

## Listen to what top Israeli security and intelligence experts are saying about Israel's approach to the intifada:



**IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Moshe Ya'alon, Israel's foremost military official**, said that he reached the conclusion that "in our tactical decisions, we are operating contrary to our strategic interest." Ya'alon also said that while he's convinced that Yasir Arafat is mainly to blame for causing the failure of Abu Mazen's government, Israel could have helped the Palestinian Prime Minister stand up to Arafat, but it was too "stingy" in its gestures. There was a window of opportunity: The Americans were at the height of their strength due to the victory in Iraq, the Palestinian street supported Abu Mazen's cabinet and opposed terror. He warned the Government not to repeat the same mistake with the new Palestinian prime minister, Ahmed Qureia.

**Yisrael Hasson, the former Deputy Director of the Israeli General Security Services**, said, "When you put together everything we've said about destroying the terror infrastructure, when you see that we killed the Hamas leader in Hebron five times already, when you see that all of this has no political basis, you realize that our situation is getting worse and worse. Those who are constantly busy destroying the terror infrastructure and not dealing with the motivation, make Israel's situation worse and betray their position as leader. Who in this country thinks that Tulkarm benefits the Zionist enterprise? How does what we do there help lower the motivation for terror and [help] Israel's future? Holding a debate on terror by discussing the bomb tonnage is absurd. A victory over terror is folly."



**Maj. Gen. Yosef Mishlav, the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories**, said, "The degree of despair within Palestinian society has reached a peak since the fighting began in September 2000; the Palestinians feel they are facing their fate alone...the sense in the street is of a prison, of a pressure cooker, unlike previous times when there were ups and downs. From a social aspect, a fundamental hatred for Israel now exists that is not based on propaganda and incitement. It is our assessment that Hamas will gain strength despite its momentary weakness, because there is a vacuum, which it has already begun to fill. This hatred is on the rise and increases fanaticism. When there are no solutions, Islam is the solution."

Israel has a right to defend itself against terror, but it must do so intelligently. Americans for Peace Now has been saying since the start of the Intifada that relying on force alone, without a viable political option, may offer some short-term benefits, but it will not improve Israeli security in the long-run. Relying only on military measures as a response to terrorism plants the seeds of greater hatred against Israel that will eventually bear bitter fruit.

**But don't just take our word for it. Take it from the security experts.**

To take action in support of peace and to learn more about how you can help promote Shalom Achshav and Americans for Peace Now's efforts here in Chicago, across the US, with our elected officials in Washington, and in Israel,

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or contact

Americans for Peace Now

1101 14th Street, NW, Sixth Floor, Washington DC 20005 (202) 728-1893

[www.peacenow.org](http://www.peacenow.org)

