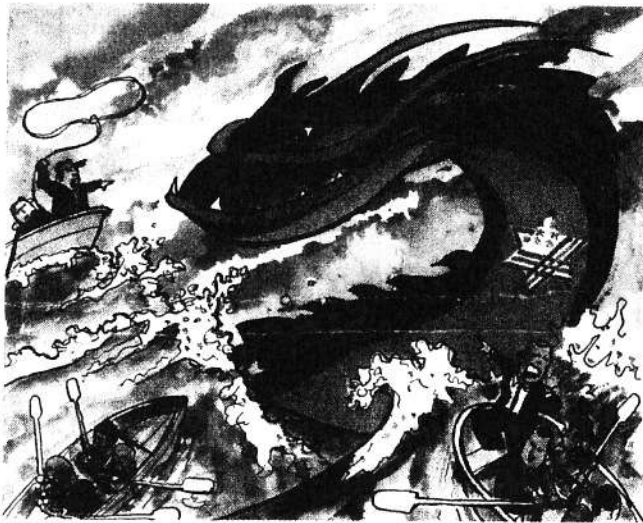


Lexington | Taming Leviathan

These are both the best of times and the worst of times for the American-Jewish lobby



THIS week saw yet another reminder of the awesome power of “the lobby”. The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) brought more than 6,000 activists to Washington for its annual policy conference. And they proceeded to live up to their critics’ darkest fears.

They heard from the four most powerful people on Capitol Hill—Nancy Pelosi and John Boehner from the House, Harry Reid and Mitch McConnell from the Senate—as well as the vice-president (who called his talk “The United States and Israel: United We Stand”) and sundry other power-brokers. Several first-division presidential candidates held receptions.

The display of muscle was almost equalled by the display of unnerving efficiency. There were booths for “congressional check-in”, booths for “delegate banquet troubleshooting”, and booths full of helpful young people. The only discordant note was sounded by a group of a dozen protesters—Orthodox Jews in beards, side-curls and heavy black coats—holding up signs saying “Stop AIPAC”, “Torah forbids Jews dictating foreign policy”, and “Judaism rejects the state of Israel”.

The lobbyists had every reason to feel proud of their work. Congress has more Jewish members than ever before: 30 in the House and a remarkable 13 in the Senate. (There are now more Jews in Congress than Episcopalians.) Both parties are competing with each other to be the “soundest” on Israel. About two-thirds of Americans hold a favourable view of the place.

Yet they have reason to feel a bit nervous, too. The Iraq debacle has produced a fierce backlash against pro-war hawks, of which AIPAC was certainly one. It has also encouraged serious people to ask awkward questions about America’s alliance with Israel. And a growing number of people want to push against AIPAC. One pressure group, the Council for the National Interest—run by two retired congressmen, Paul Findley, a Republican, and James Abourezk, a Democrat—even bills itself as the anti-AIPAC. The Leviathan may be mightier than ever, but there are more and more Captain Ahab’s trying to get their harpoons in.

Some of the most determined are Arab-Americans, who have been growing in numbers and influence for years—there are probably about 3.5m of them—and who have been in the eye of a political storm since September 11th 2001. They are a growing

political force in northern Ohio and Michigan, and their institutions, such as the Arab American Institute and the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), have plenty of access to Middle Eastern money.

But so far their performance has been unimpressive. James Zogby has been promising a breakthrough for his Arab American Institute for 20 years. CAIR remains marginal. Arab-Americans are badly split between Christians (63%) and Muslims (24%). They have also been late in taking to politics. Between 1990 and 2004 Arab-Americans donated \$788,968 to candidates and parties, compared with \$56.8m from pro-Israeli groups.

AIPAC’s ace in the hole is the idea that it represents Jewish interests in a country that is generally philo-Semitic. But liberal Jewish groups retort that it represents only a sliver of Jewish opinion. A number of more liberal groups have started to use their political muscle—groups such as the Religious Action Centre of Reform Judaism, Americans for Peace Now and the Israel Policy Forum. These groups scored a significant victory over AIPAC by persuading Congress to water down a particularly uncompromising bit of legislation, the Palestinian Anti-terrorism Act, which would have prevented any American contact with the Palestinian leadership. This accomplishment led to a flurry of speculation that George Soros might try to institutionalise this successful alliance by creating a liberal version of AIPAC.

It has yet to materialise. And it is doubtful whether Mr Soros, a left-wing Democrat who has little sympathy with Israel, would be the best patron for such an organisation. But the growing activism of liberal Jewish groups underlines a worrying fact for AIPAC: most Jews are fairly left-wing. Fully 77% of them think that the Iraq war was a mistake compared with 52% of all Americans. Eighty-seven per cent of Jews voted for the Democrats in 2006, and all but four of the Jews in Congress are Democrats.

Dissenting voices

An even bigger threat to AIPAC comes from the general climate of opinion. It is suddenly becoming possible for serious people—politicians and policymakers as well as academics—to ask hard questions about America’s relationship with Israel. Is America pursuing its own interests in the Middle East, or Israel’s? Should America tie itself so closely to the Israeli government’s policies or should it forge other alliances?

Zbigniew Brzezinski, a former national security adviser, worries that America is seen in the Middle East as “acting increasingly on behalf of Israel”. Condoleezza Rice, the secretary of state, has compared the situation in Palestine to segregation, and argued that there could “be no greater legacy for America than to help bring into being a Palestinian state”. Philip Zelikow, her former counsellor, argues, in diplomatic language, that the only way to create a viable coalition against terrorists that includes Europeans, moderate Arabs and Israelis, is a “sense that Arab-Israeli issues are being addressed”.

The biggest challenge facing AIPAC is how to deal with this changing climate. Its members have been admirably honest about their mission in life. They boast about passing more than a hundred bits of pro-Israel legislation a year. But they are too willing to close down the debate with explosive charges of anti-Israel bias when people ask whether this is a good thing. America needs an open debate about its role in the Middle East—and AIPAC needs to take a positive role in that debate if it is to remain such a mighty force in American politics. ■

24 MAY 07. Hail Dave! Many thanks for your letter & enclosures of 14 MAY 07. No, I did not receive the copy of RAGE in which "What We Can Do" appeared. If you have one to spare, I'd appreciate it.

One thing I would not accuse HAC of being: that's stupid. His calculations may be insane & counter-productive, but they are well-considered with malice aforethought. The fact that they invariably serve the ZOG is simply a fact. Does the ZOG pay him? I don't know. In this case, his advocacy of acts ZOG defines as "terrorism" is well-timed for the ZOG, & just at the wrong time for White Nationalists. All that is needed for ZOG's round up time is an 'incident'. ZOG 'needs' "White terrorists" as Jew Hefner needs buxom bunnies.

When my friend, Dr. Cliver, learned of Covington's behavior, he predicted that HAC would "hang himself," not literally, but by his own misdeeds. In other words, his denunciation of all & sundry in the blightwing does not gain him any credit. On the contrary, his statements bring discredit upon himself. I am not a fan of blightwingers, but I am still pro-White. If blightwing back-biting can destroy one's love for his race, then his love wasn't worth a hoot. with

I corresponded with JOST, but/no one connected with him after he died, so I've never heard of Sam Brown of Oregon. The blightwing is better compartmentalized than the ZOG's Manhattan Project, for all other blighters are deemed 'competition', & their names must never be mentioned: "A slip of the lip can sink a subscription!" Oy veh!

The idea of simply moving someplace within Usrael cannot work, unless we have our own economy. The ancient Spartans knew that self-determination can only come from economic self-sufficiency. The same applies to modern Whites. A gathering of consumers is not a viable state. ZOG knows! HAC pretends not to know, however. I am only here in Brownest Yakima because here is where I went broke. Thanks be to ZOG, I've never lived so well, nor so easy. How long this will last, I have no idea, but I shall make the most of it. Judeo-Americans like myself are nomads who follow the dollar, as my parents did before me.

I, too, prefer international news sources. It is typically American to meddle in other people's business worldwide without knowing where they are. Reagan said: "Oh, Libya, Syria, American people don't know & don't care." He referred to the difference of name & location. Bush II frequently confuses "Iran" with "Iraq." Well, they are close together. I guess he'd confuse the names of two sisters if they sat next to each other. Bush is stupid. HAC is not.

It is hard to predict what the White sheeple will do when crises come home to roost. Meanwhile, it's party-time on the USS Titanic, for there may be no tomorrow. Most sheeple govern their behavior by their hostages: jobs, family & property. That's why some stay in hurricane zones, fire zones, tornado alleys, &c.

With a change of mind should come a change of behavior; otherwise, we are merely moving the same problems around on the map. Whites flee Mexifornia. They bring the Mexicans with them for their "cheap labor." Do they wonder that they are creating the same conditions from which they fled? No! Theirs not to reason why. One fellow asked how we are to save the middleclass. I replied that they cannot be saved BECAUSE they are middleclass in outlook & behavior. I've been able to avoid debt-slavery & the Judeo-American ratrace because I rejected a middleclass lifestyle & its values. If we ignore such things as commuting by freighttrain, sleeping on floors, &c. we could say that I was "middleclass." Yes, & the moon is made of green cheese. One Toronto evening I was chatting with a local high priest, now deceased. I mentioned one of my commutes from Latin America to Panama by death-ship. The diesel engine was shut down for some mysterious problem (mysterious to the crew!), on the high seas, out of sight of land, near the Equator. The hatches were open to let the cargo of fishmeal ventilate, so no engine & open hatches made us vulnerable to any storm in that region, as I'd experienced previously. Perhaps we were waiting to die. At mess, I noticed that even the coffee was beginning to taste of fishmeal. Inside the ship, it was a bake oven. At the dining table, the 1st Mate was having his usual row with the radio operator. The captain was smiling. He was quite drunk. One passenger could not sit down because he had syphilis sores on his butt. A slowly-turning electric fan merely growled to remind us how hot it was. I told the high priest now deceased: "It was at that time I almost decided to leave the straight life behind." He choked on his beer & spluttered: "You never lived a straight life. Why, you've always lived like Humphrey Bogart!" That gave me pause, & I considered for a bit: "Naw, I've lived in lots worse dumps than he ever did." Well, maybe my having been kicked out of 5 countries does convey something of an image. Anything for the quiet life, as the Brits say. All the best & ORION!

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