

# SHALOM TORONTO

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## Caledonia Warrior Organizes Israel Conference



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### Doris Strub Epstein

The Israel Truth Week conference, to be held in early March, is "born of Nazi occupied Holland and the Caledonia crisis," says founder Mark Vandermaas, who was adopted at the age of six by a Dutch couple who had survived the Nazi occupation of Holland. He grew up hearing about the plight of Jews under the Nazis and forged a deep connection with the Holocaust. Later, as a former member of the Canadian Forces, he served with a United Nations peacekeeping force in the Middle East. But it was his experience with the violence and break-down of law and order by "racially biased" police

against the residents of Caledonia that galvanized him to action on behalf of Israel and the Jewish people.

The Caledonia crisis began in February 28, 2006, when a handful of protesters from the nearby Six Nations reserve, walked onto Douglas Creek Estates, (DCE) which was then a residential subdivision of Caledonia, under construction, and blocked workers from entering it.

Over the next four years until today, as the occupation continued, the rule of law was destroyed. Major roads were closed and lawlessness ran rampant. Those who lived adjacent to DCE, about 450

families, were openly terrorized while the OPP police stood by. "They destroyed houses on a construction site; they burned down a bridge, attacked a builder in the home he was building for his daughter and left him with brain damage, they tore up the road. The non natives were victimized," Mark said. "People had to get passes to get to their houses.

I saw the rule of law collapsing. I saw racial policing. Innocent people being victimized while the police did little or nothing. People were terrified even to speak out."

Mark was then working in real estate,

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## Gaza Strip Rocket Launching Policy Decided Exclusively by Hamas

By Jonathan Dahoah Halevi

Israel military's Operation 'Pillar of Defense' in the Gaza Strip, which began on November 14, 2012, and ended on the 21st of that month with an unwritten cease fire agreement between Israel and Hamas, has produced a new security reality, if transitory, in Israel's south.

According to data released by the Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet) and the Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center, since the cease fire agreement (as of January 22, 2013), there has not been even one missile launching from the Gaza Strip toward Israel, and only a single report of a mortar shell being fired.

The reasons for this calm in the south can be ascribed mainly to Hamas's interest to maximize its diplomatic gains from the cease fire, by upgrading the status of the Gaza Strip to a legitimate political entity representing the Palestinians by a prime minister and parliament, strengthening the Gazan economy, and developing Hamas's military capabilities in advance of future military conflicts.

The most interesting aspect, however, is the security calm itself, which has lasted for a relatively lengthy duration, and has not been violated but for that single mortar shell. In recent years a debate has raged in Israel regarding the responsibility of the rocket launching from the Gaza Strip. Security sources and senior analysts argued that radical organizations over which Hamas had little or no control were responsible for launching these rockets toward Israel, and Hamas had nothing to do with these launchings.

The current calm proves that Hamas is totally in charge of rocket launching from the Gaza Strip even if those actually launching the rockets and missiles belong to other organizations. Hamas has complete military control over the Gaza Strip and it is within its power to enforce a total cessation of fire. Hamas has demonstrated this in the past two months, even when several Palestinians were killed by IDF fire along the border with the Gaza Strip. In contrast with the past, there has been no 'spontaneous' retaliatory fire by 'Palestinian resistance movements'. Discipline has been strictly enforced.

To a large extent, the Hamas government has espoused the policy of the Palestinian Authority under the past leadership of Yasser Arafat, who parallel to diplomatic negotiations gave the 'green light' to the military wings of Fatah, Hamas and other organizations to carry out terror attacks against Israel, when these were deemed to serve him in the particular diplomatic and security circumstances, while attempting to conceal his direct ties to them.

It should be noted that in the past, radical Islamic organizations, identified ideologically with al-Qaida, acted contrary to the guidelines of the Hamas government, and launched rockets toward Israel, without coordination with Hamas. The Hamas government's reaction was swift and harsh, killing and arresting leaders and activists belonging to these organizations, only because this activity did not serve the Hamas government at that particular time. Hamas reserves the right to decide the character and scope of this terrorist activity in line with the changing circumstances.

*Lt. Col. (ret.) Jonathan D. Halevi is a senior researcher of the Middle East and radical Islam at the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs. He is a co-founder of the Orient Research Group Ltd. and is a former advisor to the Policy Planning Division of the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs.*

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# Bill Proposes Revoking Canadian Terrorists Citizenship

By Doris Strub Epstein

Recently, Devinder Shory, MP for Calgary Northeast, introduced a Private Members Bill C-45, Strengthening the Value of Canadian Citizenship. It is intended to revoke citizenship from Canadian dual citizens who go abroad and commit an act of war against Canada. Bill C-425 would also allow permanent residents who have signed a minimum three year contract with the Canadian Forces to gain citizenship one year earlier than normal.

The government is considering expanding this bill to include automatically stripping Canadian citizenship from dual citizens convicted of committing terrorist acts. "It is our belief," writes Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, "that anyone who commits a terrorist act in Canada or abroad, has clearly renounced their Canadian citizenship by rejecting Canadian values and the loyalty to our country that citizenship requires."

Chris Selley, journalist for the National Post disagrees. He writes, "If you gain citizenship legitimately, it's yours unless you give it up. You have rights in Canada and responsibilities to Canada. And Canada has a responsibility to you, including dealing with you if you blow up a bus in a faraway land."

But says Kenney, "I reject the notion that if someone takes up arms against the Canadian Forces or commits an act of violent terrorism,

Canada should be forced to welcome them back."

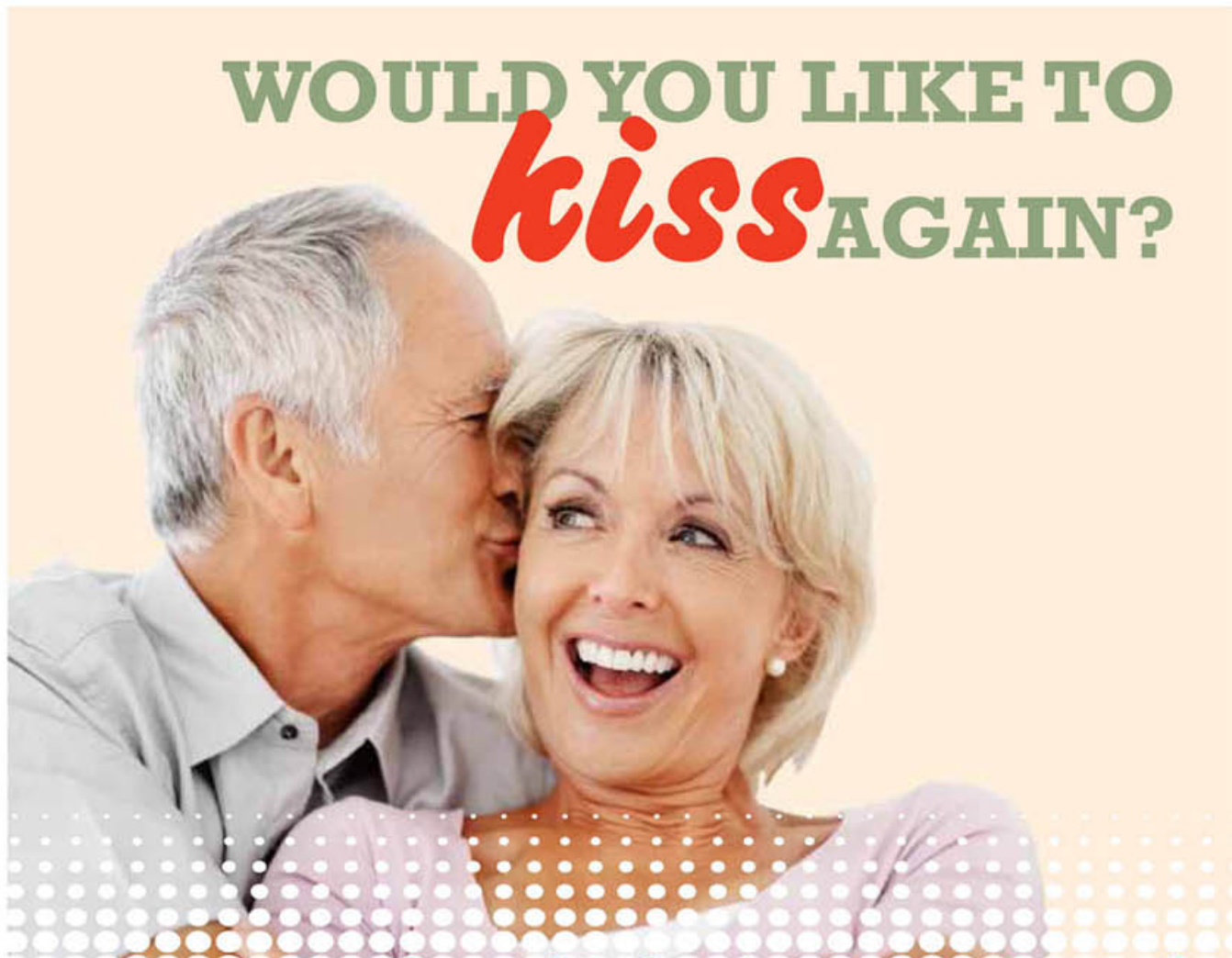
Kenney believes the bill would be similar to the legal norm in countries such as the U.K., the U.S. and Australia.

He is urging people to contact the Government to move quickly and pass legislation to strip convicted terrorists of their Canadian citizenship.

The head of Canada's spy service, Richard Fadden, told Parliament during a Senate hearing on Monday,

that the fragmenting of al-Qaeda has made him more "worried" about terrorist attacks in Canada. "Five years ago we weren't as worried about domestic terrorism as we are now," he said.

Canadians have recently been involved in terrorist attacks against civilians abroad, igniting global concerns about whether federal security agencies know enough about extremists from Canada. [depstein@rogers.com](mailto:depstein@rogers.com)



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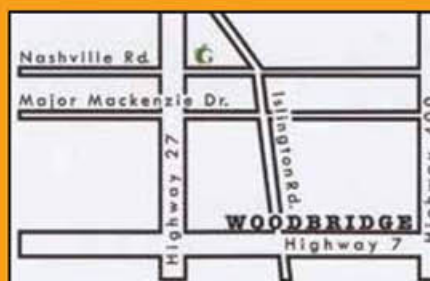


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## Caledonia Warrior

Continued from front page

selling homes in Cayuga, Hagersville and Caledonia, communities which would be victimized by illegal occupations, extortion and intimidation. After his arrest on December 2006 - the first of five arrests - while attempting to raise a Canadian flag in Caledonia- Mark put aside his promising real estate career and award-winning online real estate college course and became a full time, volunteer, activist, with the goal of permanently ending the race-based policing in Ontario. A man with a massive frame and earnest blue eyes, he has massive, tireless resolve.

He is mentioned several times in the book *Helpless: Caledonia's Nightmare of Fear and Anarchy, and How the Law Failed All Of Us*, by Christie Blatchford. She writes: "The town was for all practical purposes, abandoned by the State... The book is about the failure of government to govern and to protect all its citizens equally. ...The Ontario Provincial Police stood by while occupiers broke the law, often violently, right under their noses." she writes.

Why should Jews be concerned with Caledonia? "Caledonia is the front line in the struggle against the extreme left who use Palestinian militants as pawns for their own anti-capitalist agenda just as they use Six Nations extremists. None of us are safe if the lessons of Caledonia are not learned," says Mark.

Supporting the natives as proxy for their own causes, swarm a bunch of anti- Israel, anti-West groups. "All of Israel's enemies converged in Caledonia and are still there to this day," he said grimly, "with the Mohawk Warriors in charge of the worst of the violence. The Palestinian flag flew underneath the Mohawk Warrior flag. It was put there by the Niagara Palestinian Association under the watchful eye of the McMaster University Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights Club."

Never Again, a group of Jews and non Jews, were the first to understand why Caledonia should matter to the Jews. When a mosque in London where Mark lives, sent a delegate and raised money for the Gaza flotilla that intended to break the Gaza blockade, together they staged a 26 day protest.

But the last straw was a Jewish student event at Western University London. The police stood by while the Jewish students were harassed and intimidated. For Mark, it was the catalyst for the first Israel Truth Conference last year in London.

Israel Truth Week Conference 2013, March fifth and sixth, has a stellar array of speakers revolving around the theme; *Pushing Back With Truth And Action*. Admission is free with a suggested donation to Alyn Hospital in Israel. It will be held at Victory International Church, 2799 Barton St. East in Hamilton. The keynote finale, sponsored by the Never Again Group will be at McMaster University. For details visit [www.IsraelTruthWeek.org](http://www.IsraelTruthWeek.org). Or contact: Mark Vandermaas at 519 457 0709; [mark@israeltruthweek.org](mailto:mark@israeltruthweek.org).