

Obama Minimizes Terror Threat Against Israel, Dehumanizes Israelis

by Hugh Fitzgerald



Before, during, and after his presidency Barack Obama has been distinctly unfriendly to Israel. He portrays the Jewish state as an unyielding aggressor, the powerful overlord of generally inoffensive Palestinians who are kept down by violence. He piles error upon error, in discussing how Israel somehow “fell into war” with the Palestinians. He scarcely refers to Palestinian terror groups and their thousands of victims. “For Obama, Israel was ‘No Promised Land,’” by Mitchell Bard, [here](#).

Obama says that Abbas was upset because Netanyahu didn't freeze settlement construction in eastern Jerusalem, but this was a result of Obama's blunder. By calling for the freeze, Obama alienated the Israelis and, by failing to force Israel to include Jerusalem, convinced the Palestinians that he didn't have the will to do what they expected after he had given them the impression he would force Israel to capitulate to their demands.

There is one statement worth mentioning unrelated to Israel. Obama writes: “What if a government starts massacring not hundreds of its citizens but thousands and the United States has the power to stop it. Then what?”

He provided the answer by doing nothing for most of his four years because, as he explained, he was afraid there was no telling where the obligation would end...

That turned out not to be a hypothetical. The government of

Syria massacred not “thousands,” but hundreds of thousands of its citizens; the United States had “the power to stop it,” but during the presidency of Barack Obama did practically nothing.

Carter was the most anti-Israel president in history. His enmity—some would even say anti-Semitism—became even more evident when he was out of office. Obama’s hostility towards Israel rivals Carter’s, and his memoir helps us understand why. What is more disturbing, however, is that many of the advisers who contributed to Obama’s disastrous policies have been appointed by U.S President Joe Biden to key positions. We can only hope they learned from their mistakes. The early returns are not encouraging.

Biden has named Robert Malley – pro-Iran and cold-hearted toward Israel – his Special Envoy on Iran. Samantha Power, whose defense of Israel as our ambassador at the UN was singularly lukewarm – especially when one compares her with Nikki Haley – will be the head of USAID, John Kerry will be in charge of dealing with global warming, which at least keeps him from doing more damage negotiating about nuclear matters with his friend Javid Zarif. Tony Blinken, for good and ill, will be Secretary of State, and Jake Sullivan, betwixt and between the same two possibilities, will be National Security Advisor. And Biden, of course, will be Biden. If you care about the wellbeing of Israel, and the security of the West, hold onto your seats. It’s going to be a bumpy ride.

First published in