



ISRAEL NEWS
A collection of the week's news from Israel
From the Bet El Twinning / Israel Action Committee of
Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation

skies. We have emerged from being an increasingly divisive, uncertain and fearful society to one that remembers what Israel has always been about: doing the unexpected and the incredible.

We have reconnected with one another on the common ground of appreciation and wonderment at our successes.

Ironically, Hezbollah has additionally been the vehicle for rejuvenating Israeli unity by widening the radius of rocket attacks away from just the beleaguered north to a greater and greater swath of Israel.

In doing so, Hezbollah has morphed millions of Israelis from being observers of the attacks on the news to being recipients of them. This, of course, has had a transformative effect.

The old expression, “a conservative is a liberal who has been mugged,” has taken on new life here, as more and more Israelis are intent on making sure that we do everything we can to stop the attacks.

And doing what we can is not what French President Emmanuel Macron has in mind, but what our soldiers envision: a victory.

A month ago, those contemplating this anniversary did so with a sense of profound sadness and probably also with a sense of dread. We would be one year into a conflict that had no end and no resolution, not to mention no transformation in sight.

Our thoughts and concerns were about doing our best to stay focused, stay the course and not let naysayers distract or defeat us.

How different are we today. Yes, we look at pictures of the hostages and turn our heads away because we have not secured their release.

But we hold our heads up with the resolve that says we will release them; we will rescue them. We will also defeat our enemies; we will strike a decisive blow for civilization and humaneness in the world.

We are still in the throes of battle and uncertainty. But the existential wind is now at our back, and we are entering the second year of a war thrust upon us with a resolve and a conviction that will hopefully characterize our society for years to come.

As we begin our new Jewish year, let us act confident in His support, confident in our own determination, and with the conviction that in 5785 and the remainder of 2024, we will undertake great and transformative feats of heroism and humanity.

Am Yisrael chai! (JNS Oct 7)

Quote of the Year...

Pierre Poilievre Endorses Israel Attacking Iran's Nuclear Sites

“I think the idea of allowing a genocidal, theocratic, unstable dictatorship that is desperate to avoid being overthrown by its own people to develop nuclear weapons is about the most dangerous and irresponsible thing that the world could ever allow. If Israel were to stop that genocidal, theocratic, unstable government from acquiring nuclear weapons, it would be a gift by the Jewish state to humanity.”

- Pierre Poilievre, Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada and Leader of the Opposition, October 8

Commentary...

Our Hearts are Broken, But Our Spirits are Strong

By Douglas Altabef

On this first anniversary of the horrific Hamas pogrom, Israel—as both a nation and a society—embodies the human condition writ large.

We are heartbroken as we recognize that more than 100 of our fellow Israelis, as well as workers from other countries, remain in the clutches of Hamas terrorists. We shudder to think what has happened to the children, and especially, fear for the women and the elderly.

We have come to appreciate—or at least we should be recognizing—that the slogan “Bring them home now” was inapt, as it implied and conferred agency and control upon us. In other words, the decision and reality of bringing our hostages home was viewed as something that we could make happen if only we decided to do so.

Instead, we have come to understand that the monsters of Hamas have little or no interest in doing anything that would bind our wounds, even if it enabled Gazans to emerge from the specter of war and its carnage.

Our focus on the hostages and the frustratingly futile negotiations to make a deal that would not be a time-released suicide pill for us has been admittedly distracted by the intensity and brutality of the Hezbollah rocket invasion.

From the skies, Hezbollah has been as brutal and maniacal as Hamas was on the ground. Fortunately, they have been dramatically less successful. Nevertheless, they have posed an existential threat to the state and people of Israel.

Thankfully, against all prevailing conventional wisdom (call it a carryover of the Oct. 6 mindset), Hezbollah has not emerged as the devastating scourge, unleashing tens of thousands of rockets at us. Rather, we are seeing somewhere between 200 and 300 fired daily.

But something completely unexpected and amazingly transformative has taken place. Hezbollah has emerged as the great energizer of the Israeli spirit—not by design, of course, but by the impact that our incredible soldiers have been able to inflict upon them.

Vladimir Lenin's famous quote has been given new relevance, thanks to Hezbollah: “There are decades where nothing happens, and there are weeks where decades happen.”

The progression of amazing undertakings—from the beeper attack on the paggers to the elimination of Hezbollah's senior military command, followed by the assassination of its decades-long leader Hassan Nasrallah, followed by his successor, and now, we think, by his successor's successor—has transfixed and transformed Israel.

We have gone from holding our heads down to fist-pumping the

גמר חתימה טובה

Is the Day of Reckoning for the Islamic Republic of Iran Finally Here?

By Jonathan Sweet and Mark Toth

After 45 years of power, the root cause of terror and instability in the Middle East may finally be coming to an end.

That end will ultimately be delivered by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the Israel Defense Force — on their timeline, under their conditions and likely without any offensive support from the Biden administration. The Islamic Republic of Iran's day of reckoning is looming.

The Oct. 7 attack was the straw that ultimately broke the camel's back. The point of no return was set into motion by Hamas — a proxy funded, equipped and trained by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps — on Russian President Vladimir Putin's 70th birthday. This has become an “Israel first” and “never again” moment.

Former U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley got it right in her interview with Bret Baier of Fox News on the eve of the vice presidential debate, when she said Israel is not going to stop and that “Israel does not trust the U.S., Israel does not trust Biden and Harris.”

Last Tuesday evening, shortly after U.S. intelligence alerted Israel that an Iranian missile attack was imminent, Tehran fired

approximately 180 ballistic missiles in response to Israeli assassinations of senior Hamas, Hezbollah and Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps leaders.

It was the second such Iranian attack on Israel. In April, Iran launched approximately 300 missiles and drones in retaliation for an Israeli airstrike in Damascus, Syria that destroyed the Iranian consulate building, killing Gen. Mohammad Reza Zahedi, who led the elite Quds Force in Lebanon and Syria until 2016; his deputy, Gen. Mohammad Hadi Hajriahimi; and five other officers.

Both Iranian attacks were soundly defeated by Israeli air defense systems, coalition aircraft and missile interceptors fired from U.S. Navy ships.

Afterwards, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Iran had made a “big mistake” and will “pay for it.” He added, “Those who attack us; we attack them.”

Israel has an established track record of backing up tough talk. The leadership of Hamas and Hezbollah have been decimated, and Houthi and Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps officials have been targeted as well.

Unlike the Israeli response in April, this response will probably not be aimed at sending a message to Iranian leadership, but rather at removing it. The days of tit-for-tat are over.

It will be violent, destructive and disproportionate — intent on inflicting massive amounts of damage to Iran’s ability to fire ballistic missiles at Israel; fund, equip and train proxy terrorist groups to attack Israel; and achieve “nuclear breakout.”

But it will not be accomplished in one large retaliatory strike, but rather a series of strikes building upon one another.

Options include suppressing Iran’s air defense network to attack missile launch sites and the crews manning them, radars, missile storage sites and the production factories where ballistic missiles and drones are built. Attacking Iranian oil infrastructure — the state’s principal source of revenue — would affect Iran’s ability to continue supporting its proxies. Finally, striking key nuclear facilities where uranium enrichment is taking place is essential to prevent nuclear breakout.

Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi, the eldest son of the late deposed Shah, believes “Iran is ripe for a revolution.” A fourth option could possibly set conditions for regime change, targeting Iranian leadership. That would likely include Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the ruling mullahs, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and senior commander Hossein Salami. Government facilities as well as Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps military bases would be destroyed.

When and how are now the questions. In time, but two words come to mind: condition setting. And that begins by Israel removing the proxies. The proxies are Iran’s action arm, but also serve as a buffer between the two countries.

Israel has been engaged in what Netanyahu has described as a seven-front war since Hamas invaded from Gaza on Oct. 7. The strategy of defeat, deter and dissuade may have run its course, but the intent remains the same. Isolate and destroy the enemy, one proxy at a time, then remove the head from the hydra — Iran.

The Israeli military has done just that. Hamas has been mostly rendered combat ineffective, allowing Israel to shift its main effort to the most immediate threat, Hezbollah.

Airstrikes on Iran and Yemen are intended to deter further aggression and dissuade continued support for Hamas and Hezbollah. Neither Sayyed Abdul Malik al-Houthi nor Iranian Supreme Leader Khamenei seem to have gotten that message though, and would be wise to listen to Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi, who recently stated, “We have the ability to reach and attack any point in the Middle East. And those of our enemies who have not understood this until now, will understand it soon.”

Israeli F-35 fighter jets backed up that statement on Sept. 16 when they struck the sea port of Hodeida, Yemen in retaliation for a hypersonic missile fired by Houthi rebels in the direction of Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion Airport — a distance of over 1,200 miles.

Iran is closer. But as the saying goes, “eat the elephant one bite at a time.”

The most likely course of action is to continue the ground assault

into southern Lebanon — pushing Hezbollah forces back to the Litani River, as mandated by U.N. Resolution 1701 — while relentlessly targeting Hezbollah leadership and destroying missile, rocket and drone launch sites, their crews and munitions storage facilities.

That also includes interdicting weapons, ammunition and supplies from Iran. Israel recently warned it would attack the Beirut-Rafic Hariri International Airport if Iranian aircraft landed there.

On Thursday, the Israeli military struck a weapons depot near the Russian Khmeimim Air Base and Bassel al-Assad airport in Jableh, Syria with 30 missiles to deny Iran a port of entry to sustain Hezbollah forces in southern Lebanon.

No sanctuary will be afforded — not even on a Russian airbase in Syria. That likely sent the White House up the escalation ladder with renewed concerns about a “wider regional conflict,” risking a Russian escalation.

Iran’s day of reckoning is nearing as the Israel Defense Force refines its target lists and sets conditions — despite President Biden’s remarks, when asked by a reporter if he supported any preemptive strikes by Israel against Iran’s nuclear arsenal, “The answer is no.” Biden added that the U.S. will discuss with Israel “what it is going to do.” He also revealed that the G7 leaders with whom he spoke agree that Israel has the right to respond; but, the president clarified, “they must respond proportionately.”

That topic is not likely up for discussion. For Netanyahu and his war cabinet, their national security is at stake, and they are prepared to go it alone. (The Hill Oct 9)

Col. (Ret.) Jonathan Sweet served 30 years as an Army intelligence officer. Mark Toth writes on national security and foreign policy.

The Palestinian Tradition of Celebrating the Death of Jews

By Bassam Tawil

Palestinians have a custom of celebrating in the streets every time Israel is attacked or a Jew is murdered by terrorists.

The latest such celebrations took place on Oct. 1, 2024, when Iran launched 180 ballistic missiles at Israel. The celebrations occurred even though some of the missiles fell in Palestinian areas; the only person killed was, ironically, a Palestinian man in the city of Jericho.

In one West Bank village, Palestinians erected a monument from the tail of an Iranian missile to celebrate Iran’s attack.

Similar celebrations took place in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and in many countries when Iran launched its first direct missile and drone attack against Israel in April. According to a report by Iran’s Tehran Times:

“It was also a sleepless night in Ramallah and other cities in the occupied West Bank, that saw excited crowds of Palestinians gathering in the streets and pointing to the skies amid the visible trails of Iranian missiles flying, with a celebratory mood until the early hours of Sunday morning.”

The largest celebrations occurred a year ago, on Oct. 7, 2023, when thousands of Iran-backed Hamas terrorists and “ordinary” Palestinians invaded Israel from the Gaza Strip and murdered 1,200 Israelis. During the attack, thousands of Israelis were raped, tortured and burned alive, while 251 others were kidnapped into the Gaza Strip. A year later, 101 Israeli hostages are still being held by Hamas terrorists.

A video from the Qatar-owned Al-Jazeera television network titled “Palestinians overjoyed with the Al-Aqsa Flood Operation” (the name Hamas uses to describe its Oct. 7 attack) showed celebrations in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

The Iranian-affiliated Lebanese TV station Mayadeen aired a report about Palestinian celebrations in the West Bank, where sweets were handed out in Nablus and guns were fired in Jenin “in jubilation.” A little girl can be seen waving a rifle and a handgun in the air.

Palestinian activist Omar Assaf praised the Hamas attack: “The resistance has proven today, once again, that the only option the people support is the option of resistance and confrontation, and proved, once again, that this occupation is weaker than a spider web,

like [Hezbollah leader] Hassan Nasrallah said.”

In 2004, thousands of Palestinians spilled onto the streets of the Gaza Strip to celebrate a twin suicide bombing in southern Israel that killed 16 people. The Palestinians celebrating, estimated to number about 20,000, threw sweets in the air and chanted slogans in support of Hamas, which took credit for the terrorist attack.

The Palestinians are also happy to see Americans targeted by terrorists. While Israel declared a “national day of mourning” in solidarity with the United States after the 9/11 attacks, Palestinians celebrated by handing out sweets, firing guns in the air and chanting Allahu Akbar (Allah is the greatest).

The Palestinian Authority has since been celebrating the 9/11 attacks with cartoons glorifying Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden or mocking and attacking the United States.

The P.A.’s official media outlets made a concerted effort to bash the United States by rubbing salt in its most sensitive wounds, and by depicting America as evil, while appropriating Palestinians, Arabs and Muslims as the victims.

In one Palestinian cartoon, bin Laden is shown forming a victory sign with his fingers, which are made up of the smoldering Twin Towers next to a plane about to fly into them.

In another cartoon, the P.A. mocked the United States by portraying Uncle Sam fleeing in terror from the date “September 11.”

After the massacre and atrocities committed by Palestinians on Oct. 7, a senior Palestinian official repeated the accusation that the United States knew about the 9/11 attacks but wanted them to happen:

“They [Israel] knew about this [Oct. 7 attack] and were silent because they wanted that what happened would happen, just as their teacher [America] did in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.” — Fatah Revolutionary Council member Adnan Al-Damiri, Facebook, Dec. 20, 2023.

It is hard to forget how the Palestinians also celebrated when Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein fired Scud missiles at Israel more than 30 years ago.

Here is what The Washington Post wrote about the celebrations back then: “As Iraqi missiles fell on Israel’s coastal plain Friday and Saturday, Palestinian residents here huddled in rooms sealed with masking tape and bleach-soaked cloths, in case the warheads contained deadly chemical agents. Still, when they heard the thud of explosions, they cheered for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

“‘We were happy. A little scared, maybe, but mainly happy,’ said May, a shopkeeper, during a two-hour break today in the military curfew imposed by occupying Israeli forces. Added Amer, a 15-year-old boy who stood nearby: ‘It’s wonderful that missiles hit Tel Aviv....’

“Two Western reporters in search of opinions were quickly surrounded by Palestinians on a downtown street. Everyone who passed by, it seemed, wanted to express admiration for Saddam. Most seemed full of emotion. ‘Saddam is winning, of course he is winning,’ said Sammy, 27, an employee in a United Nations refugee camp. ‘Why? Because he is still fighting. He is fighting 28 countries, and yet after two days he fired 11 missiles at Tel Aviv, with precision. This is a victory.’”

It is hard, if not impossible, to find one senior Palestinian official who is willing to criticize his own people for celebrating terrorist attacks. It is also hard, if not impossible, to find one senior Palestinian official who is willing to condemn the Oct. 7 atrocities and massacres against Israelis. Palestinian leaders have good reason not to speak out: They are afraid of being killed by their own people.

Last month, P.A. President Mahmoud Abbas, in a speech at the United Nations General Assembly, ignored the Hamas attack and instead accused Israel of committing “massacres,” “crimes” and “genocide” against the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. Needless to say, Abbas also ignored the fact that a large number of Palestinians expressed support for the Hamas-led Oct. 7 attack and took to the streets to celebrate the brutal mass-murder of Israeli women, children and the elderly.

Palestinian leaders who do not have the courage, or are unwilling, to denounce terrorism will never be able to call on their people to recognize Israel’s right to exist, let alone make peace with it.

Palestinians who celebrate the murder of their neighbors are not ready for a state, which will undoubtedly be used as a springboard to slaughter more Jews and to try to destroy Israel.

There is no excuse for celebrating murder. A society that celebrates murder will never be a partner for peace. True peace will only come when Palestinian leaders value their people’s lives more than celebrating the murder of Jews. (JNS Oct 9)

The Big Lie of Ta-Nehisi Coates’s 10 Days in ‘Palestine’

By Jonathan S. Tobin

There are times when terrible books can be useful. In the case of Ta-Nehisi Coates’ truly awful *The Message*, the author has not only demonstrated exactly how and why America’s chattering classes have not just turned on Israel and are supporting an ideological war against its existence. Coates has given us more than that.

During his book tour of the mainstream media, he also helped illustrate how a mob mentality and woke bureaucratic structures have gutted a supposedly prestigious legacy outlet like CBS News. At virtually every other stop, Coates was treated as a hero, offered only softball questions and never challenged about the bogus nature of his latest work. But one journalist, Tony Dokoupil, a host on CBS Mornings, had the temerity to ask Coates some tough questions about the inaccuracies of his book and its true intent, which is to delegitimize and amplify calls for Israel’s destruction.

For doing what any honest journalist would do when interviewing an author of an extremist polemic that calls for eliminating the one Jewish state on the planet, Dokoupil was publicly shamed by the network for failing to maintain its “editorial standards.”

As the Free Press documented by publishing a tape of the meeting, executives apologized to other staffers (who had reportedly generated this struggle session by swamping the heads of the network’s news division with complaints) for his supposed misbehavior. Reportedly, Dokoupil responded with tearful regrets. Then, to add insult to injury, he was later subjected to what everyone dreads in the brave new corporate world in which the woke catechism of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) rules supreme. He was summoned to a grilling by the network’s in-house “Race and Culture Unit” for offending Coates with his “tone of voice, phrasing and body language” during the interview.

Still, one brave reporter, Jan Crawford, a veteran legal correspondent for CBS, spoke up in dissent. She demanded to know what sort of “standards” were in place that would punish a journalist for actually doing their job. The answer from her bosses was that they would reply to her in private.

The message this sends to all journalists at the news network is that they better not ask any tough questions when interviewing those who advocate for the end of Israel. Of course, we know that the same show—and every other mainstream corporate outlet—expects their reporters to be aggressive and confrontational when they are talking to those who dissent from leftist fashion or liberal orthodoxy. In this manner, the culture of journalism has changed from one in which those employed by these outlets view their jobs as more one of liberal/leftist activism than objective reporting. Anything that advances their political goals is to be praised. Anything that tells a different story must be ignored or savaged. In so doing, they have enabled anti-Israel bias, even though the same standard applies across the board to every topic and political controversy.

To fully understand the context of how Coates is mainstreaming the leftist ideological war on Israel and being assisted by the media, it’s important to know more about him.

The first thing to understand is that Ta-Nehisi Coates is something of a colossus of contemporary American letters. Since his first article was published in 2008 in the liberal publication *The Atlantic*, the 49-year-old has been showered with acclaim and every conceivable honor from the cultural establishment, including an obligatory MacArthur Foundation “Genius” award. Everything he writes—from comic books to memoirs about his own brief existence on the planet—is treated as a major literary event.

Though a talented writer who styles himself as a journalist,

Coates mostly pens words about himself and his personal impressions of the world without bothering much with grounding his work in facts or trying to place his ideas in a context that tells more than one narrow side of a story. Indeed, he is someone who thinks writers and journalists should not be seeking to tell both sides of complex stories, believing that they should boil everything down to conform to simplistic left-wing conclusions, whether accurate or not. That is exactly how toxic ideologies like critical race theory and intersectionality work.

That philosophy is perfectly fine for comic books, such as Coates' best-selling Black Panther series, which imagines a fictional high-tech African kingdom that was made into a blockbuster action movie. However, when it comes to his interpretations of American society and foreign conflicts, he seems to view the real world with all of its complexities as just another graphic fantasy populated only by heroes and villains.

But such is the prestige that Coates has acquired everything he writes is not merely taken seriously but usually trumpeted as revealed truth, whether an essay advocating reparations for African-Americans or his writings about contemporary racism, which he never fails to point out is written from the perspective of someone raised as a black man in "Jim Crow" America. The fact that he was born a decade after the triumph of the civil-rights movement and the actual end of "Jim Crow" throughout America, including in his hometown of Baltimore, is—for him and his fans—one more inconvenient fact among so many others that shouldn't spoil a good story that confirms their pre-existing prejudices. A more instructive biographical detail is that he is the son of a former Black Panther Party member turned black nationalist publisher whose most recent effort is reviving an antisemitic screed called *The Jewish Onslaught*.

In this way, Coates has made a career out of getting away with egregious omissions to further his racialist polemical goals. With his latest effort, *The Message*, a tendentious triptych to Africa and the Middle East, he hasn't just applied his usual distorted standards but produced a book that tells us everything we need to know about the intellectual war on Israel and the Jews.

Coates's specific conclusions about Israel, the Palestinians and the conflict in the region are of little significance. His entire personal experience on this topic consists of a single 10-day trip to "Palestine" from which he extrapolated not just 150 pages of text but a series of damning conclusions.

For Coates, everything he saw in "Palestine"—whether on Palestinian-guided tours of places like Hebron or even time spent in Haifa or Tel Aviv—was a reflection of the historical American experience of "Jim Crow" discrimination. Woke ideologues falsely analogize the Palestinian war to destroy Israel to the struggle for civil rights in the United States. In this way, Coates superimposes his own beliefs about an America that is an irredeemably racist nation onto the complex conflict between Jews and Arabs over possession of the land of Israel. The fact that the conflict isn't racial doesn't matter because to speak of this reality would prevent him from painting a largely fictional picture of a Jewish state he would like to see destroyed.

Coates dismisses Zionism as mere colonialism. He does this by misconstruing the writing of Zionist founding fathers who used the word in a very different way than he does or by simply falsely claiming that Israel's birth was somehow the work of imperialism rather than by an act of what can only be fairly described as decolonization.

He ignores or dismisses the fact that by any objective standard, the Jews are the indigenous people in that small country with millennia of ties illustrated by archeological evidence as well as the historical narrative of the Bible. For him, the archeological park at the City of David is mere Zionist propaganda.

In this way, Jewish rights and Jewish history aren't so much misinterpreted as denied altogether.

The fact that Israel is the most successful multicultural country in the world outside of the United States is similarly denied. Those Israelis who are not identifiably "white"—whether they are part of the Mizrahi majority, meaning from other countries in the Mediterranean

or Arab Mideast, or Ethiopians—are merely the moral equivalent of blacks who served the Confederacy or Jim Crow governments with no legitimacy as part of a people returned to their homeland.

Equally telling is his view that the Palestinians, who play the role of oppressed former slaves in his personal psychodrama version of the Middle East, have no agency, and their actions don't matter.

Hard as it may be to imagine, his book never mentions terrorism, the Second Intifada from 2000 to 2005 that resulted in the deaths of more than 1,000 Israelis, the numerous rejections of peace offers and independence by the Palestinians. Hamas and Oct. 7 rate not a single mention anywhere in his text. It is not so much an example of bad reporting or history as a parody of a book about a complicated topic.

It all leads him to believe that Israel has no right to exist, and nothing will shake him of this conviction that one Jewish state on the planet is one too many. In the context of current conflicts with Hamas in the south, Hezbollah to the north and other Iranian proxies bent on Islamizing the region, that makes him a tacit supporter of the genocide of Israeli Jews.

As such, it is, as Dokoupil pointed out, an extremist text that is pure polemic. It not only brings no original insights to the topic, it is a personal attempt by a famous writer to assert that his prejudicial attempt to portray Israel as a reflection of a racist America of the past is more important than any facts, history or actual reporting. But since such a mighty African-American celebrity may not be accused of advocacy for genocide, these are facts that may not be mentioned in Coates's presence.

Serious people and responsible media ought to treat his book as unworthy of comment. The legacy media, however, sees it as a meditation of great importance that must not be probed in the same way any book that brings a funhouse mirror look at a complex set of issues would be.

The fact that, for example, CNN's Fareed Zakaria (someone the foreign-policy establishment wrongly treats as the gold standard in journalism) gave Coates a lengthy interview during which he allowed him to spout his hate for Israel almost unchallenged is significant. That Zakaria gave far less time to the 75-year-old French intellectual Bernard-Henri Lévy—the author of a much more important book about Oct. 7 and its ramifications titled *Israel Alone*—on the same program spoke volumes about Coates's celebrity and the distorted values of the news network.

So, while this latest book by Coates will not likely be remembered, its reception and the opprobrium directed at Dokoupil deserve to be noted as yet another moment in which the moral bankruptcy of American journalism was made obvious.

A generation of young journalists—educated largely in elite institutions of higher learning where they were indoctrinated in the same toxic theories that animate Coates' writing—are not only ready to applaud such tripe. They believe that anyone who calls him out is, by definition, a right-wing racist whose views must be suppressed.

Though reportedly, Shari Redstone—the controlling shareholder of Paramount Global, which owns CBS—told network executives that she disagreed with how the situation was handled, such interventions aren't nearly enough to reverse the damage being done to American journalism by the woke tide. The tipping point at outlets like CBS and *The New York Times* was reached four years ago during the Black Lives Matter riots as "progressives" took over newsrooms, intimidating editors and publishers alike.

The problem today is not just the fact that intellectual quacks like Coates are embraced by literary fashion and reflect what has become orthodox beliefs at most colleges and universities. It's that the best defense any republic has against the spread of such myths—a free press—has already capitulated to the liars. The controversy over Coates's book shows that the mainstream media has already discarded journalism in favor of leftist activism, which helps facilitate the post-Oct. 7 surge in antisemitism. It is way past time to stop treating these outlets as journalism and view them, as we should Coates, as simple purveyors of woke propaganda. (JNS Oct. 9)