

Satisfying international bloodlust; more dead Israelis please

By Paul Alster

Tens of thousands demonstrating outside Israeli embassies all over the globe; undisguised anti-Israel and anti-Semitic sentiment bursting to the fore as the region's only democracy fights a war in response to unprovoked attacks from the adjacent terrorist state that is Hamas-run Gaza; Hamas using its long-suffering civilian population as human shields; mainstream media looking for best viewing figures and click bait for their websites, crowing that the loss of life is "disproportionate" and "Israel is the aggressor".



To those of us who cherish life and don't believe in Holy War; who don't believe we'll be rewarded with 72 virgins awaiting us in heaven; who will not celebrate when our soldiers and civilians are 'martyred' (or indeed when the enemy suffers losses), it seems the only thing that will calm the current international outrage and take the heat out of the hate-filled obsession with Israel - is seeing more Israelis die.

Yes, dead Israelis, that's what people want to see. Lots of them - regardless of whether they are Israeli Jews, Muslims or Christians. If there had been 200 dead Israelis to this point the world would have said , 'Well, fair enough, both sides have taken a hammering'.

But unfortunately for the bloodlust brigade, Israel has invested billions in the Iron Dome that has defended us against the incoming torrent of missiles, and we've built bomb shelters and safe rooms in the majority of homes and buildings. We could switch the Iron Dome off to satisfy our critics and die by the dozen, but we won't.



Hamas spends the majority of the money it receives from gullible European-based and other international charitable organizations - as well as its regular flow of cash from Israel-hating nations - on building an underground 'Metro' of terror tunnels, and on offensive missiles.

They place their rocket-launching sites in the most crowded civilian areas in an attempt to maximize casualties, garner international support, and promote outrage against Israel. It is repugnantly cynical. This is a war crime if ever there was one.

Post-World War II figures suggest there were a total of 4.3 million German military and civilian dead, and around 450,000 British military and civilian casualties. Nazi Germany took a pummeling. The aggressor that wanted to wipe out one race and expunge itself of others who didn't fit its model citizen criteria lost the war. And thank goodness they did.

In the face of a vicious regime fronted by an evil and psychopathic leadership, Britain and its Allies stood firm and did what had to be done in order to win. No-one suggested then or now that Britain was the guilty party because it suffered only 10% of the total German casualties.

Fast-forward 76 years to the current Israel-Gaza conflict fought against the background of a new, politically-correct age.

Hamas is a radical Islamist terror group. They have the same aims as Al Qaeda and ISIS - same brand, different logo. They are primarily funded by Iran and Qatar who, ironically, are from different sides of the Shia-Sunni Muslim divide. One of the few things that unites the two opposing Muslim sides is their shared hatred of Israel. The old adage "My enemy's enemy is my friend" rings true once again.



Hamas rules Gaza with an iron fist. It eliminates almost all opposition, controls the press and social media, and has refused elections on its turf since coming to power back in 2006. (It's a similar story, by the way, in the Fatah-run Palestinian Authority in the West Bank. They're just more discreet.)

"Jihad is the Way", one of the seminal works of the late Supreme Guide of the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood, Mustafa Masshur, is central to Hamas' doctrine. Hamas is a division of the Muslim Brotherhood. Its ultimate aim is to wipe Israel off the map, driving the Jews into the sea, an aim also publicly proclaimed time and again by Iran. Hamas' raison d'être is crystal clear to anyone who takes even the most fleeting glance at its activities. Only an anti-Semite (are you listening Mr. Corbyn) could support Hamas and sympathize with its objectives.

Hamas' Ministry of Health - whose pronouncements on casualty figures have proven time and again to be inaccurate and misleading - suggests around 200 people have been killed by

the targeted missiles fired from Israel into the terrorist enclave in response to thousands more **indiscriminate** missiles fired from Gaza in the direction of Israeli civilian populations. They don't say how many of those were Hamas fighters. They never will, and they haven't commented on reports that as many as 300 of their terrorist fighters may have been lost when Israel targeted Hamas' underground tunnel network a few days ago.

To be clear, I have the greatest sympathy with so many of the people of Gaza and wish we could be friends. I truly lament the loss of any innocents. It is a terrible tragedy. The blame for their loss lies plain and simply at the door of the Hamas leadership, many of whom live in luxury in Qatar while everyday Gazans are left to bear the brunt of their jingoistic ambitions.

As I write, from the north of Israel come reports of rocket fire from Lebanon reaching the greater Haifa region, not far from me. We wait to see if those rockets are from Palestinians in Lebanon, or from Hezbollah. Hezbollah is Iran's proxy army in Lebanon and, more recently Syria too.

In South Lebanon, an area designated after the 2006 Lebanon-Israel war as a "demilitarized zone " intended to be weapons-free and run under the auspices of the UN agency UNIFIL, as many as 150,000 rockets have been amassed by Hezbollah. They are all aimed at Israel. UNIFIL, i.e. the UN, does nothing at all about it. And the world feigns shock that Israel doesn't take note of so many of the UN's anti-Israel and anti-Semitic pronouncements. It is crystal clear now - and always has been - that the UN has an Arabist agenda.



Sadly, Israel is run by a politician long past his 'sell by' date. Benjamin Netanyahu may head the largest political party but received only 25% of the vote at the last election (fourth in two years). He still believes he is the only one who can lead us while at the same time fighting serious criminal charges against him. He is directly responsible for fanning the potentially devastating flames of religious and social turmoil within our own borders. Your distaste (and indeed my distaste) for him should not blur your vision on Israel's right to defend itself.

Israel and its military defends its citizens of all faiths and creeds and will do everything required to ensure there is no equivalence in casualty figures between us and our terrorist enemies, both to the north and south.

We will not lower our guard. We will not draw fire to our populated areas. We will not 'sacrifice' our civilians in order to satisfy the repugnant wet dream of so many radical Islamists, anti-Semites, and anarchists who proudly wave the flag of terror organizations in the street - and even on the football field.

We will defend ourselves as necessary, something the Jewish people wasn't able to do during WWII.

We will not die just to provide 'balance' to the media's warped notion of fair play.

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