

## Editorial

### *Tell the Truth About Israel*

As this is written, the Bush Administration is widely reported to be “reconsidering” its policy stance toward Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat, to the point of contemplating a break in relations with the acknowledged leader of the Palestinian people. Such a shift would represent a victory for the proponents of a world war against Islam, and a giant step toward World War III. Worse yet, it would mean the triumph of a miserable lie.

The lie is, that it is PA President Arafat who is responsible for the collapse of the peace process which was memorialized in the 1993 Oslo Accords. The reference is to the meetings at Camp David which President Bill Clinton brokered in the Summer of the year 2000, in order to try to force through agreement between the PLO and then-Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak. According to the Israeli, and most U.S., accounts of those negotiations, Arafat rejected a “great” deal, and thus set off the decline which has ensued ever since.

But the truth is, it was *Barak* who sabotaged any agreement at Camp David! What Barak did, was to bring in the question of Jerusalem and control over the holy places there, and demand that Arafat make concessions on the most sensitive question in the entire Arab world. Arafat *could not* make a deal on Islamic holy places in Jerusalem, and expect to maintain Arab support, or even to stay alive.

President Clinton then compounded the error by blaming Arafat for the subsequent breakdown. The pathway to a workable agreement—which would have involved U.S. commitments to extensive economic development, especially water projects, in the region—was not taken up, and recriminations were the order of the day. All it took was Sharon’s deliberate provocation in September 2000—his militarily-escorted trip to al-Haram al-Sharif, the third holiest site in Islam—and the Intifada, and escalating cycle of violence, were launched.

So, if Arafat was not responsible for putting the Mideast on a road to war, who was? It was Ariel Sharon,

and the leadership of the Israeli Defense Forces, both of whom have a long-standing plan to *expel* the Palestinians from Israel, and carry out a program of *genocide*.

You’ll never find the truth in the major U.S. press, but it must be faced. Ariel Sharon and the IDF are thugs and/or lunatics, who are willing to throw the world—not to mention Israel—into flames, because of their Nazi-like hatred of the Palestinians. The policies which they are carrying out against the Palestinian population are eerily similar to that of the Nazis. They send in provocateurs to create “terror” incidents—like those of Hamas. Then they carry out “collective retribution” against families, and now whole areas of towns—actions which were branded “crimes against humanity” by international institutions a long time ago. A recent Israeli paper which circulates among Russian emigres even called for *castration* of Palestinians, in order to reduce the population.

The IDF’s Nazi atrocities, predictably, make it impossible for PA President Arafat to prevent reaction. In addition, the IDF has systematically destroyed his police infrastructure, so that he could hardly “crack down” on terrorist criminals on a large scale.

President Bush has, up until now, tried to resist the Sharon-IDF outlook. He and Secretary of State Powell have pledged support for a Palestinian state, living side-by-side with Israel. They have refused to accept the trashing of Arafat as a “terrorist,” and opposed the Israeli moves to reoccupy Palestinian territory. But simply trying to hold the line does not, and will not, work. The Bush Administration has to tell the truth, about the genocidal intentions and actions of Sharon and the IDF.

There are still some Israelis of stature stepping forward, and taking risks, for a peace policy. Leading Palestinian peacemakers are almost as likely as Hamas leaders, to be assassinated by Israel. Sharon and the IDF *want* war, as do their international controllers, and many leading Democratic Party hawks. President Bush should slam those Democrats and Sharon, before it’s too late.