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"Prominent" Western news agency omits Palestinians' condemnation of Israel's massacre from its report on U.S. vetoing UN resolution

11/14/2006 7:15:00 AM GMT

In the latest example of the West's biased approach towards Arabs, an article on cnnexposed.com revealed that CNN replaced all Palestinian quotations with quotes from the U.S. and Israel in its report titled "U.S. vetoes U.N. condemnation of Israel's Gaza strikes".

In the CNN's latest version of the report, all Palestinian remarks are omitted.

The original and the modified copy of the article have the same wordings, only Palestinians' quotes were replaced with quotes by Israeli and American officials.

The original copy of the article included:

"The U.S. veto angered Hamas government spokesman Ghazi Hamad, who called the veto "shameful" and "not the first time" the United States has used a veto "just to protect Israel."

The veto, Hamad said, is to "give Israel covering in order to continue its massacres and killings among our people. It is giving legitimacy to Israel to continue the aggression against our people."

But CNN editors omitted these two paragraphs, to replace them with a description of the resolution and vote tally, as well as quotation from Israeli military officials, and saving the last five paragraphs of the article for remarks by the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, John Bolton.

By removing Palestinian statements from its original report, the CNN, a prominent news agency, ignored a very important journalistic standards.

According to Wikipedia.org's Journalism entry, journalists must use "multiple original sources of information, especially if the subject of the report is controversial" and must "report every side of a story possible".

Full text of the original wire:

UNITED NATIONS (CNN) — The United States vetoed a U.N. Security

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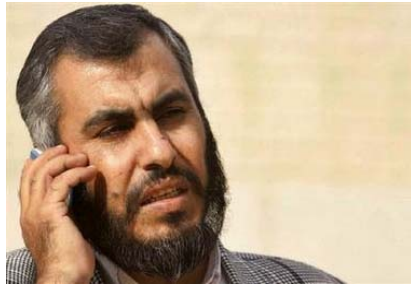
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Council resolution Saturday that would have condemned Israel for its military operations in Gaza.

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations John Bolton said the resolution, which also called for Israel to immediately cease military operations in the Palestinian territory, was "biased against Israel and politically motivated."



The U.S. veto angered Hamas government spokesman Ghazi Hamad, who called the veto "shameful" and "not the first time" the United States has used a veto "just to protect Israel."

The veto, Hamad said, is to "give Israel covering in order to continue its massacres and killings among our people."

It is giving legitimacy to Israel to continue the aggression against our people."

The resolution, proposed by the Qatar delegation, particularly condemned Israel for Wednesday's shelling in the northern Gaza town of Beit Hanoun that killed 18 people, mostly women and children.

The proposal also condemns Palestinians who fire missiles from Gaza into Israel. (Posted 4: 37 a.m.)

The edited article:

POSTED: 2:21 p.m. EST, November 11, 2006

UNITED NATIONS (CNN) — The United States vetoed a U.N. Security Council resolution Saturday that would have condemned Israel for its military operations in Gaza.

U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. John Bolton said the resolution, which also called for Israel to cease military operations immediately in the Palestinian territory, was "biased against Israel and politically motivated."

Qatar proposed the motion, which focused on Wednesday's shelling in the northern Gaza town of Beit Hanoun that killed 18 people, mostly women and children. (Watch mourners carry bodies of victims through the streets — 1:49)

The blocked resolution also condemned Palestinians who fire missiles from Gaza into Israel.

Israel's military said it has been targeting militants in Beit Hanoun who have been firing Qassam rockets into Israel, and blamed a "technical failure" for the misfire that killed the 18 civilians.

The United States cast the only vote against. Four council members abstained and 10 voted for the resolution.

Before the vote, Bolton said the United States joined the other countries in "deeply regretting" the injuries and loss of life in Wednesday's shelling, but said Israel has promised a full investigation.

Bolton said the resolution's text was "unbalanced."

"We are disturbed at the language of the resolution that is in many places biased against Israel and politically motivated," Bolton said.

"Such language does not further the cause of peace and its unacceptability



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to the United States in previous resolutions is well known.”

Bolton said the text was wrong in equating what he called Israel’s legal defense operations in Gaza with Palestinian acts of terrorism against civilians in Israel.

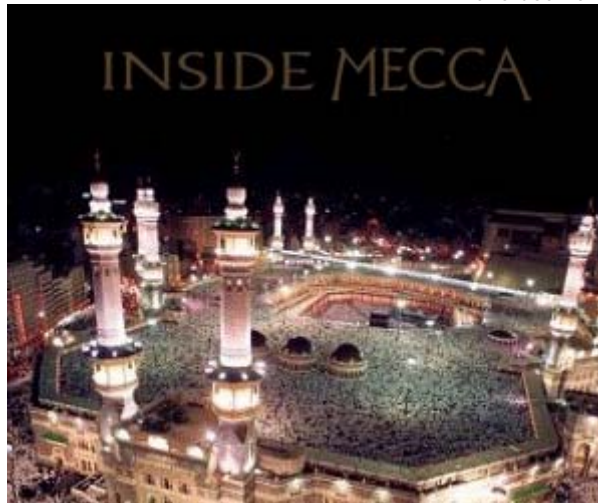
“We are disturbed that there is not a single reference to terrorism in the proposed resolution, nor any condemnation of the Hamas leadership’s statement that Palestinians should resume terror attacks on a broad scale, or calls by the military wing of Hamas to Muslims worldwide to strike American targets and interests,” he said.

Israeli tank shells struck a residential neighborhood in Beit Hanoun northern Gaza last week, killing 18 Palestinian civilians, including 10 children and four women, in their sleep.

But the United States vetoed the UN Security Council draft resolution, brought by Qatar that would have condemned Israel’s latest massacre and barbaric policies in Gaza Strip. It’s the second U.S. veto of a Security Council draft resolution concerning Israeli aggression in Gaza this year.

Ten of 15 Security Council members backed the resolution, while four; UK, Denmark, Japan and Slovakia, abstained.

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