

Harold Weisberg

## Blood Money

If ~~they gave~~ <sup>were given</sup> Pulitzers for journalistic dishonesty, indecency, hate-preaching of flaunted ignorance, Roy Meachum would be a shoo-in with his "How much blood?" column of 4/8/88. For the blood-money he gets for the evil he commercializes he now has dipped his hand into the blood of a 15-year-old Jewish girl killed on the West bank ~~and consigned to her grave~~, as he never once mentions, with her face bashed in by Arab rocks. Perhaps to his sick mind mutilating her after death was not indecent and barbaric. But he is consistent in not having a single criticism of anything Islamic, <sup>yet</sup> <sup>Muslim</sup> and "how much blood" have ~~the Muslims~~ shed in that part of the world ~~that mostly Muslim blood which~~, much as he proclaims his love of them, does not bring him any "special pain" this innocent girl's death - he says - brings him.

"She should have been at home," he pontificates, and <sup>her</sup> ~~the~~ walk in the countryside "was an act of criminal <sup>in</sup> ~~responsibility~~," more so, perhaps, because it was at ~~the~~ <sup>when</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>first celebration of</sup> ~~time~~ <sup>Passover</sup>, the time Jews celebrate their and mankind's freedom.

"Did she volunteer," he asks, for what "was intended ~~to~~ as a political statement, to demonstrate possession?"

There is no need for any demonstration of possession of the West Bank and there has not been ~~since~~ for the 20 years since Israel drove Jordan out of it, Jordan having taken it by force of arms 20 years earlier.

This is <sup>more</sup> ~~not some~~ of his typical stupidity. It is ~~his intended~~ propaganda, his <sup>his phoned-up</sup> ~~designed~~ evil, ~~and~~ excuse for another of his innumerable blood libels.

Nor is it more of his typical stupidity when he prates that "the only hope for preventing the violence from inflicting more senseless casualties lies with Secretary of State George Schultz's peace initiative."

What he does not say, here or ever, is that ~~none of the~~ Islamic ~~gov~~ governments <sup>There were many</sup> ~~ever~~ has accepted that ~~or any other~~ peace offer. Nor has he ~~ever~~ mentioned that the Camp David accord, which Israel did accept and implement - was rejected by all Islamic governments except Egypt. And it wasn't long before Muslim <sup>Egypt's</sup> assassinated (Sadat, who negotiated it. As earlier they assassinated Trans-Jordan's King Abdullah, whose

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~~crime was~~ <sup>er</sup> merely talking to Jews about peace. As currently the Abu Nidal <sup>ter</sup>terrists are assassinating Arabs who talk with Israelis and their own members who decide to abandon terrorism. (Abu Nidal is ~~him~~ to him the personification of our founding fathers. He has been explicit in declaring that <sup>Nidal</sup>he and his thugs are not terrorists and are only "patriots.")

For those who would like an impartial recounting of the innumerable occasions beginning in 1937 on which Arabs rejected, "without discussion," ~~any and all~~ <sup>the many</sup> (plans for peace in the Holy Land, the current book by the eminent British gentile historian, Paul Johnson, "A History Of the Jews," details them beginning on page 529. The reason all peace proposals are rejected by Arabs is because, despite their <sup>expedient</sup> ~~convenient~~ rhetoric, they intend that Israel be wiped out. "The very concept of negotiations toward a final settlement," Johnson writes, ~~on page 530~~, is "to them a betrayal of principle," the principle of wiping out "the despised dhimmi," other peoples, <sup>especially Jews</sup>.

Mohammed "applied the principle of what he called the jihad. This divides the world into the dar al-Islam", or Islam, and "the dar al-Harb, the 'territory of war', controlled temporarily by non-Muslims. ...the dar al-Harb ... can end only when the entire world submits to Islam."

If our self-described savant and pre-eminent Middle East expert knows anything at all about the area and people of his self-touted expertise, he has to know that no Islamic ruler dares sign any peace or other agreement with Israel and hope to survive it. His pretended hope for the Reagan/Schultz retreading of Camp David's accord is merely to suggest falsely that Israel prevents any settlement. The actuality <sup>is,</sup> ~~was and~~ after 40 years, that 21 of the 22 <sup>remains in a state of war</sup> Islamic states ~~has signed a peace treaty~~ <sup>Sadat alone signed</sup> with Israel, ~~save~~ <sup>a few treaty and</sup> Egypt, whose Sadat was assassinated for it.

Why are there all these Arab refugees? Israel resettled all Jews who could escape Islamic states <sup>while</sup> where thousands still are held and refused exit <sup>situation</sup> by the Islamic states created the Arab refugees by refusing to accept them.

Johnson explains this by saying that to the Arabs a peace treaty is "a kind of surrender. This was why they did not want the refugees resettled because it

meant a final disposal of a moral asset. As Cairo Radio put it: 'The refugees are the cornerstone in the Arab struggle against Israel. The refugees are the armaments of the Arab struggle against Israel.'

To assure that the <sup>would suffer and</sup> refugees ~~were~~ become ~~even~~ a ~~more~~ serious problem, when <sup>refused to</sup> Egypt occupied ~~the~~ the Gaza Strip and Jordan the West Bank, they ~~refused to~~ make any improvements in the conditions of ~~Arab refugees~~ the Arabs they made refugees and when they were driven out they and the other Islamic states blocked all Israel's improvement plans that required international approval.

Hussein's concept of improving the plight of those on the West Bank was to begin construction of another <sup>expansion</sup> summer palace for himself on the heights in Jerusalem. <sup>After driving him out</sup> Israel thereafter established, among other things, four Arab universities in that small area.

None of this and so much more like it readily available in bookstores and libraries is, apparently, fit for our local sage's readers.

<sup>he writes</sup> Instead he ~~imparts the wisdom~~ that those who took this girl for a walk in the country after her long observance of a holiday to freedom have ~~her~~ flood on their hands."

As is so often the case in his endless racist diatribes, his Jew- and Israel-hating columns, his timing is remarkable for its self-exposure. This column ~~appeared~~ appeared the very day that his beloved Muslim "patriots" hijacked a Muslim-owned airplane and threatened to kill all its <sup>red</sup> Muslim passengers, including members of the <sup>these Muslims</sup> Kuwaiti ruling family of Kuwait. The next day <sup>after torture of their captive</sup> they began cold-blooded murder of other Muslims. Hear that, George Washington, <sup>Tom</sup> ~~the~~ Jefferson. This is the real and the true "patriotism," Meachum style.

"How much blood?" he asks and ~~he~~ feigns "special pain" over the "stupid" death of this one girl.

During the time he has been palming off ~~uncritical~~ Arab propaganda as his own <sup>thought</sup> deep thinking and conclusions he has never once felt any "special pain" for the hundreds of ~~thousands~~ <sup>hundreds of thousands</sup> of Muslims killed by Muslims, nor was he troubled by the forced deportations of ~~a like number~~ <sup>thousands of Muslims and</sup> of Muslims from their homelands by <sup>their</sup> Muslim governments.

1400-1410 7-11-14 many  
negative changes  
him



"<sup>only</sup> How much blood? In the first seven years of Israel's existence 1,300 civilians, mostly women, children and old men, were murdered in Arab raids. Not enough to cause him pain.

Thousands more since then? No pain.

<sup>Innocent</sup> Those ~~civilians~~ killed by his "patriot" <sup>Nidal</sup>, including young and old Americans, when the <sup>Nidal's</sup> ~~bombed~~ the Rome and Vienna airports and pirated the Achille Lauro? No pain for American blood, either - and ~~no~~ no columns denouncing those murders *and many more like them*

What blood? <sup>12c</sup> ~~whose?~~ Whatever he can commercialize and exploit in his endless preaching of hatred.

If this is journalism, then the slime of the foulest ~~and~~ sewer is ambrosia.

It is shameless and shameful, it is indecent and evil, it <sup>beautifies</sup> ~~defiles~~ the community and it demeans the papers that publish it.

**Roy Meachum**

## How much blood?

4/8/88



Tirza Porat was not the first teen-age girl to die in the Palestinian uprising against the Israeli occupation which began four months ago today. Her death brings special pain because it was so absolutely unnecessary. She should have been at home.

In a sense, it is easier to understand why babies' lives were snuffed out by security forces' tear gas. Toddlers have been hit by Israeli bullets intended for rock-throwing youths and adults. Crammed into camps and crowded villages, Palestinian children cannot escape the protests and killings that continue to consume the occupied territories. Their parents simply have no sanctuaries available to protect their young.

Tirza Porat's elders had a choice. Had the 15-year-old spent the Passover holiday in her West Bank settlement, she would be alive today. Organizing a "nature walk" near an Arab village was an act of criminal irresponsibility. Sending along guards, armed with submachine guns, showed the walk's organizers understood the danger.

That she was shot accidentally by a bullet meant for the Palestinians throwing stones adds but further tragedy to her death.

Arab villagers said the incident started when the guards cut down a Palestinian farmer in his field. We will never know the truth. Some of the Israeli teen-agers were saved from further injury by Palestinians who took them inside their homes. Villagers summoned medical help from ambulances assigned to care for Arabs, under the territories' policy of segregation.

Two Arabs died. There could have been more, but villagers disarmed the guards, dismantled the weapons and turned them over to the Israeli army when it arrived. The roundup and reprisals began immediately, without waiting for the investigation which showed stones did not kill the girl.

In a recent *Jerusalem Post*, a Zionist leader accused Palestinians of exploiting their women and children as "weapons." Of course, she was right. Not all the Arab mothers, girls and boys were innocents; some died with rocks and fire bombs in their hands. Others have offered themselves as potential victims by marching in demonstrations bound to turn violent.

Civil wars always involve families. They are fought over homes and land.

The uprising is a civil war on the West Bank, pitting Palestinians who have buried countless generations in the earth against Jewish settlers who believe — absolutely — that God gave them the land, which they call Judea and Samaria.

When asked why the nature walk took place, a settler replied: "Because we live here." No holiday jaunt, the foray was intended as a political statement, to demonstrate possession.

Did Tirza Porat volunteer — knowing the danger — for the walk that ended her life? The probability of a confrontation

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with Palestinians added excitement few teen-agers could resist.

This is not to suggest that the girl went to her death willingly, nor that the walk's adult organizers expected the tragic results.

After all, despite the thousands of rocks thrown in the past four months, no Israeli civilian had died before.

And no one could figure that a 15-year-old girl would become the first Israeli civilian casualty — however it happened.

Since the uprising shows no sign of abating, it had to happen. Palestinians have been dying at the average rate of more than one every day: more than 130, so far.

Given the odds, the only hope for preventing the violence from inflicting more senseless casualties lies with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's peace initiative. For the moment, the

girl's stupid death provides an opening  
that the secretary's plea can be heard.  
But who can tell?

This is an election year in Israel.  
Under its parliamentary system, Prime  
Minister Yitzhak Shamir must call an  
election between now and November.

At the young girl's funeral, Mr.  
Shamir said, "Israel's heart is boiling  
over." It sounded like the opening for  
his political campaign.

In my view, the investigation's finding  
that put the blame on a settler-guard's  
bad shooting could turn the tide. The  
religious extremists who organized the  
nature walk now have the 15-year-old's  
blood on their hands.

Nevertheless, the pause that know-  
ledge must bring to the spectacle of  
daily death will probably only slow down  
the tide. There will still be those who  
will argue that the Army contrived a  
cover-up. Radicals among the settlers  
will still claim her as a martyr.

As I have written before: In the  
Middle East, killing begets killing  
begets more killing.

Meanwhile, in their underground  
vaults beneath the Negev desert,  
Israel's thermonuclear weaponry  
silently awaits its cue for entry into the  
raging insanity. Armageddon has never  
been closer to hand.



# Challenging Meachum on the Middle

4/16/88

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preaching or flattered ignorance, Roy Meachum would be a shoo-in with his "How much Blood?" column of April 8, 1988.

For the blood-money he gets for the evil he commercializes he now has dipped his hand into the blood of a 15-year-old Jewish girl killed on the West Bank. Perhaps to his sick mind mutilating her after death was not indecent and barbaric. But he is consistent in not having a single criticism of anything Islamic. Yet how much Muslim blood have Muslims shed in that part of the world that, much as he proclaims his love of them, does not bring him any of the "special pain" this innocent girl's death — he says — brings him?

"She should have been at home," he pontificates, and her walk in the countryside "was an act of criminal irresponsibility." More so, perhaps, because it was at Passover, when Jews celebrate their and mankind's first celebration of freedom.

"Did she volunteer," he asked for what "was intended as a political statement, to demonstrate possession?"

There is no need for any demonstration of possession of the West Bank and there has not been for the 20 years since Israel drove Jordan out of it, Jordan having taken it by force of arms 20 years earlier.

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preventing the violence from inflicting more senseless casualties lies with Secretary of State George Schultz's peace initiative."

What he does not say, here or ever, is that no Islamic government ever accepted that or any other peace offer. There were many. Nor has he ever mentioned that the Camp David accord, which Israel did accept and implement — was rejected by all Islamic governments except Egypt. And it wasn't long before Muslims assassinated Egypt's Sadat, who negotiated it; as earlier they assassinated Trans-Jordan's King Abdullah for merely talking to Jews about peace; as currently the Abu Nidal terrorists are assassinating Arabs who talk with Israelis and their own members who decide to abandon terrorism. (Abu Nidal is to him the personification of our founding fathers. He has been explicit in declaring that Nidal and his thugs are not terrorists and are only "patriots.")

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# East

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*Harold Weisberg lives in Frederick.*