

One Giant Gaza Strip from the Caspian to the Red Sea

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"We will not be the only ones who pay a price. Our homes will not be the only ones destroyed. Our children will not be the only ones killed. Our people will not be the only ones displaced. Those days are over . . . I promise you those times have passed." –Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, Leader of Lebanese Resistance Organization Hezbollah

The last few days have provided a troubling view of the New World Order. The Israeli assault on Lebanon's infrastructure has battered bridges, roads, power plants, grain depots, apartment buildings, mosques, community centers, civilian homes, gas stations, ports and many of the country's critical life-support systems. Additionally, Israel has killed 155 civilians, including 15 children who were instantly vaporized by a missile that destroyed their van while they were fleeing southern Lebanon. Israel has justified the carnage by pointing to the two soldiers who were captured by members of the Lebanese resistance organization, Hezbollah. But Israel's defense is hopelessly flawed.

What if relatives or friends of the many US detainees who've been illegally imprisoned at Guantanamo, decided to use F-16s and laser-guided missiles to attack the Golden Gate Bridge, the Sears Tower, New York City's electrical grid, and vast swathes of the highway system? Would that be equally justifiable? Or, more to the point, what if Hezbollah decided to blow up major parts of Israel's infrastructure in retaliation for the hundreds of Lebanese prisoners languishing in Israeli prisons without any legal recourse? Would that be okay?

Israel's rationale is merely an apology for state terrorism and it's utterly meaningless in respect to the enormous damage they've caused.

What if the shoe were on the other foot? What if it was Israel's citizens who were locked away in Lebanese prisons? Would Israel simply leave them to their fate?

Hezbollah wants their prisoners back as much as Israel and they've shown a willingness to negotiate. Israel, however, has other things in mind; flattening another Arab country and plunging them into the Stone Age. This is the way Israel does business.

The history of the present conflict did not begin with the capture of the two soldiers as the media would have us believe, nor is it simply aimed at dismantling Hezbollah. Israel is planning to occupy the territory between its northern border and the Litani River in Southern Lebanon. This will provide access to an important water source for Israel and create a buffer zone between itself and Arab militants. The demonstration of overwhelming force is intended to send a message to Syria and Iran that they'd better "shape up" or expect similar treatment in the near future.

“A Clean Break”

Israel's present battle-plan originated with a policy paper that was written by former Defense Policy Board chief Richard Perle and (Bush administration officials) David Wurmser and Douglas Feith. The document, which was titled “A Clean Break; Strategy for Securing the (Israeli) Realm” provides the details of Israel's plan to topple potential rivals in the region and redraw the map of the Middle East.

The text reads: “Securing the Northern Border: Syria challenges Israel on Lebanese soil. An effective approach, and one which America can sympathize, would be if Israel seize the strategic initiative (preemption) along its northern borders by engaging Hezbollah, Syria and Iran as the principle agents of aggression in Lebanon including . . . striking military targets in Lebanon, and should that prove insufficient, striking at select targets in Syria proper.”

Perle's document outlines exactly what is presently taking place even though it was written back in 1996. (It was composed for the government of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.)

This shows that Israel is not acting irrationally or spontaneously, but executing a carefully considered master plan for crushing potential enemies and reconfiguring the Middle East to accommodate the modern Israeli kingdom. (Hence, the pretentious euphemism “Securing the Realm”)

This is the war that Israel wanted from the very beginning; a final showdown with arch-nemesis Hezbollah, followed by confrontations with Damascus and Tehran. It's all in Perle's blueprint for “total war.”

Prime Minister Olmert has not deviated one millimeter from the original scheme.

George Bush's appearance in St Petersburg suggests that there was careful coordination between Tel Aviv and the White House, so that Israel could carry out its depredations in Lebanon while Bush kept Putin occupied at the G-8 meetings. Eventually, Putin will realize that Bush has taken him for a fool by diverting his attention from events in the Middle East with bogus promises of membership in the WTO. Bush has proven once again, that while he may not read the newspapers, he is a shrewd Machiavellian-politician who is skillful at manipulating situations to his own advantage.

We should review Lebanon's recent history if we want to fully appreciate the effort that has gone into preparing it for invasion. The assassination of Rafik Hariri gave Israel and America the perfect pretext for intervening in Lebanese affairs via the United Nations. The public anger was effectively shifted onto Syria, even though the evidence of Syrian wrongdoing was inconclusive. The public hysteria eventually led to UN resolutions against Syria which forced Bashar Al-Assad to withdraw his troops and accept that Syrian-patron, Prime Minister Lahoud would be replaced by the more-compliant Fouad Siniora.

We know now that the “Cedar Revolution” was just another clever “made-in-Washington” public relations scam orchestrated by skillful American NGOs and Israeli intelligence agencies. The “color-coded” revolutions have since been widely discredited as more of Uncle Sam's tricks for bringing about regime change in countries where the leaders fail to conform to the economic diktats of the IMF and World Bank.

Consider how opportune it has been for Israel to have Syrian forces out of the way while they lay-waste to Lebanon destroying anything in their path.

Coincidence???

Think again. Everything from Bush's appearance in St Petersburg, to the untimely death of Rafik Hariri, to the Cedar Revolution, to the removal of Syrian troops has been as painstakingly choreographed as a Bolshoi Ballet; all of it was mere preparation for the "Main Event": Israel's triumphant reappearance on Lebanese soil, now threatening to occupy the south for an unspecified period of time and, perhaps, pushing east towards Damascus.

Could Lebanon have escaped Israel's wrath if its soldiers had not been captured by Hezbollah?

Not likely.

Israel has long planned to disarm Hezbollah and eliminate potential conflicts on its northern flank. That means that if Lebanon rebuilds and prospers once again, the threat of Israeli attack will increase accordingly. Israel's aspiration for regional supremacy does not allow for strong neighbors.

It's clear that the devastation in Lebanon is intended to send a message to Damascus and Tehran. As Perle's "A Clean Break" states, Israel wants to frame "Hezbollah, Syria and Iran as the principle agents of aggression in Lebanon." The Israel-friendly media has achieved this by reiterating claims that Hezbollah is a "cat's paw" for Syria and that Iran is providing high-tech weaponry for resistance attacks against Israel. Both countries have denied the allegations, but the stage has been set for a broader war that may engulf the entire region. The probability of regime change in Tehran and Damascus has only intensified as Bush and Olmert's objectives become more apparent. (Note: Israel needs a friendly government in Syria to protect future pipeline routes from Northern Iraq to Haifa. Currently the Mossad are working with the Kurds to ensure that Israel will become a main player in the energy markets in the coming century) Iran's vast oil and natural gas wealth, make it the Middle East's natural leader. This ensures that the mullahs will be challenged and, perhaps, removed to allow for Israeli ascendancy.

The Impotent United Nations

As Israel steps-up its bombing raids on southern Beirut for the sixth straight day, the UN has never looked more ineffective or fragmented. The institution has been blocked from even providing its normally toothless resolutions condemning the violence. The UN has become a rubber stamp for American-Israeli policy; harassing Washington's enemies like Iran and North Korea while obstructing any measure that threatens to curtail US-Israeli aggression.

The massive and calculated decimation of Lebanon; including the willful destruction of critical infrastructure, proves that the UN is no longer able to meet the minimal requirements of its original mandate to stop unprovoked aggression. In its present configuration, the United Nations is worse than useless; it is, in fact, abetting the hostilities and providing cover for resurgent 21st century colonialism. The present crisis could signal the death knell for the beleaguered "world body" as more and more nations will be forced into improvised security alliances to fend off Washington's plans for global domination.

Curious onlookers should note that Israel's attacks have not been aimed at Hezbollah, but

mainly at Lebanese infrastructure. In fact, there have been no reports of Hezbollah casualties so far. This is no coincidence. Israel's plan is to reduce Lebanon to rubble and create a humanitarian crisis similar to the one in the occupied territories.

Throughout the Arab world the same theory of "pacification" is being applied as Bush and Olmert continue their wanton assault on the basic platforms for human survival, leaving millions of Muslims in abject poverty without food, medicine, clean drinking water, or sufficient heat or light. They have created tens of thousands of refugees who have been driven from their homes or left in the ruins to slowly die in the dark. From the Caspian to the Red Sea, from the Mediterranean to the western tip of Afghanistan, Israel and America are spreading their devastation across the Middle East transforming the entire region into one massive Gaza Strip.

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