

Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid – Major Fabrications and Distortions

“Everything in the book is completely accurate.”

President Jimmy Carter during his November 27, 2006 interview on the Larry King Show.

1. President Carter claims that U.N. Resolution 242 calls on Israel to return all territories occupied during the June 1967 Six Day War and return to its pre-War borders (page 125, [Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid](#))

U.N. Resolution 242 does not call on Israel to return to its pre- Six Day War borders. In fact, it was the British ambassador to the U.N., Lord Caradon, who introduced the resolution who subsequently explained, “It would have been wrong to demand Israel return to its positions of June 4, 1967.”

2. President Carter claims that there would be peace if Israel would only return to its pre-1967 borders. (page 242, [Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid](#))

The Palestine Liberation Movement was formed several years before the Six Day War, when there were no conquered territories. The movement’s obvious intent was to “liberate” Israel proper. To this very day, the ruling party of the Palestinian legislature, Hamas, has reiterated its policy of no compromise with the Jewish State and the determination to regain what they deem to be “historical Palestine,” including the State of Israel. This is also the view of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah.

3. President Carter describes Yasser Arafat as a man of peace, quoting him as having said, “The PLO (Palestinian Liberation Organization) has never advocated the annihilation of Israel.” (page 62, [Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid](#))

President Carter has apparently forgotten about the PLO’s charter that called for the destruction of the Jewish State: “The liberation of Palestine will destroy the Zionist imperialist presence...the Arab Palestinian people reject all solutions which are substitutes for the total liberation of Palestine...the Balfour Declaration...and everything that has been based on them are null and void...claims of historical or religious ties of Jews with Palestine are incompatible with the facts of history.”

4. U.S. policy has always been that Israel’s borders be those prior to the 1967 War. (page 207, [Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid](#))

President Carter has chosen to forget President Johnson’s declaration of June 19, 1967 that “the nations of the region have had only fragile and violated truce lines for 20 years, what they need now are recognized boundaries...that will give them security against terror, destruction and war.” President Carter also ignored the comments of President Nixon to Henry Kissinger in 1973 that, “You and I both know they (the Israelis) can’t go back to the other borders.” In 1982, President Reagan stated, “In the pre-1967 borders, Israel was barely ten miles long at its narrowest point. The bulk of Israel’s population lived within artillery range of hostile armies. I am not about to ask Israel to live that way again.”

Finally, President Clinton’s Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, said, “I would like to reiterate our position that Israel is entitled to secure and defensible borders, which shall be directly negotiated and agreed with its neighbors.” President Carter’s remarks are therefore not in sync with the opinions of at least four Presidents of the United States.

5. President Carter states that Israel has given little autonomy to the Palestinians in the disputed territories. (page 51-52, Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid)

The Oslo Agreement, forged in 1993, created the Palestinian Authority and put Palestinians in charge of their own security, educational and civic institutions in the West Bank and Gaza. The Palestinians were also given charge of their own media. Israel handed over two fifths of the West Bank and the entire Gaza Strip to the Palestinian Authority. Less than 5% of the Palestinian population now lives in territories under Israeli control. Furthermore, the only time Israeli soldiers enter the territories is when Palestinians launch attacks against Israel, and the Palestinian Authority is either unwilling or unable to stop them.

6. "Since August, 2004, Hamas has not committed a single act of terrorism that cost an Israeli life, not one." (PBS Newshour interview, November 28, 2006)

On 8/31/04, 16 people were killed and 100 injured in two suicide bus bombings in the city of Beersheba. A month later (9/29/04), two nursery school children lost their lives in a rocket attack. On July 14, 2005, an Israeli woman lost her life in a rocket attack. In all three cases, Hamas accepted responsibility.

7. A proposal put forth by Palestinians held in Israeli jails referred to as the "Prisoners' Proposal" calls for a unified Palestinian government, release of all political prisoners and acceptance of Israel's right to exist. (page 214, Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid)

The "Prisoners' Document" makes no mention about accepting Israel's right to exist. In fact, Abdul Rahman Zidan, a Palestinian Authority minister, told reporters, "You will not find one word in the document clearly stating the recognition of Israel as a state."

8. "Of 1,696 voting places outside Jerusalem (during Palestinian elections), there were problems in only two. Three Palestinians were...killed by Israeli police at a checkpoint in Jenin..." (page 145, Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid)

*President Carter ignored the most important part of the story, namely that the world media including **The Associated Press** and **The New York Times** reported that the Palestinians had first opened fire on the Israeli security forces.*

9. "Let me refer now to the controversial word [apartheid] again....Nelson Mandela visited the territories and used the same description..." (President Carter speaking at Brandeis University, January 23, 2007)

This is a complete fabrication. No record of Mandela's supposed remarks exist.

10. President Carter maintains that the attacks against him are ad hominem (personal), that have little to do with the facts as presented in his book. (interview with the *Boston Globe*)

Middle East historian Kenneth Stein handed in his resignation to the Carter Center explaining that the former President's new book was, "replete with factual errors...superficialities, glaring omissions and simply invented segments." Others who resigned from the Carter Center Advisory Board added, "We can no longer endorse your strident and uncompromising position. We are deeply troubled by the President's comments and writings...this is not the Carter Center or the Jimmy Carter we have come to respect and support."

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