Special Report 121, Israel Under Attack



(Released Israeli abductees and their families)

A Spontaneous and Moral Protest?

Recent anti-Israel protests are portrayed as a spontaneous uprising of student indignation against the Gaza war. Truth be told, **behind the misguided young protesters is an organized movement aiming at the spread disorder**. The tactics underlying many demonstrations are the result of months of training, planning and encouragement by longtime activists and leftwing groups. At Columbia University, months earlier, student organizers began consulting with groups such as the National Students for Justice in Palestine, veterans of campus protests and former Black Panthers. They researched past protests and attended a **"teach-in" put on by several former Black Panthers**. "We took notes from our elders, engaged in dialogue analyzed how the university responded to previous protests," said Sueda Polat, a graduate student and organizer in the pro-Palestinian encampment.

Extended connections are maintained between far-left groups and the protesters. The National Students for Justice in Palestine (NSJP) has over 300 chapters across the U.S., many of which helped organize the college encampments and occupations. Some student organizations say they received help from veteran activists outside their schools.

The NSJP posted on X drawings with "friendly advice" to protesting students: wear comfortable clothes and running shoes and bring water, an energy bar and a bandanna in case of surveillance. **The police were referred to as "pigs":** "If someone is arrested, don't linger too long or pigs will kettle the march. Free the comrade, or else get their name and birthdate for jail support and keep it moving." For the last decade, donations to NSJP have been received and administered by the New York-based nonprofit Westchester People's Action Committee Foundation, according to Howard Horowitz, WESPAC's board chairman. The donations are "**for projects in the United States**," he said, declining to provide further details. WESPAC has supported humanitarian issues, as well as organizations that propagate antisemitism, according to the Anti-Defamation League.

In March, a "Resistance 101" training was scheduled at Columbia with guest speakers including longtime activists with Samidoun, Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network, that celebrated the October 7 Hamas attack on Israel. The administration barred the event twice,

citing some of the organizers' known support of terrorism and promotion of violence. Columbia students hosted the event virtually nonetheless, for which several students were suspended. According to a recording posted on YouTube, Samidoun coordinator Charlotte Kates encouraged students "to build an international popular cradle of the resistance": **"There is nothing wrong with being a member Hamas**, being a leader Hamas, being a fighter Hamas. These are the people that are on the front lines defending Palestine."

CrimethInc.com, a website hub for anarchists, Antifa activists and radical leftists, published anonymous reports from around the country drawing lessons from various campus protests. They reveal the method behind the mayhem—and a plan to use violence and break the law. "It's clear that **in order for this crisis to develop further**, student occupations should take buildings whenever possible," says an analysis of events at Cal Poly Humboldt. "We can wield the most power by occupying the spaces where classes are held, and administrators have offices ... The basic premise of the encampment is already an escalation that the cops will meet with force," the memo adds, so "**organizers should not concern themselves with de-escalation or 'remaining peaceful.' Be prepared to escalate your actions** in order to continue making it more expensive—materially, financially, or socially" for administrators "to remain complicit than to divest" their endowments from Israel.

This suggests the futility of negotiating with most protesters. University of Illinois administrators described in a campus-safety memo how police "officers made the decision to deescalate the situation and stepped back to reduce the risk of injury to themselves or the demonstrators" after protesters used "pieces of lumber as well as other physical tools and objects to push the officers back." The occupiers took this as a sign of "regime" retreat and **a signal to escalate the protests**. CrimethInc lauds these protesters for being "prepared to push and de-arrest as needed" and offers specific advice on useful tools: "Plywood, insulation board, lumber, scrap wood, metal sheeting, garbage cans, and water barrels can all be used as raw materials, and some can even be sourced from campus dumpsters." A dispatch from the University of Texas at Austin encourages protestors to "surround" and "force out the police."

In other words, the spreading protest movement is not a political accident. It's part of a larger strategy to **spread disorder and bend US policy** to the left's demands. Trying to appease this law-breaking will encourage more of it.

The Grim Arithmetic of a Just War

By Lance Morrow (Mr. Morrow is a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center and author of "The Noise of Typewriters: Remembering Journalism), THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, Friday, May 3, 202, pg. A15

I was born in September 1939, the month Hitler marched into Poland. My earliest memories are of World War II. America's men—including several of my uncles, all incredibly young were called up and sent overseas. The home front had a wistful innocence, touched with fear. An emptiness. The long suspense. Hiroshima broke the spell. I remember images of a mushroom cloud—something entirely new in the world—on the front pages of the Washington Post and the Evening Star. That terrible flash brought the end of the war. As the years passed, mixed feelings would settle in, the moral fallout. Out of Europe emerged other images that lodged deep in the mind. These were scenes from the grainy, flickering films of the concentration camps, in which bulldozers pushed skeletal corpses into mass graves and the living dead in filthy striped pajamas hung on the wire, their eyes dark and staring and filled with unknowable horror. That was the American child's first sight of evil.

What's the arithmetic in Gaza? Is the Israeli invasion in response to the October 7 massacres a necessary evil? Or just an evil? Arithmetic is bitter in that part of the world. In the Black September of 1970, Jordan's King Hussein saved his kingdom from Palestinian *fedayeen* by killing 25,000 of them. That was Yasser Arafat's count; some said the figure was lower. In the 1980s, the Iran-Iraq war produced one million or two million casualties even as, nearby in Syria, Hafez al-Assad responded to a 1982 Muslim Brotherhood uprising by reducing much of the city of Hama to Carthaginian rubble. In three weeks, he killed tens of thousands of his own people. One account stated that Assad's forces "combed the wreckage of the city for survivors, torturing and executing suspected members of the resistance." Thomas Friedman of the New York Times coined the phrase "Hama Rules." Assad's son and successor, Bashar al-Assad, employs his father's tactics against rebel enclaves, using nerve agents and chlorine, destroying hospitals, schools and markets.

Hamas operates by Hama Rules. Pro-Palestinian demonstrators don't tell us how Israel should respond when assaulted thus. A cease-fire now wouldn't be enough, in this view—if Israel had any decency, it would vanish from the face of the earth. Next morning, the land from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea would revert to the fig tree and the olive grove and the plashing of fountains: to the prelapsarian, pre-1948 never land of all-Palestinian Palestine. And all would be well. From the river to the sea, the land would be, in the Nazis' wistful term, *judenrein*— cleansed of Jews.

In Gaza the cost in innocent Palestinian lives is high. The arithmetic is bitter indeed. But the grown-up world, if it still exists, must face it. Decent people grieve for the Palestinians. They are victims of Hamas, of its evil leadership and deeds. Demonstrators who call for the extinction of Israel and even for the killing of Jews are, at the least, guilty of inexcusable naiveté about evil, terrorism and the darkness that may easily descend. They haven't the knowledge of history or sense of tragedy to understand how horror—surreal and satanic—will suddenly evolve. It could happen here. Some of these people wish it *would* happen here. They promise that Oct. 7 will be repeated a thousand times.

That day, with its gleeful mutilations, its rampages, its rapes and beheadings, its babykilling—such evil needs crushing, just as slavery needed crushing at Gettysburg, which was the turning point of the American Civil War. In three days, 50,000 men were killed or wounded there. A just war, no less than an unjust one, may involve tragic arithmetic.

Rafah

While negotiations were being held for an extended ceasefire and what US and Egyptian officials described as "very generous" Israeli offer to release thousands of Hamas militants captured by Israel, in exchange for the release of 33 women, children, injured and elderly abductees held by Hamas, **Hamas staged a missile and mortar attack** on the Kerem Shalom crossing that serves as the main channel for humanitarian aid being brought from Israel into Gaza, forcing its closure. **Four Israeli soldiers were killed and 10 injured**, some of them serverly. The missiles were fired from the close vicinity of a civilian "safe area", hoping to provoke Israel to attack and **cause further civilian casualties**. In this topsy-turvy would of

doublespeak, now Hamas accuses Israel of "terrorism". **Negotiations ceased** when, following the attack, Hamas official reiterated their demand that, prior to any release of abductees, Israel commit to end the war and the International community provide guarantees to that end and in response, **Israel began relocating civilians in Rafah to a safe area** to the west of the city, where a tent city that includes clinics, storehouses packed with food and other facilities have been established. Rafah is Hamas's last military stronghold.

At the same time, **Israel indicated it is willing to stall or perhaps desist from entering Rafah if Hamas is willing to renew negotiations in good faith**. Israeli troops also begun have preparations for renewed incursions into other part of the Gaza Strip, where they would target Hamas militants, tunnels, launch pads, weapon caches and other infrastructure.

In the North, On Sunday **Hezbollah fired 80 missiles into Israeli cities and villages**. Two civilians were injured and extensive damage to homes was incurred. The Israel border town of Metula is being systematically destro0yed by Hezbollah missiles.