



Let's Talk Peace...

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...True Peace!

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NEWS and the JEWS

The week in review

Danger In The Kitchen

Reporter Ariel Kahane (Arutz-7) spoke with Miri Eldad of Gilo (a Jerusalem suburb). Ms. Eldad: "We were gathered in our apartment last night, and my daughter had just opened the refrigerator when a bullet hit right above her - I saw the flash; she screamed and fainted, but she was not hit. I also fainted, and we spent the night in the emergency ward... We have no protection on any windows, despite the fact that every one of them except one faces Beit Jala, and despite all the money that the government talked about giving... I am a simple person, and I don't want to give the government diplomatic advice - but one thing I do know: The government must give its citizens security. My children don't go on buses, don't go to the mall, I try to protect them from everything - but even within their own home they can't be safe? Security is a basic demand!"

No Way! Maybe. Why not?

Israel Television Channel One reported

Monday evening that the Barak government is now willing to accept international observers as a face saving gesture for Arafat's benefit.

While only days ago Barak argued convincingly that such international observers could be used as a shield to protect Palestinian attackers, his administration is now, according to the report, arguing that such observers could do no harm.

It Happened On The Way To School

Despite an 18-hour surgical procedure and follow-up operations, doctors at the Soroka Medical Center were unable to save the legs of 8-year-old Tehilla Cohen, one of three children of the Cohen family injured in the schoolbus bombing attack in Gaza on November 20. Gabi Biton and Itamar Yefet were killed in that blast which penetrated the steel walls of an armor-plated schoolbus.

On Thursday and Friday, doctors were forced to amputate the legs of the little girl when it became apparent the surgery did not take and her condition continued to deteriorate. She remains in an intensive care unit but is showing signs of improvement.

Sources: Israel National News, Israel Wire, Gamla News, IMRA.

STUFF you should know

THE TRUTH CAN BE DEPRESSING

Is Associated Press reporting objectively? In one of its articles on the Middle East this week, it writes of the Temple Mount as "The al-Aqsa Mosque, part of a compound in east Jerusalem that Israeli troops captured in 1967, is the third-holiest shrine in the Muslim world." No mention is made of the fact that it is the first-holiest shrine in Judaism.

Another AP article yesterday, featuring a similar sentence, quotes Egyptian President Mubarak as calling for the liberation of al-Aqsa Mosque, and a Jordanian official as expressing the hope for salvaging "the blessed al-Aqsa Mosque from the hands of the aggressors..."; no mention is made of Israel's 3,685-year-old connection with the site.

PEOPLE of the BOOK

Accords False From Their Inception

...Even the peace with Egypt is bogus.

It would be so easy for Egypt to break off relations with Eretz Yisroel. The Camp David accords included autonomy for the Palestinians and further discussions on Yehudah and Shomron. When Eretz Yisroel refuses to implement full autonomy, or refuses to surrender Jerusalem, Yehudah or Shomron — as it must refuse — Egypt will have the perfect excuse to break the accords. We will be left without peace — and without the Sinai, the oilfields, the settlements or the airfields. No peace, and our security infinitely diminished.

The choice was not simply peace or war — sign the Camp David accords and gain peace or don't sign and face certain war with Egypt. The reverse is true: War with Egypt is *more* likely when we are impotent to deter it. It is weakness that brings war, not strength. History is full of instances where one country sought to appease another by making concessions for the sake of peace. It never worked. When one side is weaker than the other, and worse still, deliberately *makes* itself weaker — that is a situation ripe for war. Conversely, the Camp David accords do not spell out peace, not even a small step towards it. The accords imperil our security, the "peace" was counterfeit from its inception, and the enemy remains the same. We surrendered all for nothing.

Certainly we must do everything possible to achieve peace. But we cannot jeopardize our security for a "peace" that can never be guaranteed, a piece of paper that can so easily be torn up. A treaty should indeed have been signed — but not with one side making all the real concessions and the other none...

Adapted from talks of the Lubavitcher Rebbe at the time of the first Camp David Accords in the late seventies.

SAY WHAT?

"We will have peace with the Arabs when they will love their children more than they hate us"

— Golda Meir, 1972

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