

Grand Vizier

Harold Weisberg

For some years now we in the Frederick are have been blessed by the ~~many~~ words of wisdom, once six times a week now, sadly, reduced to three (sadly because those ~~many~~ words were so good for the blood-pressure of ~~many~~, many people, no doubt including some of his colleagues) on all things, great and small. He is, by his own modest account, an authentic authority on and lover of all things ~~Koslovsk~~ Islamic. Particularly Egypt.

My own knowledge of Egypt is limited to my last reading of wire-service copy in my last daily reporting 40 years ago, my general reading over the years and two more recent first-hand accounts.

The first of these, from a retired scientist who was one of the original developers of nylon, among his accomplishments, is <sup>that</sup> ~~the~~ Egyptians, <sup>love</sup> ~~who so love~~ their Nile <sup>so much</sup> beautiful <sup>they</sup> Nile, ~~these~~ use it to dispose of human wastes and dead carcaasses, the better to prepare it for their drinking and other uses.

The second is from a medical doctor, himself an Arab, who <sup>he</sup> last summer <sup>he</sup> took a nephew on a tour of Egypt, <sup>he</sup> was so overwhelmed by their best practise of medicing he spent weeks meditating upon it after his return and prolonged hospitalization here after their cure, <sup>he</sup> that <sup>he</sup> he decided n~~o~~ver to set foot there <sup>at</sup> again.

Having made these great improvements in the Nile and the conditions under which the people of Egypt live, ~~improvements, that is, over the historical treatment of that~~ ~~great river~~ (these improvements consisting of awarding the waters a greater volume of human wastes and animal <sup>carcasses</sup> ~~carcasses~~), the Egyptian government decided to spend the money with which it increases its <sup>enormous</sup> national debt on more materials for waging war <sup>avoiding,</sup> ~~and for giving~~ the population of the Gaza strip <sup>similar</sup> the same benefits, <sup>avoiding,</sup> ~~again,~~ naturally enough, <sup>it avoided any sewers,</sup> any sewerage. For the 20 years of Egyptian occupation, <sup>it</sup> ~~any~~ housing or educational institutions, <sup>it</sup> ~~even~~ the right to enter Egypt itself. <sup>it</sup> ~~Even~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~Blissed~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~Palestinians!~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~Egypt~~ surely is no less wonderful than our <sup>grand vizier</sup> ~~wiser~~ tells us. <sup>Egypt gave</sup>

Recently he endorsed the Schultzian fiction of "land for peace" for Israel, with <sup>Schultzian best</sup> ~~all~~ <sup>his</sup> efforts bent on coercing Israeli acceptance of the fairy tale. Not that there had been any Islamic acceptance of it, for there has not been.

~~This is~~ <sup>Schultzian</sup> the hoariest of Middle-East <sup>my</sup> facilities.

When conqueror Britain subdivided the former Ottoman Empire, in serving <sup>her</sup> its own imperial interests, which included keeping ~~Arab~~ the Islamic oil dictatorships happy, <sup>she</sup> ~~it~~ used more than half of Palestine to establish a new Arab state, which <sup>she</sup> ~~it~~ called Trans-Jordan. <sup>England</sup> ~~It~~ never kept <sup>her</sup> it promise (of a homeland to the Jews) in the rest of Palestine.

However, <sup>her</sup> its Peel commission offered Arabs 80% of the less than half of Palestine that remained in return for acceptance of a Jewish state in the less than 10% of what remained. <sup>1 the Palestine mandate.</sup> Then and ever since, including when the State of Israel <sup>for "peace"</sup> offered to cede back part of its territory, all Arab interests have always rejected any such proposal without

even discussing it. All Islamic <sup>except</sup> states ~~are~~ Egypt remain at ~~war~~ war with Israel and all want Israel wiped out, <sup>This</sup> which is why they continue in a state of war with it. <sup>wiping Israel out is implicit</sup> ~~This is stated~~ in the PLO's charter, too.

So, with whom is Israel to negotiate? With the Islamic powers ~~all~~ of which have <sup>even</sup> not relations with it and insist upon a state of war - and won't talk to it? With the PLO, which has the unchanged policy of wiping Israel out?

~~And what happens to those Muslims who talk to Israel or even Israelis about <sup>peace?</sup> Egypt's Sadat was assassinated after <sup>he</sup> agreed to the Camp David accords with Israeli ~~Huse~~ Hussein rules over Jordan, whose name he shorted <sup>made</sup> to hide its antecedents, only because his grandfather, Abdullah, talked to Israelis and was assassinated for <sup>it</sup>.~~

What Muslim ruler can hope to survive <sup>making for a deal</sup> any peace with Israel, ~~including the bad joke of giving the peace none has yet to agree to in return for land, which is less than 100% of the land they want, all of Israel?~~

How about the PLO and peace with Israel?

One of our eminence <sup>grise's</sup> favorite papers is The Washington Post, with which he was associated, he ~~says~~ in an executive capacity <sup>Its</sup> Pulitzer Prize foreign



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correspondent Jim Hoagland wrote about this almost <sup>the very moment</sup> ~~while~~ <sup>was</sup> our pundit ~~was~~ endorsing the  
Schultzian fiction. <sup>Hoagland's</sup> ~~His~~ ~~op~~ ~~ed~~ ~~article~~ of June 30, <sup>headed</sup> "Arafat and the 'fog  
Machine," begins: "For nearly two ~~decade~~ decades journalists, officials from any num-  
ber of governments and well-meaning intermediaries have been trying to coax a com-  
mitment out of Yassir Arafat to make peace with Israel. A new round of coaxing has  
ended with yet another burst of fog from the chairman. ...It should be clear by now  
~~Arafat is~~  
that part of the Palestinian peoples' ~~is~~ problem, not part of their solution. To  
pursue him breathlessly in the hope that he will modify by a comma... the PLO's  
tortured and inadequate formulations for Middle East peace is to play a mug's game  
Woesse, it helps postpone the day when a genuine peace effort can be mounted. A ...  
Arafat's unparalleled record of error, failure and myopia as leader of the PLO  
discredits ~~and~~ <sup>at</sup> statement he could make about the Arab-Israeli crisis. ~~His~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~

Arafat, who he says sported a pistol holder ~~before~~ the UN, prefers "the delights  
of being a warlord... and keeping the PLO and its treasury under his rule."

After mentioning a few of the Palestinian intellectuals he knew ~~and~~ who were  
for peace - and, naturally, were assassinated - Hoagland refers to "the latest flurry  
in the small cottage industry that analyzes Arafat's Delphic utterances on peace and  
security," the written statement on this by Arafat's own spokesman. Taken by the  
rest of the world to mean that Arafat was agreeing to peace, his statement was dis-  
owned by Arafat, who Hoagland says, reasonably enough, ~~that Arafat~~ had to have  
"signed off on" it.

Hoagland says there is no hope for <sup>(peace for)</sup> the Palestinians until they "dump both the  
chairman and the charter."

Even if Arafat were to agree to negotiate or to a formula for peace, there is no  
way he can carry the Palestinians along with him, they are that divided and that  
fratricidal. Abu Nidal, for example, ~~is~~ <sup>was</sup> wanted, ~~and~~ <sup>is</sup> indicted terrorist/murderer,  
especially of Americans, <sup>was</sup> to our local sage only <sup>is</sup> (an authentic hero and no terrorist. <sup>He</sup>  
has his own faction busily engaged, according to the arab expert As'ad AbuKhalil (right)

(graduate school, American University, Washington) in assassinating <sup>Palestinians</sup> ~~at~~ those who want peace with Israel. He and his gang have no monopoly on this fratricide.

So, with whom are the Israelis to negotiate, to make peace for land?

Not with <sup>Arafat,</sup> ~~Sraffa,~~ not with his PLO and its charter, not with any of its numerous factions, not with any Islamic power.

It happens that I do not like Shamir, his past or his government. But how can he make <sup>a real</sup> ~~peace~~ <sup>(with all three warring factions,</sup> with nobody to agree to peace and with no possibility of any Muslim peacemaker surviving signing such an agreement - if he survives merely agreeing to talk about it?

This is but another part of the complicated reality of the tragedy of the Middle East our self-described expert does not ~~tr~~ trouble the minds of his readers with, as it is the reason there now is not and there now cannot be seen any peace there - the Muslims don't want peace. He has not, of course, deemed it worthy of mention that neither the PLO nor the Muslim world has agreed to peace or even to talk about peace. *They all want Israel wiped out.*

Meanwhile, <sup>as</sup> ~~aside~~ from all the suffering of the refugees who <sup>of</sup> ~~plight~~ was contrived by the <sup>Islamic</sup> ~~Muslim~~ powers <sup>to</sup> ~~as~~ a drain ~~on~~ and pressure ~~on~~ Israel, the hundreds of murdered Palestinians in the warring factions <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ only part of the great cost <sup>to the Palestinian</sup> ~~of~~ of Arafat's egomania, <sup>designed</sup> ~~on~~ which he also has no monopoly, and the policy <sup>of the Islamic world</sup> ~~of the Muslim~~ world, to wipe Israel out. *eventually.*

Too bad one does not have to be wise, honest, fair, truthful or even informed to be <sup>a</sup> ~~visier~~ - and to be paid for it.

Too bad, too, that the people of Frederick have to be so deliberately misled and misinformed about this of the world's many tragedies.