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The Wit, Wisdom & Wituperation of Emanuel L. Struin
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BEWARE OF THE ARAB/ISLAMIC BOMB

Most, if not all, western nations believe that you can deal with the Arabs on the basis of logic and common sense. That is "western logic and western common sense". Acting on this assumption has, and can, lead to catastrophic results, as it almost did for Israel in 1973. A similar situation where the western mindset was at loss to comprehend the Asian mindset took place in Viet Nam for the French and then for the Americans.

Since the destructive power of the atom bomb was proven in 1945, none of the nations in the nuclear club have used the bomb. We know that Arab Iraq and not-quite-Arab-but-Moslem-Iran are working diligently to build the bomb.

In an article published in the Arabic daily "Al Hayat" in London, Libya's former Prime Minister, Abd Al-Hamid Al-Bakkush, warned of the danger of nuclear weapons in Arabs' hands. This article was translated by The Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI).

While he agrees that the Arab nations should try to achieve an arms balance with Israel, he points out that, "the acquisition of nuclear weapons...bears more danger to us than it does to others. Let's imagine what could happen if one of us had a nuclear weapon. Pan Arab relations since WWII has been full of plots and struggles against each other. In such a state of mistrust how can we encourage one of us to attain a nuclear bomb?"

"Since Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a sense of responsibility has come with the possession of nuclear weapons. The bomb became the means for deterrence only, with no one daring to use it...However in our Arab region things are totally different...whoever examines the justified fears that prevail in our relations must feel sorry for us if one of us will acquire a nuclear bomb."

"Arab politics is, to a great degree, a result of emotions, fears and unrealistic ambitions which are hard to address and hard to appease. It is even possible...that, in the heat of the moment, one Arab would drop a nuclear bomb on the head of another Arab, with all due respect to our exaggerated talk about Arab solidarity..."

"He who truly loves us will not find it difficult to advise us not to encourage any one of us to possess weapons of mass destruction. Had we had these weapons we would have already dropped them in a time of conflict among us or during an invasion by one of us into another's territory."

"The fact that Israel posses nuclear weapons gave it means of deterrence. Nevertheless,

this can not justify our dream to possess that type of weapon. Moreover, the narrow (strip) between Israel and us makes the use of nuclear --or even biological or chemical-- weapons a two-edged sword that might turn against us...(therefore) possessing nuclear weapons by some of us is more dangerous for us than the possession of such weapons by Israel."

As I read Al-Bakkush's comments on inter-Arab rivalries, I thought about the many opportunities that Arabs would have had to use atomic weapons against each other. An off-the-top-of-my-head list includes: the Egypt-Yemen war; the North Yemen-South Yemen war; the revolt in Mecca, Saudi Arabia; the border war between Egypt and Libya; the on-going civil war in the Sudan; the civil war in Lebanon involving armies of Maronite Christian factions, Druze, Sunni Moslems and Shiite Moslems; the on-going civil war in Algeria; the Iraq-Iran war; Iraq civil wars with the Kurds and the Shiites; Iraq's invasion of Kuwait; the civil war in Afghanistan; the border war between Morocco and Spanish Sahara; the civil war between Jordan and the PLO. And of course, the invasion of Jordan by Syria in 1970 which came to a halt when Israel threatened to intervene. Think of all the mushroom clouds that would have covered the region.

"OLIVE TREES FOR PEACE" OR SELECTIVE ENVIRONMENTALISM

A couple of weeks ago, a full page ad in the Week in Review section of the Sunday New York Times caught my eye. Since I consider myself a friend of the environment, I found the headline "Olive Trees For Peace" intriguing. What only caught my eye at a quick glance proceeded to catch my ire as I read the ad.

While the ad makes a pretense of treating the Israelis and Palestinians evenhandedly, the transparent words are basically an attack on the Jewish pioneers who chose to live in the land of their forefathers and mothers, and on the Israeli government for defending its citizens. While most of the signatories of the ad have Jewish names and some identify themselves as rabbis, in this ad, they promote a left-wing, pro-Arab agenda rather than a Jewish agenda. And make no mistake about it, Judea and Samaria are a Jewish agenda and the "West Bank" is not.

The ad, in the name of an Israeli "human rights" group claims that Israeli soldiers and civilians have uprooted ancient olive trees that were an important part of the Arab economy for no reason except vindictiveness. Of course, the Arabs were not using the trees to hide behind while they were shooting at Jews or waiting to run out to the road to plant a bomb. The peaceful Arab villagers never do these sorts of things.

In its attempt to play on the heartstrings, the ad claims that each one of the uprooted trees "paid for the cost of year after year of schooling for a child". Are the sponsors of the ad talking about the same rock-and-Molotov-cocktail-throwing children that the Arab parents send out to be sacrificed in a battle zone?

The uprooting of innocent olive trees may or may not be true. But we should remember that the left wing from Karl Marx to the Kremlin to their camp followers in Israel and in the U. S. will claim anything to achieve their ends, whatever these ends may be at any given time.

The environmental zeal of the sponsors for the replanting of the Arab olive trees has a somewhat selective, hollow ring to it. I don't recall any similar zeal for the environment or biblical quotes about trees in full page or even quarter-page ads from these people when dozens of Israeli forests were torched by Arab arsonists. Are they prejudiced against Jewish trees?

...OR JAIL

In the 1960s, American judges helped destroy Job Corps, a residential job training program for high school dropouts by offering young criminal offenders the choice of "Job Corps or jail". After reading about how many members of the Israeli police treat Jewish citizens of Israel, I get the feeling that Israeli judges give thugs the choice of "police force or prison".

A FLAME THIS HIGH

Do you remember the answer to that oft-asked question, "do you know what burns my ass"?

You hold your hand, palm down, at the level of your rear-end and say, "a flame about this high". Here are some current comments and events that generate the same kind of heat for me:

- o blaming the skipper of the U.S. Navy's Circle Line submarine for all of the problems created when the Navy Department turned the warship into an around the island of Oahu tourist carrier. Why didn't the heads of the top Navy brass get chopped off for encouraging this kind of distracting activity?

- o the unwillingness of the Israeli government to announce that the "Palestinian tax funds" that it has collected will go directly and immediately to the Israeli individuals and families who have been killed or injured or whose property has been damaged by the Arab terrorists. Any additional funds collected should go to Israeli businesses that have been hurt by the Arab terror attacks.

- o the Israeli cabinet members who are always pushing to lift restrictions against the Arabs because they do not want to make things difficult for the civilian population. This misplaced humanity is a typically Jewish sickness. The Arab gunners, and bomb-planters and suicide bombers are not only coming from this civilian population but are being sent on their missions of death and destruction with the blessings of these same

civilians. It would be a welcome change to see these Israeli politicians show the same level of humanity on behalf of the Jews who are the victims and intended victims of Arab terror.

- o a Jewish wedding which is conducted by a rabbinical student and by Uqualla, a native American spiritual medicine man. Although, this may be an improvement over a Jewish wedding conducted by a rabbi in conjunction with a priest, minister or ayatollah. (color me narrow-minded or traditional)

- o Secretary of State, Colin Bowel's comment that "there can be no military solution to this conflict" (between Israel and the "Palestinians"). Again, he is wrong, there can be only a military solution. A negotiated solution will bring another never-ending Bosnia. An incomplete military solution like that engineered by the ex-general in the Gulf War will bring us another long-running Saddam Hussein.

- o Shimon Peres's condemnation of the mortar attack that wounded four Israeli teenagers. His comment that the attacks were a clear violation of the Oslo Accord and damage the peace process are cause enough to put him in a padded cell and throw away the key. It has long been obvious that he will never recover his sanity.

- o Ariel Sharon for having Shimon Peres in his cabinet.

- o The gross incompetence of the Israeli government in the area of providing water resources. Even after years of being warned about the inadequacy of the country's water supply, the previous government under the leadership of the unbalanced Ehud Barak was prepared to turn water sources over to the Arabs. None of the previous governments did anything about building desalinization plants. An Israeli company has recently completed a desalinization plant that will help solve the water needs on the island of Cyprus. And only now, in the face of a raging water emergency, has the Sharon government approved the construction of a desalinization plant for Israel

NAME CHANGE

I think it is time to change the name of one of the institutions on the Temple Mount. My proposal is to change the name of the Al Aksa mosque to the Dome of the Rocks. The name has a nice hard ring to it and it makes a good match to the name of the other shtible on Har Habayis. Further, I am willing to give credit for the renaming to any Jew who donates \$10,000 to the Jewish National Fund. We will try to arrange with the WAFK to have a bronze plaque honoring the renamer put up in the mosque.

IS IT A GUARANTEE OR A WARRANTY?

Prime Minister Sharon guaranteed that not one home in the Jewish town of Gush Katif in the Gaza Strip will be dismantled as part of a "peace agreement". Does he have a secret plan to let the Arab gunners dismantle the homes with their mortar attacks so that he doesn't have to make good on his guarantee?

QUOTES I LIKE

We give advice, but we cannot give the wisdom to profit by it.
La Rochefoucauld

An evil at its birth is easily crushed but it grows and strengthens by endurance.
Cicero

If you are going to sin, sin against God, not the bureaucracy, God will forgive you but the bureaucracy won't.

Hyman Rickover

History is a vast early warning system.

Norman Cousins

Believe those who are seeking the truth; doubt those who find it.
Andre Gide

Just being a Negro doesn't qualify you to understand the race situation anymore than being sick makes you an expert on medicine.

Dick Gregory

The individual withers, and the world is more and more.

Alfred Tennyson

Comments appreciated.

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