

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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Pro-Israel militancy is no remedy for protests

Philadelphia: I am very concerned about David Blumenfeld's call for a resurgence of the Jewish Defense League ("Confronting bigots for Jew hatred," op-ed, Nov. 13). I'm not sure what is more disturbing, his original article or the fact that you printed it. The JDL was a hate group, according to both the Southern Poverty Law Center and the Anti-Defamation League, a Jewish organization. It was responsible for murders and bombings. The most notorious incident was the mass murder of Palestinians at the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron by Baruch Goldstein.

The current protests for Palestinian rights come from the active genocide described in South Africa's 84-page submission to the International Court of Justice. Even if you are unwilling to admit to the well-documented case, Palestinians have been subjected to ethnic cleansing by Israel since the 1948 event called the Nakba. Israel has been sanctioned for its treatment of the Palestinians quite a few times by the United Nations. It has continued making illegal settlements in the occupied territories in violation of Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention and in breach of international declarations.

Blumenfeld should contemplate why the protests have become so forceful, given that the Israeli government has ghettoized the Palestinian people in their homeland. I'm sure he believes that Jews in ghettos during the Holocaust were correct in revolting. He should realize that one needs to treat others as he would like to be treated, and that Palestinians might be correct in their response to Israeli occupation. People who say "never again" shouldn't advocate committing genocide.

James Bannerman



SHAWN INGLIMA FOR NYDN

Off-putting protests

Brooklyn: Maybe if the pro-Palestinian protesters also condemned the Hamas atrocities, i.e. mutilating women and children, they would have more support. Instead, Americans have to listen to idiotic, hateful statements from college professors and their ilk that they were exhilarated by the Hamas savagery. Americans are fair-minded, decent people who see the leadership of the Palestinian people for what they are: terrorist murderers. They are not going to support this abomination. *Robert Weissbard*

Unjust cause

Manhattan: I find it difficult to understand why the people who are so busy stopping traffic in honor of the Gaza Palestinians who may or may not be members of Hamas have no feeling for the innocent hostages of Hamas. The hostages did not send their children out with bombs strapped to them or encourage their children to throw stones (causing pain at the least). They were just trying to lead their lives while having rockets aimed at them. Yes, I feel sorry for Palestinians who are kept in camps while Hamas receives money from Arab sources that it uses for armaments and to keep its people in a situation that is guaranteed to instill and perpetuate anger and frustration. But stop being bleeding hearts and face reality. Hamas won't be satisfied until there are no Jews in Israel. And a

double shame on Jews who back that situation. *Marilyn Levin*

Ethnic cleansing campaign

Brooklyn: Ardent Zionists continue to howl about faux "antisemitism" as their Gazan genocide continues. We are up to 23,000 Palestinian deaths. Benjamin Netanyahu's right-wing ministers are now saying the quiet part out loud: Cleanse Gaza of all Palestinians. This has been the pernicious plan from the start. In the near future, we are likely to witness an Andrew Jackson-style Trail of Tears: the forced removal of Palestinians so that Israel can "make the desert bloom," presumably by stealing water as well as land. Israel is fast attaining the pariah status it richly deserves and is soon to be in the same dreadful league as Russia and North Korea. However, when the American gravy train runs out, I give Israel about another 10 or 20 years, tops. Then the Palestinians will attain what's rightfully theirs. Patience will pay off. *Nick Smith*

Bad and worst

Cambria Heights: To Voicer Thomas Bell: Yes, I deeply regret voting for Mayor Adams! He makes Bill de Blasio look like a good mayor. However, as Adams may be the bottom of the barrel, Curtis Sliwa is most definitely underneath that very same barrel! *Terri Gilbert*

No free rides

Brooklyn: State Sen. Michael Gianaris (yeah, the guy who

killed the Amazon project in Long Island City several years ago) has another brilliant idea: make all bus rides free to the public ("Let's take a ride on the free bus," op-ed, Jan. 9). Now, I like getting something for free just like everyone else, but who is he kidding? Nothing is free. Secondly, if you read between the lines, think: Somebody's got to be footing the bill for this. You got it — the taxpayers! Does he really think we're that stupid to not realize it? *George Nader*

Loving care

Patterson, N.Y.: Recently, I spent a week in the hospital. I want to personally thank the doctors, LPNs, RNs, patient care technicians, the dietary, maintenance and wound care staffs and lastly, the "Angels of Mercy" nursing staff! This entire team was incredibly helpful to my family and I during a very scary time! We're exceptionally lucky to have such quality hospital care given by the people at Putnam Hospital Center in Carmel, N.Y.! Thank you! *Kevin-Michael Treco*

Cops abroad

Kew Gardens Hills: Re "NYPD global counterterrorism's private support" (op-ed, Jan. 8): "Join the Navy and see the world" was a popular recruiting slogan in the 1950s. It should be updated to: "Join the NYPD and see the world," at least for 16 investigative officers stationed overseas under the International Liaison Program, partially funded by taxpayers.

No other municipal police department has such a program because it's not necessary. The ILP duplicates the work of U.S intelligence agencies like the CIA and FBI, both of which blasted the NYPD for "freelancing" a counterterrorism program established with no oversight. Brooklyn City Councilman Chi Ossé also criticized the NYPD for sending cops overseas who are desperately needed at home. The NYPD faces a force reduction to 29,000 officers in 2025 due to projected budget cuts. This shortage caused police overtime pay to hit a record high of \$155 million last year. Deploying cops overseas under these dire circumstances is "globaloney" *Richard Reif*

RIP

Brooklyn: Joe Esposito was by far the greatest man I ever met in my life, and I knew a few. This is a great loss to the people of this city. Rest in peace, Joe. God bless your family. Thank you. *Louie Scarella*

In sickness, in health

Marco Island, Fla.: Re Mary Lou Retton: Just a thought — shouldn't all U.S.A. athletes named to the Olympic team get health insurance for life? *Jeff Tkacs*

Farmhand rights

Baldwinsville, N.Y.: New York's agriculture industry believes in fairness for everyone working on farms. Farmworkers deserve to have their freedom of speech

and due process rights protected. The industry is working to amend and improve the Farm Laborers Fair Labor Practices Act (FLFLPA) because currently, farmworkers are not provided the same collective bargaining rights as private sector workers. N.Y.'s agriculture industry is advocating to change the union certification process from a card check system to a secret ballot election, which is the right of all other workers in America. Importantly, this would protect the integrity of the voting process for workers. And unlike every other union member across the country, under the FLFLPA, farmworkers do not have the right to choose to no longer be represented or to decertify. The industry is advocating to change this in order to protect farmworkers' constitutional right of freedom of association. *Brian Reeves*

Double-take

Staten Island: To Voicer Alan Stanley: I noticed that too in Sunday's Jumble. I had to look twice. They never do that. *Maria Saporito*

Cockamamy conspiracy

Brooklyn: A ludicrous claim has been made by the MAGAts cult that the insurrection was perpetrated by leftists, BLM, FBI and/or Antifa. If you believe that the left dressed up to appear to be Trump supporters to reverse the outcome of an election they'd just won, well, you must be some special kind of stupid. *Stan Rosenson*