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Israelis Adopt Poison Gas “Fashion”

Thursday July 20th 2006, 6:23 pm

“It is absurd to consider morality on [using poison gas] when everybody used it in the last war without a word of complaint from the moralists or the Church. On the other hand, in the last war bombing of open cities was regarded as forbidden. Now everybody does it as a matter of course. It is simply a question of fashion changing as she does between long and short skirts for women,” wrote Winston Churchill during the Second World War, long after the Geneva Protocol had outlawed the use of poison gas. The Brits used mustard gas against Bolsheviks in 1919 and Kurdish rebels in Iraq. As to the latter, Churchill wrote: “I do not understand this squeamishness about the use of gas.... I am strongly in favor of using poisoned gas against uncivilized tribes” (see [Winston Churchill's Secret Poison Gas Memo](#)).

If Wayne Madsen's sources are correct, the Israelis are now using poison gas against the “uncivilized tribes” of Lebanon. “According to a former U.S. weapons expert who served in Iraq, the artillery shell in a photo taken in Lebanon (see photo [here](#)) is a chemical weapon delivery device. It is being handled by an Israeli Defense Force soldier and Hebrew lettering can be clearly seen on the armored vehicle. Another chemical weapons shell of the same type can be seen lying on the ground to the right. It is not known what type of chemical is in the chemical canister, however, gas dropped by the Israelis in villages in southern Lebanon has resulted in severe vomiting among the civilian population” (see as well this [schematic](#)). “Media commentators have scoffed that Israel, with its relatively unique history, would ever use chemical weapons or poison gas in any war. It is precisely because of that perception that they are using such weapons. The deniability factor prevents the media from taking seriously the credible reports of banned weapons being used by the Israelis.”

Of course, the stenographers laboring diligently for the corporate media would not dare to mention Israel's well-documented history of biological and chemical terrorism against innocent and unwitting Arab non-combatants.

In 1948, as the Zionists ethnically cleansed Palestine, the Acre aqueduct was targeted. “The Zionists injected typhoid in the aqueduct at some intermediate point which passes through Zionist settlements,” writes [Salman Abu-Sitta](#), president of Palestine Land Society in London. According to Abu-Sitta, a report issued by the Lebanese Red Cross

stated that there are at least 70 known civilian casualties, others may not be reported. It was determined

that the infection is “water borne”, not due to crowded or unhygienic conditions as claimed by the Israelis. It was decided that a substitute water supply should now come from artesian wells or from the agricultural station, just north of Acre (see map), not from the aqueduct. Water chlorine solution was applied, inoculation of civil population started, movement of civil population was controlled (lest refugees heading north towards Lebanon will carry the typhoid epidemic with them, as intended by the Zionists)....

The city of Acre, now burdened by the epidemic, fell easy prey to the Zionists. They intensified their bombardment. Trucks carrying loudspeakers proclaimed, “Surrender or commit suicide. We will destroy you to the last man.” That was not a figure of speech. Palumbo, in *The Palestinian Catastrophe*, notes the “typical” case of Mohamed Fayez Soufi. Soufi with friends went to get food from their homes in a new Acre suburb. They were caught by Zionist soldiers and forced at gun point to drink cyanide. Soufi faked swallowing the poison. The others were not so lucky, they died in half an hour.

In addition, the Zionist state attempted to poison a water system in Gaza. The commander of the Egyptian Forces in Palestine communicated the following to General Headquarters in Cairo:

15.20 hrs, 24 May [1948] Our Intelligence forces captured two Jews, David Horeen and David Mizrahi, loitering around army positions. They were interrogated and confessed they had been sent by Officer Moshe to poison the army [and the peoples’] water supply. They carried with them water bottles divided in the middle. The top part has potable water and the bottom part has a liquid contaminated with typhoid and dysentery, equipped with a rear opening from which the liquid can be released. They confessed they were members of a 20-strong team sent from Rehovot for the same purpose. Both have written their confession in Hebrew and signed it. We have taken the necessary medical precautions.

Salman Abu-Sitta also suspects two cholera outbreaks, one in Egypt and a second in Syria, claiming the lives of over 10,000 people, were caused by the Israelis, although the evidence is less convincing.

In a report entitled *Bioterrorism and Biocrimes: The Illicit Use of Biological Agents since 1900*, Dr. W. Seth Carus of the Center for Counterproliferation Research, National Defense University, stated under a subtitle, Case 1947-01: “Zionist” Terrorists 1947-1948, “Jews plan to use this inhuman weapon against the Arabs in the Middle East in their war of extermination.” Carus also documents the comments of David Horeen’s sister, Rachel Katzman: “I met one of [my brother’s] commanders in a lecture in Jerusalem. I asked him whether my brother had really attempted to poison wells. ‘These were the weapons we had’, he said, ‘and that’s that.’”

Israel has plenty of other weapons, gratis the United States and its own burgeoning weapons program, but it appears it prefers to augment its arsenal with chemical weapons. “The Palestinian ministry of health revealed on [July 11, 2006] that the Israeli army has used a new type of explosive in its offensive on the Gaza Strip. These explosives contain toxics and radioactive materials which burn and tear the victim’s body from the inside and leave long term deformations.... The ministry showed that most of the injuries which the hospitals receive result from huge explosions which cause burning and severing of limbs, including the inner parts of the body. This causes long term deformations.... It is added that doctors in Gaza have been forced to amputate limbs of at least 12 injured Palestinians as a result of injuries sustained in the current Israeli offensive on the Strip,” reports [Electronic Intifada](#).

In an earlier instance, the IOF apparently used an “unidentified gas” in the Khan Yunis refugee camp. “Medical sources at Nasir Hospital in Khan Yunis have announced that more than 40 Palestinians suffered a strange case of hysteria and nervous breakdown because they inhaled a toxic gas fired for the first time by the occupation army during the bombing of Palestinian areas,” the Voice of Palestine in Ramallah reported (see the [script](#) for the documentary film, *Gaza Strip*, a PDF document). “Specialists believe that this is an internationally banned nerve gas. Dr Muhammad Abdallah Abd-al-Mun’im, official in charge of medical teams who treated the injured, said that the gas bombs fired last night on the western camp of Khan Yunis gave off heavy yellowish and highly-concentrated smoke. Those who inhaled it, he said, suffered a nervous breakdown and vomited blood. Abd-al-Mun’im said this gas is not the same kind that was fired by the occupation forces previously and that it is the first time that the doctors have seen this.”

Indeed, the corporate media, faithfully pro-Israel, may “scoff” at the allegation Israel is now using chemical weapons in Lebanon. However during the 1982 invasion the Soviet Union accused Israel of using “barbarous” weapons, including chemical weapons (see this [timeline](#) posted on the Vermonters for a Just Peace in Palestine/Israel website).

When it comes to using biological and chemical weapons, Israel is a junior partner to the United States, most recently accused of using chemical weapons in Fallujah, Iraq. According to Dr. Khalid ash Shaykhli, an Iraqi health ministry official, “the US military had used internationally banned chemical weapons, including nerve gas,” according to the [Christian Science Monitor](#).

Of course, the corporate media scoffed at this allegation, too.

Chalk it up to the deniability factor.

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