

## With Israel We Stand

Jay McFarland

Although I was not alive during World War 2 I have spent a great deal of time studying and learning about this time. I believe very strongly that if we do not learn from the mistakes of the past then we will not be prepared when they begin to repeat. As I studied and began to learn about the atrocities committed against the Jewish people I was changed forever. I did not understand how such evil could exist in this world. Often, I openly wept as I watched videos and saw pictures of the dead piled on top of each other with no regard for human life or dignity. My sadness quickly turned to rage as I learned of “the final solution.” Even now as I write these words my eyes water for the incredible loss of life and senseless depravity. It is a reminder to me of how blessed my life is and how little I truly have to complain about. After all of my research I have resolved to ensure that no population on earth should ever have to endure such horrors and to try and at least repair some of the damage that was done to the Jewish people.

I truly believe that there is no way to truly restore or undo the damage that was done to the Jews during the war. No amount of reparations or peace can replace the losses experienced during these years. But at least the leaders of the world saw fit to restore the Jewish people to their homeland where they could strive for some sense of normalcy. Surely restoring them to Israel would begin this process in earnest. Unfortunately, this quest for normalcy has been fraught with trouble on all sides. Israel is surrounded by those who would do anything in their power to remove them and to once again subject the Jewish people to similar horrors of the past. This simply cannot be allowed. Israel deserves peace and prosperity and to once and for all feel that they are not the target of someone’s hate or rage. I believe that I can play a valuable role in helping to achieve this goal.

Listed below are some my positions on how to accomplish this:

- We cannot allow the holocaust to be denied and we must ensure that it is taught with all of it’s horrors and brutal honesty in our schools. Our children need to know what true evil looks like and they need to understand that anti-semitism is still a strong force in the world.
- The US and Israeli Alliance must remain strong. We share many common interests and goals which makes this relationship mutually beneficial.
- A strong and independent Israel is key to stability in the Middle East.
- Military and foreign aid to Israel remains essential with special emphasis on missile defense systems.
- Iran is a primary threat to Israel and as such they must not be allowed to obtain nuclear weapons. Measures including economic sanctions and embargos should be used to accomplish this goal.

- Peace between Israel and the Palestinians is absolutely essential. But all attempts to achieve this peace through acts of terror on behalf of Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hamas, or any other group must be rebuffed.
- Attempts to force Israel's hand through the use of Boycott, Divestment and Sanction (BDS) will not be supported.
- Israel must know that we stand by their side and are willing to do whatever it takes to ensure stability and security now and into the future.

When it's all said and done. We must all be able to say that we made sure that no evil the likes of Hitler and the Nazi regime will ever be allowed to flourish on this earth again. We must also be able to declare that we were part of the solution in helping to restore much of the damage done to the Jewish people and to eventually be able to declare that they are able to live in peace without fear of hatred or violence. It is my sincere hope that I will be able to serve as a member of congress to help fight for these goals.

# JEWISHINSIDER