

Hustlers sell deceptions by nonstop advertising

By Christine Miller
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Alan M. Dershowitz's *The Vanishing*



American Jew explains it thus: "Walter Kerr: 'The literate American mind has come in some measure to think Jewishly, to respond Jewishly. It has been taught to, and it was ready to. After the entertainers and

novelists came the Jewish critics, politicians, theologians. Critics and theologians are by profession molders: they form ways of seeing.' Today the influence is even more apparent, as individual Jews dominate television, film, book publishing, newspapers, magazine advertising, public relations, and other opinion-shaping business."

The drumbeat

Let me pick out one word: *advertising*. Yearly billions are spent on advertising, the billions again flowing into Jewish hands because see above. The billions spent on advertising bring in huge dividends. How does advertising work? You create a jingle, say, "Winston tastes good, like a cigarette should," or "Things go better with Coke." By endless repetition you create an ear worm. Advertisement for cigarettes has been outlawed for quite some time now, but the earworm: "Winston tastes good, like a cigarette should" resides still in my ear.

The same is true for: "Things go better with Coke." The profits which the Coca-Cola Company rake in go into the billions, and that from a drink of no nutritional value but one that's detrimental to a consumer's health and well being.

The schools in Marshfield, Wisconsin, finally behaved sensibly and got rid of the

pop machines. In other times the makers of soda pop, including Coca-Cola, bribed our public schools by giving them kickbacks with which those institutions could acquire playground equipment.

Salespersonship

In the very same way that Coca-Cola made billions by means of repetitiveness, "The Holocaust" – defined as six million gassed Jews through incessant advertising – has brought billions to Jews and Israel. Few Americans know the most important dates of their own history, but ask them how many Jews the Germans supposedly gassed and you will get one single answer: six millions.

Why I am telling you this? Because the alternative media have not learned those lessons which the Jews demonstrate to us, the means they're proving most effective. *Our* media think it is enough to present facts which reveal the Jewish and Israeli elites for what they are, nefarious, at least once, or at most two or three times – and that is enough. Why can we not create an ear worm for the *USS Liberty*, Rachel Corrie and Tom Hurndall?

Let me pick up one more time on Rachel Corrie and Tom Hurndall. The anniversary of Rachel's death was March 16, 2003.



Rachel Corrie

Rachel Corrie, dressed in an orange jacket with bullhorn in hand, tried to prevent two Israelis from demolishing a Palestinian home. The bulldozer knocked her down, drove over her and, still with blade down, backed up rumbling over her again.

Friends ran to her screaming. They dug her out of the dirt. Rachel's eyes still open, her last words were: "My back is broken." She died on the way to the hospital.

Relentless Hasbara

Student Daniel Friedman then posted a cartoon in the University of Maryland's newspaper *The Diamond*. It depicted a woman in front of a bulldozer. The caption was a dictionary definition of "stupidity," followed by another way to describe that condition: "Sitting in front of a bulldozer to protect a gang of terrorists."

More than sixty students protested the cartoon's appearance. Editor in chief Jay Parsons said he too objected to the cartoon but found Friedman's right to free speech paramount. The mocking of an innocent victim, so cruelly crushed under the blade



Tom Hurndall

of a bulldozer, reminds me of yet another innocent victim mocked by the Pharisees: "If you are God's son then climb down from the cross." What do you think would have happened if a German had done that?

Cold-blooded murderers

Tom Hurndall (1981-2004) was shot in the head by an Israeli sniper when he tried moving Palestinian children to safety. Tom Hurndall went to Gaza in 2003 as a student and photographer. On April 11, he watched children playing nearby come under Israeli rifle fire. Most of the youngsters fled, but three, aged four to seven, froze with fear. Tom rushed one of them to safety. When he returned for two little girls an Israeli official sniper shot him in the head. Yet, despite the urgency, those Israeli officials delayed his transport to special medical care for over two and a half hours. Tom remained in a vegetative state until his death nine months later.

There is this card showing a picture of Rachel Corrie. At the top its heading reads: "Rachel we won't forget you."

Poor Rachel and Tom: most Americans will not remember you; they haven't heard any of this. It is up to such alternative media as *The First Freedom* to keep the *USS Liberty*, Rachel Corrie, Tom Hurndall and other victims of lamestream media censorship ever in front of our eyes, in our thoughts.

Maybe somebody will come up with an earworm.

Untying the Gordian Knot of organized Jewish subversion

Fifty-two major Jewish American organizations and Israel celebrated Passover with the slaughter of 25 Muslim, Christian and secular Palestinians. This wasn't TV news.

By James Petras
unz.com

Introduction

As of April 7, nearly three thousand unarmed Christian, Muslim and secular Palestinians have been wounded, over three dozen are in critical condition and at least twenty-five unarmed protesters, including children, have been assassinated by hundreds of Israeli snipers and heavily armed troops shooting tank shells into crowds of civilians protesting their decades of incarceration by the racist Israeli State.

Daffynitions

The Israeli government praised the "restraint and morality" of the IDF, as did the fifty-two Major Jewish American Organizations (MJAJO) largely in control of the U. S. Congress. These grotesque massacres began during the Christian



Holy Week on Good Friday and Easter, coinciding with the Jewish Passover. The self-righteous officials of the MJAJO and their relatives and friends broke matzos at joyful Seders as the blood of Palestinians soaked into ground at the fence containing the largest open-air prison camp in history, Gaza.

While tribal loyalties bonded the Israeli and Jewish American leaders, politicians of the Western oligarchic electoral regimes refrained from criticizing the shocking



display of brute force and even defended Israel's cold-blooded mass killings of Palestinian civilians in their Gaza prison.

This report will discuss and analyze the reasons for Israel's willing Western accomplices and the centrality of its fifth column in the United States.

Israel's willing accomplices

Because of the U. S. veto power, the United Nations Security Council refused to condemn or even discuss Israel's wanton slaughter in Gaza. The Secretary General of the U. N. meekly mentioned "violence" and the need for an "investigation" into the killings. The United States Ambassador to the U. N., Nikki Haley, prevented any investigation into the ongoing Israeli war crimes. She characterized Israel's mass murder of unarmed Palestinians as "defensive action against terrorists."

Both major U. S. political parties defended Israel's crimes against humanity and threatened critics, labeling them as "hypocrites," while deflecting attention away from the State slaughter of Palestinian civilians, pointing to the behavior of the Arab countries.

With the notable exception of Bernie Sanders, both legislative houses and the executive branch expressed unconditional support for Israel's ongoing slaughter.

The mass media, including all the major television, newspaper and radio outlets,

echoed the vituperative speeches of Israel's Zionist leaders.

All the major political lobbies in Washington followed the leading arm of the U. S. -Israel lobby, the "52 MJAJO."

The key question is: what explains the power of Israel to continuously commit crimes against humanity with impunity?

Clearly Israel, by itself, lacks the economic, political and media power to influence international organizations. Nor does Israel exercise sufficient "soft power" or cultural influence to neutralize the tens of millions of critics around the world with any persuasive arguments... except in the United States.

Where does the power that protects Israel from any consequences for its brutal crimes reside?

The key to Israel's impunity lies in a chain of command beginning with the local grass roots of hundreds of fanatical, unconditional, staunch Zionist-Israeli First organizations in the U. S.

Every major and minor U. S. city has local Zionist councils using their influences to intimidate local professional, business, political and media groups into ensuring that critics are censored and Israel's war crimes are covered up. The tactics range from "friendly" influence within local civic organizations to outright threats, bullying and slander.

Local Zionist organizations are linked to State-wide and national political and economic confederations that influence the nomination and financing of all candidates, the elected officials and the composition of editorial boards of the major media outlets.

No restraint whatsoever

Equally important, Zionist activists pressure and recruit leaders of civil society groups through guided propaganda tours to Israel. They enforce obedience and submission to Zionist objectives by blacklisting critics, contacting their places of employment and demanding they be fired. They employ even more repressive tactics against perceived threats to Israel's interests, including threatening phone calls and unwelcome "visits." At the commanding heights of the Zionist pyramid, hundreds of billionaires and millionaires finance and influence the corporate mass media, the political parties, conservative and liberal religious and educational institutions and demand adherence to Israel's agenda.

The Zionist power configuration (ZPC) parlays its influence far beyond its dues-paying members who, in reality, comprise only a very tiny fraction of the U. S. population.

Wider networks extend and magnify the Zionist presence, multiplying power centers up to the highest levels of public policy making. The ideological influence of the Israel Fifth Column is concentrated on a single issue: Defending Israel and its crimes against humanity. They succeed because of their enormous impact on the U. S. role in world politics, including Washington's trade and military policy in strategic regions, especially in the Middle East.

The members of Israel's Fifth Column may be liberal or conservative on a broad spectrum of domestic socio-cultural issues (gay rights, immigration reform, racial and cultural identity, feminism, the environment,



etc.) while at the same time they provide unqualified support for Israel's oppression, imprisonment, expulsion and massacre of tens of thousands of Palestinians.

In fact, the Fifth Column's primary commitment to Israel has guaranteed that the U. S. would wage a sequence of catastrophic wars against Israel's regional rivals and targeted adversaries - Iraq, Libya and Syria - even at enormous cost in U. S. lives and wasting multi-trillion dollars of U. S. taxpayers funds. This Zionist-promoted drain on the U. S. treasury to finance disastrous wars has completely undermined any policies to address the domestic needs of U. S. working people, which the "progressive" Zionists loudly claim they support! The consequences have been tragic for all the people of the Middle East along with the increasingly impoverished and desperate American working poor and minorities.

Israel's power to freely murder unarmed civilians in Gaza is derived from the Fifth



Column's influence in the U. S. Without it Israel would have no power to block the U. N. from imposing sanctions, or the International Court of Justice from convening a tribunal for war crimes. Israel would not possess nuclear weapons or advanced missiles to threaten its neighbors and destabilize the hundreds of millions of civilians who live in the greater Middle East, were it not for its U. S.-based Zionist power configuration. The Nation of Israel would be "confined" within internationally agreed borders and it would be forced to reverse its policy of ethnic cleansing. Israel would have to become a society based on laws instead of a Police State dedicated to oppressing half of the people within its declared and occupied territories.

The key to Israel's power is found in its leaders' command structure, which dictates policy to its tribal diaspora. Their overseas accomplices command the regional, State and local organizations that relay "the message" and apply various means to enforce it. Dissent by Jews and non-Jews is swiftly and viciously punished, whereas adherence to Zionist dictates is rewarded.

Opponents are ostracized, blacklisted and slandered - without recourse.

Ideological conformity or submission to the Zionist agenda ensures employment, promotions and political and judicial appointments. No Jewish critics of Zionism, no matter how prestigious, have ever received senior political or economic appointments. Even academic careers are systematically derailed. This is well understood by everyone in the U. S., especially by upwardly mobile "silenced critics."

Regimentation

The so-called "uniformity" of the Zionist-Jewish community is maintained by the stick and carrot. The leading stockbrokers, bankers, casino and media moguls know they can hold liberal or conservative opinions on U. S. domestic issues but must support or remain silent on Israel's war crimes or else... suffer reprisals.

Even critics are careful to temper their dissent by blaming "both sides": They equate the 25 murdered civilians in Gaza with the IDF snipers who complain of fatigue from repeatedly pulling the trigger.

Conclusion

Defending Palestinian rights and finally stopping the massacre(s) in Gaza requires taking on the Israel-Zionist chain of command in the United States. First and foremost, it requires opposing Israel's corrupt and spineless apologists in the U. S. Congress, who have consistently supported the policies of Israel, taken Israeli-Zionist money, submitted to Zionist

blackmail and sent thousands of American troops to their deaths to support Israel's interests in the Middle East. It requires taking on the local Zionist boosters, including the thugs and blackmailers, as well as the local "respectable" elite.

The prestigious Israel First crowd at Harvard, Yale, Princeton and other elite Ivy League universities just celebrated Passover. Meanwhile, the thuggish enforcer of Zionist expansion, a former nightclub bouncer, Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman praised those IDF snipers who murdered Gaza school kids, saying they "deserved commendation" (FT, 4/2/18 page 3).

Shame!

Not a single U. S. Congressperson raised a critical voice against the grotesque brutality of Lieberman fearing the Fifty-Two Presidents of the Major Jewish American Organizations. The 52 respectable presidents endorsed the wounding of nearly three thousand unarmed Palestinian civilian protesters, who never even crossed from their horrific mass prison into the Zionist State of Israel.

To support a meaningful protest one must shame and name the Zionist 5th column close at hand, because they are politically responsible for making sure that U. S. political leaders submit to Israel's agenda and guarantee total impunity and indeed praise for all the brutal "Liebermans."

Zionist tribal organizations and leaders, their networks and organizers who "commend" the IDF killers need to be named, exposed and confronted.

The U. S. enablers who protect, promote and defend Israeli war criminals are Zionist psychologists, lawyers, journalists and experts who can talk at great lengths about "Jewish ethics" but who have never shown a shred of decent human compassion and solidarity for the victims in Gaza.

The issue of Zionist crimes resonates across the social spectrum.

Prominent, progressive working-class leaders like Jeremy Corbyn, head of the British Labour Party, are routinely slandered as anti-Semites for speaking publicly about Israel's oppression of Palestinians. Leading Zionist spokespersons have launched a vindictive media campaign to destroy Corbyn and prevent a courageous politician from leading tens of millions of British workers in their struggle for social justice.

Media snipers as well

In the United States, Zionists organize to slander any and all popular leaders engaged in the struggle for social justice, labor and minority rights if they dare to



speak against Israel's injustice against their counterparts - workers and oppressed minorities in Palestine.

The struggle for Palestinian self-determination has a profound significance for the United States as its youth and minorities confront increasing desperation and injustice in their communities.

American youth see their struggles for justice against an increasingly oligarchic Police State mirrored in the protests of Palestinian youth. Their defense of free speech (including the freedom to criticize and confront Israel's war crimes), freedom of assembly (including the freedom to organize boycotts of Israeli products) and self-determination, means that American working class youth must confront the oligarchy run by and for the plutocrats at home and in Israel.

How Israel and its partisans work to censor the internet

Numerous well funded, organized projects by and for Israel work to flood social media with pro-Israel propaganda, while blocking facts Israel dislikes. The projects utilize Israeli soldiers, students, American teens and others, and range from infiltrating Wikipedia to influencing YouTube. Some operate out of Jewish Community Centers in the U. S.



Students at the Israeli military's Computing and Cyber Defense Academy. Israel is also "scouring Jewish communities abroad for young computer prodigies willing to join its ranks."

By Alison Weir
israelpalestineews.org
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Recently, YouTube suddenly shut down the **If Americans Knew** YouTube channel. This contained 70 videos providing facts-based information about Israel-Palestine.

People going to the channel saw a message telling them that the site had been terminated for "violating YouTube guidelines" – implying to the public that we were guilty of wrongdoing. And ensuring they didn't learn about the information we were trying to disseminate. When we tried to access our channel, we found a message saying our account had been "permanently disabled." We had received no warning and got no explanation.

After five days, we received a generic message saying YouTube had reviewed our content and determined it *didn't* violate any guidelines. Our channel became live once more.

So why was it shut down in the first place? What happened and why?

As it turns out, Israel and Israeli institutions employ armies of internet warriors – from Israeli soldiers to students – to spread propaganda online and try to get content banned that Israel doesn't want seen.

Perhaps like our videos of Palestinians killed by Israeli forces.

What happened

A few days before the termination of our channel, we received a form email from YouTube telling us we had gotten "one strike" for a short video about a Palestinian man killed by Israeli soldiers. The video was part of our series of videos to make Palestinian victims, usually ignored by U. S. media, visible to Americans. It takes three minutes to view the video and see that it contains nothing objectionable, unless revealing cruelty and oppression is objectionable:

YouTube's email claimed we had somehow violated their long list of guidelines but did not tell us which one, or how. It simply stated:

"Your video 'Ahmad Nasser Jarrar' was flagged for review. Upon review, we've determined that it violates our guidelines. We've removed it from YouTube and assigned a Community Guidelines strike, or temporary penalty, to your account."

Such a penalty is not public and does not terminate the channel. Three days later, before we'd even had a chance to appeal this strike, YouTube suddenly took down our entire channel. This was done with no additional warnings or explanation.

This violated YouTube's published policies.

YouTube policies say there is a "three-strike" system by which it warns people of alleged violations three times before terminating a channel. If a channel is eventually terminated, the policies state that YouTube will send an email "detailing the reason for the suspension."

None of this happened in our case. We submitted appeals on YouTube's online form, but received no response. Attempts to find a phone number for YouTube and/or email addresses by which we could communicate with a human being were futile.

YouTube's power to shut down content without explanation whenever it chooses was acutely apparent. While there are other excellent video hosting sites, YouTube is the largest one, with nearly ten times more views than its closest competitors. It is therefore enormously powerful in shaping which information is available to the public – and which is not.

We spent days working to upload our videos elsewhere, update links to the videos, etc. Finally, having received no response or even acknowledgment of our appeal from YouTube, we decided to write an article about the situation. We emailed YouTube's press department a list of questions about its process. We have yet to receive any answers.

Finally that evening we received an email with good news:

"After a review of your account, we have confirmed that your YouTube account is not in violation of our Terms of Service. As such, we have unsuspended your account. This means your account is once again active and operational."

Our channel was visible once more. And YouTube had now officially confirmed that our content doesn't violate its guidelines.

Ultimately, the YouTube system seems to have worked, in our case. Inappropriate censorship was overruled, perhaps by saner or less biased heads. In fact, we felt that there might at least be one positive result of the situation – additional YouTube employees had viewed our videos and perhaps learned much about Israel-Palestine they had not previously known.

But the whole experience was a wakeup call that YouTube can censor information critical of powerful parties at any time, with no explanation or accountability.

Israeli soldiers paid to Tweet, Share, Like and more

Israel and partisans of Israel have long had a significant presence on the internet, working to promote the Israel narrative and block facts about Palestine, the Israel lobby, and other subject matter they wish covered up.

Opinionated proponents of Israel post comments, flag content, accuse critics of "antisemitism," and spread misinformation about Palestine and Palestine solidarity activists. Many of these actions are by lone individuals who work independently, voluntarily and relentlessly.

In addition to these, however, a number of orchestrated, often well-funded projects sponsored by the Israeli government and others have come to light. These projects work to place pro-Israel content throughout the internet, and to remove information Israel doesn't wish people to know.

One such Israeli project targeting the internet came to light when it was lauded in an article by Arutz Sheva, an Israeli news organization headquartered in an Israeli settlement in the West Bank.

The report described a new project by Israel's "New Media desk" that focused on YouTube and other social media sites. The article reported that Israeli soldiers were being employed to "Tweet, Share, Like and more."

The article noted: "It is well known nowadays that what happens on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube has great influence on events as they occur on the ground. The internet, too, is a battleground." It was

"comforting," the article stated, to learn that the IDF was employing soldiers whose job was specifically to do battle on it.

Israeli students paid to push Israel on social media



Screen shot from a video about student program to spread pro-Israel content on the internet and social media

Another project to do battle on the internet was initiated in 2011 by the 300,000-strong National Union of Israeli Students (NUIS). The goal was "to deepen and expand Hasbara [State propaganda] activities of students in the State of Israel."

Under this program, Israeli students are paid \$2,000 to work five hours per week to "lead the battle against hostile websites."

An announcement for the program (translated here into English) noted that "many students in Israel master the internet and are proficient at using the internet and social networking and various sites and are required to write and express themselves in English." Students can work from the comfort of their own homes, points out the announcement.

"Students work in four teams: Content, Wikipedia, Monitoring and New Media," according to the program description. It details the responsibilities for each team:

The content team is responsible for creating original content in a news format.

The monitoring team is responsible for "monitoring efforts while reporting and removing anti-Semitic [sic] content from social networks in a variety of languages." (The program conflates criticism of Israel with antisemitism; see below.)

The New Media team is responsible for social media channels, "including Facebook accounts in English, French and Portuguese, Twitter, YouTube channels and so on."

The Wikipedia team is "responsible for writing new entries and translating them into languages that operate in the program, updating the values of current and relevant information, tracking and preventing bias in the program's areas of activity."

This program sometimes claims it is working against antisemitism, but it conflates antisemitism with criticism of the State of Israel. This is in line with an Israel-backed initiative to legally define "antisemitism" to include discussing negative facts about Israel and its treatment of Palestinians.

Campaign to infiltrate Wikipedia

Several years ago, another project came to light that targeted Wikipedia. Although manipulating Wikipedia entries doesn't directly impact YouTube, it provides a window into some of these efforts to manipulate online content. A 2008 exposé in Electronic Intifada revealed: "A pro-Israel pressure group is orchestrating a secret, long-term campaign to infiltrate the popular online encyclopedia Wikipedia."

While it is common and appropriate for individuals to edit Wikipedia entries to add factual information and remove inaccurate statements, this project was the antithesis of such editing. As EI reported, its purpose was "to rewrite Palestinian history, pass off crude propaganda as fact, and take over Wikipedia administrative structures to

ensure these changes go either undetected or unchallenged."

Author Ali Abunimah reported that a source had provided EI with a series of emails from members and associates of the pro-Israel group CAMERA (Committee

for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America) that showed the group "was engaged in what one activist termed a 'war' on Wikipedia."

CAMERA called for volunteers to secretly work on editing Wikipedia entries. It emphasized the importance of keeping the project secret. Volunteers were schooled in ways to elude detection. After they had signed up as editors, they were to "avoid editing Israel-related articles for a short period of time."



CAMERA Senior Research Analyst Gilead Inl organized a way to infiltrate Wikipedia.

After they had signed up as editors, they were to "avoid editing Israel-related articles for a short period of time."

They were also told to "avoid, for obvious reasons, picking a username that marks you as pro-Israel, or that lets people know your real name."

CAMERA also warned them: "Don't forget to always log in... If you make changes while not logged in, Wikipedia will record your computer's IP address."

A Wikipedia editor known as Zeq helped in the effort, telling volunteers: "Edit articles at random, make friends not enemies – we will need them later on. This is a marathon not a sprint." He emphasized the importance of secrecy: "You don't want to be precieved [sic] as a 'CAMERA' defender' on wikipedia that is for sure."

Zeq recommended that they work with and learn from an independent, pro-Israel Wikipedia editor known as Jayjg, but directed them to keep the project secret even from him.

When this all came to light, Wikipedia took measures against such manipulation of its system and the CAMERA program may have ended.

If it did, others stepped into the breach. In 2010 two Israeli groups began offering a course in "Zionist editing" of Wikipedia entries. The aim was "to make sure that information in the online encyclopedia reflects the worldview of Zionist groups." A course organizer explained that the use of the word "occupied" in Wikipedia entries "was just the kind of problem she hoped a new team of editors could help fix."

Israel's *Ha'aretz* newspaper reported: "The organizers' aim was twofold: to affect Israeli public opinion by having people who share their ideological viewpoint take part in writing and editing for the Hebrew version, and to write in English so Israel's image can be bolstered abroad."

There was to be a prize for the "Best Zionist Editor" – the person who over the next four years incorporated the most "Zionist" changes in the encyclopedia. The winner would receive a trip in a hot-air balloon over Israel.

Subversives in charge

High tech millionaire Naftali Bennett, a right-wing minister close to the settler movement, describes the program:

The U. K. *Guardian* reports: "One Jerusalem-based Wikipedia editor, who



doesn't want to be named, said that publicizing the initiative might not be such a good idea. "Going public in the past has had a bad effect," she says. "There is a war going on and unfortunately the way to fight it has to be underground."

Again in 2013, there was evidence of pro-Israel tampering with Wikipedia. Israel's *Ha'aretz* reported that a social-media employee of NGO Monitor edited articles about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in an allegedly biased manner. "Draiman concealed the facts that he was an employee of NGO Monitor, often described as a right-wing group, and that he was using a second username, which is forbidden under Wikipedia's rules," according to the paper.

Such actions have had an impact. A website critical of Wikipedia said in 2014 that there were "almost ten times as many articles about murdered Israeli children as there are articles about murdered Palestinian children," even though at least ten times more Palestinian children had been killed.

The website also pointed out: "While editors like Zeq (T-C-L) and CltFn (T-C-L) may get banned in the end, the articles they started remain."

If YouTube reviewers and others use Wikipedia in their determination about whether content should be removed or not, these efforts to censor Wikipedia could adversely affect their decisions.

Social media missions for Israel



Title image from Forward article about the Act.IL campaign

In 2017 yet another project to target internet platforms was launched. Known as Act.IL, the project uses a software application that "leverages the power of communities to support Israel through organized online activity."

The software is a joint venture of three groups: Israel's IDC University; the Israeli American Council, which works to "organize and activate" the half million Israeli-Americans who live in the U. S.; and another American group called the Maccabee Task Force, created to combat the international boycott of Israel, which it terms "an anti-Semitic movement." Maccabee says it is "laser focused on one core mission - to ensure that those who seek to delegitimize Israel and demonize the Jewish people are confronted, combated and defeated."

2017/2018 Academic Year

- 40 Campuses
- 640 Pro-Israel Events
- 1,000 Campus Leaders to Israel

Image from Maccabee end of year report

In addition, the project is supported by Israel's Strategic Affairs Ministry and Israel's intelligence community. Its CEO is an eight-year veteran of Israeli army intelligence.

Israel's *Jerusalem Post* reports that Act.IL is "a wide-ranging grassroots campaign app that lets individuals combat BDS in the palm of their hand" or, as we will see, from public computers in the U. S. "Act.IL is more than just an app," the *Post* article explains. "It is a campaign that taps into the collective knowledge of IDC students who together speak 35 languages, hail from 86 countries and have connections to the pro-Israel community all over the world."

The article claims: "A platform like Act.IL offers world Jewry an opportunity to fight for one thing the majority can rally behind: Israel." (This ignores the fact that there are many Jewish individuals who oppose Israeli policies.)

Missionary munchkins

Israel partisans around the world download the app, and then "in this virtual situation room of experts, they detect instances where Israel is being assailed online and they program the app to find missions that can be carried out with a push of a button."

An organizer notes: "When you work together, with the same goals and values, you can be incredibly powerful in the social media landscape."

Some missions ask users to report videos. Israeli government officials say that the Act.IL app "is more effective than official government requests at getting those videos removed from online platforms."

Armchair warriors

The project is led by former Israeli intelligence officers and has close ties to American casino billionaire Sheldon Adelson. Another funder is the Paul R. Singer Foundation - the Republican hedge fund billionaire.

The *Forward* calls Act.IL a new entry into the "online propaganda war" that "has thousands of mostly U. S.-based volunteers who can be directed from Israel into a social media swarm."

According to *Forward*, "Its work so far offers a startling glimpse of how it could shape the online conversations about Israel without ever showing its hand."

The *Forward* reports: "Act.IL says that its app has 12,000 sign-ups so far, and 6,000 regular users. The users are located all over the world, though the majority of them appear to be in the United States. Users get 'points' for completed missions; top-ranked users complete five or six missions a day. Top users win prizes: a congratulatory letter from a government minister, or a doll of David Ben-Gurion, Israel's founding prime minister."

Act.IL's CEO, a veteran Israeli army intelligence officer, said the Israeli military and its domestic intelligence service "request" Act.IL's help in getting services like Facebook to remove specific videos that call for violence against Jews or Israelis."

This according to the *Forward* report.

The officer later tried to walk back his statement, "saying that the Shin Bet [intelligence service] and the army don't request help on specific videos but are in regular informal contact with Act.IL. He said that Act.IL's staff is largely made up of former Israeli intelligence officers."

Teens in American JCCs carry out missions assigned from Israel

The project recruits Jewish teens and adults and sometimes operates out of local Jewish community centers, the *Forward* says. The paper describes one example:

"The dozen or so Israelis sitting around a conference table at a Jewish community center in Tenafly, New Jersey, on a recent Wednesday night didn't look like the leading edge of a new Israeli government-linked crowd-sourced online propaganda campaign."

"Tapping on laptops, the group of high school students and adult mentors completed social media 'missions' assigned out of a headquarters in Herzliya, Israel."

In addition to the Tenafly "media room" another operates in Boston in cooperation with the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston. There are also regular Act.IL advocacy-training sessions at The Frisch School, a Jewish day school in Paramus, New Jersey. Other media rooms are reportedly in the works, with one in Manhattan, hosted by The Paul R. Singer Foundation, scheduled to open soon.

The *Forward* reports: "In November, the Boston media room created a mission for the app that asked users to email a Boston-area church to complain about a screening there of a documentary that is critical of Israel. The proposed text of the email likens the screening of the film to the white supremacist riot in Charlottesville, Virginia, and calls the film's narrator, Pink Floyd frontman Roger Waters, a 'well-known anti-Semite.'"

According to the *Forward*, Act.IL also



Photo of Boston Media Room published by Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston, which states: "Media Room Ambassadors are students and adult mentors who are trained with the knowledge, skills, and tools to positively influence public discourse by developing pro-Israel social media campaigns."

produces "pro-Israel web content that carries no logo. It distributes that content to other pro-Israel groups, including the Adelson-funded Jewish fraternity Alpha Epsilon Pi and The Israel Project, which push them out on their own social media feeds."

The *Forward* predicts: "Initiatives in cyberspace seem likely to increase."



Photo of group that participated in Act.IL training

Israeli media report that the Israeli military "has begun scouring Jewish communities abroad for young computer prodigies" to recruit for its ranks.

An Israeli official described the process: "Our first order of business is to search Jewish communities abroad for teens who could qualify. Our representatives will then travel to the communities and begin the screening process there."

Israeli Government backs secret online campaigns

General Sima Vaknin-Gil told Israeli tech developers to "flood the internet" with



pro-Israel propaganda. As Israel's Chief Censor, she said: "We censor information that is critical to our enemies, who have no capabilities like us, do not have a Jewish brain, and therefore our enemy relies to a large extent on open information..."

Israel's Strategic Affairs Ministry, which is behind this and similar projects, has mobilized substantial resources for online activities.

Israel's Ynet news reports that the Ministry's director "sees it as a war for all intents and purposes." "The delegitimization against the State of Israel can be curbed and contained through public diplomacy and soft tools," she says. "In order to win, however, we must use tricks and craftiness."

The director, General Sima Vaknin-Gil, told a forum of Israeli tech developers at a forum: "I want to create a community of fighters." The objective is to "curb the activities of anti-Israel activists," and "flood the internet" with pro-Israel content.

An Israeli report in December stated that the ministry has acquired a budget of roughly \$70 million to "stand at the forefront of the battle against delegitimization, adopting methods from the fields of intelligence and technology. There is a reason why ministry officials define it as 'a war on consciousness terrorism.'" ["Delegitimization" is a common Israeli term for criticism of Israel.]

A *Ha'aretz* article reports: "The Strategic Affairs Ministry's leaders see themselves as the heads of a commando unit, gathering and disseminating information about 'supporters of the delegitimization of Israel' - and they prefer their actions be kept secret."

The article reports that the Ministry includes a job role entitled "Senior official - new-media realm," responsible for surveillance and activities "in the digital realm."

This individual head is responsible for analyzing social media and formulating a social media campaign against sites and activists who are deemed a threat to Israel.

Among the job's responsibilities are: "Analysis of the world of social media, in



Screenshot from video promoting the project, posted on the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston website

terms of content, technology and network structure, emphasizing centers of gravity and focuses of influence, methods, messages, organizations, sites and key activists, studying their characteristics, areas, realms and key patterns of activities of the rival campaign and formulating a strategy for an awareness campaign against them in this realm and managing crises on social media. That is, surveilling of activities mainly in the digital arena."

Officials at the ministry are charged with "construction and promotion of creative and suitable programs for new media."

The unit works to keep its activities secret from the public. For example, a program to train young Israelis for activities on social media was exempted from publishing a public bid for funding. Similarly, the ministry's special unit against delegitimization, "Hama'aracha" (The Battle), is excluded from Israel's Freedom of Information Law.

Its activities reportedly include a "24/7 operations room monitoring all the delegitimization activities against Israel: Protests, conferences, publications calling for an anti-Israel boycott and international bodies' boycott initiatives. The operations room will transfer the information to the relevant people to provide a proper response to these activities, whether through a counter-protest or through moves to thwart the initiative behind the scenes."

Other programs include a 22-million-shekel project to work among labor unions and professional associations abroad "to root out the ability of BDS entities to influence the unions," and a 16-million-shekel

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program focused on student activities throughout the world.

Israel's Unit 8200

Another Israeli entity that plays a role in covert internet activity is the Israeli military's legendary high-tech spy branch,



Photo from article about Unit 8200, Britain Israel Communications and Research Centre website Unit 8200. This unit is composed of thousands of "cyber warriors" primarily 18 to 21 years of age; some even younger. A number of its graduates have gone on to top positions at tech companies operating in the U. S., such as Check Point Software (where the spouse of the Jewish Voice for Peace head is employed as a solutions architect).

In 2015 Israel's Foreign Ministry announced plans "to establish a special command to combat anti-Israel incitement on social media." The command would operate under the foreign ministry's Hasbara [propaganda] arm and would especially recruit from graduates of Unit 8200.

An article in the *Jewish Press* about the new command reports that Unit 8200 "has developed a great reputation for effectiveness in intelligence gathering, including operating a massive global spy network. Several alumni of 8200 have gone on to establish leading Israeli IT companies, including Check Point, ICQ, Palo Alto Networks, NICE, AudioCodes, Gilat, Leadspace, EZchip, Onavo, Singular and CyberArk."



Check Point Software headquarters in Tel Aviv. Founded by a former Unit 8200 member, it also has offices throughout the U. S. Israeli tech companies sometimes assist in online spying efforts.

Numerous Israeli tech companies, many of them headed by former military intelligence officers, assist in these online spying efforts, sometimes receiving Israeli government funding "for digital initiatives aimed at gathering intelligence on activist groups and countering their efforts."

According to the ministry's statement, among the Command's activities is "finding videos with inflammatory content and issuing complaints to the relevant websites."

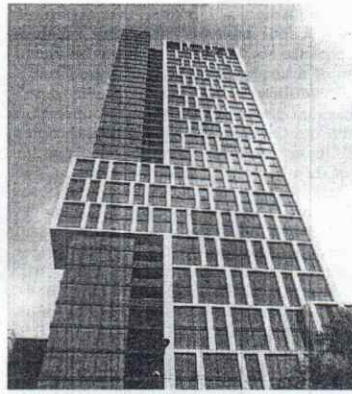
To be clear, this is an occupying military working covertly to achieve censorship of reporting on its atrocities.

YouTube and Google officials meet with Israeli Minister

Major internet companies reportedly have been cooperating in this effort.

In 2015 Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely announced that she had visited Silicon Valley and met with YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki and Google's Director of Public Policy (it is unclear whether this was Jennifer Oztzistzki or Juniper Downs; Hotovely's statement referred to "Jennifer Downs").

"At the end of the meeting," Israeli media reported, "it was agreed that Google would strengthen bilateral relations with the Foreign Ministry and build a collaborative



The 29th floor of Tel Aviv's Champion Tower is the nerve center of a 24-7 "war" in which Israeli agents behind the scenes advance U. S. legislation, torpedo events, organize counter-protests and close bank accounts. The Director says: "In order to win we must use tricks and craftiness."

work apparatus."
Another Israeli news report about the meeting states: "...it was agreed that the companies would strengthen ties with the Foreign Ministry and build a regular mechanism of control to prevent the



YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki speaking to the Israel Collaboration Network's Israeli Women in Tech Group on August 25, 2016.

distribution of those incendiary materials on the network."

Google, which owns YouTube, denied the Foreign Ministry's report. The Ministry accordingly "clarified" its statement somewhat, but continued to say that Israeli officials would be in "regular contact with Google's employees in Israel who deal with the problematic materials."

Such officials often have close ties to Israel. For example, Facebook's Head of Policy in Israel, Jordana Cutler, had already been employed for many years by the Israeli government.

The meetings seem to have had a significant effect.

In 2016 *Fortune* magazine reported: "Facebook, Google and YouTube are complying with up to 95% of Israeli requests to delete content that the government says incites Palestinian violence, Israel's Justice Minister said on Monday."

More recently, the Israeli Ministry of Justice said that its cyber unit handled 2,241 cases of online content and had gotten 70 percent of it removed.

According to a 2017 report, Google, in its capacity as the operator of Youtube, announced that it was updating the steps it was already taking on this score.

Among other things, Google said it would increase the number of members of the "Trusted Flagler program," which enables certain organizations and government agencies to report content. It also said it would "increase support for NGOs and organizations working to present a 'corrective voice.'"

Given the record of infiltration and orchestrated activities described above — many financed by a combination of certain influential billionaires and the Israeli government itself — it's hard to imagine that Israeli organizations and partisans are not thoroughly embedded in this program. In fact, one of the NGOs already working with YouTube as a "trusted flagler" is the

Anti-Defamation League, whose mission includes "standing up for Israel."

A leaked secret January 2017 ADL strategy paper detailed how to counter the pro-Palestine movement. Among its many strategies were some focused on the importance of efforts in cyber space.

The paper was produced in collaboration with the Reut Institute, an Israeli think



Anti-Defamation League shows up at 2017 New York City parade.

THE ASSAULT ON ISRAEL'S LEGITIMACY
The Frustrating 20X Question: Why is It Still Growing?
Condition, Direction and Response
January 2017 Version A

tank, and included an endorsement by Sima Vaknin-Gil, who stated that "the correlation between the Ministry's mode of operation and what comes out of this document is very high, and has already proven effective..."

The same document's executive summary noted: "Cyberspace, broadly defined, stands out as a crucially important arena (for monitoring and counter and pro-active strategies) which requires more resources and attention due to its current influence, rapid growth and growing complexity."

The paper called for "a mix of policy advocacy and industry engagement with corporations such as Google, Facebook and Twitter in a manner consistent with the ADL Center for Technology and Society and its Anti-Cyberhate Working Group."



An illustration in the ADL-Reut working paper on improving Israel advocacy. It noted: "While the pro-Israel network increasingly is active in this domain, much more can be done."

The paper also recommended: "'Bottom-up efforts' of crowd-sourcing to enhance the adaptive capacity of the pro-Israel network."

At the same time, it urged: "Strengthening pro-Israel organizations that mobilize and coordinate a network of 'nodes' e.g. Jewish Community Public Affairs (JCPA) and its network of Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRCs) in the USA; Hillel, which is present in nearly five hundred locations in the U. S. and globally; the Israel Action Network (IAN) that reaches nearly 160 federations in the U. S.; or the Jewish Congress (WJC) that represents dozens of Jewish communities around the world."

The detailed, 32-page document reported that in recent years "a massive investment of resources and talent" had been directed against the pro-Palestine movement. One of the results, the paper said, was to create a "world-wide pro-Israel network." It was this network that the report wished to mobilize. One of the paper's concerns was that since Israel's 2014 attack on Gaza "a growing number of Jews have become

more critical of Israel."

The document recommended a certain degree of stealth, observing: "high-visibility response by the pro-Israel side can be counterproductive."

What this means

Nevertheless, despite all these forces arrayed against information about Palestine reaching the American public, our channel is back up on YouTube. In fact, we've just uploaded a new video. This one is about the death of a nine-year-old boy. [Perhaps the Israeli government would consider this incitement to Palestinians to rebel against occupation; we see it as incitement to the world in general, and Americans in particular, to care.]

In other words, it proves Israel's efforts at censorship don't always succeed.

But sometimes they do, and other YouTube users have not always been so fortunate. For example, YouTube has terminated several Palestinian news organizations.

One was the al-Quds network, which, according to a report in Middle East Eye, "relies on young reporters and volunteers using phones and other digital devices to cover local news across the Palestinian territories." They would often report Israeli soldiers committing various human rights violations.

Its YouTube channel was terminated in 2011, and its editor says they had "to create a new channel from scratch." By 2017 its new channel had gained almost 10 million views before it was suddenly suspended without warning again last October. It now, however, appears to have a YouTube channel in operation.

According to the MEE report, YouTube also suspended the Filisten al-Youm TV channel last August, and in 2013, apparently after complaints by the Anti-Defamation League, YouTube closed down Iran's PressTV channel. (A Press TV YouTube channel now also appears to be available again.)

Palestinian social media users risk even greater consequences.

The Israeli government has arrested Palestinians for videos, poems and other posts it dislikes. A 2016 report estimated that "more than 150 arrests took place between October and February 2016 based on Facebook posts expressing opinions about the uprising. A recent video posted on social media led to the imprisonment of a 16 year old girl, her mother and cousin."

In addition, Palestinian access to social media is somewhat controlled by Israel. A *Huffington Post* article reports "Palestinians' digital rights and access to the internet are compromised in very basic ways, because Israel controls the infrastructure and services of Palestinian telecommunication companies in the West Bank."

While the situation has greatly improved in recent years — the Israeli government finally announced in 2016 that it would allow Palestinians in the West Bank to access 3G wireless networks, making this one of the last regions in the world with such access after years of Israeli restrictions — it is important to remember the enormous power Israel wields over this largely captive population.

While Israel is able to organize entire campaigns to filter and flood social media, its immense control over Palestinians impedes their access to the same media.

Given these facts, it is highly important for people to search out information for themselves, go directly to our websites and others, subscribe to diverse email lists and not rely on social media for information.

Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and others are private companies. In the end, they have the power to censor information, and they periodically do so. For a few days, we felt acutely what that was like. If Facebook had joined the ban, as has happened with others, we would have been even more cut off from what is essentially today's "public