



Working Document

Examples of Anti-Semitic and problematic Cartoons (concerning the Middle East conflict) in the Western Media

USA

San Diego Tribune (United States), May 18, 2001

The *San Diego Union-Tribune* today printed an op-ed by Yuval Rotem, Israel's Consul General to the Southwest, accompanied by (in fact wrapped around) a cartoon worthy of the notorious Nazi paper *Der Sturmer*. The cartoon, drawn by a freelancer according to the paper, showed an apparent murder victim on the ground with a large Jewish Star protruding from his back. Blood seemed to be flowing from the point where the Jewish Star was embedded in the victim's back. Whatever the intention of the cartoonist or the paper, the cartoon is extremely offensive and anti-Semitic. It defiles as a weapon of murder and a tool of violence the ancient symbol of the Jewish people. (CAMERA)



Berkeley Daily Planet (United States), April 16-19, 2004

Caption: „The State of Palestine“

The American flag labeled with a big Star of David sticks into a person, which bleeds and is holding a palestinian flag, suggesting that Jewish controlled America killed the „State of Palestine“.



USA Today (United States), February 18, 2004

The February 13, 2004 edition of *USA Today* published as an advertisement a large editorial cartoon on page 7-A. The illustration features a smug Ariel Sharon at a restaurant table, the U.S. flag in his pocket. The Israeli prime minister is grinding unidentified stick figures under his boot, which carries a „Made in USA“ mark. A waiter, identified as „US Press,“ serves Sharon a character labeled „US Public,“ with an apple stuffed in his mouth. The cartoon's cutline reads: „Motto of the U.S. Media: 'To serve the American People'.“

Except for the word „Advertisement,“ printed in small type in the upper corners of the drawing, no identifying information appears, save for what might be the cartoonist's initials in the lower right. A one-sixth of a page ad, such as this, costs \$32,400 at *USA Today's* open rate, although that may be discounted. (CAMERA)



USA



The Boston Globe (United States), April 23, 2004

Caption: „So we let Sharon build another little settlement! So what?“

The White House in Washington is shown with one American and three Israeli flags on top, suggesting that the United States is governed by Israel and does not care about the Palestinians.



Chicago Tribune (United States), May 30, 2003

Text: “On second thought the pathway to peace is looking a bit brighter.”

The Chicago Tribune ran an offensive and fallacious cartoon by Dick Locher on May 30, 2003 reminiscent of the anti-Jewish stereotypes of Nazi propagandist Julius Streicher, publisher of the notorious *Der Sturmer* (see below). Locher twists Israeli leader Ariel Sharon’s motives for peace into one of greed. Sharon is portrayed with a large hooked nose that doesn’t resemble his actual profile. A groveling Bush, dominated by a large Sharon, is paving a trail of money to Arafat as Sharon declares “the path to peace is looking a bit brighter.”

While editorial cartoons are meant to satirically summarize — sometimes insensitively — current events, they are expected to be based on fact.

- America did not offer Israel financial inducements to accept the “road map”.
- Israel has repeatedly sought peace, even at great risk to its citizens, only to have the overtures rejected and/or answered with Palestinian violence.
- Forbes magazine (March 17, 2003) claims Arafat is worth at least 300 million dollars. One of his main money sources has been foreign aid meant for the Palestinian people which he has diverted to his own accounts. Yet, the cartoon portrays Sharon and not Arafat as greedy.
- The road map is supposed to be negotiated with Mahmoud Abbas — not Arafat. (CAMERA)



Miami Herald (United States), August 2, 2003

Ariel Sharon is shown with a kippa on his head (labeled with the Star of David) moving a big Uncle Sam chess figure, holding a big club, against a tiny Palestinian boy chess figure, moved by an Arab behind a Palestinian flag, suggesting that America and its forces are just a proxy of Israel.



Washington Post (United States), December 17, 2002

The large, 5-inch by 3-column cartoon features a trail of money winding from a building labeled “Extremism Studies” to a figure in Arab headdress labeled “Saudi Arabia” in the center. The figure meets Uncle Sam, behind whom a similar cash path snakes to a building marked „Israeli Settlements” in the lower right. Says Uncle Sam to Saudi Arabia: “Not too bright! You’ve left a trail of dollars leading right back to a bunch of religious fanatics!” Echoes the miniature Uncle Sam to his Saudi counterpart in the lower right, “How do you expect anybody to take you seriously?” (CAMERA)



March 2004 Newark (NJ) Star-Ledger (USA) cartoonist Drew Sheneman illustrated the claim of many print editorials that Israel’s strike against Yassin will unleash Islamic terrorism against America.

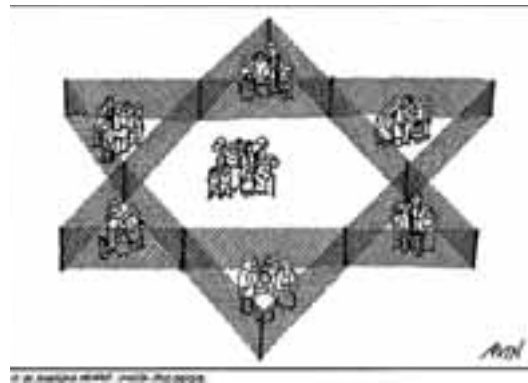
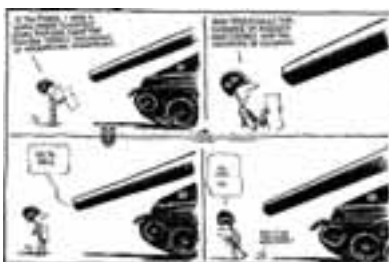


Master cartoonist Pat Oliphant weighed in on the Israeli spy story on August 30 [2004], three days after it was first reported. He sketched Israel as a dog urinating on Uncle Sam, who is reading a newspaper headlined "Mole in the Pentagon" and exclaiming, "What? Again?!"

As in many Oliphant cartoons, the star of David designates Israel. It was affixed to the dog with the lifted leg, who airily observes: "I do this only in friendship." In the corner of the cartoon, two miniature figures comment: "That's becoming a habit — Stop" and "The dog needs training."

Cartoonists obviously enjoy a latitude that other opinion-page contributors do not, but Oliphant's pre-judging the outcome of the reported Pentagon allegations, and his unsubstantiated charge that Israel makes a "habit" of spying underscore his disdain for facts and his avidity in assailing the Jewish state.... (CAMERA/JERUSALEM POST)

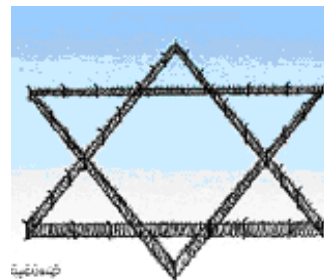
Some other examples of the works done by the same cartoonist...



Philadelphia Inquirer (United States), July 31, 2003

...the cartoon by Tony Auth [...] appeared in the Seattle Times, Philadelphia Inquirer and online editions of the Washington Post and New York Times on July 31, 2003. Underneath it are Arab press and Nazi-era cartoons it closely resembles. One (left) appeared in Jordan's Al-Rai a year and a half ago on December 4, 2002; the other, uncovered by blogger Mike Silverman brought to public attention by Charles Johnson ("Echoes of Nazism," Aug. 4, 2003) was drawn by leading Nazi cartoonist Josef Plank, known as "Seppla" and dates to the mid-1930's. Seppla frequently depicted Jews as taking over the world. (CAMERA)

COMPARABLE TO:



Al-Rai (Jordan), December 4, 2002



Josef Plank (Nazi-Germany), Mid-1930's, Title: "Die überationale Mauer"



Editorial cartoon From Bob Englehart of the Hartford Courant (USA, 2004) Text: Frankly i'm more concerned about the Anti-Semitism caused by Ariel Sharons politics!

GERMANY



Süddeutsche Zeitung (Germany), July 21, 2004

In this cartoon a Jew (man with Star of David on his back and kippa (head covering) on his head) – not obviously Ariel Sharon – is portrayed as trampling through a French cafe called „Chez Jacques“, destroying everything in his way and shouting “Why can’t I feel any sympathy?”. The cartoon thus suggests that Jews destroy everything in their way and then shout “anti-Semitism “ for no obvious reason.



Berliner Zeitung (Germany), May 21, 2004

The woman: „Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld, Wolfowitz – eh – who is this Wolfowitz?“
 The man: “Wolfowitz? This is the comparison [increase] of Wolffsohn [A German Jewish army Univeristy Professor, who called in an TV-interview torture of terrorists “legitimate”]...”
 Both, Wolfowitz and Wolffsohn, are (as it known generally) Jews.



Eulenspiegel (Germany), September 2003

Michel Friedman, a German Jewish celebrity is shown in this magazin with an extraordinary big hooked nose, taking money in front of a public toilet and a prostitute, referring to his illegal prostitution affair, that became widely public. Similar picture from a German anti-Semitic Website from a few days before...



Die Zeit (Germany), May 29, 2002

Text (German Police Officer): “Please don’t take it anti-Semitic, but you are standing in an absolute clearway.”
 On the sign with the Star of David: “Settlement”
 Orthodox Jews are building a settlement in the middle of a street (a clearway) in a German city, suggesting, that Jewish settlers (Note: Orthodox Jews, like dressed on the picture, are usually not “settlers”) don’t care for rules, are occupying territory in the most public and displaced places, and are doing this not just in Israel, but in Germany (in general?), too. Thus creating a kind of fear of a Jewish occupation. Furthermore the sentence of the officer implemetns the statement, that whatever Jews are doing, also it’s clearly wrong and against the laws, they will always reject critics with the claim, that they are anti-Semitic.

ENGLAND



Independent/Guardian (United Kingdom), January 2003

Cartoon of the Year 2003 (The 'Political Cartoon of the Year Award' 2003, UK)

Text: "What's wrong... you never seen a politician kissing babies before?" / "Vote Sharon"

The worst media offense was a political cartoon [by Dave Brown] published in The Independent, which depicts Ariel Sharon biting into the flesh of a Palestinian baby. The background shows Apache attack helicopters firing missiles, and blaring the message „Vote Likud.“ The cartoon not only misrepresents the real reason for the IDF operations — to stop the incessant missile attacks on Jewish communities, but the imagery is akin to something out of the Nazi „Der Sturmer“ or the current Syrian press. That the mainstream British media could publish such a vile depiction of the Israeli leader speaks volumes about the anti-Israel climate sweeping Europe today.

(HONEST REPORTING)



Francesco de Goya Spain, 1819

Dave Brown, independent UK, January 2003

Radical Islamic rally India, July 2003

ITALY



BRAZIL



March 2004: The Brazilian cartoonist Osmani Simanca ehashed the crucifixion canard against the Jewish people.

ITALY



Panorama (Italy), April 18, 2002

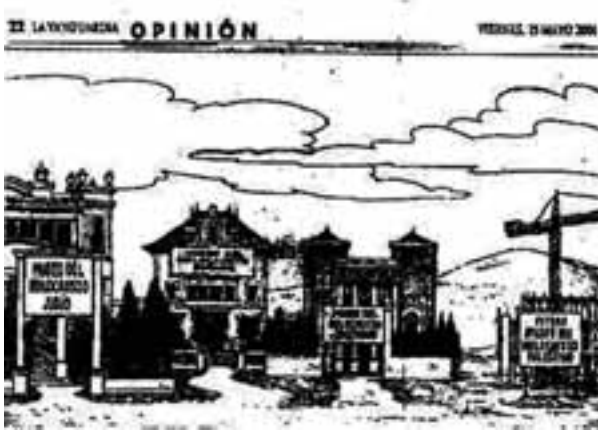
Pope on the cross – full page cartoon in the Italian press "... You shoot at the house where my God was born, at his sepulcher, at the statue of his mother. You terrorize my priests and nuns in order to extract four miserable Palestinians...and if I protest, you call me an Anti-Semite?"

La Stampa (Italia), April 4, 2002

Text: „Surely they don't want to kill me again?"

Yesterday the Turin paper La Stampa, another ultra-respectable establishment organ, ran a front-page cartoon showing a tank emblazoned with the Star of David pointing its gun straight at the baby Jesus, who tells the attackers: „Surely they don't want to kill me again?" While anti-Semitic imagery is still rare enough in the mainstream Italian press to make it worth remarking on, the conventional wisdom is overwhelmingly and aggressively anti-Israeli. Why else would the popular TV host Bruno Vespa (a slightly more cerebral version of Larry King) dare ask the Israeli ambassador, a guest on his show: „Was this the way to repay the Holy Father's overture, sending tanks into the birthplace of Jesus?" (Francis X. Rocca)

SPAIN



La Vanguardia (Spain), May 25, 2001

From left to right, building signs read: „Museum of the Jewish Holocaust,” „Museum of the Bosnian Holocaust,” and „Museum of the Chechen Holocaust.” Building on the far right is under construction. The sign reads: „Future Museum of the Palestinian Holocaust.”



Cambio 16 (Spain), June 4, 2001

Text: „History has a strange way of repeating itself”
 Cartoon picturing Prime Minister Sharon with a yarmulke saying: „From bad can come good. At least, Hitler taught me to invade a country and exterminate every living vermin.” Notice the swastika inside the Star of David on his chest.

AUSTRIA



Kleine Zeitung (Austria), May 19, 2004

In comparing a Nazi and an Israeli soldier, the cartoons constructs an analogy between the deliberate Nazi policy to annihilate the Jews of Europe, and accidental Palestinian casualties as a result of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Whatever one’s view of Israeli policies, this comparison is inappropriate and offensive. (ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE)

GREECE



Eleftherotypia (Greece), March 23, 2004

A cartoon (above) by Stathis Stavropoulos depicts Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and President George W. Bush dressed like Nazi officers with swastikas on their uniforms, [...] shooting pistols. In the caricature, President Bush tells Prime Minister Sharon: „Assassinations brought us nowhere Ariel, but the assassination of politics may lead somewhere.” (ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE)



Eleftherotypia (Greece), March 24, 2004

A caricature (above) by Stathis Stavropoulos shows Ariel Sharon dressed like a Nazi with a swastika on his arm stating: „Fascism is not only the logic of killing, but primarily killing logic.” (ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE)



The headline reads: “Holocaust II.”
 The caption reads: “War machine of Sharon is attempting to carry out a new Holocaust, a new genocide.”
 This cartoon appeared in the reportedly pro-Government Center Left publication — Eleftherotypia. (ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE)

GREECE

GREECE



Ethnos (A reportedly pro-Government Center Left daily) April 7, 2002

Caption: „Don’t feel guilty brother. We were not in Auschwitz and Dachau to suffer but to learn.” (ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE)



Eleftherotipia (Greece), March 27, 2004

The first middle aged woman asks the man, „Why did the Jewish Government kill a religious leader?” The man answers: „They are practicing for Easter.” In the second frame, the woman says: „Sharon killed a crippled leader.” The man responds: „That’s nothing. He also asked to assume the responsibility for the security of the Special Olympics.”



The Nazi-like Israeli Soldier to the Nazi officer: “Arafat is not a person the Reich can talk to anymore.” Nazi officer replies : “Why? Is he a Jew?” This is clearly an offensive comparison between Israelis and the Nazis of the third Reich. (ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE)



Ta Nea (Reportedly the largest newspaper in Greece), April 1, 2002

Caption: “I’m not sorry that what we are doing to you is what the Nazis did to us. I am sorry for those that you will do to what we did to you.” (ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE)

USA



Arizona Republic (United States), February 22, 2002

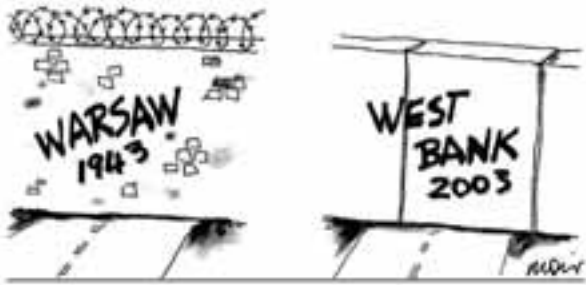
On the sign left: “Black Homeland – Property of South Africa”, Caption: “Didn’t work then...” On the sign right: “Palestinian Homeland – Property of Israel”, Caption: “Won’t work now...” Comparing Israel to the Apartheid South Africa.

NEW ZEALAND





THE ROAD TO PEACE



AUSTRALIA

Israeli security fence portayed as equal to Nazi repression against Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto.

Text: "The road to peace" (Australia, August 2003)

"LE MONDE", FRANCE



FRANCE

Le Monde (France), April 2002

Text: „History has a strange way of repeating itself“

The editors of the newspaper know that a maximum of 57 Palestinians were killed in a small area of the Jenin refugee camp, most of them terrorists and suicide bombers. But Le Monde knowingly chose to embrace the ‚big lie‘ tactic that not only encourages the worst extremists in the Middle East, but also besmirches the victims of the Shoah, including the hundreds of thousand of Jews deported from Warsaw to the gas chambers and the 700 ghetto fighters who fought the Nazi beast to the last.” (WIESENTHAL CENTER)

Compilation by: Honestly-Concerned - a group of concerned individuals willing to stand up for fair and unbiased media reporting, especially about the Middle-East conflict, and who are fighting hard against anti-semitic rhetoric. For more information, please see <http://www.honestly-concerned.org>! We thank Ulrich Becker, Jerusalem, for his support.

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"Honestly-concerned" was founded in May 2002. Alarmed by the growing anti-Israeli and resentment-loaded side effects of the Middle East Conflict, an increasing number of statements made by politicians and parts of the society and anti-Semitic tendencies in Germany and Europe, we decided to intervene. Since then, "honestly-concerned" has always taken action when politicians, the press or members of the public try to score with anti-Semitic or one-sided statements that are directed against Israel. One main focus is the observation of the media followed by a direct reaction.

The members of our initiative - Jews and non-Jews - declare their solidarity with the people of Israel. We are prepared to stand up against Anti-Semitism. One of our most important means of communication is a mailing list. We are using it to spread information, press reports and event listings. We organize campaigns, demonstrations and initiatives, and provide links to interesting websites and background information.

In a review of the past year, we can look back on a great number of accomplishments: events organized or supported

by us; on almost daily press review concerning domestic affairs, anti-Semitism and the Middle East Conflict; and a steadily growing number of mailing list users, campaigns and the exchange of information with correspondents, politicians and other disseminators, foreign or domestic.

This engagement costs time and money. Both are limited resources. To organize new events in the future, we are in need of financial help.

The following account is a sub account, especially for honestly concerned, administered by a founding member of our mailing list, Noemi Staszewski. She manages the incoming donations for honestly concerned.

N. Staszewski, Dresdner Bank
account: 06 360 002 02, sort code: 500 800 00
as payment for: honestly-concerned.org

Please support us generously, to enable our improvement of our activities