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Home » New opportunity opens for the Palestinians: Will they seize peace and prosperity . . . or let it slip away again

## FLAME.**Hotline**.

January 16, 2024



Houthi supporters demonstrate in support of the Palestinians. The Houthis are part of Iran's "Axis of Resistance," along with Hamas and Hezbollah. They have been attacking commercial ships in the Red Sea in support of Hamas's war against Israel, endangering the global economy.

# The U.S. and allies vs. the Houthis: Continue attacks until the jihadis stop

Dear Friend of Israel, Friend of FLAME:

Late last week—and relatively late in the game—the U.S. and Britain responded militarily against the Houthis of Yemen, finally indicating that such jihadi belligerence will not go unanswered.

Behind the Houthi attacks on commercial ships of 40 different nations passing through the Red Sea—which the Islamist Shiite group falsely claims were all connected to Israel—sits the puppeteer Iran, which also <u>sponsors terror groups</u> Hezbollah and Hamas.

Until now, the West has been reluctant to strike back at the Houthis' disruption of global shipping commerce, apparently in deference to as-yet <u>failed American attempts</u> to make a nuclear disarmament deal with Iran.

Even as Israel continues its battle to eliminate Hamas from Gaza, the Houthis say their aggression in the Red Sea is meant to support their fellow jihadis. However, by striking this <u>key shipping chokepoint</u>, the Houthis are not only threatening a major Israeli supply route, but also the world economy.

Like Hamas, the Houthis are well-armed and financed by Iran. Also like Hamas, they regard both Israel and the U.S. as their <u>sworn enemies</u>. Their official motto is, "Death to America,

### THIS MONTH'S AD Appeared in Media Reaching 10 Million People Nationwide.

Israel's Enemies Te Following the worst massacre of Jews sind	
series of vicious attacks, threats and malic	ious lies against Jews and Israel
With no shame or sign of humanity, the enemies of Israel have builded down on their institutence that lenal is an illegitimate take that must be destroyed and that the savage skurghter of 1,200 invecent lews must justified—all based on five "Big Lies" about the Jewish rate.	separating or limiting the rights of any of its citizens—including two million Arab-Israeli citizens—nor any Palentinians outside Israel. Political and civit rights of all Palestinians outside Israel are controlled by their respective distatorships, who allow virtually no freedoms, such as speech or the voce. No apartheid.
What are the facts? The world for leven and head will means the the same. Wellesky colleger students means on twicome in school dorms. Harman efficial hard Reand, in a TV rant, seesan Hanna will repeat Chesher laming set of the start of the school dorms. I harman efficial means and the school dorm school dorms will be come to the school dorm school dorm school means and the school dorm school dorm school will be school dorm school dorm school dorm school dorm school will be school dorm school dorm school dorm school dorm school will be school dorm school	Le 64: Israel is committing war crimes. This retines induct intertw, honge tailog, exist previous, rape and intertional argening of criticals, While Hamas committed all how as also on Chiefer?, Heard committion news. Though some during levels military efforts, in fact, Incad antacks only might. Hamas practical training of the second military efforts, in fact, Incad antacks only might. Hamas practical training of in marks become the second military or in marks become the second military efforts.
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Power of Big Lies: Though Israel was the victim of a mass mandle of masscent Jews, its esemines Manue the Jewish Istate— not only for the Hamas massace, but also for responding in definies. The reasons many blane local for the atractity are based on five Mig Lies. Big Lies were used by Naza Iseder Goebbels, who noted that if he told an outrageous lie often rough needue wold beain to behave: it. Alternatively, if you	terrot, opper any visions to an preve and usersup use performance, beard and Egrpt blockaded Gauss to prevent terror attacks. Likevise, under the Oslo Accords, Israel and the Palestinian Authority share governmace O (does and Smarthi, (the Viett Bank), and Israel plays virtually no role governing Palestinians' daily lives. It enters Palestinians-controlled areas only when terrorists (the con and hide In them. No Israel oppression.
introduct people results seguri to teach an exact an exact and the second se	Above all, Israel and the U.N. have made numerous offers of land for an independent Palestinian state. Tragically, the Palestinians have turned down five offers of land for peace since 1948, three since the year 2000. Apparently, their deram of conquering Israel
and a continue is a progen narion that conjunt and capatots mother nation. First, the Pallottimism have never owned any and in Palestine. They were also never a nation. Nothing was token. Second, Jews are the indigenous people of the land of seat. They have lived there continuously for 3,000 years and ad two commonwealths for over 1,000 years. They are not orienters. No colonial state.	"from the land to the sea" has greater importance. The beriality of the October 7 massacre shocked us—behendings, incidention, range tottere, hendites executions, braid hidroppings. Even worse, the gates have opened to antionited lew hatred on American atterets and acompare—to conducing arragery with the excuse of Palientimi in theoretion based on other lise
ie #2: Israel commits genocide. Genocide is the intent to	about the Jewish state. But Hamas and the haters should know that "Never Again" means fighting and defeating evil forever.
estroy a national, ethnic, racial or religious group by killing a members. Israel does not, nor has ever, targeted innocent	This message has been published and paid for by
s inservers, israel does not, nor has ever, largered innocent ulestinian civilians for attacks—no mass murders, no pogroms. Il Paleitinian civilian deaths have occurred as collateral	FLAME
at ratematic communities of the second secon	Facts and Logic About the Middle East P.O. Box 3460, Barixiey, CA 94703 James Sinkinson, Prosident Generatio Jaffe (73) Founder
ie #3: Israel practices apartheid. Apartheid is a system of legalized racial segregation in which one nuclai group is hprived of political and civil rights. Israel has no laws or policies	FLAME is a law-event, comparing StrickS) organization, its purpose is the nearest and publication of tasts regarding developments in the Mattie East and opening takes propagands that might harm the United States, local and other alies in the region. Your tasked/unlike architectures are welcame.



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### IF YOU SUPPORT PUBLISHING FLAME'S BOLD

death to Israel, curse the Jews, and victory to Islam."

While the Houthis have been attacking neighboring countries like Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates for years, they now rise above a strictly local menace, since they threaten to <u>decimate global trade</u>, creating losses of billions of dollars.

Given the tepid U.S. and Western response to this growing Houthi threat heretofore, we should wonder if these allies will <u>seriously follow through</u>. Do they have the determination to neutralize the Houthi–and Iranian–threat definitively?

The October 7<sup>th</sup> massacre proved that Hamas could not be deterred by simple containment. Ultimately, Israel had to go on the offensive and remove the terrorist group from its midst.

Similarly, the Houthis will not be deterred by defensive efforts. The U.S. and its allies will surely need to take continued military action to show them and Iran there is a <u>heavy price to</u> <u>pay</u> for destabilizing the world's economy.

Failure by the West to exact a high, painful cost on the Houthis will only encourage Iran to expand its efforts to <u>seize greater hegemony</u> in the Middle East at the expense of the U.S. and its allies.

The Houthis already have a history of endangering U.S. allies in the region, as well as the world economy. They have been attacking Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates since the 2010s. In fact, the Houthis have launched more than <u>1,000 attacks</u> against Saudi Arabia in recent years.

Targets have included the capital Riyadh, airports and oil installations. In September 2019, Houthi attacks resulted in Saudi Arabia losing about half its output capacity, which is significant, as the Saudis <u>supply 13%</u> of the world's oil.

**The Houthis have the ability to inflict major damage to Israel and the global economy.** They have repeatedly launched drones and missiles at Eilat, Israel's southern port. As a result, Eilat has seen an 85% drop in activity, according the port's chief executive. By attacking ships bound for Israel, the Houthis can severely damage the Jewish state's economy as <u>99% of goods</u> (in terms of cargo volume) reach Israel by sea.

Many of the Houthi assaults on ships have occurred in the Bab el-Mandeb strait, which ships traveling between Europe and Asia must traverse unless they take the much longer, alternative route around southern Africa. Some 15% of global commerce flows through Bab el-Mandeb and the Suez Canal daily, including 30% of container traffic. Some 20% of the world's oil also travels through Bab el-Mandeb. It is estimated that if the Houthis were to close the Bab el-Mandeb strait entirely, the global economy would lose \$6 billion a day.

The Houthis have already made shipping costs and insurance premiums skyrocket. According to the International Chamber of Shipping, 20% of the world's container ships are avoiding the Red Sea. A senior U.S. military official said that the Houthi attacks on shipping were at a scale not seen in "two generations."

**The Houthis' actions in the Red Sea bear Iran's signature.** The Houthis are part of the "Axis of Resistance," a term denoting all of Iran's proxies in the Middle East, including Hamas and Hezbollah. The leaders of the proxy groups have claimed in interviews that their <u>close</u> <u>coordination</u> with each other today is unparalleled.

Proxies like the Houthis are part of Iran's strategy of attacking its enemies, while simultaneously avoiding direct involvement in conflict that could lead to a regional war. Yet Iran clearly provides the <u>weapons and intelligence</u> the Houthis use to attack ships in the Red Sea.

Until last week's attack on targets in Yemen, the Western response to Houthi belligerence has been half-hearted. Biden has also prevented Israel from attacking the terrorist group. Moreover, ironically, shortly after his election, President Biden <u>removed the Houthis</u> from the U.S. State Department's Foreign Terrorist Organizations list.

Belatedly, last month, Biden announced the creation of an alliance of countries to protect Red Sea shipping. But notably, this alliance *excludes* key Arab allies like Egypt and Saudi Arabia, and of course, Israel. While recent U.S. and U.K. military strikes on Friday and Saturday hit some 60 targets in 28 sites, it's unclear how seriously the Houthis' military capability was

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damaged-and the group threatened retaliation.

**One thing is clear: The Houthis—and Iran—will continue their belligerent actions as long as the U.S. and Western allies do not stop them.** It's time for America and friends to continue what they started last week—<u>painful, punishing response</u> to all terror attacks against U.S. interests by the Islamic Republic and its proxies anywhere in the Middle East.

Please make the point when speaking with family, friends, colleagues—or in letters to the editor—that the only way to stop the Houthis from wreaking havoc on the global economy is to completely disable their military assets. What's more, the U.S., Israel and our Western allies must make clear to Iran by forceful actions that we <u>will not tolerate</u> its continued imperialist expansion and threats to the global economy.

Best regards,

James Sinkinson, President

Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. The events of October 7 have changed our world forever—and especially the world for Israel and the Jewish people. Likewise, the words "Never Again" will never be the same for us. October 7 has shown us that despite all promises of equity and commitments against hate on campus and on our streets, we can never depend on it. We will likely never be free of the scourge of antisemitism, fueled by the most outrageous slanders. I hope you'll agree that we opponents of Hamas and its savage massacre—and of all who support Hamas, against all humanitarian values—need to speak out. FLAME's new *hasbarah*—explanatory message —"Enemies of Israel Tell Five Big Lies"—refutes today's most vicious lies against Israel and the Jewish people. I hope you'll review this convincing, fact-based editorial, which FLAME intends to publish in the *Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, New York Post, Chicago Tribune, Houston Chronicle, Star Tribune* and *Los Angeles Times*. This piece will also be sent to all members of Congress, Vice President Harris and President Biden. If you agree that this kind of public relations effort on Israel's behalf is critical, I urge you to support us with a donation.

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