



Israel is at war.

This war is multifaceted and includes sophisticated propaganda efforts from enemies of Israel, propaganda efforts that rely on biased media. An example of these propaganda efforts is what happened when a misfired PIJ (Palestinian Islamic Jihad - the Palestinian group most closely associated with Iran) rocket hit the grounds of the Baptist hospital in Gaza City. Immediately, the "Gaza Health Ministry" (a propaganda arm of Hamas) said there were 500 dead from an Israeli attack, as if anybody could determine the number of dead in such a short time. Unfortunately, major news outlets, including The New York Times and the Associated Press ran with the story. By the time Israel provided evidence that these reports were wrong, President Biden said that the United States Department of Defense had determined that the strike was most likely the result of a PIJ misfire, and images came out showing much less damage to the hospital than previously feared, the damage was done. Anti-Israel and Anti-American riots rocked the world, synagogues were destroyed, and American and Israeli embassies had to be protected, even faraway in Argentina.

I'm thankful first that the loss of life in Gaza appears to be much less than initially feared. I'm also hopeful that the blatant attempts by Hamas to spread their vile propaganda will teach us all a lesson about believing them, and may even teach the media a lesson in the coming ground invasion.

Remember - Hamas is believed when they lie about Israel deliberately killing civilians, but not believed when they say they want to kill Jews.

Finally, on this subject. Ask yourself what the response would have been if a PIJ rocket had hit an Israeli hospital and 500 Israelis had died. What candies would the Palestinians have handed out?

By Monday, we will have form letters for you to send letters to your Washington representatives asking them to support President Biden's calls for wartime aid to Israel. You can fill them out anytime you are at synagogue and they will get mailed out. We'll also provide templates on our website.

Here are some great charities to donate to:

[United Hatzalah](#)

[Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest's Emergency Fund for Israel](#)

[American Friends of Magen David Adom - Mike Bloomberg 1:1 Match!](#)

[Hillel](#)

Want some background reading that isn't directly on point but is absolutely on point - please read Dara Horn's incredible [People Love Dead Jews](#).

Shabbat Shalom and Am Yisrael Chai!

Ariel Dybner