

## Free Press Editorial- "Blame The Jews"

Contributed by The High Desert Advocate  
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A virulent anti-Semitic screed more commonly found on Jihadi and Nazi blogs was the lead editorial on the Elko Daily Free Press's Saturday print edition.

"I was flabbergasted," said Pam Zohar of the Elko County Jewish Community. "It was absolutely appalling and disgusting.

The editorial was written by Gary Jacobucci of Wells, who the Free Press identified as the newspaper's political commentator. What the newspaper failed to tell its readers is that Jacobucci is a contributor to a whole host of White Supremacist/Holocaust denying web sites. Other pieces Jacobucci has written include praises for the founder of the Ku Klux Klan and conspiracy theories of how Jews and the Vatican rule the world.

The editorial regurgitated a variety of White Supremacist/Islamic fundamentalist claims that have been thoroughly debunked by serious historians. It republished below. The piece has also been picked up by several Al Qaida affiliated websites as well as those by the so-called Christian identity white supremacist sites. It was also posted by Jacobucci on Libertarian websites prompting several response similar to the one posted by a blogger identified as humancitizen1pittsburgh, PA "Dude, you are ridiculously insane. Seriously. ... I'm so relieved that people like you are not ruining, I mean running, our country."

Where it has yet to be reproduced is on the Free Press's own website, on the grounds that it might be too controversial said publisher Jeff Mullins. In a Monday meeting with area Jews, including High Desert Advocate publisher Howard Copelan, Mullins said he had read and approved the editorial before it was published.

"Of all all the things he said to us, that was the most outrageous," Copelan said. "I was expecting an explanation like he left the keys to the office to the village idiot but to have actually read it and approved it before it went to press is retarded."

Unlike any other libel or slander, Holocaust denial and or revision has been judicially noticed in the United States which means any plaintiff need not have to prove the case. The Evidence Code permits the Court to take judicial notice of "facts and propositions of generalized knowledge that are so universally known that they cannot reasonably be the subject of dispute."

First applied in California in the early 1980's that ruling has resulted in the bankruptcy of dozens if not hundreds of anti-Semitic publications and organizations throughout the country.

"There is a reason why it is difficult if not impossible to find a printed copy of any book denying or giving an 'revised' history of the Holocaust today," Copelan said. "They have been sued out of existence. Even the truest believer knows that he or she could lose everything if they publish. That is one of the reason why they have retreated to the Internet."

While the Free Press editorial does not directly deny the Holocaust took place it asserted that any killing of Jews that took place in World War II was in fact a Zionist plot funded by Jewish bankers with the aim of establishing an atheistic state of Israel after the war ended. Most Jews are not even Jews, Jacobucci contends but rather the descendants of Turkish converts from the 9th century.

All of the Free Press's allegations have been so thoroughly debunked that all but the most Jew hating websites refuse to post them. Recent genetic research of European Jews found that not only were descendants of the Israelites of Bible but their closest genetic cousins are indeed Arabs and other Middle Eastern peoples.

In response to the Free Press editorial, the Copelan and JCEC member Baruch Zohar wrote a 4,000 word rebuttal complete with foot notes. The Elko newspaper made a counter offer proposing to run just 930 words, the length of their original editorial.

"Howard: Thank you for meeting with me today to express your views on the commentary on Zionism we published in our weekend edition," Mullins wrote in an email to Copelan Tuesday, "We are willing to publish rebuttals to statements made by the guest commentator, we are only asking that they be of reasonable length. That is why I asked you to restrict your rebuttal to the same 930 words used by the writer from Wells. I am available to discuss this matter further at your convenience."

Copelan answered in an email of his own: "You obviously still don't get it, and judging by your response in our meeting yesterday I am not surprised. You are a very stupid man who should not be allowed near a newspaper except for potty training. There are not two sides of the story in regards to Holocaust denial and or revision, there are not two valid points of view to the call to kill Jews. From now on we will be dealing with your superiors, which judging by the caliber of your thought process and your complete and utter ignorance of history will not be hard to find.

As I understand correct address protocol, first names are usually reserved for friends or acquaintances, we are neither."

Since that exchange Copelan has been contacted by the Vice President of Lee Enterprises, the company which owns the Free Press as well as 49 daily and more than 300 weekly newspapers and specialty publications in 23 states.

"Personally I am offended," said Baruch Zohar. "Out of the blue they publish this attack on me and my family and then say they will only give me equal space to respond?"

The complete response to the Free Press editorial follows the Free Press editorial.

In a late breaking development Lee Enterprises Publisher Brad Hurd and Copelan agreed that the Wikipedia references could be cut out of Copelan's response in exchange for the Free Press publication of all other rebuttals to the offending editorial.

## Israel is Nobody's Friend

By Gary Jaccobucci

If civilization can survive the cynical path it's on, future historians will identify three great cons that were played out upon the world during this time; the fractional-reserve central-banking system, the war on terrorism and Israel. All three are equally dangerous to the future of mankind, are presented with equal deception, and emanate from the same source.

Much of the intentional confusion surrounding Israel is due to Israel presenting itself as a Jewish state - it's not - Israel is a Zionist state. When people mention the word Jewish, they are usually mixing together three very distinct elements. There are the Hebrews, which is the Semitic race generally referred to in the bible - many Hebrews however, are not Jews, they are Christians - and ironically, Arabs are Semitic peoples.

Then there's Judaism, which is a religion; and Zionism, which is a political movement that is atheistic in nature and worships wealth and power; and all that follows in its wake As Joe Biden recently pointed out in a speech given in Israel, "I'm a Zionist; you don't have to be a Jew to be a Zionist."

The roots of Zionism, and the House of Rothschild, can be traced back to the Kazars of Southern Russian - an important piece of history that's been swept under the rug. The Kazars were of mixed Turkish and Mongol blood that made their living by raiding caravans traveling through their territory. Eventually, Kazaria developed Kings and an aristocracy, and began to look a way of making a living that was less hazardous to their health.

With their empire situated in the nexus of the caravan route, the Kazarian aristocracy decided to create wealth through usury - by charging interest on money lent. While the Kazarian population was about one-third Christian, one-third Moslem and one-third Jewish - all getting along pretty well together - the problem was, at that time in the Middle Ages, both the Moslems and Christians considered charging interest usury, and a sin. Only Judaism allowed for the charging of interest to the Goyim; the non-Jews.

The aristocrats of the Kazars made the calculated announcement that they had converted to Judaism, and from that time on, made their living loaning and exchanging money. After being driven out of Russia, these Kazarian (pseudo) Jews moved into Eastern Europe, and eventually into Western Europe and Germany.

Over the centuries, the Kazarians perfected the practice of usury and came to acquire great wealth and influence in the countries they occupied - with the House of Rothschild emerging as the undisputed master of manipulation.

After seeing that the Rothschilds were financing both sides of the war between England and France, Napoleon made this insightful statement that reflects the enormous power they wielded, "When a government is dependent upon bankers for money, they and not the leaders of the government control the situation, since the hand that gives is above the hand that takes. Money has no motherland; financiers are without patriotism and without decency; their sole object is gain."

While genuine history shows that the Rothschilds financed the Nazi's into power; while at the same time financing the war effort in England, the story of Rabbi Michael Dov-Ber Weismandel illustrates the hidden hand of the Rothschilds in sacrificing orthodox Jews to allow for the state of Israel to be created.

In November 1942, Rabbi Weismandel negotiated a deal with the Nazi government to have all the Jews in Western Europe and the Balkans released out of Germany for a mere 2 million dollars. Weismandel sent a courier to the Rothschild-led World Zionist Organization in Switzerland. The request was refused with a message for him... "If we do not sacrifice any blood, by what right shall we merit coming before the bargaining table when they divide nations and lands at the war's end? ...for only with blood shall we get the land."

From 1933 to 1935, the World Zionist Organization turned down two-thirds of all the German Jews who applied for immigration certificates. As late as 1943, while countless Jews in Europe were dying, the U.S. Congress proposed to set up a commission to "study" the problem. Rabbi Stephen Wise, who was the principal American spokesperson for Zionism, came to Washington to testify against the rescue bill because it would divert attention from the colonization of Palestine.

From the perspective of genuine history, there's no paradox in seeing Israel emulating the Nazis in waging a genocidal war against the 4 million Palestinians imprisoned in the concentration camp Israel has created in Gaza. Nor is it surprising to see the extreme racial prejudice of the Israelis being brainwashed into thinking themselves the 'chosen people' while looking upon the Palestinians as worthless humanity. In the case of Nazism and Zionism, as one philosopher put it, "the poison and the antidote were brewed in the same vat."

It should come as no surprise that Baron Rothschild is commemorated in Israel as 'The Father of the Settlement', nor that the motto of the Israeli Mossad reads, "By way of deception, thou shalt do war." The fractional-reserve central-banking system, the war on terrorism and Israel are all reflective of a war by way of deception - a war on humanity itself. Unless Jews, Christians and Moslems can find some way of breaking free of the web of deceit together, we'll all find ourselves trampled under the crushing boot of Zionism.

Sir,

It was with dismay and revulsion we read the blood libel published as a editorial in your newspaper, beyond its factual errors it was an incitement to violence against the Jewish nation of Israel and the Jewish people the world over. Its author would find fellow travelers in Teheran or in any El Queda camps in Pakistan.

The screed is far over the line of commentary and opinion. It is in the realm of libel per se and rest assured we will take appropriate legal action against the writer, your newspaper and your corporation.

As you might not be aware, libel per se must meet three criteria:

1. The article claimed facts that were inherently untrue.
2. The newspaper knew they were untrue.
3. The libel was made with malicious intent.

The editorial easily meets each and every one of these tests above and beyond the judgment of your average reader, unless your average reader is Mahmoud Ahmedinjahd or Adolf Hitler.

We will address the facts later but first of all there can be no question your editorial is a call to arms both literally and figuratively to kill Jews or at the very least destroy perceived Jewish influence. As members of the "chosen people" we take that call to deprive us of our business, our property and our lives very seriously. Jew hatred and persecution did not begin or end with Hitler, although his methods were more successful than most.

Historically Jewish mass murder does not begin with the murder, it begins with words delivered from the pulpit or in rallies or in newspaper editorials.

Make no mistake sir, we perceive your editorial not only as an attack on Israel or the Jewish people but as a call to violence on us the Jews of Elko County individually and we will respond to it by all means necessary to protect our lives and property and those of our children.

Your premises in inciting violence is neither original or new, in fact his brand of blood libel can be readily found on neo-Nazi or jihadi websites, all of which justify the robbing killing of Jews for the very same reasons your writer regurgitated. Now as to the libels. Everyone is of course entitled to his or her own opinion but not to his own facts.

1. Your writer's first statement, that Israel is not a Jewish state, is quite simply a prima facie lie. In 1947 the United Nations approved the partition plan that separated what was then known as the British Palestinian Mandate into two states: one Jewish and one Muslim. The name Israel was not even used at that time, and was adopted only in 1948. This is a legal fact readily available to even the laziest of fact checkers.

2. Your writer also asserts that Jews are not mentioned in the Bible. This too is a prima facia lie. The first use of the word Jew or Yehudi is found in the Book of Esther to identify Mordechai as a citizen of Judah the largest tribe and the southern territory of the nation of Israel and later a separate country. Again this is a fact.

3. Your writer claim that Zionism is atheistic is again a prima facia lie, easily disproved by a glance at the attendees of the first world Zionist conference held in Basel, Switzerland in 1897. Zionism is simply the belief that the Jewish people should have a national homeland. Modern Zionism as a political movement was founded by less religious and more assimilated Jews in response to virulent anti-Semitic outbursts in France, England and Germany the so called liberal countries of Europe when it became very clear that no matter how much we assimilated into the general population, we would still face legal discrimination and persecution.

Religious Zionism goes back to the days of Moses and at various times in history thousands of exiles have made their way to the Holy Land from various corners of the world including eastern and western Europe, Arabia, north Africa and North and South America.

Your writer does correctly point out that one not need be Jewish to be a Zionist and indeed some of the strongest Zionists are evangelical Christians whose support and friendship we warmly embrace.

4. Your writer's history of the Khazars manages to malign two peoples at once and like previous statements is a lie easily discerned by a cursory study of history.

In fact we will simply cut and paste this section of the Wikipedia entry of the Khazars to refute his outrageous claims:

"At some point in the last decades of the 8th century or the early 9th century, the Khazar royalty and nobility converted to Judaism, and part of the general population followed.[10] The extent of the conversion is debated. Ibn al-Faqih reported in the 10th century that "all the Khazars are Jews." Notwithstanding this statement, some scholars believe

that only the upper classes converted to Judaism; there is some support for this in contemporary Muslim texts.[11] Essays in the Kuzari, written by Yehuda Halevi, detail a moral liturgical reason for the conversion which some consider a moral tale. Some researchers have suggested part of the reason for conversion was political expediency to maintain a degree of neutrality: the Khazar empire was between growing populations, Muslims to the east and Christians to the west. Both religions recognized Judaism as a forbear and worthy of some respect. The exact date of the conversion is hotly contested. It may have occurred as early as 740 or as late as the mid-800s. Recently discovered numismatic evidence suggests that Judaism was the established state religion by c. 830, and though St. Cyril (who visited Khazaria in 861) did not identify the Khazars as Jews, the khagan of that period, Zachariah, had a biblical Hebrew name. Some medieval sources give the name of the rabbi who oversaw the conversion of the Khazars as Isaac Sangari or Yitzhak ha-Sangari.

The first Jewish Khazar king was named Bulan which means "elk", though some sources give him the Hebrew name Sabriel. A later king, Obadiah, strengthened Judaism, inviting rabbis into the kingdom and built synagogues. Jewish figures such as Saadia Gaon made positive references to the Khazars, and they are excoriated in contemporary Karaite writings as "bastards"; it is therefore unlikely that they adopted Karaism as some (such as Avraham Firkovich) have proposed.

According to the Schechter Letter, early Khazar Judaism was centered on a tabernacle similar to that mentioned in the Book of Exodus. Archaeologists at Rostov-on-Don have tentatively identified a folding altar unearthed at Khumar as part of such a construct.

The Khazars enjoyed close relations with the Jews of the Levant and Persia. The Persian Jews, for example, hoped that the Khazars might succeed in conquering the Caliphate.[12] The high esteem in which the Khazars were held among the Jews of the Orient may be seen in the application to them, in an Arabic commentary on Isaiah ascribed by some to Saadia Gaon, and by others to Benjamin Nahawandi, of Isaiah 48:14: "The Lord hath loved him." "This," says the commentary, "refers to the Khazars, who will go and destroy Babel" (i.e., Babylonia), a name used to designate the country of the Arabs.[13] From the Khazar Correspondence it is apparent that two Spanish Jews, Judah ben Meir ben Nathan and Joseph Gagra, had succeeded in settling in the land of the Khazars. Saadia, who had a fair knowledge of the kingdom of the Khazars, mentions a certain Isaac ben Abraham who had removed from Sura to Khazaria.[14] Likewise, the Khazar rulers viewed themselves as the protectors of international Jewry, and corresponded with foreign Jewish leaders (the letters exchanged between the Khazar ruler Joseph and the Spanish rabbi Hasdai ibn Shaprut have been preserved). They were known to retaliate against Muslim or Christian interests in Khazaria for persecution of Jews abroad. Ibn Fadlan relates that around 920 the Khazar ruler received information that Muslims had destroyed a synagogue in the land of Babung, in Iran; he gave orders that the minaret of the mosque in his capital should be broken off, and the muezzin executed. He further declared that he would have destroyed the mosque entirely had he not been afraid that the Muslims would in turn destroy all the synagogues in their lands. Similarly, during the persecutions of Byzantine Jews under Romanos I, the Khazar government retaliated by attacking Byzantine interests in the Crimea. The theory that the majority of Ashkenazic Jews are the descendants of the non-Semitic converted Khazars was advocated by various racial theorists[15][16] and antisemitic sources[17][18][16][19] in the 20th century, especially following the publication of Arthur Koestler's *The Thirteenth Tribe*. Despite recent genetic evidence to the contrary,[20] and a lack of any real mainstream scholarly support, this belief is still popular among groups such as the Christian Identity Movement, Black Hebrews, British Israelitists and others (particularly Arabs[21][22][23]) who claim that they, rather than Jews, are the true descendants of the Israelites, or who seek to usurp the connection between Ashkenazi Jews and Israel in favor of their own. For more detail on this controversy, see below.&rdquo;

#### &ldquo;Alleged Khazar ancestry of Ashkenazim

The theory that all or most Ashkenazi ("European") Jews might be descended from Khazars (rather than Semitic groups in the Middle East) dates back to the racialism of late nineteenth century Europe, and was frequently cited to assert that most modern Jews aren't descended from Israelites and/or to refute Israeli claims to Palestine. It was first publicly proposed in lecture given by Ernest Renan on January 27, 1883, titled "Judaism as a Race and as Religion." [31] It was repeated in articles in *The Dearborn Independent* in 1923 and 1925, and popularized by racial theorist Lothrop Stoddard in a 1926 article in the *Forum* [16][32] Stoddard's views were "based on nineteenth and twentieth-century concepts of race, in which small variations on facial features as well as presumed accompanying character traits were deemed to pass from generation to generation, subject only to the corrupting effects of marriage with members of other groups, the result of which would lower the superior stock without raising the inferior partners." [33] This theory was adopted by British Israelites, who saw it as a means of invalidating the claims of Jews (rather than themselves) to be the true descendants of the ancient Israelites, and was supported by early anti-Zionists. [16][34] titled "The Pedigree of Judah", where he argued that Ashkenazi Jews were a mix of people, of which the Khazars were a primary element.

In 1951 Southern Methodist University professor John O. Beaty published *The Iron Curtain over America*, a work which claimed that "Khazar Jews" were "responsible for all of America's &mdash; and the world's &mdash; ills beginning with World War I". The book repeated a number of familiar antisemitic claims, placing responsibility for U.S. involvement in World Wars I and II and the Bolshevik revolution on these Khazars, and insisting that Khazar Jews were attempting to subvert Western Christianity and establish communism throughout the world. The American millionaire J. Russell Maguire gave money towards its promotion, and it was met with enthusiasm by hate groups and the extreme right. [35][36] By the 1960s the Khazar theory had become a "firm article of faith" amongst Christian Identity groups. [16][37] In 1971 John Bagot Glubb (Glubb Pasha) also took up this theme, insisting that Palestinians were more closely related to the ancient Judeans than were Jews. According to Benny Morris:

Of course an anti-Zionist (as well as an anti-Semitic) point is being made here: The Palestinians have a greater political right to Palestine than the Jews do, as they, not the modern-day Jews, are the true descendants of the land's Jewish inhabitants/owners.[38]

The theory gained further support when the novelist Arthur Koestler devoted his popular book *The Thirteenth Tribe* (1976) to the topic. Koestler's historiography has been attacked as highly questionable by many historians; it has also been pointed out that his discussion of theories about Ashkenazi descent is entirely lacking scientific or historiographical support; to the extent that Koestler referred to place-names and documentary evidence his analysis has been described as a mixture of flawed etymologies and misinterpreted primary sources.[39] Commentors have also noted that Koestler mischaracterized the sources he cited, particularly D.M. Dunlop's *History of the Jewish Khazars* (1954).[40] Koestler himself was pro-Zionist based on secular considerations, and did not see alleged Khazar ancestry as diminishing the claim of Jews to Israel, which he felt was based on the United Nations mandate, and not on Biblical covenants or genetic inheritance. In his view, "The problem of the Khazar infusion a thousand years ago ... is irrelevant to modern Israel". In addition, he was apparently "either unaware of or oblivious to the use anti-Semites had made to the Khazar theory since its introduction at the turn of the century." [41]

Nevertheless, in the Arab world the Khazar theory still enjoys popularity among some anti-Zionists[21] and antisemites;[42] Such proponents argue that if Ashkenazi Jews are primarily Khazar and not Semitic in origin, they would have no historical claim to Israel, nor would they be the subject of God's Biblical promise of Canaan to the Israelites, thus undermining the theological basis of both Jewish religious Zionists and Christian Zionists. In the 1970s and 80s the Khazar theory was also advanced by some Russian chauvinist antisemites, particularly the historian Lev Gumilyov, who portrayed "Judeo-Khazars" as having repeatedly sabotaged Russia's development since the 7th century.[43]

According to Bernard Lewis:

This theory... is supported by no evidence whatsoever. It has long since been abandoned by all serious scholars in the field, including those in Arab countries, where the Khazar theory is little used except in occasional political polemics.[21]

#### DNA Evidence

Modern DNA studies on the Y chromosome of Jews worldwide have largely disproven the Khazar origin theory for the vast majority of Jews, including the Ashkenazi.

A 1999 study by Hammer et al, published in the *Proceedings of the United States National Academy of Sciences* compared the Y chromosomes of Ashkenazi, Roman, North African, Kurdish, Near Eastern, Yemenite, and Ethiopian Jews with 16 non-Jewish groups from similar geographic locations. It found that "Despite their long-term residence in different countries and isolation from one another, most Jewish populations were not significantly different from one another at the genetic level... The results support the hypothesis that the paternal gene pools of Jewish communities from Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East descended from a common Middle Eastern ancestral population, and suggest that most Jewish communities have remained relatively isolated from neighboring non-Jewish communities during and after the Diaspora." [44] According to Nicholas Wade "The results accord with Jewish history and tradition and refute theories like those holding that Jewish communities consist mostly of converts from other faiths, or that they are descended from the Khazars, a medieval Turkish tribe that adopted Judaism." [45]

A 2001 study by Nebel et al found Eu 19 chromosomes, which are very frequent in Eastern Europeans (54%-60%) at elevated frequency (12.7%) in Ashkenazi Jews. The authors hypothesized that these chromosomes could reflect low-level gene flow from surrounding Eastern European populations, or, alternatively, that both the Ashkenazi Jews with Eu 19, and to a greater extent Eastern European populations in general, might be descendants of Khazars.[46]

A 2005 study by Nebel et al, based on Y chromosome polymorphic markers, showed that Ashkenazi Jews are more closely related to other Jewish and Middle Eastern groups than to their host populations in Europe. However, 11.5% of male Ashkenazim were found to belong to R-M17, the dominant Y chromosome haplogroup in Eastern Europeans, suggesting possible gene flow. The authors hypothesized that "R-M17 chromosomes in Ashkenazim may represent vestiges of the mysterious Khazars". They concluded "However, if the R-M17 chromosomes in Ashkenazi Jews do indeed represent the vestiges of the mysterious Khazars then, according to our data, this contribution was limited to either a single founder or a few closely related men, and does not exceed ~ 12% of the present-day Ashkenazim." [47]

Please feel free to fact check the entry.

5. Your writer's claim that the Khazars invented charging interest on loans is bizarre, the first interest rates in recorded history can be found on 6,000 year old clay tablets from Ur, thousands of years before either the Khazar kingdom or Israel were even founded.

6. One of the most egregious slanders your writer makes is the charge of usury which is not only false by itself but by historical precedent the use is second only to blood libel as an excuse to steal Jewish property and murder Jews. Again we quote portions of the Wikipedia entry and again feel free to fact check:

"The First Council of Nicaea in 325, forbade clergy from engaging in usury.[1] (canon 17) At the time "usury" meant simply interest of any kind, and the canon merely forbade the clergy to lend money on interest above one per cent per month. Later ecumenical councils applied this regulation to the laity.[2][1]..."

The Hebrew Bible regulates interest taking, but interpretations vary widely. One understanding is that Israelites were forbidden to charge interest on loans made to other Israelites, but allowed to charge interest on transactions with non-Israelites. However, the Hebrew Bible itself gives numerous examples where this provision is evaded.[7] The primitive Hebrew economy was not an established, refined mercantile nation as many around it already were. Hence, it took a considerable historic time and economic evolution to construct appropriate mercantile laws and principles.

Thus, Johnson contends that the Hebrew Bible treats lending as philanthropy in a poor community whose aim was collective survival, but which is not obliged to be charitable towards outsiders. A great deal of Jewish legal scholarship in the Dark and the Middle Ages was devoted to making business dealings fair, honest and efficient. [8]...

As the Jews were ostracized from most professions by local rulers, the church and the guilds, they were pushed into marginal occupations considered socially inferior, such as tax and rent collecting and moneylending. This was said to show that Jews were insolent, greedy usurers. Natural tensions between creditors and debtors were added to social, political, religious, and economic strains.

... financial oppression of Jews tended to occur in areas where they were most disliked, and if Jews reacted by concentrating on moneylending to non-Jews, the unpopularity - and so, of course, the pressure - would increase. Thus the Jews became an element in a vicious circle. The Christians, on the basis of the Biblical rulings, condemned interest-taking absolutely, and from 1179 those who practised it were excommunicated. Catholic autocrats frequently imposed the harshest financial burdens on the Jews. The Jews reacted by engaging in the one business where Christian laws actually discriminated in their favour, and became identified with the hated trade of moneylending.[12]

Peasants were forced to pay their taxes to Jews who were economically coerced into becoming the "front men" for the lords. The Jews would then be identified as the people taking their earnings. Meanwhile the peasants would remain loyal to the lords.

Non-Jewish debtors may have been quick to lay charges of usury against Jewish moneylenders, even those who charged moderate rates of interest. Thus, historically, attacks on usury led to antisemitism. According to Walter Laqueur, "The issue at stake was not really whether the Jews had entered it out of greed (as antisemites claimed) or because most other professions were barred to them... In countries where other professions were open to them, such as Muslim Spain and the Ottoman empire, one finds more Jewish blacksmiths than Jewish money lenders. The high tide of Jewish usury was before the fifteenth century; as cities grew in power and affluence, the Jews were squeezed out from money lending with the development of banking." [13]

In England, the departing Crusaders were joined by crowds of debtors in the massacres of Jews at London and York in 1189-1190. In 1275, Edward I of England passed the Statute of Jewry which made usury illegal and linked it to blasphemy, in order to seize the assets of the violators. Scores of English Jews were arrested, 300 were hanged and their property went to the Crown. In 1290, all Jews were expelled from England, and allowed to take only what they could carry; the rest of their property became the Crown's. The usury was cited as the official reason for the Edict of Expulsion.

7. Your writer's claims that Jews not only contrived to start World War I but a Jewish cabal collaborated in the Holocaust are almost too loathsome to address, both of them are products of a sick mind your writer parrots. Even a cursory reading of history explodes both myths as the justification for future mass murder they are.

8. The Jewish State of Israel was created in 1948 with a population of about 600,000 people 95 percent of them Jews. In two short years the Jewish State of Israel took in over 1.5 million refugees from the death camps of Europe and the ghettos of the Arab world. Those refugees came with only the clothes on their backs and since 1950 millions more have come home to the land of their ancestors. Despite the massive influx of population there exists no refugee camp in Israel today with the single exception of those built to house Muslim refugees from the Sudan who seek the peace and prosperity of the only democracy in the Middle East. Those Sudanese who have the misfortune of being discovered in Arab countries are often summarily executed.

At the same time the Jewish State of Israel was reborn some 700,000 Arab residents of then Palestine were also displaced from their homes. They were put into cramped squalid camps in Arab countries including those parts of Palestine under Arab control Gaza (Egypt) and the West Bank (Jordan).

With the single exception of Jordan these Arab refugees have never been integrated into their host countries despite the huge Arab oil wealth. The fact they speak the same language, possess the same culture and often have close family ties to citizens of the host Arab countries seems to make no difference. Damascus is closer to Jerusalem than Elko is to Salt Lake City.

Indeed the largest donors to house, feed, and educate what is now the 5th generation of those Arab refugees is the United States of America, followed by the European Union and then the United Nations.

9. Your writer's equates the Gaza war with that of the Holocaust, which is hyperbole gone wild. The Nazi German State declared war on the Jews in 1933 and from then to 1945 over 6 million of the 9 million Jews of Europe were exterminated on an industrial scale.

The Arab party known as Hamas declared war on the Jews in 1982 and first with suicide bombers and then with rockets have killed hundred of Jews both inside and outside of Israel.

Hamas has consistently rejected any and all peace gestures from the Jewish State of Israel and indeed has issued a death sentence on every Jew living in the Holy Land and outside of it.

In response to a unilateral withdraw from Gaza by Israel in 2005, Hamas and other Muslim terror organizations responded with attacks on Israeli civilians.

Hamas uses its own civilian population as human shields, this is an indisputable fact, they often boast about.

That some of these human sandbags were inadvertently killed in the recent incursion is the fault of Hamas, not of Israel.

The fact that fewer than 1,000 civilians died despite a full scale invasion is a tribute to the humanity and the professionalism of the Jewish Army of the Jewish State of Israel.

The fact your writer is blind to simple arithmetic is a tribute to the all consuming passion of Jew hatred.

Because your your egregious disregard for truth and the prominent place the editorial was originally given we demand this response be printed in its entirety in at least the same font as your editorial in the same section, we further demand that your newspaper run a front page above the fold public apology, whose headline should be no less than 55 point type, we also demand the immediate dismissal of your writer, his editor and the person or persons responsible for the editorial page of your saturday edition.

Agreeing to these demands will however in no way stop our right to legally redress to your journalistic malpractice.

Howard Copelan

Baruch Zohar

Jan 31, 2009