

TRANSCRIPT

A Nobel Peace Prize for the Biden-Harris Mideast Deal?

Victory Coalition-Israel 365 Action Briefing to Consider
Latest Developments Regarding Gaza

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Media File: VC_Webinar_Peace_Prize.mp4

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

Frank Gaffney: [00:00:00] Rabbi, it is important to get your perspective on all of this from Israel, that of your countrymen and leaders as well, if you would, sir, over to you.

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: But I believe that one of the great mistakes that has been made and we may look back on this mistake for generations to come as a missed opportunity to make some gains on behalf of Western civilization, was the decision that was made by President Trump to put the brakes on.

On the Iran War and hold Israel back from pressing forward to bring down the regime in Tehran, we were very close to doing so. In the later few days of that 12-day war, Israel was no longer attacking ballistic missile sites or nuclear facilities, but was attacking regime targets. And [00:01:00] because of some pressure from our own camp, sadly from the right in America for President Trump to stop a regime change war from taking place, we failed to deliver a defeat to Islam.

It's exactly what Robert Spencer was just talking about. Delivering a defeat to Islam is not a luxury. It's a necessity. When you look around the world at what is happening and how Islam is taking over in so many places, in so many ways. And they're getting more and more aggressive about it by the day.

And, there's all kinds of debates going on and discussions going on podcasts, on shows, on people, who, who are concerned about the problem. With, the very concerned with their, with knitted brows. But the conversations tend to be about how bad it is.

There's no real game plan for pushing back. There's no real path forward [00:02:00] to defeating this Islamic takeover of the world of Western civilization. There's no path forward. And here in, in the Middle East, Israel's efforts to deliver an actual defeat to the forces of jihad, both in Gaza and. To the rest of the Iranian the Iranian axis, and most importantly to the Iranian regime itself.

The fact that we've, we're, we stopped short in Iran and are now, as Robert said, stopping short in Gaza is a civilizational mistake. It's a mistake of historic proportions. And I can't agree more with what Robert said. Now, getting into some of the nitty gritty, and I've been paying very close attention to what's being reported in the media here in Israel, as well as whatever Arab media locally I have access to.

I don't speak Arabic, but I have [00:03:00] access to people who do and paying close attention to what's being reported there. I'll say this, we don't really know the details of what has been agreed upon over the last couple of days. What we have is President Trump's 20-point plan that was released at that press conference with Prime Minister Netanyahu.

Which is not what has been agreed upon now as far as I understand it. Something maybe based on it, but not that plan. And separate from that, we have the fact that there's an agreement to release the hostages a withdrawal of Israeli forces to a certain internal perimeter line, which leaves about half of the Gaza Strip still under IDF control and some kind of cessation of hostilities.

But we also have Hamas' statements in Arabic, in Arab media from the last 24 hours. And Hamas is saying quite clearly that they have [00:04:00] never agreed and will not agree to laying down their weapons. And they've also said that that they're not going anywhere. And that a condition for the release of the hostages is a commitment that the war is over.

And President Trump's press conference a couple, what was it about an hour ago, he also said that this heralds the end of the war, and this is where we have to be very concerned because Israeli media is reporting coming out of mouthpieces of the Israeli government, that if Hamas missteps or the negotiations on phase two fall apart, we will return to the fighting.

And that's where I think that Israel's in the most perilous situation in the short term. And that is that if the Israelis believe or have been told that the deal that we're entering into is basically some kind of implementation of Trump's 20-

point plan, which is imperfect in all kinds of ways, but at the very least, it does call for the [00:05:00] complete disarmament of Hamas.

And doesn't even allow the Palestinian authority. And although there's a lot of other wonky details in there, and if the Israelis are under the impression that's the deal that we're going into or that's what was agreed upon, but the other side does not believe that's the case.

And Israel and if Donald Trump announces to the world that the war is over, if the hostages are actually released on the basis of some kind of commitment from the Americans to Hamas, that the war is over. If after the hostages are released, if that actually happens, if after the hostages are released and something goes wrong in the negotiations and Israel decides to resume the fighting, they, Israel will be painted as.

As the ones who are warmongering and blowing up the deal. And there'll be tremendous pressure from the Trump administration not to resume fighting at that point. And that's, I think [00:06:00] a real landmine that Israel could easily step on in the middle of all of this. The only what I'm hearing in Israeli media is also that people are poo-pooing the fact that Hamas is saying that they've never agreed to lay down their arms and saying that Hamas is just talking bluster, but that the Qatari and the Egyptians and the Turks are somehow gonna enforce this can color me skeptical.

I think we all share that skepticism on here. So frankly, there's a lot of celebration going on, even in Israel because hostage is returning. I think there's a lot of naivete about what we are actually agreeing to. I think that's a, I think that's a very it's a very dangerous situation right now. And, I am, I'm extremely concerned. Lemme just point something out about the Trump 20-point plan that we have to pay close attention to. In that Trump 20-point plan, it states that a new security force will be [00:07:00] created under the guidance of the Egyptians and the Jordanians using quote unquote vetted Palestinians who will become the internal police force in the Gaza Strip.

And it states there that they're meant to be, become a long-term police force. There's a name for this, and the name for this is Oslo. It's exactly the same situation, creating some sort of Palestinian police force that's gonna have weapons and then expecting them to disarm Hamas. And be responsible for the disarming of Hamas, which is also in the plan, is about the most unrealistic thing I've seen in a very long time.

That is, it's simply never going to happen. So, in closing, number one the Trump 20-point plan is full of all kinds of unrealistic wish casting that Imperils Israel. And number two, [00:08:00] even that Trump 20-point plan is probably significantly better for Israel than whatever was agreed to behind closed doors that we haven't learned of yet.

Because there is no chance that Hamas would be agreeing to release these prisoners if they did not get an absolute guarantee that the war is ending. They've made that very clear from the start. They've never backed off of it, and they continue to say it in the media. I'm very concerned and I agree with Robert that this is a dark day.

The fear that we've had since the beginning of the war, that placing the freeing of the hostages as a putting it up there as a primary goal of the war on par with destroying Hamas, has always meant that these two goals would come into conflict with each other at some point, and the choice would have to be made, which one we go with.

And sadly, Hamas has proven yet again that taking Israeli hostages is effective. Yeah, I wish I had more positive things to say about this. I did a few media hits earlier today [00:09:00] where I was expected to be happy and I surprised the hosts by not being happy. But we continue to trust in God and we continue to know that the end of the story means that we're gonna win, but how bloody it's gonna be on the road to that great victory.

Is up to us and we're, and I fear that we're making some grave errors here. I do also wanna remind everyone that this has not yet been voted on by the Israeli cabinet and Prime Minister Netanyahu has to share the plan that he's agreed to with the cabinet. And that meeting is happening at some point today, if I'm not mistaken, this evening, so that it remains to be seen whether the Israeli cabinet approves the deal.

I'll leave it there.

Frank Gaffney: Yeah, rabbi, thank you. If you wouldn't mind, the point that you just made is critical. Of course, we don't know what the details are. The cabinet has not yet approved the details. Is there any concern on your [00:10:00] part that the deal being as opaque as it is may not actually be a deal at all?

That there, there may be very different. Interpretations of it that there's gonna be room for serious misunderstandings, shall we say. Is that possible given especially the pace with which this has all been done?

Rabbi Pesach Wolicki: YY this kind of conjecture, Dr. Wurmer will be better at, he's been around the block more than I have.

What I suspect is happening here is that the Qatari and the Turks are looking Trump in the eye and telling him, don't worry, we will take care of Hamas. And that he's buying that, and that Israel is having its arm twisted in the process and being told that this is the best deal they're gonna get.

This is what I fear is actually happening. I think that answers your question somewhat to give you a sense of is there actually a deal? I believe something was agreed to. But I imagine that it's the [00:11:00] Qatari in the Turks. Reassuring Trump that they'll take care of Hamas and they'll enforce it.

And not to worry about what Hamas is saying. They'll take care of business. And again, Trump trusting those two actors who really are the source of all this evil at this point.

Frank Gaffney: Yeah. Amen. Thank you. We've heard that Dr. Wurmser is going to answer our questions to have otherwise help clarify what has been taking place here.

And one of the things that I particularly hope you'll speak to Dr. Wurmser based on your extensive experience in government including in senior positions in the State Department, the National Security Council, the office of the Vice President as well as your training in Naval intelligence you rose through the ranks to that of a lieutenant commander.

Is the possibility that we will find at the end of the day that the [00:12:00] agreement that has been crafted here. There's a lot greater resemblance to one that the Biden Harris team was not, would not only support, but was actually advancing when it left office than something along the lines of what we had expected from President Trump.

And that if indeed there is a Nobel Prize to be won here it might need to be shared with the authors of the piece in the period prior to this presidency. It's a somewhat chilling thought, honestly. And I certainly expect that President Trump feels ownership of this. But I'd like you to comment on that and also other concerns that you have about the deal, such as it is and such as it is likely to be in the days to come.

Dr. David Wurmser: It's a good question. There's a couple things from experience that Frank, I know you've had a lot of as [00:13:00] well in all of

this, which is when you're dealing with any government policy, the initial fight isn't over policy. It's a, who has the pen to write the first draft of the policy paper.

And sure, everybody afterwards takes a cleaver to it and starts changing it and trying to bend it this way and that way. And you get a policy that does reflect the concerns and issues of the other parts of the bureaucracy. But the thing is, the person who wrote the first draft, set the paradigm behind the policy.

Everything else is a revision of the paradigm. It's not a rejection of the paradigm. So, when you get to this agreement, that is a very valid question. Where did this par, where did, who had the first pen? And when? When that first pen was drafting the paper, what was the paradigm behind it? And I think it, it is safe to say that this is an evolution, quite an extensive [00:14:00] evolution, and a lot of credit goes to President Trump and Netanya for trying to make it honest.

But ultimately, it is an evolution of something that originated in the Biden administration, and therefore, unfortunately does contain some of its some of its paradigmatic problems. Now what where are we right now in the process of that? Going back to experience again, that this is something Frank, you have even more than I do, is in any agreement you got this triple whammy, which is a verification a detection verification, and then willpower, namely, can you detect it a violation?

Do you have the ability to verify it's being violated. And third, you have the willpower to act on that violation. And as with so many things, Oslo, and you could, you can say Oslo, it's Oslo over again. And I think Pesak is right. But what went wrong with Oslo was that there were [00:15:00] violations from day one and Israel, more or less, internalized them.

Digested them and said, oh, okay. That's not so 7,000 policemen become 15,000. Yeah. So, their police training turns into military, whatever, we're not gonna make a big deal about it. And you get, and the other side specifically, Hamas also was very good at what the Israelis call the drops of rain strategy, which is you drip violations a little violation, and you say, well over one balloon with an incendiary device.

We're not gonna go back to war over five balloons. We're not gonna go back to war. Then, six months later, over one missile, oh, it was struck by lightning. It was a mistake. Oh, that's a my, a faction. We don't control, et cetera. And you

see they ease back in. The second thing is so it really boils down to the willpower.

And that gets to a technical question here. End of war scenario. End of war promise. Where is it [00:16:00] number one, if it's upfront, namely, that's it. Now that this, now this deal is signed. It is the end of the war if that is our iron clad guarantee being given to QAR and Turkey and they have demanded it, and I'm not sure that Hamas would, would've signed without at least the expectation of that.

Then Israel is in a really bad position because they have not agreed to phase two or three or whatever additional phases there are, which is disarmament removal from power and exile of key people. And the reason why that's so dangerous is if it's the end of war, then that's it. Israel can just be an observer to the buildup against itself like it was with Hezbollah and Lebanon between 2006 and 2024 when the beepers went off.

So that, and also a function of Oslo which was the same thing, which they became essentially observers of the violations that were really strategically [00:17:00] determined to attack Israel in the end. If, however, there's no promise given or it's rear ended, then you've got two problems. One is the timing.

If President Trump has given Israel a guarantee, Israel, not the Arabs, Israel a guarantee. Look, if Hamas really isn't gonna disarm, let's have another, if there's no guarantees given anybody, namely, it's just you've signed, there's a cease fire. However, agreements, if they're violated, you have the right to violate them back, to protect yourself, et cetera.

Israel really only has a week or two to respond to that because they have to start demobilizing their army. It's a great stress on society. People went back to war this time with the expectation of winning or resolving this, and as a result, they're gonna have to be released, and then Israel will have to wait several months.

Maybe even a half year to a year before it can remobilize all its forces to [00:18:00] restart the war. And if it and at that point, everybody in the world, whether there's a guarantee or not, will say what did Hamas do this? This is outta the blue. There's a peace, there's no fighting going on.

And yes, Hamas is violating the agreement out its wazoo, there's no fighting going on. So, you're starting a war again. Out of the blue, you're now the

aggressor. That, so Israel really only has a week or two to go back to war if there's no, if there really is no end of war scenario.

So to me, the only real guarantee that this agreement isn't another Oslo. It's not even a guarantee, but at least an open door for it not to be. Another Oslo is if President Trump has given a pro a guarantee to the Israelis that if specific things are not being done in phase two or three, or whatever phases there are, specifically the disarming of Hamas, the surrendering of power, et [00:19:00] cetera.

If things are not specifically given Israel the red light to act now in advance, then Israel will not be able to act again, and this is then therefore the countdown to another October 7th. Now, this is partly a function, I think, of a strategic mistake done by Israel, which Paak mentioned. The prioritization of the hostage is, look, we're all heartbroken over it.

And I really, I know Israeli society has, there's a very strong case to be made that Israeli society would be ripped apart, had the government given up on the hostages. But the decision to do that has slowed this war down. Partly the meticulousness with which Israel fights wars to avoid civilian casualties.

But I think overall also, this war would've been over within a month or 2nd of October seventh, had Israel not had any hostages taken because there would've been no reason in November of 2023 for [00:20:00] Israel to have healed. And Hamas was on the ropes. It was on the run. It was beginning to collapse and fall apart.

Exactly. In a classic way of war, you press your advantage, the enemy at one point breaks and it, and Hamas was breaking, which is why they agreed to that ceasefire at that point. Had there not been hostages, had Israel not. Bent to the fear of losing hostages, it would've achieved that sort of a victory.

And that is something that generations of Israelis will cry about that there were a lot of strategic opportunities missed because of that. It's quite in defense of President Trump and Netanyahu now, not Netanyahu, over the last two years, the war really had gone on so long that in many ways the window had been missed to prosecute, which is precisely why Hamas all along played these games with, yes, we want a deal.

Yes, these fire this, but not really just this little, they dragged this out to the [00:21:00] point where the window shut, and I think President Trump was having more and more trouble holding the line on that. So, I'm not blaming him

and I'm not blaming Bibi now, but I do think as a society, Israel has to really ask itself.

In the future because in the future there will be hostages and there will be war precisely because this was not resolved correctly. Taking hostages has been validated and this is a problem for the West as a whole because it's not only Israel that will pay the price of this. The West as a whole has been paying the price of hostages, whether it's Iran, whether it's with Syria, whatever.

We have all been guilty in the west of bending to hostage takers. And as a result, we probably are going to face more than 20 hostages in the future and more than 200 killed in the future because of this. And as far as Hamas' intent in this, we already have it. One, [00:22:00] they're already violating the agreement.

They say they can't give up seven to 12 hostages then 15 hostages 'cause they can't find them. And instead of saying. Using that as a technicality and saying, then you're not agreeing to this. You're not even fulfilling. Phase one, the first 72 hours, Israel, the United States, Qatar and Turkey have agreed to set up a committee that has a team that will go look for these hostages, which means Hamas is no longer responsible for those seven to 15 hostages.

This the onus for never finding them now has passed to Israel. America, Qatar, and Turkey and Hamas can violate it without consequence already. The second thing is we see Hamas attacking its own political opponents. The Shabab forces that turned against them and so forth. You only do that if you're gonna stay in power.

So clearly Hamas is saying we may give up the edifice of power. But we are not giving up power. We will be in power whether or not the face of it [00:23:00] is us. So, we already have the verdict on Hamas' compliance. And then the real question is what has been agreed to between BB and Trump about resumption of war specifically, and two, the overall willpower of Israeli society and the West as a whole.

To finally realize the stuff that dispenser has just said, which is this is not about Hamas, this is not even about Gaza. It's not even about the Palestinians. Islam will always find its battleground to fight Western civilization. And it will also change the key horses that ride that, that are leading the charge, whether it's Iran, today, Turkey, tomorrow, whoever Egypt.

So, we are never going to see a resolution of this. And this war really should have been a rewriting of strategic realities in a fundamental way that goes

[00:24:00] beyond the current enemy and threat. And it was a much greater strategic shift in Western thinking. And no, we have not seen that.

Frank Gaffney: David Warner.

Thank you. Thank you for the work you do at the Center for Security Policy Senior Analyst and direct its Mideast program. We're very grateful to you for your inputs and hope you'll stick around for some questions here in a moment. Before we get to that, we're gonna talk with another veteran of assorted senior positions in the United States government and military.

His name is Dr. Derek Harvey, a retired colonel in the Army with a very distinguished record in the Armed Forces of the United States. Notably as a senior advisor to the commanding general of Central Command with time in Afghanistan and Iraq as well as a lot in Washington. He was a senior member of the staff of the first [00:25:00] Trump National Security Council.

Responsible for strategic planning and has also been a professional staff member under the former chairman of the House Intelligence Committee Devin Nunes. And the cumulative experience that Derek Harvey brings to bear on all of this is almost unparalleled as are his insights into the history as well as the present-day developments.

What I especially hopeful of Derek, is that you will talk a little bit about the military implications of what we've been discussing, primarily in the context of diplomacy and the theology and the psychology of this deal. But we're very grateful to you for participating.

And the floors now yours.

Col. Derek Harvey: I find all the comments to be spot on and I've appreciated hearing them from David and Robert and, look forward [00:26:00] to more. The thing that, I would highlight is this will be spun as a victory for Islam and a victory for the Palestinians, despite the destruction and the cost of life.

And, the major effort that's gonna have to be made to rebuild. It's, it doesn't take much for a Saddam Hussein or someone to, to claim victory and propagandize and convince not only you know their population, but the region that you know, in some way, just by surviving, they have won the war or the battles and they're gonna be prepared to continue the war. When I look at this and I'm, I wanna focus in on, I think, my experience in dealing with setting up Palestinian authority, police and building Iraqi police and Afghanistan, police and security

forces, and, the challenges that you're gonna have here if we even get that [00:27:00] far in the process of who's going to, disarm Hamas, who's gonna do the vetting, how well will they do the vetting, what capabilities would be brought to bear?

Hamas is not gonna go away. They are committed to staying, as we've already heard in one form or another. Ideologically they are so committed. To their mission and their war aims that they, are just applying hudna. This is just an armistice, while they regroup and rebuild.

And there will be no Arab authority, military security police for a second go in there in my view, and do what is necessary because they don't have the willpower to absorb the losses and the targeting that will take place. So, there will most likely be, in, in my view, if I'm [00:28:00] Hamas, I see a pathway forward where I can navigate this.

I can rebuild under the eyes and maybe the care and feeding of Qatari Jordanian or other contingents. And they get their supply lines opened up again with, their partners at the United Nations and the NGOs that help them. Build the tunnel infrastructure, provided them the wealth and riches to make multiple billionaires.

So the tasks at hand of trying to rebuild infrastructure, rebuild, governance, rebuild communities, rebuild police medical capabilities, et cetera and you're gonna be dealing with some of the worst people in the world that committed the atrocities of October 7th, 1200 of them released in this deal by Israel 250, who are serving life sentences for heinous crimes [00:29:00] and violence and terrorism to say nothing of the leadership in the military groups that exist there in Gaza today.

This is a humongous task to reset the table, and I just, I am extremely pessimistic that it can be done. But again, I am, I don't see, what Jared and Mr. Woff and others, are seeing in these negotiating rooms. But I worry about the lack of expertise and understanding about who the enemy is, how they think, how they fight, how they plan to survive, as well as, over-emphasizing the potential capabilities or willpower and direction coming from Jordan and Gutter and maybe the Jordanians or Egyptians who are, supposedly going to be providing meaningful assistance to, reestablishing security in the rebuilding.

[00:30:00] I'm at a loss for how this will actually move forward what the real plans are. But the pitfalls have already been identified very well by David Wurmer and the ideological underpinnings by Robert Spencer. That's, if you

don't achieve these things and Hamas survives, as David says, it's just a matter of time before we're back in a major conflict again.

And, the world is, has already shifted significantly diplomatically, economically in the information domain internationally against Israel over these two years, which is absolutely remarkable. And domestically in the United States, you've seen a tremendous erosion of support. For the state of Israel from the Democratic Party and on some of the right influencer voices in the Republican [00:31:00] side of things.

And the use has been impacted significantly by the Tiktoks and the social media campaigns financed by overseas Islamist elements and, domestic organizations here that are, have grown in this social media atmosphere to attack Israel and demonized Prime Minister, not Inya. So, I really worry about where we're headed with this because I'm not sure we've got the guardrails on in the actions to plan.

To respond to what I think is going to be a very problematic future once we get beyond the hostage exchange. Thank you, Colonel.

Frank Gaffney: Boy, this is grim tidings, but it's the kind of, I think, clarity that is so desperately needed at a moment when the euphoria and the hopefulness and the, we pray [00:32:00] the joy at the return of hostages will almost certainly be dominating news cycles for some time to come.

We're going to ask as she has done on a number of occasions. One of our very much prized colleagues, Dr. Karen Siegemund, to summarize a bit as well as give us her own perspective on the circumstance in which we find ourselves. Karen is the president of a terrific organization on the left coast the American Freedom Alliance.

But she has been studying closely for years. The topics that we are addressing today the history that has brought us to this pass. And I'm very anxious to get her thoughts on what lies ahead, as well as what those of us who believe that what's on the line really is nothing less than Western civilization. [00:33:00]

The Judeo-Christian civilization, not just the state of Israel, or even for that matter, not just our own vital interests, but the object of the ambitions of these sharia supremacists, which is to take down this alternative civilization and theological structure that underpins it. Dr. Siegemund, welcome.

It's great to have you with us once again. The floor is yours, ma'am.

Dr. Karen Siegemund: Frank. Thanks. Thanks so much. And it's always an honor to be among you all. David and Colonel Harvey and Robert Spencer and Frank and of course Rabbi Icky. It's always an honor to be among you, but I, but in this particular instance, it's.

It's very heartening to find people whose reactions are similar to mine, to what's just been going on, because I think we're all finding ourselves surrounded by euphoria, and [00:34:00] it's very hard to be the naysayer in this context. Of course, we're all thrilled hostages are being released, but for the most part, this just seems like a catastrophe for Israel and therefore, of course for Western civilization.

You read. You read about the 20 points and then the, and the current situation, and you think it, it looks in every way that Israel is being made to pay in some way or another. And Hamas as Robert Spencer said, Hamas survives. It's uncanny. We get 20 people back. Perhaps 20 hostages taken in the most violent, atrocious, inhumane, despicable act in, in any of our memories, I would contend Yay.

We get 20 of them back. It's astounding though, the price that Israel and therefore all of us is having to pay. Hamas is only stronger. [00:35:00] Their coalition is only stronger. They have been empowered, emboldened, and we are walking among people who somehow are not understanding what all of this means.

A week ago, when these, the 20-point plan was being presented and a lot of us were saying, oh, this is terrible. But we were told the idea is it was a package deal and if Hamas, or I guess Hamas said no, then Donald Trump gave permission to Bebe to do whatever needed to be done. That was the deal.

How did we come so far from that to here we are grateful about 20 people as we turn over the 1200 and the 250 convicted killers. How have we come so far in this weeks' time? That's this week? How have we come so far since October 7th of two years ago when a lot of us thought [00:36:00] this is such a massive.

Such, such a violent, outrageous atrocity being committed against Israel, that surely the world must rally behind Israel and take care of what is obviously such, such a major transgression. And yet what happened October 8th and there thereafter, world sentiment did not rally around Israel, but instead around the PA Palestinians.

Why? Because Qatari money funded this gigantic PR push. So, in this, in these two years, rather than the world getting increasingly on Israel's side to the contrary. And that's been extremely painful to see. But if Israel is damned if they do and damned if they don't. It is [00:37:00] very difficult for me to see it again.

All the previous speakers have said, missed opportunity, one missed opportunity after another missed opportunity. And we're seeing it again right now. We saw it with Iran. It's ex, it's unbearable to see. And as somebody who's watched history o always when the enemy is committed to destroying you, you cannot pull your punches.

You cannot give cease fighters. We see how those happen. We can, you cannot, I don't know the right verb in that goes with Hudna, but it's a terrible idea. We're seeing Deante, which does not work in a hot war. And when I think about Deante in this context, I'm reminded, committee on the present danger, the original one during Dayal, that at some point it was decided you cannot have this, you cannot commit to this bizarre, eternal [00:38:00] stasis where one side is committed to destroying the other.

You have to ensure for your own survival that those committing committed to destroying you, you must be victorious over them. And that is the part that's not happening. And I keep hearing in my mind peace in our time. I hate that keeps echoing in my head, but that is where I keep coming back to peace in our time.

And that is absolutely not a way to deal with an enemy. That's, again, more than Hamas, more than Iran. This is Islam and they are much more committed to Allah than we seem committed to. Peace. That is another very difficult conclusion to come to, but it definitely seems that way. There's supreme ignorance among us and at the highest levels of our government as to what exactly the enemy is.

And it, it's been mentioned here, we're talking about Islam. [00:39:00] You do not make deals, you do not make peace. They have a view that is far longer temporally than we do. The idea that this is peace is completely, it's completely preposterous. When they are committed to destroying you, when their entire premise, their entire existence depends on wiping Israel and Western civilization out.

You don't have; you certainly don't pull punches when you're this close. And again, it's been very difficult to see. We were watching this with AMI coming to

Power in New York. How is this even a possibility? Again, the ignorance that we keep talking about. And I'm also reminded of Golden my year statement.

When peace comes, we will perhaps in time be able to forgive the Arabs for killing our sons, but it will be harder for us to forgive them for having forced us to [00:40:00] kill their sons. I think that's such a poignant statement, but also the world is not going to forgive Israel for being forced to kill their sons.

The next sentence is, one we're all more familiar with. Peace will come when the Arabs will love their children more than they hate us. We are not there. We are not there. I think she was absolutely right, but their hatred is what drives them. We're certainly nowhere near that, that being, being changed. So, this idea of peace now, it's not a, it's not a peace deal.

It's not a peace process. It's not a, there's no peace that's going to come of this. I do hope I don't know what happens next. All the speakers before me have voiced concern and I guess in a sense despair and huge disappointment. [00:41:00] When you walk right up to the brink of actually Vic being victorious over your enemy, but you choose to not take that next step.

It's incredibly disheartening. It's emboldened them. It has made Israel look still weaker on the world stage. It's, it all does boil down to education. That our people, that globally, people are not aware of the chasm between Israel and Western civilization on the one side, Islam and hatred and a lack of freedom on the other.

And you can tell all of this by looking at how both sides value life. One values it tremendously, and that's our side. And the other is willing to let this continue to go on. And there and the assaults, we, there's most certainly gonna be [00:42:00] another October 7th because we know what their goal is and it's to bring Western civilization and Israel to its knees.

Glad to be with you. I feel just as disheartened as all the rest. I'm grateful that the hostages are being released. I hope that this is not just the beginning of another round of empty that's going to conclude in more violence, but I don't feel a lot of optimism. So, thank you for including me and thank you for this unbelievably important webinar because not enough people are talking about exactly this is a very dark day.

Frank Gaffney: Thank you, Karen. Again, I think all of us would prefer to be buoyant and uplifted and it's painful to be expressing. I think that the concerns that we have, but we must. That's why this Victory Coalition exists to speak

truthfully about the need [00:43:00] for victory over enemies who cannot be satiated through deals or agreements.

Let me do a couple of quick questions before we close out. Dr. Wurmser, who's spent an awful lot of time in the region and certainly focused on it as well. A premise of this 20-point plan, as best I can tell, and certainly on what has happened since it was rolled out, is this conviction that we have allies who can be relied upon to assist in both getting a ceasefire, getting the end of the war accomplished, and then the implementation of the various.

Arrangements whereby Gaza is cleaned up, the new government is established it [00:44:00] gets access to food and other necessities and three that are currently at the forefront of all of this. And David, you spoke a bit about this, but just to drill down on it further - Turkey, Egypt and Qatar are people who, or countries, regimes, governments, whatever you wanna call it that I personally believe are not to be relied upon to be, helpful, constructive partners in anything other than the.

Saving of Hamas and the ultimate destruction of Israel. And they may not be saying that explicitly, but I appreciate your calibration of where these folks line up and yes, there's Jordan, and [00:45:00] yes, there's the Saudis, and yes, there's the Emirates and so on. But for the moment, these three countries are at the forefront it would appear.

And I think several of you have spoken about this idea of them being, for example, involved in training new police forces or helping find the hostages or otherwise being responsible for, flows of humanitarian aid and the like, a little bit of ground truth. Clarification on all this,

Dr. David Wurmser: if you would.

Yeah, I think this is really the critical question, which is really the key here. Even more than Turkey, because I think Turkey is essentially, they are dependent on the help from Qatar, financially and so forth. Qatar gets a real nation through Turkey, and Turkey gets solvency through Qatar.

So, it's really one entity at this point and the way you know [00:46:00] this deal. But more than that, everything is structured, is essentially the assumption that Qatar is a trying to navigate itself safely between two sides and is really not a problem. It is trying to navigate the problems that the region represents as a whole, whether it's Iran, whether it's ISIS or Al-Qaeda or whatever.

And you see that leads you to the idea that it, being good navigators, maybe we should align with them and they can help us navigate. And then they come around and President Obama brought essentially told Qatar, you can set up a Hamas because Hamas headquarters there, because then that gives us ability to have you control them.

If they're in your tent, you can control them in some way and so on and so forth. But when you look at Qatar, they are the Muslim brotherhood. They are the [00:47:00] radical force. They understand how dangerous the west is. They understand after Israel's strike on Doha, which I think is a very critical element of why we have an agreement.

By the way, in the positive side, it's a very important act because I think the Qatar actually are scared. Of Prime Minister Natanya, not of Israel. But of naan and in charge of Israel. So essentially, they are trying to and then second thing about Qatar is as a Muslim brotherhood nation, a nation that fundamentally believes in the ideology of the Muslim Brotherhood, their essence is to destroy the west.

So, their essence is to ingratiate themselves enough with the west to destroy us from the inside. And if you look at 'em through that prism, every single thing Qatar has done makes sense. They've been giving money to American campuses, to [00:48:00] radicalize them against America, not just against Jews.

They've been organizing with the Turks, both organizing and funding the radicalization of European Turk Turkic expatriates. And non-Turkic Islamic expatriates, they have been the instrument along with Turkey of radicalizing. Those why to destroy Western civilization from within Hamas could not exist without the money and support from Qatar.

It is really an extension of Qatar that, again, like Qatar has elements shifting toward the Turks, sometimes toward the Iranians, but by and large it is always a threat to the West. So, if that's the way you look at it. Then we are we are unable to defend ourselves from this civilizational threat until we realize that and that's what we're going to face.

And this deal may just be part of that [00:49:00] larger question, and that really is the larger. Issue that we're dealing with. You've raised the issue of victory. Western civilization, including the Israelis, have to really ask themselves in a very reflective and careful sense what has been learned in the last two years from this war and it when we really have.

Buyer's, I don't wanna say buyer's remorse, but when we really reflect back over the next six months, after the dust settles and so forth, I think there are very serious questions. The Israelis really have to ask themselves whether there isn't still a lot of their diaspora mentality is still affecting their defense structures and so forth, and the, and their leadership and the west has to ask itself, are we mentally prepared for global conflict?

Because we are facing enemies who are not easy to de, to defeat, and they're certainly not willing to give up, whether it's the CCP, whether it's the Qatari and the Muslim Brotherhood, Al-Qaeda. These are relentless enemies in a twilight struggle [00:50:00] with us. And if we're not mentally prepared to engage and win, then it's an abysmal future, and this is now the time to fundamentally shift those paradigms.

Frank Gaffney: Yeah, David, I, there's several things that you've said that I hope are true. I'm not sure they are any longer. One, one is that this is a twilight struggle, which suggests a kind of cold war that, grinds on, but doesn't come to, blows my own conviction. And in fact, we're going to have another program sponsored by our Institute for the American Future, as is the Victory Coalition with our committee on the present Danger China.

Tomorrow at 1:00 PM Eastern Time present Danger china.org is where you can find it. And it's about the prospects that what the Chinese are doing here in the United States is essentially a series of steps preparatory to beginning a kinetic fight. [00:51:00] Inside our nation not to be missed. As it comes on top of what we're talking about here, another entrant in the struggle to destroy Western civilization.

The Chinese Communist Party, working with the Sharia supremacists who are also working with globalists to that end, different ultimate outcomes, but to get rid of us for sure in the in the immediate future. Let me ask you, Karen. There's a report and mentioned was made of this earlier in connection with I think Pesic said twisting Bebe's arm to get him to go along with the program.

That is for reasons we've discussed here, profoundly problem. From Israel's point of view, especially as it moved from the take it or leave it package that was initially offered and predictably moved into the bizarre [00:52:00] where the haggling Yes, sets in and it all starts coming unraveled and uglier by the day.

But there is a report that it's to the effect that what President Trump has actually been doing is not simply twisting Bebe's arm, but bullying him. And I asked this

as an admirer of President Trump and someone who wants him to be successful. Whether, if that is the deal that is now agreed, we're told and that the questions that have been raised about what its durability is.

How Trump will respond if the Israelis come to the conclusion that this is really going bad, sideways, in a very big way. Whether that bullying is likely to, in fact translate into even more intense opposition to Israel, even greater punishment of Israel and feed into some of the sentiments that we've been talking about in the [00:53:00] country at the moment.

I think Colonel Harvey talked about, the Democrats all being now uniformly anti-Zionist. Yes. And some in the Republican influencer circle doing so as well. Your thoughts?

Dr. Karen Siegemund: Oh, it goes from bad to worse, doesn't it? One likes to imagine that there's more going on behind the scenes than we're aware of, but one likes to imagine that whatever's going on behind the scenes is better than we actually see.

Not in fact. Worse. And the feeling that I'm getting is that it is worse. And I agree. I'm sure I don't wanna I'm not gonna guess if there's arm twisting or bullying. I don't know. It is possible that Bibb has been told prime Minister Netanyahu has been told this is as good as it's going to get.

But I think it was Dr. Wurmser who, who talked about the paradigm [00:54:00] out of which this agreement was born. And with that paradigm comes a set of premises. And those premises clearly are that whatever. The reality is Israel must be perceived as being in the wrong. That's just everything that I read.

That seems to be the premise. That is the paradigm, that is the underlying theme of all of this. It seems, it's the underlying theme of everything that we're dealing with right now. To so Frank, to answer your question, will this only make things worse in terms of global perspective on Israel?

Absolutely. It already makes them look like the guilty party. And add to that, the immense investment Kotter has made here in the us This is, has been mentioned in universities, in ed, our education system against Israel, TikTok. But also, let's [00:55:00] not forget the immigration that's been going on, not only here, but throughout, throughout the west, Western Europe is already.

Occupied civilizational Jihad. So already these seeds have been sown globally that are very anti-Israel. This does not help it. I don't know how we do help it.

And you mentioned tomorrow committee on the present Danger China. Again, as I think about Deante, which is a terrible idea, what in, in, anyways it's, but it's a better idea in a Cold War situation than in a hot war.

We are in a hot war situation. But it did get me thinking maybe a committee on the pre on present danger Islam might not be a bad idea. And that may be exactly what this is under a different name. But we need to really accept, as you're gonna be talking about with China and their incursions here and all [00:56:00] the dam damage danger, that they're doing unrestricted warfare.

It's not entirely dissimilar. And you're talking tomorrow about should it go kinetic? This is kinetic. It's already kinetic. It's not kinetic here in this country yet, but it absolutely is. Kinetic. Israel is an outpost of ours. All the hits that they're taking for us their enemies as you point out our enemies.

And it seems again, to me that everything that's happening now has only emboldened those enemies. The only people who look like they're, they have a reason to be chagrined. Somehow Israel is being put in that position and it's stunning. So again, kudos for having this this such an important webinar because I'm, we need to be part of setting that record straight.

Israel is not the bad guy. They have been taking the hits on our account in [00:57:00] defense of Western civilization in a corner of the world that wants nothing more than to wipe them off the face of the map. And we need to take that to heart in all our words and deeds and language and deal making.

Everything that we do, we need to recognize that reality.

Frank Gaffney: Thank you, Karen. David, let me come back to you and Karen, you may wanna comment on this too, but in your presentation, you surmised that what will come of all of this is a very difficult. Past where Israel concludes that, as I said earlier, that the deal has gone bad.

But the White House, the president the US government will not countenance the idea that what has been the object of so much enthusiastic support [00:58:00] has now actually come a cropper let alone that Israel is going to unilaterally take action to try to compensate for what's gone wrong or reopen, the operations that that could actually defeat Tomas hopefully in the near future.

I ask you this in the context of Iran. Because the Iranians you have. Pointed out to me on these programs and I think and our show Securing America, that they are re-arming. They are very aggressively getting back into the business having

lost considerable amount of kit and personnel and other resources to the Israelis in particularly that 12-day period.

The government of the United States, as best I could tell, doesn't want to hear about that, is not [00:59:00] is not open to the idea that the Israelis are gonna go back at it with the Iranians. Is that the model? Or is it possible that what seems to be a different model that was established in Lebanon would pertain though?

I understand that. Hezbollah is now, feeling its oats and I'm sure they will more so as a result of this deal. How do you see what's happening in those two other places as bearing on what might come about in this context in Gaza?

Dr. David Wurmser: Yeah, I think connecting it to the regional strategic is very important here as you do on a positive side, not the deal itself.

But overall, what has been accomplished over the last two years by Israel and defeating the Iranian Ring of fire and the axis of Iran is tremendous. They really have there's still the technical issue of the nuclear program, the missiles, which the Israelis may take care of, which you've alluded to but overall, the [01:00:00] damage done to Iran is immense.

And that's probably bought some. Not peace because the thing with Iran is still out there, but it's definitely reduced the security environment of threat around Israel immediately that allows this Gaza deal to proceed for a while. But it really now goes back to the core question, which is the willpower of Israel and the United States spec specifically to understand the rules now have to change, and that starts with Lebanon, Syria, Iran, and Yemen.

Okay, so Gaza's, Gaza, maybe this was baked into the DNA of this war from day one through the hostages and the fact that Israeli society was not prepared to put its strategic interests above the hostages. And maybe that was just inevitable. And Trump did what he could. But he couldn't do, he couldn't give Israel the reprioritization that would've been [01:01:00] necessary.

But there are these other fronts. And so now the real question emerges about those other fronts. There's no deals, there's no ceasefires, there's no promises of ceasefires. There's only raw willpower here that does Israel do have the will to act and does the United States have the will to let them.

We see in Lebanon, they're already challenging the government there. They're not at disarming. In Syria, we can dress it up with as many suits and as many ties as we want. This is Al-Qaeda, and they're acting that way. They're acting

that way against their minorities when Syrians themselves tell you, don't believe 'em, we shouldn't believe them.

So, Syria's another front. The Israelis are staying on the Mount Shamon outpost for the moment. They're continuing to defend Suada. So, the question is that security determination going to apply and be expanded to deal with the threat of Turkey [01:02:00] emerging on Iran? It's a straight out, Iran is not done.

It and it won't be done. Until the regime is gone. If Israel has some sort of an understanding with President Trump, then Israel may be able to do such a victory in Iran by bringing down the regime that it has bought itself a decade or two or three, and then it can really go into the next rounds differently prepared if mentally it understands there will be a next round and spends 10, 20, 30 years preparing for that next round.

As far as President Trump goes himself, one thing I do have to say, in his defense, he is a man of his word. He does not lie. And he seems to be quite taken by pride in the fact that if he promises something, he will fulfill his promise. And in the 20-point plan, and even in a statement yesterday, he is indicating [01:03:00] that he won't tolerate the.

Ming of Hamas. And he even said if they continued armed then Israel can continue to do what it needs to do. So, I'm, while there are these expectations and the feeling of don't, if it's not fully broken, don't mess with it. The momentum and inertia of ceasefire will take over.

He still has these promises that he has said to the Israelis in public that I'm not sure Trump will easily give up on. So, I'm not sure he's the biggest problem. I think the bigger problem is the Israeli willpower.

Frank Gaffney: Dr. Siegemund any thoughts from you on this final point that where the president's commitment will leave us commitment to Israel to finish the job?

If this steel comes a cropper, his commitment to ensuring that Iran does not get nuclear weapons. His commitment to I [01:04:00] think Western civilization is pretty much on the line here. And your final thoughts on both now that is likely to play out and anything that you might offer that we could do to help it come out the right way.

Dr. Karen Siegemund: You'll see behind me from the Jerusalem post, promises made, promises kept, that was given to me right after the embassy was

moved to Jerusalem. I agree with Dr. Wurmer that he is a man who does wanna keep his promises at the same time. And I have zero doubt in my mind that he has a deep love of Israel.

I'm not entirely sure that the word peace means the same thing to all of us. I think the opposite of war is not all necessarily peace. Often it's surrender, and I think we have to be very cautious of that. A lasting peace comes with the kind of willpower that Dr. Wurmsen is mentioning that we may not [01:05:00] have.

I hope that we do, but do we have the will to get involved in whatever global conflict might be required? I don't know. Just do hope that when we talk about peace, we are talking about something that is lasting, that is durable, that has meaning, and that isn't just a stop gap until the next chaos because the enemy has not been defeated.

You need to defeat this enemy. We learn this after the Cold War and we did win. So, I do hope that when we talk about peace, we mean the same thing. And, but I do believe that this president has been the best friend to Israel that they have ever had. And I hope to see that played out in a way that's more positive than my fears bring me to be worried about.

Frank Gaffney: Well, lemme just say in [01:06:00] conclusion I think that the jury is still out. On how history will record the President's commitment to Israel. It has, by and large been extraordinary to this point, no doubt about it. I share the concerns that several of you have expressed about, aside from Iran and aside from now Hamas, the support has been, tremendous and highly commendable.

But ending the 12-day war in Iran and now ending the conflict in Gaza is, I fear, I think, David, you said this very explicitly, I fear is going to be regarded by history as strategic mistakes of the first order. Much will depend on how [01:07:00] it's played out now. But there's no doubt that Israel's enemies and ours have been emboldened by what they've seen here.

And I think as is their doctrine, as we saw from our friend Robert Spencer, almost assuredly going to be manifested by further aggressive behavior and the willingness on the part of the usual suspects to aid and abet them. We've talked about Turkey and Qatar. I don't want to leave without noting that Egypt as well, seemingly, has now become much more in the thrall of these sharia supremacists and has been arming as Dr.

Warner has pointed out here and elsewhere. To the teeth in the Sinai, in some cases very directly in violation of the peace deal with [01:08:00] Israel. And it

would seem with a view to engaging militarily as well against the Jewish state. So, with friends like these and others of course as well, but particularly Qatar, particularly Turkey we have a very fraught situation.

And I think it's absolutely imperative that what we see from President Trump that will determine how history judges his conduct in this matter is a willingness when it, not, if, when it is shown that this track has failed. Hopefully before I. The bloodletting resumes in earnest and perhaps on a scale that we've not seen to this point but attacks on Israel from all of the various quarters that are engaged militarily against her, that we will see the President standing fully [01:09:00] with Prime Minister Netanyahu, hopefully, and his people, and ensuring that as we have tried to make the light motif of this program, that a decisive victory over the Sharia supremacists is achieved by Israel with our help and to our benefit as well as that of Israel, but also the Judeo-Christian civilization.

We'll be back with more of these programs in the days to come. As we monitor closely how all of this is playing out and as we try to the best of our ability to make the case for victory, but also to explain and clearly warn about the dangers associated with the alternative. I wanna thank our wonderful presenters, [01:10:00] Robert Spencer, ick, David Wurmser, Derek Harvey and Karen Siegemund for an incredibly important conversation.

We look forward to getting them back with updates for all of you. In the meantime, I hope that you will take advantage of this document, this this product rather, and make it available to those you love, those who you work with, those who you live beside in your communities as well as, those who have a need to know as your representatives.

Time may not be on our side. It is vital that we be very clear about what our preferences are in all of this. With those representatives and with the American people more generally. We hope we will help you do that with this program. God bless you [01:11:00] all.