

Israeli Deterrence in the Eye of the Hurricane

by Louis René Beres (July 2015)

“Everything is very simple in war, but the simplest thing is difficult.”

– Carl von Clausewitz, *On War*

Left to themselves, especially as more “normal” hostilities dissolve into a full-blown regional chaos, Israel’s adversaries could drive the Jewish state toward an unconventional war. This fateful endangerment could be produced singly or collaboratively, by deliberate enemy intent or by the “collateral damage” of sectarian strife. Militarily, these Islamic adversaries of Israel, both Sunni and Shi’ite, could be either non-nuclear, or, in the future, nuclear. [more>>>](#)