

TRANSCRIPT

A Joint Briefing by the Victory Coalition and Israel 365 Action

THE SHIFTING SANDS: AMERICA AND ISRAEL'S CHANGING STRATEGIC CHALLENGES

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Dede Laugesen: [00:00:11] Hello everyone. Thanks for joining us today. I'm Dede Laugesen for the Victory Coalition and Israel 365 action. We encourage you to visit victoryco.org for information on new programs, access to videos of our past webinars, and tons of other very valuable content. Follow us on @Co4victory. Our moderators today are Frank Gaffney - Frank is the president of the Institute for the American Future, member of the Victory Coalition and host of Securing America - also, Rabbi Pesach Wolicki, executive director of Israel's 365 action and a columnist with The Jerusalem Post. He's also the co-host of Shoulder to Shoulder podcast.

Frank Gaffney: [00:00:58] Welcome, everyone, to this [00:01:00] - now - multi series - I guess - you might call it - a briefing of important issues arising from the conflicts now taking place in the Middle East - on the one hand, involving assorted enemies of Israel and the United States, determined to achieve the destruction of both - and the countries that are the targets as part of an effort to take down, I believe more generally Judeo-Christian civilization, namely the State of Israel and the United States of America. We have been joining forces with 365 action, our Victory Coalition in presenting these briefings. I commend all of them to you. I found them to be The extraordinarily informative [00:02:00] and timely in working through both. What are narratives much in evidence, some at the hands of those enemies, some at the hands of useful idiots, or the media, or fellow travelers, or others who seem intent on misinforming rather than

clarifying and educating the public about the stakes, not least involved in the conflicts that we are discussing. We hope to have a small hand in correcting such misinformation or simple confusion, and are especially excited about doing so today on several topics that are much in the news on many media [00:03:00] outlets, in particular in the United States, and I think in Israel and the region more generally, the Middle East are advancing certain arguments or theories or narratives, at least about what Israel is doing. Some of it we're being encouraged to believe appropriate at the least, if not criminal. We're going to try to offer corrective on those narratives, as I say, as well as put forward information that is vital to assuring sensible policies are pursued both by the government of Benjamin Netanyahu and ours under President Donald J. Trump. I'm very pleased that, as has been the case with each of the previous briefings. We are joined by a man whom I respect enormously for both his intellect [00:04:00] and his clarity of thought, as well as his articulate ness in the information warfare battlespace. And that would be my co moderator, Rabbi Wolicki. And I'm delighted to invite him to make opening remarks at this point. Rabbi.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:04:19] Thank you, Frank, and thank you for this, this wonderful partnership between Victory Coalition and Israel. 365 action. These webinars have indeed been extremely informative. I know that my camera is a little bit a little bit old fashioned here. Let's just say let's all pretend that we're watching TV back in the 1970s when we speak about these issues today, and we're going to have experts in the field of geopolitics, of international law, of information warfare, space of the battle for Western civilization. We're going to hear from some a wide range of well-informed, brilliant voices, leaders in you know, on our side of the battle for Western civilization. But I want to frame [00:05:00] this with a spiritual message, because right now, the Jewish people find ourselves in the three week period between the 17th of Tammuz, which was about a little less than two weeks ago, and the ninth of which is coming up in about ten days' time. This is a three week period between when the Romans broke through the siege of Jerusalem and started ransacking, destroying, murdering, pillaging, and ultimately three weeks later when they destroyed the temple in Jerusalem. And this happened 2000 years ago. And the Jewish people, perhaps our greatest skill is that of remembering and keeping memory fresh, keeping it part of our identity. And this is a three week period that we mourn. We consider the tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the centuries.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:05:47] This culminates on the ninth of the month of which will be next Sunday, where we will read the Book of Lamentations from the Bible, but also various [00:06:00] poems and hymns that are not really happy. They're commemorating all sorts of tragedies. A whole wide range of tragedies that befell the Jewish people throughout our history. This is the time period. And the ninth above is the day that remind us that in every generation there are those who seek to destroy the Jewish people. Depending on the state of the Jewish people, the arguments that are made for why we must be destroyed are different. Sometimes they're more spiritual, sometimes they're more political. Sometimes it's because we're too powerful. Sometimes it's because we're not powerful enough. There's always reasons to blame the Jews, and there's always reasons to attack the Jews. And we're seeing good old fashioned anti-Semitism and theological anti-Semitism entering into the political discourse over the course of these last few months and few years, but especially very, very recently. And it's hard to you know, it's difficult to see everything going on and not come to the conclusion that someone is running an [00:07:00] operation on us and someone is trying to pull Christians away from Jews, but also to revive the popularity of good old fashioned hatred of the Jewish people. The one difference, as we look back during this three week period at the long litany of persecutions that the Jewish people have suffered, one major difference between what we're going through now and the whole rest of the list is that today the Jewish people have a vast army of allies, those who see clearly who we are and what battle we're fighting and stand alongside us.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:07:36] The book of Zechariah in chapter two in the book that really in that section of the book and that whole book really speaks about the battle for Jerusalem at the end times, speaks of those among the nations who stand alongside Israel, who join us, who are joined to the Lord in that day and become essentially part of the nation of Israel. They become as one with us. And so I say this, you know, thanking you, Frank, [00:08:00] and thanking the Victory Coalition and all of our Christian friends that I've you know, I've spent my career, you know, building those bridges, building those relationships, enhancing them between Jews and Christians. And it was and these relationships are really bearing fruit at this time when we realize that we are in this together. And the Jewish people, for once in our history, have an army of friends who are with us, standing alongside us. So I commend every single person on this call who's taken out the time and, and, and also expresses concern in your prayers and in your

activity and in your advocacy to fight alongside the Jewish people and the nation of Israel.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:08:36] This is a special time in history. It's a time of choosing. And as Mordecai said to Esther in the Book of Esther, the Jewish people are going to survive. Did you The rescue and salvation will come to the Jews regardless. The question is, what's going to happen to you? Are you and your family going to be with us? And that's really the question that America faces right now. The American people [00:09:00] are faced with right now. And we see the disturbing trends about attitudes about Israel and the Jews and the younger generation of America. It doesn't make me worry about Israel. Of course we have. You know, how hard the battle is going to be will depend on, on some of these things, but we'll be fine in the end. But I am worried about America. So I know I'm not ending on a happy note. I think we have a lot of challenges facing us. A lot of things are shifting, and there's a big opportunity here to, you know, to see a world that really brings us towards a victory for Western civilization over the challenges that's been facing. The question is, is that the resolve and the courage in the West to win those battles, and that's really what the Victory Coalition is all about. So, Frank, once again, thank you for doing this. I'll kick it back to you and we can get started.

Frank Gaffney: [00:09:47] Wonderful. Thank you for bringing into the mix the spiritual warfare dimension of this is so appreciated, Rabbi, as is your observation that it's a [00:10:00] question not of capabilities to achieve a decisive victory, but a will to do so, especially here in the United States. That is in question. And one of the things we are jointly in partnership with you, trying very hard to promote, is the recognition that there is no substitute for victory. Rabbi, I think you are going to introduce our friends in Israel who will be speaking in turn, starting with a dear friend of mine as well as yours. Ambassador Metzger.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:10:36] I'm happy to introduce your ambassador, Yoram Ettinger has served in has served the Jewish people and the people of Israel, the nation of Israel for decades and decades. I'm sorry. I don't want to reveal your age, ambassador, but Ambassador Edgar has been. He held a number of diplomatic posts on behalf of Israel. Going all the way back to the 1970s, 1980s. [00:11:00] He served as Israeli ambassador to the United States, responsible for congressional relations. He

then went on to found the Ettinger Report, which I consider a fundamental resource on everything going on in Israel. He is a he's someone who, every time I hear him speak, I feel like I'm sitting at the feet of one of my of one of my rabbis or one of my of one of my one of the scholars I look up to most on understanding the geopolitics of the Middle East, the history of Israel. He's been through it all. And so to give us a two level set on the Israel America relationship to what's going on in the Middle East, and really, the title of this, of this whole webinar to get us going. Of The Shifting sands and Americas and Israel's strategic interests. There's no one better to kick us off than Ambassador Yoram Ettinger. The floor is yours.

Amb. Yoram Ettinger: [00:11:50] Thank you very much. It's my privilege and my pleasure. When it comes to the Middle East in general and [00:12:00] the current Syrian enigma in particular one should realize that any reference to an end to a war, an end to conflict new, peaceful Middle East represents detachment from Middle East reality ongoing wars since the seventh century have characterized the Middle East, especially when it comes to intra Arab and intra Muslim terrorism and war for the last 1400 years. And one case in particular, I think, sheds light on the current challenge facing the US as well as Israel. And that is the policy towards Syria. The US has decided [00:13:00] to give the new Syrian leader a chance to prove his colors and to benefit from us, generosity, from peaceful coexistence etc. One needs to be very careful before rushing into any conclusion that Al Giuliani indeed is a terrorist transformed into a leader of peace an ideologue becoming a pragmatist. We have to be very careful because, Cause there are plenty of precedents. Which sheds a light or maybe shed darkness on such expectations. The former leader of Syria, Bashar Assad, took over in the year 2000. He was welcomed by [00:14:00] the Western foreign policy establishment as a potential moderator, potential a person of peace. And in a way, he coaxed the Western foreign policy establishment by his background. Educated in in Britain. Practicing as an ophthalmologist in Britain. Married to a British born Syrian woman. Speaking number of foreign languages and serving as a president of the Syrian Internet Society.

Amb. Yoram Ettinger: [00:14:39] Simplistically, those are qualifications for moderation. Supposedly, we found out very quickly that Bashar Assad was more sinister than his father, who was a real butcher, and [00:15:00] it was Bashar Assad who triggered a civil war, very ferocious civil war in Syria, consuming 500,000 people, producing about 7 million refugees. Additional 7 million uprooted Syrians from their own home and many,

many ravaged Syrian towns. We all remember how Ayatollah Khomeini was welcomed by the USA. Back at the end of 78, beginning of 79, when he toppled the Shah of Iran, who was America's policeman of the Gulf. And Ayatollah Khomeini was very, very astute, surrounding himself with young, very polished, intelligent [00:16:00] young people, all graduates of Western universities, speaking a number of foreign languages. And he dispatched them to flood the US with briefings. The US State Department, the US white House, the US, CIA and the messages were very, very clear. Ayatollah Khomeini is anti-communist, therefore amenable to being pro-American. Ayatollah Khomeini is Occupied with human rights of his own people in Iran against the Shah of Iran, who was defined by the Ayatollah Khomeini as a ruthless dictator. And Ayatollah Khomeini also conveyed his commitment not to export the Islamic revolution beyond the boundaries [00:17:00] of Iran. The outcome was that then President Jimmy Carter and the State Department and the CIA assured Western countries that, based on American intelligence and based on discussions with Ayatollah Khomeini people, they are assured that Ayatollah Khomeini was going to be preoccupied with tractors, not with tanks.

Amb. Yoram Ettinger: [00:17:30] Those are not my words. Those were the words of President Jimmy Carter when he addressed a meeting of global leaders in the islands of Guadeloupe and the tip of the iceberg, so to speak, when it comes to the false image of Khomeini. The Americans assured Western allies that Ayatollah Khomeini was going to be an Iranian edition [00:18:00] of Gandhi. And there are many, many more such examples. Yasser Arafat was welcomed and embraced by a reckless Israeli government, and the US administration in West Europe ushered in all the way to the Nobel Prize for peace. And we know the outcome. Unprecedented wave of terrorism. And here we have a test of Western attachment or detachment from reality, namely Do you allow your frustration with the bleeding, insoluble, unpredictable Middle-East reality to fog reality and to be sacrificed on the altar of Middle [00:19:00] East? Alternate reality, alternate reality, which is much more convenient, much more comforting. But at the same time, being detached from reality becomes self-destructive. We know that Bashar Assad undermines severely American interests irrespective of the fact that he befriended Senator John Kerry. Other US senators, Tours was hosted by Sarkozy of France to be a special guest in the military parade of the Bastille Day in Paris. We know that Ayatollah Khomeini transformed the Iran from the American policeman of the Gulf to the number one global epicenter of anti-American terrorism, drug trafficking and money laundering.

Amb. Yoram Ettinger: [00:19:59] And we know [00:20:00] that Yasser Arafat introduced unprecedented wave of terrorism, which is still afflicting the western part of the Middle East, all of which have undermined Middle East stability, therefore undermining American interests. On the count of preferring a peaceful, convenient alternate reality on the altar of, all instead of instead of Middle East reality, and currently the courting of the new leader of Syria. On the one hand, could be could be a proper decision encouraging him to become a leader of peace. But at the same time, we need to be very cautious, and I would suggest that a much more logical step [00:21:00] towards Syria by the US would be not to suspend economic sanctions and renew diplomatic contacts ahead of him, proving that he's willing to change stripes. Not only tactics, but I think that any American gestures towards Syria should be preconditioned, preconditioned upon the new leader of Syria uprooting hate education, uprooting incitement in Syrian mosques, uprooting incitement and hate education in official Syrian media and as well as this, avowed himself publicly from the core ideology of the Muslim Brotherhood of his own, his own original association [00:22:00] with the ideology of Islam ruling the world under the only legitimate, divinely ordained religion which is supposedly Islam. And until he delivers those preconditions, there is no sense of extending to him any gesture lest we repeat the mistakes of the past. Rather than refrain from repeating them.

Frank Gaffney: [00:22:31] Mr. Ambassador, thank you so much for. As always, a comprehensive assessment of lessons that should be learned from our rough history here in this particular region, especially, and mistakes that have been made, lest we repeat them with a perhaps catastrophic effect in this moment. Rabbi, I believe you have another featured presenter from [00:23:00] Israel, and we're delighted to have him with us as well.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:23:02] Our next speaker is Marc Zell. Mark Zell is an international lawyer and the chairman of the GOP in Israel, and also specifically relevant to this conversation. Mark is also a resident of the hills of Judea. He lives in the town of Tekoa. And Mark has been very active in defending. If you remember, back in the Biden administration, where you had a residents of Judea and Samaria whose activities were deemed anti. The Biden administration's policies for Judea and Samaria against the two state solution, who received sanctions that were actually Israeli citizens who were

sanctioned, and Mark was at the forefront of defending them and of raising alarms about that issue and has been at the forefront of many, many issues. One of the, you know, one of the real leaders of the of the more right wing Republicans in Israel, I consider myself, you know, part of that movement here. Mark, we'd like you to address the issues [00:24:00] of Judea and Samaria. You know, right now, word has it that there's going to be another push in the United Nations for Palestinian statehood. We know that the Knesset just passed a resolution the other day saying that that we are going to be calling for sovereignty. At the same time, there seems to be this ramped up campaign to demonize people like yourself, to demonize the Jews in Judea and Samaria. So if you could give us a lay of the land of where we are on that front. On the front of Judea and Samaria. Everything going on there, because it's one of the fronts in this overall war. When we talk about war, we're not just talking about the kinetic war or the social media war, but we're also talking about the legal battles that we have facing us in the months and days ahead. Mark, the floor is yours.

Marc Zell: [00:24:42] Well, thank you very much. And first, let me say it's a real honor to join all of you. My good friend Frank Gaffney and I began on a professional basis, but I think something close to 40 years ago. So it's a real honor to join him and talk, of course, with you and [00:25:00] and Ambassador Ettinger the Victory coalition and Israel 365 action. It's a very special group of experts today, and I'm really humbled to be part of that. Well, let me let me just begin by maybe with some of the good news, Rabbi, which you mentioned. And that was a decision by the Israeli Knesset or parliament to approve and call for the extension of Israeli sovereignty over all of Judea and Samaria. And this is really an historic event. The resolution itself doesn't carry an operative legal effect, but it represents an important statement by 71 members of the Knesset. And in today's political environment in Israel, I'm sure Ambassador Ettinger would agree that getting 71 members of the Knesset to agree on any particular issue is quite as is quite important, and the fact that it concerns [00:26:00] the extension of Israeli sovereignty over the very heartland of the Jewish people in Judea and Samaria is particularly significant and hopefully harbors points the way to some more positive developments in this area. Another positive development that occurred in this past week is a the parent decision by the Israeli government.

Marc Zell: [00:26:26] And these are some indications this is the case to approve the construction of some 3500 housing units in an area that is especially critical for the

future of Israel and Judea and Samaria. This area is known as E1. And it connects the city of Jerusalem, the municipality of Jerusalem, with the city of Mar Adummim, which is probably I may be mistaken, but I think it's the largest Jewish municipality [00:27:00] in Judea and Samaria. For years various administrations of the American government, for example, has been adamantly opposed to the development of E1. And I think it's significant that the same week that the Knesset approved the sovereignty resolution. The government is appearing appears to have embraced the idea of finally developing E1 and connecting these two major Jewish communities the capital of Israel, the city of Jerusalem. With the tremendously successful and growing city of Adummim on the way to which the road to Jericho and the Dead Sea and the Jordan Valley. So that those are two positive developments that have occurred. But you've asked me also to comment [00:28:00] on a set of issues which are less comforting. And these concerned the continued. Well, I can only use the word blood libel that has been perpetrated and disseminated by nonetheless nothing less than the office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Ocha, which is a UN body under the Secretary General, which is designed to report and assist the United Nations in dealing with human rights problems and humanitarian crises around the world.

Marc Zell: [00:28:43] And there are many. But the this organization has been singularly focused on Israel, and particularly the Jews like myself, who live in Judea and Samaria determined to [00:29:00] paint us in the most satanic terms and ascribing to us the most horrific acts. Now, let me address one of these that got quite a bit of attention in the past couple of weeks. And that concern the alleged burning down of a Christian church in the town of Tybee, which is located near the Jewish community of Rimon in the Binyamin district of Judea and Samaria. And it's very close to where ten of my grandchildren and live, and two of my children live in in near Molly in the same area. And what was what was alleged as Jewish settlers went into this town of type and burned down the church. And this, of course, elicited a very quick and spirited condemnation [00:30:00] by our good friend, the US ambassador to Israel, Mike Huckabee, who I know personally. I think everybody here that's participating in the webinar also has a good and longstanding personal relationship with him. He's an un conditional supporter of the state of Israel and the Jewish people and his concerns about the burning of this Christian church, you know, raised a great wave of, of self-doubt and, and, and criticism within, within Israel and, of course, back in Washington.

Marc Zell: [00:30:42] It turns out that the whole matter of this church being burned down was just a crock of lies. The church itself is not actually a functioning church. It's a remnant of a Byzantine church that that existed about [00:31:00] 1400 years ago or something like that. I might have the exact timeline wrong, but it's a ruin, and nothing actually happened to the church itself or the ruins of the of the church. There was some kind of a fire that may have actually been caused by the Christian Arabs of the town itself. And no damage was, was caused to the church. And later on, as a result of the serious and thorough investigation by the Israeli police and the Israeli general security office Shabak and the Army. It was determined that no settlers were involved in any kind of destructive act against this Christian church. And later on. Ambassador Huckabee himself acknowledged this to be the case and gave what I will, I think liberally [00:32:00] described as an apology. That's one thing. There were other events in, in the that have been cited by the UN over the past week. Each one of them concerned. An event that took place on July 11th of a violent, so-called violent confrontation near a town called Arab village called al-Masri al Sharqiyah. Where apparently. And as the Republican chairman here in Israel. I didn't know about this, but I will be looking into it more.

Marc Zell: [00:32:39] There are a bunch of us citizens living there. So of course we'd like to get them registered and get them voting, but they this also generated a response by the ambassador who noted that that [00:33:00] there was a fellow, a US Palestinian American, US citizen by the name of Saifullah Kamal Masala, who was allegedly Killed by the settlers. And this too seems to have been debunked right at the moment. There's no official word from the Israeli Defense Ministry and the Israeli police confirming this. But our information is that this this allegation, just like the many, many others that have been leveled against the Jews who live in Judea and Samaria. It really is just a lot of well bunk. Now, we'll soon find out. But one of the things that that we need to keep, keep in mind is that during this period that that really began in 2021, 2022 and took a, a very steep increase and showed a very steep increase in [00:34:00] the number of alleged violence violent incidents in Judea and Samaria was a report by the UN that there's been a huge increase in so-called settler attacks on Palestinians during this period. I mean, over 200, 300% and according to some of these statistics. But fortunately, we have some organizations like the organization, which I work closely with as, as one of their attorneys and others who have conducted a detailed analysis of all of these alleged violent attacks by settlers against innocent Palestinian Arabs.

Marc Zell: [00:34:50] And it turns out that 98% of them, you just get the numbers correct here. 98% [00:35:00] of them didn't involve any Jewish civilians at all. And in fact the, these, these incidents and a lot of times involved attacks by Palestinian Arabs against themselves is part for whatever reason they may be may be interested in attacking themselves and others which involved the altercations with the IDF, the Israeli Defense Forces, who were engaged in peacekeeping operations. In one case in particular, I'm very familiar with of this nature which was brought to the attention of the former American administration, the Biden administration, by an organization in the United States, a very, very toxic organization called democracy for the Arab world. Now they're using the misnomer of [00:36:00] Dawn door. And it's quite the opposite. But this organization has made it it's life's mission to report on these kind of violent violence and violent incidents and cause the American administration prior to President Trump's second term to not only criticize the Jews living in Judea and Samaria, but also to actually adopt, for the first time in history, an executive order number 14115, to be exact, on February 1st, 2024, which can which basically allowed the United States government through the Office of Foreign Assets Control and the Secretary of Treasury and State, to impose huge sanctions, financial and immigration and other sanctions on Jews, foreign citizens, including dual nationals [00:37:00] like myself for simply opposing the Biden administration's two state solution policy.

Marc Zell: [00:37:08] And by the way, I just want to correct one thing that Ambassador Ettinger, I think was the one that said that this was applied to only Jews living in Judea and Samaria. That's not true. It was applied to Jews living anywhere in Israel, including an organization that I also work with as council called Saab nine, which is like an order number nine, which was which was run primarily by men and women living in on the Israeli side, if you want to call it that, of the Green Line in places like Netivot. And these sanctions were applied against homemakers and small businessmen and farmers who dared to protest against bringing humanitarian aid into Gaza. So long as Hamas [00:38:00] was looting it and causing damage. And this prompted us and I was one of those. I was very proud to be a member, organization organizing member of the legal team, along with others in the United States and Israel, to attack the legality of that executive order. In in a court in Texas and later in in the eastern United States. And we, we succeeded in convincing President Trump very few minutes after he took office on January 20th, 2025, to cancel that abominable executive order. But nevertheless the

authors of this of this series of blood libels against the Jews, peace loving Jews of Judea and Samaria, just returning to the to the very birthplace of the Jewish people like Tekoa, where I live, where the prophet Amos was born and prophesied.

Marc Zell: [00:39:00] We [00:39:00] we have been continued to be vilified by the United Nations and particularly the secretary general. And this a group which has just adopted the any kind of line made, issued or reports issued by the Palestinian Arabs and particularly organizations like Dawn, Yesh Din, B'Tselem which are left wing organizations designed, aimed at eliminating Jewish, the Jewish presence in Judea and Samaria. So I think I've taken enough time Pesach, to describe these things. There is there's much more to be said, but I just wanted to let people know that we are not sitting silent about this and our and our response to this, this lawfare against the Jews of Judea and Samaria and the rest of the state of Israel, both, both in Israel and around the world, is [00:40:00] to use the very, very same technique that our enemies are using that's lawfare to attack them in the courts. Both international courts and national courts. And we can talk more about the, the types of steps that we're taking, even as I speak here, to put an end to this calumny against the Jews, the indigenous population of the land of Israel.

Frank Gaffney: [00:40:24] Thank you. If it's back to me, let me simply say Mark, you mentioned our long time friendship. I'm sorry that we've not been in closer touch, but this is a very important reconnection. And I couldn't be more pleased that you were able to provide from personal, firsthand experience and accounts, the truth about what is actually happening within this community of Judea and Samaria and its Jewish population. And the statistic that I think you said 98% Of the [00:41:00] reputed violent actions of these so-called settlers simply have no basis in fact. Is shocking and not necessarily surprising, given again, the kind of information warfare that is now is like he said very much a theater of operations. If I can use the military term, but still shocking just the same. Rabbi, I believe we have one more guest that you have invited, and I invite you in turn.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:41:38] It's my honor to introduce Pastor Dumisani Washington, who is the founder and CEO of the Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel. And he's also the author of a very important book, Zionism and the Black Church Why Standing with Israel Will Be a Defining Issue for Christians of Color in the 21st century.

Dumisani is a close friend of mine, someone who's been in the [00:42:00] trenches fighting on behalf of Israel for many, many years. He's been a leader in the Christian Zionist movement, and lately we have been having some pretty spirited conversations, important conversations about the rising anti-Semitism and the blood libels against the Jewish people that we are seeing trying to drive a wedge. As I mentioned in my introduction between Christians and Israel, pastor Dumisani Washington, the floor is yours. Welcome to this very important webinar.

Dumisani Washington: [00:42:26] Rabbi, thank you. I hope you can hear me okay. I was moving, I was mobile. And to everyone on the panel already, thank you for the contributions, all the information. It's been very helpful. And we appreciate it very much. I wanted to in just being brief from the US standpoint we have been our organization and our colleagues have been observing particularly [00:43:00] since October the 7th. The state of things here when it comes to anti-Semitism, when it comes to the particularly the rise on the right wing. If I can go ahead and say that when it comes to left wing anti-Semitism, which has been the more dominant form here in the States for some time, particularly what we call institutional. Whether it's the academic, whether it's in media, that type of thing these past several months particularly, has been something that we have been concerned about that has been more and more of a rise than the right starting in terms of pop culture, probably in the fall of 1920, 2022, not 1922. With the very loud voices of people like Kanye West and Candace Owens. And now, of course, fast forward three years later. Those [00:44:00] voices have been joined by other in media, some in entertainment. So we've been observing those things, those trends. And to Rabbi's point kind of charting the trajectory that as the second gentleman had said this, the name here again is cause for concern because the trajectory is not encouraging.

Dumisani Washington: [00:44:27] Obviously there are great people doing great work, like you all on the front lines, both in Israel and here. So the issue and the effort of both educating and advocating, which is so important now at the same time that we see that there is there are, I would say this Rabbi, there's a couple of Blind spots that we are, that we are concerned with. And it's based on just how far we've come to this point. One [00:45:00] of those is that regardless of how coordinated the attempts may be when it comes to what's happening in the media, and for those who aren't aware. Let me just give an example. When I talk about what's happening on the right. There is an effort

now that it seems very clear to not just demonize in terms of words, but effectively make advocating for Israel and Israel. Israel, US relationship something that is not just taboo, but quite possibly illegal. Now, whether or not it's happening, whether or not it's successful, obviously. That's another thing. But some of you may have heard a lot of the attacks on AIPAC, again, mainly coming from the right. It's it is coming from the left for a long, long time. But it is being more and more pushed, if you will, by the Tucker Carlson's, the Steve Bannon's and others on the [00:46:00] right that AIPAC is a foreign lobbying group, that even though it is made up of American Jews, obviously some with dual citizenship, which is irrelevant somehow it should have to register as according to the Fara act, they should be basically because they are foreign lobbyists.

Dumisani Washington: [00:46:20] They should register that way. The other shoe dropped about a week ago, when Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene also added in Christians in that as well. Christians united for Israel as well should have to register and be part of Fara. The rhetoric along with that has also been that whether Jewish or not, Christians, whoever they are, who are indeed lobbying Congress or are making their voices known, if you will, on a grassroots level to have for a strong us is a relationship that those people are not only working on behalf of a foreign government, but according to Steve Bannon, because Israel is not our [00:47:00] ally, and he has said these things blatantly over the last several weeks. They are then as well. Not only then, if you if you kind of just connect the dots that way. Me as a Christian, not only am I lobbying or advocating for a foreign government, which of course I am not, neither is kufi, neither is AIPAC. Then also I'm also lobbying for a government that's not an ally. While you can kind of fill in that blank as well that somehow Israel is he didn't call it an enemy, but other people are saying those types of things, and these are things are coming from the right.

Dumisani Washington: [00:47:35] So the reason I use that as just one example, and I the reason I use the word blind spot, not in a derogatory way, but I'm saying that it's not it's not being seen. Obviously, there's ways that things that are happening, but our organization and some of our colleagues don't think that that is being taken as seriously as it needs to be. Not that they're [00:48:00] thinking that it's in any way amusing, but it's not. It's not really being watched. Several months ago, I had a meeting, one of several in Washington, D.C. I don't live in Washington, D.C., I live in North Carolina, but I'm there, back and forth quite a bit. And I was with a group of pastors and leaders dealing

with this very issue, antisemitism Israel, our relationship with Israel. And I shared with him then that the rise on the right would be something that we really needed to pay attention to, in large part because it was largely being almost dismissed the way that it was on the left ten years ago when the voices on the left, like there were leaves, like the hallmarks were marginal and they were dismissed as marginal, we were saying that it would be a mistake to dismiss the voices on the right as marginal. And it hasn't taken ten years just over the past few months. It has grown quite a bit. Glenn Beck, you know him? He's, of [00:49:00] course, a conservative commentator, content maker.

Dumisani Washington: [00:49:02] He's for decades, he's I believe his career may span as long or surely longer than Tucker Carlson's. He has said publicly that he is receiving threats on his life. And he was noted to say on our side, meaning, of course, he's meeting on the right the types of things that people thought they were not going to see. We are actually seeing those things happening here. So we are watching those things when we are speaking with our pastors across the country. I'll be in Atlanta the next weekend, and then we'll be in Dallas and on the weekend talking with about black and African pastors and leaders here about what's happening. These are the types of things among many others, that we are discussing, what's happening, particularly now as Christians theologically, as they've already said, the, the what we call, of course, superstition or replacement theology, that somehow the, the church has replaced Israel in God's [00:50:00] plan and Israel is no longer relevant. And the Jews are our enemies, right? Enemies in terms of politics. Enemies in terms of the nation, as we said, we're seeing these things and that we know that we must be vocal, we must be vigilant. So we are we are monitoring those things. I'll be back in Washington, D.C. again in a in a few days with those same pastors and having this discussion kind of resuming from where we were before. Neither I or the people who said it will sit there and say, I told you said, no, no, nobody has any time for that.

Dumisani Washington: [00:50:27] But we're going to actually do is try to pick up from where we are there and then make sure that we are diligently addressing this. Let me say this last thing. The other part of it, gentlemen, ladies and gentlemen, are here, is that not only in terms of the church or the Christian part, we're watching and having to really Mobilized in terms of education efforts and everything. Is that it is the. Whatever this nefarious plot is obviously is targeting the young people who are the ages of the Charlie Kirks, the 20s and the 30s. This is where we're seeing [00:51:00] this. Steven

Crowder, some of these people who have many, many followers on social media they are being targeted as well in terms of their stance with Israel having to defend things like defending themselves for standing with Israel. We're seeing this a great deal of pressure that's there. So we are working with our Israeli and our American colleagues to combat those things. As a Zionist Congress that we're doing in in Nashville in February as well, to address these things. So by God's grace, I say, as a pastor, we will be more and more effective in this, as this kind of unfolds in different areas. So, Rabbi, with that, I'll just I'll pause and give that back to you.

Frank Gaffney: [00:51:42] Rabbi, if I may, one thing that we very much want to cover, and that I know you have just addressed in a powerful video, and I can't say enough about the quality and the urgency, really, of the what the videos that you are producing [00:52:00] and disseminating from your project at Israel. 365 action. But the latest one was about this so-called humanitarian crisis in Gaza and reports that the Israelis are systematically murdering Palestinians, that they seem to be, as best I can tell, going to considerable lengths to feed. And I'd be very interested in having this conversation rounded out in terms of addressing some of these false narratives. By your insights on that subject, if you would.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:52:39] The blood libel against Israel for starving the Palestinians. I just want to comment on what Pastor Washington said. Thank you, Pastor Dumisani, for that. And I just want to - before I get to respond to what you said, Frank - I want to just, you know, put a bow on something on what Pastor Washington was saying - is that we really need the [00:53:00] the Christian world to be speaking up now. And, and Dumisani, thank you for being at the forefront of that and being part of that leadership group that's going to be meeting in Washington, D.C. this week. I know that I know what's going on there, but we really do need that voice there has not I'm going to say, as a, you know, to this audience that the Christian voice has not been strident enough, it has not been loud enough. And, and that's part of why we are where we are. And I want to thank you for, you know, for taking the stand and putting yourself out there. And also just to clarify that Glenn Beck, just to make it clear, because he didn't spell it out for those who might not have heard when Glenn Beck said he's getting threats, he's getting threats because he's too pro-Israel, he's being threatened for standing with Israel.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:53:40] And you know, that is you know, this is a time for choosing. It's a time for courage. And thank you, Pastor Washington, for showing that courage, frankly, in terms of what you're saying about the blood libels being leveled against Israel. This goes, you know, this goes hand in hand with the blood libels being leveled against us, that, you know, that Mark Zell brought up in Judea and Samaria and, you know, all around us, we now [00:54:00] have we now have blood libels everywhere. And, and one of the key blood libels is that we're starving the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. And we've been hearing this since the very beginning of the war, since almost right at the beginning, we've been told that there's a there's a starvation problem every couple of months since a couple of months into the war, the UN has published another shrieking warning that starvation looms or there's a threat of starvation. All of these you know, these horrible you know, blood libels claiming that there's not enough food where, in fact, the quantities of food that have been brought in to the Gaza Strip from the beginning of the war have actually been pretty consistent. It hasn't been the same every month. But if you if you look at it month average, average month over month, no one in the Gaza Strip is starving.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:54:47] We're not seeing any starvation deaths. The you know, in terms of what the numbers should be, if there was actually starvation and also this, this libel that you talk about, that Israel would be firing on those coming [00:55:00] to receive food from the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, where it turns out that just like in the libelle of the fires at Taiba, it turned out that the Arabs themselves had lit the fires. So to hear the ones who are attacking Gazans for coming to the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation to collect food are Hamas themselves. They're the ones doing the attacking. They're the ones warning Gazans not to come. Yesterday they fired a rocket. There was a rocket fired by Hamas at one of the aid distribution sites. And Israel, meanwhile, is being is being called out for causing a humanitarian crisis. We have to be very clear. The only reason there's any humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip is because of Hamas. Hamas. If anyone doesn't have enough food in the Gaza Strip, it's because they live in an area where Hamas controls the food and is not is not giving them access to it. The, the CogAT, the which is the arm of the Israeli government that coordinates activities in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, published a [00:56:00] video the other day on there on their Twitter.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:56:03] And it's just it's aerial footage of approximately a thousand truckloads of humanitarian aid that are sitting just inside the Gaza border, waiting for the UN workers to come pick it up. And meanwhile, they're screaming that there's not enough food. It's obviously in the best interests of Hamas, that the people of Gaza be starving. It's in their best interest to create that situation, because that's what will cause pressure on Israel to end the war. That's what will cause pressure on Israel to make concessions. That's you know, so they, they don't really have an interest in, in, in necessarily bringing all those pallets of food in. So whatever humanitarian crisis there is, is entirely the fault is entirely the is at the feet of Hamas. And let me just add as a final note that considering what we saw when the hostage in the hostage releases back near the beginning of the year during the ceasefire [00:57:00] when hostages were being released, the only the only people in the Gaza Strip who are really suffering starvation on a daily basis are the Jewish hostages who were there.

Marc Zell: [00:57:11] One of the most outspoken proponents of the notion that Israel has been carrying out genocide in the Gaza Strip is the special rapporteur for the United Nations Council on Human Rights, Francesca Albanese. And she has aimed her tongue, her wicked tongue at a number of American corporations and NGOs, including one Jewish Stroke Christian organization that provides humanitarian support for communities, Jewish communities over the Green Line, and a and a Dutch Christian organization. Its US subsidiary eventually called them War Criminals. And as a result of this, we are now organizing a [00:58:00] lawfare of our own to bring an action against Albanese in charging her with defamation. And we'll be she'll certainly raise the defense of international organizational immunity in that case. And this will be a test of whether or not, given the minute the Trump administration's strong condemnations of her and similar comments, whether that will hold up in a US court.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [00:58:30] Thank you again for being on the frontlines of these battles.

Frank Gaffney: [00:58:32] We have one last presenter. He is a faithful contributor to these briefings. I think he's participated in each of them one way or the other. Today he's doing so by video as he could not be with us in person. That would be Dr. David Wurmser. David is a man who has served at high levels of our government as an advisor on the Middle East to an undersecretary of state and national security advisor

and vice president of the United States. He's a naval intelligence [00:59:00] veteran. He is also these days, the director of the Mideast program at the center for Security Policy. And a key member of our Victory Coalition team. And we asked him to provide a kind of summary and you know, synthesizing of the information that has been presented here. And talk about one other aspect of this unfolding war against Israel now manifesting itself against Israelis overseas. And he'll cover that among these other topics handsomely in this short video.

David Wurmser: [00:59:44] Well, thanks, Frank. First of all, taking it forward the topics discussed are very important in this sort of sets us up for looking ahead. And the real question is, where are we going now on the largest sort of scale? [01:00:00] What you see here is the eighth front of the war that Israel faces, which is the information front is now becoming the main front because all the other fronts Israel has essentially begun to win. I know, obviously, and it's a bit agonizing. Israel has yet to win final in any of the fronts. But assuming it will eventually and assuming the situation in Syria eventually reaches some sort of an equilibrium between Israel and Turkey. For the moment and as the larger Sunni threat emerges to Israel and has to be dealt with. Assuming all that this information front right now has become one of the key ones. And we've had a number of incidents recently. The first one, of course, is the one that is hitting the press last night and today, which is the dozen [01:01:00] to two dozen kids, 10 to 12 years old, on the Spanish plane flying from Valencia to Paris. Were they were singing songs in Hebrew which irritated the, the, the, the crew and they detained the kids and then arrested the chaperon of the kids. This for singing in Hebrew. And some bad things were said about Israel and them being criminals and genocides. So this wasn't simply, oh, they were singing and being disruptive. This was a focused essentially a focused anti-Semitic incident.

David Wurmser: [01:01:41] And it comes on the heels of what we feared for a long time, which is two Israelis one of which really hadn't even been in Gaza. Were detained in Belgium as possible war criminals. So you're beginning to see European authorities? Not only in Valencia arrest people [01:02:00] for essentially out of anti-Semitic motives. But you see it in Belgium, where they're beginning to arrest Israelis, and then they'll figure out if they're actually war criminals. And so forth. And this on top of the other more visible waves of anti-Semitic attacks and antisemitic incidents. And what we're really seeing is a war, the war transforming. It is related to the issue of the churches in

Gaza, in the West Bank, Judea and Samaria, and so forth, which is it isn't only what used to be Iran's strategy, which was to divide the United States and Israel, to play to the, quote, isolationist crowd and say, well, these, these Jews, these Israelis are going to get you entangled into a war. And you don't want a war, you don't want an endless war in the region. And more American kids blood needs to be spilled so that Israel can be aggressive and imperial. That was the [01:03:00] Iranian strategy. What is the Iranian strategy? But it is also the Muslim Brotherhood strategy. And unfortunately, even the Qatari and Turkish strategy, Qatar being really in many ways the primary threat emerging in the future, and that is to sever Christendom from Judaism, to destroy the Jewish connections to the.

David Wurmser: [01:03:27] To the religion of Christianity and the Jewish foundations that were laid in are common to Christianity and Judaism today. To sever in two ways. First of all is to say, the Jews of today are not Jews. They're not the Jews of the Bible. They're just Europeans who converted to some weird Talmudic religion that is not at all related to the Judaism that Jesus had. And then the second thing, of course, is that that that they were the ancient Old Testament [01:04:00] people were actually Palestinians. And Jesus was a Palestinian. So as ahistorical as that really is, we have so much evidence that says this is poppycock. Nonetheless, this is spreading. The second thing is to fundamentally divide Western civilization in Israel, saying Israel is the antithesis Emphasis to Western civilization that its behavior reflects a barbarism and an evil that undoes what Europe and America have successfully done over the last decades in reinventing war and morality and so on and so forth. Both are calculated. Both messages are calculated to destroy Israel's ability to argue that it is a faithful ally, it is a democratic ally, and that it is an embodiment of Western ideas in the region. Now, this is part of a larger attack that really doesn't have anything [01:05:00] to do with the Jews, which is to rip out the soul of Western civilization in order to disarm it morally and more in terms of morale and morality and paralyze it. And in this context the war on Israel is much like the way Israel was a proxy for a war between the Soviet Union and the United States in the Cold War.

David Wurmser: [01:05:27] It has become a proxy of the war between civilization and anti-civilization. I don't want to say it's just two civilizations. Because really, when you're looking at the jihadi threat, the Sharia supremacist threat, it is anti-civilization. These are really the capturing the understanding, the deep knowledge of the West that is being

analyzed and internalized [01:06:00] by our enemies. And then they turn our values. They turn the very essence of civilization into a weapon against ourselves. So at the end of the day, this is not a war of one value system against another value system. It is a war of Destruction of a value system against that value system. So we really are talking now about a war not between civilizations, but between civilization and anti-civilization. Now this is well funded. We see it not only on the campuses. We need to understand the parallel with what's going on the campuses is happening in every sector of Western society and is funded by our enemies, whether it's the CCP, whether it's Qatar, it's happening in Washington with lobbyists. It's happening in our cultural institutions, [01:07:00] not only in our educational institutions, it's happening in our media institutions and so on and so forth. So this warfare, this eighth front that Israel is facing may be the most dangerous, not only for Israel, but for the West as a whole, because ultimately, if it succeeds against Israel, It entails the destruction of the West in our own understanding of our own foundations, and looking forward with the with the Trump administration, with America.

David Wurmser: [01:07:29] It is very clear that we are in a societal cultural crisis in America to some extent, who we are, where we came from, what we are really is on the table. And there are powerful forces out there, like the radical progressives who understand this is a battle to destroy Western civilization. What we're seeing here is the Middle East crisis, the Arab-Israeli war. This attack on Israel is now becoming coterminous [01:08:00] with the attack on the foundations of the West, as the West as a whole, whether it's in the United States, the cultural questions, or Europe, which is even demographic at this point, it is part of the larger war to, to erase the West. We can go back to the granular the Druze question. The church is. And so forth. But we have to put it in the context of this massive assault underway now. That really represents the true nature of this war, as Iran's nuclear weapons ultimately threaten the West. This information war, at the end of the day, really is to destroy the West, to destroy the United States, its ideas, the spirit of 1776. As much as it's to destroy the Jews and destroy Israel. So anyway, I'll leave it at that. That's sort of the larger picture that I want to put some of this stuff into.

Frank Gaffney: [01:08:53] Thank you. Wonderful, doctor. Thank you. This is really super synthesis, [01:09:00] as I said, of what we've heard thus far. And, and bringing it back to that spiritual warfare that we started with, with these opening comments, we've

got maybe 20 minutes to have some give and take on several of these points. And I'm sure you have some thoughts as to what we might cover. I've got a couple, and if I could put one in play right out of the gate because there is a, a certain characterization of what's going on here as an organized effort, not just, you know, spontaneous or serendipitous. Even I think one of our speakers has talked about it as a conspiracy. Without getting into conspiracy theories, I just wondered if there's evidence available as to who is underwriting what is taking place here in this information warfare [01:10:00] battlespace, this war on Western civilization, as well as, of course, most immediately you know, it's vanguard in the Middle East, namely the state of Israel. Would anybody care to speculate on that subject?

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [01:10:14] I would like to hear from Pastor Washington on this. I know we were talking about it the other day. If you're still on Pastor Washington, if you could unmute yourself, I'd love to hear your comments on this exact issue. But what I, I really, you know, I take a look at what's happening right now in the last few weeks, and I see this blood libel having to do with fires at Taiba, which all it now turns out, was an orchestrated hoax to try to frame the Jews of Judea and Samaria. And I also see a, a leak coming out of the ambassador's office about some bureaucratic flap having to do with visas for some Christian workers in Israel. That was quickly then resolved. It was really a bureaucratic problem. That is the kind that happens in bureaucracies all the time. And then you [01:11:00] know, I hear some, some very prominent voices on the right having open conversations, disparaging Christian Zionism as a form of heresy and implying that there's that there's something wrong with them in terms of their Christianity. And I put all the pieces together and what I, I feel like I'm involved in some kind of orchestrated campaign to pull Christians away from Israel, that there's something organized. It's far too coincidental. And it seems that there must be some people behind it who are really pushing from that. From the other side, I don't know where the money's coming from, but it really feels like there's an active campaign that we need to be on our toes about. Pastor Washington, can you comment on this, please?

Dumisani Washington: [01:11:41] Sure, absolutely. Rabbi one of the things that happened, I don't have it at my fingertips here, but it's about maybe 2 or 3 months ago, there was an article done either The Washington Times or another right leaning publication that did an exposé on the some 300 conservative [01:12:00] influencers and

those who may have some sort of ties to the Trump administration that Qatar that the nation of Qatar had actually reached out to. Again, this was actually done. I don't have it in front of me right now, but you can. If you're on your computer, you can Google it. 2 or 300 that they had actually spent a lot of money on. But that's, that's one that we, that we know about. It doesn't have all the listings of the people. There was some surmising about Tucker Carlson, his backer, and whether or not he was paid a certain amount of money to interview someone. This over the last several months. So those type of things, I've been in meetings that I can't share a lot about it, but right at this moment. But we've been having some strategy meetings with a couple of different groups that are actually unmasking these. They're actually this is what they're doing. And so they're in the process of identifying who some of the other players are, along with the government of Qatar. So this is it's particularly the coordinated issue [01:13:00] or event on the, on the right. We are and I'll say this to you as well, Rabbi, along with what I mean, China is always an eye for an actor.

Dumisani Washington: [01:13:11] The reason I mentioned that is because when you look at who are the major givers, if you will, donors to the not donors, but also the have you going to use that term to the colleges and universities? Right. We know that it is mostly China. It is mostly Qatar. Some of the other Islamic countries as well that are doing this, that are actually controlling the narrative on the campuses. We also recognize that not just in the college, but Qatar has a great deal of influence within K-12 education across the country. And I'm from California. And so we dealt with a lot with the school districts and then also the college level. So it would appear that these are some of the same things. Qatar, for example, deals with local politics. A few months ago, I was in San Diego doing [01:14:00] some events, and the leaders that I was with talked about how Qatar has been taking city council members from San Diego to Qatar. So for them and showing them around, giving them a great time so that they will come back and have a great report where Katara is concerned. So all. Obviously, this is all strategic. Where are the concern? But it does seem to be to your point, Rabbi, that effort from them and others have been directed towards conservatives Christians those who have been generally the bedrock of support where Israel is concerned.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [01:14:30] I want to remind everyone that on October 8th, before Israel had even responded at all to the October 7th attacks with any kind of military move into Gaza already on October 8th, Neville Singham, who is a communist,

lives in Shanghai. A billionaire who's a supporter of the Chinese Communist Party was already pouring funds into pro Hamas demonstrations in the streets of major American cities before Israel. From one end, they were already screaming about genocide before we did anything. And, you know, [01:15:00] so when we talk about the Red Green Alliance, the red green alliance is not just, you know, keffiyeh wearing Marxist kids on college campuses. It starts all the way at the top. The Red green Alliance begins with the alliance between Islamism and the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese Communist Party and Iran, the support of the of the Chinese Communist Party for Hamas. The Chinese Communist Party released a video. Well, I don't know the party. It was a video released early on in the war. In Chinese, in Chinese social media taking pride in the fact that TikTok has been so successful in advancing the Palestinian narrative, the pro Hamas narrative, you see that that has actually been an active effort. And I wrote a piece about this about a year ago in Newsweek about the Chinese hand behind everything that is you know, that is all the anti-Israel activity around the world. So it's really this alliance between China and Qatar, both pouring immense amounts of money into the demonization of Israel around the world. [01:16:00] And this only underscores the entire theme of this webinar, which is that this is all really one big battle, and it's the battle. It's the battle for civilization. For Western civilization. Or as Doctor Wormser put it, for civilization against anti-civilization. That's really what it is. And I know that. And, Pastor Washington, I know you have your finger on the pulse and you're watching Qatar, you know, and these connections very closely. And as things are as you're able to reveal things please keep us all in the loop.

Dumisani Washington: [01:16:27] To your original point, Rabbi, about the spiritual warfare aspect of it. What I'm reminded of is in Ezra, when Israel's enemies wanted to shut down the construction to the temple, they sent a very scathing, nasty letter to the head of to the Persian king. And the whole letter was a bunch of, you know, it was it was tropes. It was, you know, these Jews are doing this. These Jews are doing that. I think this is what's actually happening here. You have a situation where there's that coordinated attempt and of course, I believe it was King Darius or the king before him. He actually [01:17:00] shut down the construction and they had to wait until later on another administration. I think you have the kind of the dovetailing of both of those things. You have the spiritual reality of the hatred of Israel, the Jewish people, and then the coordinated attempt when those things kind of come together. I think that's actually what we're experiencing right now. So I'm saying.

Frank Gaffney: [01:17:16] One of the most important things that was said, I think, was a quote from my personal friend, a longtime colleague, Steve Bannon, who has, I think, on several occasions at least, I've heard him make this comment that Israel is not an ally. He sometimes follows it with its a protectorate which seems not only inaccurate, but not necessarily inconsistent with having an alliance relationship. Could any of you who are so inclined take a shot at responding to that?

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [01:17:58] I'd like to hear from Ambassador Ettinger [01:18:00] on this. And let me just add a little spice to the question, ambassador. And that is that with all of this trying to change the nomenclature of the relationship, nomenclature matters in these in these diplomatic relationships, we also are faced with a changing reality vis a vis our enemies and, and the geopolitical chessboard that we're looking at. And the question really is as much as we want to push back and we believe that Steve Bannon is wrong, Israel is not a protectorate. Israel is more than an ally. And you've done such unbelievable work showing the benefits to the United States of the Israel US relationship. That's one of the issues that you're that you're always pushing out. And we'd like to hear from you on that. But also, is there some truth to the fact that the US interests and the Israeli interests are not the same? Meaning, is there any divergence of interests that we should be on the lookout for and is are the is the is the consistency and the shared interests between [01:19:00] Israel and the United States is that is that? Is that a given and is it true on all fronts?

Amb. Yoram Ettinger: [01:19:06] It seems to me that reality is the best testimony to the determination that we're talking about very special, mutually beneficial, and emphasized mutually beneficial relations. Because between 1948, when Israel was established, and until today, every single president pressured Israel, some of the presidents punished Israel. There is one exception President Trump. He never pressured Israel during his first administration and hasn't really pressured the Israel during this second term. But all other presidents pressured Israel. However, simultaneously, notwithstanding the pressure, notwithstanding the acrimony and sometimes [01:20:00] Major, major even hatred between presidents and prime ministers. Strategic cooperation between the two countries surged beyond the most optimistic assessment due to the very special synergy between the two countries. And I'll give few examples. You compare Israel to NATO, to South Korea to Japan. Unlike NATO, South Korea and Japan, we are the

number one self-funded American base or American beachhead in a most critical area. We are the only country in the world which serves as America's battle tested laboratory for its defense industry, aerospace Space industry. And by [01:21:00] the way, also medical industry. If you think about Covid 19. Israel was first to receive the Pfizer unionization. And there was a reason why Pfizer did. Choose Israel because of the capabilities of Israel. They realized Israel would be the most effective so-called battle tested laboratory. We're talking about the US bombing of Iran's nuclear facilities some three weeks ago. That offensive by the US followed a 12 day aerial offensive by Israel against Iran, which made it possible for the US to carry out that offensive without any interference whatsoever by the Iranian Air Force. [01:22:00]

Amb. Yoram Ettinger: [01:22:00] Iranian ground to air missiles which were decapitated by Israel. Ahead of the American operation. We're talking about the mere existence of Israel in that part of the globe between the Mediterranean, Red sea, Indian Ocean, Persian Gulf, between Europe and Asia and Africa, and an area which is the major epicenter of anti-American Islamic terrorism, an area which is very critical to global trade, and area, which has 48% of global oil reserves. If there would not be Israel, US would have to increase to bolster its presence and send to the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean. A few real [01:23:00] aircraft carriers. In fact, it would have to manufacture few more aircraft carriers. Accompanied by five seven ground divisions. The cost of manufacturing. Of deploying, of maintaining, of operating not only in terms of American lives, but in terms of American dollars, surpassed dramatically. What is erroneously called foreign aid to Israel. \$3.8 billion. The late General Alexander Haig was Supreme Commander of NATO, Secretary of State, as well as the head of naval operations, Admiral Elmo Zumwalt. They compared Israel to the largest American aircraft carrier with no need for a single American on board, which spares the Americans anywhere between [01:24:00] 15 and \$20 billion every single year, compared again to \$3.8 billion when Israel carried out its offensive on Iran back on June 13th. And for the subsequent 11 days, we did not only carry out an operation against Iran.

Amb. Yoram Ettinger: [01:24:25] We demonstrate that as a unique showroom, the capabilities of American aircraft industry. The world was watching. The world considers continuously which combat aircraft to aircraft to purchase. Chinese, Russian, British. French. Italian. German. Swedish. No country, no country He has a showroom that the

US has, which every single day demonstrate to [01:25:00] the world the very, very real edge advantage that the American products have over any other country in the world. And that does increase American exports, which expands American employment every single day. Israel benefits from hundreds of American advanced military systems, for which we are immensely grateful. But every single day we use it operationally and therefore every single day. There are lessons developed by Israel, shared by Israel with the manufacturers in the US with the relevant arm, service of the US and sharing it with the Lockheed Martin and Boeing. And Northrop Grumman, etc. has [01:26:00] saved the American aerospace defense industry. 10 to 15 years of research and development. We're talking about mega billion dollar bonanza. I don't say all that. In order to prepare submission of a bill to America for a commission on that. All I'm saying is that anyone, anyone who contends that Israel is not an ally of the US, that Israel is not a partner of the U.S., obviously, we are by far the junior partner, simply demonstrates detachment from reality. Israel and the US perform a classic two way street which benefits both countries.

Frank Gaffney: [01:26:51] Mr. Ambassador, thank you. That was powerful and I think very much on point. I hope we might have Steve [01:27:00] Bannon join us at some point for one of these briefings and have a chance to go over these issues with him as well. But for the moment, Rabbi, if I make close up for my part, I think this has been as. As each of these briefings, immensely important and very informative clarifying and urgently needed, as I think I said at the beginning. In the face of what I believe is a concerted effort in the information battle space to defeat Israel that has not been defeated. Far from it on the battlefields. And in so doing, to strike a body blow to not just Israel, not just the United States, not just the interests of the Middle East more generally, by the way, but indeed to Western civilization, [01:28:00] Judeo-Christian civilization as well. We at the Victory Coalition with our partners. I'm sure I can speak for this on this point for you as well, Rabbi. Israel 365 action are determined to prevent that. And to the contrary, to achieve decisive victory. So with that, let me turn it back over to you, sir. And thank you for again your great leadership in all of these matters. And my thanks to our audience as well as each of these wonderful panelists.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: [01:28:31] Thank you. I'll just close this out by thanking you, Frank, for and thanking Dede and Oleg and the whole team at the Victory Coalition for putting these together. Everyone, please watch your emails and stay in touch with us.

Stay in touch with Victory Coalition and with Israel. 365 action victory coalition is that victory. Total victory for Israel 365. Action! And stay in touch with all this very important information. Now, I want to remind everyone that in information warfare, you don't have to be [01:29:00] on the battlefield in Israel to be fighting a war for Israel. Every time you share something, every time you tell someone about what you've learned, every time you share information with people around you, you are a force multiplier. You are adding. You are. You are helping win the information more. Don't think that your actions are insignificant. If you, as one person, shares important information with ten people you know, you've just multiplied the information by ten. And you, you are fighting the information warfare, the information war. We need you. I'll also add just a very specific point about what you just said there, Frank, that this information war is why Hamas right now is refusing to do a hostage deal. Steve Wyckoff just announced that he's pulling his team back from Doha. They're giving up on the negotiations because Hamas is intransigent. The reason for their intransigence is clear. They believe that they're winning the information war and that this starvation libel is working and that the longer they wait, the weaker Israel's position [01:30:00] will be. We need to fight back. God bless you all.

Dede Laugesen: [01:30:03] Thank you, everyone, for being here today. A video of this webinar will be posted to VictoryCo.org within a day of the program's conclusion. Please get informed at Israel 365 action and share this and our other programs with your elected representatives, colleagues and other networks. Follow us on at @Co4Victory for updates. And thanks for joining us today. Goodbye.