Netanyahu Big Hit With Congress: What Are We Cheering About, America?

By Sandra Warmoth

To rapturous applauses and standing ovations, Israel Prime Minister Benjamin "Bibi" Netanyahu struck responsive chords across both sides of the aisle during his one-hour speech at a special joint meeting of the 112th Congress on May 24, 2011.

What are we cheering about, America?

Dispelling the Islamists untiring efforts to erase the Jewish connection to its 4000-year-old history in Israel, and reminding Bible-based America, and the world, that negotiations over the so-called "west bank" will involve giving up parts of the Promised Land, the Prime Minister stated emphatically: "*The people of Judea and Samaria are not foreign occupiers!* This is the land of our Forefathers, the Land of Israel, to which Abraham brought the idea of one God, where David set out to confront Goliath, and where Isaiah saw a vision of eternal peace."

"And as for Jerusalem," the Prime Minister petitioned to an ally whose sitting president publicly divorced America from its Covenant as a Christian nation, "only a democratic Israel has protected the freedom of worship for all faiths in the City.... Jerusalem must *never again* be divided. *Jerusalem must remain the united capital of Israel!*"

After all the cheers, smiles, handshakes, pats on the back, and standing ovations die down, what is left is a resounding message: Islamist terror pays.

That message – Do we not yet perceive it? – has been reverberating since Yamit: a 2,500-strong Jewish homestead south of Gaza that served as a front line of defense for Israel resulting from three wars of Arab aggression. The community bit the dust on April 23, 1982 as a result of the 1979 Israel-Egypt peace treaty in a roll-out of the land-for-peace strategy that was suppose to bring peace between Israel and her cantankerous Arab neighbors. Since then, Egypt has maintained a cold peace with Israel, that is, up until the much-lauded "Arab spring" brought it closer to Iran.

All is going according to the "palestine" Liberation Organization (pLO) aka "palestinian" Authority (pA) plan to destroy Israel in phases, as set forth in this Islamist terror organization's Charter, which has never been changed to omit this objective, despite former "Bill" Clinton's contrary public assurances. Historically, every compromise made on Israel's part has been perceived as weakness, which has emboldened the Arab "palestinians," who resultantly have continued to press Israel for more territorial concessions. And why not since the international community always lowers the bar for the Arab "palestinians," who have failed to fulfill their commitments to Israel, and are unwilling to end their culture of hate and affinity for terrorism.

"You see, our conflict has never been about the establishment of a 'palestinian' state. It has always been about the existence of the Jewish State. This is what this conflict is about. In 1947,

the UN voted to partition the land into a Jewish state and an Arab State. The Jews said 'yes.' The 'palestinians' said 'no.' In recent years, the 'palestinians' twice refused generous offers by Israeli Prime Ministers to establish a 'palestinian' state on virtually all the territory won by Israel in the Six Day War. They were simply unwilling to end the conflict. And I regret to say this: They continue to educate their children to hate. They continue to name public squares after terrorists. And worst of all, they continue to perpetuate the fantasy that Israel will one day be flooded by the descendants of 'palestinian refugees.' My friends, *this must come to an end*," the Prime Minister exclaimed. He said the so-called "refugee" issue must be resolved outside the borders of what is left of the Jewish State.

Netanyahu promised in his speech that he has prepared his people to make major territorial sacrifices of their one and only Jewish State to end this grinding conflict: "We will be very generous about the size of the future 'palestinian' state. But as President Obama said, the border will be different from the one that existed on June 4, 1967. Israel will not return to the indefensible boundaries of 1967." The Prime Minister said the status of the so-called "settlements," the Jewish homesteads, would be decided only in negotiations, making it clear that Israel will not succumb to outside interference.

Some of the President's remarks in his May 19 speech sparked controversy because of his attempts to delineate Israel's future borders along the June 4,1967 boundaries; thus favoring the Arab position. The rigorously negotiated United Nations Resolution 242,establishing the guiding principles for the Middle East Arab-Israeli peace settlement, does not delineate Israel's "final status" borders. Rather, it calls for "Withdrawal of Israel armed forces from territories occupied in the recent conflict..." The language, which does not specify what particular territories from which to withdraw, is quite deliberate.

President Obama also wants the "palestinian" state to share a border with Jordan. Jordan's record as peaceful ally of Israel includes terrorist attacks emanating across its border with the Jewish State, and the granting of permission to Iraq to use its airspace to conduct reconnaissance missions along the Jordan River in preparation for an attack on Israel's nuclear research facility in the Negev. Jordan's checkered past thus raises the possibility that Iraq's shared border with Iran could facilitate an Iranian invasion on Israel.

In another attempt to impose his will on "final status" matters, President Obama, without the Prime Minister's foreknowledge, during his May 19 speech, publicly floated the idea of "land-swaps" to deal with the Jewish population centers beyond the so-called "Green Line," which separates Judea and Samaria from pre-1967 Israel. This unexpected announcement made for a tense May 20 White House meeting because it set the stage for pressuring Israel to swap land inside of pre-1967 Israel for land retained beyond the Green Line. The Jerusalem Post points out that the President's surprise political maneuver – a second of its kind during the rocky Netanyahu-Obama relationship – angered the Prime Minister, who is opposed to the idea (please see the article at http://www.jpost.com/DiplomacyAndPolitics/Article.aspx?id=221910).

Netanyahu said that any agreement must reflect the demographic changes that have occurred since 1967, which means that most of the 650,000 residents who reside in the neighborhoods and suburbs of Jerusalem and Greater Tel Aviv, and other areas of critical strategic and national importance will have to be incorporated into the "final" borders of Israel. According to a

Debkafile report, Netanyahu has privately listed Judean and Samarian homesteads comprising more than 100,000 people for possible exclusion outside of Israel's "final status" borders (please see the report at <u>http://debka.com/article/20965</u>). For an inside look at what faithful Jewish homesteaders are doing to firm up their hold on their Biblical Inheritance, see the video Zionists Series: "Daniel Luria of the Jerusalem Reclamation Project" at

http://www.maccabeanresistance.org/MR/Zionists Series/Entries/2009/10/28 Daniel Luria .html, and "A Roundtable Discussion with 'First Lady' of Judea and Samaria, Daniella Weiss, and fellow activists" at http://www.maccabeanresistance.org/MR/Welcome.html .

There is 7,673,024 square miles of territory under the control of the Arab and Muslim bloc of states in the Greater Middle East; yet, Israel only has 8,463 square miles under her control — a 1:907 ratio. Some of the land controlled by the Arab-Muslim bloc belongs to Jews who fled for their lives in the 1940s. Their more than \$100 billion in confiscated assets, with deeds comprising land mass five times that of Israel, are never discussed in international forums calling for a "fair" and "just" peace between the opposing parties.

As it is today, 70 percent of Israel's population and 80 percent of its industrial capacity are situated along a narrow coastal strip sandwiched between the Mediterranean Sea and the Biblical heartland, Judea and Samaria. Judea and Samaria comprise a chain of hilltops that dominate the coastal plain, which would be only nine to 15 miles wide along the 1949/1967 armistice lines. Emptying these strategic hills of their half a million Jewish residents (please see "Statistics: Jewish Population Flourishing in Judea and Samaria," Arutz Sheva news http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/124990) to make way for an Arab "palestinian" state would give Islamists an unquestionable advantage in terms of being able to collect intelligence and launch missiles, while hindering Israel's ability to defend herself and to conduct pre-emptive strikes from the ground below.

The threat posed to Israel's national infrastructure would be significantly elevated, and weapons smuggling would rapidly proliferate. All of Israel's civil aviation would be exposed to shoulder-launched anti-aircraft missile attacks, with Ben-Gurion International Airport just six miles from the hills. Small transmitter stations strategically dotted along the hilltops could jam Israel's communication systems.

The door would be wide open for hostile states, such as Iran, to infiltrate the newly formed state, and bring with it reinforcements of troops, jihad fighters, and armament. Ballistic missile launches could be executed with ease at Israeli cities, all of which would be filled to capacity, all of which could be reached within just one minute.



Map courtesy of Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs

"Imagine there's a siren going on now; and we have less than 60 seconds to find shelter from an incoming rocket. Would you live that way?" the Prime Minister asked, "You think anyone could live that way? Well, we're not going to live that way either."

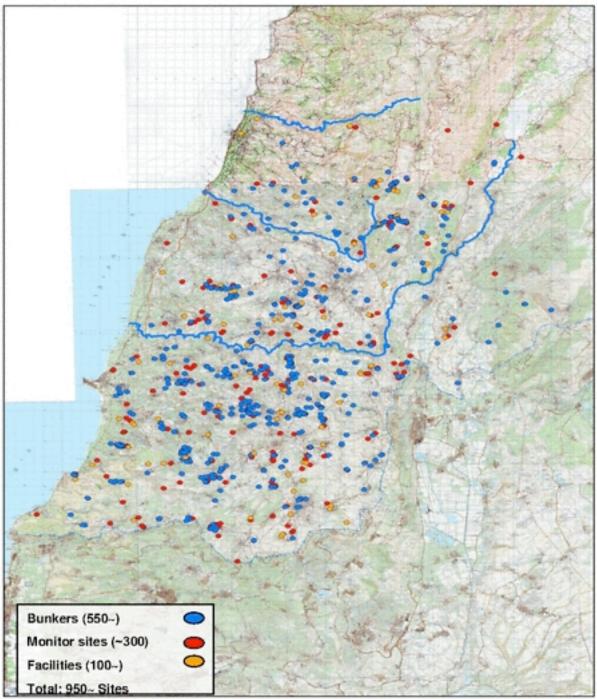
Israel's army would experience great difficulty maneuvering in the likely event of an attack. Defending its citizens would be complicated because rocket fire could delay, or even prevent, reinforcements. During the hostilities, Israel's air force would be preoccupied with destroying enemy air defense systems, and suppressing missile launches, so Israel's ground troops would lack sufficient air support. Assistance from allies would be hampered because incoming aircraft and watercraft would be easy targets.

Having relinquished its control over Judea and Samaria's airspace would also invite suicide attacks by civilian aircraft packed with explosives aimed at Israel's population centers. Today, a combat aircraft could cross Israel in less than four minutes, and a civilian aircraft could penetrate the country and reach Israel's Capital in less than two minutes. With Israel's existing equipment and technology, it takes three minutes to intercept an approaching enemy aircraft from the air (please see Israel's critical security needs for a viable peace http://www.defensibleborders.org/security/).



Map courtesy of Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs

United Nations peacekeeping forces would rapidly disappear, just as they did before hostilities erupted during the 1967 Six Day War. When they do decide to stay, they are ineffective, and even complicit, just like they were in 2006 in Lebanon when they turned a blind-eye to Hizb'allah positioning itself in close proximity to their observation post in order to fire on Israelis, even providing the Islamists with intelligence.



Map of Hizb'allah fortifications in Lebanon courtesy of Israeli Military

The withdrawal of Israeli Defense Forces from South Lebanon in 2006 did not bring peace. In the next war, Israel will contend with a well-fortified Iranian-backed Hizb'allah commanding more than 40,000 rockets, hundreds of underground bunkers and surveillance sites ,and bases concentrated in communities along the Israel-Lebanon border.

Withdrawal from Gaza did not bring peace, either. After forcefully evicting 8,000 Jews from their homes, businesses, and places of worship in Gaza in 2005, HAMAS now governs the

territory, which also shelters pro-al-Qaeda salafists, and pLO splinter groups. Thousands of missiles from Gaza routinely target Jewish communities. "We thought we'd get peace. That's not what we got. We got 12,000 thousand rockets fired from those areas on our cities, on our children, by Hizb'allah and HAMAS," Netanyahu said.

To date, in every negotiation, pLO/pA leaders have rejected the idea of a demilitarized Arab "palestinian" state because they are demanding the right to possess mortars, anti-tank missiles and machine-gun equipped armored vehicles for self-defense. In blatant violation of the Oslo Accords, the pLO/pA now commands a "police force," U.S.-trained and -equipped, which greatly exceeds the size of its allowable limits and for all practical purposes is an army. Members of this "police force" are involved in terror attacks against Jewish civilians.

"So, it's therefore vital, *absolutely vital*, that a 'palestinian' state be fully demilitarized. And it's vital, *absolutely vital*, that Israel maintain a long-term military presence along the Jordan River. Solid security arrangements on the ground are necessary not only to protect the peace; they're necessary to protect Israel in case the peace unravels. Because in our unstable region, no one can guarantee that our peace partners today will be there tomorrow," Netanyahu said, trying to make the best of the forthcoming land-for-peace "deal" for Israel.



Map courtesy of Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs

The Prime Minister also issued an emphatic warning: "When I last stood here, I spoke of the consequences of Iran developing nuclear weapons. *Now time is running out*. The hinge of

history may soon turn. For the greatest danger of all could soon be upon us: a militant Islamic regime armed with nuclear weapons.... A nuclear-armed Iran would ignite a nuclear arms race in the Middle East. It would give terrorists a nuclear umbrella. It would make the nightmare of nuclear terrorism a *clear and present danger* throughout the world. I want you to understand what this means because if we don't stop it, it's coming. They could put a bomb anywhere. They could put it in a missile. They're working on missiles that could reach this city. They could put it on a ship inside a container that could reach every port. They could eventually put it in a suitcase or in a subway. Now, the threat to my country cannot be overstated. Those who dismiss it are sticking their heads in the stand.... And this is why I ask you to continue to send an unequivocal message: *that America will never permit Iran to develop nuclear weapons*."

This writer has repeatedly warned that a nuclear-armed Iran would pose an existential threat to a downsized Israel. Without the Jewish presence in Judea and Samaria, Iran and its proxies would converge upon the judenrein hilltops and use it as a staging ground to create a caliphate spanning the Asian and African continents, which would radically alter that balance of power on the world stage and elevate the threat of catastrophic nuclear terrorism.

"Now, as for Israel" the Prime Minister said, "If history has taught the Jewish People anything, it is that we must take calls for our destruction seriously. We are a nation that rose from the ashes of the Holocaust. *When we say never again, we mean never again!*"

For a concise backgrounder with maps, please see "Revolutionary Islam and the Arab-Israeli Conflict: Connecting the Dots" http://www.buildersofzion.org/BoZ/A_Powerful_Delusion/Entries/2009/3/31_Connecting_t he_Dots.html).

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