

The Leaked Palestine Papers

"Leaking" secretly stamped documents (including monotonous and probably harmless mission reports) has come into fashion after four campaigns of Wikileaks in 2010 [1]. On Jan. 24, Al-Jazeera (of Qatar) surprised with the release of more than 1600 "internal and classified" documents that reveal devastating information on the nature and scale of concessions offered by Palestinian negotiators." The disclosure was assisted by The Guardian, which judged that "The overwhelming impression that emerges from the confidential records of a decade of Middle East peace talks is of the weakness and desperation of Palestinian leaders, the unyielding correctness of Israeli negotiators and the often contemptuous attitude towards the Palestinian side shown by US politicians and officials.

So far, you did not read a word from the 'leaked documents,' and already the following conclusion is possible: Palestinian negotiators were offering nearly everything their counterpart might demand, and still the Israelis refused. That is, if the papers are speaking the truth and are not, as the Wikileaks cables indicate, highly selected.

In Independent, Robert Fisk summarized: "The Palestine Papers are as damning as the Balfour Declaration. The Palestinian 'Authority' – one has to put this word in quotation marks – was prepared, and is prepared to give up the "right of return" of perhaps 7 million refugees to what is now Israel for a 'state' that may be only 10% (at most) of British mandate Palestine" [2].

The Israeli government refuses to negotiate with Hamas, not just in Gaza but also in some regions of the West Bank in majority representing the Palestinians. A broad support to whatever solution that may be obtained between Fatah and the occupation force (I use this designation because Israel also behaves so) is therefore not to be expected. Fawzi Barhoum, a Hamas spokesman in Gaza, said the leaked documents come as a shock to many Palestinians. "This is more than just a betrayal of precious and long-held national goals and aspirations. This is treason, pure and simple" [3].

The Fatah leadership partly deny the content of the leaked papers and the Palestinian President said that the Palestinian concessions presented in the documents leaked by Al-Jazeera were actually made by Israel [4]. Nevertheless, some negotiators were searching for a leak source, thus indirectly admitting that the documents had some truthful content.

Mazin Qumsiyeh asked, "If, as the documents show, the Palestinian negotiators were willing to accept all of this then WHY did Israeli politicians hold out? The answer is obvious to anyone who ever faced Zionism. They believe (rightly or wrongly) they can get 100% so why should they settle for 91% or even 99%" [5]

Whatever their authorship, the Palestine Papers led to a total collapse in the negotiations, which is lauded by some (e.g. Palestinians feeling victimized by a complete surrender by their leadership, the Zionists anyhow wanting it all) and regretted by others (International supporters of the Two-State Solution). To that, Qumsiyeh claims that the "Two state for two people" approach can never lead to genuine peace (if apartheid was the problem in South Africa, why is it considered a solution here?)" It is obvious that talking with the Israeli authorities only serves one purpose: to continue their ethnic cleansing.

It will take a long time for the International Community to recognize that this state is dominated by racists and criminals, and in its international relation persistently problematic. Israel never respected a resolution by UN; it is responsible for most wars in the Middle-East. Moreover, their 'intelligence' organization, Mossad, is suspected of involvement in most cases of world-wide terror, including 9/11 2001 and 7/7 2005 (but that should be a secret). A one-state solution including these racists seems currently unrealistic but nevertheless remains the sole decent target.

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John Schou

1 http://www.schou.de/terrorwar/Wikileaks--the_Mossad-Connection.pdf

2 <http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/fisk/robert-fisk-a-new-truth-dawns-on-the-arab-world-2194488.html>

3 http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle09.asp?xfile=data/middleeast/2011/January/middleeast_January517.xml§ion=middleeast

4 <http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/abbas-palestine-papers-purposely-reverse-israeli-and-palestinian-positions-1.338882>

5 Mazin Qumsiyeh: Fear and the Palestine Papers, <http://desertpeace.wordpress.com/> Jan. 29,2011