From: Shadi Fadda
To: f_shadi@yahoogroups.com;
Subject: [AL-AWDA-News] Today in Palestine! ~ Headlines March 9 2009 ~
Date: Monday, March 09, 2009 9:57:13 AM

Recent Activity

Visit Your Group

Yahoo! Groups
Auto Enthusiast Zone
Auto Enthusiast Zone
Car groups and more!

Yahoo! Groups
w/ John McEnroe
Join the All-Bran
Day 10 Club.

Find helpful tips
for Moderators
on the Yahoo!
Groups team blog.

Land Theft

Israeli army seizes 50 dunums in Hebron

The Israeli army illegally confiscated on Monday tens of dunums in the city of Hebron to erect a road for an Israeli settlement in the northern of Hebron, Palestinian security sources said.

http://english.ramattan.net/newsdetails.aspx?news_id=40005

Audio slideshow: House demolitions in East Jerusalem

Audio slideshow: Rory McCarthy reports from the Silwan district of East Jerusalem, where Palestinian homes are being demolished by Israeli authorities.

http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/interactive/2009/mar/06/israel-palestinian-territories

Israel to demolish a mosque, six homes near Nablus

Ramallah – Ma'an – Israel plans to demolish six homes and a mosque in the villages of A'qraba and Kherbet At-Taweel, both south of the West Bank city of Nablus, residents said on Sunday. Officials representing the Israeli military handed over demolition orders to the residents in question, they added, announcing their intentions in the West Bank villages. According to Yaser Suleiman, the coordinator for the Nablus-area Agricultural Committee, "the occupation is working to force residents out of the village. ""Repeated attacks on homes, demolition warnings, and settler attacks have killed four Palestinians over the past few years," he added, noting that the Palestinians killed by settlers were first abducted before their alleged murders.

http://www.maannews.net/en/index.php?opr=ShowDetails&ID=36322

Fence planned on land of Beit 'Ummar

A new fence will be erected along the settler road that runs on the edges of Beit 'Ummar. This move will not only hamper the movement of the residents, but will also further extend military control over the village. At the beginning of March, Occupation forces distributed a military order announcing their intentions to erect a 295-meter fence along (settler) Road 60 which runs through Beit 'Ummar, located north of Hebron. The stated purpose of this fence is to offer further protection to settlers, who use the road to move between the Gush Etzion bloc and Hebron settlements.

http://stopthewall.org/latestnews/1878.shtml

Another war crime in Jerusalem

A lot of anxiety and worry hovers over the lives of the people of Silwan in the Bustan neighborhood. This emotional strain is the consequence of the occupied municipality's plan in Jerusalem (Plan E/J/9) which calls for the demolishing of 88 buildings housing 115 families. Simply, this will make around 1500 Jerusalemites homeless; the number includes women, babies, and elderly people. All will lose houses they inherited from their parents and grandparents, most of which have been built before the Israeli state came to existence. The coming demolishing campaign for the 115 families in Bustan is not the only expected one, and a similar destiny awaits around 60% of the houses in Wad Hilwa in the same village. All these places are facing the threat of demolition on grounds that they have been built either without a building permit or upon archeological sites.

http://stopthewall.org/communityvoices/1881.shtml

2,000 Palestinians to be displaced, 73,000 settlement units planned

Since the beginning of this year, Occupation forces have escalated Jewish-only settlement construction in parallel with demolitions of Palestinian homes. 73,000 new settlement-housing units are planned - many of them in Jerusalem – while the Palestinian capital faces ever more

virulent ethnic cleansing policies.
http://stopthewall.org/latestnews/1883.shtml

Attacks/Arrests/Siege

Jewish settlers enter Al-Aqsa compound; scuffle avoided

Jerusalem – Ma'an – Dozens of Jewish settlers entered the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound from the Moroccan Gate (Bab Al-Maghariba) Monday afternoon, according to the Al-Aqsa foundation for Waqf and Heritage.
http://www.maannews.net/en/index.php?opr=ShowDetails&ID=36338

Israeli army detains 2 Palestinians in West Bank

The Israeli army arrested on Monday at least two Palestinian citizens in the cities of Jenin and Nablus in the West Bank, Palestinian security sources said.
http://english.ramattan.net/newsdetails.aspx?news_id=40003

CPT Hebron - At-Tuwani: Palestinian land owners detained for asserting their rights; accompanying Christian Peacemaker Team members arrested

At 11:30 am, Sunday, 8 March, Israeli police detained 19 Palestinians who were trying to access their land near the village of Um al-Kheir. The police also arrested two Christian Peacemaker Teams members (CPTers) and charged them with obstruction and trespass, despite them being invited to the land by the Palestinian landowners.
http://www.kibush.co.il/show_file.asp?num=32368

B'Tselem Testimony: Soldiers abuse family in a-Zeitun, Gaza City

Pensioner 'Izzat Kasab told B'Tselem that on 7 Jan. soldiers took over his home, beat family members and arrested him along with three sons. Kasab, who has a heart condition, said he was held for over a week under harsh conditions, without his medication.
http://www.btselem.org/English/Testimonies/20090107_Soldiers_assault_and_arrest_Izzat_Kassab_and_Sons.asp

Settler Violence Report: November - December 2008

http://www.alternativenews.org/content/view/1621/494/

Settler Violence Report: January - February 2009

http://www.alternativenews.org/content/view/1622/494/

Humanitarian Issues

ISRAEL-OPT: Children need more support in Gaza - UNICEF head

GAZA CITY, 9 March 2009 (IRIN) - UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Director Ann M. Veneman recently paid a visit to Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory to assess the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, with special focus on children. As of 5 February, 431 Palestinian children had died and 1,872 had been wounded in the 22-day Israeli offensive which ended on 18 January, according to the Gaza health ministry.
http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=83369

"I want to be free and safe; these are my two main wishes."

The Eastern Gaza Centre for Family Development is located in a small apartment in the east of Gaza city. The centre runs a host of activities for women and girls and is proving to be very popular. As I entered the place I could barely find a space to stand. The centre was packed with women of different ages who were participating in the various activities held at the center.

http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/MYAI-7PY3SN?OpenDocument&RSS20=02-P

Doctors struggling to treat Gaza war wounded

GAZA CITY (IRIN) - Mohammed Abu Shabah, aged 22, lies in al-Wafa rehabilitation center in northern Gaza, paralyzed from the waist down after a missile fired by an Israeli drone on 11 January left pieces of shrapnel near his spine. Doctors at the center, Gaza's only rehabilitation hospital, fear removing them could lead to complete paralysis.

http://electronicintifada.net/v2/article10377.shtml

Gaza reconstruction aid fettered by political motives

CAIRO (IPS) - A conference held this week in Cairo devoted to the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip succeeded in raising more than 5 billion dollars from international donors. But some critics say the issue is being used as a means of isolating Gaza-based resistance faction Hamas. "Reconstruction efforts are being exploited to further weaken Hamas and coerce it into changing its position vis-a-vis the Zionist occupation," Essam al-Arian, leading member of the Muslim Brotherhood, Egypt's largest opposition movement, told IPS.

http://electronicintifada.net/v2/article10376.shtml

Gaza aid convoy pelted with stones in Egypt

EL-ARISH, Egypt, March 8, 2009 (AFP) - A British convoy led by MP George Galloway with medical relief for Gaza was pelted with stones and vandalised in the Egyptian town El-Arish on Sunday, an organiser said. The convoy, which set out from London last month carrying relief supplies valued at one million pounds (1.4 million dollars), arrived in El-Arish, about 45 kilometres (28 miles) from the Rafah passage to Gaza, on Saturday. "It's an absolute disgrace," convoy organiser Yvonne Ridley told AFP. "The power was cut. During cover of darkness members of our convoy were attacked with stones. "Vandals also wrote dirty words and anti- Hamas slogans," she said. "Several people in the convoy were injured in the attack."

http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/KHII-7PY4A9?OpenDocument&RSS20=02-P

First convoy heroes return to UK

The four Viva Palestina convoy members refused entry to Egypt have returned home to Britain. They were welcomed this evening by up to 50 supporters from Viva Palestina at Manchester Airport who gave our brothers a heroes' welcome.

http://www.vivapalestina.org/

Also, no link available: Viva Palestina Email Alert: ALL CALM NOW AT AL ARISH / 18.00 (GMT) Sunday 8th March

Press TV have reported that this evening the convoy came under attack by a group of men claiming to be from a faction of Fatah. Stones were thrown and a number of vehicles were scrawled with anti-Hamas slogans. A few of the convoy members were slightly injured but, we would like to stress, none seriously. We have no way of knowing whether the claims of these attackers were true or not. However, George expressed his disappointment and concern at the turn of events - and pointed out that he had spent 35 years with the Palestinian resistance alongside Fatah and the late Yasser Arafat. At 18.00 (GMT) I spoke with the convoy leaders who report that the area is now quiet and everyone is safe. They are disappointed that the Egyptian police did not protect the convoy as they should have done. But they do not expect a repeat of the earlier events. Planning is underway for the crossing into Gaza, which they expect to take place tomorrow. The Gazan welcoming committee have re-scheduled their planned welcome for Monday. We will keep you posted. --Clive Searle

No more excuses for Egypt: refuse British aid convoy entrance to Gaza

Gaza / PNN – No longer can we make excuses for the Egyptians, no matter how often they put their names atop "negotiations" between Fateh and Hamas, and with the Israelis. Today, after a journey that began on 14 February, the largest British convoy finally arrived to its final border passage bringing hum anitarian aid to besieged Gaza. Hundreds of people and vehicles made it through Europe and northern Africa, but it was the Egyptian authorities who refused today the introduction of a convoy for Gaza. Instead the Egyptians insisted they pass through the Israeli border crossing of Karem Abu Salem. For his part the Minister of Social Affairs in the government of Gaza, Dr. Ahmed Kurd, confirmed at a press conference at the gate of the crossing on Sunday night that the convoy included British Parliamentarian George Galloway. He, and other officials, held talks with the Egyptian authorities imploring them to allow the entrance of critically needed medicine, food and blankets. The negotiations failed.

http://english.pnn.ps/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=4917&Itemid=1

Solidarity with Gaza brings jail

CAIRO (IPS) - Magdi Hussein, secretary-general of Egypt's suspended Socialist Labor Party, has been sentenced to two years in prison by a military tribunal. Hussein, along with two others, was charged with "infiltrating" into the Gaza Strip following Israel's recent campaign against the coastal enclave. Protests against his arrest continue to be ineffective.
http://electronicintifada.net/v2/article10369.shtml

Women's Day on the Radio: their children must be released from Israeli prisons

Beit Sahour - Driving from Beit Sahour to Birzeit yesterday, I was listening to a program on radio Falastin titled "Wala Budda LilQayd An Yankasir". The term is a verse from a poem that roughly translates that "the chain is destined to be broken."
http://english.pnn.ps/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=4916&Itemid=1

War Crimes/Criminals

ICC may probe Israeli war crimes on Gaza

The chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Luis Moreno-Ocampo said that he may launch an investigation into war crimes committed by the Israeli army during the 23-day Israeli offensive on Gaza a month ago, Israeli sources said.
http://english.ramattan.net/newsdetails.aspx?news_id=40001

Political Aftermath

Hamas Won't Sit in Fayyad-Led Unity Gov't

Hamas said on Sunday that it would not join a unity government with Fatah that was headed by outgoing Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Salam Fayyad.
http://almanar.com.lb/NewsSite/NewsDetails.aspx?id=76892&language=en

Palestinians: Israeli soldier not to be freed without prisoner swap deal

Palestinian armed groups on Monday stressed that the captive Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit would be freed only under a prisoner exchange deal. "The Israeli occupation will not succeed to link this issue with any other file," said Abu Mujahed, a spokesman for the Popular Resistance Committees (PRC), a group that joined Islamic Hamas movement in capturing the Israeli Corporal in 2006.
http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-03/09/content_10978330.htm

Hamas rejects U.S. intervention in Palestinian unity talks

The Islamic Hamas movement on Monday slammed reports of U.S. intervention in the inter-

Palestinian reconciliation talks that are being held in Cairo. "We reject any foreign intervention in the internal Palestinian affair," said Ismail Radwan, a spokesman for Hamas which controls Gaza Strip.

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-03/09/content_10977985.htm

Hamas makes Islamic Jihad vow not to fire rockets

AFP - Security forces of the Palestinian Islamist movement Hamas in Gaza detained several Islamic Jihad activists and made them sign an agreement not to fire rockets at Israel, a Jihad leader said on Monday.

http://us.rd.yahoo.com/dailynews/rss/mideast/*http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090309/wl_mideast_afp/mideastconflictgazapalestinian

Al-Maliki: Fayyad's resignation will take effect by April

Ramallah – Ma'an – Palestinian Minister of Foreign Affairs Riydh Al-Maliki said on Sunday that the current Palestinian caretaker government will be will be dismissed at the end of March. Al-Maliki added that Fayyad's resignation, which he submitted on Saturday to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, will take effect before April. At a news conference in the West Bank city of Ramallah, Al-Maliki said "the Ministerial Council decided to stop appointments and promotions as of Sunday until the new government takes office. "He added, "We suppose that the Palestinian dialogue will succeed; the last meeting's indications were positive and will produce an agreement soon. "He went on to say that "the government is committed to work all throughout March as part of our responsibility and job. ""We will not give up our responsibility to provide the needed funds to pay salaries in the first week of each month," he added.

http://www.maannews.net/en/index.php?opr=ShowDetails&ID=36320

Israel talking to 'heavyweight' Palestinian prisoners, attorneys say

Lawyers, family members of prisoners with 'blood on their hands' say they are being interviewed by Israeli security officials in framework of prisoner exchange negotiations -Israeli security officials have been interviewing 'heavyweight' Palestinian prisoners in what the Palestinian Authority considers a sign of headway in the negotiations on a possible prisoner swap that would see captive soldier Hamas agrees to remove other 'heavyweight' Palestinian prisoners from the list it had submitted during the negotiations. The Israel Prison Service denied that any talks were being held with Palestinian prisoners, and the Shin Bet refused to comment. It was further reported that about two weeks ago Israel approved 226 of the 450 names on Hamas' list of 'heavyweight' prisoners it wants released in exchange for Shalit.

http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3683225,00.html

Olmert: Barak proves Cast Lead was worthless

Prime minister clashes with defense minister over Egypt-mediated truce talks with Hamas during cabinet meeting on situation in south. Minister Dichter says Palestinians smuggling advanced weapons into Gaza on daily basis - Prime Minister Ehud Olmert slammed Defense Minister Ehud Barak on Sunday during a cabinet meeting discussing the ongoing rocket fire in southern Israel following the recent military offensive in Gaza. "What the defense minister suggests proves that Operation Cast Lead was worthless, because after we crushed them (Hamas), you're proposing that we accept their conditions offered to us before the operation.

http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3682885,00.html

Collaborators

Haaretz: Fayyad's resignation is a tactical move by the US

The Israeli Haaretz newspaper stated Sunday that the resignation of Salam Fayyad as premier of the Ramallah government was a deliberate tactical move by the US to portray him as a "yeanling" seeking the success of the Cairo reconciliation dialog between Hamas and Fatah and as the best

independent person who could lead the next formed unity government. The newspaper noted that this resignation is aimed to pressure Hamas into softening its opposition to Fayyad serving as a premier in the future government. It added that the US relayed a message to Hamas by the Norwegian government that it would not recognize any Palestinian unity government unless Fayyad was reappointed as a premier.

http://www.palestine-info.co.uk/en/default.aspx?xyz=U6Qq7k%2bcOd87MDI46m9rUxJEpMO%2bi1s7PP58iLkbQ24Fu26kK%2buGC1hZsae7hdcM0nfCFTHnQHeglFoMmlsdimsOZeGvfv733Q1sefc2xlrRjrHI0zIGA235JAMaJ3njAxP1v3UyoBo%3d

Other News

Sen. Jon Kyl proposing discrimatory amendment to budget bill to prevent Gazan refugees from resettling in the US

The FY2009 omnibus appropriations bill hasn't gotten too much attention on this site. Until now. This is because Senator Jon Kyl (R-AZ) is attempting to tie passage of this essential bill to a congressional endorsement of anti-Palestinian bigotry.

http://www.philipweiss.org/mondoweiss/2009/03/sen-jon-kyl-proposing-discrimatory-amendment-to-budget-bill-that-would-prevent-gazan-refugees-from-r.html

Israeli prosecutors to indict ex-president on rape charges

Israeli prosecutors said Sunday they would indict former President Moshe Katsav on charges including rape in the latest act of a years-long saga that saw the politician resign in disgrace. "Following the completion of the investigation ... the attorney general and the state prosecutor decided to indict Mr. Moshe Katsav.

http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=10&categ_id=2&article_id=99925

Peres: Arabs' problem is their treatment of women

On International Women's Day, president says domestic domination still a problem; also discusses economic and security issues during visit to north.

http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3683276,00.html

'Indictment Will Force Lieberman to Quit Cabinet Within Weeks'

Law enforcement sources said on Saturday that if Yisrael Beiteinu chairman Avigdor Lieberman is appointed cabinet minister in the next government it will be for a brief period only, as he will be forced to resign once the police complete their criminal investigation against him and issue charges, Haaretz reported. The daily also quoted the sources as saying that some evidence uncovered in the corruption probe has not been made public.

http://almanar.com.lb/NewsSite/NewsDetails.aspx?id=76769&language=en

Israel opposes UK-Hizbullah talks

Israel has expressed its objection to the British cabinet's decision to initiate talks with Hizbullah, Isreali media reported on Sunday. Israel called on the United Kingdom to stop establishing any kind of relations with the party. An Israeli foreign affairs spokesman said on Sunday that Israel considered any rapprochement between Britain and Hizbullah.

http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=1&categ_id=2&article_id=99935

Russian FM: Make Middle East nuclear weapons-free zone

Lavrov also called for a successor deal with the United States to their Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START I), saying this was a priority in 'resetting' their relations as Washington has urged.

http://haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1069219.html

U.S. gov't takeover of mortgage giants good for Israeli banks

The U.S. government's landmark takeover of troubled mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will also serve to boost banks in Israel, according to banking analysts.
http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1018922.html

Solidarity

Resistance against the Wall widens in the north

The protests against the Wall expanded this week, as villagers in the isolated communities of Wadi Rasha and Ras Tira turned out to fight the re-rerouting of the Wall in Qalqilya. Weekly protests against the Wall were also held in Jayyous, Ni'lin, Bil'in and al-Ma'sara.
http://stopthewall.org/latestnews/1882.shtml

Pulitzer Prize Winning Author Alice Walker, CodePink Founder Medea Benjamin in Gaza to Mark International Women's Day

Millions around the world marked International Women's Day on Sunday by celebrating advances made by women and honoring the ongoing global struggle for gender equality and equal rights. We go to Gaza, where a women's delegation just made it in, to speak with Pulitzer prize winning author, Alice Walker, and CodePink founder Medea Benjamin.
http://www.democracynow.org/2009/3/9/pulitzer_prize_winning_author_alice_walker

Carmel blockaded in Jayyous solidarity action

A group of students from Brighton locked themselves to Carmel Agrexco, the Israeli state owned export company, to protest against the ongoing annexation of the West Bank as well as the repression of students in Jayyous. This action is the latest in a series of Agrexco blockades, which have included numerous actions in the UK as well as a protest last month in Belgium.
http://stopthewall.org/worldwideactivism/1880.shtml

Palestinian students push BDS in universities and cities

IAW events for the past several days in the West Bank focused on strengthening the internal BDS movement and promoting Palestinian products. Considerable progress was made from March 4 – 5 in moving the boycott forward in Palestinian universities. Students are not only working to institutionalize a boycott of Israeli goods inside the university, but also bringing the BDS call into their local shops and communities. Events took place in Nablus, Tulkarm, Jericho, Qalqilya, and Ramallah colleges and universities, as well as in the Jenin camp. At an-Najah in Nablus, a talk and discussion was held entitled, "The global BDS campaign: Comparing the South African and Palestinian experience. " Student activists are also busy preparing a workshop for the coming week, and will host a speaker from Stop the Wall who will hold a session on the Wall and the BDS movement.
http://stopthewall.org/latestnews/1879.shtml

Campaign to boycott Israeli products in 50 West Bank towns

Nablus – Ma'an – Palestinian activists will launch a boycott campaign in the coming days targeting Israeli products in 50 villages in the northern West Bank. The chair of the Popular Committees in Nablus, Khalid Mansour, told Ma'an that according to official statistics, Palestinians consume 2.6 billion shekels worth of Israeli goods each year. According to official Palestinian statistics, 28 percent of this money goes towards the purchase of Israeli cement.
http://www.maannews.net/en/index.php?opr=ShowDetails&Do=&ID=36289

Palestinian Rappers Take On The Occupation (VIDEO)

Rap in the occupied territories doesn't follow the formula. While it shares the style of its American forefathers, protest and change take center stage.
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2009/03/06/palestinian-rappers-take_n_172658.html

Uganda hit by anti-Israel hackers

Uganda's ministry of defence freezes its website after hackers post anti-Israel messages on the home page.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/rss/-/2/hi/africa/7932544.stm

Anti-Solidarity

What happened at the University of Maryland?

A professor at the University of Maryland sent me a letter that the President of the university sent to the faculty. This is a passage: "Last night students leaving a program offered for Palestinian Awareness Week were confronted with anonymous disparaging posters and images that were attributed to no organization or person, and as such were in strict violation of University policy. They also violated the spirit of tolerance and open dialogue. Anonymous attacks are not open, not dialogue, and not defensible by people of character. The origins of these images are being investigated. "

http://angryarab.blogspot.com/2009/03/what-happened-at-university-of-maryland.html

Op-ed/Analysis

Palestinian Child Attends School Despite Possible Israeli Retaliation

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/lee-camp/palestinian-child-attends_b_172948.html

Ann Wright: With The Women of Gaza On International Women's Day: We Will Not Be Silent!

"Would women in Gaza really celebrate International Women's Day?" was the question members of our 58 person delegation from United States, Canada, Pakistan, France, Australia, Egypt, Dubai and Turkey asked as we travelled from Cairo to the Gaza border.

In less than three weeks, the delegates had responded to an appeal by Codepink: Women for Peace to join an international delegation to try to go into Gaza at the invitation of the United Nations Works and Relief Agency of Gaza (UNWRA). Women of Gaza have so little to celebrate.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ann-wright/with-the-women-of-gaza-on_b_173021.html

Where Every Day Is a Woman's Day

We've been warned she's a "harsh case". Hesitantly she enters, a withdrawn smile hidden behind glasses and a canopy of thick black hair. Impassively, she tells her life story - as if it's about someone else entirely: She's 19. Since seven, she's been sexually assaulted by "an influential family relative." He used to tell her what they were doing was "normal between a man and a woman." She felt secluded from her own family by a vow forced upon her not to reveal their 'little secret': "I didn't know what to do - he's so well-known in our community. I couldn't speak to my dad whom I love so much. My mother was of little comfort. I was afraid."

http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=46026

A Freeman Time-Line

This is Freeman's cardinal sin among his critics: to blame Israel, even in part, for the plight it finds itself in, and to ask that US foreign policy be more neutral with respect to the parties in the Middle East. This is the third rail no one is allowed to touch and have access to real power in Washington. Even when the horrifying Gaza assault was going on, it became evidence of anti-Semitism to find the civilian casualties morally repellent and the siege itself counter-productive. This kind of intimidation must end. And again: it is not as if Freeman is being given the job that, say Dennis Ross has. It is that a man with these views has any right to be in any American government at all. Of course he does. Obama was not elected to continue the policies toward Israel of George W. Bush.

http://andrewsullivan.theatlantic.com/the_daily_dish/2009/03/a-freeman-time.html

Another Anti-Semite For Freeman

So, in sum, a guarded vote for Chas Freeman--not that any votes will be necessary for this appointive position. It's time we had some candor and intellectual noncomformity, some abrasiveness in the too-smooth collegiality of the intelligence bunker. It is also time to resume the relative balance that existed before George W. Bush gave veto power to Israel's neoconservative supporters over US government policy and appointees in the region.
http://andrewsullivan.theatlantic.com/the_daily_dish/2009/03/another-anti-se.html#more

Fathers and Sons: A Spirited Defense of Chas Freeman by his Politically Divergent Son

My father, Chas Freeman, was recently appointed to chair the National Intelligence Council, an important but not political position that operates as editor-in-chief of "big think" analysis of foreign policy for the President. A cabal of ideological hardliners has orchestrated a remarkable, self-referential smear campaign against my Dad's appointment, dragging Congress and the political process into this non-political sphere. They are wrong to do it, and not just because my Dad is involved.
http://www.thewashingtonnote.com/archives/2009/03/chas_fre/

US Affairs: Losing the lobby on the Hill?

Democratic Congressman Gary Ackerman, who chairs the House Foreign Affairs Middle East subcommittee, and represents heavily Jewish areas of New York's Long Island, issued a scathing critique of Israel at his first hearing of the session.
http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull&cid=1236269356568

White Man and Paul Newman

I had posted on this days ago. Sean Lee responded and he sent me his response, which I would have posted anyway because a few sent it to me. Some friends felt that I was too harsh and too hasty--which is characteristic of me (politically speaking). But I don't take anything I said back. I wrote before about my usage of "the White Man": it is not a racial category--or it is not merely a racial category but also a political and epistemological category. I don't have time to write too much as I just arrived home but it is amazing how Lee misses the point and reveals the extent to which he is clueless about his White Man (and American) privilege at a place like AUB--a blatantly colonial and colonialist institution where Americans are treated in every way possible far better than the natives.
http://angryarab.blogspot.com/2009/03/white-man-and-paul-newsman.html

World takes dim view of Lieberman in FM post

American and European officials have thus far declined to comment publicly on the expected appointment of Yisrael Beiteinu chairman Avigdor Lieberman as foreign minister. Behind the scenes, however, many officials are asking whether this appointment is really necessary - and newspapers on both continents are criticizing the move openly.
http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1069708.html

Israeli right-wing cabinet will increase extremism in the region, challenge the US

As the majority of governments in the Arab world struggle to win the battle over the spread of extremism in order to defeat Al-Qaeda, and as the new US administration of President Barack

Obama starts an uphill battle to undo the mess left behind in the greater Middle East region by the Bush administration, an extreme right-wing government starts to take shape in Israel under Likud Party leader Benjamin Netanyahu threatening to place the volatile region on a steady course toward more extremism and instability, and likely new military confrontations.
http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=10&categ_id=2&article_id=99927

On a low simmer

"Bomb, bomb, bomb Gaza" is the extent of Israeli strategic thinking these days, notes Saleh Al-Naami. Last Saturday night, Adel Zareb was on his way home in Rafah, near the border between the Gaza Strip and Egypt, when a massive explosion shook the area. Its force made Zareb take to the ground, and when he rose again he found that his hand was bleeding. The explosion's source was an Israeli F-15 fighter jet that was attacking the border strip with bombs that weighed up to a tonne, and flying shrapnel from this attack struck Zareb's arm. Zareb, who is a spokesperson for the Palestinian Crossing Authority, told Al-Ahram Weekly that he's lost count of how many times Israeli jets have attacked the border area. Its features are unrecognisable due to the many deep pits caused by bombing aimed at destroying the tunnels that Israel claims are used to smuggle arms into the Gaza Strip.
http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2009/937/re1.htm

Truly above any law

The Spanish government looks ready to cave in to Israeli pressure to ensure its criminals remain untouched, Amanda Noureddine reports from Madrid.
http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2009/937/re3.htm

No Headlines As Epic Journey To Gaza Nears Its End

An epic journey across eight countries is nearing its end. Gaza is almost within sights of the weary drivers and their navigators. On Day 21, the British convoy leaders decided to by-pass the towns of Benghazi and Bayda in Libya after consulting with Libyan officials to cut the time it would take to get to Gaza. This meant a desert crossing of some 400km - enduring not what many would think to be hot and stifling conditions, but rather the bitter cold of winter winds unbroken by vast expanses of emptiness. Perhaps few thought of what would await them on this journey when they first set out, but certainly, despite the hardships no one is complaining. What the Palestinians in Gaza are suffering is so much more and that is uppermost in everyone's minds.
http://www.zcommunications.org/znet/viewArticlePrint/20822

Israel-Palestine: A Land in Fragments

Can the current framework of negotiations lead to a just peace for Palestinians and Israelis? Visit http://afsc.org/mideast The U.S. says it supports a secure Israel and the creation of a viable Palestinian state. But the Obama administration has revealed that it will not challenge the facts on the ground the large blocks of land in the West Bank that have been claimed by Israel. Does this undermine the possibility of a viable Palestinian state?
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ewF7AXn3dg

Celebration for the life and work of our late great poet Mahmoud Darwish

Dubai/ - The Dubai International Festival 2009 was a great night, reported all sources. "We cannot lose sight of the words and wisdom of our Palestinian poet, not only the national poet, but a teacher and artist throughout the Arab world," said a guest at the Darwish memorial in the United Arab Emirates. We lost Mahmoud this summer, a funeral whose tragedy came close only to that of our late President Yasser Arafat. "This land deserves life," was just one sentence spoken among hundreds at the Dubai activity. No one was a stranger to Darwish who sang and recited, celebrated his wisdom and beauty. Tears flowed freely as they did at his funeral in Ramallah's Al Muqata,

Presidential Headquarters: no shame here. His poetry and letters, his ability to say what we all are trying to impart ourselves, made a night worthy of what the name suggests.
http://english.pnn.ps/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=4915&Itemid=1

Iraq

Sadrist MP demands immediate US troop pullout

AFP - A senior MP from radical Iraqi Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr's party on Monday called for the immediate withdrawal of US troops, a day after plans for a major drawdown was announced.
http://us.rd.yahoo.com/dailynews/rss/iraq/*http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20090309/wl_mideast_afp/iraqusmilitary

As 6th anniversary of war in Iraq nears, civilian toll is elusive

BAGHDAD - In the evenings, women in black gather at Umm Fatin's house to remember the dead. Each family in the four neighboring houses in Tahrir, a former Sunni insurgent stronghold in Baqubah, has lost loved ones to bombings or shootings. Yet these deaths and countless others have fallen under the radar of the Iraq war. Nobody keeps an accurate tally of Iraqis killed because nobody knows.
http://www.boston.com/news/world/middleeast/articles/2009/03/08/as_6th_anniversary_of_war_in_iraq_nears_civilian_toll_is_elusive/

Study: 30% of Iraqis have witnessed shootings, bombings

A study on Iraq reveals that about 30 percent have been exposed to shootings or bombings, and others have witnessed killings or mutilated bodies.
http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3682593,00.html

IRAQ: Iraqi women suffering "silent emergency", survey finds

Source: IRIN Marking International Women's Day on 8 March a new survey has painted a grim picture for Iraqi women who it says are suffering a "silent emergency" as they endure insecurity, poverty and a lack of basic services.
http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/IRIN/0b8f55972b54c473dcc67af83e5b89ae.htm

Remembering Iraq: Still Struggling?

http://www.kabobfest.com/2009/03/remembering-iraq-still-struggling.html

--

www.TheHeadlines.org

Messages in this topic (1) **Reply** (via web post) | **Start a new topic**

Messages

==========

Freedom For Palestine!

Seventh Annual International Al-Awda Convention

Anaheim, California

May 22-24, 2009

http://www.al-awda.org/convention7/index.html

==========

Support Al-Awda, a Great Organization and Cause!

Become an Al-Awda Sustainer:

Monthly: http://al-awda.org/sustainers.html

Annual: http://al-awda.org/sustainers2.html

==========

Unless indicated otherwise, all statements posted represent the views of their authors and not necessarily those of Al-Awda, The Palestine Right to Return Coalition.

==========

MARKETPLACE

From kitchen basics to easy recipes - join the Group from Kraft Foods

Yahoo! Groups

Change settings via the Web (Yahoo! ID required)

Change settings via email: Switch delivery to Daily Digest | Switch format to Traditional

Visit Your Group | Yahoo! Groups Terms of Use | Unsubscribe