Christian emigration has skyrocketed. Before PA control, Bethlehem and Nazareth were 80 percent and 60 percent Christian respectively. Now they are 20 percent and 30 percent Christian.

Bruce Scott is a field representative with The Friends of Israel in New Hope, Minnesota.
The goal of our struggle is the end of Israel, and there can be no compromise (Yasser Arafat, quoted in The Washington Post, 1970).

Yasser Arafat is not a Palestinian. He was born in Cairo, Egypt, in 1929. His real name is Muhammad Abdel Rahman (first name) Abdel Raouf (father’s name) Arafat (grandfather’s name) Al Qudua (name of his family) Al Husseini (name of his family clan). Arafat adopted the pseudonym Yasser to gain more respect by identifying himself with a famed Muslim warrior and companion of Muhammad, Yasser bin Amar. Later Arafat took the name Abu (father of) Amar to afford himself even more respect. Abu Amar is what his associates commonly call him.

Arafat is not a Palestinian or refugee by any definition. The UN says, “Palestine refugees are persons whose normal place of residence was Palestine between June 1946 and May 1948, who lost both their homes and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict.” Arafat lived in Egypt then and did not lose his home or means of livelihood. He lived in Jerusalem with his uncle for four years (1933–1937) that do not qualify.

Although the UN includes as refugees the descendants of Palestinian refugees, Arafat does not qualify there either. His parents moved to Egypt from British Mandate Palestine in 1927, 20 years before Israel’s War of Independence. Therefore, Arafat’s parents were not refugees. Neither is he a Palestinian based on the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Charter. Article 5 states, “Palestinians are Arab citizens who were normally resident in Palestine until 1947.” Arafat was “normally resident” in Egypt until he moved to Kuwait in 1957. Thus he is neither a Palestinian by birth or residence, nor a refugee by UN definition.

Arafat began his university education in 1947 but did not graduate with a civil engineering degree until 1956. A poor student, he preferred student politics to studying. He took a hiatus from his Cairo schooling to fight Israel near the Gaza Strip in 1948.

In 1953 he applied to the University of Texas but was rejected. He later applied for immigration to Canada. It is not known how far into the process he went.

Arafat is a Sunni Muslim and practices his religion regularly. He supported Iraq in the Persian Gulf War of 1991. In the early 1960s he helped found Fatah, a Palestinian terrorist group that opposes Israel by targeting civilians. He appeared before the UN packing a pistol on his hip. Still, the international community officially gave him and his organization recognition. After a long career as the principal architect of terror, Arafat joined in various “peace” talks.

He has squandered for his personal use millions of dollars donated to the Palestinian cause and stashes some of his money in an Israeli bank in Tel Aviv. He also uses donated money from foreign countries to finance terrorism.

Arafat was the personal protégé of nazi-sympathizer Haj Amin al-Husseini, grand mufti of Jerusalem. Husseini, the first to organize suicide squads to terrorize Palestinian Jews, fled to Germany in 1941 where he collaborated with Hitler.

In 1973 the Israeli Secret Service recorded Arafat ordering the execution of two American diplomats. He has permitted or directly ordered hundreds of terrorist attacks resulting in the deaths of thousands of innocent civilians. Said Ariel Sharon in 1995, “I don’t know anyone who has as much civilian Jewish blood on his hands as Arafat since the Nazi times.”

In 1994 Arafat received the Nobel Peace Prize.
yet intentionally fomented the Al-Aqsa Intifada in September 2000 following the July 2000 Camp David Summit.

**Arafat committed the PLO to renounce terrorism and violence.** Yet, since September 2000, the Palestinians have committed close to 14,000 acts of terror and violence.

**Arafat committed the PLO to discipline violators of the accords.** Yet the PLO turns loose terrorists and other violent offenders.

**Arafat committed the PLO to amend the Palestinian National Charter, which calls both for Israel’s destruction and for an “armed struggle” as “the only way to liberate Palestine.” It has not done so.**

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**Israeli Compliance**

Israel has (1) recognized the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as the representative of the Palestinians; (2) allowed complete Palestinian autonomy in certain areas and civil autonomy in others; (3) allowed Palestinian self-government and elections; (4) allowed a Palestinian police force; (5) transferred powers to the Palestinian Authority (PA) in areas of education, culture, social welfare, tourism, health, and taxation; (6) released thousands of Palestinian prisoners; (7) withdrawn from Gaza and Jericho and from 40 percent of Judea/Samaria. Thus 95 percent of the Arab population is now under PA control.

**Palestinian Compliance**

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and PA have complied with virtually nothing.

Arafat committed the PLO to “a peaceful resolution of the conflict” yet intentionally fomented the Al-Aqsa Intifada in September 2000 following the July 2000 Camp David Summit.

Arafat committed the PLO to “assume responsibility over all PLO elements and personnel.” Yet, despite clear evidence to the contrary, both he and the PLO repeatedly deny culpability for terrorizing Israel.

The PLO agreed that only “Palestinian Police and the Israeli military forces” would operate in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Yet Arafat’s political party, Fatah, has its own militia, the Tanzim, which fights Israeli forces.

The PLO agreed to a police force of only 24,000 men. Yet it has more than 40,000, many of whom are known terrorists, including 150 members of Hamas. Its ratio of 16.7 police per 1,000 residents makes the PA force one of the largest in
the world and 60 percent larger than Israel’s police force.

The PLO agreed its police would carry only small arms. Yet it possesses grenades, antitank missiles, antiaircraft missiles, mortars, mines, high explosives, and more. It also was expecting 50 tons of illegal armaments, but Israel captured the shipment being smuggled on the Karine-A in January 2002.

The PLO agreed to protect Jewish holy places. Yet it allowed the destruction of Joseph’s Tomb in Nablus and the Shalom Al-Yisrael Synagogue in Jericho.

The PLO agreed to abstain from incitement, yet its official news media promote hatred, violence, and fear.

The PLO agreed to joint security operations with Israel to ensure peace and order. Yet it consistently refuses to cooperate with Israel.

During the July 2000 Camp David Summit, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak offered Arafat 95 percent of Judea/Samaria (West Bank), 100 percent of the Gaza Strip, a Palestinian state, and sovereignty over East Jerusalem (including the Temple Mount). Arafat rejected the offer, did not counteroffer, and two months later initiated the 2000 Intifada.

In a speech given on May 10, 1994, in a mosque in Johannesburg, South Africa, Arafat declared he was considering the recently signed Oslo Accords as the agreement which had been signed between our prophet Muhammad and Koraish, and you remember the Caliph Omar had refused this agreement and [considered] it a despicable truce. But Muhammad had accepted it and we are accepting now this peace offer. But to continue our way to Jerusalem, to the first shrine together and not alone. We are in need of you as Moslems, as warriors of Jihad.

Arafat was referring to the 10-year treaty Muhammad made with the inhabitants of Mecca at Hudaibiya. At first, Muhammad’s followers disliked the treaty. However, Islam teaches that the Treaty of Hudaibiya was a treaty of expediency that paved the way for Muhammad’s eventual conquest of Mecca.

Arafat’s meaning is clear: He considers the Oslo Accords a means to achieve his ultimate goal—the conquest of all of “Palestine,” with Jerusalem as its capital.

The PA Strategies

How many ways are there to destroy Israel other than through outright war? The Palestinian Authority has at least two.

Changing the Demographics. Yasser Arafat’s insistence that Arab refugees be allowed to move to Israel through a “right of return” is part of an overall strategy to increase the Arab population in Israel until it overwhelms the Jewish population, thereby turning Israel into an Arab state.

The 2001 issue of Arab Strategic Report stated that Arabs could obliterate Israel by changing Israel’s demographics. It stated that a high Palestinian birthrate, a halt to Jewish immigration to Israel, and the migration of Palestinians into Israel proper will lead to the establishment of a Palestinian Arab state where the Jewish people will live “in the shadow of Arab culture.”

According to the plan, detailed by Dr. Wahid Abd Al-Magid, editor of the Report, which is published annually in London, Israeli Arabs must become involved in stopping Jewish immigration and providing economic support for the migration of Arabs into Israel.

That way, he wrote, Arabs “could become a majority in Israel in the year 2035, and they will certainly be a majority by 2048.” He added, The demographic threat is not solely the outcome of natural population increase of Palestinians who remained in Israel in 1948 [they are Israeli citizens] but also of the infiltration of tens of thousands of Palestinians into Israel. These stay in Israel and create facts on the ground through marriage with citizens of the 1948 population. continued on page 30
The word intifada is Arabic for “shaking off.” It refers to two violent Palestinian-Arab uprisings in Gaza and Judea/Samaria (West Bank). The first occurred from December 1987 through September 1993; the second began in September 2000. The Palestinians call the latter the Al-Aqsa Intifada, while Israelis refer to it as the Oslo War.

The 1987 Intifada

Inducement

The trouble began with an Israeli traffic accident that killed four Palestinians. Palestinians called it intentional and rioted. On the first day, an Israeli soldier killed a 17-year-old Palestinian who was throwing a firebomb at an Israeli patrol. Palestinians, including Muslim clerics, called for revenge.

Characteristics

The media portrayed Israel as Goliath and the Palestinians as David. The Palestinian leaders conducted demonstrations on specific streets where the media had erected its television camera scaffolding. The riots quickly evolved from spontaneous demonstrations into carefully orchestrated television epics that showed young Arab men, children, and occasionally women throwing rocks at burly Israeli soldiers who were often at a loss as to how to respond.

The Israel Defense Forces reported more than 3,600 Molotov Cocktail attacks, 100 hand-grenade attacks, and 600 assaults with guns or explosives in the first four years alone.

Statistics:

- Israelis killed by Palestinians: almost 200.
- Palestinians killed by Israelis: over 1,100.
- Palestinians killed by other Palestinians for “collaborating” with Israel: 942.

The 2000 (Al-Aqsa) Intifada

Inducement

Israeli leader Ariel Sharon legally and peacefully visited the Temple Mount on September 28, 2000, to investigate archaeological damage caused by a Muslim building project and to see if freedom of access to the Mount was ensured. After his visit, a stone-throwing commotion ensued, followed by a full-blown Palestinian riot. The Palestinians named this uprising the Al-Aqsa Intifada after the Al-Aqsa Mosque located on the Temple Mount.

Sharon’s visit was preannounced to the Muslim Waqf. At no time did Sharon try to enter the mosque. The 2001 Report of the Sharm El-Sheikh Fact-Finding Committee, led by U.S. Senator George Mitchell, determined, “The Sharon visit did not cause the ‘Al-Aqsa Intifada.’”

According to a March 2001 statement by the Palestinian Authority communications minister, the intifada was planned following the Camp David Summit in July 2000. U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs, Edward Walker, agreed in a congressional hearing that the riot was premeditated. The Palestinian media had been inciting violence for weeks, and Palestinian police had been training in Jericho for military clashes. Dozens of known terrorists had been released from Palestinian jails for “extended furloughs.”

Characteristics

Palestinians were better armed than previously, due in part to the 1995 Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement allowing Palestinian police to carry pistols, rifles, and machine guns. Also, arms-smuggling provided grenades, missiles, mortars, mines, and more.

The 2000 Intifada involved the wholesale slaughter of innocent Israeli civilians by Palestinian suicide/homicide bombers whom the Muslims venerate for these acts of murder. Saudi Arabia and Iraq reward the families of suicide bombers with tens of thousands of dollars, promoting
Israel will be 55 years old in May. The country was established under sanction of international law after the United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution 181 in 1947, dividing the remaining 23 percent of British Mandate Palestine into two states—one Arab, one Jewish.

The Arabs rejected the UN decision. In subsequent years, the UN passed Resolutions 242 and 338, which are often referred to during Arab-Israeli peace talks. Here is a synopsis of these key decrees.

**UN Resolution 181**

Adopted by the General Assembly November 29, 1947

*Selected Portion*

“Requests the Secretary-General to designate a Special Representative to proceed to the Middle East to establish and maintain contacts with the States concerned in order to promote agreement and assist efforts to achieve a peaceful and accepted settlement in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant Security Council Resolutions.”

**Significance**

The newly created states were to have an economic union and freedom of transit. It was hoped this union would help insure peace.

**UN Resolution 242**

Adopted by the Security Council November 22, 1967

*Selected Portion*

“Requests the Secretary-General to designate a Special Representative to proceed to the Middle East to establish and maintain contacts with the States concerned in order to promote agreement and assist efforts to achieve a peaceful and accepted settlement in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant Security Council Resolutions.”

**Significance**

The British government (mandatory Power) was charged with helping the UN Commission (interim regulatory power) implement Resolution 181. Instead, the British announced they would not cooperate. The turmoil that broke out in Palestine after the adoption of this resolution is partly due to Great Britain’s *laissez-faire* policy.

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**Destroying From Within.**

The Palestinians viewed the Oslo Peace Accords as a tool to get inside Israel to destroy it from within. The late Faisal Husseini, Palestinian minister for Jerusalem, made these remarks in an interview that appeared June 24 in the popular Egyptian newspaper *el Arav*:

> The Oslo agreements were a Trojan Horse... The strategic goal is to liberate Palestine from the river to the sea.

Had the US and Israel understood before Oslo that all that remained of the Palestine liberation movement and the Pan-Arab movement was the Trojan Horse named Arafat or the PLO, they would have never opened their fortified gates and let him in.

Arafat and the PLO were headquartered in Tunis, Tunisia, until Israel allowed them into the Gaza Strip under the Oslo Accords. (See “The PLO and PA,” page 24.)

Husseini said that three years after the triumphant return to Gaza, it was finally time to emerge from the horse and “get to work.”

He said it was the obligation of all Palestinian forces and factions to view the Oslo Accords as “temporary” steps or “gradual” goals, because in this way, “We are setting an ambush for the Israelis and cheating them.”

He said the Palestinians have been forced to concentrate temporarily on “gradual diplomatic goals.” However, the main goal is the “liberation of all Palestine from the river (Jordan) to the sea (Mediterranean),” even if this objective requires a struggle that will continue “1,000 years, or generations upon generations.”

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**Israel will be 55 years old in May. The country was established under sanction of international law after the United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution 181 in 1947, dividing the remaining 23 percent of British Mandate Palestine into two states—one Arab, one Jewish.**

The Arabs rejected the UN decision. In subsequent years, the UN passed Resolutions 242 and 338, which are often referred to during Arab-Israeli peace talks. Here is a synopsis of these key decrees.

**UN Resolution 181**

Adopted by the General Assembly November 29, 1947

*Selected Portion*

“Independent Arab and Jewish States and the Special International Regime for the City of Jerusalem, set forth in Part III of this Plan, shall come into existence in Palestine two months after the evacuation of the armed forces of the mandatory Power has been completed but in any case not later than 1 October 1948.”

**Significance**

This section is the heart of the resolution. It partitioned Palestine (referring to the area west of the Jordan River) into two separate and independent states—one Jewish and one Arab. Jerusalem was to have been an international city. This would have made the second Arab state carved from British Mandate Palestine, the first being Jordan in 1922.

*Selected Portion*

“The mandatory Power shall not take any action to prevent, obstruct or delay the implementation by the Commission of the measures recommended by the General Assembly. . . The mandatory Power shall co-operate with the Commission in the execution of its functions.”

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**UN Resolution 242**

Adopted by the Security Council November 22, 1967

*Selected Portion*

“Requests the Secretary-General to designate a Special Representative to proceed to the Middle East to establish and maintain contacts with the States concerned in order to promote agreement and assist efforts to achieve a peaceful and accepted settlement in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant Security Council Resolutions.”

**Significance**

The British government (mandatory Power) was charged with helping the UN Commission (interim regulatory power) implement Resolution 181. Instead, the British announced they would not cooperate. The turmoil that broke out in Palestine after the adoption of this resolution is partly due to Great Britain’s *laissez-faire* policy.

*Selected Portion*

“The Provisional Council of Government of each State shall enter into an undertaking with respect to Economic Union and Transit.”

**Significance**

The newly created states were to have an economic union and freedom of transit. It was hoped this union would help insure peace.
with the provisions and principles in this resolution.”

Significance
The phrase peaceful and accepted settlement is the crux of this Resolution. It implies a settlement through negotiation. Thus this Resolution has become the recognized basis for the Mideast peace talks. However, not until 1993 did the PLO agree to abide by Resolution 242. It previously refused because it knew the resolution required it to abandon armed conflict and achieve its goals through dialogue.

Selected Portion
“The Security Council, Expressing its continuing concern with the grave situation in the Middle East.”

Resolution 242 was passed in the wake of the Six-Day War of June 1967.

Selected Portion
“Emphasizing the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war and the need to work for a just and lasting peace in which every State in the area can live in security.”

Resolution does not specify that all Israeli forces must withdraw, nor does it specify from which territories. Therefore, Israel complied with the spirit of this section by withdrawing from the Sinai in 1982, from Gaza and Jericho in 1994, and from 40 percent of Judea and Samaria (West Bank) by March of 2000.

“(ii) Termination of all claims or states of belligerency and respect for and acknowledgement of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every State in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force.”

Significance
This section states the heart of the issue. Most of Israel’s neighbors have never recognized any boundaries Israel has had, including those outlined in the UN Partition Plan of 1947. Thus the need for “secure and recognized boundaries.” Nor have they demonstrated that they believe Israel has a “right to live in peace,” which is why Israel has had to defend itself in so many wars of aggression and is so concerned about secure boundaries.

Selected Portion
“Affirms further the necessity: For guaranteeing freedom of navigation through international waterways in the area.”

Significance
Two weeks prior to the Six-Day War, Egypt closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping—an act Israel considered a declaration of war.

Selected Portion
“For achieving a just settlement of the refugee problem.”

Significance
The refugee problem could include not only the Arab refugees but also the 820,000 Jewish refugees forced to flee Arab lands in the wake of Israel’s War of Independence. Israel has repeatedly tried to solve the Arab refugee problem, but has been rebuffed by Arab leadership.

continued on page 36
EDITOR’S NOTE: The following is by William Bennett, Jack Kemp, and Jeane Kirkpatrick. Although written last year, it remains as vital and timely as ever in communicating the truth about the Arab-Israeli conflict. (Used by permission of Empower America, www.empoweramerica.org.)

The world’s attention has been focused on the Middle East. We are confronted daily with scenes of carnage and destruction. Can we understand such violence? Yes, but only if we come to the situation with a solid grounding in the facts of the matter—facts that too often are forgotten, if ever they were learned. Below are twenty facts that we think are useful in understanding the current situation, how we arrived here, and how we might eventually arrive at a solution.

Roots of the Conflict

1. When the United Nations proposed the establishment of two states in the region—one Jewish, one Arab—the Jews accepted the proposal and declared their independence in 1948. The Jewish state constituted only 1/6 of one percent of what was known as “the Arab world.” The Arab states, however, rejected the UN plan and since then have waged war against Israel repeatedly, both all-out wars and wars of terrorism and attrition. In 1948, five Arab armies invaded Israel in an effort to eradicate it. Jamal Husseini of the Arab Higher Committee spoke for many in vowing to soak “the soil of our beloved country with the last drop of our blood.”

2. The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was founded in 1964—three years before Israel controlled the West Bank and Gaza. The PLO’s declared purpose was to eliminate the State of Israel by means of armed struggle. To this day, the Web site of Yasser Arafat’s Palestinian Authority (PA) claims that the entirety of Israel is “occupied” territory. It is impossible to square this with the PLO and PA assertions to Western audiences that the root of the conflict is Israel’s occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

3. The West Bank and Gaza (controlled by Jordan and Egypt from 1948 to 1967) came under Israeli control during the Six Day War of 1967 that started when Egypt closed the Straits of Tiran and Arab armies amassed on Israel’s borders to invade and liquidate the state. It is important to note that during their 19-year rule, neither Jordan nor Egypt had made any effort to establish a Palestinian state on those lands. Just before the Arab nations launched their war of aggression against the State of Israel in 1967, Syrian Defense Minister (later President) Hafez Assad stated, “Our forces are now entirely ready . . . to initiate the act of liberation itself, and to explode the Zionist presence in the Arab homeland . . . the time has come to enter into a battle of annihilation.” On the brink of the 1967 war, Egyptian President Gamal Nassar declared, “Our basic objective will be the destruction of Israel.”

Because of their animus against Jews, many leaders of the
Palestinian cause have long supported our enemies. The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem allied himself with Adolf Hitler during WWII. Yasser Arafat, chairman of the PLO and president of the PA, has repeatedly targeted and killed Americans. In 1973, Arafat ordered the execution of Cleo Noel, the American ambassador to the Sudan. Arafat was very closely aligned with the Soviet Union and other enemies of the United States throughout the Cold War. In 1991, during the Gulf War, Arafat aligned himself with Saddam Hussein, whom he praised as “the defender of the Arab nation, of Muslims, and of free men everywhere.”

Israel has, in fact, returned most of the land that it captured during the 1967 war and right after that war offered to return all of it in exchange for peace and normal relations; the offer was rejected. As a result of the 1978 Camp David accords—in which Egypt recognized the right of Israel to exist and normal relations were established between the two countries—Israel returned the Sinai desert, a territory three times the size of Israel and 91 percent of the territory Israel took control of in the 1967 war.

In 2000, as part of negotiations for a comprehensive and durable peace, Israel offered to turn over all but the smallest portion of the remaining territories to Yasser Arafat. But Israel was rebuffed when Arafat walked out of Camp David and launched the current intifada.

Yasser Arafat has never been less than clear about his goals—at least not in Arabic. On the very day that he signed the Oslo accords in 1993—in which he promised to renounce terrorism and recognize Israel—he addressed the Palestinian people on Jordanian television and declared that he had taken the first step “in the 1974 plan.” This was a thinly-veiled reference to the “phased plan,” according to which any territorial gain was acceptable as a means toward the ultimate goal of Israel’s destruction.

The recently deceased Faisal al-Husseini, a leading Palestinian spokesman, made the same point in 2001 when he declared that the West Bank and Gaza represented only “22 percent of Palestine” and that the Oslo process was a “Trojan horse.” He explained, “When we are asking all the Palestinian forces and factions to look at the Oslo Agreement and at other agreements as ‘temporary’ procedures, or phased goals, this means that we are ambushing the Israelis and cheating them.” The goal, he continued, was “the liberation of Palestine from the river to the sea,” i.e., the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea—all of Israel.

To this day, the Fatah wing of the PLO (the “moderate” wing that was founded and is controlled by Arafat himself) has as its official emblem the entire state of Israel covered by two rifles and a hand grenade—another fact that
While criticism of Israel is not necessarily the same as “anti-Semitism,” it must be remembered that the Middle East press is, in fact, rife with anti-Semitism. More than fifteen years ago the eminent scholar Bernard Lewis could point out that “The demonization of Jews [in Arabic literature] goes further than it had ever done in Western literature, with the exception of Germany during the period of Nazi rule.” Since then, and through all the years of the “peace process,” things have become much worse. Depictions of Jews in Arab and Muslim media are akin to those of Nazi Germany, and medieval blood libels—including claims that Jews use Christian and Muslim blood in preparing their holiday foods—have become prominent and routine. One example is a sermon broadcast on PA television where Sheik Ahmad Halabaya stated, “They [the Jews] must be butchered and killed, as Allah the Almighty said: ‘Fight them: Allah will torture them at your hands.’ Have no mercy on the Jews, no matter where they are, in any country. Fight them, wherever you are. Wherever you meet them, kill them.”

Over three-quarters of Palestinians approve of suicide bombings—an appalling statistic but, in light of the above facts, an unsurprising one.

The State of Israel

There are 21 Arab countries in the Middle East and only one Jewish state: Israel, which is also the only democracy in the region. Israel is the only country in the region that permits citizens of all faiths to worship freely and openly. Twenty percent of Israeli citizens are not Jewish.

While Jews are not permitted to live in many Arab countries, Arabs are granted full citizenship and have the right to vote in Israel. Arabs are also free to become members of the Israeli parliament (the Knesset). In fact, several Arabs have been democratically elected to the Knesset and have been serving there for years. Arabs living in Israel have more rights and are freer than most Arabs living in Arab countries.

Israel is smaller than the state of New Hampshire and is surrounded by nations hostile to her existence. Some peace proposals—including the recent Saudi proposal—demand withdrawal from the entire West Bank, which would leave Israel 9 miles wide at its most vulnerable point.

The oft-cited UN Resolution 242 (passed in the wake of the 1967 war) does not, in fact, require a complete withdrawal from the West Bank. As legal scholar Eugene Rostow put it, “Resolution 242, which as under-secretary of state for political affairs between 1966 and 1969 I helped produce, calls on the parties to make peace and allows Israel to administer the territories it occupied in 1967 until ‘a just and lasting peace in the Middle East’ is achieved. When such a peace is made, Israel is required to withdraw its armed forces ‘from territories’ it occupied during the Six-Day War—

not from ‘the’ territories nor from ‘all’ the territories, but from some of the territories.”

Israel has, of course, consistently demanded that the Palestinians have legitimate claims to the disputed territories and is willing to engage in negotiations on the matter. As noted above, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak offered almost all of the territories to Arafat at Camp David in 2000. Despite claims that the Israeli settlements in the West Bank are the obstacle to peace, Jews lived there for centuries before being massacred or driven out by invading Arab armies in 1948-49. And contrary to common misperceptions, Israeli settlements—which constitute less than two percent of the territories—almost never displace Palestinians.

The area of the West Bank includes some of the most important sites in Jewish history, among them Hebron, Bethlehem, and Jericho. East Jerusalem, often cited as an “Arab city” or “occupied territory,” is the site of Judaism’s holiest monument. While under Arab rule (1948-67), this area was entirely closed to Jews. Since Israel took control, it has been open to people of all faiths.

Finally, let us consider the demand that certain territories in the Muslim world must be off-limits to Jews. This demand is of a piece with Hitler’s proclamation that German land had to be “Judenrein” (empty of Jews). Arabs can live freely throughout Israel, and as full citizens. Why should Jews be forbidden to live or to own land in an area like the West Bank simply because the

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Under Jordanian occupation (May 28, 1948—June 7, 1967), all Jewish holy sites in East Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria were off-limits to Jews.

In East Jerusalem, 58 synagogues were destroyed or desecrated. Jordan built a road through the Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives; used thousands of tombstones from the cemetery for building projects, including pathways to army latrines; let the Western Wall deteriorate; and, during the Six-Day War, used the Temple Mount as an ammunition dump.

In Hebron Jews were barred from the cave of Machpelah, containing the Tomb of the Patriarchs, and the Cave of Othniel (Jud. 3:9). Also, Hebron’s Jewish cemetery was almost completely destroyed.

Jordan’s actions directly violated the Israel-Jordan Armistice Agreement of April 3, 1949, which called for “free access to the Holy Places and cultural institutions and use of the cemetery on the Mount of Olives” (Article VIII, para. 2).

After 1967

Following the Six-Day War, Jewish holy sites in all of Israel, including East Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria, were under Israeli control. On June 27, 1967, Israel passed the Protection of Holy Places Law, safeguarding free access to the holy sites of all religions.

On June 17, 1967, in a show of goodwill, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan granted custodianship of the Temple Mount to the Muslim Waqf (religious trust). Israel was responsible for Temple Mount security, but the Muslims were to manage the site. Jewish people were to be given permission to visit the Mount, but not to pray there.

The Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area of 1994, the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip
of 1995, and the Protocol Concerning the Redeployment in Hebron of 1997 placed 21 Jewish holy sites in 13 locations under jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority, which is responsible for protecting them and guaranteeing freedom of access. Rachel’s Tomb near Bethlehem remained under Israeli protection. No agreement was reached regarding the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron, other than retaining the status quo (Muslims control 80 percent of the complex, with no Jewish access to the Muslim side).

In November 1999, the Muslim Waqf for the Temple Mount began building an egress for an underground mosque at the southeastern corner of the Mount complex. Bulldozers were used, along with heavy stone-cutting machines. Trucks hauled away tons of rubble, some containing ancient Jewish artifacts, and disposed of it in the nearby Kidron Valley. Despite Israeli outrages, work continued. Likud leader Ariel Sharon visited the Temple Mount on September 28, 2000, to inspect the damage. The Palestinians reacted with the second intifada.

### Today’s Status

Almost all Jewish holy sites in Palestinian-controlled areas are highly restricted or prohibited to Jews, a clear breach of the Oslo Accords and other agreements. The Temple Mount is closed to Jews, and the southern wall is in danger of collapsing because of the Waqf’s construction.

Palestinian police stood by as Arabs ransacked, demolished, and burnt Joseph’s Tomb in Nablus. The ancient Shalom al-Israel synagogue in Jericho was damaged by arson. Arabs repeatedly have fired on Jewish worshipers at the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron and at Rachel’s Tomb. Palestinian attackers tried to storm the Tomb of Joshua in Kifel-Hares, but the Israeli Defense Forces repelled them. Most Muslim clerics and Palestinian leaders claim there is no evidence any Jewish presence existed on the Temple Mount and say no legitimate Jewish claim to the site exists. Further, they assert that all of Israel is Islamic territory, including the Jewish holy sites.

### The Key Resolutions, from page 30

#### UN Resolution 338

**Adopted by the Security Council October 22, 1973**

**Selected Portion**

“Calls upon all parties to the present fighting to cease all firing and terminate all military activity immediately, no later than 12 hours after the moment of the adoption of this decision, in the positions they now occupy.”

**Significance**

The Resolution was passed two weeks into the Yom Kippur War of 1973. Its first point called for an immediate cease-fire. When Israel was in danger of being destroyed, the UN kept silent. Then-Prime Minister Golda Meir of Israel believed the UN passed this resolution quickly after the tables turned, to keep Israel from totally destroying the Egyptian and Syrian armed forces.

**Selected Portion**

“Calls upon the parties concerned to start immediately after the cease-fire the implementation of Security Council Resolution 242 (1967) in all of its parts.”

**Significance**

The Resolution confirms Resolution 242 as the basis for a peaceful settlement and for Israel’s right to safe and defensible borders.

**Selected Portion**

“Decides that, immediately and concurrently with the cease-fire, negotiations start between the parties concerned under appropriate auspices aimed at establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East.”

**Significance**

The Resolution clearly specifies that the road to a just and enduring peace in the Middle East is through negotiations. Thus Resolution 338 is often coupled with Resolution 242 as the general framework for any peace discussions.

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**Benjamin Netanyahu**

(1949–)

Netanyahu was born in Tel Aviv and grew up in Jerusalem. He went to high school in the United States and returned to Israel in 1967 where he served in an elite commando unit. He took part in the rescue of a hijacked airliner at Ben Gurion Airport and was wounded. Netanyahu earned two degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and studied political science at Harvard. In 1979 he initiated and organized an international conference against terrorism. In 1984 he became Israel’s ambassador to the UN and served there four years. In 1996 he was the underdog candidate for prime minister against Shimon Peres and won. His government collapsed in 1998 due to various capitulations to Arafat and U.S. pressures.
Fiction: All the Jewish people left the land in the first century A.D.
Fact: Jewish people have lived in the land from the time of Joshua to today. In fact, there has never been a time when the Holy Land was bereft of Jews.

After the Romans destroyed the Second Temple in A.D. 70 and barred Jewish people from Jerusalem, Jews spread throughout the area later known as Palestine. By the ninth century A.D., Jewish communities were prospering in Tiberias and again in Jerusalem. During the Middle Ages Jewish communities grew in Rafah, Ramallah, Gaza, Ashkelon, Caesarea, and Jaffa.

In the 12th century, the Crusaders murdered Jews en masse. In Jerusalem, they herded them into their synagogue and burned them alive. Yet Jewish people remained entrenched in at least 50 cities and continued to multiply over the next two centuries.

Later, substantial communities of immigrants sprouted up throughout what was once called Judah and Galilee. Early in the 19th century, many years before anyone dared to dream of a Jewish state in Palestine, more than 10,000 Jewish settlers made the Holy Land their home. And the return continued.

Fiction: Israel is violating Palestinian borders.
Fact: What borders? Since there has never been a sovereign Arab country known as Palestine, how can there be Palestinian borders? For centuries, the ancient land of the Bible was called Palestine, but it constituted an undefined region that was part of a greater kingdom. What constitute borders today are merely armistice lines. The Palestinian Authority wants Israel to return to the pre-June 1967 lines. Former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir once retorted, “If those lines are so sacred to the Arabs, why was the Six-Day War launched to destroy them?”

Fiction: The PLO is a freedom-fighter organization, founded to liberate the occupied territories.
Fact: The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was founded in 1964. Israel did not acquire the “occupied” territories until 1967. Before 1967, the PLO never called for Jordan (holding Judea/Samaria) or Egypt (holding the Gaza Strip) to create a Palestinian state. Yet in 1964, three years before Israel acquired the disputed territories, the PLO produced a charter calling for Israel’s destruction and has repeatedly attacked Israeli civilians, businesses, movie theaters, factories, and private homes.

Fiction: The Israeli settlements are illegal and hinder the peace process.
Fact: According to the Fourth Geneva Convention (1949), the Israeli settlements are legal because no inhabitants were forced to relocate there. They moved there voluntarily. Furthermore, the Arabs refused to make peace with Israel when they themselves controlled the territories and not a single Jewish settlement existed there. None of the Oslo Accords speak against settlements, only against changing the status quo. Israel understands that provision to mean that neither side shall unilaterally annex the disputed territories or declare its own state. Israel has made it clear that the settlements are negotiable, as it has demonstrated by abandoning the ones in the Sinai.

Fiction: Israel’s occupation of the territories prevents the creation of a Palestinian state.
Fact: Egypt and Jordan were in control of the Gaza Strip and Judea/Samaria respectively before 1967. If there was so much need and concern for a second Palestinian state (Jordan being the first), why did the Arabs not create one when the territories were in their hands?
Concerning God’s Nature

Bible—God is immutable:

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variation, neither shadow of turning (Jas. 1:17).

Qur’an—Allah changes:

Whatever message We abrogate or cause to be forgotten, We bring one better than it or one like it. (surah 2:106).

Bible—God loves us:

But God commendeth his love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Rom. 5:8).

Qur’an—Allah is fickle and hates sinners:

And if We had pleased, We could have given every soul its guidance, but the word from Me was just; I will certainly fill hell with the jinn (devil or demons) and men together (surah 32:13).

For Allah loves not transgressors (surah 2:190).

Bible—Jehovah is a compound unity. He is one God composed of three distinct persons consisting of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

Come near unto me, hear this: I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, there am I; and now the Lord God [the Father], and his Spirit [the Holy Spirit], hath sent me [the Son]. Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel (Isa. 48:16–17).

He that hath seen me hath seen the Father (Jn. 14:9).

For in him [Jesus] dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily (Col. 2:9).

But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to
Concerning Jesus Christ

Bible—Jesus is Lord and the only way to the Father:
Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (Jn. 14:6).

Qur'an—Jesus was merely one of Allah's prophets:
O people of the book, commit no excess of your religion: nor say of Allah aught but truth, Christ Isa [Jesus] the son of Mary was an apostle of Allah (surah 4:171).

Bible—Jesus is the Eternal God and Creator:
And he is before all things, and by him all things consist (Col. 1:17). Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God (Phil. 2:6).

Concerning Salvation

Bible—Salvation is a gift of God's grace:
For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God—Not of works, lest any man should boast (Eph. 2:8–9).

Qur'an—Salvation is based on works:
And keep up prayer at the two ends of the day and in the first hours of the night. Surely good deeds take away evil deeds. This is a reminder for the mindful (surah 11:114).

Bible—Jesus paid for our sins, and He is the only way to salvation:
Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all (Isa. 53:4–6).

Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12).
Irreconcilable Differences

In the early 1980s, three brothers—all serious, devout Muslims and the sons of a leader in the Islamic faith—surrendered their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ. “We did not ‘switch religions,’” they wrote. “The blood of Jesus Christ saved us. . . . It was God’s gracious act of redemption.”

Their father disowned them. “It could have been worse,” they wrote. “According to hadith 9.57, all three of us brothers should have been killed.” They did not see their father again for 17 years until four days before he died in 1999. And he died a Muslim.

Today Ergun and Emir Caner are Christian professors of church history and theology and authors of an extraordinary book titled Unveiling Islam (Kregel Publications). It is chock-full of historical information concerning Muhammad and the Islamic faith and brilliantly illuminates the irreconcilable differences between Christianity and Islam.

Muhammad vs. Jesus

At age 40 Muhammad began having convulsions through which he claimed he received revelation from God through the angel Gabriel. However, he was “deathly afraid” of the source of the revelation and thought he was demon-possessed. His wife convinced him otherwise.

“Muhammad’s doubts are troubling,” wrote the Caners, “for what major prophet doubts the source of his prophetic revelation? . . . Certainly no major prophet in the Bible attributes God’s revelation to demons.”

Muhammad made holy war, or *jihad*, incumbent on Muslims. In 627 he ordered 800 helpless Jewish men in Medina beheaded on the edge of a trench, “a procedure that occupied the entire day and went on far into the night. . . . Jesus did not command the murderous crusaders,” the Caners said. “Muhammad was ruthless in war. . . . The only life Jesus Christ voluntarily gave up was His own. His character offers continuous, unassailable compassion. Muhammad was both erratic and hostile to those who would not follow him.”

They continued:

He killed critics for speaking their minds, ordered the severe beating of a woman to retrieve information from her, had sexual relations with a child of nine. He was a ruthless general and raided caravans merely for financial gain to expand his movement. He even broke the rules of engagement when he fought during a sacred month.

He “seldom gained conversions except through coercion”; depended on his own good works to get to heaven; commanded Muslims, “Fight and slay the Pagans wherever you find them” (surah 9:5); and sparked the Qur’an’s teaching that commands the execution, crucifixion, mutilation, or exile of anyone who fights “against Allah and His Messenger” (surah 5:33).

Unlike Christianity, Islam has no concept of a personal relationship with God. And Jesus’ emphasis on love is completely foreign to Islam: “Love is never part of the equation—the religion depends upon a sense of duty and a desire for payback,” the Caners said. Whereas the Bible teaches, “Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them who despitefully use you, and persecute you” (Mt. 5:44), Muslims are taught to hate Allah’s enemies, as does Allah; and the Qur’an promises Paradise to those who die fighting for Islam.

Fight to the Death

The Qur’an teaches followers to fight until Islam dominates the world:

*Let those fight in the cause of Allah who sell the life of this world for the Hereafter. To him who fighteth in the cause of Allah, —whether he is slain or gets victory—soon shall We give him a reward of great (value) (surah 4:74).*

Those who believe fight in the cause of Allah, and those who reject Faith fight in the cause of Evil: So fight ye against the friends of Satan: Feeble indeed is the cunning of Satan (surah 4:76).

Fight and slay the Pagans wherever ye find them, and seize them, beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem (of war) (surah 9:5).

Fight them, and Allah will punish them by your hands, cover them with shame, help you (to victory) over them (surah 9:14).

Fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and His Apostle, nor acknowledge the Religion of Truth, (even if they are) of the People of the Book, until they pay the Jizya [tax] with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued (surah 9:29).

But the Apostle, and those who believe with him, strive and fight with their wealth and their persons: For them are (all) good things: And it is they who will prosper (surah 9:88).

O ye who believe! Fight the Unbelievers who gird you about, and let them find firmness in you: And know that Allah is with those who fear Him (surah 9:123).

Therefore, when ye meet the Unbelievers (in fight), smite at their necks; at length, when ye have thoroughly subdued them, bind a bond firmly (on them): Thereafter (is the time for) either generosity or ransom: Until the war lays down its burdens. Thus (are ye commanded): But if it had been Allah’s Will, He could certainly have exacted retribution from them (Himself); but (He lets you fight) in order to test you, some with others. But those who are slain in the way of Allah, —He will never let their deeds be lost (surah 47:4).

Truly Allah loves those who fight in His Cause in battle array, as if they were a solid cemented structure (surah 61:4).

He it is Who sent His Messenger with the guidance and the true religion, that He may make it overcome the religions, all of them, though the polytheists may be averse (surah 61:9).
Furthermore, wrote Ms. Peters, during World War II the British severely curtailed Jewish immigration but allowed Arabs to flood into the land from virtually everywhere: [The British] Government not only encouraged or winked at, but officially enacted illegal immigration of thousands of Arab indigents from neighboring and more distant lands, to take jobs in the Jewish National Home that might have saved the lives of Jewish concentration camp victims (pp. 381–82).

“It was the Jews,” Ms. Peters wrote, “who were displaced by Arabs—the Arab immigrant flocks would migrate into the Jewish areas of development, filling the places that the Jews were clearing for other Jews—on land designated at that very time as the mandated ‘Jewish Homeland.’”

Ms. Peters also said she discovered that, with regard to the Arabs, the United Nations had significantly broadened the definition of refugee to include “any persons who have been in ‘Palestine’ for only two years before Israel’s statehood in 1948.” Almost universally, people were not considered refugees unless they left “permanently” or “habitual” homes (p. 4).

Furthermore, for twelve and a half centuries, until the 1880s when Jewish people began to cultivate it, the land was virtually desolate. Under Muslim rule, trees, topsoil, canals, and irrigation systems had all been destroyed. “The ‘masses’ of Jerusalem,” wrote Ms. Peters, “were estimated at less than 15,000 inhabitants, of whom more than half the population were Jews” (p. 157).

Then the Jewish immigrants of the late 1800s arrived and laboriously began restoring the arid ground and malaria-infested swamps, buying the worthless land at hugely inflated prices from rich, absentee landlords who had no stomach for cultivating it.

As the land began to yield its fruit under Jewish labor, Arabs began flooding into Palestine. When the British took control in 1917, they drew up boundaries for a Jewish homeland. But by World War II, the British had changed their tune. Instead of letting Jewish people into Palestine, the British imported Arabs:

While the Jews were working furiously at clearing land that had been ignored or dismissed by [British] Government “authorities” as “uncultivable,” and creating places that Government insisted “did not exist,” those opened-up places . . . were taken by illegal Arab immigrants . . . Syrians, Egyptians, Hauranis, Algerians, Hejazis, and others camouflaged as “natural indigenous Palestinian population since immemorial” (p. 381).

However, the Jews continued their efforts, “lest the British halt Jewish immigration entirely” (p. 381). Joan Peters concluded, Had those places in the country been left open for the Jews instead of being usurped by illegal Arab immigrants falsely represented as part of the “original” and “existing” Palestinian population for “thousands of years” . . . the Jewish population would have grown . . . by, at the very least, 200,000 more, . . . [and] there would have been at least 200,000 fewer “Palestinian Arabs” (p. 381).

How has such an enormous lie been perpetuated? Turnspeak. Turnspeak, wrote Ms. Peters, is “the cynical inverting or distorting of facts, which, for example, makes the victim appear as culprit” (p. 173). The real victims, she wrote, are the Jewish people.

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**Whose Land, continued from page 13**

Allenby commanded Britain’s Palestine campaign during World War I. Under his leadership, 400 years of Turkish rule over the region were broken. On December 9, 1917, Jerusalem surrendered. Two days later, Allenby officially entered the city. He dismounted, removed his military cap, and walked through the Jaffa Gate on foot, saying he could not ride over the same stones upon which his Redeemer had walked.
Bible, Qur’an, and Hadith, continued from page 38

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth. And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God, the Father (Phil. 2:10–11).

Qur’an—Muslims can receive forgiveness if they fight in jihad:

Those who have left their homes, or been driven out therefrom, or suffered harm in My Cause, or fought or been slain, — Verily, I will blot out from them their iniquities, and admit them into Gardens with rivers flowing beneath; — A reward from His Presence is the best of rewards (surah 3:195).

The Hadith

In both the Qur’an and Hadith, Jesus is called “the son of Mary”—never “the son of God,” since that is considered blasphemous. In fact, it is a serious inconsistency that Islam even considers Jesus a prophet because His claims to be God and the Son of God warrant His execution.

The following is from the Hadith:

Abu Harirah said, The Messenger of Allah, said: “How would you feel when the son of Mary makes his appearance among you. And he is your imam from among yourselves.

An explanation comes from a commentary by Maulana Muhammad Ali in A Manual of Hadith (pp. 209–10), published by Ahmadyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam Lahore Inc., of Columbus, Ohio. The Messiah, evidently Jesus, is a Muslim who will help spread Islam among the Christian nations to “break the Cross and kill the swine”:

This is a further prophecy relating to the ascendency of Islam. The son of Mary is the Messiah, and Muslims are told that a Messiah would appear among them. This Messiah is called imam-u-kum min-kum i.e., your imam from among yourselves. . . . he (the Messiah) shall be your imam from among yourselves, leaving no doubt that a member of the Muslim community would be raised to the dignity of the Messiah . . . .

The appearance of the Messiah among Muslims thus meant only the appearance of a mujaddid [literally, “one who receives”] “in the spirit and power” of the Messiah. The Messiah’s work is thus described in the Bukhari: “The son of Mary will appear among you as a judge, doing justice (between people), and he will break the Cross and kill the swine” (B.60:49). This clearly shows that the Messiah would come when the religion of the Cross will be in the ascendant, and that his work will be to spread Islam among the Christian nations of the world in particular, which in other hadith is described as the rising of the sun in the West, the sun standing for the Sun of Islam and the West for the Western nations. Thus this prophecy speaks in fact of the final ascendency of Islam in the world.
Roman General Pompey enters Jerusalem, ending Jewish independence; Julius Caesar assassinated.

The Romans appoint Herod the Great “king of the Jews” and give him authority over Judea, Samaria, and Galilee.

FROM HEROD TO MUHAMMAD

20 B.C. Herod begins remodeling the Temple.

6–5 B.C. Jesus is born in Bethlehem.

4 B.C. Herod dies; Caesar Augustus divides the territory: Archelaus gets Judea, Antipas gets the Galilee, and Philip gets northeast of Galilee.


A.D. 30 Messiah Jesus dies, arises, and ascends to heaven. Church Age begins on Day of Pentecost (Shavuot).

A.D. 66–73 First Jewish uprising. Romans destroy Jerusalem and the Temple (A.D. 70) and attack Masada, where 960 Jews commit suicide rather than surrender (A.D. 73).


A.D. 200 Many dispersed Jews return.

A.D. 312–313 Emperor Constantine embraces Christianity.

A.D. 330 Constantine moves to Byzantium, renames it Constantinople (Istanbul, Turkey), and keeps control over Palestine.

A.D. 570 Muhammad ibn Abd Allah is born in Mecca (Saudi Arabia).

FROM MUHAMMAD TO THE OTTOMAN TURKS

622 Muhammad moves to Medina (Saudi Arabia). His move is called the hijrah, Arabic for “emigrate.” The Muslim calendar begins with this date, which is 1 A.H.

610 Muhammad claims the angel Gabriel showed him a tablet stating he was to become God’s messenger. From then until his death, Muhammad has “visions.” Thus begins the Muslim religion of Islam, meaning “submission to Allah.”

630 Arab Omayyads become the first Muslim presence in Jerusalem.

632 Muhammad dies.

639–661 Arab Muslims rule. This 22-year-period is the only time Arabs ever rule the land. Even then it was part of a greater empire.

661–1099 Muslims rule Palestine; however, they are not Arabs. The Abbassids came from Baghdad; the Fatimids from Cairo; and the Seljuks from Turkey.


1187 Saladin, a Muslim Kurd from Damascus, recaptures Jerusalem and a large part of Palestine.


1513–17 Muslim Ottoman Turks conquer Palestine.

FROM THE OTTOMAN TURKS TO THE BRITISH

1896 Theodor Herzl writes Der Judenstaat, “The Homeland.”

1897 First Zionist Congress meets in Basle, Switzerland, convened by Herzl. More than 200 participate from 17 countries, establishing the World Zionist Organization “to create for the Jewish people a home in Eretz-Israel secured by law.” The Congress met every year from 1897 to 1901, then every second year, and still meets today.

1901 Zionist Congress establishes the Jewish National Fund (JNF) to raise funds to purchase land in Eretz Yisrael. The JNF is the largest landowner in Israel (12.5 percent of all land) and purchased more than half of that amount before the reestablishment of the nation.

1904 Second wave of immigration, mainly from Russia and Poland.

1906 First Hebrew high school is founded in Jaffa and art school founded in Jerusalem.

1908–14 Second Yemenite aliyah.

1909 Tel Aviv, the first all-Jewish city, is founded in Palestine.

1910 Kibbutz Degania is founded.

1914–18 World War I.

1917 British General Edmund Allenby conquers Palestine, east and west of the Jordan, ending the Ottoman reign. In November the British issue the Balfour Declaration, supporting a “Jewish Homeland.”

1920 League of Nations gives Britain a mandate over Palestine, with orders to implement the Balfour Declaration.