

Israel's War Minister Naftali Bennett Threatens Iran

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

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Israeli ruling authorities are the most extremist in Jewish state history. Arab MKs aside, the vast majority of Knesset members are militantly hardline racists, threatening regional peace and stability.

New Right party head Naftali Bennett earlier held various ministries, including Education, Economy, Religious Services and Diaspora Affairs.

In early November, Netanyahu appointed him war minister, giving up the portfolio he held, a way for the embattled prime minister to buy Bennett's loyalty, the move unrelated to security issues at a time Israel's only foreign threats are invented. No real ones exist.

At the time, Haaretz said Netanyahu and Bennett struck "a cynical bargain" even for Israel's extreme politics, a move the PM hoped would aid his political survival.

Bennett represents settler interests. The son of US immigrants, he's one of Israel's super-rich class.

Earlier he led the Jewish state's hardline Yesha Council umbrella group, representing settler interests. It replaced Gush Emunim (Block of the Faithful).

GE adherents believed all Judea, Samaria, and Gaza land belongs exclusively to Jews, the view shared by Yesha Council hardliners.

Expanding settlements and displacing their longtime Palestinian residents reflects core Israeli policy.

Bennett earlier encouraged settlers to shoot Palestinians, saying "(a)gainst the cowardly Arab terrorism, a wave of Jewish courage is rising to defeat it."

He bragged about "kill(ing) lots of Arabs in my life (during military service). There's no problem with that," he stressed.

Earlier he said "(t)he time has come to say Israel is ours to go from strategic defense to a process of initiating the implementation of Israeli sovereignty over the territories under Israeli control in Judea and Samaria," adding:

"We need to mark this as a strategic objective and stop the misunderstood message sent from Israel abroad."

"The approach that I'm promoting is reasonable, sane. In the Middle East, we don't have the luxury to indulge in fantasy."

Seeing no prospect of Israeli/Palestinian peace, he called for “realism” on what’s achievable – regardless of world opinion, international law and fundamental Palestinian rights.

He opposes a two-state solution and Palestinian self-determination, wanting occupation harshness maintained.

In an earlier NYT op-ed, he said the following:

“(A) Palestinian state, if established, would be taken over by ISIS, Hamas and Islamic Jihad (as) a launching pad for attacks against our citizens...It is a risk Israel cannot take (sic).”

Over the weekend he threatened Iran, saying:

“We are telling the Iranians: Syria will become your Vietnam. If you don’t leave, you will become entrenched and you will bleed because we will work without hesitation to remove aggressive forces from Syria (sic),” adding:

“It is no secret that Iran is trying to establish a ring of fire around our country (sic). It is already based in Lebanon and is trying to establish in Syria, Gaza and more (sic).”

“We need to move from containment to attack.”

His remark followed Israel’s latest preemptive airstrike on Syrian targets near the Iraqi border on Saturday, an area struck many times before.

Separately, Israeli foreign minister Israel Katz said terror-bombing Iran is “an option — threatening to “launch hundreds of Tomahawk missiles at Tehran,” adding:

“We will not allow Iran to acquire or stockpile nuclear weapons” it doesn’t have or seek in stark contrast to nuclear armed and dangerous Israel.

“If that is the last option, we will act militarily. The threat of sanctions is not enough. The only deterrent is a military threat directed against” Tehran, said Katz.

The myth of an Iranian nuclear or other threat is a longstanding canard. Left unexplained is that Iran hasn’t attacked another country in centuries.

It threatens none now except in self-defense if attacked, it legal right under binding international law the US, NATO, Israel, and their imperial allies breach time and again with impunity.

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Award-winning author Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. He is a Research Associate of the Centre for Research

on Globalization (CRG)

His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html>

Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com.

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About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html> Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com. Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

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