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SEP 21 REC'D

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Brian Lamb:
C-SPAN
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OCT 17 ANS'D

Dear Mr. Lamb:

I was too late to get you on the telephone this morning and I must air my distress somehow, at remarks re Israel made by three reporters reporting their experiences with the U.S. armed forces in Saudi Arabia.

One reporter accurately described the pathological Saudi hatred of Israel. I would like to note that there are many Jewish men and women among the American soldiers who have put their lives on the line to protect the lives and property of those unconscionable Saudis. This is racism of a monumental order. Jews seem to offend Saudis by simply being alive. A Jew risks his life by simply venturing into Saudi Arabia.

Arab persecution of Jews started in the year 625 with the extermination, by armies of Mohammed the Prophet, of the Jewish tribe of Quraiza who had been living in Arabia for hundreds of years. The remaining Jewish Arabian population was either killed or driven away. Most of the Arabian Jews migrated to Palestine where Arab persecution followed them and the persecution continues to this very day. The Arab wars against the Jews is now called "The Arab-Israeli Conflict". The Saudis simply cannot accept the reality of a Jewish army that can successfully protect Jews. I have enclosed an excerpt from Joan Peters book "From Time Immemorial" that covers some Arab atrocities against the Jews previous to the birth of Israel.

Another reporter made the comment that the United States pays Israel's military bill and gets nothing for it. The U.S. Defense Department does not share that assessment. Some U.S. senators have suggested removing Israel from foreign aid and putting it in the U.S. defense budget where it belongs. Israeli armed forces keep the only enclave of democracy alive in the Middle East. The Israeli air force is a bulwark supporting NATO forces by keeping the Soviet fleet bottled up in the Black Sea and relieving the inadequate NATO naval and air forces from having to defend the Mediterranean area.

Israelis pay for most of their defense. Defense consumes one fifth of Israel's gross national product. Every Jewish Israeli boy must waste three years of his life and every Jewish Israeli girl two years defending their democratic country against terrorism and invasion.

(MORE)

Israelis would like to be a peaceful people. They surely have the talent for it. With all their difficulties, Israelis have managed to build a beautiful country out of disease ridden swamp and desert. They produce world class musicians, composers, authors, artists, playwrights, scientists, Nobel Laureats and they are second only to the United States in medical electronics and computer software. The government of Israel has never declared war against anybody. Israel has accepted the only two possibilities for peace - the U.N. Partition Agreement and the Camp David Peace Accords. The consortium of twenty Arab nations and the Islamic Republic of Iran have rejected both. This present Likud government has offered to hold elections for Arab Palestinians in Samaria, Judea and Gaza to prepare them for self-government. Israel's rejection of the PLO has proved to be justified and Prime Minister Shamir has been making peace overtures to Syria and Jordan. Thus far those overtures of peace have been rebuffed.

Mr. Lamb: The Arab wars against Israel still continue after forty two years. I believe and I fervently hope that the conclusion of the Iraq-Kuwait experience will bring the Arab world to the realization that they have problems more urgent than driving the Jews into the sea. I have confidence that the end of that war will see Jordan and Syria join Egypt in its peace with Israel. Those three Arab nations have internal problems of monumental proportions. I believe and I fervently hope that Arab oil nations will realize that building up the economies of their poor but numerous Arab neighbors (brothers?) will prove to be more productive than the foolish financing of offensive armies and terrorist gangs that turn so readily against their benefactors. I believe and I fervently hope that they will have the good sense to form a Middle East Common Market to compete more readily with the economic unions now being formed. Israel could undoubtedly be a key member of such a consortium.

These sentiments have never been expressed on your show. Don't you think such thoughts deserve a chance?

Sincerely,

ENCLOSURE

Jews in Palestine

COPY

Connie Osattin, Executive Director
Conference of Jewish Organizations of Nassau County

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JEWS IN PALESTINE

FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL
by Joan Peters

OCT 17 ANS'D

There is a mistaken impression that the Jews of Israel are all refugees from Hitler's atrocities and that the Arab wars against the Jews started in 1948. ([REDACTED])

p. 34

Arab hostilities against the Jews commenced, when the Meccan army (led by Mohammad the Prophet) exterminated the Jewish tribe of Quraiza in the year 625.

p. 828 the Jews from Galilee optimistically declared, the end of the exile of our people."

The Muslim Arabs who entered **seventh-century** Jerusalem found a strong Jewish identity. At that time "we have evidence that Jews lived in all parts of the country on both sides of the Jordan and that they had dwelt in both the towns and the villages, practiced agriculture and various handicrafts."

p. 117

Jews who had dwelt on historical Palestine terrain both east of the Jordan River and in the area called "the West Bank" were driven out of that land's Arab-dominated towns over the past half century (1890-1940) by sporadic pogroms and by pillage,----. These refugees found safety only in the predominantly-Jewish settled areas of Palestine's coastal plain, which today is Israel. By 1948, the more than seventy five percent of Palestine that the British had allocated to the Arabs as Trans-Jordan had already been efficiently purged of Jews, through periodic onslaughts upon the various long-established Jewish communities.

p. 83 Jericho was home to many Jews -- the **seventh-century** Jewish refugees from Khaibar in Arabia among them.

p. 84

The **seventh-century** Jewish refugees from Khaibar's environs joined the indigenous Jewish population in "Transjordan, especially in Dera'a." In fact, Arabian Jewish exiles settled "as far as the hills of Hebron but had they not intermarried with the established Jewish communities and connected somehow to the "Diaspora centers, they [the Jewish settlements] could hardly have survived as Jewish communities for hundreds of years."

p. 85

In 1438 a rabbi from Italy became the spiritual leader of the Jewish community of Jerusalem.

The Jews, meanwhile, were plentiful enough so that in 1486 "a distinguished pilgrim" to the Holy Land, the Dean of Mainz Cathedral, Bernhard von Breidenbach advised that both Hebron's and Jerusalem's Jews "will treat you in full fidelity----."

Under Turkish rule the Jews in Jerusalem and Gaza maintained "cultural and spiritual unity"---. in 1561 "Suleiman gave Tiberias, one of the four Jewish holy cities, to a former 'secret' Jew from Portugal, Don Joseph Nasi who rebuilt the city and the villages around it."

p. 87

There have been Sephardic Jewish "Zionists" from the time of the biblical exile of the Jews from Jerusalem in 586 B.C.

p. 92

---more than 2,000 Yemenite Jews were setting out on the perilous journey to their homeland where they were to arrive in 1881.

Petach Tikvah was founded on the "deserted and ruined" Sharon Plain by "old time" Palestinian Jewish families who left "the overcrowded Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem" in 1878".

--the 2,500 year old Jewish community in Yemen, which in 1948 picked its collective self and boarded "the wings of eagles" to Israel----.

p. 178

---the Jewish community of its holy city of Safed was "massacred in 1660," the town destroyed by Arabs,"---

p. 179

1742 brought back the Jewish community of Tiberias, which had been virtually purged of Jews for seventy years.

p. 183

1840 brought heightened waves of persecutions and murder of Jews throughout Palestine, against which the foreign consulates could offer little protection.

p. 199

Meanwhile, the Jewish population had been growing. They were the majority in Safed and Tiberias by 1851, and by the late 1850s Jews formed at least half of the population of Jerusalem. Most were the class called Sephardim, and the Jews greatly exceed the Moslems in number.--- In 1856 Sir Moses Montefiore was granted an edict by the Sultan permitting Jews to buy land in Palestine. At mid-nineteenth century, a "considerable number" of Jewish immigrants had come and settled in the four holy cities of Jerusalem, Safed, Hebron and Tiberias, largely - but also on the land. (They were not the first European, or Ashkenazi, Jews to join the native Sephardim, following the 1769 earthquake at Safed "a new influx" of Russian Jews refounded the town, about 1776.)