

A failed diplomat, and Israel's failing foreign policy

-- My name is Zvi Mazel. I represent the borderless country of Israel. I am hired by my government to express its views and collect information that might aid my government in carrying out its mission. I am not an artist and have never been trained in art appreciation. When I see art, I only look for what I want to see; the views of others, although important, are secondary to my own. When I find art that displeases me and reflects badly on my country, I destroy it. I am a loyal patriot, and my government supports me.

Hanadi Jaradat was a terrorist and responsible for the deaths of 22 people in Haifa, Israel last year. Recently I discovered a handsome portrait of her floating on top of what appeared to be a large pool of blood in the Museum of National Antiquities in Stockholm, Sweden. Of course, the blood was not real, but the liquid reminded me so much of what I have seen so many times on Israeli TV that it sent me into a rage. That Jaradat's portrait was floating atop her own blood, as well, made absolutely no difference. Nobody invited her into my country to destroy herself and my countrymen. Had we known she was coming, she would have been captured, imprisoned, tried and shot. What motivated her is neither my concern, nor the concern of my people. Nor should it be any concern of yours. Certainly it should be no concern of any Jew. She was a terrorist, who died while committing a terrorist act. Plain and simple.

When I saw Jaradat portrayed so beautifully in the boat, I was sickened with grief. How could anyone in his correct mind and spirit, imagine such a beastly criminal as Snow White? Did



Swedish artists Gunilla Skold and Dror Feiler stand before their work entitled: **Snow White and the Madness of Truth.**

Photo by Agence France-Presse—Getty Images

I fail to read the words "... the Madness of Truth"? You must be kidding. Where is the truth, but in the minds of those who suffer daily the murderous acts of insane terrorists? The artist and the museum, who allowed her portrait to be portrayed in the manner that I found it, are to blame. I am innocent in the eyes of God. Israel is the world's only Jewish state, and as such Jerusalem is the papal city of Judaism. Dror Feiler, the artist, claims that he is a Jew. He is a disgrace to the people of Israel and the Jewish nation. Anyone sympathetic to the Palestinian cause is Israel's enemy and a foe of all Jewish society.

-- Ambassador Mazel we are very sorry that you feel this way; all of the world does not agree with you -- least of all, many of your own countrymen. Nevertheless, rather than making you and your government appear any more foolish and brutish as you have made yourself appear today, we will not punish you and not make mention of your country's crimes against humanity at our forthcoming conference on genocide. Rather we will sweep your own madness and that of your government's under the rug, as we and other governments of the democratic world have been doing for the past four decades. It is not our desire to make a mockery of all humanity in so doing, but we do not want our government's telephone, fax machines, and email boxes terrorized by your country's sympathizers and the world press blaming us for anti-semitic feeling. We are truly sorry about the Holocaust, and never want it to occur again. Surely this is what Dror Feiler and his wife had in mind when they created their piece "Snow White and the Madness of Deception and Hypocrisy" -- I mean Truth.

-- Prime Minister Goran Persson, I am part of the humanity whom you seek to mock, and I object to your decision. You are a disgrace to humankind; and your convention on genocide, Mr. Prime Minister, is a paltry sham. I am very happy that I am not a Swede, because I would be ashamed to have you as my nation's leader. Is it not bad enough that my own government makes a fool of me every time I pick up a newspaper? No matter, I will do my best in the next election to remove those in my government who support the Israeli occupation of Palestine, and I truly hope that your countrymen will do their best to remove you, as well. In the end your crime is far worse than Hanadi Jaradat's, because you are leading your nation and the world down a false path. Hanadi sacrificed only herself, her children, a score of Haifa residents and all of those who were near and dear. You, Mr. Prime Minister, are responsible for an entire nation.

Had you expelled Ambassador Mazel, and allowed the conference on

genocide to be carried forth with no special consideration for the Israeli government, my feelings toward you and the Swedish government would, of course, be very different. Unfortunately this is not what has occurred.

Mr. Mazel is a common vandal and you are a brutal and dire hypocrite.

Did you say that the Israeli government was funding the conference? Did you not know that before you approved it? Is it not too late to cancel it? I am sure the world would understand. In the end we are not the fools, you would have us believe ourselves to be.

Truly I am looking forward to the Feilers' next work of art, because provocative creations evoke in us our true feelings, and wipe away the many veils of propriety behind which we all hide. Furthermore, if I am ever in Stockholm I will surely visit the Museum of National Antiquities and thank Kristian Berg, the museum's director, for his fine artistic taste and excellent management of the entire affair.

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