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Hezbollah Terror Tunnels Expose United Nations Impotence

Dear Friend of FLAME:

In another display of UN ineptness, Hezbollah terror tunnels into Israel reveal the United Nations' impotence in maintaining peace in the Middle East—or pretty much anywhere.

Unfortunately, this UN impotence may soon threaten the lives of large numbers of Israelis in the range of Hezbollah's 150,000 launch-ready missiles poised just over the Lebanon-Israel border.

The 2006 Lebanon War's ceasefire was defined in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701. Back in 1978, the United Nations created UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon). In 2006, it was also tasked with policing Lebanon's border with Israel. UNIFIL's primary job was supposed to be <u>insuring the continued disarmament</u> of southern Lebanon, between the Litani River and Lebanon's United Nations-defined border with Israel, known as the Blue Line.

UNIFIL was beefed up in manpower—now having over 10,000 troops from dozens of countries—to manage diligently the uneasy peace between Israel and Lebanon, after <u>Hezbollah had launched thousands of missiles</u> from Lebanon into Israel during the 2006 war.

It is unclear in retrospect why <u>anyone</u>—including U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice—thought UNIFIL was up to the job. It had <u>failed miserably</u> in preventing the Hezbollah missile build-up in southern Lebanon for many years. In 2006, UNIFIL was already the signature program demonstrating United Nations impotence in containing Hezbollah's terror activities.

UNIFIL works in close partnership with the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) in doing its job. But the LAF is effectively controlled by Hezbollah's terror forces. Indeed, the entire government of Lebanon has long been little more than <u>a front for Hezbollah</u>, which controls it.

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BOLD PR MESSAGES,

For years, when suspicious activity was reported to the LAF by UNIFIL, further inspections—shockingly!—found nothing of concern. The proof in Lebanon—until last week—was in the massive expansion of Hezbollah's terror missile inventory.

Indeed, that inventory has grown from <u>10,000 at the end of the 2006 war</u> to over <u>150,000</u> <u>Hezbollah missiles today</u>. Hezbollah terror rockets are almost de rigueur in any wellappointed home, garage, factory, or underground facility anywhere in southern Lebanon.

All this happened under the impotent United Nations' nose. Factories have also been set up through Hezbollah's terror arm—and its Iranian sponsors—throughout southern Lebanon to augment the power and upgrade the precision of its missile batteries —all right under the nose of the impotent United Nations' UNIFIL "peacekeepers."

With last week's revelation by Israel that Hezbollah terror tunnels run under the Blue Line in many places, UNIFIL's malign incompotence was brought into even sharper focus. Israel has <u>uncovered three terror tunnels</u> already, and <u>dozens</u> are believed to be under construction along the Blue Line.

Clearly, these <u>Hezbollah terror tunnels are being built for a major invasion of Israel</u>.

Unlike the shallow <u>one-man-at-a-time Hamas tunnels</u> that have been in the news for years, the Hezbollah terror tunnels are <u>over six feet wide and tall</u>—allowing mechanized forces to be transported en masse into areas behind Israeli border towns like Metulla.

The Hezbollah terror tunnels are dug seventy-five feet deep, and travel hundreds of feet into Israeli territory. Using them, Hezbollah terrorists could sneak through in large numbers to attack and massacre or hold hostage lsraeli villages and kibbutzim across the Blue Line.

One of the tunnel's entry points on the Lebanon side was in the basement of a house just yards away from a UNIFIL outpost. Unsurprisingly, UNIFIL claims it suspected nothing. Certainly, as usual, it did nothing.

The Security Council at the United Nations will be having a meeting to discuss all this and decide what to do. Perhaps they will increase the UNIFIL budget. Perhaps they will express outrage.

Sadly, the truth is <u>the United Nations is the problem</u>, and United Nations impotence in ensuring Israel's security from Hezbollah—or any other terrorist or national enemy—has been so obvious over the decades that Israel might as well skip the meeting.

We must remind our friends, colleagues and elected representatives that the <u>only guarantor</u> of Israel's security is <u>Israel</u>. Yet again—as in all of Israel's previous conflicts—the United Nations' crookedness and ineptitude just delays—and in this case, <u>fuels</u>—the inevitable next war.

Threatened by tens of thousands of Hezbollah missiles from above, and now dozens of terrorist invasion tunnels from below, Israel must be free to take <u>whatever actions</u> it deems necessary to protect itself, its people and its IDF soldiers.

Emphasize to your representatives and other public officials that any calls for restraint by

PLEASE HELP US!!

FLAME is the only organization that defends Israel with paid editorial hasbarah messages placed in media nationwide every month: The dire threats from Iran, Hamas and Hizbollah, the injustice of BDS, Palestinian anti-Semitism and more. If you support a bold voice that tells the truth about Israel in American media, please donate now.

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Israel now—or, once the missiles start flying and the Hezbollah troops invade—will only unleash and fuel a much greater conflagration . . . <u>soon</u>. Educate your friends to the realities of southern Lebanon and United Nations impotence—and even collusion with Hezbollah.

What columnist Caroline Glick calls "<u>Trump's Urgent Lebanon Problem</u>," is just as much "<u>Our</u> Urgent United Nations Problem."

If you support FLAME, please quickly visit our lively <u>new Facebook page</u> and review the P.S. immediately below, which describes FLAME's recent *hasbarah* campaign asserting the <u>congruence of anti-Zionism with classic anti-Semitism</u>.

Best regards,

Ken Cohen

Editor, Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. We may never defeat anti-Semitism or it's equally twisted twin, anti-Zionism but we have an obligation to fight them with every ounce of our being. That's why FLAME has created a new hasbarah message called "Anti-Zionism is Racism." I hope you'll review this hard-hitting paid editorial, which began running this month-for the first time in the New York Times. It exposes slander of Israel and opposition to Israel's existence by BDS activists, members of Students for Justice in Palestine and even a few politicians as racist calumnies. These lies need to be called out, and FLAME's new position paper does it boldly. In addition to running in mainstream media, this editorial will be sent to every member of the U.S. Congress and President Trump. If you agree that this kind of public relations effort on Israel's behalf is critical, I urge you to support us. Remember: FLAME's powerful ability to influence public opinion-and U.S. support of Israel-comes from individuals like you, one by one. I hope you'll consider giving a donation now, as you're able—with \$500, \$250, \$100, or even \$18. (Remember, your donation to FLAME is tax deductible.) To donate online, just go to donate now. To donate online, just go to donate now. Now, more than ever, we need your support to ensure that the American people, the U.S. Congress and President Trump stay focused on the true obstacle to peace, which is the lack of a credible Palestinian peace partner.

As of today, more than 15,000 Israel supporters receive the FLAME Hotline <u>at</u> <u>no charge</u> every week. If you're not yet a subscriber, won't you join us in receiving these timely updates, so you can more effectively <u>tell the truth about</u> <u>Israel</u>? Just go to <u>free subscription</u>.

Anti-Zionist attacks at universities have increased—yet schools aren't doing anything

By Tammi Rossman-Benjamin, The Hill, August 17, 2018

A few months ago, a professor at San Francisco State University posted to her program's <u>Facebook</u> page that welcoming Zionists to campus is "a declaration of war against Arabs, Muslims, [and] Palestinians." Soon after, graffiti and flyers showed up all over campus stating, "Zionists Are Not Welcome On This Campus."

At a University of Illinois rally against white supremacy, a member of Students for Justice in Palestine led a large crowd in chanting, "No Zionists, no KKK, resisting fascism all the way!"

At New York University, 53 student groups <u>pledged</u> to boycott NYU's pro-Israel clubs and refuse to co-sponsor events with them. The president of Students for Justice in Palestine stated, "Our point is to make being Zionists uncomfortable on the NYU campus."

New <u>research</u> recently conducted by our organization found that because of their presumed support for Israel, Jewish students on dozens of campuses have been openly targeted for vilification, destruction of property, disruption of events, and exclusion from participation in campus activities, with incidents of Israel-related ostracization and discrimination more than doubling from 2015 to 2017.

And such acts are not only increasing in frequency but in brazenness, with open calls for the boycott, and even expulsion, of Jewish and pro-Israel students and student groups from campus jumping from 3 incidents in 2015 and 4 in 2016, to 14 incidents in 2017 and 18 in the first half of 2018 alone.

Anti-Israel campus activities are no longer intent on harming Israel, but increasingly, and alarmingly, they are intent on harming pro-Israel members of the campus community.

Our study also found that while acts of classic anti-Semitism (e.g. swastika graffiti, neo-Nazi fliers, vandalism of Jewish religious objects, etc.) made up the vast majority of incidents on campus, it was the Israel-related incidents, which were far more likely to directly target Jewish and pro-Israel students for harm, that contributed the lion's share of hostility to the campus climate.

Jewish students themselves confirmed these findings. At San Francisco State University, a Jewish student reported that as a result of years of Israel-related harassment, "[t]he atmosphere on campus is beyond difficult or upsetting, it has evolved into something frightening and ugly."

A Jewish student at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign related that after a registered student organization declared 'there is no room for Zionists' at the university, Jewish students "reported being harassed, targeted and feeling unsafe." A Jewish student leader at New York University stated, "When the open goal is to make me personally as a Zionist feel uncomfortable on campus, things start to feel unsafe."

Unfortunately, despite the alarming increase in both the quantity and severity of these acts, university administrators have on the whole been unresponsive, often chalking up Israel-related harassment to political free speech that does not warrant university intervention.

Jewish and pro-Israel students are quick to point out, however, that administrators

frequently apply an egregiously unfair double standard, giving a "free speech" pass to the perpetrators of anti-Zionist harassment while swiftly condemning and firmly disciplining the perpetrators of identical acts of harassment directed at students protected by state and federal anti-discrimination law. Consider, for example, how promptly and vigorously university administrators would respond to members of a registered student organization chanting hate language to other minority organizations.

The rights to freedom of expression and full participation in campus life are bedrock values of any college or university that no individual student can be denied. Yet Jewish students targeted because of their presumed support for Israel, and all other students who do not fall within the protected categories etched out by anti-discrimination law, are routinely denied these rights by university administrators, as harassing behavior that suppresses their speech and excludes them from campus activities is allowed to continue unabated.

This structural inequity is untenable. Not only does it leave an unacceptable number of students feeling vulnerable, unsafe and without basic civil rights, but by impeding a free and diverse exchange of ideas it erodes the very underpinnings of higher education.

University leaders and state and federal legislators must acknowledge that peer-on-peer harassment is more than just a form of identity-motivated discrimination. Harassment is harassment. The effect of this type of abhorrent intolerant and exclusionary behavior on students is the same, regardless of the motivation of the perpetrator or the identity of the victim.

Jewish students, and all students, deserve access to an education free from harassment. Behavior that suppresses any student's right to freely express themselves, learn from their professors and peers and fully participate in campus life must be addressed, and it must be addressed equitably. University policies and state and federal legislation must be amended to reflect this reality and protect all students, fairly and equally.

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