

Thank You Rabbi Wohl -

Congregation President - David Binus

Past Congregation Pres - of long standing contributions

Clark Adelman and

Good Evening: My fellow members of the Agudath Achim Congregation

TONIGHT IS THE HOLIEST OF NIGHTS:

I have some personal comments to make about the worthiness of Israel Bonds as an Investment for anyone (Jewish or non-Jewish): Also, I'll mention some insights about the recent Gaza (Hamas) Israeli conflict. This will take only several minutes of your time. So, please bear with me.

We all know how fiscally solid Israel Bonds are as an investment for you and your family. NEVER have these Bonds experienced a "DEFAULT" of any kind for its bondholders. The current INTEREST rate is VERY favorable. And, we all know that Israel Bonds generate "JOBS" in Israel and provide financial aid for Israel's infrastructure: roads, water purification, pipelines and the like.

We are all familiar with how the 2014 Gaza-Israeli conflict began. Hamas struck first by flooding the Israeli skies with thousands of rockets launched often

from populated civilian sites throughout the Gaza Strip. It would be safe to say, if it were not for its strategic “Iron Dome” Air Defense System, damage to Israeli civilians would have been catastrophic. These Hamas, civilian rocket-launching-sites were often referred as “human shield” rocket sites as they became targets for Israeli retaliation. Since these sites were often intentionally located, by Hamas, in Gaza residential areas, civilian casualties were likely and did occur. Why did Hamas do this! First, they wanted to discourage Israel from attacking the rocket sites but knew that if they did, worldwide media sympathy and support would be generated due to this orchestrated collateral damage of innocent civilians.

In addition, Hamas used its secretly built **vast underground tunnel systems** at and near the Israeli border to attack nearby Kibbutz civilians and Israeli soldiers. Unfortunately, over 2,100 Gaza people died during this War (including Hamas terrorist fighters). Hamas claimed that only 10% of those killed were their militant fighters. Hamas directed its Gaza people to conceal any reference to casualties being Hamas fighters in an effort to distort and elevate the civilian death numbers. However, early on, the Israelis asserted that approximately one-third (1/3) of the casualties were Hamas militants. The IDF figures were compiled using multiple factors: (age, sex, obits. Etc.). Just this week, I’m advised the

estimated GAZA civilian deaths from the War have dropped further to an estimated 1,100 - 1,300. The Hamas causality numbers continue to rise.

Just recently in August, My wife and I attended some Middle East seminars in New York State, while the Gaza conflict was ongoing. Participation there included several older U.S. CIA and National Security Agency (NSA) agents as presenters. Since the general news media was so very fixated on Gaza War death causality ratios (Gaza Palestinians = 2,100 vs Israeli = low 60's) the agents were questioned about these possibly distorted casualty loses. They responded by explaining that, in their opinion, the Israeli's apparently were extremely successful in minimalizing Gaza civilian deaths.

Considering the number and diversity of weapons employed by both sides and the mostly urban civilian residential launch sites used by Hamas (human shields), death casualty numbers should normally have been several times larger than 2100. Also, they attributed IDF advance early warning phone calls and other Israeli humanitarian warning procedures to notify the GAZA civilians at the targeted locations, thus minimizing civilian deaths.

This was a classic case of "Good vs Evil". To most civilized countries like Israel and US, each good human life is precious. US Marines risk their lives to

rescue their colleagues rather than leave them behind. On the other hand, Hamas terrorist prefer to place fellow civilian countrymen “at risk” as “human shields” to die as casualties of war and increase the casualty count for sympathy and propaganda purposes.

Initially, let me admit and confess that my comments today, s you might suspect, are somewhat biased on the subject of the 2014 Gaza-Israel conflict. However, when evaluating the purchase of an Israel Bond, there is absolutely no bias. For most people, Israel Bonds are a fiscally sound investment for your family. In April 2012, I visited the State of Israel for the third time. We traveled with a small Tauke-Tour group, half of whom were Jewish. We were all so completely impressed with the Israeli people and their thriving and robust economy. Also, we were inspired by the vitality, good humor and high spirits of the young men and women Israeli soldiers, whether they were praying at the Western Wall or elsewhere. They were an ethnically mixed group, ranging from Israeli native-born to Russian and Ethiopian Jews. Once they identified our group as “Americans” they merrily directed us to a local vendor for a Tee-shirt souvenir: “America don’t worry, Israel is behind you”.

So far this year, existing Israel Bond sales in the Altoona Region suggest that, with your help and participation tonight, this current campaign will TOP and

exceed last year's total. The Pittsburgh Bond office has suggested that they will coordinate, with the Altoona Bond committee and Bill Wallen, to sign-on a prominent national Guest Speaker to headline our Altoona Regional event that's coming soon. Further, we're advised that the Greater Altoona area's Bond Drive comprises meaningful and key segment of the entire Pittsburgh region's overall Board investment total.

Over the years, you've observed Israel's struggle to survive. Yet Israel continues to THRIVE in the face of adversity. And we American Jews are very proud of them, and for good reasons. They are industrious, technically creative and dedicated to hard work and achievement. So, this is the message here tonight: **Israel Bond Funding contributes significantly to Israel's ongoing development.** Remember, "America Don't Worry, Israel is Behind You"? Let's be able to say here tonight: Israel Don't Worry, WE Are Behind You.

BUY BONDS!

Please take up your CARD. (pause)

Bend Down the appropriate purchase tab sum of your choice, then pass your card to the USHERS collecting the cards.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING 'ISRAEL" AND YOUR OWN FAMILY'S INVESTMENT PLAN