

LaRouche: Stop That War Now!

This statement was issued by the candidate's LaRouche-in-2004 Presidential campaign on Aug. 2.

The danger grows rapidly, that Israel will proceed with its indicated intent to go beyond its presently ongoing campaign of systematic murders, to full-scale invasion of the so-called "Area A" territories presently under titular control by the Palestinian authorities. Under this condition, the U.S. and other governments must take effective forms of immediate emergency actions to chill the Israeli government into a state of self-restraint.

President George W. Bush has the means to conduct the international initiative which would bring this about; he should deploy his authority and resources to do so with finality.

Such a concert among governments must act on the basis of foreknowledge of the consequences of their failure to stop the Israeli avalanche of war now, before it is too late to prevent a generalized, spreading state of religious

warfare through much of Eurasia and beyond. The murder campaign being conducted by the Sharon government is already a clear violation of the prohibition against war crimes, adopted at the post-World War II Nuremberg tribunal. However, the fact to be emphasized, is that those actions are not only criminal, but, worse, are causing the present government of Israel to slide deeper and deeper into the criminal state of mind in which it will become more and more inclined to perpetrate, or to provoke even worse atrocities against humanity, over ever wider areas.

It must be recognized, that the true authors of this warfare are neither Israelis nor Arabs, but those co-thinkers of the Brzezinski-Huntington doctrine who desire an Israel-sparked launching of generalized religious warfare, as a way of disrupting present trends toward economic cooperation in Eurasia. Nonetheless, although those are ultimately the real criminals in this situation, we must act to prevent the Israeli spark from being used to ignite the oil of general religious warfare.

The U.S.A. and its partners have the means to bring the Israeli war to a halt now. Later, once the holocaust of "religious war" is ignited at the Dome of the Rock, it may be too late for civilization for some decades yet to come.

—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

lead to a regional war. Egypt, Iran, Jordan, and other Arab states are now taking military preparations for their own defense. Egypt is quietly mobilizing reserves. Iran is reportedly also preparing a defensive war. Syria and Lebanon, declared targets of Sharon, are bracing as well. In the event the Palestinians were to be expelled into Jordan, and that country destabilized, it is not excluded by some regional analysts, that Iraq could intervene.

Sharon Will Not Stop

Held back at point A, Sharon struck at point B, ordering Israeli assault helicopters to attack targets in Nablus. The July 31 rocket attack killed a journalist, a grocer, and two children ages 8 and 10, along with Hamas political representatives: a new escalation of military operations aimed at destroying the Palestinian political leadership. Despite official Israeli "self-defense" explanations, even the Israeli press called this a calculated move by Sharon to escalate the violence. According to the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* on Aug. 2, Sharon ordered the attack while in possession of intelligence reports indicating that Hamas had postponed all suicide attacks because of pressure from the Palestinian Authority. Furthermore, Israeli military reported that the Palestinian Authority had, in fact, prior to July 31, begun to act preemptively to prevent attacks.

Moreover, the two slain Hamas leaders, Salim Damoni

and Jamal Mansour, were not part of the military wing, but higher level political leaders. Though hard-core supporters of the Intifada, they nonetheless were part of the Hamas wing cooperating with Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat, and in the past had been open to settlement with Israel. *Ha'aretz* interviewed them in 1994, and quoted one, "The need to reach mutual understandings in the area requires us to prevent attacks on civilians on both sides." The seven-story building the Israeli Defense Force targeted was not a military operations center, but a Center for Communications Studies, also housing a psychiatric clinic and private apartments.

Palestinian Culture Minister Yasser Abed Rabo denounced the attack saying, "This was the massacre of civilians in a populated building. The leaders killed were political; and everyone who knew them knew they were political. . . . Every Israeli who doesn't condemn this attack should be ashamed of himself."

Israeli intelligence sources acknowledge that this escalation represents a policy of killing precisely those whose role in negotiation is essential to stop the conflict. One Israeli source said, "The question in my mind is: What is the motive for this attack? Was it so-called self-defense, or was it done with the intention of generating an escalation on both sides? They are killing the guys we are going to have to negotiate with, and that is going to lead to a real disaster." He fears that